th Series, Vol. IV, No. 24

Tuesday, August 4, 2009
Sravana 13, 1931 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

4 Aug 2009

Second Session
(Fifteenth Lok Sabha)

सत्यमेव जयते

Gazettes & Debates Section
Parliament Library Building
Room No. FB-025
Block 'G' 27/24
Acc. No. 23 Feb 2012
Dated..

(Vol. IV contains Nos. 21 to 26)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

Price : Rs. 80.00

EDITORIAL BOARD

P.D.T. Achary
Secretary-General
Lok Sabha

Dr. R.K. Chadha
Joint Secretary

Vandna Trivedi
Director

Navin Chandra Khulbe
Additional Director

Rakesh Kumar
Joint Director

Shailesh Kumar
Assistant Editor

© 2009 LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

None of the material may be copied, reproduced, distributed, republished, downloaded, displayed, posted or transmitted in any form or by any means, including but not limited to, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without the prior permission of Lok Sabha Secretariat. However, the material can be displayed, copied, distributed and downloaded for personal, non-commercial use only, provided the material is not modified and all copyright and other proprietary notices contained in the material are retained.

Original English proceedings included in English Version will be treated as authoritative and not the English translation of the speeches made in Hindi and other languages included in it. For complete authoritative version please see Original Version of Lok Sabha Debates.

Lok Sabha Debates
(English Version)

Corrigenda to Debate dated Tuesday, August 4, 2009
Sravana 13, 1931 (Saka)

Col/line	For	Read
338/18	Nataji	Netaji
563/08	Shri Sanjay Nurupam	Shri Sanjay Nirupam

CONTENTS

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

No. 24, Tuesday, August 4, 2009/Sravana 13, 1931 (Saka)

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS	
*Starred Question Nos. 441 to 444 and 447	3—44
WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS	
Starred Question Nos. 445, 446 and 448 to 460	45—80
Unstarred Question Nos. 4256 to 4485	80—534
PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE	535—539
MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA AND BILL AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA	539
STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS	540
(i) (a) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 28th Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture on Demands for Grants (2007-08 and 2008-09 respectively), pertaining to the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE), Ministry of Agriculture	540
(b) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 38th Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture on Demands for Grants (2007-08 and 2008-09 respectively), pertaining to the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE), Ministry of Agriculture	540—541
(c) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 29th and 39th Reports of the Standing Committee on Agriculture on Demands for Grants (2007-08 and 2008-09 respectively), pertaining to the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries (DADF), Ministry of Agriculture	
Shri Sharad Pawar	541—542
(ii) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 140th Report of the Standing Committee on Home Affairs on action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the 132nd Report on Demands for Grants (2008-09), pertaining to the Ministry of Home Affairs	
Shri Mullappally Ramachandran	542—543
(iii) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 137th Report of the Standing Committee on Home Affairs on rehabilitation of J&K migrants, pertaining to the Ministry of Home Affairs	
Shri Ajay Maken	545—547

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

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
(iv) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 23rd Report of the Standing Committee on Petroleum and Natural Gas on "Oil refineries – A Critique", pertaining to the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas	
Shri Jitin Prasada	547—548
(i) STATEMENT CORRECTING REPLY TO USQ NO. 432 DATED 07.07.2009 REGARDING 'MEGA CITY AND DESERT AREA POLICING' ALONGWITH THE REASONS GIVEN FOR DELAY IN CORRECTING THE REPLY	543—544
(ii) STATEMENT CORRECTING REPLY TO USQ NO. 2360 DATED 21.07.2009 REGARDING 'TOUR BY MCD OFFICIALS' ALONGWITH THE REASONS GIVEN FOR DELAY IN CORRECTING THE REPLY	
Shri Mullappally Ramachandran	544—545
METRO RAILWAYS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2009	548—549
MATTERS UNDER RULE 377	572—582
(i) Need to provide adequate funds for the gauge conversion work between Dindigul and Pollachi in Tamil Nadu	
Shri N.S.V Chitthan	572
(ii) Need to undertake excavation of gypsum reserves on the banks of river Chenab near Dharamkund in Jammu and Kashmir	
Chaudhary Lal Singh	572—573
(iii) Need to check the rising prices of essential commodities	
Shri Datta Meghe	573
(iv) Need to ensure construction of roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana as per specified norms and standards in Pratapgarh Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh	
Rajkumari Ratna Singh	573—574
(v) Need to start construction of a new broad gauge railway line between Chengannur and Trivandrum via Kottarakara and Kilimanur in Kerala	
Shri Kodikkunnil Suresh	574—575
(vi) Need to construct the proposed Ranjit Sagar Dam in Sajapur district, Madhya Pradesh	
Shri Sajjan Verma	575
(vii) Need to ensure payment of minimum wages and other service benefits to the beedi workers engaged with the unregistered Beedi manufacturing units in the country particularly in Andhra Pradesh	
Shri Madhu Goud Yaskhi	575—576
(viii) Need to open a Kendriya Vidyalaya in Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu and fill up vacant posts in Kendriya Vidyalayas in the country	
Shri S.S. Ramasubbu	576
(ix) Need to take steps to bring back the valuable items belonging to Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj from abroad	
Shri Sonawane Pratap Narayanrao	576—577
(x) Need to provide special financial assistance for promoting irrigation facilities in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra	
Shri Hansraj G. Ahir	577—578
(xi) Need to honour Dr. Gangubai Hangal with Bharat Ratna Award	
Shri Pralhad Joshi	578

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
(xii) Need to introduce a train between Bhagalpur and Deoghar via Vikramshila in Bihar	
Shri Syed Shahnawaz Hussain	578—579
(xiii) Need to make functional the glass factory in Chitrakoot district, Banda Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh	
Shri R.K. Singh Patel	579
(xiv) Need to provide financial package for development of Utensil and Handloom industries in Khalilabad, Sant Kabir Nagar Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh	
Shri Bhisma Shankar *alias* Kushal Tiwari	579—580
(xv) Need to expedite construction of Saharsa-Forbesganj broad gauge railway line in Bihar	
Shri Vishwa Mohan Kumar	580
(xvi) Need to undertake the expansion work of Vellore Airport to facilitate the setting up of Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Aeronautical Science and Training of Pilots Academy in Vellore, Tamil Nadu	
Shri D. Venugopal	580
(xvii) Need to regularize the services of catering workers in the Railways	
Shri M.B. Rajesh	580—581
(xviii) Need to declare Vidyasagar Memorial Hall in West Medinipur, West Bengal as a national heritage site	
Shri Prabodh Panda	581
(xix) Need to implement incentive measures and concessions for the welfare of the sugar industry	
Shri Sadashivrao Dadoba Mandlik	581—582
CONSTITUTION (ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH AMENDMENT) BILL, 2009	
Motion to Consider	582
Shri M. Veerappa Moily	582—583
Shri Arjun Munda	583—585
Shri P.L. Punia	591
Shri Sharad Yadav	591—594
Shri Shailendra Kumar	594—596
Dr. Baliram	596—597
Shri Gobinda Chandra Naskar	596—599
Shri Baju Ban Riyan	600—602
Shri Arjun Charan Sethi	602—604
Shri Anant Gangaram Geete	604—605
Dr. P. Venugopal	605—606
Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh	606—607
Shri Prabodh Panda	607—608
Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena	608—609
Clauses 2 and 1	623
Motion to Pass	644
RIGHT OF CHILDREN TO FREE AND COMPULSORY EDUCATION BILL, 2009	
Motion to Consider	655
Dr. Girija Vyas	655—658
Shrimati Jayaprada	658—663
Shri Mangani Lal Mandal	663—668
Shrimati Jayshreeben Patel	668—671
Shri B. Mahtab	671—674

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
Shri Bharat Ram Meghwal	674—675
Shrimati Darshana Jardosh	676—677
Dr. Prasanna Kumar Patasani	677—678
Shri Radha Mohan Singh	678—680
Shri Hukmadeo Narayan Yadav	680—683
Shri Virender Kashyap	683—686
Dr. Baliram	686—688
Shri Kalyan Banerjee	688—690
Shri T.R. Baalu	690—693
Shri Ramashankar Rajbhar	693—694
Sk. Saidul Haque	694—697
Shri Tathagata Satpathy	698—702
Shri Anandrao Adsul	704—704
Shri S. Semmalai	704—706
Dr. N. Sivaprasad	706—707
Shrimati Rama Devi	708—714
Shri Ijyaraj Singh	714—718
Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal	718—720
Dr. Mirza Mehboob Beg	720—721
Shri Asaduddin Owaisi	721—723
Shri Nishikant Dubey	723—724
Dr. Rajan Sushant	724—732
Shri M.I. Shanavas	732—735
Shri Sanjay Dhotre	735—736
Shri Rakesh Singh	736—741
Shrimati Jyoti Dhurve	741—743
Shri Badruddin Ajmal	743—747
Shri Jagdanand Singh	747—750
Shri Francisco Cosme Sardinha	750—752
Shri Prasanta Kumar Majumdar	752—753
Shri Mohammed E.T. Basheer	753—756
Shri Prem Das Rai	756—757
Shri Bhakta Charan Das	757—759
Shri P.K. Biju	759—764
Shri Sansuma Khunggur Bwiswmuthiary	764—766
Dr. Thokchom Meinya	766—767
Shri M. Krishnasswamy	767—768
Shri Vijay Bahadur Singh	769—773
Shri Lalit Mohan Suklabaidya	773—775
Shri Rajaram Pal	775—778
Shri Anurag Singh Thakur	779—783
Shri Kapil Sibal	783—800
Clauses 2 to 38 and 1	808—818
Motion to Pass	819—
ANNEXURE-I	
Member-wise Index to Starred Questions	827
Member-wise Index to Unstarred Questions	828—834
ANNEXURE-II	
Ministry-wise Index to Starred Questions	835—836
Ministry-wise Index to Unstarred Questions	837—838

OFFICERS OF LOK SABHA

THE SPEAKER
Shrimati Meira Kumar

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER
Shri Karia Munda

PANEL OF CHAIRMEN
Shri Basu Deb Acharia
Shri P.C. Chacko
Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan
Shri Inder Singh Namdhari
Shri Francisco Cosme Sardinha
Shri Arjun Charan Sethi
Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh
Dr. M. Thambidurai
Shri Beni Prasad Verma
Dr. Girija Vyas

SECRETARY GENERAL
Shri P.D.T. Achary

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, August 4, 2009/Sravana 13, 1931 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MADAM SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[English]

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Q. No. 441.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ (Vidisha): Madam Speaker, yesterday, I had given a notice for the adjournment of Question hour ...*(Interruptions)* I would like to raise my point in a minute ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please raise your point during Zero-Hour.

...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Yesterday, I had given a Notice for the adjournment of Question-Hour on the issue of Bundelkhand Central Development Authority ...*(Interruptions)* Bundelkhand Development Authority already exists in Madhya Pradesh. It is an encroachment of our rights. A statement was made in this regard in Rajya Sabha but not in Lok Sabha ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: You raise it in the Zero-hour.

...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Madam Speaker, yesterday, I had given a notice for the adjournment of Question-Hour. The Hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs could have spared a minute to reply ...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): If I were given time, perhaps I would have replied. You know everything. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Please reply today ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I am replying but if you say that ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please sit down. The hon. Minister is on his legs.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I was willing to reply when Sushmaji was making her point yesterday, but the way things went because of that ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please take your seat. The hon. Minister is speaking. Sit down please.

...(Interruptions)

DR. RATTAN SINGH AJNALA (Khadoor Sahib): Madam Speaker, the Chief Minister of Haryana has said that Haryana will have its separate SGPC in the month of November. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Take your seat.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Ajnala Ji, let the hon. Minister's reply be over. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Madam, it was only because of some lack of communication. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Only hon. Minister's statement will go on record.

*(Interruptions)...**

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Madam, it was only because of some lack of communication yesterday that the House had to be adjourned and we could not transact any business. I only wish that the matter had been raised in some form here whereby a reply could have been given by the Government. Madam, what has been said in the Rajya Sabha is that there is no proposal before the Government which will alter the federal structure of our Constitution. There is no going back on it. That was very clearly and explicitly said yesterday.

*Not recorded.

Madam, I think that should have clinched the matter. But, nevertheless, I say that again.

MADAM SPEAKER: Thank you so much.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Now it is quite clear.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: It was not a regular debate under any rule. *...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Had you said that yesterday, the matter would have been over. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I was ready to give the reply yesterday. When you were making your point, I was about to get up to speak. *...(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please do not address each other. Now the matter is over.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Minister has said. Now let us continue with the Question Hour. Dr. M. Jagannath–

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Please take your seat. Raise your point during the Zero-Hour.

11.04 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Q. No. 441, Dr. M. Jagannath.

National Agricultural Insurance Scheme

\+

*441. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH:
SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of farmers benefited under the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) in the country including Gujarat during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(b) the targets fixed and achieved thereunder during the Ninth and Tenth Five Year Plans, State-wise including Gujarat;

(c) whether the farmers have not been able to reap the benefits of the NAIS;

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

(e) whether the Government has taken steps to ensure that the benefit of the above scheme reaches the farmers; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) State-wise details (including Gujarat) of total number of farmers who have been paid claims under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) in the country during last three years are enclosed as Annexure-I. The details for the current year have not been compiled so far.

(b) The scheme is demand driven, therefor, no targets are fixed under the scheme. However, the achievements made in terms of farmers covered, area covered, sum insured, premium received etc. during Ninth and Tenth Five Year Plans are given in the enclosed Annexure-II.

(c) and (d) The farmers are benefited in the areas/ States where the scheme is being implemented. About 190 lakhs farmers have been covered under the scheme in 2008-09, and 46.55 lakhs farmers have been paid the claim amount under the scheme. However, during the course of implementation of the scheme, some constraints like larger unit area of insurance, low indemnity level, calculation of threshold yield, inadequate coverage of risks etc. have been observed.

A Joint Group was constituted by Government of India, to study the improvements required in the existing crop insurance schemes. The Group has reviewed the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) and made important recommendations. Based on these recommendations a proposal on Modified NAIS has been prepared.

(e) and (f) The number of farmers covered under the scheme has been continuously increasing over the years. To ensure that the benefits of the scheme reach the farmers, Government of India has taken various steps like issuance of administrative instructions to all the States/UTs with details of terms of implementation of the scheme and make adequate budgetary provision. At State level, State Level Coordination Committee on Crop Insurance (SLCCCI) reviews the implementation of the scheme at the end of every crop season.

For better awareness about the scheme and to expand its coverage, particularly for non-loanee farmers, publicity campaigns both in print and electronic media through State/implementing agency is carried out.

Annexure I

NAIS-State-wise (Including Gujarat) Farmers who have been Paid Claims from 2006-07 to 2008-09

S.No.	State	No. of Farmers who have been Paid Claims		
		Year		
		2008-09	2007-08	2006-07
1.	Andhra Pradesh	647244	24824	679357
2.	Assam	198	2804	4373
3.	Bihar	66814	374959	145968
4.	Chhattisgarh	236537	7503	22217
5.	Goa	0	0	1
6.	Gujarat	304857	37389	453743
7.	Haryana	0	54969	9392
8.	Himachal Pradesh	599	9	0
9.	Jharkhand	117600	21493	57885
10.	Karnataka	315279	66471	615558
11.	Kerala	641	11627	2371
12.	Madhya Pradesh	62140	584603	221605
13.	Maharashtra	1712557	259951	620605
14.	Meghalaya	33	177	11
15.	Orissa	55928	66849	88073
16.	Rajasthan	457004	510754	665817
17.	Sikkim	0	0	0
18.	Tamil Nadu	544368	301861	22948
19.	Tripura	135	203	9
20.	Uttar Pradesh	92394	641827	559763
21.	Uttarakhand	8977	7660	1366
22.	West Bengal	31594	172359	349368
23.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	3	0
24.	Puducherry	552	791	0
25.	Jammu and Kashmir*	0	0	524
	Total	4655451	3149086	4520954

(1) *Yield data for Rabi 2007-08 and Kharif 2008 season is yet to be received from the State Govt.

(2) During Rabi 2008-09, claims are reported only from Gujarat, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry. Claims in respect of other states are yet to be reported.

Annexure II

NAIS-State-wise (Including Gujarat) Achievement During Ninth Five Year Plan

Sl.No.	State	Farmers Covered	Area Insured (In Hec.)	Amount (In Rs. Lakhs)						Number of Farmers who have been Paid Claims
				Sum Insured	Premium	Subsidy	Claims Reported	Claims Paid	Claims Payable	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7748221	12094910.00	653291.55	15178.48	4751.97	33749.13	33749.13	0.00	1505326
2.	Assam	11864	10003.62	1025.92	24.16	9.06	18.44	18.44	0.00	1713
3.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	893	1622.52	66.77	1.45	0.71	3.16	3.16	0.00	296
4.	Bihar	499794	539806.00	34308.91	746.91	343.65	1602.05	1602.05	0.00	58879
5.	Chhattisgarh	870232	1978732.88	34336.59	855.65	144.56	8002.29	8002.29	0.00	402407
6.	Goa	5315	10846.01	72.47	1.29	0.62	2.53	2.53	0.00	768
7.	Gujarat	5202626	10471854.62	548668.99	15911.88	2235.01	122031.42	122031.42	0.00	2232224
8.	Haryana	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
9.	Himachal Pradesh	8385	6854.60	438.85	8.36	2.87	42.98	42.98	0.000	940
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
11.	Jharkhand	14310	16663.82	1066.30	24.36	9.58	4.06	4.06	0.00	339
12.	Karnataka	1943617	3293349.76	153567.02	3488.98	492.96	17292.26	17292.26	0.00	624216
13.	Kerala	173377	156746.74	12780.63	269.21	72.44	685.16	685.16	0.00	34254
14.	Madhya Pradesh	6099299	14768515.13	230427.64	5759.46	677.14	19968.97	19968.97	0.00	1868892
15.	Maharashtra	9168181	10259020.49	517570.51	14614.44	2247.54	32985.77	32985.77	0.00	2767892
16.	Meghalaya	5888	7111.70	371.66	25.98	11.03	12.02	12.02	0.00	903
17.	Mizoram	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
18.	Orissa	3385124	3690858.82	192459.22	4278.93	1095.85	20474.23	20474.23	0.00	840476
19.	Puducherry	6012	9993.29	773.36	13.81	3.58	72.52	72.52	0.00	2147
20.	Rajasthan	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
21.	Sikkim	399	300.86	33.49	0.33	0.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
22.	Tamil Nadu	561384	1073105.97	54327.07	1037.14	136.01	1968.96	1968.96	0.00	95173
23.	Tripura	229	151.95	13.10	0.22	0.06	0.05	0.05	0.00	19
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1539755	2279126.50	94043.10	2043.46	637.00	1432.99	1432.99	0.00	282267
25.	Uttarakhand	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
26.	West Bengal	2267133	1268267.24	93991.70	2072.22	480.90	1897.96	1897.96	0.00	354190
	Total	39512038	61936842.52	2623634.85	66356.72	13352.67	262246.95	262246.95	0.00	11073321

Note: During Ninth Five Year Plan some seasons *viz.* Kharif 1997 to Kharif 1999 were under CCIS (Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme)

NAIS-State-wise (Including Gujarat) Achievement During Ninth Five Year Plan

Sl.No.	State	Farmers Covered	Area Insured (In Hec.)	Amount (In Rs. Lakhs)						Number of Farmers who have been Paid Claims
				Sum Insured	Premium	Subsidy	Claims Reported	Claims Paid	Claims Payable	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10677433	16829788.86	1627138.96	45377.05	4115.53	162699.16	162699.16	0.00	2665588
2.	Assam	76192	58237.78	7145.97	171.89	20.60	336.75	336.75	0.00	16639
3.	Bihar	1758402	2041734.10	252314.32	5412.87	523.33	51719.68	51719.68	0.00	793097
4.	Chhattisgarh	3349249	7020871.72	226049.39	5952.56	336.88	9456.82	9456.82	0.00	582773
5.	Goa	3777	4993.62	167.05	2.98	0.70	0.02	0.02	0.00	2
6.	Gujarat	5071138	12760351.87	1017322.56	46444.64	2231.40	161353.13	161353.14	0.00	1525328
7.	Haryana	388726	434243.72	31342.23	1009.38	29.35	1759.62	1759.62	0.00	58198
8.	Himachal Pradesh	126686	85730.75	7139.86	155.65	25.92	553.54	553.54	0.00	69180
9.	Jharkhand	2247533	1060043	66847	1696	94	12715	12715	0.00	747576
10.	Karnataka	6153547	10133428.05	676007.34	22176.94	1146.57	108838.76	108838.76	0.00	3023041
11.	Kerala	164728	137210.05	22960.79	474.09	67.14	954.56	954.56	0.00	34065
12.	Madhya Pradesh	9467963	25875984.48	921833.40	27776.99	972.42	36947.64	36947.64	0.00	1561546
13.	Maharashtra	11244335	11060158.65	572271.83	23718.57	2146.41	65320.95	65320.95	0.00	3428692
14.	Meghalaya	9411	12049.05	1079.17	60.01	8.25	18.08	18.07	0.00	681
15.	Orissa	5482404	5695974.12	563125.67	14294.58	1798.36	31616.07	31616.07	0.00	1063245
16.	Rajasthan	6960403	16231058.89	699185.79	19277.08	365.60	68117.75	68117.75	0.00	1819340
17.	Sikkim	1009	522.10	113.37	1.28	0.22	1.28	1.28	0.00	86
18.	Tamil Nadu	734786	1149088.57	128730.96	2804.46	244.61	13921.98	13921.98	0.00	198006
19.	Tripura	9088	5706.86	966.34	29.51	3.58	47.02	47.02	0.00	2600
20.	Uttar Pradesh	7138691	10245777.09	772148.65	15579.84	1359.10	40806.63	40806.63	0.00	2038328
21.	Uttarakhand	54912	60725.86	7558.75	125.43	11.08	290.23	290.23	0.00	14839
22.	West Bengal	4187573	2117754.93	320978.13	8479.50	1171.08	37384.74	37384.74	0.00	1002250
23.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	558	840.00	70.44	1.62	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
24.	Puducherry	16874	25017.81	3432.61	66.91	6.30	90.48	90.48	0.00	2678
25.	Jammu and Kashmir	14757	18961.58	1059.08	20.33	1.53	10.22	10.21	0.00	1387
	Total	75340175	123066253.53	7926989.79	241109.90	16679.85	804960.53	804960.52	0.00	20649165

DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Madam Speaker, after the introduction of the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme in 1999 and 2000, as per the information available, the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme has not become very popular among the farmers particularly in non-loanee farmers. It is tardy that many farmers are not coming forward to insure the crops. In Orissa the IFFICO-Tokio General Insurance Company has introduced Barsha Beema Yojana, a weather insurance policy for the farmers of Orissa during the current Kharif season. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what are the reasons for the farmers not showing interest in the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme and whether Orissa type of Barsha Beema Yojana insurance scheme is likely to be introduced throughout the country.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: As I have replied, one particular group was appointed to go in details about

the drawbacks in this Scheme. The first thing that we got as outcome from this report is that there is a low coverage and the reason for the low coverage of insurance in the area presently is large and is not reflecting generally the mood of the farmers or the demand of the farmers.

In many States, block is a unit and demand of the farmers is that it should be the village as a unit. Until and unless that type of a decision is taken and that modification is made, there are many farmers who are not ready to associate with the Scheme. Secondly, the guaranteed yields are not reflecting a reasonable aspiration from the farmer. Thirdly, the present indemnity level is inadequate. Fourthly, there is some delay also in settlement of the claim by the insurance company. There is also inadequate risk and loss of coverage. Generally, we are getting these types of complaints and we had decided to take corrective action.

There are certain responsibilities which even the State Government has also to take and until and unless, the State Government comes forward, it cannot be done. Now take the case of village as a unit. We have no objection to it. We have authorised the State Government that they can take the decision. If they want village, they can take the village as a unit and if they want individual farmer, they can take individual farmer also as a unit. When the question comes as to who is going to take the responsibility of crop cutting, the State Government has to take that responsibility and the State Government was not coming forward. So, we have decided to call a meeting of the Chief Ministers to discuss all these issues with them and try to take consent from the State Governments, and take corrective action in this regard.

DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Madam, because of lack of knowledge and proper information, many of the farmers are not utilizing the facility of National Agricultural Insurance Scheme. This year because of the failure of monsoon in many of the States, farmers are in a bad situation. Though sowing is taken up, in many States including Andhra Pradesh, seedlings of sown crops have failed. I would like to know from the hon. Agriculture Minister whether the Government is proposing to compensate the farmers depending upon the sown area, irrespective of whether the farmer had insured his crop or not, and when the proposed Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme will be implemented.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: If the person has not insured his crop, it is difficult for any insurance company to take the responsibility.

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri Vikrambhai Arjanbhai Madam – not present.

SHRI JANARDHANA SWAMY: Madam Speaker, I thank you for giving me this opportunity.

For decades, we have been trying to help the farmers from the ...*(Interruptions)* Somehow, we have not been successful in helping our farmers by way of subsidies, loans, reduced interest on loans, crop insurance and canceling of loans. Compared to many other countries, we have more number of people dependent on agriculture in this country. Being a country which has less amount of land for agriculture, compared to many other countries, and more number of people dependent on it, whether the Government of India has any plan to improve the situation by creating alternative employment and livelihood options for the population presently dependent on agriculture. If yes, what steps have been taken in the past to address this issue and the results accomplished so far, and what are the plans for future and what can we expect?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: I am afraid, Madam Speaker, that this particular Question is regarding National Agricultural Insurance Scheme. Hon. Member is asking about the alternative employment opportunities to the farmers. I will need a separate notice for this and I will be happy to reply to that.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGDISH SHARMA: Madam Speaker, Crop Insurance Scheme has been implemented throughout the country. It covers two categories of farmers, first-loanee farmers and, second, non-loanee farmers. Loanee farmers have been issued KCCs and they are covered under the said scheme, irrespective of the bank which has issued them these cards, be it any commercial bank, cooperative bank or Gramin Bank. But, there is no clear cut provision in the said scheme for non-loanee framers. Through you, I would like to know from the Government whether it itends to issue directions to the banks that they should give loan and issue cards to all the farmers, whosoever applies for loan, without any kind of discrimination. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please keep silence.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: It would be better if there is silence in the House.

SHRI JAGDISH SHARMA: The farmers are eager to get Kisan Credit Cards. But the banks discriminate with them. Until and unless the farmers please the bank officials, they don't get Kisan Credit Cards. If any farmer applies for a KCC, the bank should give an acknowledgment.

MADAM SPEAKER: Please ask the question.

SHRI JAGDISH SHARMA: The Government should provide insurance cover to the farmers who take loan through Kisan Credit Cards. And Crop Insurance Scheme should be implemented at Panchayat level in place of block level as is in vogue at present. It will facilitate the farmers. Does the Government propose to treat Panchayat as a Unit?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Both the categories of farmers are entitled to opt for the Crop Insurance Scheme implemented in the country. Farmers, who have either taken a loan or not, can avail the benefit of the said scheme. There is no restriction in this regard. The Hon. Member has said that all the states are covered under the said scheme. But it is not so. Some states have opted out of the scheme. For example, Punjab. Punjab Government says that the compensation under the said scheme is less than the total expenditure incurred. Therefore, some states have not opted for the said scheme. But, all the states are entitled to join the said scheme and there is no restriction. The insurance companies have been given clear-out directions in this regard.

SHRI JAGDISH SHARMA: I have not got the reply to my question about implementing it at Panchayat level in place of block level.

MADAM SPEAKER: He has replied. Please keep silence.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI S. SEMMALAI: Madam Speaker, the position of our farmers *...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except the question of Shri Semmalai.

*...(Interruptions)**

[English]

SHRI S. SEMMALAI: Madam Speaker, the position of our farmers throughout the country is very pathetic. A subsidy of five per cent, on the premium, is being provided to the small and marginal farmers by our Government at present under the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme. Will the hon. Minister of Agriculture come forward to increase it to at least 25 per cent in order to encourage the agricultural sector, and to enable more farmers to come under the umbrella of the insurance scheme? In other words, is there any proposal to enhance the subsidy rate on premium?

*Not recorded.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Madam, we do not have any such proposal with us. As far as the area covered is concerned, insurance companies have no hesitation as along as the State Governments are willing to go to the village level. Insurance Companies will cover this if a State Government is willing to implement it from block level to village level and even beyond that and if they are willing to take the responsibility of crop cutting experiment as well.

DR. ARVIND KUMAR SHARMA: Madam Speaker, the UPA Government has tried to ensure that the farmers remain happy and prosperous and a lot of progress has been made under the guidance of our leader, Shrimati Sonia Gandhi. But the nature plays its own role. The farmer has to face floods, hailstorm and sometimes drought. We want that if a farmer cannot be completely happy then he should at least have no worries. Different crops incur different expenditure, for e.g. paddy in kharif-crop costs a farmer Rs. 15000 to 18000 right from sowing to harvesting and selling it into the market. I would like to ask the hon'ble Minister as to whether he is going to formulate any such insurance scheme which can relieve the farmer from all sorts of tensions? Is there any scheme under which a farmer can get plants in the beginning, alongwith seeds and once the crop is ready it can be protected against any hailstorm or strong winds? The farmer remains worried right from the sowing to harvesting. I would like to urge the hon'ble Minister to formulate any such scheme under the purview of crop insurance in which a farmer can be relieved of his worries related to crop sowing, harvesting, loading and marketing. Is there any such scheme in the mind of the hon'ble Minister?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Madam Speaker, the most important demand of farmers is that they should get remunerative price for their crop. If we see the record of the last five years of this Government, we will find that the Government has worked in the direction of making substantial improvement in Minimum support price. Wheat is produced in large quantity in Punjab and Haryana and earlier the Government was paying Rs. 650 per quintal but now, the Government is paying Rs. 1080 because it wants that the farmers should receive remunerative price for their crop so that they can smoothly support their families. That is why we are paying a lot of attention to prices. Secondly, be it power, fertilizer or water, efforts are being made to make maximum investment in these sectors. The second thing asked by the hon'ble Member is whether there is any scheme under which we can make rains occur to our will and ensure that there is no hailstorm. In this regard I would like to say that we can neither be successful nor are we capable of the same. How can we ensure that there are timely rains and there are no hailstorms. *...(Interruptions)*

[English]

Coconut Cultivation

*442. SHRI K. SUGUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has chalked out any programme to enhance the production and productivity of coconut;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is aware of the plight of farmers on account of the steep decline in the prices of coconut; and

(d) if so, the corrective action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (d) The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Government of India is implementing various schemes for the production and productivity improvement of coconut through the Coconut Development Board. The details of assistance being provided to farmers under different schemes of Coconut Development Board are given in the enclosed Annexure.

With a view to protect the interest of the coconut growers and industry, Government of India declares Minimum Support Price (MSP) for milling copra, ball copra and de-husked coconut. For the 2009 season, MSP of milling copra has been increased to Rs. 4,450/- per quintal and that of ball copra to Rs. 4,700/- per quintal as against Rs. 3,660/- and Rs. 3910/- per quintal for milling copra and ball copra respectively during 2008. Further, the MSP for de-husked coconut has been fixed at Rs. 12/- per Kg, for the year 2009 as against the previous year's MSP of Rs. 9.88 per Kg.

Annexure

Programmes of Coconut Development Board for production and productivity improvement

1. Production and Distribution of Planting Materials.

Financial assistance under the scheme upto Rs. 6.00 lakh is given for establishing seed garden which should have a capacity to produce minimum of 50,000 quality seedlings. Further the scheme provides financial assistance upto 2.00 lakh or 25% of the expenditure whichever is less for setting up of nursery having unit area of 0.40 ha. and annual production capacity of 25,000 seedlings.

2. Expansion of area under coconut: Financial assistance @ Rs. 8,000 per ha. is extended to the farmers for taking up new plantation of coconut.

3. Integrated farming in coconut holding for productivity improvement.

(i) **Management of Disease Affected Palms** by providing financial assistance @ Rs. 250/- per palm for cutting and removal of disease affected palms.

(ii) **Laying out of Demonstration plots** for demonstrating the impact of scientific management of coconut gardens to the farmers by extending financial assistance of Rs. 35,000/ - per ha. in two annual instalments.

(iii) **Promotion of organic manure units** by providing financial assistance @ 50% of cost of establishment of organic manure unit limited to Rs. 20,000/- per unit for improving the physical properties of soil and enhancing the nutrient water holding capacity of the coconut gardens.

SHRI K. SUGUMAR: Madam Speaker, Pollachi is the place where the coconut farmers are well enthusiastic in getting more yield. In order to encourage the farmers, will the Government come forward for setting up a Coconut Board Sub-Centre in Pollachi and also a coconut nursery in Pollachi? Further, a proposal was long pending with the Ministry about construction of Coconut Marketing Centre in Tippampatti which falls in my constituency, which includes a copra unit, decimated coconut powder unit, twist fibre unit, rubberized coir unit, tender coconut packaging unit, all under one roof. The land has already been acquired for this. So, will it be set up in my constituency?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Regarding the nursery proposal, there are eight places in the entire country where the Coconut Development Board has set up nurseries. There is no new proposal to set up additional nurseries anywhere. The Coconut Development Board's Headquarters is in Kerala, and most of the basic activities start from Kerala. That is why, any farmer from that particular area or near Tamil Nadu is in a position to get all types of support and information from the Coconut Development Board. Therefore, there is no new proposal for setting up additional nurseries anywhere in the country. Second, coming to the issue of setting up of a particular sub-centre which the hon. Member is asking for, as I said, the Headquarters of the Coconut Development Board itself is in Kerala. That is why, it is not possible to accept his request.

SHRI K. SUGUMAR: The price of coconut was fixed at Rs. 6 in the year 1990, but now it has been reduced to Rs. 3.50 per coconut. The coconut growing farmers were spending Rs. 100 as charges for plucking 1,000 coconuts in the year 1990, and now it comes to Rs. 500. The cost of labour engaged in coconut farms came to Rs. 30 per person in the 1990s, and now it comes to Rs. 150 per person. In addition, the cost of fertilizers and also other expenses are very high. NAFED procures copra at Rs. 44.50 per kilogram, but the benefit does not go to the farmers, and it goes to the intermediaries.

In Tamil Nadu, de-husked coconut has not been procured. So, the farmers in my constituency are suffering very much. Will the Government come forward to procure the coconut itself instead of copra to protect the farmers?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: The Minimum Support Price which was provided to copra was Rs. 3,660 per quintal last year. This year the Government took a decision to provide Rs.4,450 per quintal. Last year, for ball copra, it was Rs.3,910 per quintal and this year the Government took the decision to provide Rs.4,700 per quintal for this. Definitely, there is a substantial improvement and the market prices in many States are a little higher than that. Now the question comes about the procurement. In procurement, NAFED has been deputed as the nodal agency from the Agriculture Ministry, Government of India. But ultimately the State Government has to take the responsibility. In Tamil Nadu, the Tamil Nadu Marketing Federation has taken the responsibility as a sub-agent of the NAFED. The places suggested by the Tamil Nadu Government have been selected and in four or five places in Tamil Nadu they have started the procurement. If there is a specific complaint from the hon. Member in a particular area about the procurement not being done, let him write to me and I will give instructions to the NAFED to make arrangements to start the procurement and help farmers in that area.

SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU: Madam Speaker, it is a crucial question. In Tamil Nadu and Kerala most of the farmers are cultivating coconut. But the farmers are suffering as the tender coconuts are affected by various diseases which are unknown to the farmers. Insects are affecting the tender coconuts. Farmers are losing enormously and they are suffering financially. They are also dejected at the time when they are getting the lower yield of the coconut. In such a situation, farmers are suffering financially. Our Government is supporting the agricultural people enormously in various ways. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he is taking any steps to prevent these diseases. Agriculturists need correct pesticides in adequate quantity in order to protect the coconut and get more yield.

MADAM SPEAKER: Please ask your question.

SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU: I would like to know whether our Government has got any plans to supply suitable pesticides to our farmers.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: There are two main problems which are affecting the yield of the coconut. It is true that, as the hon. Member has said, there is one particular type of disease called root wilt which has affected many coconut gardens not only in Kerala or Tamil Nadu but in many parts of the country. Secondly, there are old farms, old fields. Now the time has come for re-planting and rejuvenation. Simultaneously, one has to take a big and massive programme to save these coconut trees from root wilt disease. The Government of India has last year approved one scheme. This year, we are going to implement it initially in four districts of Kerala and in Andman and Nicobar. After studying the results of this pilot scheme, we would like to take this scheme for the rest of the country.

The total project that has been prepared will cover 1.35 lakh hectares over a period of three years. It will cost about Rs. 2,275 crore in which the Central subsidy component will be somewhat near to Rs. 4,478 crore. The Government of India has approved such a massive scheme. A substantial provision for subsidy has been made. We started implementing the scheme in Kerala and Andaman & Nicobar Islands from this year. We are going to see what would be the overall result. After studying the result we will see that it will be made applicable to the rest of the country.

[Translation]

SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK: Madam Speaker, the Department of Co-operative Ministry of Agriculture is implementing various schemes through Coconut Development Board for improvement in the production of Coconut. Coconut Development Board is helping farmers by giving support price to them. There is a disease called Mike which is causing coconut trees to become dry and dead. Besides, there is another disease by which the size of coconut becomes very small. The size of coconut is getting smaller throughout the country which is affecting its production. My basic question is whether the Ministry of Agriculture is taking any measures or formulating any scheme to deal with both these problems?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Madam Speaker, just now I said that the problem regarding coconut has cropped up because the trees have grown very old leading to reduction in coconut production. A disease namely Root Wilt is causing damage on a large scale. A project has been approved to find a solution to this problem and the Union Government has decided to invest Rs. 2275

crore for the next three years. If the results of this effort are good then it can be implemented throughout the country and the Government has taken a decision in this regard. The Government is also working in the same direction fully aware of problems as told by the hon'ble Member here.

[English]

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Madam, production, productivity and fall in price have become the major issues in the coconut plantation which the coconut farmers face. At the same time, various diseases come in and affect the coconut trees, as stated by some other Members. Considering the seriousness of these issues, is there any research and development centre at the national or State level to study them? If so, to what extent the contribution of the centre has enriched the cause of these main issues?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Coconut Development Board itself is taking a lot of interest in this particular area. There is also one Research Institute which has been set up to go into the details of these problems of the coconut trees. But, if we study State-wise the area of production and productivity of the coconut, it is true that there is a problem. But there is a substantial improvement in that also. Productivity of some of the States is quite higher. For example, Kerala's productivity is somewhat near to 6,609. If we go to Tamil Nadu, the productivity is 14,000. In West Bengal it is 14,300. If we go to Lakshdweep the productivity is 19,603. So, there are some States which are doing well and there are some States which have a problem. So, our effort will be to take up a massive programme in those States which are below the national average, to improve their productivity. Definitely, the Coconut Development Board and the Ministry of Agriculture will take initiative and implement these programmes in these areas.

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Madam Speaker, I would like to tell the hon'ble Minister that coconut is required everywhere right from performing '*pooja*' to preparing Prasad etc., it is required in every family. We have to depend on castal areas of Kerala and Tamil Nadu for coconut. Coconut oil is required for hair also. I would like to know from the Government as to whether the Agriculture Department has got any survey done in tail end areas of northern and central states and have thought about making the farmers independent by providing them all kinds of technical assistance for coconut production? I would also like to know that coconut is produced in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh also but our farmers are unable to match the quality of Tamil Nadu and Kerala. Therefore, I would like to know whether the Government intends to provide technical assistance, training and subsidy to farmers in these states and start coconut farming throughout the country and if not, what is the reason behind that?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Madam, Lalu ji made a mention about worshiping of God and this is a welcome change. However, the nation that coconut cannot be produced in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh is not true. It is, however, true that we have never taken this crop on a large scale. My stated and my area has similar climate and my impression till now was that coconut cannot be produced on a large scale there. But, I have 400 coconut trees and they give a good output. It is my experience for the last 20-25 years. So, one can produce coconut there also. But, the fact is that Tamil Nadu, Orissa, West Bengal and Kerala have higher productivity. If we take the example of Litchi then its production and quality in Muzaffarpur in Bihar and Dehradun in Uttarakhand cannot be matched in any other part of the country. Similarly, coconut can be produced in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh or Madhya Pradesh but its quality and productivity can be no match to that in Tamil Nadu, Orissa, Lakshadweep etc. and we cannot ignore this fact.

As far as farmers are concerned, they pay more attention to anything that is beneficial for them and it should be so. Today, therefore, provision has been made to give some subsidy to those engaged in coconut plantation through the Horticulture Board and Horticulture Mission. The Government of India will cooperated and provide complete assistance if such a demand is received from the Government of Bihar and other State Governments. We will provide them good plants and will also make arrangements to depute some persons there for the guidance of the farmers.

[English]

Assistance to Coir Industry

\+

*443. SHRI NITYANANDA PRADHAN:
SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA:

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

(a) whether the development of coir industry in the country is impeded due to several constrains including high production costs, dip in exports, default in payments due to fluctuation in major currencies etc;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to provide any package to help the Coir industry; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) to (d) A Statement is placed on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) through Coir Board, a sttautory body under the administrative control of this Ministry, has taken various steps for the development of coir industry in the major coir producing states of the country viz., Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Orissa etc. The Industry is growing in the coconut producing states using coconut husk for the production of coir and allied products. The production of coir fibre is estimated to have increased from 4,37,800 M.T. in 2007-08 to 4,91,000 M.T. in 2008-09 and total employment in Coir sector is estimated to have increased from 6.59 lakh persons in 2007-08 to 6.75 lakh persons in 2008-09. The export of coir and coir products during the year 2008-2009 has shown increase of about 6.5% in terms of quantity and 8% in terms of value in rupee terms compared to 2007-08. There are no specific reports stating that the fluctuation in major currencies has affected the export of coir and coir products and development of coir industry.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of MSME through Coir Board is implementing a number of schemes for the Coir sector, which include assistance for participation in international exhibitions, coir industry awards, training/skill upgradation, Mahila Coir Yojana, domestic market promotion including market development assistance scheme, financial assistance for setting up of new units and modernization of existing units, group insurance scheme for artisans, etc. The allocated Plan budget of Coir Board has been increased from Rs. 23 crore in 2006-07 to Rs. 55 crore from 2007-08 onwards.

Further, under the Export Market Promotion Scheme, the Ministry of MSME, through Coir Board, has commissioned a Market Intelligence Study through the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, New Delhi in order to assess the market trends and preferences of Europe particularly UK, Italy, Germany and Netherlands with the ultimate objective of boosting the exports of traditional and value added coir products and also to position coir products as Home Decor Products.

The coir products are also included in different schemes of Government of India for encouraging the exports as indicated below:

(i) Exporters of Coir and Coir products are eligible to avail Duty Entitlement Pass Book Scheme (DEPB) at the rate of 1.5% of FOB value.

(ii) Duty Drawback (DDB) given by Department of Revenue ranges from 1% to 6.3% of FOB value on various products of Coir. Coir mats and mattings were brought under DDB of 2.5% of FOB value in 2007 essentially to help coir exports to tide over dollar depreciation.

(iii) Duty free scrip of 1.25% of F.O.B. value under the Focus Product Scheme of Ministry of Commerce, for selected products.

(iv) Interest subvention on pre-shipment and post-shipment credits to ensure cash flow to the export related activities.

(v) Financial assistance to exporters/entrepreneurs for undertaking various export promotion activities for participation in international fairs, Buyer Seller Meets, Trade Delegations etc. under External Market Development Assistance (EMDA) Scheme of the Ministry of MSME, and

(vi) Assistance under EMDA scheme towards 25% of the cost of production of Brochures/ Catalogue, produced for release abord subject to a maximum of Rs. 15,000/- once in a financial year.

Besides, a new Central Sector scheme on "Rejuvenation, Modernization and Technology Upgradation of the Coir Industry" (REMOT) has been launched in March, 2008 to assist spinning and tiny household sectors. Under this scheme, assistance is provided to groups of spinners and tiny household workers for replacement of outdated ratts/looms, respectively and for constructing work sheds so as to increase production and earnings of such workers. The scheme envisages covering 4000 spinning units and 3200 tiny/house hold units during the XI plan period in the country.

[English]

SHRI NITYANANDA PRADHAN: Madam Speaker, through you, I want to know this from the hon. Minister. Just now, we were discussing about the fate of coconut plantation, coconuts, etc. and this is a subsidiary to coconut. The product is from coconut; if there is no good quality of coconut, there will also be no good quality

of coir. So, I want to know from the hon. Minister, whether there could be coordination between the medium and small scale industries, the agriculture industry as also between the Coir Board and the Coconut Board to see that proper and good quality coconuts are grown so that good quality of coir is made available. This is one thing. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether he has achieved the national target which has been fixed by the Coir Board. These are the two questions to which I want answers from the hon. Minister.

[Translation]

SHRI DINSHA PATEL: Madam Speaker, of the questions asked by the hon. Member, two are related to the Agriculture Ministry and one to my Ministry, therefore, they are inter connected. His question is for the Agriculture Ministry that the production of coir should be increased and since it also related to the Coir Board, I would therefore, like to inform him that the budget for the purpose has been increased to Rs. 282 crore in the 11th Five Year Plan from Rs. 115 crore in the 10th five year plan. This amount was fixed at Rs. 23 crore every year for the 10th five year plan but it has been increased to Rs. 55 crore every year so as to improve its quality and increase its production so that it can be exported. As I had mentioned about the budget that it is Rs. 55 crore every year, the expenditure as per revised estimates is Rs. 36.70 crore for 2007-2008 and Rs. 47.60 crore for 2008-09. We are making efforts to increase it. The Coir Board is trying to increase the quantity and production in coordination with the Agriculture Ministry.

[English]

SHRI NITYANANDA PRADHAN: Madam Speaker, I want to know from the hon. Minister the quantity of coir that is produced in India and quantity of coir utilized by their machinery. I would also like to know whether the balance quantity of coir is useable or not and if it is useable, will the hon. Minister take steps to utilize the balance portion? As per news reports, only 50 per cent of coir is utilized and rest of the 50 per cent of coir is not utilized. So, I want to know from the hon. Minister whether he will take steps to utilize the remaining 50 per cent coir through Coir Board or through some other agency so that our farmers are also benefited. I come from the State of Orissa where there is abundant coir available. So, will the hon. Minister think about this problem?

[Translation]

SHRI DINSHA PATEL: Madam Speaker, through you, I would like to inform the hon. Member that foreign exchange of Rs. 592.88 crore was earned from export of 1,87,566 metric tonnes of coir in 2007-08. Similarly, foreign exchange of Rs. 639.97 crore was earned from export of 1,99,925 metric tonnes in 2008-09. Presently, about 38-40 per cent coir is used in our country. Hon. Member has mentioned about 50 per cent coir which remains unutilized. For this purpose, it is decided in coordination with the Agriculture Ministry as to how relief should be provided to the farmers. Efforts will be made in this regard and the Coir Board will take this matter further.

[English]

SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA: Madam Speaker, the hon. Minister in his statement laid on the Table has stated that for the Financial Year just ended in March 2009, the coir sector has actually had an increase in both the physical output as well as growth in terms of value. But there seems to be some contradiction to this in the media reports that are raising an alarm about this sector. So, I would specifically like to draw the hon. Minister's attention to the publication of as recently as 30th July in one of the major financial newspapers in the country which slightly contradicts these figures and I would like a clarification. The hon. Minister has stated that the quantum of production has increased by about 6.5 per cent over the previous year and the value has increased by 8 per cent over the previous year, whereas this national financial newspaper states that in fact, the volume has increased by only 1.2 per cent and the value has increased by 5.2 per cent. But more alarming than that is the fact that in the last few months the trend has actually been decreasing. There are some alarm signals going off in the industry. I would like the hon. Minister to clarify on these contradictory statistics.

[Translation]

SHRI DINSHA PATEL: Madam, I have said that production has increased by 6.5 per cent and it is true and the rupee has gained 8 points. Presently, the whole world is in recession—whether it is the US, European Countries, U.K., Italy, Germany, China, Japan etc. Recession is everywhere due to which the exports have declined a little. But, the figures mentioned by me are absolutely correct and an increase has been noticed there and not the decline.

[English]

Roadmap for Revamp of PDS

\+

*444. SHRI JOSEPH TOPPO:
SHRI PRABODH PANDA:

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

(a) whether the Union Government has formulated a roadmap to revamp the Public Distribution System for effective transfer of food subsidy to the Below Poverty Line (BPL) families;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has received proposals from various stakeholders including State Governments in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (d) Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is implemented jointly by Government of India & State/ UT Governments. GOI carries out procurement of foodgrains, allocations to the State/UT Governments; storage and transportation up to designated depots. Allocations of foodgrains within State/UT, identification of eligible BPL & AAY families based on estimates of Planning Commission issuance of ration cards to them and distribution of allocated foodgrains to ration card holders through FPS are done by State/UT Governments.

State/UT Governments have been directed to strengthen TPDS by taking various measures to ensure improved monitoring and vigilance, increased transparency in functioning, use of communication & information technology tools, and efficient operations of FPS.

State Governments of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Delhi submitted proposals for approval to direct disbursement of food subsidy in cash to BPL families in lieu of foodgrains under TPDS on pilot basis in five districts i.e. Lakhimpur Kheri and Hardoi in Uttar Pradesh, Panchkula and Jhajjar in Haryana and Central District in Delhi. Based on those proposals, a draft scheme has been prepared to test feasibility of this alternative mode of transfer of food subsidy under TPDS to BPL/AAY families. The draft scheme is under examination. Government of Bihar has also now suggested for disbursement of cash subsidy under TPDS.

[Translation]

SHRI JOSEPH TOPPO: Madam, I want to ask the hon. Minister a direct question as to whether there was a plan to spend Rs. 520 crore for full computerization of the PDS and what is its current status?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Madam, the Government of India has accepted the proposal for such a scheme to be implemented in four states of the country as pilot project which includes Delhi, Assam and two other states. Work on the scheme has been started in the selected districts of these states on pilot basis. On the basis of the overall experience there, we will decide if the scheme should be implemented in the remaining states or not. It will require Rs. 460 crore and not Rs. 520 crore. The Government of India has given approval to this scheme.

SHRI JOSEPH TOPPO: Madam, on the walls of houses of the poor people in the district Narsingapur in Madhya Pradesh it has been written that this family is poor, very poor. I would like to know from the hon. Minister to which extent this is proper?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Madam, no such writing work has been done through this Ministry in any state of the country.

[English]

SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Madam, Speaker, so far as this targeted PDS is concerned, there is a scheme called the *Antoydaya Anna Yojana* and this scheme is meant for the poorest of the poor. According to this scheme these families are entitled to get 35 kilograms of food at the rate of Rs. 2 per kilogram. But recently in the Budget speech it has been mentioned that these families would be provided 25 kilograms of food at the rate of Rs. 3 per kilogram.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to why the quantity of food to be given to these families are being sought to be decreased at a price higher than what was stipulated earlier. What is the reason behind it? I would like to know if the Government is contemplating a review of its decision to restore it to 35 kilograms at the rate of Rs. 2 per kilogram.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: As on today, the Government of India has not taken any decision to scrap the AAY scheme. The AAY scheme is meant for the poorest of the poor and that scheme is very much there. They are getting 35 kilograms of foodgrains per family

and that quantum of 35 kilograms is very much there. There is no change in the price. There is no change even today in the price which has been fixed in 2002. We would like to continue with it. I think the hon. Member is referring to the new proposal to the Food Security Scheme. That is part of the President's Address where it is mentioned that the Government would like to give a guarantee of food security upto 25 kilograms of foodgrains at a particular rate. That proposal is before the'Government but we have not taken any decision about abolition of the AAY.

[Translation]

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: Through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister about the distribution in the states. I visited the far-flung areas in my constituency recently. I had submitted to the hon. Minister that ration supplies are not reaching those areas as per the provision under the ongoing two or three ration schemes. We are being informed about this time and again on phone as well. I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the remote areas like Inderbal, Bhadravah and the adjacent areas of Dudo Vasantgarh, Gool, Arnas and Mohar. All the people ther said that they are not getting rations. They asked me to request the Government to resume the supply of ration meant for them. The reason for that is that the recent reduction in prices of rationed goods have encouraged people to buy those items ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please put your question.

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: I want to know if the Minister would supply the entire quota of ration.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Madam Speaker, there are three public distribution schemes in the country. One is called AAY, wherein 35 kg. of foodgrain is provided. The offtake under the AAY category in the states is 97-98 percent. Each state avails the benefits of this scheme. The second scheme is BPL under which 35 kg. of foodgrain is provided. Apart from one or two exceptions the offtake under this scheme in all other states is 94-95 percent and the State Governments do lift the stocks provided thereunder. The third scheme is APL wherein ten or eleven kg. foodgrain is provided as per eligibility. There are certain states in the country where a different type of programme is implemented. This includes Jammu and Kashmir and all the North-Eastern states. Besides, six KBK districts of Orissa are also included under the said programme. The said programme provides for supply of 35 kg. foodgrains to the APL category too. In Jammu and Kashmir, the Government provides 35 kg. of foodgrains to all categories whether it is AAY, BPL or APL. It is the responsibility of the State Government to lift the stocks provided by the Union Government and ensure the implementation of the PDS. The responsibility of the Union Government is to procure foodgrain from the farmers and supply it to the State Governments. It is the responsibility of the Union Government to provide 35 kg. foodgrain to each eligible person in respect of Jammu and Kashmir and other State Governments. The Government fulfils this responsibility. Distribution at the grassroots level needs to be improved. If there is any problem then I will contact that State Governments and help the members resolve the problems.

DR. SANJAY JAISWAL: Madam Speaker, the hon. Minister in his reply has said that the work of allotment of foodgrains in states; identification of BPL families and candidates eligible for benefits under the Antyodaya Yojana on the basis of estimates of the Planning Commission; issuance of ration cards to them; making ration available through fair price shops and supervision of distribution of allotted foodgrains is the responsibility of the State Governments. I want to know the reason as to why the Union Government provides foodgrains to merely 63 lakh BPL families in Bihar although the number of BPL families in the state is 1 crore 14 lakh. Either the Union Government should prepare its own estimates of the number of BPL families or it should implement schemes on the basis of the figures provided by the State Government. This issue is creating a lot of disputes. Does the hon. Minister intend to formulate a scheme to carry-out a survey of BPL families or does he intend to provide BPL ration for 1 crore 14 lakh families as per the figures provided by the State Government? What does the Minister have to say about this?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Madam, the Planning Commission has formulated guidelines to determine whether a family comes under BPL, APL or AAY category. Those guidelines are being followed since 2001. It is true that as per the figures of the Planning Commission, the total number of BPL families is nearly 6 crore 52 or 53 lakh. However, all the State Governments have issued around 12 crore BPL cards. The Planning Commission says that there are around 6 crore 52-53 lakh BPL families whereas the State Governments quote a different figures. The foodgrains distribution takes place on the basis of the guidelines issued by the Planning Commission. The Government will implement the scheme in accordance with the guidelines issued to the Food and Civil Supplies Ministry by the Planning Commission till the time these guidelines are not amended.

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: Madam Speaker, I am obliged to you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

Madam, the PDS scheme is not being implemented effectively anywhere in the country and particularly in Uttar Pradesh. It is for the Block Development Officers to ensure that ration cards are issued to the families of BPL categories in time. But no survey in this regard has been conducted after 2002. Prior to the elections, it was announced that a survey to estimate the BPL population would be carried-out. But no such survey has been done so far. The rickshaw-pullers and bidi workers belong to the poorest category but they are not issued even the red and white cards. They have to face great problems and they find it difficult to earn two square meals a day. I would like to ask the hon. Minister if he plans to conduct any survey of such persons and if so, by when? Please give a time limit for the same.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Madam, a survey is undertaken every year. The Planning Commission has laid down the basis on which the below poverty line is to be determined. The Planning Commission has communicated the basis for the said line with regard to each of the state and this should be accepted. It is not possible to effect any change in this regard.

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Q. 445—Adv. Ganeshrao Dudhgaonkar—Not present.

Q. 446—Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi—Not present.

Q. 447—Shri M. Raja Mohan Reddy – Not present.
Shri Ananth Kumar

Loss of Foodgrains

\+

*447. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR:
SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY:

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

(a) whether the Government is aware of the large scale loss of foodgrains during storage and in transit by the Food Corporation of India and other public agencies;

(b) whether the reasons for such losses have been identified, if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of storage and transit loss reported during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(d) whether any study has been conducted to ascertain the loss;

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

(f) the steps taken or proposed to be taken for safe storage of foodgrains and also to check loss of foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Yes Madam, Food Corporation of India is incurring small loss of foodgrains during storage and transit. However, there is no large scale loss of foodgrains. The reasons for storage and transit losses are given in the enclosed Annexure-I.

(c) The details of storage and transit losses incurred by FCI during the last three years are given in the enclosed Annexure-II.

(d) to (f) Yes, Madam. A study was conducted by M/s. RITES Ltd. (which submitted its report in May, 2005) to reduce the transit losses of foodgrains in movement by rail. On the basis of its recommendations, steps taken by FCI for safe storage and also to check loss of foodgrains in transit have been formulated and are given in the enclosed Annexure-III. The Government also fixes the yearly target for limiting losses in the MOU it signs with FCI. For the year 2009-10, the limits for storage loss & transit loss have been fixed as 0.20% and 0.40% respectively.

Annexure I

Reasons for Storage and Transit Losses

Reasons for Storage losses:

(i) Loss of moisture

(ii) Sliding down/deterioration of stocks

(iii) Fungus/infestation of stocks

(iv) Bird/Rodent trouble in storage complexes

(v) Bleeding/spillage of grain from gunny bags for inadequate stitches/weak texture

(vi) Prolonged storage

Reasons for transit losses:

(i) Pilferage and theft enroute

(ii) Driage of moisture during long trasit

(iii) Multiple handling

(iv) Use of hooks by labour

(v) Weak texture of gunnies & bursting of bags

(vi) Spillage through wagon holes/cleavages and flap doors.

(vii) Spillage and theft at transhipment points.

(viii) Different modes of weighment.

Annexure II

Year-end Trend % for the year 2006-07 of Wheat/Rice (Audited)

(Provisional)

Zone/Region	Transit Loss			Storage Loss		
	wheat % of loss	rice % of loss	Total % of loss	wheat % of loss	rice % of loss	Total % of loss
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
North						
Punjab	1.47	0.11	0.30	-0.19	0.85	0.42
Haryana	0.08	0.01	0.05	-0.41	0.24	-0.10
Uttar Pradesh	0.35	0.33	0.34	-0.08	0.51	0.10
Uttarakhand	0.28	0.02	0.25	-0.14	0.42	0.09
Rajasthan	0.19	0.23	0.19	-0.04	0.44	0.01
Delhi	0.24	0.25	0.24	-0.06	0.39	0.05
Jammu and Kashmir	0.12	0.20	0.18	-0.01	0.02	0.01
Himachal Pradesh	0.01	0.01	0.01	-0.06	0.00	-0.03
Total	0.25	0.19	0.23	-0.18	0.65	0.24
North-East						
Assam	0.79	1.16	1.11	0.03	0.16	0.14
NEF	1.17	1.23	1.22	-0.07	0.08	0.07
N & M	0.32	0.38	0.38	0.00	0.11	0.09
Total	0.76	1.08	1.04	0.01	0.14	0.12
East						
Bihar	0.28	0.46	0.38	0.03	0.21	0.15
Jharkhand	0.33	0.50	0.44	0.08	0.10	0.10
Orissa	0.22	0.17	0.18	0.01	0.17	0.16
West Bengal	0.32	0.50	0.38	0.02	0.20	0.11
Total	0.30	0.38	0.35	0.03	0.18	0.13

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
West						
Madhya Pradesh	0.42	0.40	0.41	0.07	0.36	0.15
Chhattisgarh	0.43	-0.02	0.17	-0.16	0.78	0.74
Maharashtra	0.51	0.57	0.53	0.10	0.33	0.21
Gujarat	0.24	0.46	0.30	-0.02	0.68	0.05
Total	0.42	0.47	0.44	0.02	0.60	0.27
South						
Andhra Pradesh	1.22	0.39	0.42	-0.05	0.22	0.19
Karnataka	0.49	0.49	0.49	-0.12	0.21	0.17
Kerala	0.62	0.27	0.39	-0.25	0.10	-0.02
Tamil Nadu	0.71	0.32	0.33	-0.32	0.25	0.10
Total	0.64	0.38	0.41	-0.20	0.21	0.15
Grant Total	0.36	0.48	0.43	-0.10	0.40	0.20

(-) indicates GAIN;

Year-end Trend % for the year 2007-08 of Wheat/Rice

(Provisional)

Zone/Region	Transit Loss			Storage Loss		
	wheat % of loss	rice % of loss	Total % of loss	wheat % of loss	rice % of loss	Total % of loss
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
North						
Punjab	0	0.00	0.00	-0.87	0.85	0.58
Haryana	0	0.00	0.00	-0.77	0.31	-0.15
Uttar Pradesh	0.47	0.50	0.48	0.22	0.53	0.50
Uttarakhand	0.46	0.24	0.38	0.00	0.53	0.53
Rajasthan	0.21	0.38	0.22	0.17	0.37	0.20
Delhi	0.39	0.54	0.42	0.00	0.36	0.36
Jammu and Kashmir	0.32	0.28	0.29	0.01	0.01	0.01
Himachal Pradesh	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	0.37	0.40	0.38	-0.45	0.66	0.36

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
North East						
Assam	0.43	0.70	0.66	0.07	0.13	0.12
NEF	0.31	0.70	0.67	0.00	0.24	0.24
N & M	0.32	0.43	0.41	0.00	0.44	0.42
Total	0.40	0.68	0.64	0.07	0.16	0.16
East						
Bihar	0.40	0.71	0.57	0.19	0.26	0.23
Jharkhand	0.44	0.48	0.47	0.18	0.16	0.16
Orissa	0.02	0.51	0.05	0.07	0.24	0.22
West Bengal	0.50	0.68	0.57	0.12	0.25	0.20
Total	0.28	0.64	0.40	0.14	0.24	0.21
West						
Madhya Pradesh	0.40	0.51	0.43	0.30	0.44	0.33
Chhattisgarh	0.58	0.32	0.52	0.26	0.45	0.45
Maharashtra	0.41	0.60	0.51	0.24	0.37	0.31
Gujarat	0.44	0.57	0.52	0.40	0.39	0.40
Total	0.41	0.57	0.48	0.29	0.41	0.36
South						
Andhra Pradesh	0.36	0.32	0.32	0.08	0.17	0.17
Karnataka	0.32	0.47	0.45	-0.07	0.32	0.27
Tamil Nadu	0.18	0.25	0.25	-0.15	0.19	0.18
Total	0.24	0.32	0.31	-0.14	0.19	0.17
Grant Total	0.33	0.48	0.41	-0.07	0.38	0.28

(-) indicates Gain;

Year-end Trend % for the year 2008-09 of Wheat/Rice

(Provisional)

Zone/Region	Transit Loss			Storage Loss		
	wheat % of loss	rice % of loss	Total % of loss	wheat % of loss	rice % of loss	Total % of loss
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
North						
Punjab	0	0.00	0.00	-1.00	0.78	0.24
Haryana	0	0.00	0.00	-1.03	0.32	-0.42

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Uttar Pradesh	0.53	0.50	0.52	-0.62	0.94	0.33
Uttarakhand	0.39	0.46	0.41	-0.52	0.29	-0.22
Rajasthan	0.06	0.22	0.07	-0.38	0.56	-0.33
Delhi	0.42	0.41	0.42	-0.14	0.23	0.00
Jammu and Kashmir	0.48	0.70	0.64	0.02	0.01	0.01
Himachal Pradesh	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	0.23	0.58	0.33	-0.70	0.58	0.03
North-East						
Assam	0.44	0.77	0.71	0.05	0.14	0.13
NEF	0.48	0.86	0.83	0.16	0.23	0.23
N & M	0.36	0.47	0.44	0.10	0.21	0.20
Total	0.43	0.77	0.71	0.06	0.16	0.15
East						
Bihar	0.30	0.37	0.35	0.20	0.29	0.25
Jharkhand	0.45	0.68	0.61	0.17	0.18	0.18
Orissa	0.37	0.48	0.43	0.09	0.27	0.25
West Bengal	0.46	0.50	0.47	0.12	0.30	0.20
Total	0.43	0.51	0.47	0.14	0.27	0.22
West						
Madhya Pradesh	0.39	0.62	0.51	-0.07	0.47	0.07
Chhattisgarh	0.58	0.78	0.63	0.00	0.31	0.31
Maharashtra	0.36	0.62	0.45	0.12	0.39	0.25
Gujarat	0.45	0.62	0.51	0.21	0.54	0.31
Total	0.38	0.62	0.47	0.08	0.38	0.24
South						
Andhra Pradesh	0.48	0.29	0.33	-0.08	0.15	0.15
Karnataka	0.24	0.40	0.36	-0.22	0.18	0.10
Kerala	0.01	0.14	0.09	-0.39	0.20	0.04
Tamil Nadu	0.24	0.24	0.24	-0.11	0.21	0.17
Total	0.24	0.28	0.27	-0.22	0.17	0.14
Grant Total	0.34	0.44	0.40	-0.32	0.32	0.13

(-) indicates Gain;

Year-end Trend % for the year 2009-10 (upto May 2009) of Wheat/Rice

(Provisional)

Zone/Region	Transit Loss			Storage Loss		
	wheat % of loss	rice % of loss	Total % of loss	wheat % of loss	rice % of loss	Total % of loss
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
North						
Punjab	0	0.00	0.00	-0.09	0.40	0.17
Haryana	0	0.00	0.00	-0.85	0.49	-0.17
Uttar Pradesh	1.15	0.85	0.92	-0.79	0.71	-0.36
Uttarakhand	0.31	0.00	0.26	-0.16	0.41	0.00
Rajathan	0.04	0.00	0.04	-0.08	0.81	-0.05
Delhi	0	0.00	0.00	-0.04	0.00	-0.04
Jammu and Kashmir	0.58	0.74	0.71	0.04	0.02	0.03
Himachal Pradesh	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	0.07	0.76	0.16	-0.23	0.37	0.04
North-East						
Assam	0.34	0.73	0.65	0.07	0.12	0.11
NEF	0.19	0.91	0.81	0.30	0.26	0.26
N & M	0.39	0.45	0.44	0.00	0.44	0.37
Total	0.32	0.74	0.66	0.10	0.15	0.14
East						
Bihar	0.53	0.95	0.77	0.33	0.35	0.34
Jharkhand	0.34	0.67	0.53	0.15	0.33	0.28
Orissa	0.48	0.73	0.55	0.11	0.39	0.32
West Bengal	0.47	0.77	0.48	0.11	0.78	0.30
Total	0.46	0.73	0.51	0.13	0.49	0.31
West						
Madhya Pradesh	0.52	0.97	0.55	0.00	0.69	0.04
Chhattisgarh	0.29	0.00	0.29	0.13	0.00	0.32
Maharashtra	0.38	0.85	0.58	0.26	0.39	0.31
Gujarat	0.39	0.51	0.41	0.45	0.85	0.53
Total	0.43	0.82	0.54	0.21	0.40	0.29

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
South						
Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.37	0.37	-0.11	0.21	0.21
Karnataka	0.25	0.51	0.43	0.02	0.26	0.21
Kerala	0.08	0.27	0.20	-0.24	0.24	0.12
Tamil Nadu	0.30	0.50	0.46	-0.07	0.18	0.16
Total	0.23	0.45	0.40	-0.06	0.21	0.19
Grant Total	0.31	0.57	0.44	-0.01	0.29	0.18

(-) indicates GAIN

Annexure III

Steps taken for safe storage of foodgrains to check loss of foodgrains:

The following steps been taken by FCI to minimise storage and transit losses:

1. Physical measures like installation of barbed wires fencing of the boundary walls, provision of street lights for illumination of godowns and proper locking of the sheds are taken to secure the godowns.
2. Security staffs of FCI as well as other Agencies like Home Guards, Special Police Officers are deplyed for safety of the stocks.
3. Deployment of Central Industrial Security Force and State Armed Police has been done at some depots/godowns, which are vulnerable.
4. Security Inspections as well as surprise checks of the Depots are also conducted from time to time at various levels to detect and plug the security lapses.
5. Adoption of 50 kg packing in a phased manner to avoid use of hooks.
6. Encouraging double line machine stitching of bags.
7. Periodical prophylactic and curative treatment of stocks, as prescribed.
8. Streamlining of procedure and documetation for transparency and accountability in operations at each level.
9. Special Squad checking at selected rail-heads, trasshipment and destination/dispatch centres.
10. Identification of vulnerable loading and unloading points.
11. Inspection of Depots by Senior officers of the HQs, Ececutive Directors (Zones)/General Managers (Regions)/Area Managers.
12. Inspection and monitoring of calibration of weigh-bridges.
13. Maintaining priority list for issue of stocks observing the FIFO principle.
14. Proper weighment and accounting at the time of receipt and issue.
15. Undertaking pre-monsoon fumigation.
16. Improvement in dunnage material.
17. Movement of foodgrains from one place to another by safe means i.e. covered wagons etc.
18. Ensuring proper quality checking of foodgrains at the time procurement.
19. Ensuring that all FCI owned godowns are constructed and maintained on scientific lines for storage of foodgrains.
20. Transit Insurance of stocks for movement of foodgrains by rail.
21. Providing escorts while transporting foodgrains from Depot to Rail head & *vice-versa*.
22. Transfer of officials whose integrity is found doubtful as per extant instructions.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Madam, in reply to the RTI application, the Food Corporation of India has said that 1.83 lakh tonnes of wheat, 3.95 lakh tonnes of rice have been damaged in various godowns of the Food Corporation of India. *...(Interruptions)* Madam, I will repeat the question, through you, to the hon. Minister.

For a query of the RTI application, the FCI has given its reply that in recent years, 1.83 lakh tonnes of wheat and 3.95 lakh tonnes of rice, 22,000 tonnes of paddy and 110 tonnes of maize have been damaged in various godowns of the Food Corporation of India. According to an estimate, the amount of the food grains which has been damaged in various godowns of the Food Corporation of India while trans-shipping, storing and distribution is capable of feeding 10 million people in a year. When malnourishment is a huge problem in the country, whether the hon. Minister is going to institute a departmental inquiry into such a huge loss of food grains because of the negligence of the officials of the Food Corporation of India and take some corrective action regarding this?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: One should not forget the total procurement which the Food Corporation of India is doing. The figures which we have given here; the total losses, for instance, for the year 2009-10, that includes storage losses and transit losses, is somewhat near to 0.20 per cent and 0.40 per cent respectively. *...(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri Ananth Kumar, you can ask the Second Supplementary.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: The total turnover of the FCI is somewhat near to Rs. 60,000 to Rs. 65,000 crores. If you calculate the 0.20 per cent of the Rs. 65,000 crore, probably, the amount will be somewhat near to that. Our continuous efforts are to improve the storage, transport and transit facilities. A number of steps have already been taken. But if the hon. Member knows a particular area or a particular godown where there is a substantial damage and the proper actions have not been taken, I will be happy to constitute a team to go in detail, inquire and get the report and take corrective actions.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Madam, I have asked a very pointed question to the hon. Minister. The question is that one RTI activist, Shri Debasish Bhattacharya, has asked a question to the FCI and it has given an answer which I have already narrated. So, based on that question of the RTI activist, whether the hon. Minister is going to institute an inquiry into the pilferage of the grains and damage of the grains to such a vast extent in recent years?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Madam, as I have already said, I have no objection to go into the details of it. If the hon. Member gives that information, I will be happy to constitute a team to go into the details and take corrective action. But I have to make one thing absolutely clear, that is the total figure, but what I am saying is the percentage of the total procurement and total stock.

DR. K.S. RAO: Madam, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity. It is mentioned in the reply given by the hon. Minister that there are losses because of storage and transit. The reasons mentioned are multiple handling, pilferage, theft, fungus etc.

12.00 hrs.

The hon. Minister was kind enough to seek suggestions from the Members of Parliament a couple of years back wherein we said this unanimously. It is known to every one of us that we are in favour of empowering women....*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please ask the question quickly because there is no time.

DR. K.S. RAO: I am asking the question. We have suggested the method of the Self Help Groups to procure foodgrains to be used for procurement and then distribution also to the Fair Price Shops locally by reducing all these losses. So, I wish to know from the hon. Minister whether he will encourage the Self Help Groups in both procurement and then delivery to the Fair Price Shops in the local areas so that the losses can be avoided.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: There is one State, West Bengal, which has come forward with a definite proposal to use the Women-Self Help Groups for procurement which the Government of India has accepted. They are implementing it very efficiently. Our observation is that the performance of that Women-Self Help Group in West Bengal is quite good. We have no objection to encourage similar proposals from the other States.

———

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Maintenance of Existing Roads

*445. SHRI GANESHRAO NAGORAO DUDHGAONKAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to prepare a policy for maintenance of the existing roads during the construction/expansion phase of four/six laning by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether complains have been received that some National Highways are not being maintained as per prescribed standards by the NHAI;

(d) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise particularly in Maharashtra alongwith the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) There is an existing policy for maintenance of existing roads by the contractors/concessionaries as part of their obligations under contract/concession agrement to keep the existing roads in traffic worthy condition.

(c) and (d) National Highways (NHs) under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) are being maintained in traffic worthy condition. However, complaints have been received regarding bad condition of various roads under National Highway Development Projects (NHDP) in various States, from time to time including complaints regarding bad condition of roads caused by damage during heavy rains and poor maintenance due to non-performance of contractors. Action is taken to resolve these complaints within the available resources. In Maharashtra, representations have been received mainly regarding condition of NH 8 in the Maharasthra portion of Surat-Dahisar section and portion of Nagpur-Hyderabad Section of NH 7. The Surat-Dahisar stretch of NH 8 has been taken up for conversion into six lane highway under NHDP Phase V and maintenance of the section is being carreied out by the concessionarie. In the Nagpur-Hyderabad section, civil contract has been terminated and maintenance is being carried out by maintenance contractor.

(e) Steps taken by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) to address this situation include carrying out urgent repair work, re-surfacing, termination of contract of non-performing contractors and re-awarding the work etc. Provisions are made in the operation & maintenance contracts to ensure that roads are traffic worthy and serviceable. Flood damage repair is also undertaken as and when required.

[Translation]

Target for Construction of Roads

*446. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the length of roads in kilometres proposed to be constructed during the financial year 2009-2010;

(b) the details of the length and cost to be incurred, State-wise;

(c) whether 60 per cent of the targeted length of roads is to be constructed on Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) basis;

(d) if so, the manner in which the above is likely to be funded alongwith the capital investment needed for the purpose by the private sector; and

(e) the names of the States covered under the said scheme alongwith the National Highways proposed to be built in those States?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (e) A plan has been worked out by the NHAI to undertake the works of about 12,000 km. of National Highways estimated to cost about Rs. 1,00,000 crore during 2009-10 under National Highways Development Project (NHDP). About 60% of the targeted length is likely to be viable on Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) Toll basis. Other details are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

State-wise Length of National Highways under NHDP

Sl.No.	Name of the State	National Highway	Length of National Highway to be upgraded (in km.)	Estimated Cost (Rs. Cr.)*
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5, 7, 9, 18, 202	1112	7986
2.	Assam	54	31	350
3.	Bihar	13, 19, 28A, 30, 31, 77, 80, 83, 84, 85	1021	4957
4.	Goa	4A, 17	187	2549
5.	Gujarat	6, 8, 8A (Ext), 8D, 59	683	5117
6.	Haryana	10, 65, 71, 71A, 73	488	2112
7.	Haryana/Uttar Pradesh	2	180	1433
8.	Haryana/Uttar Pradesh	Eastern Peripheral Expressway	135	2676
9.	Himachal Pradesh	22	100	536
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1A	239	9629
11.	Jharkhand	33	274	2061
12.	Jharkhand/West Bengal	2	120	-
13.	Karnataka	4, 4A, 7, 13, 17, 48	683	5911
14.	Kerala	17, 47	700	8417
15.	Madhya Pradesh	3, 12, 59, 86 (Ext)	717	1622
16.	Maharashtra	3, 4, 6, 9, 17	1006	8285
17.	Orissa	5, 6, 200, 203, 215	612	2980
18.	Punjab	1, 15, 95	206	997
19.	Rajasthan	8, 11, 12, 14, 76, 79, 79A	1321	6139
20.	Tamil Nadu	4, 7, 45, 47, 46, 47B, 49, 66, 67, 210, 220	1291	6619
21.	Tamil Nadu/Andhra Pradesh	205	125	751
22.	Uttar Pradesh	24, 91	399	3672
23.	Uttar Pradesh/Uttarakhand	58	80	804

1	2	3	4	5
24.	Uttar Pradesh/Jharkhand	2	190	2848
25.	Uttarakhand	58, 72, 87	125	490
26.	West Bengal	31, 31C, 31D, 34, 35	639	6771
27.	West Bengal/Orissa	6, 60	240	-
	Total		12904	

*Estimated costs are tentative as some of the proposed projects are at design stage.

Projects not viable on BOT (Toll) may be taken up on BOT (Annuity)/Engineering Procurement Construction (EPC) mode based on the traffic volume, inter-se-priority and viability of funds. For BOT (Toll) mode, Government can give grants upto 40% for four laning and 10% for six laning. The balance investment is to be arranged by the Concessionaire. In BOT (Auunity) mode, entire investment is made by the Concessionaire, which is paid back by the Government, in fixed instalments called Annuity during the concession period.

Cultivation of Pulses and Oilseeds

*448. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the area under pulses and oilseeds cultivation has declined and the same has been diverted for other crops;

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

(c) whether the Government proposes to include issues pertaining to the improvement in research on pluses and evolving better seeds and cropping methods and techniques under the Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Plam and Maize (ISOPOM) and the National Food Security Mission;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government would consider to promote research and distribution of high-yielding hybrid variety of seeds for pluses and oilseeds as a long term measure to attain self sufficiency; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) The details of area under pulses and oilseeds at all India level during the last three years and the current year i.e. 2005-06 to 2008-09 is given in the table below:

(Million hectares)

Year	Area Coverage	
	Pulses	Oilseeds
2005-06	22.39	27.86
2006-07	23.19	26.51
2007-08	23.63	26.69
2008-09	22.37	27.46

(c) to (f) Under the Centrally Sponsored "Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM)" being implemented w.e.f. 1.4.2004 in 14 major Oilseeds & Pulses and 15 maize growing States, financial assistance is provided for purchase of breeder seed, production of foundation seed, production and distribution of certified seed, distribution of seed minikits, distribution of plant protection chemicals, plant protection equipments, weedicies, supply of rhizobium culture/phosphate solubilising bacteria, distribution, gypsum/pyrite/liming/ dolomite, distribution of sprinkler sets and water carrying pipes, training, publicity, etc. In order to disseminate information on improved production technologies amongst the farmers, block demonstrations and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) demonstrations are organized through State Department of Agriculture and Front Line Demonstrations and production of breeder seed through Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).

Under ISOPOM, assistance is also given to Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)/International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) for undertaking contract research project on pulses and oilseeds. Under this programme, the support is given for development of drought resistant varieties of pulses and oilseeds, particularly of groundnut, soyabean, rapeseed and mustard. Further, assistance is also provided for distribution of certified seeds to the farmers @50% of the cost limited to Rs. 1200/- per quintal, besides distribution of seed minikit of pulses, oilseeds & maize to the farmers free of cost in Kharif, Rabi and summer season every year.

Based on the experience gained in the implementation of ISOPOM during Xth Plan, following modifications have already been made in the scheme for XIth Plan period in respect of norms and pattern of assistance, inclusion of new components etc:-

- To increase the Seed Replacement Rate (SRR), the assistance on Production of Foundation and Certified Seed has been enhanced from Rs. 500/- per qtl. to Rs. 1000/- per qtl. Similarly, the subsidy on Distribution of Certified Seed has been enhanced from Rs. 800/- qtl. to Rs. 1200/- per qtl.
- The Private Sector seed producing agencies have been involved in the distribution of Certified Seeds of Oilseeds besides National Seed Corporation (NSC), State Farms Corporation of India Limited (SFCI), National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED), Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited (KRIBHCO) and Indian Farmers Fertilizers Corporation (IFFCO).
- To tranfer the technology, the assistance on block demonstration and Frontline Demonstrations of Polythene Mulch Technology in groundnot has been enhanced/ratioalized.
- To increase irrigated area under Oilseeds, Pulses and Maize Production Programme, the assistance on sprinkler set, distribution of gypsum/pyrite/liming, cultures and pipes for carrying water has been enhanced/rationalized.
- To create infrastructure for production and storage of seeds of oilseeds, pulses and maize, State Agricultural Universities (SAUs)/Kisan Vikas Kendras (KVKs) and Indian Institute of Pulses Research (IIPR), Kanpur have been included inder ISOPOM.

The interventions covered under National Food Security Mission (NFSM-Pulses) includes assistance in the form of production & purchase of breeder seeds; production of foundation & certified seeds; distribution of certified seeds; strengthening of seed certification agencies; Integrated Nutrient Management (INM); Integrated Pest Management (IPM), sprinklers sets; zero till seed drills; multi-crop planters; seed drills; motivators; sprinkler sets; knap sack sprayers; diesel pump sets; farmers field schools; training for extension workers; award for best performing districts; local initiatives; strengthening of infrastructure of IIPR, Kanpur; pilot project on blue bull; demonstration of ICRISAT technologies and project management team. The districts covered under NFSM-Pulses aim to increase area by inter-cropping and coverage of rice fallows to an extent of 4 million hectares. It has been targeted that an additional quantity of 2 million tones of pulses shall be produced by the end of 11th Plan through such measures in the National Food Security Mission.

Increase in Cost of Road Construction

*449. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH *ALIAS* LALAN SINGH:
SHRI JAGDISH SHARMA:

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

(a) whether the construction cost of National Highways has increased due to the delay in execution of various projects;

(b) if so, the percentage increase thereof and the average construction cost of roads during each of the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether rise in the prices of the raw materials used in the construction is a major reason behind the increase;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the other reasons attributed for rise in this reagard; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Construction cost of some National Highway projects has increased due to delay in execution. Cost of construction of National Highways (NHs) depends upon the nature of work and as such, there is no unique average cost of construction of NHs.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. Besides cost of materials, cost of equipments and plants, cost of labour etc. are the other reasons attributed for rise in the project cost. The extent of escalation depends upon nature of work and the contract provisions.

(e) Steps taken for expeditious implementation of the projects includes; regular monitoring at various level, appointment of nodal officer in each State for coordinating land acquisition, shifting of utilities and obtaining various clearances, simplification of process of issue of notification for land acquisition, appointment of an officer of Railways in Natioinal Highway Authority of India to coordinate with Railways, grant of advances to the Contractors and punitive action against the non-performing Contractors.

[English]

NHRC Guidelines on Police Encounters

*450. DR. M. THAMBIDURAI:
SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has taken cognizance of cases of fake encounters reported in different parts of the country;

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

(c) whether NHRC has formulated any guidelines to be followed in cases of police encounters;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether instances of the violation of the NHRC guidelines have been reported; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken including punitive action against the erring officials in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. As per information available with National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), a Statement-I indicating the state-wise total number of cases of alleged fake encounters registered during the last three years and current year (*i.e.* upto 22.7.2009) is enclosed.

(c) and (d) The NHRC had issued guidelines to all State Governments/Union Territories to inform the Commission about incident of deaths during police encounter within 24 hours of occurrence.

The guidelines issued by the Commission in respect of procedures to be followed by the State Governments in dealing with deaths occurring in encounters with the police were circulated to all Chief Sercretaries of State and Administrators of Union Territories on 29.3.1997.

Subsequently, on 2.12.2003, revised guidelines of the Commission were issued and it was emphasized that the State must send intimation to the Commission of all cases of deaths arising out of police encounters. The Commission also recommended the modified procedure to be followed by State Governments in all cases of deaths, in the course of police action, and it was made clear that where the police officer belonging to the same police station is a member of the encounter party, whose action resulted in deaths, such cases should be handed over for investigation to some other independent investigating agency, such as State Crime Branch of Criminal Investigation Department (CBCID). Besides, whenever a specific complaint is made against the police alleging commission of a criminal act on their part, which makes out a cognizable case of culpable homicide, an FIR to this effect must be registered under appropriate sections of the I.P.C. Such case shall invariably be investigated by the State CBCID. A Magisterial Inquiry must invariably be held in all cases of deaths which occur in the course of police action. The next of kin of the deceased must invariably be associated in such inquiry.

All the Chief Ministers and Administrators have been directed to send a six monthly statement of all cases of deaths in police action in the States/UTs through the Director General of Police to the Commission by the 15th day of January and of July respectively in the proforma devised for the purpose.

(e) and (f) Yes, Madam. The NHRC has come across some instances of investigation of cases by the State

Governments in deviation of the procedures recommended in the guidelines issued by the NHRC. The NHRC's guidelines are recommendatory in nature. It is upto the Government authorities concerned to take appropriate departmental action against those who deviate from the guidelines.

As per information provided by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), the details of punitive action against the erring officials are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

Statement I

State-wise and Year-wise Details of Fake Encounter Cases Registered by NHRC during the period from 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09, and 2009-10 (Upto 22.7.2009)

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (upto 22.7.2009)
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	2	2	4	0
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0
Assam	0	0	0	0
Bihar	2	3	2	0
Chhattisgarh	2	3	1	0
Gujarat	0	4	0	0
Haryana	3	3	3	0
Jammu and Kashmir	4	2	0	0
Jharkhand	1	1	0	1
Karnataka	0	3	0	1
Madhya Pradesh	6	5	4	0
Maharashtra	1	3	2	1
Manipur	0	1	16	4
Orissa	0	0	1	1
Punjab	4	7	16	1
Rajasthan	3	1	0	0
Tamil Nadu	3	3	7	2
Uttar Pradesh	82	48	41	11
Uttarakhand	4	1	1	6
West Bengal	0	0	1	0
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	1	0
Delhi	5	3	3	0
Total	122	93	103	28

Statement II

Year-wise Details of Policemen Charge-Sheeted and Policemen Convicted in Fake Encounter Cases Registered during the Period from 2005–2007

Year	Policemen Charge-Sheeted	Policemen Convicted
2005	0	0
2006	7	0
2007	16	0

Target for Food Production

*451. DR. G. VIVEKANAND: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the target set for the foodgrain production in the country for the current Five Year Plan, crop-wise, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the achievements made so far, cropwise, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) the details of production losses of various crops during each of the last three years including Andhra Pradesh, crop-wise and State-wise; and

(d) the reasons therefore crop-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) On the recommendation of National Development Council, National Food Security Mission is launched since October, 2007 in order to meet the projected demand of 235 million tonnes of foodgrains by the end of 11th Plan *i.e.* 2011-12. The mission envisages increase in production of food grains of 20 million tonnes including

10 million tonnes of rice, 8 million tonnes of wheat and 2 million tonnes of pulses by end of 11th Five Year Plan. The Crop wise and state wise targets are fixed every year in consulation with the states during National Kharif/Rabi Conference as per the performance profile of the states.

(b) Statement-I and II indicating crop-wise, state-wise targets *vis-a-vis* achievement for the years 2007-08 & 2008-09 are enclosed. The production targets for 2009-10 is given in the enclosed Statement-III.

(c) and (d) In the first 2 year of 11th Five Year Plan (2007-08 and 2008-09), there has been a record production of foodgrains in the country, exceeding the targets set for the years. The production of foodgrains during 2007-08 was 230.78 million tonnes against the target of 221.50 million tonnes and during 2008-09, 233.88 million tonnes of food grains were produced (as per the fourth estimate) against the target of 23.00 million tonnes. This consistent performance has been achieved due to the enthusiastic response of the farmers to the inititatives taken by the government and overall favourable climatic conditions. Specific schemes on increasing the production of foodgrains such as National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Integrated Cereal Development Programme (ICDP) under Macro Management Mode of Agriculture and Intergrated scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses and Maize (ISOPOM) and higher minimum support price for the food grains have significantly contributed to the record production. However, in the case of Pulses and Coarse Cereal there is less achievement (14.66 & 39.45 million tonnes) due to biotic and abiotic factors and area shift from these crops to relatively more remunerative crops.

Statement I

Targets for Foodgrain Production vis-a-vis Achievement for the year 2007-08.

(Lakh tonnes)

State	Rice			Wheat			Coarse Cereals			Pulses			Total Foodgrain	
	Target	Ach.	±	Target	Ach.	±	Target	Ach.	±	Target	Ach.	±	Target	Ach.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Andhra Pradesh	113.00	133.24	20.24	0.05	0.08	0.03	34.80	42.74	7.94	13.20	16.97	3.77	161.05	193.03
Assam	39.40	33.19	-6.21	0.69	0.71	0.02	0.23	0.17	-0.06		0.63	0.63	40.32	34.70
Bihar	47.00	44.18	-2.82	38.64	44.50	5.86	18.49	14.99	-3.50	6.00	4.97	-1.03	110.13	108.64
Chhattisgarh	51.00	54.27	3.27	0.52	0.99	0.47	1.37	2.30	0.93	5.80	5.37	-0.43	58.69	62.93
Gujarat	12.50	14.74	2.24	19.89	38.38	18.49	18.51	21.51	3.00	5.40	7.43	2.03	56.30	82.06
Haryana	31.00	36.13	5.13	98.96	102.36	3.40	12.74	13.57	0.83	2.20	1.02	-1.18	144.90	153.08
Himachal Pradesh	1.20	1.22	0.02	7.51	5.04	-2.47	8.91	8.96	0.05	0.00	0.36	0.36	17.62	15.58
Jammu and Kashmir	5.50	5.61	0.11	4.96	4.96	0.20	6.66	5.00	-1.66	0.00	0.15	0.15	16.92	15.72
Jharkhand	18.50	33.36	14.86	1.50	1.40	-0.10	3.08	3.86	0.78	0.00	3.02	3.02	23.08	41.64
Karnataka	40.85	37.17	-3.68	1.88	2.61	0.73	56.04	69.43	13.39	10.50	12.65	2.15	109.27	121.86
Kerala	7.30	5.29	-2.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.03	0.01	0.00	0.08	0.08	7.32	5.40
Madhya Pradesh	17.00	14.62	-2.38	82.25	60.33	-21.92	25.35	21.23	-4.12	36.85	24.54	-12.31	161.45	120.72
Maharashtra	27.20	29.96	2.76	18.53	20.79	2.26	63.05	70.93	7.89	21.25	30.24	8.99	130.03	151.92
Orissa	70.20	75.41	5.21	0.06	0.09	0.03	2.03	2.10	0.07	3.80	3.84	0.04	76.09	81.44

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Punjab	100.00	104.89	4.89	159.75	157.20	-2.55	5.96	5.83	-0.13	0.70	0.23	-0.47	266.41	268.15
Rajathan	1.40	2.60	1.20	62.55	71.25	8.70	62.27	71.21	8.94	14.30	15.53	1.23	140.52	160.59
Tamil Nadu	57.50	50.40	-7.10	0.01	0.00	-0.01	8.25	13.57	5.32	4.20	1.85	-2.35	69.96	65.82
Uttar Pradesh	110.10	117.80	7.70	239.85	256.79	16.94	39.02	30.59	-8.43	24.20	15.77	-8.43	413.17	420.95
Uttarakhand	6.40	5.93	-0.47	8.04	8.14	0.10	3.56	3.39	-0.17	0.00	0.50	0.50	18.00	17.96
West Bengal	153.52	147.20	-6.32	8.43	9.17	0.74	1.33	2.66	1.33	2.10	1.48	-0.62	165.38	160.51
All India	930.00	966.93	36.93	755.00	785.70	30.70	375.00	407.50	32.50	155.00	147.62	-7.38	2215.00	2307.75

Statement II

Targets for Foodgrain Production vis-a-vis Achievement for the year 2008-09

Total foodgrain (Lakh tonnes)

State	Rice			Wheat			Coarse Cerals			Pulses			Target Achievement	
	Target	Ach.	±	Target	Ach.	±	Target	Ach.	±	Target	Ach.	±		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Andhra Pradesh	126.50	142.07	15.57	0.05	0.10	0.05	38.54	44.73	6.19	14.20	14.54	0.34	179.29	201.44
Assam	33.40	37.75	4.35	0.65	0.75	0.10	0.19	0.18	-0.01	0.68	0.82	0.16	34.90	39.50
Bihar	42.50	56.69	14.19	40.00	43.96	3.96	17.75	16.24	-1.51	6.00	4.76	-1.24	106.25	121.65
Chhattisgarah	53.00	43.92	-9.08	0.52	0.93	0.41	2.08	1.84	-0.24	5.80	5.06	-0.74	61.40	51.75
Gujarat	15.20	12.90	-2.30	38.00	28.97	-9.03	15.70	18.52	2.82	6.05	6.68	0.63	74.95	67.07
Haryana	40.00	32.98	-7.02	103.00	105.93	2.93	14.65	12.78	-1.87	1.70	1.93	0.23	159.35	153.62
Himachal Pradesh	1.20	1.19	-0.01	6.10	6.05	-0.05	7.80	7.20	-0.60	0.20	0.37	0.17	15.30	14.81
Jammu and Kashmir	5.50	5.63	0.13	4.80	4.80	0.00	5.26	5.56	0.30	0.30	0.14	-0.16	15.86	16.13
Jharkhand	31.00	33.05	2.05	1.30	1.41	0.11	4.23	3.48	-0.75	1.65	2.84	1.19	38.18	40.78
Karnataka	36.00	36.90	0.90	2.40	2.41	0.01	62.30	61.82	-0.48	10.70	9.66	-1.04	111.40	110.79
Kerala	6.15	5.89	-0.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.03	0.20	0.04	-0.16	6.35	5.96
Madhya Pradesh	13.50	15.60	2.10	67.00	65.22	-1.78	21.37	21.37	0.00	34.20	36.77	2.57	136.07	138.96
Maharashtra	29.50	23.11	-6.39	21.00	14.71	-6.29	72.78	59.67	-13.11	22.00	17.10	-4.90	145.28	114.59
Orissa	69.00	67.62	-1.38	0.10	0.08	-0.02	2.27	1.92	-0.35	3.45	3.81	0.36	74.82	73.43
Punjab	105.00	110.00	5.00	157.00	157.53	0.53	6.05	5.82	-0.23	0.70	0.34	-0.36	268.75	273.69
Rajasthan	1.80	2.41	0.61	71.00	69.99	-1.01	84.60	72.23	-12.37	15.10	17.14	2.04	172.50	161.77

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Tamil Nadu	63.00	52.01	-10.99	0.00	0.00	0.00	21.80	20.88	-0.92	4.70	2.04	-2.66	89.50	74.93
Uttar Pradesh	125.00	130.74	5.74	255.00	285.54	30.54	31.10	30.41	-0.69	24.00	19.38	-4.62	435.10	466.07
Uttarakhand	6.25	5.80	-0.45	8.00	8.56	0.56	3.80	3.46	-0.34	0.32	0.39	0.07	18.37	18.21
West Bengal	156.00	155.54	-0.46	8.30	7.98	-0.32	3.45	3.20	-0.25	2.10	1.75	-0.35	169.85	168.47
All India	970.00	991.54	21.54	785.00	805.83	20.83	420.00	394.79	-25.21	155.00	146.63	-8.37	2330.00	2338.79

Statement III

State-wise and Crop-wise Production Targets 2009-10 of Food crops (Lakh tonnes)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Rice	Wheat	coarse cereal	Pulses	Total foodgrains
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Prdesh	132.00	0.08	38.6	14.8	185.48
2.	Arunachal Pradesh				0.09	0.09
3.	Assam	36.40	0.75	0.02	0.66	38.01
4.	Bihar	42.50	44.50	18.0	7.2	112.20
5.	Chhattisgarh	53.00	0.9	2.1	4.95	60.95
6.	Goa				0.11	0.11
7.	Gujarat	15.20	38.00	18.2	5.95	77.35
8.	Haryana	36.00	104.00	13.5	1.65	155.15
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1.20	6.10	7.8	0.2	15.30
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	5.50	4.80	5.3	0.3	15.90
11.	Jharkhand	34.20	1.30	4.2	1.15	40.85
12.	Karnataka	54.00	2.60	63.3	11.15	131.05
13.	Kerala	6.15			0.7	6.85
14.	Madhya Pradesh	14.90	63.00	21.9	35.75	135.55
15.	Maharashtra	31.00	21.00	72.8	24.85	149.65
16.	Manipur				0.05	0.05
17.	Meghalaya				0.04	0.04
18.	Mizoram				0.06	0.06
19.	Nagaland				0.03	0.30
20.	Orissa	67.00	0.10	2.3	4.05	73.45

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
21.	Punjab	105.00	155.00	6.0	0.7	266.70
22.	Rajasthan	2.41	71.00	81.3	16.95	171.66
23.	Sikkim				0.16	0.16
24.	Tamil Nadu	66.00		21.8	4.8	92.60
25.	Tripura				0.05	0.05
26.	Uttarakhand	6.43	8.00	4.1	0.33	18.86
27.	Uttar Pradesh	128.00	260.00	32.2	25.8	446.00
28.	West Bengal	159.00	8.15	3.5	2.1	172.75
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands				0.01	0.01
30.	Chandigarh					0.00
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli				0.05	0.05
32.	Daman and Diu				0.01	0.01
33.	Delhi				0.02	0.02
34.	Puducherry				0.01	0.01
35.	Others	9.11	0.72	4.1	0	13.93
36.	All India	1005.00	790.00	421.2	165	2381.20

[Translation]

Small Scale Industries

*452. SHRI JAYWANT GANGARAM AWALE: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loan sanctioned by the banks for the small scale industries during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government is aware of the difficulties faced by such industries;

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

(d) whether the Government proposes to set up any Fund for the development of small industries; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the Fund would be made operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) As per the information furnished by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the loans outstanding against the micro and small enterprises (MSEs) from the public sector banks during the last three years is as under:

As at the end of	Loans outstanding (Rs. in crore)
March, 2007	1,02,550
March, 2008	1,51,137
March, 2009	1,90,968 (Provisional)

(b) and (c) The major difficulties faced by the MSEs mainly relate to lack of adequate credit availability, technology and marketing constraints, infrastructure bottlenecks and enhanced competition due to liberalized trade regime. The major schemes/programmes implemented by the Government for assisting the MSE

sector in overcoming these difficulties are Credit Guarantee Scheme, Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme, Performance and Credit Rating Scheme, Cluster Development Programme, National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme, Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme and Market Development Assistance Scheme. In addition, some of the initiativs taken for the promotion and development of the MSE sector and for enhancing their competitiveness include enactment of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006, implementation of the 'Policy Pakcage for Stepping up Credit to the Small and Medium Enterprises' announced in August 2005 and the comprehensive 'Package for Promotion of MSEs' announced in February 2007.

(d) and (e) As announced in the Union Budget 2009-10, it is proposed to provide a special fund of Rs. 4,000 crore out of Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) to Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) to incentivise Banks and State Financial Corporations (SFCs) to lend to MSEs.

[Englis]

Problems Faced by Fishermen

*453. SHRI PRASANTA KUMAR MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the problems being faced by the fishermen;

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

(c) whether the Government has reviewed the various welfare schmes for fishermen including the National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen;

(d) if so, the details of the achievements of the scheme including the number of fishermen benefited therefrom, State-wise; and

(e) the details of other measures being taken to help the fishermen to tide over their occupational difficulties?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The problems faced by fishermen ralate to civic amenties, livelihood issues during fishing ban period, risk in capture fishing, fish landing and marketing facilities, lack of knowledge in modern fishing techniques and aquaculture etc. To address these issues, Centrally Sponsored Schemes such as the National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen, Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture and Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post Harvest Operations are being implemented in the country. The schmes have following components: (i) Housing and allied amentities, (ii) Saving-cum-Relief; (iii) Group Accident Insurance for Active Fishermen; (iv) Training and Extension, (v) Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post Harvest facilities, and (vi) Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. The National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen has been evaluated during 2006-07. The study recommended continuation of the Scheme during the Eleventh Plan with changes in certain parameters which have since been incorporated appropriately in the guidelines of the Scheme. State-wise achievements of the scheme are given in the enclosed Statement.

(e) The details of other measures being taken to help the fishermen to tide over their occupational difficulties are:—

(i) Monetary compensation/benefit to the tune of Rs. 1200/- during the fishing ban period.

(ii) Accident insurance cover of Rs. 1,00,000/- and Rs. 50,000/- for death/ total permancent disability and partial permanent disability repectively;

(iii) Safety kit comprising of Global Positioning System (GPS), communication equipment, echo-sounder and search & rescus beacon to marine fishermen;

(iv) Assistance for conversion of traditional fishing crafts to motorized vessels;

(v) Maintenace and dredging at fish harbours/landing centers for easy navigation; and

(vi) Construction/renovation of fish harbours and landing centers for convenient landing of fish.

Statement

State-wise Achievements (Number of beneficiaries) of the Centrally Sponsored National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen

Sl.No.	Name of States/UTs.	10th Plan			2007-08			2008-09		
		Housing	SCR*	Insurance**	Housing	SCR	Insurance	Housing	SCR	Insurance
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1000	17904	590000	2000		402742		14115	402742
2.	Arunchal Pradesh	480			80					
3.	Assam	113	1688	7818			3909			3909
4.	Bihar	910		120000			50000			50000
5.	Chhattisgarh	338	900	87354			32856		1500	32856
6.	Daman and Diu	75		37522			11511			11511
7.	Goa		350	2900	40		5000		718	5000
8.	Gujarat	593		244000	344		172359	745		172359
9.	Haryana						7000			
10.	Himachal Pradesh		7765	21447		2220	5716		2446	6207
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	985		42000	250		14000			14000
12.	Jharkhand	4086	2000	36000	1200		33000	600		33000
13.	Karnataka	15000	50995	240000			100000	1000	34744	100000
14.	Kerala	2985	173000	448279	750				140975	460208
15.	Lakshadweep			4590			8620			8620
16.	Maharashtra	557			715			243		3400494
17.	Madhya Pradesh	392	8859	182272	100		70686		16457	70686
18.	Manipur	239		8187			2927	220		3127
19.	Mizoram				118					0
20.	Nagaland	1100						458		0
21.	Orissa	2423	29000	480000			200000		19880	742447
22.	Puducherry	1000	121400	94800		31000	33000		33000	33000
23.	Punjab									1450
24.	Rajasthan	300	2237	10239	50	1803	5459		1826	5359
25.	Sikkim									
26.	Tamil Nadu	4000	998115	1548412		63322	555744		80000	555744
27.	Tripura	450		12000	120		1000	90		1000

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
28.	Uttar Pradesh	14210		119143			100000			100000
29.	Uttarakhand	60			40			30		
30.	West Bengal	2968	50000	640000		10000	160000	3500		160000
31.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands		1528	10387		228	6272		280	6272
	Total	54264	1465741	4987350	5807	108573	1981801	6886	345941	3320091

*Saving-cum-Relief (Cumulative Number of Fishermen):
**Cumulative number of fishermen covered under Group Accident Insurance for Active Fishermen.

Revamping of Films Division

*454. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to restructure/ revamp the Films Division;

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

(c) the outcome of the exercise?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) There is no proposal for restructuring of the Films Division. However, in keeping with the changing times, Films Division in its working, is adopting new technologiesd to ensure wider reach of its films and provide better service to its clients. Films Division has adopted the technology to convert its archives into digital format so that they reach out to a larger audience.

(c) The entire archives of Films Division will be easily available to the public through different media like Compact Discs and Digital Video Discs. These films being in digital format, can also be uploaded and accessed through the internet through Films Division's website. This leads to better utilization of resources.

[Translation]

Source of Fake Currency

*455. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:
SHRI C. SIVASAMI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the large number of cases of seizure of fake currency, the Government has made any efforts to track its source and origin;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is evidence of fake currency being used to fund terrorism and organised crimes in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to seek international cooperation to tackle the problem of fake currency in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (c) Available inputs indicate that high quality Fake Indian Currency Notes (FICNs) are printed in a neighbouring country and pushed into India through neighbouring countries. Such inputs also indicate that Lashkar-e-Tiba (LeT) activists, organized criminal networks and syndicates are reportedly involved in infusion and circulation of FICN in the country.

(d) India's concerns on the printing and circulation of Fake Indian Currency Notes are raised in the bilateral mechanisms established to address our security concerns.

[English]

Procurement Dues to Farmers

*456. SHRI N. CHELUVARAYA SWAMY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any time limit has been stipulated for payment of dues to the farmers against procurement of foodgrains;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said stipulation is being strictly adhered to by the agencies involved in the procurement of foodgrains;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the remedial steps taken by the Government for timely payment of dues to farmers?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) As per the instruction issued by Food Corporation of India (FCI) to its field offices, payment to farmers is stipulated to be made within 48 hours of the purchase of the foodgrains.

(c) to (e) There is no report from any State Government that farmers have not received timely payment for foodgrains purchased by the Government agencies, under MSP operation.

(f) Does not arise.

Deficit Rainfall

*457. SHRI VARUN GANDHI:
SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the latest information on monsoon indicate deficit rainfall in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its likely impact on agriculture;

(c) whether drought has been declared in some States;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to mitigate the hardships faced by the farmers due to drought and crops loss?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) For the period 1st June to 29th July, 2009, the percentage departure from normal rainfall in the four broad geographical regions of the country was (-) 33% in North-West India, (1%) in Central India, (-1) 15% in South Peninsula and (-)39% in North East India.

Estimates at this stage indicate area coverage under kharif crops so far to be lower than last year, particularly in the case of paddy. The decline in area is mainly in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Orissa.

(c) and (d) Manipur has declared drought in all the 9 districts. Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand have declared drought in 58 and 4 districts respectively. Assam and Nagaland have declared drought like conditions in the State.

(e) It is primarily the reponsibility of the State Government cocerned to take necessary measures in the wake of natural calamities including drought. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the affected States with financial and logistic support. To mitigate the hardship of the farmers affected by drought and crop loss due to deficiency in rainfall, the Government of India has initiated various measures including contingency crop planning in specific agro climatic conditions; availability of additional power to affected States from the Central pool; availability of additional seed; advisory services to farmers through the Indian Council of Agriculture Research; assistance to the State Governments for diesel subsidy; and flexibility to the States under the Central Schemes to meet the contingent situation.

[Translation]

Land under Sugarcane Cultivation

*458. SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH:
SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of land under sugarcane cultivation during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the area under sugarcane cultivation is continuously declining;

(c) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(d) the action plan of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) State-wise details of area under sugarcane cultivation during the last three years, *i.e.* 2006-07 to 2008-09 are given in the enclosed Statement. It is observed that the area under sugarcane has declined in 2008-09, *inter-alia*, due to shift to other crops like rice and wheat in some States.

(d) In order to increase production of sugarcane, a centrally sponsored scheme of Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping Systems (SUBACS) is being implemented in various sugarcane growing States of the country. The main components of the scheme include field demonstration, training of farmers & extension workers and drip irrigation sets. To give more flexibility to the states and implement the scheme on the basis of states' priorities and requirements, this scheme has been clubbed under Macro Management Mode of Agriculture (MMA) development with other 26 schemes. Under the MMA, the scheme is being implemented as per the Work Plan prepared by the concerned Staes. For most of the components, the pattern of assistance between GOI & State Governments is 90:10. In addition, the Government of India provides 100% financial support for organization of front line demonstrations, national level trainings and breeder seed production through Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) and State Agricultural Universities. The scheme is under implementation in 22 States/Union Territories namely; Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Puducherry.

Further, in order to check shift in cultivable area from sugarcane to other crops and to ensure that cultivation of sugarcane is not rendered unattractive and unprofitable vis-a-vis wheat and rice, the Government has also approved fixation of higher Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) of sugarcane for 2009-10 sugar season at Rs. 107.76 per quintal as compared to SMP of Rs. 81.18 per quintal fixed for the previous sugar season.

Statement

Estimated Area under Sugarcane during last three years

States/UTs	Area (000 Hectares)		
	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09*
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	264.0	247.0	196.0
Arunachal Pradesh	1.0	1.2	#
Assam	27.0	26.0	26.0
Bihar	129.6	108.6	119.2
Chhattisgarh	7.2	11.1	10.6
Gujarat	214.0	211.0	191.0
Goa	1.1	1.0	#
Haryana	140.0	140.0	90.0
Himachal Pradesh	3.0	2.7	2.3
Jammu and Kashmir	0.2	0.1	0.1
Jharkhand	4.0	6.0	6.0

1	2	3	4
Karnataka	326.0	306.0	277.0
Kerala	5.0	2.0	3.5
Madhya Pradesh	64.3	75.2	70.5
Maharashtra	1049.0	1093.0	770.0
Manipur	0.7	0.5	#
Meghalaya	0.1	0.1	#
Mizoram	1.4	0.9	#
Nagaland	4.8	5.0	#
Orissa	20.1	19.8	10.8
Punjab	99.0	110.0	81.0
Rajasthan	10.9	10.4	8.9
Tamil Nadu	391.2	354.2	314.0
Tripura	0.9	1.0	#
Uttar Pradesh	2246.5	2179.0	2084.0
Uttarakhand	121.0	124.0	105.0
West Bengal	16.6	16.9	17.6U
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.1	0.2	#
Puducherry	2.1	2.3	#
Others	NA	NA	12.0
All India	5150.8	5055.2	4395.5

*4th advance estimates, #Included in others, NA: Not Applicable.

[English]

Women in Sports

*459. SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA:
SHRI KUNVARJIBHAI MOHANBHAI BAVALIA:

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

(a) whether any scheme has been formulated/ implemented for the development of sports amongst women;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds allocated by the Government and the Sports Authority of India to encourage women in sports during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise and scheme-wise;

(d) the number of women beneficiaries at present; and

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

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL): (a) to (e) No, Sir. All schemes of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports and those of the Sports Authority of India (SAI) relating to sports infrastructure, training, participation in competitions, cash incentives, awards and welfare are open for both sportsmen and sportswomen. Similarly even assistance provided to national sports federations casters to both men and women sportspersons.

There is no separarte earmarking of funds for women sportspersons except in case of the Scheme of National Championship for Women, for which the funds allocation during last three years has been as follows:

S.No.	Year	Funds allocated (Rs. in crore)
1.	2006-07	0.60
2.	2007-08	1.10
3.	2008-09	1.10

Details of sportswomen beneficiaries under various schemes of the Ministry, SAI and Lakshmibai National University of Physical Education, Gwalior are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

S.No.	Scheme	No. of women sportsperson covered
1	2	3
i.	Scheme of National Championship for Women (Non-Plan), which is in operation since 1975: National Championship for Women held in 2008-09, Bhubaneshwar, January, 2009.	2681 women participated during 2008-09.
ii.	Scheme of Talent Search & Training: Financial assistance upto Rs. 5 lakh is provided to sportspersons	11 women sportspersons out of total of 57 sportspersons were given financial assistance of about Rs. 50 lakh during 2008-09.
iii.	National Sports Development Funds: Financial assistance is proved to sports persons for training and participation in major international events.	7 women out of total 34 sportspersons were given assistance of Rs. 1 crore out of total of Rs. 8.68 crore disbursed during 2000-2009.
iv.	Special Awards to winners of medals in International Sports Events and their Coaches:	Cash award was given to 104 women sportspersons and 6 women coaches out of total of 500 sportspersons/ coaches during 2008-09.
v.	Scheme of Pension to Mertitorius Sportspersons	Pension is provided to 54 women, Sportspersons out of 487 sportspersons @ between Rs. 3,000/- and Rs. 10,000/ pm depending upon level of achievement in sports.
vi.	National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons:	5 retired women sportsperson out of total of 32 are receiving monthly pension between Rs. 8,000-10,00/-
vii.	National Awards Scheme	(No. of women sports persons got award since begining of the schme)
(a)	Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award	6 out of 19
(b)	Dhyan Chand Award for Lifetime Achievement in Sports and Games,	2 out of 25
(c)	Arjuna Award,	159 out of 684
(d)	Dronacharya Award	3 out of 52

1	2	3
viii.	Scheme being operated by Sports Authority viz.	No. of female trainees (residential and non-residential) at SAI training centre as on 8.6.2009
(a)	National Sports Talent Competition (NSTC)	561 girls out total of 2402 trainees
(b)	SAI Training Centres (STC):	2625 girls out of total of 8205 trainees
(c)	Special Area Games (SAG)	775 girls out of total of 1915 trainees
(d)	Central of Excellence (COX):	120 girls out of total of 343 trainees
(e)	Extension of Centres of STC/SAG	456 girls out of total of 1202 trainees
	Total of (a)-(e)	4537 girls (out of total of 14,067 trainees) *i.e.* 32%
ix.	Laxmibai National University of Physical Education (LNUPE), Gwalior	173 girls out of total 634 students pursuing graduation/ post graduation courses (Physical) Education

Fast Track Projects

*460. DR. SANJEEV GANESH NAIK:
SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to fast track the work on certain Public Private Parnership (PPP) projects of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) for road development;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the approval from various Ministries and the Planning Commission has been obtained;

(d) if so, the details/outcome/status thereof alongwith the details of the funds required for implementing the said projects; and

(e) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken alongwith the time frame for its completion?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) It is the endeavour of the Government to undertake expeditious implementation of National Highways Development Project (NHDP) in accordance with the laid down policy for implementation of NHDP projects on PPP basis. Thirty projects with a total length of 2621 km have been taken up for expeditious Government approval.

(c) to (e) Fifteen projects have been considered and approved by the Public Private Partnership Appraisal Committee (PPPAC) on 09.07.2009 subject to certain stipulations. Another fifteen projects were considered by the PPPAC in its meeting held on 27.07.2009. After the approval of the PPPAC, the final approval is obtained from the competent authority in accordance with the laid down procedure. The estimated total project cost of the projects is approximately Rs. 32,015 crore with average completion period of about three years from the appointed date.

[Translation]

Sports Development Project

4256. SHRI K.D. DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether various proposals from the States for projects related to sports development are pending with the Union Government under the Panchayat Yuva Krida Aur Khel Abhiyan;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard alongwith the time frame fixed for approval of the projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PATIL): (a) and (b) States in respect of which projects were sanctioed but funds could not be released for want of

fulfillment the terms and conditions of grant-in-aid is given in the table given below:

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Reason
1.	Assam	Budget provision not made for State share.
2.	Goa	State Government did not provide required details of the Village Panchayats & Block Panchayats to be covered during 2008-09. Further no budget provision was made towards state share.
3.	West Bengal	State Government did not provide required details of the Village panchayats & Block Panchayats to be covered during 2008-09.

Proposals received from Government of Andaman and Nicobar, Jharkhand, Karnataka and Meghalaya were processed, but could not be considered, because they were incomplete.

(c) The concerned State Governments have been requested to complete the deficiencies in order to process further for release of financial assistance.

[English]

Implementation of Prasar Bharati Act

4257. SHRI A. SAMPATH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to implement sub-section 5(i) of section 3 and section 11 of the Prasar Bharati Act, 1990 to protect the interests of the employees of Prasar Bharati;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which those sections are likely to be implemented; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) to (c) As per Sub-Section 5(i) of Section 3 of Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990 there will be two representatives of the employees of the Corporation in Prasar Bharati Board, of whom one shall be elected by the engineering staff from amongst themselves and one shall be elected by the other employees from amongst themselves.

Election to the representatives of Employees have not been held since the existing employees have not become full fledged employees of the Corporation as their services have not been transferred to Prasar Bharati as per section 11 of the Prasar Bharati Act, 1990. No time schedule for implementation can be given at this stage.

Committee on Fisheries

4258. SHRI SURESH ANGADI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has constituted an Empowered Committee on Fisheries;

(b) if so, the details and composition thereof alongwith the objectives of the said Committee; and

(c) the steps taken to optimize the exploitation of Marine Fisheries resources in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. An Inter-ministerial Empowered Committee on Marine Fisheries (EC) has been constituted. The composition and terms of reference of the EC are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) For the sustainable exploitation of Marine Fisheries resources in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the country, the Letter (s) of Permission (LOPs) are being issued to eligible Indian companies and firms for acquisition and operation of resources specific deep-sea fishing vessels. So far, 84 such LOPs have been issued to 20 Indian companies/firms for acquisition and operation of different categories for resource specific vessels. In addition, under a Scheme of the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), assistance is also being provided for conversion of trawlers into tuna long liners. So far, 225 such trawlers have been converted to tuna long liners under the scheme for fishing operations in the EEZ.

Statement

Composition of Inter-Ministerial Empowered Committee on Marine Fisheries

1.	Secretary, Deptt. of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries	Chairperson
2.	Adviser (Agri), Planning Commission	Member
3.	Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance, D/o Economic Affairs	Member
4.	Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs	Member
5.	Joint Secretary, (Navy), Ministry of Defence	Member
6.	Chairman, Marine Products Export Development Authority	Member
7.	Joint Secretary, Ministry of Shipping	Member
8.	Joint Secretary, Ministry of Communications	Member
9.	Joint Secretary (Fisheries), Deptt. of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries	Member
10.	Joint Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas	Member
11.	Joint Secretary, Ministry of Environment & Forests	Member
12.	Director General of Foreign Trade or his representative	Member
13.	Director General, Coast Guard or his representative	Member
14.	Director General, Fishery Survey of India, Mumbai	Member
15.	Director General of Shipping or his representative	Member
16.	Fisheries Development Commissioner, Deptt. of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries	Member Secretary

Terms of Reference of the Committee:

(i) To consider proposals of Indian entrepreneurs for deep sea fishing by acquisition through construction/import of deep sea fishing vessels for issuance of Letter of Permission;

(ii) To prescribe norms for joint venture, development of post harvest technologies, infrastructure and human resource development in the sector; and

(iii) To advise the Government on implementation of any other aspects of Comprehensive Marne Fishing Policy as and when referred to it.

Single National Identification Card

4259. DR. ARVIND KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to issue Multi Purpose identity/Universal cards to the citizens;

(b) if so, the steps taken to identify and segregate persons of foreign origin unauthorisedly living in the country for the purpose of issue of such cards; and

(c) the modus operandi proposed to deal with persons on political asylum especially that of Tibet/POK citizens for issuing of such cards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (c) The Government has proposed to create a National Population Register (NPR) in the country along with 2011 Census. For the NPR, details on specific characteristics of each individual shall be collected. Photographs and finger blometrics of all those who are 18 years of age and above will also be collected.

As one of the measure to strengthen coastal security, NPR for the coastal villages in 9 Martime State of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal and 4 Union Territories (UTs) of Daman and Diu, Lakshadweep, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Puducherry, will be created during 2009-10. In Andaman and Nicobar Islands, the towns will also be covered as a part of this exercise. The remaining coastal areas including the towns/cities would be covered along with 2011 census.

The cards are proposed to be issued under the NPR for the coastal villages to usual residents who are of age 18 years and above. However, these cards will not be proof of citizenship. The citizenship of each individual would be separately determined at the time of preparation of National Register of Indian Citizens (NRIC), which would be subset of National Population Register (NPR).

[Translation]

Close Circuit Camera for Indo-Pak Border

4260. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to install state-of-art security gadgets including close-circuit cameras at international borders including Indo-Pak border to check infiltration; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) The Border Guarding Forces, viz. Border Security Force, Indo-Tibetan Border Police, Sashastra Seema Bal and Assam Rifles have been equipped with state-of-art electronic surveillance equipment which include Night Vision Devices (NVD), Hand Held Thermal Imagers (HHTI), Long Range Reconnaissance & Observation System (LORROS), Twin Telescope, Battle Field Surveillance Radars (BFSR). These equipment are acting as force multiplier for effective management of borders.

A few close circuit cameras have been installed on Indo-Pak border on an experimental basis which are under evaluation.

Norms for Quality of Colours

4261. SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has issued any norms regarding the quality of colours being used during Holi;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken for strict compliance of the norms; and

(c) if not, the steps taken for formulating the said norms at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) No, Madam.

(c) No Standard Specification for colours being used during Holi is under development at present.

[English]

Market Borrowings by NHAI

4262. SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of market borrowings and cess collected by the National Highways Authority of India;

(b) the amount paid as interest thereon, projects taken up and completed in the country including in Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) the cess spent on each project by the NHAI during each of the last three years and the current year in the country, State-wise, particularly in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) The details of Cess Collected and funds raised by the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) from issue of 54 EC Bonds during the last three year are as under:

(Rs. in Crores)

Year	Cess Allocated	Collection from issue of 54 EC Bonds
2006-07	6407.45	1500
2007-08	6541.06	305.18
2008-09	6972.47	1630.74

(b) The amount of interest paid on 54 EC Bonds issued by NHAI during the last three years is as under:

(Rs. in Crores)

Year	Interest on Borrowings (Capital Gain Tax Exemption Bonds u/s 54EC of Income Tax Act)
2006-07	128.85
2007-08	157.13
2008-09	1503.00

State-wise details of Projects taken up and completed by NHAI under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) Allocation of Cess is not made State-wise or project-wise by the NHAI.

Statement

List of Fully Completed Projects: Status as on 30.06.09

S.No.	Stretch	Total Length (in Km)	Completed Length (In Km)	Funded By	Date of Completion/ Anticipated Completion	Total Project Cost (Rs. Cr.)	Contractor Name
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
			Andhra Pradesh				
NH No: 5							
1.	Bridges section (AP-5)	0.00	0.00	NHAI	Sep. 2003	71.00	Prasad & SEW (JV)
2.	Nellore Bypass	17.17	17.17	Annuity	Sep. 2004	143.20	Consortium of Soma Enterprises & Navayuga Engg Co. Ltd.
3.	Kavali-Nellore (AP-11)	43.80	43.80	NHAI	May 2005	181.00	Patel-KNR (JV)
4.	Ongole-Kavali (AP-12)	72.00	72.00	NHAI	Sep. 2005	321.41	Ho-HUP-Simplex (JV)
5.	Chikaluripet-Ongole (AP-13)	66.00	66.00	NHAI	Mar. 2006	319.21	IJM-Gayatri
6.	Vijayawada-Chikaluripet Package I	25.00	25.00	JBIC	Jan. 2003	60.00	IJM-Gayatri
7.	Eluru-Vijayawada Package V	72.00	72.00	ADB	Jan. 2002	134.00	Madhucon Projects Ltd.-Binapuri (JV)
8.	Vijayawada-Rajamundry Section (near Eluru)	5.00	5.00	NHAI	Mar. 2002	19.00	Madhucon Projects Ltd.
9.	Gowthami-Gundugolanu (AP-18)	81.08	81.08	NHAI	Feb. 2004	323.35	LIMAK-SOMA (JV)
10.	Divancheru (near Rajahmundry)-Gowthami (AP-17)	34.95	34.95	NHAI	Mar. 2005	130.80	Punj Lloyd Ltd.
11.	Dharmavaram-Rajahmundry (AP-15)	53.00	53.00	Annuity	Mar. 2005	206.00	Rajahmundry Expressway Ltd. Gammon (JV)
12.	Nellore-Trade (AP-7)	110.52	110.52	BOT	Dec. 2003	621-35	CIDBI Malaysia
13.	Vishakhapatnam-Ankapalli	38.00	38.00	MORTH	#		MOSRTH
14.	Ankapalli-Tuni	58.95	58.95	Annuity	Jan. 2005	283.20	GMR-Tuni-ankapalli Express Ltd.
15.	Bridges section (AP-6)	0.00	0.00	NHAI	Jul. 2005	79.14	Navyug Engg. Co.Ltd.
16.	Champawati-Vishakhapatnam (AP-3)	46.20	46.20	NHAI	Feb. 2005	200.00	Unitech-Nagarjuna Construction Co. Ltd. (JV)
17.	Srikakulam-Champawati (AP-1) (Balance Work)	48.00	48.00	NHAI	May 2007	171.97	SEW Construction Company Limited
18.	Palasa-Srikakulam (AP-2)	74.00	74.00	NHAI	Jun. 2005	324.00	SPCL-IVRCL
19.	Icchapuram-Korlam (AP-4B)	33.00	33.00	NHAI	Dec. 2005	143.05	Skanska Cementation India Ltd.
20.	Korlam-Palasa (AP-4A)	29.00	29.00	NHAI	Aug. 2005	135.11	Skanska Cementation India Ltd.
21.	Bridges Section (AP-20)	0.00	0.00	NHAI	May 2005	131.33	Larsen & Toubro Ltd.
22.	Bridges Section (AP-19)	2.45	2.45	NHAI	Mar. 2005	136.45	Larsen & Toubro Ltd.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
23.	Vijayawada-Chilkaluripet Package IV	2.88	2.88	JBIC	May 2002	58.00	UP State Bridge Corporation Ltd. (UPSBC)
24.	Vijayawada-Chilkaluripet Package III	23.78	23.78	JBIC	Jan. 2003	68.00	IJM-Gayatri
25.	Vijayawada-Chilkaluripet Package II	32.00	32.00	JBIC	Jan. 2003	80.00	IJM-Gayatri
26.	Tuni-Dharmavaram (AP-16)	47.00	47.00	Annuity	Aug. 2005	231.90	Andhra Expressway Limited
NH No: 7							
27.	Thondapalli to Farukhanagar (NS/9)	12.50	12.50	NHAI	Jan. 2003	27.63	Maharia Re-surfacing
28.	Bowenpalli (Hyderabad city) to Shivarampalli	9.20	9.20	MORTH	Apr. 1998		
29.	Farukhanagar to Kotakatta (NS-2/AP-4)	55.74	55.74	BOT	Mar. 2009	302.00	Larsen & Toubro Ltd. (L & T Western Andhra Tollways Pvt. Ltd.)
30.	Kadloor Yellareddy to Gundla Pochampalli (NS 2/BOT/AP-2)	85.74	85.74	Annuity	Mar. 2009	490.00	GMR Infrastructure Ltd.-GMR Energy Ltd. Consortium
31.	Farukhanagar to Kottakata (NS-2/AP-3)	46.16	46.16	BOT	Feb. 2009	255.00	GMR Energy Ltd. & GMR Infrastruture Ltd. Consortium (GMR Jadcheria Expressways Pvt. Ltd.)
32.	Kalkallu village to Gundla Pochampali (NS-8)	17.00	17.00	NHAI	Apr. 2002	40.83	A.L. Sudershan & Co.
NH No: 9							
33.	Nandigama-Vijayawada	35.00	35.00	BOT	Jun. 2004	138.65	CIDBI Malaysia
34.	Nandigama-Vijayawada	48.00	48.00	ADB	Apr. 2000	0.00	BSC-RBM-PATI (JV)
NH No: SR							
35.	Vishakhapatnam Port	12.00	12.00	SPV	Nov. 2006	93.79	M. Venkata Rao Engineering
	Total:	1337.11	1337.11			5920.37	
			Assam				
NH No: 37							
36.	Construction of 10 km service road and one 2 lane Flyover on Guwahati Bypass (AS-14A)	10.00	10.00	NHAI	Jan. 2009	33.78	Maheshwari Brothers Ltd.
37.	Guwahati Bypass (EW/7)	8.00	8.00	NHAI	Dec. 2003	54.87	Valecha Engineering Ltd.
38.	Guwahati Bypass (EW-14/AS)	10.50	10.50	NHAI	Jun. 2004	63.69	Banvari Lal Agarwal (BLA)-CISC-C&C Construction (JV)
	Total:	28.50	28.50			152.34	
			Bihar				
NH No: 2							
39.	Dehri-on-Sone-Aurangabad (TNHP/IV-D)	40.00	40.00	WB	Nov. 2005	242.61	Ssangyong Korea-Orie[illegible] Engineers Pvt.Ltd.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
40.	Sasaram-Dehri-on-sone (GTRIP/IV-C)	30.00	30.00	WB	Jul. 2008	221.87	Somdutt Builders-Nagarjuna Construction Co. Ltd. (JV)
41.	Mohania-Sasaram (TNHP/IV-B)	45.00	45.00	WB	Mar. 2006	230.55	LG Engg.&Construction Ltd.
42.	Aurangabad-Barachatti (TNHP/V-A)	60.00	60.00	WB	Jul. 2007	320.42	Oriental Structural Engineers Pvt. Ltd. Gammon India Ltd. (JV)
NH No: 31							
43.	Purnea-Gyakota (EW/4)	15.15	15.15	NHAI	May 2008	62.98	Progressive Construction Ltd.
	Total:	190.15	190.15			1078.43	
		Bihar [10]/Jharkhand [70]					
NH No: 2							
44.	Barachatti-Gorhar (GTRIP/V-B)	80.00	80.00	WB	Jul. 2007	452.71	Larsen & Toubro Ltd. -Hindustan Construction Company Ltd. (JV)
	Total	80.00	80.00			452.71	
		Chhattisgarh					
NH No: 6							
45.	Durg Bypass	18.00	18.00	BOT	Jan. 2001	70.00	Shakti Kumar M. Sancheti Ltd.
	Total:	18.00	18.00			70.00	
		Delhi					
NH No: 1							
46.	Eight Laning of Mukarba Chowk to Mall Road	8.50	8.50			57.53	Madhucon Projects Ltd.
	Total:	8.50	8.50			57.53	
		Delhi [12]/Haryana [74]/Uttar Pradesh [59]					
NH No: 2							
47.	Delhi-Mathura	145.00	145.00	ADB	#		MOSRTH through Haryana& UP PWD (IRCON)
	Total:	145.00	145.00				
		Delhi [13]/Haryana [23]					
NH No: 8							
48.	Delhi-Gurgaon	36.00	36.00	MORTH	#		MOSRTH
	Total:	36.00	36.00				
		Delhi [9.7]/Haryana [18]					
NH No: 8							
49.	Delhi-Gurgaon Section (Access Controlled 8/6 Lane)	27.70	27.70	BOT	Jan. 2008	710.00	Jaiprakash Industries Ltd.-DS Constt. Ltd.
	Total:	27.70	27.70			710.00	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
			Goa				
NH No: 17B							
50.	Port Connectivity to Mormugoa	13.00	13.00	SPV	Jun. 2004	80.00	BRO (through a MOU between BRO and Mormugoa Port Road company Ltd.)
	Total:	13.00	13.00			80.00	
			Gujarat				
NH No: 14							
51.	Deesa to Radhanpur (Package-VI)	85.40	85.40	ADB	Sep. 2008	479.74	Daelim Industrial Corp. Ltd.-Nagarjuna Construction Co.Ltd. (JV)
52.	Abu Road Deesa Section near Palanpur (EW/1)	10.00	10.00	NHAI	Apr. 2001	18.39	Dinesh Chandra R. Agarwal
53.	Palanpur-Dessa (EW-11/GJ)	22.70	22.70	NHAI	Feb. 2003	53.73	Denesh Chandra R. Agarwal
NH No: 15							
54.	Radhanpur to Gagodhar (Package-V)	106.20	106.20	ADB	May 2008	410.24	Jilin-Sadhbhav (JV)
NH No: 8							
55.	Ratanpur-Himatnagar (UG-III)	54.60	54.60	NHAI	Dec. 2003	182.29	Mudajaya-IRB
56.	Ahmedabad bypass	15.00	15.00	MORTH	#		MOSRTH through Gujarat PWD
57.	Himatnagar-Chiloda (Near Ahmedabad) (UG-IV)	52.00	52.00	NHAI	Dec. 2005	175.00	Backbone-Tarmat-NG (JV)
58.	Atul-Kajali	38.60	38.60	ADB	Jan. 2004	174.59	LG Engg. & Construction Ltd.-Patel Engineering
59.	Vadodara-Surat	152.00	152.00	MORTH	#		Gujarat PWD
60.	Surat (Chalthan)-Atul	79.60	79.60	ADB	Jun. 2005	504.60	SKEC-Dodsal
61.	Ahmedabad-Vadodara Exp. Way Phase-I	43.40	43.40	SPV	Dec. 2002	165.00	PT Sumber Mitra Jaya
NH No: 8A							
62.	Gandhidham-Samakhiali Package II	22.00	22.00	NHAI	Jul. 2002	67.40	PBA-PC-EC (JV)
63.	Gandhidham-Samakhiali Package I	18.00	18.00	NHAI	Sep. 2000	40.00	Sadbhav Engg. Ltd.
64.	Gandhidham-Samakhiali Package III	16.16	16.16	NHAI	Mar. 2002	47.35	Agrawal-Sadbhav-Backbone (JV)
NH No: 8B							
65.	Rajkot Bypass & Gondal Jetpur (Package-VII)	36.00	36.00	BOT	Mar. 2008	388.09	West Gujarat Expressway Ltd.
66.	Rajkot-Ribda	15.00	15.00	MORTH	#		
67.	Bamnaborr-Rajkot	31.00	31.00	MORTH	#		
68.	Bhiladi to Porbandar (Package-I)	50.50	50.50	ADB	May 2–7	276.07	LIMAK-SOMA (JV)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
69.	Jetpur to Bhiladi (Package-II)	64.50	64.50	ADB	Jan. 2009	508.50	Longjian Road & Bridge Ltd.
70.	Ribda to Gondal section (EW-10/GJ)	17.00	17.00	NHAI	Oct. 2002	40.44	Tarmat-Backbone Projects (JV)
NH No: NE1							
71.	Ahmedabad-Vadodara Exp. Way Phase-II	50.00	50.00	SPV	May 2004	365.00	LG Engg. & Construction Ltd. Nagarjuna Construction Co. Ltd.
	Total:	979.66	979.66			3896.43	
			Haryana				
NH No: 1							
72.	Six laning of Kamaspur to Haryana/Delhi Border (NS/2)	15.00	15.00	NHAI	Nov. 2001	42.83	Nagarjuna Construction Co. Ltd.
73.	Panipat Elevated Highway	10.00	10.00	BOT	Jun. 2008	270.00	Larsen & Toubro Ltd.
74.	Ambala-Panipat	116.00	116.00	WB	#		
	Total:	141.00	141.00			312.83	
			Haryana [55]/Rajasthan [71]				
NH No: 8							
75.	Gurgaon-Kotputli	126.00	126.00	ADB	Mar. 2001	251.00	BSC-RBM-PATI (JV)
	Total:	126.00	126.00			251.00	
			Haryana [6]/Punjab [30]				
NH No: 21, 22							
76.	Ambala-Zirakpur	36.00	36.00	BOT	Mar. 2009	298.00	GMR Energy Ltd. & GMR Infrastrure Ltd. Consortium
	Total:	36.00	36.00			298.00	
			Jharkhand				
NH No: 2							
77.	Barwa Add-Barakar	43.00	43.00	ADB	Dec. 2001	120.00	BSC-RBM-PATI (JV)
	Total:	43.00	43.00			120.00	
			Karnataka				
NH No: 4							
78.	Maharastra Border-Belgaum	77.00	77.00	Annuity	Oct. 2004	332.00	North Karnataka Expressway Pvt. Ltd. (Consortium of IL & FS-Punj Lloyd-CTNL)
79.	Hubli-Haveri	64.50	64.50	NHAI	Mar. 2008	260.93	Afcon Infrastructure Ltd.-Apil (JV)
80.	Belgaum Bypass	18.00	18.00	NHAI	Jun. 2006	115.90	Sunway Construction Ltd.-Berhad & RN Shetty & Co.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
81.	Neelmangala-Bangalore	30.00	30.00	NORTH	#		MOSRTH
82.	Tumkur-Neelmangala	32.50	32.50	BOT	Dec. 2003	155.00	Jas Toll Road Co.Ltd. (Consortium of Jayaswalas-Ashoka Buildcon-SERI Intl.)
83.	Sira-Tumkur	41.40	41.40	ADB	Jan. 2005	184.00	Larsen & Toubro Ltd.
84.	Sira Bypass	5.80	5.80	NHAI	Apr. 2002	19.32	Maytas Infrastructure Ltd.
85.	Chitradurga-Sira	66.70	66.70	ADB	May 2008	304.00	UEM-ESSAR (JV)
86.	Belgaum-Dharwad	62.00	62.00	NHAI	Jun. 2007	279.00	Sunway Construction Ltd.-Berhad & RN Shetty & Co.
87.	Dharwad-Hubli	29.00	29.00	MORTH	Aug. 2001		MOSRTH
88.	Bengalore-Hathipali	33.00	33.00	MORTH	#		MOSRTH
89.	Nandi Hills Corss to Devanhalli & Six laning of Meenukunte to Habbal (NS-24/KN)	25.00	25.00	NHAI	Aug. 2008	172.06	Afcon Infrastructure Ltd.
90.	Avathi village to Nandi Hills corss & Six laning of Devanhalli-Meenukunte (NS-10)	7.00	7.00	NHAI	Jul. 2001	25.82	Bhageeratha Engg. Ltd.
	Total:	491.90	491.90			1848.03	
			Kerala				
NH No: 47							
91.	Thrissur-Kochi Section	17.00	17.00	MORTH	#		
92.	Angamali to Aluva (NS-28/KL)	16.00	16.00	NHAI	Jun. 2004	77.38	Tantia-Techni Bharti(JV)
	Total:	33.60	33.60			77.38	
			Madhya Pradesh				
NH No: 25							
93.	Jhansi-Shivpuri (EW-II-MP-2)	35.00	35.00	ADB	Nov. 2008	213.69	ITD-CemIndia(JV)
NH No: 25, 76							
94.	Shivpuri Bypass & upto MP/RJ Border (EW-II-MP-I)	53.00	53.00	ADB	Oct. 2008	360.34	CSCHK-Soma (JV)
NH No: 3							
95.	Guna Bypass	14.00	14.00	BOT	Dec. 2007	46.00	Guna Infrastructure Ltd.
96.	MP/RAJ Border to Sarai Cholla (NS/6)	9.00	9.00	NHAI	Jan. 2003	28.27	Dinesh Chandra R. Agarwal
97.	Sarai Cholla to Morena (NS-20/MP)	15.00	15.00	NHAI	Aug. 2004	49.00	Prakash Mahavir (JV)
98.	Morena-Rairu (start of Gwalior bypass) (NS- 21/MP)	18.00	18.00	NHAI	Dec. 2005	69.50	Backbone Projects
	Total:	144.00	144.00			766.80	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
			Maharashtra				
NH No: 4							
99.	Khambakti Ghat	9.00	9.00	MORTH	May 2001		MOSRTH
100.	Katraj-Sarole (PS-3)	28.50	28.50	NHAI	Mar. 2007	97.90	Stav Constt. Pvt. Ltd. and Dena Rehsaz
101.	Satara-Kagal	133.00	133.00	BOT	Mar. 2006	600.00	MSRDC Ltd. Mumbai
102.	Wathar-Satara (PS-1)	35.00	35.00	NHAI	Dec. 2003	139.00	Skanska Cementation India Ltd.
103.	Sarole-Wathar (PS-2)	29.00	29.00	NHAI	Dec. 2003	118.93	Birla GTM Interpose Ltd. -B G Shrike Constt. Tech. Ltd.
104.	Katraj Realignment (PS-4)	9.00	9.00	NHAI	Jun. 2006	146.25	Shakti Kumar M. Sancheti Ltd.
105.	Westerly Diversion	34.25	34.25	NHAI	Oct. 2003	109.38	Ashoka Buildcon & Birla GTM
106.	Mumbai Pune Expressway	80.00	80.00	MSRDC	Aug. 2001		MSRDC
107.	Mumbai Pune Expressway	10.00	10.00	MSRDC	Jul. 2002		MSRDC
NH No: 4B, 4							
108.	Jawaharlal Nehru Port Phase-I	30.00	30.00	SPV	Jun. 2005	177.12	Thakur-Mhatre-Unity (JV)
NH No: 50							
109.	Pune-Khed	30.00	30.00	BOT	#	127.60	IRB-Madhujaya Consortium
NH No: 6							
110.	Kondhali-Telegaon	50.00	50.00	BOT	Mar. 2009	212.00	Oriental Structural Engineers Pvt. Ltd.-Delhi Brass Consortium
111.	Amrawati Bypass	17.40	17.40	NHAI	Jan. 2003	44.97	Nagarjuna Construction Co.Ltd.
NH No: 7							
112.	Chinchbguvan-Butibori-Borkhedi (NS-7)	25.00	25.00	NHAI	Mar. 2002	70.37	Oriental Structural Engineers Pvt. Ltd.
113.	Nagpur-Chinchbhuvan	9.20	9.20	MORTH	Apr. 1998		
NH No: 8							
114.	Kajali-Manor	57.40	57.40	ADB	Nov. 2003	192.71	Larsen & Toubro Ltd.
115.	Manor-Baseeim-Creek Section	58.00	58.00	MORTH	Jun. 2001		Maharashtra PWD
116.	Baseeim-Creek Bridge-Dhaishar	2.00	2.00	MORTH	Feb. 2000		Maharashtra PWD
117.	Dhaishar-Mumbai	4.00	4.00	MORTH	#		Maharashtra PWD
	Total:	651.35	651.35			2036.23	
			Orissa				
NH No: 5							
118.	Bhadrak-Chandikhole (OR-II)	75.50	75.50	NHAI	May 2005	305.30	Larsen & Toubro Ltd.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
119.	Bridges section (OR-V)	11.59	11.59	NHAI	Apr. 2008	155.00	Gammon India Ltd.
120.	Chandikhole-Jagatpur	27.80	27.80	JBIC	Jan. 2003	103.35	KMC Construction Ltd.
121.	Jagatpur-Bhubneshwar	28.00	28.00	WB	Dec. 2000		MOSRTH through Orissa PWD
122.	Khurda-Sunakhala (OR-VI)	52.06	52.06	NHAI	Mar. 2006	189.68	P.T. Sumber Mitra Jaya-Rohit Kumar-Shri Durga Construction (JV)
NH No: 5A							
123.	Paradip Port	77.00	77.00	SPV	Jun. 2009	428.00	Hindustan Construction Company Ltd.
124.	Laxmannath-Baleshwar (OR-4)	53.41	53.41	NHAI	May 2007	272.00	Larsen & Toubro Ltd.
125.	Bridges Section (OR/WB-I)	0.00	0.00	NHAI	Aug. 2006	80.00	Gammon India Ltd.
	Total:	325.36	325.36			1533.33	
			Punjab				
NH No: 1							
126.	Jalandhar Bypass (NS/1)	14.40	14.40	NHAI	Jun. 2004	63.46	Birla GTM Interpose Ltd.
127.	Phagwara Junction on NH-1	1.00	1.00	NHAI	Jan. 2008	19.70	Valecha Engineering Ltd.
128.	Jalandhar-Ambala	160.70	160.70	WB	#		
NH No: 1A							
129.	Bhogpur to Jalandhar (NS-16/PB)	21.77	21.77	NHAI	Oct. 2004	71.18	Bumi Highway
	Total:	197.87	197.87			154.34	
			Rajasthan				
NH No: 11							
130.	Bharatpur-Mahua	57.00	57.00	BOT	Mar. 2009	250.00	Madhucon Projects Ltd. SREI
NH No: 3							
131.	Mania-Dholpur (NS/5)	10.00	10.00	NHAI	Mar. 2001	21.71	Maheshwari Brothers Ltd.
NH No: 76							
132.	Chittorgarh Bypass (RJ-6)	40.00	40.00	ADB	Dec. 2008	447.90	China Gezhouba Water & Power (Group) Co. Ltd.
133.	Mangalwar-Udaipur (KU-VI)	58.18	58.18	NHAI	Mar. 2005	170.00	Sadbhav Engg. Ltd.-Prakash (JV)
134.	RJ/MP Border to Kota (RJ-10)	59.85	59.85	ADB	Jun. 2009	430.21	KMC Construction Ltd.
135.	RJ/MP Border to Kota (RJ-9)	43.15	43.15	ADB	Jun. 2009	359.43	Sunway Construction Ltd.
136.	Chittorgarh-Mangalwar (KU-V)	48.00	48.00	NHAI	Jan. 2004	161.20	Madhucon Projects Ltd.-Binapuri (JV)
137.	RJ/MP Border to Kota (RJ-11)	70.00	70.00	ADB	Oct. 2008	349.59	Larsen & Toubro Ltd. ECC Division
138.	Kota to Chittorgarh (RJ-7)	63.00	63.00	ADB	Dec. 2008	503.66	CEC-Hindustan Construction Company Ltd. (JV)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
139.	Bakaria to Gogunda (RJ-2)	44.00	44.00	NHAI	Mar. 2009	530.90	SOMA-BSCPL (JV)
140.	Kota to Chittorgarh (RJ-8)	65.00	65.00	ADB	Dec. 2008	528.44	Punj Lioyd Ltd.
NH No: 76, 14							
141.	Swaroopganj to Bakaria (RJ-1)	43.00	43.00	NHAI	May 2009	243.11	Agrawal JV
NH No: 79							
142.	Bhilwara Bypass-Chittorgarh (KU-IV)	66.00	66.00	NHAI	May 2004	202.88	B. Seenaiah & Co. (Projects) Ltd.
143.	Gulabpura-Bhilwara Bypass (KU-III)	50.00	50.00	NHAI	Sep. 2004	164.25	ECSB-JSRC (JV)
144.	Nasirabad-Gulabpura (KU-II)	55.87	55.87	NHAI	Jan. 2004	182.09	Punj Lloyd Ltd. Progressive Construction Ltd. (JV)
NH No: 79A							
145.	Kishangarh-Nasirabad (KU-I)	36.23	36.23	NHAI	Jan. 2004	113.50	Sadbhav Engg. Ltd.
NH No: 8							
146.	Katputli-Amer	86.00	86.00	ADB	#		MOSRTH
147.	Mahapura (near Jaipur)-Kishangarh (6 Lane)	90.38	90.38	BOT	Mar. 2005	644.00	Constortium of GVK International BSCPL
148.	Jaipur Bypass Phase I	14.00	14.00	NHAI	Jan. 2001	75.00	IRCON International Ltd.
149.	Jaipur Bypass Phase II	34.70	34.70	NHAI	Mar. 2005	210.00	Punj Lloyd Ltd. Progressive Construction Ltd. (JV)
150.	ROB at Kishangarh	1.00	1.00	BOT	Feb. 2000	18.00	MSK Projects (i) Ltd.
151.	Kesariaji-Ratanpur (UG-II)	48.40	48.40	NHAI	Mar. 2005	226.05	Gayatri-Ranjit (JV)
152.	Udaipur-Kesariaji (UG-I)	62.00	62.00	NHAI	Jan. 2004	245.91	KMC Construction Ltd.
	Total:	1145.76	1145.76			6077.83	
			Rajasthan [42]/Gujarat [34]				
NH No: 14							
153.	Palanpur to Swaroopganj (Rajasthan-42 km & Gujarat-34 km)	76.00	76.00	Annuity	Jun. 2009	498.00	Larsen & Toubro Ltd. ECC Division
	Total:	76.00	76.00			498.00	
			Tamil Nadu				
NH No: 4							
154.	Valelapet-Kanchipuram	36.20	36.20	NHAI	Jan. 2004	130.00	Larsen & Toubro Ltd.
155.	Kanchipuram-Poonamalee	56.40	56.40	NHAI	May 2007	211.00	Afcon Infrastructure Ltd.
NH No: 4, 45							
156.	Chennai Bypass Phase I	19.00	19.00	NHAI	Nov. 2001	75.00	IJM-SARTYAM Construction Ltd.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
NH No: 45							
157.	Tambaram-Tindivanam	93.00	93.00	Annuity	Jan. 2005	375.00	Tambaram-Tindivanam Express way Pvt. Ltd. (Consortium of GMR Consortium & UE Malaysia)
158.	Krishnagiri-Vaniyambadi (KR-1)	49.00	49.00	NHAI	Mar. 2005	195.00	Patel-KNR (JV)
159.	Palikonda-Ranipet and Walahjapet bypass (KR-3)	45.00	45.00	NHAI	Jan. 2006	211.00	Skanska Cementation India Ltd.
160.	Vaniyambadi-Palikonda (KR-2)	51.00	51.00	NHAI	Feb. 2006	223.00	Skanska Cementation India Ltd.
NH No: 5							
161.	Tada- Chennai (TN-1)	41.80	41.80	NHAI	Dec. 2005	233.00	Larsen & Toubro Ltd.
NH No: 67							
162.	Lalapet ROB	0.00	0.00	MORTH	Jan. 2009	0.00	Nagarjuna Construction Co. Ltd.
NH No: 7							
163.	Construction of Karur ROB	0.84	0.84	NHAI	Sep. 2002	12.15	P.T. Sumber Mitra & Jaya and Punj Lloyd
164.	Thopurghar section (NS/14)	7.40	7.40	NHAI	Apr. 2002	33.74	P.T. Sumber Mitra Jaya
165.	Salem bypass (NS/12)	8.40	8.40	NHAI	Jan. 2003	25.94	Sri Ranganathar & Co.
166.	4 laning of Karur Bypass including additional bridge across river Amarawati	9.36	9.36	NHAI	Sep. 2002	46.03	Bhageeratha Engg. Ltd.-Techni Bharti (JV)
167.	Krishnagiri to Thopurghat (NS-2/TN1)	62.50	62.50	BOT	Jan. 2009	372.70	Larsen & Toubro Ltd. (M/S L & T Krishnagiri Thopurghat Toll Road Pvt. Ltd.)
168.	Bangalore-Salem-Madurai (NS-27/TN)	8.40	8.40	NHAI	Apr. 2004	21.40	Vijay Engineering Enterprises
169.	Hathipali-Hosur	16.00	16.00	NHAI	Aug. 2002	47.00	Patel Engineering
170.	Hosur-Krishnagiri	45.40	45.40	NHAI	Jan. 2004	213.00	Shakti Kumar M. Sancheti Ltd. & Bhola Singh Jaya Prakash (JV)
	Total:	549.70	549.70			2424.96	
			Uttar Pradesh				
NH No: 2							
171.	Handia-Varanasi (TNHP/III-C)	72.00	72.00	WB	Apr. 2008	286.00	Centrodorstroy Russia
172.	Shikohabad-Etawah (GTRIP/1-B)	59.02	59.02	WB	Sep. 2008	261.22	Progressive Construction Ltd.
173.	Sikandara-Bhaunti (TNHP/II-A)	62.00	62.00	WB	May 2007	323.62	IT Thai & Som Dutt Builders India (JV)
174.	Allahabad Bypass Contract-I (Bridge)	1.02	0.00	WB	Oct. 2008	91.36	Larsen & Toubro Ltd.
175.	Etawah-Rajpur (GTRIP/I-C)	72.83	72.83	WB	May 2008	348.44	PATI-BEL (JV)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
176.	Kanpur-Fatehpur (GTRIP/II-B)	51.50	51.50	WB	May 2008	495.35	Somdutt Builders-Nagarjuna Construction Co.Ltd.-NEC (JV)
177.	Mathura-Agra	54.00	54.00	JBIC	Feb. 2000		MOSRTH through UP & Haryana PWD (ORIENTAL & PROGRESSIVE)
178.	Etawah Bypass (Balance Work)	13.60	13.60	NHAI	May 2008	132.18	PNC Construction Ltd.
179.	Khaga-Kokhraj (TNHP/III-A)	43.00	43.00	WB	Jan. 2005	151.70	IRCON Intenational Ltd.
NH No: 24							
180.	Ghaziabad-Hapur & Bypass	33.00	33.00	JBIC	Sep. 2002	84.00	Nagarjuna Construction Co. Ltd. KNR (JV)
181.	Moradabad Bypass	18.00	18.00	SPV	Jun. 2002	103.00	UP State Bridge Corporation Ltd. (UPSBC)
NH No: 25							
182.	Lucknow Kanpur Section (EW/2)	10.42	10.42	NHAI	Aug. 2002	32.85	Villayati Ram Mittal
183.	Lucknow-Kanpur section (EW-9/UP)	15.50	15.50	NHAI	Mar. 2005	50.02	B.R. Arora & Associate (BRA)- TR Gupta -Bharat (JV)
184.	Lucknow-Kanpur section (EW-8/UP)	22.20	22.20	NHAI	Feb. 2006	94.91	Villayati Ram Mittal
NH No: 27							
185.	Cable Stayed bridge on river Yamuna near Nani	6.00	6.00	JBIC	Jul. 2004	219.78	Hyundai-Hindustan Construction Company Ltd.
NH No: 28							
186.	Addi. 2-Lane Bridge over Rapti River at Gorakhpur	0.40	0.40	NHAI	Jun. 2007	14.60	UP State Bridge Corporation Ltd. (UPSBC).
NH No: 3							
187.	Agra-Raj/UP Border (NS-4)	16.00	16.00	NHAI	Nov. 2001	42.37	PNC Construction Co.
	Total:	550.49	549.47			2731.40	
		Uttar Pradesh [11]/Madhya Pradesh [30]					
NH No: 25							
188.	Jhansi-Shivpuri (UP/MP-1) (UP-11 km & MP-30 km)	41.00	41.00	ADB	May 2009	220.31	Oriental Structural Engineers Pvt. Ltd.
	Total:	41.00	41.00			220.31	
		Uttar Pradesh [24.75]/Rajasthan [20.25]					
NH No: 11							
189.	Agra-Bharatpur	45.00	45.00	BOT	Jun. 2009		Oriental Structural Engineers Pvt. Ltd. Delhi Brass Consortium
	Total:	45.00	45.00			195.00	
		Uttar Pradesh [7]/Rajasthan [10]					
NH No: 3							
190.	Raj/UP border to Mania (NS-19/UP/RJ)	17.00	17.00	NHAI	Jan. 2005	76.00	PNC Construction Co.
	Total:	17.00	17.00			76.00	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
			West Bengal				
NH No: 2							
191.	Barakar-Raniganj	33.00	33.00	WB	Apr. 2001		MOSRTH through WB PWD
192.	Vivekananda Bridge and Approach	6.00	6.00	BOT	Jun. 2007	641.00	SVBTG Consortium of Pacific Alliance Inc-PBIDC-STEADEC Inc- CES & L & T
193.	Dankuni-NH-2/NH-6 Junction near Kolkata	5.00	5.00	MORTH	#		MOSRTH
194.	Palsit-Dankuni	65.00	65.00	Annuity	Jul. 2005	432.40	Consortium of Gomuda (Malaysia) & WCT Engineering (Malaysia)
195.	Panagarh-Palsit	64.46	64.46	Annuity	Jul. 2005	350.00	Gomuda Malaysia–WCT Malaysia
196.	Raniganj-Panagarh	42.00	42.00	ADB	Nov. 2001	137.00	BSC-RBM-PATI (JV)
NH No: 31							
197.	Dalkola Islampur Sub section 2 (EW/6)	23.85	23.85	NHAI	Nov. 2005	90.06	Lanco Construction Ltd.
198.	Silliguri to Islampur (WB-6)	25.00	25.00	NHAI	Oct. 2008	155.00	B. Seenaiah & Co. (Projects) Ltd.
199.	Dalkola-Islampur (EW/5)	23.00	23.00	NHAI	Mar. 2004	72.56	Progressive Construction Ltd.
NH No: 6							
200.	Kolaghat-Kharagpur (WB-II)	60.45	60.45	NHAI	Mar. 2005	375.00	Hindustan Construction Company Ltd.
201.	Dhankuni-Kolaghat (WB-I)	54.40	54.40	NHAI	Mar. 2007	393.00	RBM-PATI (JV)
NH No: 60							
202.	Kharagpur-Laxmanath (WB/IV)	65.86	65.86	NHAI	Jun. 2006	332.00	B. Seenaiah & Co. (Projects) Ltd.
	Total:	468.02	468.02			2978.02	

Production and Export of Toys

4263. DR. K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of production, domestic sale and export of Indian toys during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether any quality standard is being followed in the manufacturing of toys; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) The Indian toy industry is both in the organized and unorganized sectors and hence, precise data for production and domestic sales of India toys are not available. However, as per information furnished by the National Productivity Council, the production of toys was about Rs. 2750 crore, Rs. 3350 crore and Rs. 4200 crore for the years 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 respectively. As per information gathered from the Toy Association of India, the domestic sales of toys were Rs. 3000 crore, Rs. 3400 crore and Rs. 4000 crore for the years 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 respectively. As per data available from Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, the exports of toys from India were Rs. 573 crore, Rs. 537 crore and Rs. 585 crore for years 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 (April 2008 to February 2009) respectively.

(b) and (c) Yes, Madam. IS 9873 (Part-1): 2001 Indian Standard (Safety aspects related to Mechanical

and Physical properties), IS-9873 (Part-2): 1999 Indian Standard (Safety requirement for Toys—Flammability Test) and IS 9873 (Part-3): 1999 Indian Standard (Safety of Toys—Migration of certain elements) are available for manufacturing of toys. However, these standards are not mandatory yet.

Initiative by the Indian Mountaineering Foundation

4264. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Mountaineering Foundation (IMF) has taken any initiative to protect the Himalayan eco-system;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether IMF has made any study on the impact of sending a large number of expeditions on the eco-system;

(d) if so, the findings thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PATIL): (a) and (b) The IMF while organizing expedition to the Himalayas ensures that the team members are briefed prior to their departure to mountain on the steps they have to take to protect the Himalayan eco-system.

The team is not permitted to use firewood, polythene and is directed to bring back the garbage left on the mountain. The number of members in each team has been limited to 12 except to Eastern Karakoram where the limit is for 16 persons.

(c) and (d) The IMF has signed an MOU with Institute of Geology and Geophysics of Chinese Academy of Sciences to launch joint expeditions to study the effects of global warming on the mountain glaciers (also installed Weather Stations in Chhota Shigri Glacier and Kolohai Glacier to study glacier variations). The IMF and TERI is jointly studying Himalayan eco-system for sustaining and safeguarding the Himalayan mountain eco-system.

(e) Does not arise.

Sale of Goods at Higher Price by NCCF

4265. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Cooperative Cosumers Federation of India Limited purchases branded items like CFLs, photocopier paper, Bombay dyeing towels from unauthorized distributors and sell the same at higher prices without ensuring reasonableness of rates and quality specifications in contravention of rules and regulations in this regard;

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

(c) the remedial steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The National Cooperative Consumers Federation of India Limited (NCCF) has reported that the Federation purchases goods from its registered suppliers and sells the same at competitive and reasonable rates.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Correspondents in AIR

4266. SHRI PRABHATSINH P. CHAUHAN:
SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA:

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

(a) the number of correspondents appointed permanently in various All India Radio (AIR) Stations of the country including Gujarat, State-wise and AIR State-wise;

(b) whether the Government proposes to broadcast the regional news from Vadodara, Rajkot and Godhara AIR Stations; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to commence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) Officers of Indian Information Service (IIS) Group 'B' Senior Grade are posted as Correspondent/News Reporter in various Regional News Units (RNUs) at AIR Stations. Out of 45 sanctioned posts of Correspondents/News Reporters, 23 are in position with about 50% vacancty at various AIR Stations (details enclosed as Statement).

(b) and (c) The regional news bulletins originating from AIR, Ahmedabad are relayed by Vadodara, Rajkot and Godhara AIR Stations. Five headline bulletins of 2-minute each produced by Regional News Unit (RNU) Ahmedabad are also broadcast by AIR, Vadodara. However, in the 11th Plan SFC Proposal, it is proposed to start a Regional News Unit (RNU) at Rajkot in Gujarat, on approval of which regional news can be produced and broadcast from there. NSD has no plans to start Regional News bulletins from Vadodara and Godhara, AIR Stations at present.

Statement

Correspondents/News Reporter appointed permanently in various All India Radio Stations

Sl.No.	State/Station	Correspondents		Comments
		Sanctioned	In Position	
1	2	3	4	5
	ANDHRA PRADESH			
1.	Hyderabad	1	1	
2.	Vishakhapatnam	0	1	
3.	Vijayawada	1	0	News Editor also working as correspondent
	ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS			
4.	Port Blair	1	0	News Editor also working as correspondent
	ARUNACHAL PRADESH			
5.	Itanagar	1	0	News Editor also working as correspondent
	ASSAM			
6.	Dibrugarh	1	1	
7.	Guwahati	1	0	Assistant Director (News) Doordarshan holding additional charge of AIR Correspondent
8.	Silchar	1	0	Assistant Director (News) also working as Correspondent
	BIHAR			
9.	Patna	1	1	

1	2	3	4	5
	CHHATTISGARH			
10.	Raipur	0	0	News Editor also working as correspondent
	DELHI			
11.	Delhi	0	-	4 Officers from Editorial work shifted to work as correspondents
	GOA			
12.	Panaji	1	0	News Editor also working as correspondent
	GUJARAT			
13.	Ahmedabad	1	1	
14.	Bhuj	1	0	Assistant Director (News) AIR Bhuj holding additional charge.
	HARYANA & PUNJAB			
15.	Chandigarh	1	1	
16.	Jalandhar	1	1	
17.	Rohtak	1	0	
18.	Patiala	1	1	
	HIMACHAL PRADESH			
19.	Shimla	1	1	
	JAMMU AND KASHMIR			
20.	Jammu	1	0	News Editor also working as correspondent
21.	Leh	1	0	Assistant Director (News) also working as Correspondent
22.	Srinagar	0	0	Assistant Director (News) also working as Correspondent
	JHARKHAND			
23.	Ranchi	1	0	News Editor also working as correspondent

1	2	3	4	5
	KARNATAKA			
24.	Bangalore	1	1	
25.	Dharwad	1	0	News Editor also working as correspondent
	KERALA			
26.	Kozhikode	1	1	
27.	Thiruvananthapuram	0	0	News Editor also working as correspondent
28.	Kochi	1	1	
	MADHYA PRADESH			
29.	Bhopal	1	1	
30.	Indore	1	0	Assistant Director (News) also working as Correspondent
	MAHARASHTRA			
31.	Aurangabad	1	1	
32.	Mumbai	0	0	News Editor also working as correspondent
33.	Nagpur	1	1	
34.	Pune	0	0	News Editor also working as correspondent
	MANIPUR			
35.	Imphal	1	0	News Editor also working as correspondent
	MEGHALAYA			
36.	Shillong	1	1	
	MIZORAM			
37.	Aizwal	1	0	
	NAGALAND			
38.	Kohima	0	0	
	ORISSA			
39.	Bhubneshwar	1	0	Assistant Director (News) Doordarshan holding additional charge of AIR Correspondent
40.	Sambalpur	1	0	

1	2	3	4	5
	PUDUCHERRY			
41.	Puducherry	1	1	
	RAJASTHAN			
42.	Jaipur	1	1	
	Udaipur	1	0	
	SIKKIM			
43.	Gangtok	0	0	Assistant Director (News) also working as Correspondent
	TAMIL NADU			
44.	Chennai	0	0	News Editor also working as correspondent
45.	Tiruchirapalli	1	1	
46.	Coimbatore	1	1	
	TRIPURA			
47.	Agartala	1	0	Assistant Director (News) Doordarshan holding additional charge
	UTTARAKHAND			
48.	Dehradun	0	0	News Editor also working as correspondent
49.	Paudi	1	0	
	UTTAR PRADESH			
50.	Gorakhpur	1	0	News Editor also working as correspondent
51.	Lucknow	1	1	
52.	Kanpur/Allahabad	1	1	
	WEST BENGAL			
53.	Kolkata	1	1	
54.	Kurseong	1	1	
55.	Siliguri	1	0	
	Total	45	23	

[English]

Wholesale and Retail Price

4267. SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the per kilogram difference between the existing wholesale and retail prices of essential commodities in the metropolitan cities;

(b) whether any guidelines have been issued in relation to the maximum permissible difference between wholesale and retail prices of essential commodities;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the manner in which the Government monitors the prices, especially the retail prices of essential commodities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The per kilogram difference between existing wholesale and retail prices of essential commodities as monitored by this Department is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) There are no guidelines issued in relation to the maximum permissible difference between wholesale and retail prices of essential commodities. The wholesale/ retail prices are largely determined by the maket forces. Difference in consumer price and sale price of produce of foodgrains is mainly due to (i) transportation and handing costs (ii) packaging and other marketing expenses at retail, (iii) retailers mark-up and (iv) various taxes levied by different State Governments e.g. octroi duty. The gap between wholesale and retail prices is found to be generally within limits with repsect to essential commodities.

(c) In view of above, does not arise.

(d) Government closely monitors the wholesale/retail prices of select essential commodities at select centres. The Price Monitoring Cell (PMC) is entrusted, *inter-alia,* with the task of monitoring of the prices of select essential commodities in the conutry viz., rice, wheat, atta, gram dal, tur/arhar dal, urad dal, moong dal, masoor dal, tea, milk, sugar, vanaspati, mustard oil, groundnut oil, potato, onion and salt, based on the information received from the State Food and Civil Supplies Departments. Information on Retail Prices is received on daily basis from 27 centres of the country. Similarly, information on Prices is received from 37 centres of the country on weekly basis. Any variation, especially an increase in prices at the wholesale/retail level, is immediately taken note of and the State Food and Civil Supplies Department concerned is contacted for details thereof. The prevailing price situation as well as other factors which impact on prices, both in domestic and international markets are studied and brought to the notice of high level committees, such as Committee of Secretaries (COS), Cabinet Committee on Prices (CCP), through agenda notes prepared for their meetings, for appropriate action at the policy level.

Statement

The Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Department of Consumer Affairs (Price Monitoring Cell) Variation in wholesale and retail prices of Essential Commodities in Metros (as on 22.7.09)

Commodity/ Centre	Retail Prices (Rs./Kg.)	Wholesale Prices (Rs./Kg.)	Variation
1	2	3	4
Rice			
Chennai	19	18	1
Delhi	21	15.5	5.5
Kolkata	14	12	2
Mumbai	19	15.75	3.25
Wheat			
Chennai	19	17	2
Delhi	13	11.05	1.95
Kolkata	NT	NT	NT
Mumbai	17	14	3
Atta			
Chennai	20	18	2
Delhi	15	13	2
Kolkata	14	13.6	0.4
Mumbai	17	15.25	1.75

1	2	3	4
Gram			
Chennai	36	35	1
Delhi	39	32.75	6.25
Kolkata	38	27	11
Mumbai	36	31	5
Tur			
Chennai	95	90	5
Delhi	85	77	8
Kolkata	76	58	18
Mumbai	74	63	11
Sugar			
Chennai	25	24.5	0.5
Delhi	27	25.5	1.5
Kolkata	28	25.5	2.5
Mumbai	27	25	2
Groundnut Oil			
Chennai	66	54.5	11.5
Delhi	108	95.23	12.77
Kolkata	90	82	8
Mumbai	93	82.66	10.34
Mustard Oil			
Chennai	NT	NT	NT
Delhi	66	60.8	5.2
Kolkata	62	56	6
Mumbai	75	60	15
Vanaspati			
Chennai	55	53.67	1.33
Delhi	55	50.18	4.82
Kolkata	46	43	3
Mumbai	55	47.33	7.67
Tea (Loose)			
Chennai	NR	NR	NR
Delhi	143	123	20
Kolkata	100	80	20
Mumbai	150	130	20
Milk @			
Chennai	18	NR	NR
Delhi	21	NR	NR
Kolkata	20	NR	NR
Mumbai	21	NR	NR
Potato			
Chennai	16	14	2
Delhi	17.5	12.68	4.82
Kolkata	15	13	2
Mumbai	17	11.25	5.75
Onion			
Chennai	12	9	3
Delhi	14	8.12	5.88
Kolkata	14	11	3
Mumbai	11	8	3

Source: State Civil Supplies Department NR-> Not Repoted Nt-Not Traded

Acquisition of Rare Photographs

4268. SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Film Division has any proposal to acquire rare pictures of prominent personalities, landmarks, heritage structures, landscapes from private collectors, independent developers and individuals;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of such pictures collected during each of the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to set up a National Centre of Photography;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which action in this regard is likely to be taken; and

(e) the steps being taken to promote photography in the country?

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

(b) Not applicable in view of reply to (a) above.

(c) Yes, Madam.

(d) The work of setting up of a 'National Centre of Photography' has been taken up in the 11th Five Year Plan by Photo Division of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. Under this scheme digitalization of the archival images is in progress. The work relating to placing of images to the server, cataloguing and indexing is also under process.

(e) Photo Division conducts a national level Photo Contest every year. Cash awards are given to the winners of both the colour and black & white categories. Exhibitions of selected photographs received in the photo contest are also organized. Photo Division also organizes workshop and training programmes.

[Translation]

Central Disaster Management Authority

4269. SHRI BHISMA SHANKAR *ALIAS* KUSHAL TIWARI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up Central Disaster Management Authority in Uttar Pradesh to save the people of the area from natural calamity including floods;

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be set up; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) No, Madam. Central Government has constituted a National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) under the provisions of Disaster Management Act, 2005. This Act also provides for constitution of State Disaster Management Authorities and District Disaster Management Authorities by the concerned States. However, there is no provision under the Act for constitution of Central Disaster Management Authority in any State Government of Uttar Pradesh has already constituted the State Disaster Management Authority headed by Chief Minister.

[English]

Removal of Ban on Future Trading

4270. SHRI SARVEY SATYANARAYANA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has since lifted the ban on future trading in rice and wheat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Foeward Markets Commission (FMC) which is the regulator for commodity futures trading supsended futures trading in Rice and Wheat on 27th February 2007. In view of good crops of wheat this year, the suspension of future trading in Wheat was revoked on 14th May 2009. Futures trading in rice remains suspended as it is considered sensitive.

[Translation]

Agricultural Research Programmes

4271. SHRI GORAKH PRASAD JAISWAL:
SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the agricultural research institutions in the country have devised low cost farming techniques;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of other research programmes being undertaken by the agricultural research institutes for helping small and medium farmers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) A good number of manually operated, animal operated and power operated farm tools and implements have been developed by the various research Institutions in the country including Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) and Centres of All India Coordinated Research Projects (AICRPs) located at various institutions for performing various farm operations.

Some of the prominent low cost equipment developed by these institutions are: animal drawn blade harrow, wedge plough, bund former, multi-purpose tool carrier/tool frame, improved puddlers, post hole digger, naveen dibbler, rotary dibbler, zero-till drill, animal operated seed-cum-ferti-drill with platner attachment, garlic planter, pre-germinated paddy seeder, mat type paddy transplanter, manually operated mustard seed-drill, animal drawn sugarcane planter, animal drawn potato planter, mannually operated fertilizer broadcaster, manual hand hoe, twin wheel hoe, paddy cono weeder, Naveen sickle, animal drawn groundnut digger, potato digger, vertical conveyor reaper, tubular maize sheller, pedal operated paddy thresher, single earhead thresher, groundnut stripper, Phule sunflower thresher, ground decorticator, pedal operated grain cleaner, potato peeler and slicer, ready to eat various products from soybean, curry leaf stripper, soybean dehuller, low cost bamboo green houses, solar cooker, improved cook stove, solar tunnel dryer, etc.

Besides these various tractor operated improved equipment have also been developed (rotavator, zero till drill, raised bed planter, happy seeder, multi-crop planter, sugarcane cutter planter, mat type self propelled paddy transplanter, vegetable transplanter, high clearance sprayer, aero blat sprayer, orchard sprayer, self propelled and tractor operated vertical conveyor reaper, multi-crop thresher, straw reaper, straw baler, sugarcane stripper, forage havester etc.) and these are being used by the small and medium farmers as well on custom hire basis.

(c) For helping small and medium farmers and creating awareness about the technologies developed by various institutions, Front Line Demonstrations (FLD) and the On-Farm Trials of the equipment developed is carried out at farmer's field. The equipment and technologies developed are displayed in the Kisan Meals. The organizations are also involved in developing entrepreneurship among the rural youth by conducting training programmes on agro-processing, soybean processing and utilization, agricultural manufacturing technologies etc. Various trainings programmes are also organized for the farmers by the various institutions.

Beneficiaries of Loan Waiver Scheme

4272. SHRI SONAWANE PRATAP NARAYANRAO:
SHRI M.B. RAJESH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of farmers whose loan has been waived under the loan waiver scheme;

(b) the funds given under the loan waiver scheme by the Union Government;

(c) whether it is a fact that a large number of farmers couldn't get the benefit of this scheme; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the corrective measures likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD, AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Farmers in Cooperative Societies

4273. SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is encouraging the farmers to become members of cooperative societies in farming; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes Madam.

(b) Government is implementing a central sector scheme for cooperative Education and Training through National Council for Cooperative Training (NCCT) to

increase cooperative awareness among the people including the farmers to use the services of cooperative in appropriate manner. This enourages the farmers to become members of cooperative societies and use its services. Further, Central Government is also implementing an Integrated Cooperative Development Programme (ICDP) through National Copperative Development Corporation (NCDC) for the overall cooperative development of this District, through cooperative network. The scheme aims at development of cooperatives in agriculture and allied sectors, transforming cooperatives as multi-purpose entities and promoting horizontal and vertical functional linkages so as to enable the cooperatives to cater to the overall needs of rural community.

The information sought in the question about state-wise details is not maintained in the Department. However, Government of Andhra Pradesh has stated that in Andhra Pradesh, 2,295 Joint Farming Cooperatives are registered with a total membership of 1,92,716 covering a total area of 2,62,776 acres. Out of these, 898 societies were extended finance assistance to atune of Rs. 796.75 lakhs.

Highway Upgradation Projects

4274. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has executed National Highway upgradation projects;

(b) if so, the details in this regard, State-wise and NH-wise;

(c) the total funds allocated for these projects;

(d) the details of the National Highways upgraded under the said projects, State-wise and NH-wise, project-wise;

(e) the details of the agencies selected for execution of these projects; and

(f) the time by which these projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (f) Development of National Highways (NHs) is a continuous process, for which works are taken up in stretches depending upon the inter-se-prioirty and availablity of funds. The State-wise and NH-wise details of National Highway projects completed during the last three years (2006-07, 2007-08 & 2008-09) and the current year 2009-10 (upto 30.6.2009) are given in the enclosed Statement-I. The details of funds allocated during the last three years and the current year are given in the enclosed Statement-II. These works are generally executed through agencies *i.e.* the State Public Works Dpartments (PWDs), Border Roads Organization (BRO) and National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), who select the contractor following the transparent bidding process. Besides, works are also awarded to Concessionarie under Private Public Parnership (PPP). Selection of Concessionaire is also being done following the trasparent bidding procedure. Works are generally trageted for completion between 12 months to 36 months depending upon quantum and nature of work.

Statement I

State-wise and NH-wise details of National Highway projects completed during the last three years (2006-07, 2007-08 & 2008-09) and the current year i.e. 2009-10 (as on 30-6-2009)

Sl.No.	Name of State/UT	National Highway No.	NH projects completed
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4, 5, 7, 9, 16, 18, 43, 63, 202, 205, 214, 214A, 219, 221 & 222	119
2.	Assam	31, 31B, 36, 37, 37A, 38, 39, 61, & 154	52
3.	Bihar	2, 19, 28, 30, 30A, 31, 77, 80, 83, 84, 85, 98, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 107 & 110	69
4.	Chandigarh	21	2

1	2	3	4
5.	Chhattisgarh	6, 12A, 16, 43, 78, 200, 202, 216, 217, 111, & 221	82
6.	Delhi	1, 2, 8, 10 & 24	2
7.	Goa	17A & 17B	7
8.	Gujarat	NE-I, 8, 8A, 8E, 14, 15, & 113	27
9.	Haryana	1, 2, 8, 10, 21A, 65, 71, 71A, 71B, 73 & 73 A	62
10.	Himachal Pradesh	20, 21, 21A, 22, 70, 72, & 88	76
11.	Jharkhand	2, 6, 23, 31, 32, 33, 75, 78, 80, 98, 99 & 100	49
12.	Karnataka	4, 4A, 7, 9, 13, 17, 63, 67, 206, 207, 209, 212 & 218	133
13.	Kerala	17, 47, 49, 208, 212, 213 & 220	57
14.	Madhya Pradesh	3, 7, 12, 12A, 25, 26, 27, 59, 59A, 69, 75, 76, 78, 86 & 92	187
15.	Maharashtra	4, 4B, 6, 7, 8, 9, 13, 17, 50, 204, 211 & 222	164
16.	Manipur	39 & 150	16
17.	Meghalaya	40, 51 & 62	22
18.	Mizoram	44A, 150 & 154	7
19.	Nagaland	61 & 155	31
20.	Orissa	5, 5A, 6, 23, 42, 43, 60, 200, 201, 203, 215, 217 & 224	86
21.	Puducherry	45A	1
22.	Punjab	1, 1A, 10, 15, 20, 21, 22, 64, 64A, 70, 71, 72 & 95	85
23.	Rajasthan	3, 8, 11, 11A, 12, 14, 15, 65, 76, 79, 79A, 89, 113, 112, 114 & 116	113
24.	Tamil Nadu	4, 5, 7, 45, 45A, 45C, 46, 47B, 67, 207, 208, 209, 210, 219, 220, 226 & 227	155
25.	Uttarakhand	58, 72, 72A, 73, 87, 94, 108, 109, 123, 119, 121, 87 Ext. & 125	71
26.	Uttar Pradesh	2, 3, 7, 11, 19, 24, 24A, 25, 27, 28, 28B, 29, 56, 58, 72A, 73, 74, 75, 76, 86, 91, 91A, 92, 93, 97, & 119	185
27.	West Bengal	2, 6, 31, 31C, 32, 35, 55, 60, 60A & 81	53

Statement II

Details of funds allocated for development of National Highways during the last three years and current year

(Rupees in crore)

Sl.No.	Name of State/UT	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (as on 30.6.2009)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	58.41	76.00	187.31	78.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	8.30	6.00	1.10	3.30

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Assam	77.25	86.00	86.30	40.00
4.	Bihar	97.20	83.00	91.10	50.00
5.	Chandigarh	1.00	2.00	3.39	1.30
6.	Chhattisgarh	37.00	39.00	63.66	31.50
7.	Delhi	3.00	9.00	15.80	5.00
8.	Goa	2.95	15.00	34.39	11.00
9.	Gujarat	60.00	62.00	97.00	41.70
10.	Haryana	64.00	81.25	103.23	35.00
11.	Himachal Pradesh	39.50	57.00	76.21	26.00
12.	Jharkhand	34.86	57.25	96.41	40.00
13.	Karnataka	85.00	99.50	211.79	65.30
14.	Kerala	55.00	50.00	62.74	43.70
15.	Madhya Pradesh	84.09	65.00	92.97	36.70
16.	Maharashtra	148.75	133.79	187.90	89.30
17.	Manipur	14.65	12.00	23.65	13.30
18.	Meghalaya	24.50	22.00	50.77	20.00
19.	Mizoram	15.53	15.00	13.55	9.30
20.	Nagaland	11.82	12.00	30.60	13.30
21.	Orissa	72.00	137.50	207.68	66.70
22.	Puducherry	5.00	7.55	2.95	2.30
23.	Punjab	72.00	82.90	154.00	51.30
24.	Rajasthan	75.00	99.00	209.91	61.30
25.	Tamil Nadu	82.00	91.25	131.96	61.50
26.	Uttar Pradesh	91.40	130.00	215.64	83.30
27.	Uttarakhand	52.75	38.95	109.51	30.00
28.	West Bengal	47.00	58.00	95.30	59.30
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.30
30.	NHAI*	8495.45	8761.06	8866.47	8918.45
31.	BRO*	528.00	649.76	650.00	600.00

*Funds to National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and Border Roads Organization (BRO) are not allocated State-wise.

Transfer of Pradeep Harbour

4275. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any request from the Government of Orissa for transferring Paradeep fishing harbour to the State Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Yes, Madam. The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture has in February, 2009 accorded approval to the proposal of Government of Orissa for transfer of the affairs of management, maintenance and operation of Paradeep Fishing Harbour to the State Government from Paradeep Port Trust.

Amendment to Sugarcane Control Order

4276. SHRI R. DHRUVANARAYANA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether an amendment to the Sugarcane Control Order, 1964 has been sought by the sugaracane farmers for ensuring better price for their produce;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) The Rashtriya Kisan Adhikar Samiti filed a Writ Petition No. 7488 of 2008 in the High Court of Delhi with the following prayers:—

(i) While fixing the Statutory Minimum Price of sugarcane every year, under sub-clause (1)(d) of clause 3 of the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966, the returns from the major and minor by-products of sugarcane may also be consiered and,

(ii) Delete sub-clause (1)(c) of clause 3 of the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966.

Delhi High Court vide Order dated 4.3.2009 directed the Government that the Writ Petition be treated as a representation by the petitioner and to take a decision.

The Government has amended the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966 by inserting clause (f) in clause 3(1) as follows:

"The realization made from sale of by-products viz. molasses, bagasse and press mud or their imputed value" for consideration in fixation of SMP.

The second suggestion of the petitioner was not accepted.

National Policy for Farmers

4277. SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has launched a National Policy for Farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken to implement the Policy; and

(c) the steps taken to attract and retain the youth in farming under the said Policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Yes, Madam. The Government has announced the National Policy for Farmers (NPF), 2007 based on the recommendations of the National Commission on Farmers (NCF) headed by Prof. M. Swaminathan. The Policy document was laid on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament in November, 2007. Subsequently, an Inter-Ministerial Committee constituted by the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation finalized a Plan of Action for operationalization of the NPF, 2007 and the same was circulated in October, 2008 to all the State Governments and the central Ministries/Departments concerned for necessary action. The major policy goals and salient provisions/features of the NPF, 2007 are as follows:

(i) Improve the economic viability of farming by substantially improving the net income of farmers.

(ii) Asset Reforms covering land, water, livestock, fisheries, bio-resources and animal genetic resources.

(iii) Develop support services like science & technology; agricultural bio-security; agro-meteorology; climate change; inputs and services

like seeds, soil health, pesticides, implements, feed etc; credit and insurance; cooperatives; extension, training and knowledge connectivity; social security; agricultural prices, marketing and tade; integration with processing and value chain; and curriculum refrom.

(iv) Measures aimed at special categories of farmers, special categories of farming and special regions.

(v) Popularization of methods for achieving economies of scale by small and marginal farmers to enhance yield and income.

(vi) Introduce measures to attract and retain youth in farming and processing of farm products.

(vii) Other policy measures for enhancing of food security, ceration of rural non-farm employment, etc.

As mentioned above, one of the major policy goals of NPF, 2007 is to introduce measures which can help attract and retain youths in farming. Towards this end, the Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) are providing training and skill development to the youth in different aspects of agriculture and allied activities. The scheme "Establishment of Agri-Clinics and Agri Business Centres by Agricultural Graduates" is promoting self-employment among agricultural graduates. Further, for revitalization of agriculture and improve the income and well-graduates. Further, for revitalization of agriculture and improve the income and well-being of the farmers, the Government has taken many initiatives like substatial increase in the minimum support prices of important agricultural crops, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, National Food Security Mission, National Horticulture Mission, setting up of National Rainfed Area Authority, Micro Irrigation, Agriculture Technology Management Agency Scheme, National Agricultural Insurance Scheme, Comprehensive Credit Package, Debt Waiver Scheme, Revival of Cooperative Credit Institutions, Technology Mission on Oilseeds & Pulses, etc. All the above measures are expected to raise the farm incomes substantially, thereby making agriculture an attractive option for the youth.

[Translation]

Procurement Centres

4278. SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be plased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to open procurement centres in every block of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V.THOMAS): (a) to (c) Arrangements for procurement of paddy and wheat are reviewed by Food Corporation of India and agencies of the State Governments before commencement of each Kharif and Rabi Marketing Season and accordingly sufficient number of procurement centres are opened in all areas having marketable surplus of rice and wheat.

[English]

Barren Land

4279. SHRI ANANTHA VENKATARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be plased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted to identify desert and barren land in the country including Andhra Pradesh; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V.THOMAS): (a) and (b) According to the concepts & definitions of land uses, barren land includes all land covered by mountains, deserts, etc. As per Land Use Statistics at a Glance (2006-07), Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Government of India, total barren lands in the country including Andhra Pradesh is 17.44 million ha., as per the State-wise details given in the enclosed Statement.

Most of the desert lands are suffering from complex probelms of the land degradation. These lands cannot be brought under cultivation except at an exorbitant cost and is classified as un-culturable land located in isolated blocks or within cultivated holding, and therefore, there is no comprehensive scheme/programme for the development of barren land.

Various schemes/programmes of Watershed Development are being implemented to develop the degraded lands with the objective of preventing soil erosion, land degradation, maintaining balance in different types of land uses, increasing moisture and groundwater recharge, sustaining productivity etc. It is because of

these programmes that the Net Sown Area across the country has remained approximately the same *i.e.* 141 million ha. despite increase in area under non-agricultural uses over last two decades.

Statement

(Area in thousand hectares)

Sl. No.	Name of States	State-wise extent of Barren land as on 2006-07
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2098
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	42
3.	Assam	1447
4.	Bihar	436
5.	Chhattisgarh	313
6.	Goa	0
7.	Gujarat	2607
8.	Haryana	103
9.	Himachal Pradesh	672
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	289
11.	Jharkhand	573
12.	Karnataka	788
13.	Kerala	26
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1406
15.	Maharashtra	1719
16.	Manipur	1
17.	Mizoram	9
18.	Meghalaya	137
19.	Nagaland	0
20.	Orissa	843
21.	Punjab	21
22.	Rajasthan	2427
23.	Sikkim	107
24.	Tamil Nadu	502
25.	Tripura	3
26.	Uttar Pradesh	515
27.	Uttarakhand	313
28.	West Bengal	21
29.	Delhi	16
30.	Puducherry	0
31.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	3
32.	Chandigarh	0
33.	Dadra Nagar and Haveli	1
34.	Daman and Diu	0
35.	Lakshadweep	0
	Total	17438

Source: Land Use Statistics at a Glance-1997-98 to 2006-07, Directorate of E & S, DAC, MOA, GOI, New Delhi.

New Variety of Seeds

4280. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has developed several new varieties of seeds for different foodgrains; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has developed several new varieties/hybrids in different food crops. Few examples are; **Rice** (Pusa Basmati 1121, Improved Pusa Basmati 1, Improved Samba Mahsuri, VL Dhan 86, VL Dhan 209, VL Dhan 65); **Wheat** (DBW 17, VL 892, HI 1544, HD 2932); **Maize** (Vivek hybrid 33, Vivek 9 QPM, Vivek 25, Vivek 27); **Sorghum** (CSV 20, CSH 23); **Pearl Millet** (Pusa 992, Pusa 2001, Pusa 2002); **Chickpea** (Pusa 547, Pusa Shubhra); **Mungbean** (IPM 02,-3, Pusa 0672); **Urdbean** (IPU-02-43); **Lentil** (IPL 406, VL 126); **Fieldpea** (VL 42, Prakash).

Approval of Private TV Channels

4281. SHRI R. THAMARAISELVAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received several applications from the private sector for uplinking/ downlinking private TV Channels;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the number of applications cleared and still pending; and

(c) the steps taken and the time by which the pending applications are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. As on date, applications of 143 TV channels for permission to uplink from India and applications of 20 TV channels, uplinked from abroad, for permission to downlink in India are at various stages of scrutiny in accordance with the existing uplinking and downlinking guidelines. Approval of channels is a continuing process. As part of this process, Ministry has, so far, permitted 410 private satellite TV channels to uplink from India as per uplinking guidelines and 73 private satellite TV channels, uplinked from abroad, to downlink in India as per downlinking guidelines.

(c) Although no definite time frame can be indicated, once the applicant companies provide all required information/documents and clearances from other Ministries are received, the applications are considered for permission in the minimum time frame.

Damage Caused by the Use of DDT

4282. SHRI C.L. RUALA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is assessing the damage caused by the use of Dichloro Diphenyl Trichloroethane (DDT) to human and animals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to ban the use of DDT; and

(d) if so, the time by which action is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Government has already taken following steps to restrict the use of DDT, a persistent organic pollutant, in view of the potential risks to human health, animal health and environment:

(i) The use of DDT in agriculture has been withdrawn with effect from 26-05-89.

(ii) The use of DDT is permitted for public health programmes upto 10,000 MTs per annum except in case of any major outbreak or epidemic.

(iii) There is a Mandate Committee on DDT to decide the quantum of DDT to be permitted for use in public health programme for control of Malaria and Kala-azar. The Committee ensures that DDT is used judiciously under the public health programme and its use does not exceed the permissible limit.

(iv) Only M/s. Hindustan Insecticides Limited, a Public Sector Undertaking, has valid registration and license to manufacture DDT for supplying to Ministry of Health & Family Welfare for use under public health programmes.

In view of prevalence of various vector borne diseases in the country, it is not advisable to ban use of DDT for public health purposes.

[Translation]

Promotion of Animal Husbandry

4283. SHRI BHARAT RAM MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is implementing/ proposes to implement schemes in collaboration with the State Governments for the promotion of the Animal Husbandry sector in the country including Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some States have lagged behind in the development of Animal Husbandry; and

(d) if so, the details of achievements made by the States including Rajasthan in Animal Husbandry alongwith the assistance provided to the States lagging behind in the development of Animal Husbandry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Yes, Madam. Details of animal husbandry schemes implemented by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries, Government of India, in collaboration with the States and the financial assistance provided to them are given in the enclosed Statements-I and II.

Statement I

Details of the schemes for the Animal Husbandry Sector being implemented by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries

The Department is implementing various central sector and centrally-sponsored schemes through the State Governments, including Government of Rajasthan for the development of requisite infrastructure and supplementing efforts of the State Governments in achieving accelerated growth of animal husbandry sector. Details of these schemes are as follows:

1. **National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding (NPCBB):** To improve productivity of bovine population, Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding' since October, 2000 for a period of ten years in two phases, each of five years duration, with an outlay of Rs. 402 crore and Rs. 775.87 crore respectively on 100% grants-in-aid basis. The project envisages genetic upgradation of bovine population on priority basis.

2. **Central Cattle Development Organisations:** This is a Central Sector Scheme. These organizations include seven Central Cattle Breeding Farms, one Central Frozen Semen Production and Training Institute and four Central Herd Registration Units established in different regions of the country to produce genetically superior breeds of bull calves, good quality frozen semen and for identification of superior germplasm of cattle and buffaloes, so as to meet the requirement of bulls and frozen semen in the country.

3. **Central Fodder Development Organisations:** This is a Central Sector Scheme having three components. Under this programme, production of quality fodder seeds, fodder demonstration on high yielding fodder varieties on farmers' fields, training programmes and farmers', fair are organized for dissemination of latest technologies on fodder cultivation and its utilization by livestock onwers.

4. **Centrally Sponsored Fodder Development Scheme:** This Centrally Sponsored Scheme provides central assistance to States to supplement their efforts in feed and fodder development. The scheme is being implemented from 2005-06 with the following four components:

   (a) Assistance to Fodder Block Making Units.

   (b) Grassland Development including Grass Reserves.

   (c) Fodder Seed Production Programme.

   (d) Biotechnology Research Projects.

5. **Poultry Development:** This Centrally Sponsored Scheme has been recently approved with an outlay of Rs. 150 crore. The scheme has three components namely, Assistance to State Poultry Farms, Rural Backyard Poultry Development and Poultry Estaes.

6. **Central Poultry Development Organizations (CPDOs):** This is a Central Sector Scheme. CPDOs are located at Chandigarh, Bhubesnwar, Mumbai and Hessarghatta to provide necessary technical services to the farmers and to maintain brid stock suitable for backyard poultry. A Central Poultry Performance Testing Centre (CPPTC) located at Gurgaon tests performance of layer and broiler varieties.

7. **Conservation of Threatened Livestock Breeds:** This Centrally Sponsored Scheme was initiated during the 10th Plan. It aims at conserving and protecting threatened breeds of livestock whose population is less than 10,000. The scheme is being continued in 11th Plan as well.

8. **Integrated Development of Small Ruminants and Rabbits:** This is a Central Sector Scheme approved in April 2009 for implementation during 11th Plan with an outlay of Rs. 134.83 crore, out of which budget provision for 2009-10 is Rs. 18.33 crore. The scheme envisages setting up of 54 intensive small ruminant development clusters with venture capital through National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) as well as Infrastructure Development and Institutional Restructuring.

9. **Central Sheep Breeding Farm:** This is a Central Sector Scheme. The farm was established during the 4th Five Year Plan with the objective of producing acclimatized exotic rams for distribution to various State sheep farms and training of personnel in mechanical sheep shearing. In course of time and in accordance with recommendation of experts, the breeding programme of the farm was changed to produce crossbred rams (Nali X Rambouilett and Sonad X Corriedable) as well as Beetal goats.

10. **Livestock Health and Disease Control:** This is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme having four components, namely, Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases (ASCAD), National Project on Rinderpest Eradication (NPRE), Foot and Mouth Disease Control Programme (FMD-CP), and Professional Efficiency Development (PED).

    ASCAD envisages undertaking immunization of livestock & poultry against economically important diseases, strengthening of State Veterinary Biological Production Centres, Strengthening of Disease Diagnostic Laboratories, collection, compilation & dissemination of livestock disease incidents data and in-service training to Veterinarians & Para-Veterinarians for upgradation of technical knowledge.

    The objective of the component of NPRE is to strengthen the verterinary services and to eradicate Rinderpest and Contagious Bovine Pleuro-Pneumonia (CBPP) and to obtain freedom from Rinderpest & CBPP infection following the pathway prescribed by Office International des Epizooties (OIE), Paris followed by the physical surveillance to maintain freedom status. India was declared Rinderpest and Contagious Bovine Pleuro-Pneumonia (CBPP) infection free country by the OIE on 26th May, 2006 and 26th May, 2007.

    The object of the component of PED is to regulate veterinary practices and to maintain register of Veterinary Practitioners as per the provisions of Indian Veterinary Council Act, 1984.

    The component of FMD-CP is being implemented in 54 specified districts of the country to control Foot and Mouth Diseases with 100% funding, which includes the cost of vaccine and supporting expenses. The State and Union Territory Governments are providing manpower, infrastructure and logistic support.

11. **Directorate of Animal Health:** This is a Central Sector Scheme having three components namely, Animal Quarantine & Certification Service, National Veterinary Biological Products Quality Control Centre and Central/Regional Disease Diagnostic Laboratories.

12. **Preparedness, Control & Containment of Avian Influenza:** This Central Sector Scheme was initiated in 2007-08 with the objective of prevention, control and containment of avian influenza in the country. It broadly covers the surveillance of poultry and migratory birds, enhancement and upgradation of laboratory intelligence for diagnosis, information, education and communication campaign and supporting the outbreak containment plan.

13. **Livestock Census:** The livestock population of different species is worked out on the basis of the Central Sector Scheme 'Livestock Census' conducted on quinquennial basis. It is the only source which provides detailed information on livestock. It also provides disaggregated information on poultry, animal operated agricultural implements & machinery and fisheries statistics. The 18th Livestock Census was conducted with reference date of 15th October, 2007.

14. **Livestock Insurance:** This Centrally Sponsored Scheme being implemented in all the States except Goa, has twin objectives: providing protection mechanism to the farmers & cattle rearers against any eventual loss of their animals due to death; and to demonstrate the benefit of the insurance of livestock to the people & popularize it with the ultimate goal of attaining qualitative improvement in livestock and their products.

15. **Integrated Sample Survey:** This is a Central Sector Scheme. The Department conducts Integrated Sample Surveys with the help of States/UTs to estimates production of Major Livestock Products (MLP) viz. milk, egg, meat and wool.

All the above schemes are successful in meeting their objectives in varying measures in different States.

Statement II

Funds released to various States/UTs and other Implementing Agencies during the last three years and current financial year (till date) under various schemes of Animal Husbandry Sector implemented by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries

(Amount in Rs. Lakh)

Sl.No.	States	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (till date)	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1874.37	2242.52	2838.05	529.00	7483.94
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	400.22	478.40	426.52	106.00	1411.14
3.	Assam	483.80	1060.39	1333.35	1.00	2878.54
4.	Bihar	632.83	481.10	1942.43	5.00	3061.36
5.	Chhattisgarh	870.06	1347.41	450.60	12.00	2680.07
6.	Goa	46.13	105.75	25.27	33.00	210.15
7.	Gujarat	1029.48	1169.65	1512.82	10.00	3721.95
8.	Haryana	633.95	847.94	1528.92	511.00	3521.81
9.	Himachal Pradesh	292.29	712.02	344.94	389.19	1738.44
10.	Jharkhand	268.58	288.77	956.52	2.00	1515.87
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	433.40	761.14	732.81	0.00	1927.35
12.	Karnataka	1236.57	1573.13	1457.86	973.20	5240.76
13.	Kerala	928.82	1187.02	1590.92	137.75	3844.51
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1507.29	1146.94	2090.03	18.00	4762.26
15.	Maharashtra	2258.82	2159.54	2358.36	901.40	7678.12
16.	Manipur	190.54	411.81	372.66	167.00	1142.01
17.	Meghalaya	296.15	421.53	274.18	20.00	1011.86
18.	Mizoram	629.20	618.30	478.38	20.00	1745.88
19.	Nagaland	833.97	771.41	480.31	3.00	2088.69
20.	Orissa	1660.60	1799.54	2234.09	315.00	6009.23
21.	Punjab	1157.07	444.29	1390.17	471.81	3463.34

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
22.	Rajasthan	697.00	852.73	1563.26	455.00	3567.99
23.	Sikkim	331.01	412.92	398.03	33.00	1174.96
24.	Tamil Nadu	1317.02	1773.18	2854.26	939.00	6883.46
25.	Tripura	279.71	509.66	814.57	2.00	1605.94
26.	Uttar Pradesh	884.29	1525.50	2903.70	58.00	5371.49
27.	Uttarakhand	545.80	735.09	491.33	17.00	1789.22
28.	West Bengal	1520.93	3058.21	2164.05	445.00	7188.19
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	92.00	54.40	47.36	14.00	207.76
30.	Chandigarh	19.60	37.06	21.54	5.00	83.20
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	15.40	16.72	9.03	0.50	41.65
32.	Daman and Diu	5.00	17.17	5.11	0.50	27.78
33.	Delhi	89.70	172.12	326.08	1.00	588.90
34.	Lakshadweep	50.00	25.54	16.25	4.00	95.79
35.	Puducherry	28.30	70.68	50.04	8.00	157.02
	Others	133.51	53.22	22.68	0.00	209.41U
	Total	23673.41	29342.80	36506.48	6607.35	96130.04

[English]

Funds for Dairy Development

4284. SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI KAILASH JOSHI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is providing funds to strengthen the infrastructure of dairy sector including dairy co-operatives;

(b) if so, the details of the funds and the agencies through which it is being done;

(c) the number of proposals received from different States including Madhya Pradesh under the Intensive Dairy Development Project during the last three years and the current year alongwith the status of such proposals; and

(d) whether the Government has any scheme for improvement of dairy co-operatives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The Government of India provides financial assitance to strengthen and develop infrastructure in cooperative dairy sector. Presently, the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries is implementing the following Centrally Sponsored & Central Sector Schemes (CSS) for strenthening infrastructure of dairy sector:

1. Intensive Dairy Development Programme (IDDP).
2. Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production (CMP).
3. Assistance to Cooperatives (A-C).

4. Dairy Venture Capital Fund (DVCF).

(b) Under IDDP, 100% grant is given to the district milk unions/state dairy federations.

Under CMP, 100% grant is provided through the respective State Governments to the district milk unions/ state dairy federations for all components except Bulk Milk Coolers for which 75% fund is provided.

Under A-C, central assistance is provided on 50:50% sharing basis with respective State Governments for rehabilitation of sick dairy cooperatives. Central share is routed through the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB).

Under DVCF, central assistance in the from of interest free loan up to 50% of the total project cost is provided to the individual beneficiaries/organizations/ cooperatives under bankable projects for establishment of dairy infrastructure. The scheme is implemented through the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD).

(c) A Statement indicating proposals received under "Intensive Dairy Development Programme" from various states including Madhya Pradesh is enclosed. No proposal has been received from Madhya Pradesh in the last 3 years and the current year.

(d) As in (a) & (b) above.

Statement

Present status of the received proposals during 2006-07 to 2008-09 and the current year 2009-10 under Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Intensive Dairy Development Programme (IDDP)' as on 30-07-2009

Sl.No.	Name of State	Date of receipt	Outlay (Rs. in Lakh)	Districts covered	Present Status
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Tamil Nadu	12.04.06	289.31	Kanyakumari	Project has been approved with an outlay of Rs. 291.77 lakh in the year 2006-07.
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	17.9.07	758.39	East Siang, West Siang, Papumpare	The proposal was revised based on the PSC's observations. Revised proposal has been circulated to appraisal agencies.
3.		17.9.07	600.59	West Kamong and Tawang	Observations of the department has been communicated to the State vide letter dated 01.04.2008.
4.	Karnataka	08.05.08	300.00	Chittradurga	Observations of the department has been communicated vide letter dated 29.08.2008.
5.		28.02.08	289.75	Bagalkot	Observations of the department has been communicated vide letter dated 29.08.2008.
6.		28.02.08	314.02	Koppal	Observations of the department has been communicated vide letter dated 29.08.2008.
7.	Mizoram	22.08.07	304.23	Aizawl	Revised proposal has been circulated to appraisal agencies.
8.		31.08.07	121.89	Lunglei	Observations of the department has been communicated to the implementing agencies to revise the proposals as per guidelines.
9.		25.10.07	116.34	Kolasib	

1	2	3	4	5	6
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	10.02.08	1498.15	Anantnag, Pulwama, Srinagar, Leh & Kargil	Observations of the department has been communicated vide letter dated 30.03.2008.
11.		06.11.08	152.60	Kargil	Observations of the department has been communicated vide letter dated 26.12.2008.
12.		24.09.2008	1297.07	Jammu, Kathua & Doda	State Government has been requested to submit the revised proposal as per quidelines.
13.	Orissa	19.03.09	907.56	Koraput, Malkangiri, Nowarangpur and Rayagada	Observations of the department has been communicated vide letter dated 25.05.2009.
14.		Dec.,2006	866.32	Jagatsinghpur, Kendrapara & Nayagarh	Project has been approved with an outlay of Rs. 702.13 lakh in the year 2008.09.

Corruption Cases Against MCD Officials

4285. SHRI PURNMASI RAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has registered corruption cases against several officials of the Municipal Coporation of Delhi (MCD) for being involved in illegal construction and fake demolition;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the total number of cases registered;

(c) whether the CBI has identified 545 properties across the capital where fake demolitions were conducted;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the number of officials arrested in this regard and action taken against them; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to check such activities in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has registered 25 Regular cases (RCs) and 3 Preliminary Enquiries (PEs) against officials of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi during the last three years *i.e.* 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009 (up to 30.6.2009). The year-wise details are as under:

Year	No. of cases registered
2006	10
2007	11
2008	—
2009	4 (RCs) and 3 (PEs)

(c) and (d) The details of properties identified by the CBI together with their addresses where fake demolitions were conducted are given in the statement enclosed.

(e) One official of the MCD was arrested and has been sent to judicial custody.

(f) The Municipal Corporation of Delhi takes action aganist illegal/unauthorised constructions as per the provisions of the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957. The Corporation has recently revamped its infrastructure for detection and control of illegal/unauthorised

constructions in Delhi. The steps taken in this regard include restructuring and strengthening of Central Control Room, Zonal Control Room, etc.

Statement

Details of the Properties identified

Sl.No.	Property details
1	2
1.	218, Sultanpur Village, Main M.G. Road, Mehrauli, N.D.
2.	33/78, West Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi
3.	3/78. West Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi
4.	7/78. West Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi
5.	18/78. West Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi
6.	20/78. West Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi
7.	35/78. West Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi
8.	36/78. West Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi
9.	37/78. West Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi
10.	39/78. West Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi
11.	40/78. West Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi
12.	41/78. West Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi
13.	42A/78. West Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi
14.	45/78. West Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi
15.	42/78. West Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi
16.	34/78. West Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi
17.	32/78. West Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi
18.	A-5, Kirti Nagar, New Delhi
19.	J-117, Rajouri Garden, New Delhi
20.	15-A/61, WEA, Karol Bagh, New Delhi
21.	15-A/32, WEA, Karol Bagh, New Delhi
22.	15-A/23, WEA, Karol Bagh, New Delhi
23.	5/12, WEA, Karol Bagh, New Delhi
24.	6/28, WEA, Karol Bagh, New Delhi
25.	9834, Ahata Thakur Dass
26.	6/13, WEA, Karol Bagh, New Delhi
27.	WZ-30, Krishna Park, New Delhi
28.	22/23, Tilak Nagar, New Delhi
29.	16/23, Tilak Nagar, New Delhi
30.	WZ/406®, Janakpuri, New Delhi
31.	B-3/84, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi
32.	5/11A, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi
33.	WZ-23, Krishnapuri, Tilak Nagar, New Delhi
34.	D-15, Fateh Nagar, New Delhi
35.	D-16, Fateh Nagar, New Delhi
36.	15/11-A, Tilak Nagar, New Delhi
37.	150-B, Krishna Park, New Delhi
38.	C-16, Vikash Puri, New Delhi
39.	Shop No. 19, Ramesh Nagar, New Delhi
40.	24/13-A, Tilak Nagar, New Delhi
41.	4, Industrial Area, Tilak Nagar, New Delhi
42.	921-922, Kucha Quabil Attar, Chandni Chowk, Delhi
43.	M/s Uppal Orchid Hotel, Samalkha, New Delhi
44.	D-51, Dilshad Colony, Delhi
45.	D-56, Dilshad Colony, Delhi
46.	G-1 48, Lawrance Road Industrial Area, New Delhi
47.	F-81, Dilshad Colony, Delhi
48.	G-105, Dilshad Colony, Delhi
49.	362, West Guru Angad Nagar, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi
50.	446-447, West Guru Angad Nagar, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi
51.	111, Krishna Kunj, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi
52.	FF-7, Mangal Bazar, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi
53.	Flat No. 6174/C-6, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi.

Scheme on Development of Marine Fisheries

4286. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched a scheme for Development of Marine Fisheries;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the salient features and the total outlay proposed for the same;

(c) whether rebate on High Speed Diesel (HSD) including a special rebate for fishermen belonging to the BPL category is admissible under the scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government proposes to provide financial assistance to BPL fishermen for acquisition of fishing vessels; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The Ministry of Agriculture, Government of Indian has launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post Harvest Operations' for the 11th Five Year Plan at a proposed outlay of Rs. 746 crore. The total outlay of the scheme comprises Central share of Rs. 350 crore, State share of Rs. 286 crore and Beneficiaries share of Rs. 110 crore. The scheme consists of the following components.

1. Development of Marine Fisheries

(i) Motorisation of Traditional Craft

(ii) Safety of Fishermen at Sea

(iii) Fishermen Development Rebate on HSD Oil

(iv) Introduction of Intermediate Craft of Improved Design including proto-type study of new intermediate vessel design.

(v) Establishment and operation of Vessel Monitoring System

(vi) Promoting fuel efficient and environment friendly fishing practices

(vii) Management of Marine Fisheries

2. Development of Infrastructure and Post Harvest Operations

(i) Establishment of Fishing Harbours and Fish Lading Centres

(ii) Strengthening of Post Harvest Infrastrcture

(iii) Assistance for maintenance dredging of fishing harbours and fish landing centres.

3. Innovative schemes for development of marine fisheries.

(c) and (d) The scheme provides Central rebate equivalent to 50% of the sales tax relief granted by States/UTs with a ceiling of Rs. 3.00 per litre on the High Speed Diesel used by mechanized fishing vessels of size less than 20 meter overall length. The Central rebate is limited to 500 litres per boat per active fishing month and it is admissible to the vessels registered prior to the 10th Five Year Plan and owned by fisherman of BPL category.

(e) and (f) No, Madam. There is no proposal to provide financial assistance for acquisition of fishing vessels due to existing overcapacity in our territorial waters.

Cooperative Farming

4287. SHRI P. BALRAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce cooperative farming as a new initiative in one or two villages in every district to achieve long term agricultural growth;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds earmarked and allocated for this purpose during the current Five Year Plan alongwith the role of farmers in this regard, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No, Madam.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Price Rise in Bagasse

4288. DR. GIRIJA VYAS: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price of bagasse has resen sharply during the last one year;

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

(c) whether the Government has received any request for controlling the prices of bagasse; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Bagasse is a by product of sugar industry which serves as captiver fuel for generation of steam and power for running of the factories. Some sugar factories sell their surplus bagasse which is generally bought by cogenerations units producing power as well as paper mills/board manufacturers for production of paper/Libre board.

The prices of baggasse during 2007-08 and 2008-09 was Rs. 92-120 and Rs. 150-250 per quintal of bagasse.

In the years of low production of sugarcane and sugar and consequently low overall availability of surplus bagasse, the price is driven by demand. Production of sugarcane and sugar during the sugar season 2008-09 was less than the requirement and therefore surplus availability of bagasse was also less leading to increase in prices.

(c) Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution has not received any such request.

(d) In view of (c) above, Does not arise.

Displacement of Fishing Community

4289. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has prepared any plan to stop the displacement of fishing community living along the Shoreline;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any action plan has been prepared in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No, Sir. The Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India has no report on the displacement of fishing community living along the shore-line.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Agrarian Crisis

4290. SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI:
SHRI M.B. RAJESH:
SHRI P. BALRAM:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether large number of farmers have quite farming due to the agrarian crisis;

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

(c) whether the Government has conducted any study about this phenomenon; and

(d) if so, the details of the outcome of the study?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) The total number of cultivators and agricultural labourers has only been inreasing every decade since 1951. Even the cultivators and agricultural workers as a percentage of total rural populations has varied marginally over decades since 1951. The National Policy for Farmers 2007 recommended several measures to enhance productivity and income of small farms and farmers and to diversify employment opportunities by strengthening production-processing-value addition-marketing-consumer chain. The Policy also recommended several methods by which small and marginal farmers

can gain efficiency and economy like ccoperative farming, group farming by Self-Help Groups, small holders' estates, contract farming etc.

The National Policy for Farmers, 2007 has also laid emphasis on identifying employment opportunities in the non-farm sector to shift work force from agriculture to non-farm sector. The objective of the National Policy for Farmers 2007 is to improve economic viability of farming by substantially increasing the net income of the farmers and to ensure that agriculture progress is measured by advances made in this income. Shifting of occupation from primary to secondary and tertiary sector activities is a natural phenomenon observed over a period of time.

In order to ameliorate the conditions of farmers and to address the problem of agrarian distress, the Government of India has taken a number of initiatives which *inter-alia* includes implementation of the Scheme of debt waiver and debt relief for farmers announced in the Union Budget, 2008-09 to address the problem of indebtendness of farmers. Measures taken by Government for revitalization of agriculture sector include implementation of schmes, namely, National Food Security Mission to improve production and productivity of foodgrains and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana with an objective to incentivise the states so as to increase public investment in agriculture and allied sectors, National Horticulture Mission, Macro Management of Agriculture, Integrated Nutrient and Pest Management and Support to Agriculture Extension Services etc.

[Translation]

Modernisation of Prisons

4291. SHRI MURARI LAL SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received proposals from State Governments regarding modernisation of prisons in their respective States including Chhattisgarh;

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

(c) the time by which all the proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKAN): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) and (c) Considering the demand of various States for granting further financial assistance for construction of new jails/additional barracks so as to address the problem of over crowding, the Ministry of Home Affairs has initiated the process of formulating second phase of the scheme of modernization of prisons. Necessary steps are being taken in this regard in consultation with the Ministry of Finance. The proposal so received from the State Governments will be considered only after the proposal mooted by the Ministry of Home Affairs is approved by the Cabinet. The proposals of State Governments shall be processed depending upon the terms of approval of the scheme as also the funds sanctioned by the Cabinet and provided in the budget.

Death of Prisoners

4292. SHRIMATI USHA VERMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several inmates have died for want of proper medical facility/care in the jails;

(b) the number of such cases registered during each of the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken to provide proper medical care/ facilities to the prisoners?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKAN): (a) to (c) 'Prison' is a State subject under list II to the Seventh schedule of the Constitution. The responsibility of the prison administration, therefore, primarily lies with the State Governments. However, under the scheme of modernization of prisons phase I being implemented in all the States since 2002-03 with a total outlay of Rs. 1800 crore on cost sharing basis of 75:25 between the Central and States, the Government of India has provided funds for the construction of new prisons and repairs and renovation of existing prisons which include construction and repair & renovation of hospitals in the prison. This scheme has ended on 31.3.2009.

Date relating to the death of inmates for want of proper medical facility/care in jails are not maintained centrally.

[English]

GM Crops

4293. SHRI VIRENDER KASHYAP: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been reported that Genetically Modified (GM) crop cultivation requires large quantity of chemical fertilizers; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to meet the increasing demand of chemical fertilizers for GM crops?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No, Sir. The nutrient requirement for cultivation of GM crops may not require large quantity of chemical fertilizers and can be met out through integrated nutrient management envisaging conjuncitve use of both organic and inorganic fertilizers.

(b) Doesn't arise.

New Milk Dairies by NDDB

4294. SHRI MUKESH BHAIRAVDANJI GADHVI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to set up new dairies in the country under the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) during the Eleventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No. Madam.

(b) Question does not arise.

Mandari Disease

4295. SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any study on the impact of 'Mandari' disease affecting Coconut plantations in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to contain the disease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Studies conducted revealed that the 'Mandari' mite infestation resulted in the production of extremely small sized nuts with surface warting and longitudinal fissures, immature nut fall, and draining of sap from young buttons. As a result, drastic decline in production was reported from the affected States. While a survey conducted during 2000 estimated a yield loss of about 21.8 per cent of the total production, the survey conducted in 2004 revealed that the economic loss due to Eriophyid Mite had decreased to 9.5%.

(c) A National Steering Committee was constiuted by Government in 1999 for regular monitoring of the status of the pest infestation and for pooling the research findings of State Agriculture Universities (SAUs) and Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). The Committee recommended a strategy involving adoption of Integrated Pest Management (IPM), Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) and Integrated Water Management (IWM) in combination with eco-friendly pesticides.

Adoption of full package has helped in managing the mite to a great extent. As a result, the intensity of infestation has reduced significantly.

[Translation]

Correspondents and News Readers in Doordarshan

4296. SHRI YASHBANT LAGURI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of correspondents and news readers employed by Doordarshan in the country including in the Bhubneshwar and Ranchi Doordarshan Stations, State-wise;

(b) the number of correspondents and news readers belonging to the Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) community, State-wise;

(c) whether the provisions relating to reservation are not being followed in the rank of correspondents and news readers by the Doordarshan; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the correction action being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) to (c) 16 correspondents 4 newsreaders are employed by Doordarshan in the country including Bhubneshwar and Ranchi Doordarshan stations. Out of 16 correspondents 3 belong to Scheduled Caste community. Station-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement. Reservation policy is being followed in regular appointments in Doordarshan.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

Sl.No.	Kendra	Number of Correspondent	Category	**Number of News Readers	Category
1.	Ahmedabad (Gujarat)	Nil	-	-	-
2.	Agartala (Tripura)		-	-	-
3.	Aizawl (Mizoram)	Nil	-	-	-
4.	Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh)	Nil	-	-	
5.	Bhubaneswar (Orissa)	Nil	-	-	
6.	Bangalore (Karnataka)	1 (regular)	Gen.	-	
7.	Chennai (Tamil Nadu)	1 (regular)	Gen.	-	-
8.	Guwahati (Assam)	Nil	Gen.		
9.	Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh)	3 (regular)	One SC	1 (regular)	Gen.
10.	Hisar (Haryana)	Nil	-	-	-
11.	Imphal (Manipur)	Nil	-	-	-
12.	Jaipur (Rajasthan)	Nil	-		-
13.	Jalandhar (Punjab)	1	SC	1 (regular)	Gen.
14.	Jammu (Jammu and Kashmir)	Nil	-	1 (regular)	Gen.
15.	Kolkata (West Bengal)	3 (regular)	-	-	-
16.	Kohima (Nagaland)	Nil	-	-	-
17.	Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh)	1 (regular)	SC	Nil	-
18.	Mumbai (Maharashtra)	Nil	-	-	-
19.	Patna (Bihar)	Nil	-	-	-
20.	Ranchi (Jharkhand)	Nil	-	-	-
21.	Raipur (Chhattisgarh)	Nil	-	-	-
22.	Shimla (Himachal Pradesh)	Nil	-	-	-
23.	Srinagar (Jammu and Kashmir)	Nil	-	-	-
24.	Thirvananthapuram (Kerala)	-	-	-	-
25.	DD News Headquarters	6	Gen.	1	Gen.
	Total	16	-	4	-

Note: All the Regional News Units are also booking Newsreaders on Casual Contract basis for not more than 10 days in a month.

[English]

Rice Mills

4297. SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rice mill industry is facing problems of fragmentation and lack of adequate credit and capital;

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

(c) whether any funds have been earmarked for the purpose during the current fiscal year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) to (d) The Rice milling industry has reported the need for adequate credit at cheaper rate of interest to upgrade the existing rice mills. The Government is implementing a scheme for technology upgradation of micro and small enterprises, namely, the Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme for 48 approved sub-sectors including Rice Milling. Under this scheme, 15% capital subsidy is provided for loans up to Rs. 1 crore. A budgetary provision of Rs. 119.80 crore has been made under the scheme for 2009-10. The Government is also operating a scheme, namely, Credit Guarantee Fund Scheme for Micro and Small Enterprises. Under the scheme, guarantee cover is provided to collateral free credit facility extended by member lending institutions to the new as well as existing micro and small enterprises (including rice milling) on loans up to Rs. 100 lakh. The budgetary provision made under the scheme for 2009-10 is Rs. 122 crore. In addition, the Government is operating a scheme for Technology Upgradation/Setting up and Modernization of food processing industries. Under this scheme grant in aid is provided to grain milling sector including rice milling and other food products. A budgetary provision of Rs. 2.47 crore has been earmarked for Rice Milling under the scheme for 2009-10. Further, twenty five rice milling clusters have been taken up under the Micro and Small Enterprises Cluster Development Programme for conducting diagnositc studies, soft interventions and hard interventions. The budgetary provision made under the scheme (including for rice milling clusters) for 2009-10 is Rs. 26 crore.

[Translation]

Parking Facilities in Delhi

4298. SHRI HUKMADEO NARAYAN YADAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the acute parking problem in the city;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to improve and increase parking facility in the NCT of Delhi;

(c) whether incidents involving Police Personnel and anti-social elements in alleged extortion in the name of "No Parking" has been reported; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Though the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) and the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) provide parking lots for parking of vehicles, there has been rapid growth in the number of automobiles in Delhi, leading, inter alia, to parking problem. To obviate this problem the MCD and the NDMC has taken steps for construction of more multi-level and conventional parking lots.

(c) and (d) Since the year 2006, four police personnel have been found involved in alleged extortion in the name of 'no parking'. Departmental action has been taken against all of them. Out of these four personnel, case has also been registered against one police personnel under the relevant sections of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988. In addition, in the year 2007, one person was found involved in running of unauthorised parking and case was registered against him under various provisions of the Indian Penal Code.

Construction of Roads in Forest Areas

4299. SHRI SANJAY SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain stringent provisions of the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 regulating construction work in Forest areas have been relaxed for facilitating construction of National Highways in Forest Areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the length of roads construction undertaken in Forest areas of the country, State-wise and NH-wise;

(c) whether the construction work on the roads is pending;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken for expeditious completion of construction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Madam.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. The details of the proposals under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) pending clearance for Environment and Forests are given in the enclosed Statement.

(e) National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) is coordinating with Ministry of Environment & Forests, Regional Offices and State Governments at various levels to expedite clearances.

Statement

The list of proposals pending in the Ministry of Environment and Forests/Hon'ble Supreme Court/State Government for clearance

Sl.No.	Proposal
1	2
1.	Jhansi-Lalitpur section of NH-26 in the State of Uttar Pradesh
2.	Chhattisgarh/Maharashtra Boarder Wainganga Bridge section of NH-6 (km. 450 to km. 485) in the State of Maharashtra
3.	Dhule-MP Border in Dhule Distt. of NH-3 in the State of Maharashtra
4.	Construction of 4/6 lane in South Seoni Forest Division of NH-7 in the State of Madhya Pradesh
5.	Construction of 4/6 lane in MP/MH Border-Nagpur Section of NH-7 under Nagpur Forest Division
6.	Kachugaon and Haltugaon Forest Division in Kokrajhar Distt. of NH-31C in the State of Assam
7.	4-laning of NH-54 in Langthing Mupa Reserved Forest and Manderdisa-Hatikhali Reserve Forest in North Cachar Hills Division, Haflong in the State of Assam
8.	NH-54 from Lankajan to Jothang Basti and Odali to Lumding in Nagaon South Forest Div., Hojai in Distt. Nagaon in the State of Assam
9.	Construction of 4/6 lane in North Seoni Forest Division of NH-7 in the State of Madhya Pradesh
10.	Widening and strengthening of the existing NH-24 km. 86.00 to km. 93.00 (Hapur-Garhmukteshwar) to 4-lane standard in U.P. (Pkg. 1)
11.	Diversion of 6.925 ha forest land in Hapur-Muradabad Section of NH-24 between Km. 93 to Km. 104.700 for construction of 4-lane, U.P. Pkg-II
12.	4/6 laning of NH-7 from Km. 626 to Km. 635.600 on the periphery of Mowgali Pench Tiger Reserve, Madhya Pradesh

Cracks on the Ground

4300. SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware about the cracks that have been appearing on the ground in various parts of North India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Geologists and the Geological Survey of India (GSI) has conducted any study in this regard;

(d) if so, whether they have submitted their report to the Government;

(e) if so, the details of the report;

(f) whether any special advisory has been issued for such areas by the Geologists/GSI; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The Geological Survey of India (GSI) has received reports about cracks that have been appearing on the ground

in various parts of North India. Ground fissures were reported from parts of the Gangetic plain in Chhibramau, Nawabganj, Kamlaganj and Kannauj of Farrukhabad district, Uttar Pradesh during June-July 1995. Ground cracks were also reported from Baripal village of Kanpur Dehat, Malkhanpur village of Allahabad and Anegpur and Sonepur villages of Sant Ravidas Nagar (Bhadohi) during June-July 2006. Ground cracks were reported during June-July, 2008 in parts of Uttar Pradesh in Hamirpur, Banda, Jalaun, Allahabad, Etawah and Raebareli and in Lucknow.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. In 2008, a team from GSI visited Hamirpur, Mahoba, Etawah and Jalaun districts and have gathered information about ground cracks and fissures at Kupra, Puraini, Parcha, Riwan, Khandeh, Sikrodhi, Surajpur and Chaura Devi Temple villages in Hamirpur District; Khanna village in Mahoba District; Garhi Mangat, Sindaus, Hanumantpura and Basaiyahar Villages in Etawah district and Rampura and Kalpi villages in District Jalaun. GSI has submitted interim reports on studies carried out in parts of Hamirpur, Banda, Allahabad, Etawah, Raibaireli and Lucknow disticts of Uttar Pradesh. The information along with relevant photographs is available on GSI's Portal (www.portal.gsi.gov.in).

(e) to (g) Yes, Madam. The ground fissures vary from a few meters to a kilometer in length, 0.30 m to 2.0 m in depth and 0.15 m to 1.5 m in width. The cracks have widened because of subsequent collapse of the edges of the walls leading to increase in their aperture. The cracks are generally curvilinear and discontinuous in nature and have reticulate pattern at places. They are developed in the topsoil comprising silty clay and clay. A few thin kanker horizons are also present in major clay horizons, particularly in ravinous areas. The areas where the cracks are developed are generally flat ground except in a few loactions where the raea is slightly undulating like Kupra in Hamirpur district, Garhi Mangat, Sindaus and Hanumantpura in Etawah district and Rampura in Jalaun District. All cracks are either in the vicinity of some steram or some water body like ponds. The areas had been experiencing deficient rainfall for the last 4 to 5 years and three had been excessive withdrawal of ground water through tube wells and motor operated wells for domestic and irrigation purposes. All the cracks were developed and noticed after the first heavy rains in the area of the season. The probable mechanism for the development of the ground fissures may be attributed to excessive drying of the soil mass due to drought conditions for the last 4 to 5 years in the area, excessive withdrawal of ground water, sudden over saturation of soil mass due to heavy precipitation in a short duration and loss of subsurface fines through piping.

Drought conditions for the last 4 to 5 years and extensive withdrawal of ground water in Bundelkhand and adjoining regions of Uttar Pradesh has resulted in excessive drying of soil which led to tensile failure brought about by shrinkage. The tension failure occurred near the surface and gave rise to more or less vertical cracking. The ingress of water during heavy precipitation increased the pore pressure in the clay, which in turn resulted in overall reduction of strength of clay and attributed to the development of ground fissures. No neotectonic activity has been noted in the area.

As a mitigation measure, it has been suggested that recharge of the groundwater should be taken up on priority basis by formulating a comprehensive plan for ground water harvesting and water management in the region. Special advisories have also been issued for such areas by GSI to the district authorities with the suggestion to keep a check/strict vigil and monitor the cracks and inform the GSI and other authorities immediately.

[English]

Appointment of Chairman of NHRC

4301. SHRI A. SAMPATH:
SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN:
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:
SHRI BHASKARRAO BAPURAO PATIL KHATGAONKAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the appointment of the Chairman of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has been delayed on account of prcedural/legal infirmities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the corrective action taken thereon?

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

(b) and (c) Justice S. Rajendra Babu demitted the office of the Chairperson, National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on 31st May, 2009. The President, under Section 7 (1) of the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993, has authorized Justice G.P. Mathur, Member in NHRC, to act as Chairperson, NHRC, with effect from 1st June, 2009, until the appointment of a new Chairperson.

[Translation]

Encroachment Alongside National Highways

4302. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the flow of traffic on the National Highways is affected due to encroachment and increasing commercial construction alongside the National Highways;

(b) if so, the details of such encroachment, NH-wise;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to deal with encorachment of NH land; and

(d) the success achieved in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (d) Yes, Madam. Encroachment and increasing commercial construction alongside National Highways (NH) affects the flow of traffic on NH. Efforts are made to remove the encroachment within the NH right of way (ROW) wherever get noticed. The Government has enacted the Control of National Highways (Land & Traffic) Act, 2002 for prevention and removal of encroachments within the NH (ROW). The Act has come into force with effect from 27.1.2005. Prevention and removal of encroachment is a continuous process.

Training Infrastructure for Football Players

4303. SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the absence of modern training facilities the National Indian Football team had to go abroad for training;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government for development of training infrastructure in the country for football?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PATIL): (a) to (c) No, Madam. However, National teams are often sent abroad for training and competition to get acclimatized to different playing conditions.

[English]

Cartagena Protocol

4304. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country is a signatory to the Cartagena Protocol;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any policy framework with to matters pertaining to crops have been issued as an obligation to the said protocol;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any commitiments have been made/the country enjoys any right under the said protocol on matters pertaining to Centre of Origin and Diversity clause of the protocol, including for Genetically Modified corps/food; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (f) The Cartagena Protocol of Biosafety (CPB) was negotiated and adopted under the aegis of Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) on 29th January, 2000. The objective of the Protocol is to ensure adequate level of protection in the field of the safe transfer and handling of Living Modified Organisms (LMOs) resulting from modern biotechnology that may have adverse effect on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, taking into account the risks to human health. It specifically focuses on trans-boundary movement, transit, handling and use of all LMOs. The Protocol has come into force on 11th September, 2003.

Government of India (GOI) ratified the Protocol on 17th January, 2003. Presently, 156 countries to the Protocol. The Ministry of Environment and Forests is the nodal Ministry for implementing the obligations under the CPB.

As a Party to the CPB, the GOI is committed to fully implement the obligations under CPB related to trans-boundary movements of LMOs. The GOI needs to ensure that biotechnology Research & Development is guided by a process of prudent decision making that safeguards both biodiversity and human health with adherence to the highest ethical standards.

Funds for Road Development

4305. DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to invest more funds for road development and to appoint a single regulartory body to overcome the constraints faced by this sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount sanctioned and the time by which the said body is likely to be set up;

(c) whether the Government proposes to launch schemes to make tribal areas in various States including Jharkhand accessible to National Highways by laying roads; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the financial assistance provided to the States, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) The budgetary allocations for the Central Sector Roads has been increased from Rs. 13, 770 crore in year 2008-09 to Rs. 15,198 crore during the current year 2009-10. The Government is examining the feasibility for setting up of an Independent Regulator for Highways Sector. No time frame has been fixed for setting up the Independent Regulator.

(c) and (d) This Ministry is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways (NHs). The development and maintenance of the State Roads including State Highways is the responsibility of the State Governments concerned. The development and maintenance of the National Highways are not taken up on the basis of demographic or regional pattern of the country.

Nexus Between ULFA and External Forces

4306. SHRI UDAY SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA) Insurgents are getting arms from China and using the same in the North Eastern States; and

(b) if so, the strategies the Government proposes to adopt to cursh the evil designs of ULFA insurgents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA) possesses a large number of sophisticated weapons including AK series Rifles. These arms and explosives are mostly obtained by the outfit from foreign countries and brought into India through Bangladesh.

(b) The Government has taken various steps to check the activities of ULFA, which include intensified Counter Insurgency operations, deployment of Para-military Force and Army in the State, coordinated action by Army, Para Military Focrces and State Police for counter Insurgency operations, delcaration of ULFA as unlawful association under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act 1967, declaration of Assam as "distrubed area" under the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958, reimbursement of security related expenditure to the State Government and modernization/up-gradation of State Police Force. Steps have also been taken to strengthen the guarding at Indo-Bangladesh border. Besides, the Government has also taken up security related matters with the Government of Bangladesh at various levels.

Monitoring of Intelligence Bureau

4307. SHRI MANISH TEWARI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to constitute a Committee on the lines of the Intelligence Select Committee of the U.S. Congress to monitor the functioning of the Intelligence Bureau;

(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 HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) No, Madam.

(b) and (c) Not applicable.

Vision 2020 Document

4308. SHRI BALKRISHNA KHANDERAO SHUKLA: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Vision 2020 document for the development of the North-Eastern Region has been finalized by the Government;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) whether any strategy has been finalized for implementing the said Vision;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the details of the plan outlay proposed in this regard, State-wise, and

(f) the time by which the Vision 2020 document is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) Yes, Sir. The North Eastern Region Vision 2020 document has been finalized. The document was adopted by the North-Eastern Council in its 56th meeting held at Agartala, on 12-13 May 2008. The document was also formally released by the Honourable Prime Minister on 2nd July 2008.

(b) The Vision document sets up the goals, identifies the challenges and suggests regional and sectoral implementation strategies for promoting the socio-economic prosperity of the region. The following objectives are proposed to be achieved.

1. Improve the standard of living of the people of North-East.
2. Structural transformation by effecting significant changes in development strategies to achieve growth rates of GSDP equal to National Averages.
3. Poverty eradication based on participatory planning.
4. Maximizing self-governance by building capacity in people and traditional/local institutions.
5. Harnessing available local resources for development.
6. Substantial strengthening of infrastructure.
7. Expand trade and commerce in the region.
8. Effective governance for establishing peace and harmony in the region.

The document suggests a six-fold strategy for the comprehensive developments of the region.

- Empowering people by maximizing self-governance and participatory development through grass-roots planning to promote inclusive development.
- Creation of development opportunities for the rural areas through enhancing productivity in agriculture and allied activities such as animal husbandry, horticulture, floriculture, fisheries and generation of livelihood options through rural non-farm employment.
- To develop sectors in the region which have a comparative advantage such as agro processing, hydro power generation.
- Enhancing the skills and competencies of the people and building the capactities for institutions within the Government and outside.
- Creating a hospitable investment climate to encourage investment by private sector particularly for infrastructure.
- Harnessing the resources of the Government and the private sector to realize the objectives of the Vision.

It has been estimated in the Vision document that additional investment of Rs. 13,29,891 crores would be required to achieve the objectivies enshrined in the Vision document and to bring the North Eastern Region at par with the rest of the country.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Development of North-Eastern Region has constituted 17 Thematic Working Groups which are headed by officials of the line Ministries and also includes representatives of State Governments of the North-Eastern States, various other organisations and eminent experts.

The Thematic Working Groups has been contituted on various sectors which include Panchayati Raj & Local Self Government, Poverty Eradication, Human Resource Development, Industry, Connectivity (major roads), Connectivity (inland waterways), Connectivity (air), Connectivity (railways), Connectivity (rural roads), Tourism, IT enabled services and Cyber Connectivity, Power, Health, Rural Sector, Financial Services Sports, Art & Culture and Look East Policy. These Thematic Working Groups have prepared sectoral Plans of Action based on the objectives in the Vision Document. These plans of action wre presented before public representative and media of the North East in Shillong in 2008. The action plans of these Thematic Groups will be finalized in consultation with the concerned Ministries and 'in principle' approval of the Planning Commission will be taken for funding the same.

(e) No such State-wise Plan outlay is proposed in this regard. After the Action Plans are finalized by the Thematic Groups, these will be implemented by different Ministeries in the North Eastern region from the gross budgetary allocation made to them bey the Planning Commission.

(f) The Vision 2020 document projects a time frame for implementation over the period of Eleventh Five Year Plan upto first three years of 13th Five Year Plan, *i.e.* upto 2020.

Integrated Check Posts

4309. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:
SHRI BHASKARRAO BAPURAO PATIL KHATGAONKAR:
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of sites identified for setting up of Integrated Check Posts (ICPs) alongwith the criteria fixed therefor;

(b) whether the Detailed Engineering Reports of all ICPs have been prepared; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The following 13 sites have been identified for the setting up of Integrated Check Posts (ICPs), in two Phases:

Phase-I

S.No.	Location	State	Border
1	2	3	4
1.	Raxaul	Bihar	India-Nepal
2.	Attari/Wagah	Punjab	India-Pakistan
3.	Petrapole	West Bengal	India-Bangladesh
4.	Moreh	Manipur	India-Myanmar
5.	Dawki	Meghalaya	India-Bangladesh
6.	Akhaura/Agartala	Tripura	India-Bangladesh
7.	Jogbani	Bihar	India-Nepal

1	2	3	4
Phase-II			
8.	Hili	West Bengal	India-Bangladesh
9.	Chandrabangha	West Bengal	India-Bangladesh
10.	Sutarkhandi	Assam	India-Bangladesh
11.	Kawarpuchiah	Mizoram	India-Bangladesh
12.	Sunauli	Uttar Pradesh	India-Nepal
13.	Rupaidiha	Uttar Pradesh	India-Neapl

The criteria/aspects considered for identifying the above 13 locations are viz. (i) volume of goods/trade, (ii) volume of passenger traffic, (iii) strategic importance, (iv) relationship with neighbouring SAARC countries, (v) potential for growth of movement of goods and traffic, (vi) feasibility study report of M/s RITES, (vii) study based on the visit of expert teams to various sites, etc.

(b) and (c) Detailed Engineering Reports (DES) of Raxaul and Attari ICPs have been prepared by M/s RITES and Notice Inviting Tenders (NIT) for both the ICPs have since been issued. In respect of the remaining 11 ICPs, Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) have already been prepared at this stage and site selection/land acquisition is underway/being finalized, wherever required. The process of preparation of Detailed Engineering Reports for other Phase-I ICPs viz. Petrapole, Moreh, Dawki, Akhaura/Agartala and Jogbani are underway.

Dialogue with Kashmiri Group

4310. DR. MIRZA MEHBOOB BEG: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that political turmoil in Kashmir is adversely affecting the developmental activities and also the economic progress in the State;

(b) whether Government intends to restart the dialogue process with Allenated Section of Kashmiri Society in a meaningful, consistent and time-bound manner; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) Yes, During

times of agitation and protests, developmental activities including tourist activity and normal commercial activities receives a set back. However, Government is committed in its resolve to usher in progress and bring peace and development to the state.

(b) and (c) A process of internal dialogue and consultation had been initiated in 2005 in the form of a Round Table Conference on Jammu and Kashmir, comprising representatives of various shades of people, opinion and regions in the State, to identify measures required to further strengthen and consolidate the process of peace and normalcy in the State. The Government is committed to carry forward dlalogue with all groups and those who eschew the path of violence.

Import of Raw Sugar

4311. SHRI K. SUDHAKARAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has allowed import of raw sugar and white sugar at zero duty so as to cope with the domestic demands during 2009-10;

(b) if so, whether this move is likely to lead to higher sugar prices in domestic market; and

(c) if so, the action proposed to be taken to contain rise in price of sugar in the domestic market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS , FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Madam. In order to agument domestic availability of sugar, the Central Government had permitted duty free import of white/refined sugar upto 1 million ton under OGL by the designated agencies viz., STC, MMTC, PEC and NAFED upto 01.08.2009. This has now been extended upto 30.11.2009. Furthermore, the duty free import of white/refined sugar under OGL has been opened to other Central/State Government agencies and to private trade in addition to existing designated agencies.

The Government had permitted sugar factories to import raw sugar under Advance Authorization Scheme upto 30.09.2009 and under Open General License (OGL) upto 01.08.2009 and sell the processed raw sugar within India so as to cope up with the domestic demand in the current sugar season and during 2009-10 sugar season. The Government has now decided to extend the terminal date for import of duty free raw sugar OGL by sugar factories from 01.08.2009 to 31.03.2010. Further, import of raw sugar has also been opened up to private trade upto 31.03.2010 for being processed by domestic factories on job basis.

(b) and (c) The domestic price of a commodity including sugar in the open market depends upon a number of factors viz. supply, demand, international prices and market sentiments etc. As such, it is not possible to indicate the impact of import of sugar on prevailing price situation in domestic market. However, the Government apart from permitting import of white/refined sugar has also imposed stockholding and turnover limits on sugar traders to moderate sugar prices. Further, futures trading in sugar has been suspended upto 31.12.2009.

[Translation]

Dausa-Kaidhun National Highway

4312. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Dausa-Kaidhun road in Rajasthan has been converted into a National Highway;

(b) if so, the funds utilised thereon alongwith the date thereof;

(c) whether the said Highway is in a dilapidated condition;

(d) if so, the details of the funds allocated for its renovation/construction alongwith the time by which it is likely to be released;

(e) whether requests have been received for allocation of funds for widening and upgradation of Lalsot Valley on the said road; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Funds utilised are Rs. 32.89 crore upto June, 2009.

(c) to (f) The said highway is being maintained in traffic worthy condition. A provision of Rs. 19.00 crore has been made in the Annual Plan 2009-10 for improvement and development of NH-11A Extension, which includes Lalsot also. The estimates have been received from the State Government and will be sanctioned during the year 2009-10 subject to availability of funds and the proposals meeting the norms.

Ration Cards for BPL Families

4313. SHRI KAPIL MUNI KARWARIA:
SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA:
DR. K.S. RAO:

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

(a) whether the Government is aware that most of the Below Poverty Line (BPL) families have not been provided with BPL/Antyodaya Cards;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to conduct survey of such families afresh and provide them the said cards;

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

(d) whether new technology *i.e.* computerisation of TPDS operating at various levels smart-card-based delivery of essential commodities to BPL families, etc. has been introduced in all the States;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Planning Commission is the nodal agency of Government of India for estimating poverty at national and state levels. For allocations for foodgrains to States and UTs 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 population estimates of the Registrar General of India as on 1st March, 2000. This number of BPL families is 6.52 crore, which include 2.43 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families.

As provided under Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2001, the State/UT Governments have to identify BPL families as per the estimates accepted by Central Government. However, as reported by end of June, 2009, the State and UT Governments have issued 10.86 crore BPL ration cards, which include 2.43 crore AAY cards.

(b) and (c) For formulating guidelines for next BPL census in rural areas, Ministry of Rural Development has constituted an Expert Group in August 2008. The new methodology is yet to be finalized by that Ministry. However, for issuing ration cards, the State Governments have to formulate guidelines as stipulated under the PDS (Control) Order, 2001. They have also been directed to continuously review lists of BPL and AAY families to eliminate ineligible ration cards and units in them.

(d) to (f) In order to introduce smart card based delivery of essential commodities under TPDS, Government has approved in December, 2008 implementation of a pilot scheme in Chandigarh and Haryana. Based on results of this pilot scheme, decision will be taken for extending it in other States.

A Central pilot project on TPDS computerization is being taken up in four States. In addition as per available information, 9 State/UT Governments namely Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Chandigarh and Puducherry have initiated computerization of TPDS operations from their own resources.

Dilapidated Condition of Highways

4314. SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL:
SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY:

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

(a) the number of complaints received by the National Highways Authority of India in regard to poor condition of the National Highways under the National Highway Development Programme, State-wise;

(b) the steps taken by NHAI for redressal of these complaints; and

(c) the time by which the renovation of the Natioinal Highways in Gujarat is likely to be started by NHAI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) Complaints have been received regarding condition of various roads under National Highway Development Project (NHDP), from time to time. A number of complaints regarding bad condition of roads were due to damage of existing roads under construction during heavy rains and poor maintenance by some contractors. Concerted efforts are being made by NHAI to address this situation by carrying out urgent repair work, re-surfacing, termination of contract of non-performing contractors and re-awarding the work etc. Provisions have been made in the operation & maintenance contracts to ensure that road is kept traffic worthy and serviceable. Flood damage repair is also undertaken as and when required.

(c) Repair and maintenance is an ongoing process and roads under NHDP in Gujarat are being maintained in traffic worthy condition. Resurfacing is done once in five years based on inter-se-priority and availability of funds.

Review of IPC

4315. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the suggestions have been received from various quarters including New Commission for reviewing the Indian Penal Code so as to provide safety and security to women;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) Suggestions continue to be received from various quarters and Law Commission also makes recommendation for amending laws including Indian Penal Code, 1860 to provide a better environment for women as regards their safety and security. Apart from suggesting changes in the provisions of IPC, Cr. P.C. and Indian Evidence Act relating to rape, the Law Commission has also suggested changes in Sections 509 and 354 of IPC for making stringent punishment for attack on modesty of women.

Since Criminal Law including IPC happens to be on the Concurrent List of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India, the recommendations are examined in consultation with the State Governments and other concerned before taking a decision to amend the Law. No time frame can, therefore, be fixed in this regard.

[English]

Width of National Highways

4316. SHRI K.P. DHANAPALAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government/NHAI has adopted a uniform criteria for fixing the width of the National Highways in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal from the States including Kerala having high density of population and habitations for exemption from such criteria;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the status of the completion of work on NH-17;

(f) whether the Government of Kerala has requested the Union Government/NHAI to proceed with the existing width of land acquired for the purpose; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (g) The National Highways passing through rural and urban areas are constructed with prescribed width as indicated in IRC:73-1980. As per

the Ministry's the densely populated areas are not exempted from these prescribed guidelines. For 4-laning under National Highways Development Project, minimum 60m Right of Way is proposed by this Ministry; Kerala was subsequently exempted from 60m ROW and minimum 45m Right of Way is accepted (depending on site condition and project requirements), on the request of the State Government. 18 works on NH-17 in Kerala are in progress. However, the four laning of NH 17 in Kerala is to be done under National Highway Development Project (NHDP), of which two packages of 169 km in Kannur-Kuttipuram reach are awarded, and the entire NHDP work on NH-17 in Kerala is expected to be completed by 2013.

[Translation]

Damage to Crops by Blue Bulls

4317. DR. NIRMAL KHATRI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether blue bulls are causing substantial damage to the crops of farmers; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The crop raiding activity by blue bulls poses a significant threat to agriculture and horticulture.

Following steps can prevent crop damage from blue bulls:-

(i) Protection of natural habitats while planning developmental activities like agriculture, horticulture, construction of roads and dams within or on the periphery of the forest lands or protected areas.

(ii) Fencing with local thorny material.

(iii) Constant vigilance during the crop season employing sticks, noise, shouting etc.

(iv) Use of trained dogs to deter the blue bulls.

(v) Biological control through sterlization of male blue bull.

(vi) Translocation.

Under the National Food Security Mission, provision has been made for tackling the menace of blue bulls.

Soil Erosion

4318. SHRI GORAKHNATH PANDEY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made any assessment with regard to extent of soil erosion caused by floods in the country;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check soil erosion;

(d) whether the Government has assessed the loss caused therefrom; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (e) As per the study conducted (2005) by National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning (NBSS&LUP)—Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)—Regional Centre, Nagpur, out of country's total geographical area of 328.60 million ha., about 146.82 million ha. area is suffering from various kinds of soil erosion and land degradation as per break up given below:-

Sl.No.	Land Degradation	Extent of area in million hs.
1.	Water erosion	93.68
2.	Wind erosion	9.48
3.	Water logging	14.30
4.	Salinity/alkalinity	5.95
5.	Soil acidity	16.03
6.	Complex problem	7.38
	Total	146.82

The State-wise and category-wise extent of degraded land including soil erosion caused by floods water and its percentage with respect to State's geographical area given in the enclosed Statement.

Out of the total degraded area of 146.82 million ha., soil erosion due to water is 93.68 million ha., which is about 63% of the total degraded area. With a view to preevnt soil erosion and land degradation, the Government of India in the Ministry of Agriculture is implementing various Watershed Development Programmes, namely, the National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPRA), Soil Conservation for Enhancing the Productivity of Degraded Lands in the Catchments of River Valley Project and Flood Prone River (RVP & FPR), Reclamation and Development of Akali & Acid Soils (RADAS), and Watershed Development Project in Shifting Contulvation Areas (WDPSCA) in the country.

As per studies conducted by ICAR at different Regional Centres, the average rate of soil erosion is 16.4 tonnes per hectare per year, which is more than the permissible limit of 10.00 tonnes per hectare are annum. Out of total eroded soil, 61% simply moves from one place to another, nearly 29% is lost permanently to the sea and remaining 10% is deposited in the reservoirs. The soil formation and erosion is natural process occurring simultaneously to maintain the equilibrium in eco-system. The soil erosion leads to land degradation in upper reaches of the river system, whereas when deposited as alluvium by the river system in the downstream, it may increase the soil fertility.

Statement

State-wise extent of various kinds of Land Degradation in India

(As per NBSS&LUP-ICAR-2005 on the Scale of 1:250,000)

(Area in thousand hectares)

Sl.No.	Name of the States	Water Erosion	Wind Erosion	Water Logging	Salinity/ Alkalinity	Soil Acidity	Complex Problem	Degraded Area	Geographical Area	Degraded Area (%)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11518	0	1896	517	905	156	14992	27505	54.5
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2372	0	176	0	1955	0	4503	8374	53.8
3.	Assam	688	0	37	0	612	876	2213	7844	28.2
4.	Bihar+Jharkhand	3024	0	2001	229	1029	0	6283	17387	36.1
5.	Goa	60	0	76	0	2	24	162	370	43.9
6.	Gujarat	5207	443	523	296	0	1666	8133	19602	41.5
7.	Haryana	315	536	146	256	0	214	1467	4421	33.2
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2718	0	1303	0	157	0	4178	5567	75.0
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	5460	1360	200	0	0	0	7020	22224	31.6
10.	Karnataka	5810	0	941	110	58	712	7631	19179	39.8
11.	Kerala	76	0	2098	0	138	296	2608	3886	67.1
12.	Madhya Pradesh+ Chhattisgarh	17883	0	359	46	6796	1126	26210	44345	59.1
13.	Maharashtra	11179	0	0	1056	517	303	13055	30771	42.4
14.	Manipur	133	0	111	0	481	227	952	2233	42.6

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
15.	Mizoram	137	0	0	0	1050	694	1881	2108	89.2
16.	Meghalaya	137	0	7	0	1030	34	1208	2243	53.9
17.	Nagaland	390	0	0	0	127	478	995	1658	60.0
18.	Orissa	5028	0	681	75	263	75	6122	15571	39.3
19.	Punjab	372	282	338	28	0	0	1280	5036	25.4
20.	Rajasthan	3137	6650	53	1418	0	110	11368	34224	33.2
21.	Sikkim	158	0	0	0	76	0	234	710	33.0
22.	Tamil Nadu	4926	0	96	96	78	138	5334	13006	41.0
23.	Tripura	121	0	191	0	203	113	628	1049	59.9
24.	Uttar Pradesh+ Uttarakhand	11392	212	2350	1370	0	0	15324	29441	52.0
25.	West Bengal	1197	0	710	170	556	119	2752	8875	31.0
26.	Delhi	55	0	6	10	0	11	82	148	55.4
27.	Union Territories	187	0	0	9	0	9	205	825	24.8
	Grand Total	93680	9483	14299	5946	16033	7381	146820	328602	
	Grans Total (Million ha)	93.68	9.48	14.30	5.95	16.03	7.38	146.82	328.60	

Source: National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning (NBSS&LUP)-Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Regional Centre, Nagpur, Maharashtra.

[English]

Withdrawal of CISF Cover from Power Companies

4319. SHRIMATI BOTCHA JHANSI LAKSHMI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) cover has been withdrawn from power distribution companies; and

(b) if so, the reasons and details of the power companies in Delhi from which the said cover has been withdrawn?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) CISF is primarily a Force to guard senstitive/ vulnerable installations and is not assigned for protection of individuals/parties of persons. Such tasks are normally taken up by the State Police/Security agencies. Further, considering the increasing commitment of CISF for deployment at sensitive installations and Government undertakings located in vulnerable areas, it has no been found feasible to continue the deployment of CISF for the private distribution companies (BSES Rajdhani Power Limited, BSES Yamuna Power Limited and North Delhi Power Limited) in Delhi.

Lack of Modern Infrastructure for Sports

4320. SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY:
SHRI PRATAPRAO GANPATRAO JADHAO:
SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:

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

(a) whether the Indian sports persons are unable to achieve success in international events due to lack of modern sports infrastructure in the country;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government to provide infrastructure facilities of international standard; and

(d) the funds likely to be spent thereon, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PATIL): (a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government provides financial assistance to Sports Authority of India (SAI) to set up State-of-the-art sports training facilities for the training of national athletes and also for training promising sportspersons. Such infrastructure facilities include laying of International Standard Synthetic Hockey surfaces, international synthetic athletics tracks, construction of sports hostels, Modern Fitness Centres, Sports Science Centres, Multi Discipline Indoor halls, Swimming Pools and other playing fields etc.

(d) On an average, SAI spends around Rs. 30.00 crores annually for infrastructure development at various SAI centres. However, in connection with the preparation of trainees and of competition venues for the forthcoming Common Wealth Games (CWG)-2010 Government has allocated Rs. 2460 crores to SAI, which will help in the creation of State-of-the-art facilities. Like-wise, modern sports facilities have also been provided in SAI Regional Centres located at Kolkata, Bangalore, Gandhinagar, Imphal, Sonepat, Bhopal and in Sub Centres located at Guwahati, Lucknow, Hazaribagh. With the discontinuance of erstwhile centrally sponsored sports infrastructure scheme w.e.f. 31.3.2005, there is no scheme for central funding of modern sports Infrastructure in the States.

Production and Import of Edible Oil

4321. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total domestic installed capacity for production and import of edible oils during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether the edible oil industry has sought an exclusive policy for governing the import and domestic production of edible oil;

(c) if so, whether any change in the existing policy is being contemplated by the Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The toal installed capacity of edible oils during each of the last three years and the current year is given below:—

(Qty. in lakh tons)

Oil Year (Nov. to Oct.)	Installed Capacity Refinery Units	Installed Vanaspati Capacity Units
2005-06	90.00	54.02
2006-07	99.70	57.77
2007-08	123.00	59.87
2008-09 (upto June, 09)	132.40	62.71

The production/net availability of edible oils from all domestic sources and import of edible oils during each of the last three years and the current year is given below:—

(Qty. in lakh tons)

Oil-Year (Nov.-Oct.)	Net availability of edible oils from all domestic sources*	Import of edible oil (Financial Year)**
2005-06	83.16	42.88
2006-07	73.70	42.69
2007-08#	86.54	49.03
2008-09$	85.58 (Estimated)	62.03 (Estimated)

Source:
*Directorate of Vanaspati, Vegetable Oils & Fats.
**DGCI & S (April-March).
#Based on Final Estimates (declared by Ministry of Agriculture on 12.02.2009).
$Based on 4th Advance Estimate (declared by Ministry of Agriculture on 21.02.2009).

(b) No, Madam.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

Consumption of Foodgrains

4322. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quantity of foodgrains consumed by the BPL families is low in comparison to its availability in the country;

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

(c) the per capita consumption of foodgrains by Below Poverty Line and Above Poverty Line persons in the country, separately; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to bridge this gap?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Domestic Production and Projected Consumption Requirement of foodgrains (as per the Directorate of Economic & Statistics, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation) during 2004-05 were as per the table below:

Year	Foodgrains (Million Tons)		Difference
	Domestic Production	Projected Consumption Requirement	
2004-05	198.36	188.38	9.98

The details of the monthly per capita consumption of foodgrains (constituting cereals an pulses) by the people living below poverty line (BPL) in 2004-05, derived from NSS 61st Round consumer expenditure data, Report No. 508(61/1.0/1) are as follows:

Monthly per capita Consumption	Rural		Urban	
	BPL	APL	BPL	APL
Quantity (kg)	11.61	13.26	10.52	10.80

The comparatively lower consumption level in case of BPL families may be due to their lower affordability in purchasing foodgrains from sources other than TPDS.

The Central Government makes allocation of foodgrains for Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Antyodaya Anna Yojna (AAY) families under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), @ 35kg. per family per month, for 6.25 crore such families.

Government also allocates foodgrains to State & UTs under other welfare schemes targetting the BPL families. The Central Government, from time to time, issues directions to the State/UT Governments to ensure proper distribution of the allocated foodgrains by streamlining working of TPDS.

[Translation]

Starvation Deaths

4323. SHRI OM PRAKASH YADAV: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is consultation with the State Governments has formulated any scheme to check the starvation deaths during the calamities like drought and floods; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Based on the recommendations of the 12th Finance Commission on financing of relief expenditure on natural calamities for the period 2005-2010, the Government of India constituted an Expert Group to review and revise the extant items and norms of assistance from Calamity Relief Fund and the National Calamity Contingency Fund which included representatives of certain States and Central Ministries. Based on the recommendations of the Expert Group, Government of India has issued revision of norms and items of assistance from the Calamity Relief Fund and the National Calamity Contingency Fund with effect from June 2007.

The Government also implements a Village Grain Bank Scheme to provide safeguard against starvation during the period of natural calamity like floods etc. 16,478 Village Grain Banks (VGBs) have so far been sanctioned by the Department in 20 States since 2005-06 till date. For this purpose, an expenditure of Rs. 105.80 Crores has been incurred. Main objective of the scheme is to provide safeguard against starvation during period of natural calamity when marginalized food insecure households do not have sufficient resources to purchase reations.

Widening of Grand Trunk Road

4324. SHRI JAGDANAND SINGH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to widen the Grand Trunk (GT) Road;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the construction work of road widening/ bridges/over bridges on GT road has been delayed; and

(d) the time by which the said construction work is likely to be completed, stretch-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (d) Yes, Madam. Wagah Border-Amritsar-Jalandhar-Delhi Section of NH-1 and Delhi-Kolkata Section of NH-2 form a part of Grand Trunk (GT) Road. These Sections of National Highways are being widened to 4/6 lane standard. Details regarding widening of Grand Trunk Road to 4/6 lane standard are given in the enclosed Statement. There is some delay in completion of Road Over Bridges (ROBs) in Jalandhar-Amritsar Section due to delay in obtaining design related clearances from Railways.

Statement

A. STATUS OF FOUR-LANING OF GRAND TRUNK (GT) ROAD

Sl.No.	Stretch	Lengh (in km.)	Current Status
1.	Delhi-Kolkata Section of NH-2	1453	Four-laning completed for 1445 km. and in progress for balance length of 8 km. which is targeted for completed by December, 2009.
2.	Delhi-Jalandhar Section of NH-1	380	Four-laning completed.
3.	Jalandhar-Amritsar-Wagah Border Section of NH-1	110	Four-laning in progress except 20 km. of stretch (km. 387 to km. 407) which is proposed to be awarded in 2009-10. The ongoing work of four-laning is targeted for completion by June, 2010.

B. STATUS OF SIX-LANING OF GRAND TRUNK (GT) ROAD

Sl.No.	Stretch for Six Laning	Lengh (in km.)	Current Status/Remarks
1	2	3	4
1.	Delhi-Agra Section of NH-2	180 (106 km. in the State of UP & 74 km. in the State of Haryana)	Bids were invited with due date as 24.12.2008. However, No bids received even after extension of Bid due dates repeatedly. As such Restructuring of the project was carried out and re-bidding is being carried out shortly.
2.	Agra-Etawah Bypass Section of NH-2	125 in the State of UP	Feasibility study is in progress.
3.	Etawah-Chakeri (Kanpur) Section of NH-2	157 in the State of UP	Bids for feasibility study have been received and consultant is being appointed.
4.	Chakeri (Kanpur)-Allahabad Section of NH-2	150 in the State of UP	Bids for feasibility study have been received and consultant is being appointed.
5.	Allahabad Bypass-Varanasi Section of NH-2	160 in the State of UP	Feasibility study is in progress.
6.	Varanasi-Aurangabad Section of NH-2	190 (55 km. in the State of UP & 135 km. in Bihar)	Bids received are under evaluation.

1	2	3	4
7.	Aurangabad-Barwadda Section of NH-2	220 (71 km. in the State of Bihar & 149 km. in Jharkhand)	Bids for feasibility study have been received and consultant is being appointed.
8.	Barwadda-Panagarh Section of NH-2	120 (41 km. in the State of Jharkhand & 79 m. in West Bengal)	Feasibility study is in progress.
9.	Panagarh-Dankuni Section of NH-2	135 km. in the State of West Bengal	Feasibility study is in progress.
10.	Delhi-Panipat Section of NH-1	88 km.	Six/eight-laning completed in about 70 km. and is in progress in balance length which is scheduled for completion by December, 2010.
11.	Panipat-Jalandhar Section of NH-1	291 km. (Haryana 116 km. and Punjab-175 km.)	Work in progress and scheduled for completion by November, 2011.

Subsidy for Agriculture Production

4325. SHRI ARJUN MUNDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for providing subsidy to farmers; and

(b) the amount of subsidy provided to sugarcane, wheat and paddy producing farmers during each of the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Government provides Subsidy to farmers under various schemes/programmes like Agricultural Credit, Seeds, Micro-irrigation, National Horticulture Mission etc. The criteria for providing subsidy differ from scheme to scheme.

(b) Crop specific subsidy/assistance is provided to wheat and paddy producing farmers under National Food Security Mission (NFSM) in identified districts for raising production and productivity of rice and wheat. The assistance under the scheme is providing for specific components like seed minikit programme of rice and what, distribution of hybrid rice seed, promotion of micronutrient in rice and wheat, farm implements and purchase of diesel pump sets etc. The scheme is in operation since 2007-08.

No such crop specific assistance is provided to sugarcane producing farmers. The amount released for wheat and paddy under the scheme (NSFM) for 2007-08 & 2008-09, state-wise is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Release of funds under NFSM during 2007-08 & 2008-09

(Rs. in Crore)

State	Rice		Wheat	
	2007-08	2008-09	2007-08	2008-09
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	15.75	24.15	0.00	0.00
Assam	11.24	26.86	0.00	0.00
Bihar	2.63	37.00	28.92	24.02
Chhattisgarh	4.41	29.00	0.00	0.00
Gujarat	0.00	2.76	4.80	2.43
Haryana	0.00	0.00	18.38	10.30
Jharkhand	0.00	9.50	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5
Karnataka	2.42	17.73	0.00	0.00
Kerala	0.00	1.89	0.00	0.00
Madhya Pradesh	0.00	14.16	26.12	26.18
Maharashtra	0.87	14.53	3.97	18.82
Orissa	6.46	35.64	0.00	0.00
Punjab	0.00	0.00	31.08	33.91
Rajasthan	0.00	0.00	15.01	10.96
Tamil Nadu	9.10	30.99	0.00	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	0.00	44.89	70.79	89.61
West Bengal	6.09	47.53	4.27	2.20
Total	58.97	336.63	203.34	218.43
NSC-Seed Minikit	0.00	0.60	3.27	6.83
NSC-Seed Minikit	0.00	1.27	1.60	6.83
S.S.Sc-Seed Minikit	0.00	0.14	0.00	0.14
G. Total	58.97	338.64	208.21	232.23

Construction and Maintenance of Foot Overbridges

4326. SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM WAKCHAURE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of foot overbridges on NHs in various States in the country; State-wise;

(b) whether the Union Government has provided/ proposes to provide financial assistance for the construction and maintenance of foot overbridges on National Highways in various States, particularly in backward and rural areas; and

(c) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise and NH-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) Details of foot over bridges on National Highways in various States in the country is given in the Statment.

(b) and (c) No separate financial assistance is made for construction and maintenance of foot over bridges on National Highways in various States particularly in backward and rural areas. The funds for construction and maintenance of foot over bridges is to be met out from overall allocation made for National Highways in various States.

Statement

Construction and Maintenance of Foot Overbridges

Sl.No.	Name of State	Number of Foot Overbridges
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3
2.	Bihar	2
3.	Delhi	2
4.	Gujarat	1
5.	Goa	5
6.	Haryana	5
7.	Karnataka	12
8.	Maharashtra	1

[English]

Herbicide Tolerant Crops

4327. SHRI MOHAN JENA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Swaminathan Commission has recommended that India should not opt for technologies like herbicide tolerant corps;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to implement the said recommendation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No,

Madam. No such recommendation was made by the National Commission on Farmers (NCF) headed by Prof. M.S. Swaminathan.

(b) to (d) In view of (a) above, these questions do not arise.

Four Laning of NH-87

4328. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to convert several stretches of National Highway-87 into four lane;

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

(c) whether widening of the Bridge/construction of a new bridge on the river Bhakhra at Bilaspur is also proposed under this project; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Four laning of Rampur-Kathgodam section from km. 0.00 to km. 87.100 of NH-87 is proposed under NHDP Phase-III.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. Bilaspur bypass from km. 26.100 to km. 33.100 of NH-87 has been proposed for 4-laning under NHDP Phase-III which includes construction of a new four lane bridge at km. 29.750. The total length of proposed bridge is 105 metre.

Road Finance Corporation

4329. SHRI BHASKARRAO BAPURAO PATIL KHATGAONKAR:
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up a Road Finance Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds proposed to be raised;

(d) the projects for which the funds are likely to be utilised;

(e) whether backward areas would also be covered under the scheme; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (f) It is the endeavour of the Government to accelerate implementation of projects under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) and the measures suggested in this regard *interalia* include that regarding setting up of a Road Finance Corporation. However, no decision has been taken in this regard.

[Translation]

Four Laning of NH-75

4330. SHRI MADHU KODA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several stretches of NH-75 (E) are still single lane;

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

(c) whether the Government proposes double laning or four laning of the same;

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

(e) the details of funds allocated, released and utilised for the purpose, stretch-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (d) The NH-75 (including 75 Ext.) starts from Gwalior and passes through States of Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand and terminates in Orissa. The details of the single lane stretches are as under:-

Sl.No.	State	Length	Single Lane	Chaninage
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Madhya Pradesh	524	12	km. 54.00 to km. 57.00 of Jhansi-Khajuraho Section & km. 38.00 to km. 47.00 of Rewa-Ranchi

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Uttar Pradesh	91	0	
3.	Jhakhand	464	0	
4.	Orissa	14	12.70	Jharkhand/Orissa Border to Remuli

These stretches are proposed for double laning.

(e) Funds are released State-wise and not stretch-wise.

[English]

Four Laning of NH-6

4331. SHRI HARIBHAU JAWALE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes four laning of National Highway-6 from Dhule to Malkapur (Chikhali);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) and (c) Feasibility study for four laning in Km. 360/00 (Chikhali) to Km. 521/00 (Dhule) of Nagpur Dhule Section of National Highway-6 has been included in the Annual Plan 2009-2010 with a provision of Rs. 1.50 crore. The State PWD has been asked to invite 'Request for Proposal' (RFP) from the consultants for this work. Depending upon the outcome of the study the decision about four laning of this section will be taken.

Revenue from Advertisements

4332. SHRI PRATAPRAO GANPATRAO JADHAO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the revenue earned by various Doordarshan/ Akashvani Kendras of the country including Maharashtra through advertisements during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise and Kendra-wise;

(b) the amount spent for the maintenance and renovation of these Kendras during the said period, State-wise and Kendra-wise;

(c) whether the work of setting up of new Doordarshan/Akashvani Kendras in Maharashtra has been started;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the new Kendras are likely to be set up and start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Production of Onion

4333. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

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

(b) the details of steps being taken by the Government to increase the production of Onion in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) A Statement giving the details of Onion production in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise is enclosed.

(b) The Government of India has been implementing two Centrally Sponsored Schemes viz., Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North-Eastern States including Sikkim, Uttarakhand, J&K and Himachal Pradesh (TMNE) and National Horticulture Mission (NHM) for the remaining states for holistic development of horticulture to enhance production and productivity of horticultural crops including onion. National Horticultural Research and Development Foundation, (NHRDF) under Ministry of Agriculture produces onion breeder, foundation and truthful labelled seeds to meet the quality seed demand in the country. NHRDF also implements technology dissemination through demonstration programmes in different states in the country to spread the latest technology at grass root level and conducts group visits, seminars and workshop to address the area specific problems in the country for increasing the onion production.

Statement

Area and Production of Onion From 2005-06 to 2007-08 & the Current Year (2008-09)

States/Year	Area('000HA)				Production ('000MT)			
	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Andhra Pradesh	22.05	19.66	21.93	21.76	197.00	175.58	199.93	198.18
Bihar	24.05	26.25	27.66	27.66	265.65	289.15	306.43	306.43
Gujarat	49.23	46.67	52.46	42.48	984.75	983.49	1113.48	902.02
Haryana	13.05	13.05	13.74	14.55	257.00	257.00	271.05	296.41
Karnataka	41.64	45.83	57.39	47.03	306.60	356.41	455.11	370.08
Madhya Pradesh	25.50	22.47	26.29	22.41	303.80	288.37	344.30	289.37
Maharashtra	93.90	101.16	116.02	125.60	1,850.00	2118.39	2448.27	2706.92
Orissa	55.50	57.28	57.30	60.14	473.00	499.18	499.45	524.05
Rajasthan	28.35	27.70	30.13	34.52	380.60	408.51	452.42	526.16
Tamil Nadu	24.00	26.22	27.20	29.31	251.10	267.19	277.11	299.22
Uttar Pradesh	53.65	56.28	60.38	69.06	562.00	589.50	631.38	740.52
Others	33.10	35.86	37.26	39.89	391.75	435.81	451.59	477.64
All India	464.02	478.43	527.76	534.41	6223.25	6668.58	7450.52	7637.00

Source:— NHRDF, Nasik.

Recommendations of Administrative Reforms Commission

4334. SHRI GAJANAN D. BABAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Administrative Reforms Commission has recommended deployment of armed forces in the States and has also favoured enactment of a new law governing federal crimes; and

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations and action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) and (b) The Second Administrative Reforms Commission in its Eighth Report titled 'Combating Terrorism' has made certain recommendations, which, *inter-alia*, relate to legal framework for dealing with various aspects of terrorism, etc. The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, has been amended in 2008, to include a number of recommendations made in the said report. The National Investigation Agency Act has also been enacted and the National Investigation Agency has been constituted to investigate and prosecute offences under the Acts mentioned in the schedule. In this context, the Prevention of Money Laundering Act has also been amended, *inter-alia*, expanding the list of predicate offences.

Film Institute in Kerala

4335. SHRI ANTO ANTONY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up a Film Institute in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Kerala has identified the land for the purpose;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the funds allocated for the purpose?

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

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

Television Rating Points

4336. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to change the present Television Rating Points (TRP) system;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which action in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) to (c) A reference was made by the Government to Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) soliciting their views on Television Rating Points System/Rating agency etc. The TRAI's views/recommendations have since been received. Consultation with various stakeholders is required to arrive at a final decision. Therefore, no time frame can be fixed.

Funds for Indo-Bhutan Border Areas

4337. SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide financial assistance for the development of the Indo-Bhutan border areas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Promotion of Non-Pesticide Farming

4338. SHRI P.C. GADDIGOUDAR:
SHRI KUNVARJIBHAI MOHANBHAI BAVALIA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to encourage alternative non-pesticide approach to farming; and

(b) if so, the biological agents including plant products available at present in the country alongwith the total acreage and crops on which these are likely to be used, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Madam. To increase crop productivity and minimize the use of hazardous chemical pesticides, Government has adopted Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as the main plank of plant protection strategy in overall crop production programme. Under the ambit of IPM programme Government has establishment 31 Central Integrated Pest Management Centres in 28 States and one Union Territory. The mandate of these Centres is monitoring of pest/diseases, production, conservation and release of bio-control agents/bio-pesticides, and human resource development by imparting training to agriculture/ horticulture extension officers and farmers at grassroot level by organizing Farmers Field Schools (FFSs) in farmers' fields.

(b) Under IPM, Government is encouraging use of biological agents including plant products such as trichoderma, pseudomonas etc. So far 12,111 Farmers Field Schools (FFSs) have been organized in various States where 27,906 million bio-control agents in 91.89 lakh hectare area have been released for control of different pests and diseases. Recommendations on crop-wise use of various bio-control agents have been given in IPM package of practices development for 77 major corps which have been circulated to all States/UTs and have been posted on website www.dacnet.nic.in/ppin for the use by the extension functionaries and the farmers.

[Translation]

Institutes Providing Physical and Sports Education

4339. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Government run institutes providing physical and sports education in the country, State-wise;

(b) the number of students undergoing training in such institutes during each of the last three years and the current year, institute-wise;

(c) whether these institutes train students for internatioinal events as per the internatioinal standards;

(d) if so, details of the facilities provided and number of students who participated in such events during each of the last three years and the current year, event-wise;

(e) whether the Government proposes to open more such institutes; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PATIL): (a) Two autonomous institutions viz. Lakshmibai National University of Physical Education (LNUPE), Gwalior and Sports Authority of India (SAI) which are fully funded by the Government of India are providing physical education and sports education in the country.

(b) The number of students who have passed out/ studying (apart from the Certificate Courses) in these institutes during each of the alst three years and the current year, institute-wise are as under:-

Sl.No.	Institute	Field	Number of Students			
			2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	Current Year
1.	LNUPE	Physical Education	189	174	184	216
2.	SAI	Physical Education	200	200	200	75
	(i) Lakshmibai National College of Physcial Education, Trivananthapuram					(so far)
	(ii) SAI Netaji Subhas National Institute of Sports, Patiala	Sports Education	267	271	244	249
	(iii) SAI Netaji Subhas Eastern Centre, Kolkata	Sports Education	62	51	54	60
	(iv) SAI Netaji Subhas Southern Centrel, Bangalore	Sports Education	123	117	93	100

(c) These institutes conduct degree, diploma and certificate courses in physical education and sports education and not for international events.

(d) does not arise.

(e) No, Madam.

(f) Does not arise.

[English]

Brain Mapping of Criminals

4340. SHRI JOSE K. MANI:
DR. M. JAGANNATH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has established laboratories for conducting brain mapping of criminals;

(b) if so, the total number and names of such laboratories established in the country;

(c) the number of cases of brain mapping conducted during each of the last three years and in the current year;

(d) whether the Government had constituted a Committee of experts headed by the Director of the National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro-Sciences (NIMHANS), Bangalore to study brain mapping procedure;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the said Committee was dissolved by the Government prior to the submission of its final report; and

(g) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) The Brain Mapping Test/ Brain Electrical Oscillation Signature Profiling (BEOS) facilities are not available in any laboratory under Central Government. Such facilities are available in laboratories of FSL, Gujarat, Karnataka and Mumbai. As per details available with them, the following number of persons were examined:—

(1)	FSL, Gandhi Nagar (Gujarat) from 2006 to May, 2009.	—	98
(2)	FSL, Mumbai (Maharashtra) from 2007 to May, 2009	—	108
(3)	FSL, Bangalore (Karnatka) from 2006 to May, 2009	—	416

(d) to (g) A committee was constituted by Directorate of Forensic Science, under the Chairmanship of Director, National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro-Sciences (NIMHANS), Bangalore on 26th May, 2007 to peer review the technology of Brain Mapping facility/Brain Electrical Oscillation Signature Profiling (BEOS) in India and to suggest improvements in the technology. The said Committee was dissolved by Directorate of Forensic Science (DFS) on 13.5.2008 due to variety of reasons.

[Translation]

ILL Effects of Parthenium Grass

4341. SHRI RAMKISHUN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any remedial measures are being taken by the Government to check the ill effects of Parthenium Grass; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The remedial measures taken by Government to check the ill effects of Parthenium Grass are given below:

(i) Uprooting the plants before flowering and burning the uprooted plants or using them for compost making.

(ii) Application of prescribed herbicides in non-cropped situations.

(iii) Application of recommended pesticides at 30-35 days after sowing in crops like wheat, sugarcane, maize, sorghum etc.

(iv) Distribution of the insect Zygogramma bicolorata against Parthenium, especially in non-corpped areas.

(v) A project on "Large scale demonstration on management of Parthenium through integrated approach" was carried out during 2004-07 in identified areas of the country.

(vi) To make people aware of the ill effects of the Parthenium and its management, Parathenium Awareness Week is observed during 6-12 September every year.

[English]

Six Laning of NH-2

4342. PROF. RAMSHANKAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the NH-2 from Delhi to Agra is to be widened from 4 lane to 6 lane;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which work on the stretch would commence and be completed; and

(d) the projected cost of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (d) Yes, Madam. Delhi to Agra section of National Highway No.2 in a length of 180 km is to be widened from 4 lane to 6 lane under National Highway Development Project (NHDP) Phase-V. Bids were invited with original due date as 24.12.2008. As no bids were received even after repeated extension of bid due date, it is proposed to re-invite bids after restructuring the project. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 2157 crore.

Drought Like Situation

4343. SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:
SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:
SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has deputed a team of officers to assess the damage suffered by the various States due to drought like situation;

(b) if so, whether the said team has submitted its report to the Union Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the assistance proposed to be given to the farmers, State-wise;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) In view of deficit rainfall during South-West Monsoon, 2009, the Government of Assam, Jharkhand, Manipur, Uttar Pradesh and Nagaland have so far declared drought/drought like conditions. Inter-Ministerial Central Teams are deputed for assessment of the situation on receipt of Memorandum from the drought affected States seeking assistance from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF). No Memorandum has so far been received from any State for the current monsoon season. However, the State Governments have ready availability of funds under the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) for taking necessary measures in the wake of natural calamities including drought.

[Translation]

Construction Work on Highways

4344. SHRI MITHILESH KUMAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of National Highways in the country where construction work is going on, State-wise and NH-wise;

(b) the number of National Highways likely to be made operational in 2009 and 2010, State-wise and NH-wise;

(c) the number of such Highways where construction work is completely stopped, State-wise and NH-wise; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to expedite the construction work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (d) The State-wise details of National Highways (NHs) in the country where construction work is going on as on 30.6.2009, are given in the enclosed Statement. Development and maintenance of NHs is a continuous process and all NHs are kept in traffic-worthy condition within the available resources. Few contracts have been terminated on some of the NHs. However, work has not been stopped completely on any NH. In order to expedite the implementation, progress of projects is closely monitored and concerted efforts are being made to expedite land acqusition, shifting of utilities, granting interest bearing advances to contractors, etc.

Statement

State-wise details of National Highways (NHs) in the country where construction work is going on as on 30.6.2009

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	National Highway No.
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4, 5, 7, 9, 16, 18, 43, 63, 202, 205, 214, 214∞, 219, 221 & 222
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	52 & 52A
3.	Assam	31, 31B, 31C, 36, 37, 37A, 38, 39, 44, 51, 52, 53, 54, 62, 151 & 154
4.	Bihar	2, 2C, 19, 28, 28B, 30, 30A, 31, 57, 77, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 98, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105 & 107
5.	Chandigarh	21
6.	Chhattisgarh	6, 12A, 16, 43, 78, 200, 216, 217 & 221
7.	Delhi	1, 2, 8, 10 & 24
8.	Goa	17A & 17B
9.	Gujarat	6, 8, 8A, 8C, 8E, 15, 59, 113 & 228
10.	Haryana	1, 2, 8, 10, 21A, 22, 65, 71, 72, 73, 73A & 71B

1	2	3
11.	Himachal Pradesh	1A, 20, 21, 21A, 22, 70, 72, 88A & 73A
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	1A, 1B, 1C & 1D
13.	Jharkhand	2, 6, 23, 32, 33, 75, 78, 80, 99, 100
14.	Karnataka	4, 4A, 7, 9, 13, 17, 48, 63, 67, 206, 207, 209, 212 & 218
15.	Kerala	17, 47, 47C, 49, 208, 212, 213 & 220
16.	Madhya Pradesh	3, 7, 12, 12A, 25, 26, 27, 59, 59A, 69, 75, 76, 78, 86 & 92
17.	Maharashtra	3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 13, 16, 17, 50, 204, 211 & 222
18.	Manipur	39, 53 & 150
19.	Meghalaya	40, 44, 51 & 62
20.	Mizoram	44A, 54, 150 & 154
21.	Nagaland	39, 61, 150 & 155
22.	Orissa	5, 6, 23, 42, 43, 200, 201, 203, 215, 217 & 224
23.	Puducherry	45A & 66
24.	Punjab	1, 1A, 10, 15, 20, 21, 22, 64, 70, 71 & 95
25.	Rajasthan	8, 11, 11A, 11B, 11C, 12, 15, 65, 76, 79, 89, 90, 113, 114 & 116
26.	Sikkim	31A
27.	Tamil Nadu	4, 5, 7, 7∞, 45A, 45B, 47B, 49, 66, 67, 67, 205, 207, 208, 209, 210, 219 & 220
28.	Tripura	44 & 44A
29.	Uttarakhand	58, 72, 72A, 73, 74, 87, 94, 108, 109, 123, 119, 121, 87 EXT. & 125
30.	Uttar Pradesh	2, 2A, 3, 7, 11, 19, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 28B, 29, 56, 56A, 56B, 58, 72A, 73, 74, 75, 76, 86, 87, 91, 91A, 92, 93, 96, 97 & 119
31.	West Bengal	6, 31, 31A, 31B, 34, 35, 41, 55, 60 & 117

[English]

Construction work on NH-14

4345. SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether construction work/widening of different stretches on NH-14 has got delayed;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor alongwith the stretches on which construction/widening is taking place; and

(c) the time by which the work on the above stretches would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) National Highway No. 14 starts from Beawar and ends at Radhanpur. Feasibility study of Beawar-Pali-Pindwara section has been completed. Pindwara to Radhanpur section has already been four laned.

(c) Beawar-Pali-Pindwara section is targeted for award during 2009-10 and thereafter will take 36 months for completion.

Counterfeit Goods

4346. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of large scale counterfeiting in computers accessories, automobile parts and accessories and the fast moving consumer goods have been reported recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any study/survey has been conducted to assess the loss of revenue as a result thereof;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;

(e) whether there is any proposal to enact more stringent laws and deterrents to apprehend and prosecute the culprits; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V.THOMAS): (a) The Department of Consumer Affairs is not aware of incidents of large scale counterfeiting in computer accessories, automobile parts and accessories and the fast moving consumer goods.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No study/survey has been conducted/ commissioned by the Department of Consumer Affairs to assess the loss of revenue to the Government on account of sale of counterfeit goods.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No Madam. The existing legislations provide adequate protection to consumers against the manufacture, sale etc. of counterfeit goods.

(f) Does not arise.

Golden Quadrilateral Project

4347. SHRI P.C. MOHAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various project undertaken for four laning and six laning of National Highways under the Golden Quadrilateral of NHDP State-wise;

(b) whether there is any proposal to increase the NH connectivity in Karnataka and connect Bangalore to the Golden Quadrilateral;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the timeframe by which these proposals are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (d) The details of various projects undertaken for four-laning and six-laning of National Highways under Golden Quadrilateral of NHDP are given in the enclosed Statement-I and II respectively. Bangalore is already located on Golden Quadrilteral.

Statement I

State-wise details of Golden Quadrilateral Projects

S.No.	Stretch	Total Length (in Km)	Completed Length (In km)	Present Status	Date of Start	Date of completion as per contract	Date of Completion/ Anticipated Completion	Total Project Cost (Rs. Cr.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
			Andhra Pradesh					
NH No 5:								
1.	Srikakulam-Champawati (AP-1) (Balance Work)	48.00	48.00	4 Laned	Dec. 2005	Dec-2006	May-2007	171.97
2.	Bridges section (AP-6)	0.00	0.00	4 Laned	Sep. 2001	Mar-2004	Jul-2005	79.14
3.	Vishakhapatanam-Ankapalli	38.00	38.00	4 Laned	#	#	#	
4.	Kavali-Nellore (AP-11)	43.80	43.80	4 Laned	May 2001	Feb-2004	May-2005	181.00
5.	Ankapalli-Tuni	58.95	58.95	4 Laned	May 2002	Nov-2004	Jan-2005	283.20
6.	Nellore Bypass	17.17	17.17	4 Laned	Oct. 2002	Oct-2004	Sep-2004	143.20

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
7.	Tuni-Dharmavaram (AP-16)	47.00	47.00	4 Laned	May 2002	Nov. 2004	Aug. 2005	231.90
8.	Vijayawada-Rajamundary Section (near Eluru)	5.00	5.00	4 Laned	Jun. 2000	Mar. 2002	Mar. 2002	19.00
9.	Ongole-Kavali (AP-12)	72.00	72.00	4 Laned	Aug. 2001	Apr. 2004	Sep. 2005	321.41
10.	Dharmavaram-Rajahmundry (AP-15)	53.00	53.00	4 Laned	May 2002	Nov. 2004	Mar. 2005	206.00
11.	Divancheru (near Rajahmundry)-Gowthami (AP-17)	34.95	34.95	4 Laned	Jun. 2001	Dec. 2003	Mar. 2005	130.80
12.	Champawati-Vishakhapatnam (AP-3)	46.20	46.20	4 Laned	Jun. 2001	Fen. 2004	Feb. 2005	200.00
13.	Palasa-Srikakulam (AP-2)	74.00	74.00	4 Laned	Jun. 2001	Jan. 2004	Jun. 2005	324.00
14.	Gowthami-Gundugolanu (AP-18)	81.08	81.08	4 Laned	Aug. 2001	Feb. 2004	Feb. 2004	323.35
15.	Icchapuram-Korlam (AP-4B)	33.00	33.00	4 Laned	Sep. 2001	Jan. 2004	Dec. 2005	143.05
16.	Nellore-Tada (AP-7)	110.52	110.52	4 Laned	Aug. 2001	Dec. 2003	Dec. 2003	621.35
17.	Bridges Section (AP-20)	0.00	0.00	4 Laned	Aug. 2001	Feb. 2004	May 2005	131.33
18.	Bridges Section (AP-19)	2.45	2.45	4 Laned	Aug. 2001	Feb. 2004	Mar. 2005	136.45
19.	Chikaluripet-Ongole (AP-13)	66.00	66.00	4 Laned	Jun. 2001	Dec. 2003	Mar. 2006	319.21
20.	Vijayawada-Chikaluripet Package I	25.00	25.00	4 Laned	Mar. 1999	Mar. 2000	Jan. 2003	60.00
21.	Korlam-Palasa (AP-4A)	29.00	29.00	4 Laned	Sep. 2001	Jan. 2004	Aug. 2005	135.11
22.	Bridge section (AP-5)	0.00	0.00	4 Laned	Aug. 2001	Feb. 2004	Sep. 2003	71.00
23.	Eluru-Vijayawada Package V	72.00	72.00	4 Laned	Dec. 1997	Jan. 2002	Jan. 2002	134.00
24.	Vijayawada-Chikaluripet Package IV	2.88	2.88	4 Laned	May 1999	May 2002	May 2002	58.00
25.	Vijayawada-Chilkaluripet Package III	23.78	23.78	4 Laned	Mar. 1999	Mar. 2002	Jan. 2003	68.00
26.	Vijayawada-Chikaluripet Package II	32.00	32.00	4 Laned	Mar. 1999	Mar. 2002	Jan. 2003	80.00
		Total: 1015.77	1015.77					4572.47
				Bihar				
NH No 2:								
27.	Aurangabad-Barachatti (TNHP/V-A)	60.00	60.00	4 Laned	Sep. 2001	Mar. 2005	Jul. 2007	320.42
28.	Mohania-Sasaram (TNHP/IV-B)	45.00	45.00	4 Laned	Feb. 2001	Feb. 2004	Mar. 2006	230.55
29.	Sasaram-Dehri on-sone (GTRIP/IV-C)	30.00	30.00	4 Laned	Mar. 2002	Mar. 2005	Jul. 2008	221.87
30.	Dehri-on-Sone-Aurangabad (TNHP/IV-D)	40.00	40.00	4 Laned	Feb. 2001	Feb. 2004	Nov. 2005	242.61
		Total: 175.00	175.00					1015.45
				Bihar[10]/Jharkhand[70]				
NH No 2:								
31.	Barachatti-Gorhar (GTRIP/V-B)	80.00	80.00	4 Laned	Mar. 2002	Mar. 2005	Jul. 2007	452.71
		Total: 80.00	80.00					452.71

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
			Delhi[12]/Haryana[74]/Uttar Pradesh[59]					
NH No 2:								
32.	Delhi-Mathura	145.00	145.00	4 Laned	#	#	#	
		Total: 145.00	145.00					
			Delhi[13]/Haryana[23]					
NH No 8:								
33.	Delhi-Gurgaon	36.00	36.00	4 Laned	#	#	#	
		Total: 36.00	36.00					
			Gujarat					
NH No 8:								
34.	Ratanpur-Himatnagar (UG-III)	54.60	54.60	4 Laned	Nov. 2001	May 2004	Dec. 2003	182.29
35.	Ahmedabad bypass	15.00	15.00	4 Laned	#	#	#	
36.	Ahmedabad-Vadodara Exp. Way Phase-I	43.40	43.40	4 Laned	Aug. 2000	Dec. 2002	Dec. 2002	165.00
37.	Vadodara-Surat	152.00	152.00	4 Laned	#	#	#	
38.	Himatnagar-Chiloda (Near Ahmedabad) (UG-IV)	52.00	52.00	4 Laned	Jun. 2003	Dec. 2005	Dec. 2005	175.00
39.	Surat (Chalthan)-Atul	79.60	79.60	4 Laned	Nov. 2000	Oct. 2003	Jun. 2005	504.60
40.	Atul-Kajali	38.60	38.60	4 Laned	Nov. 2000	Apr. 2003	Jan. 2004	174.59
NH No NE-1 :								
41.	Ahmedabad-Vadodara Exp.Way Phase-II	50.00	50.00	4 Laned	Jun. 2001	Dec. 2003	May 2004	365.00
		Total: 485.20	485.20					1566.48
			Haryana[55]/Rajasthan[71]					
NH No 8:								
42.	Gurgaon-Kotputli	126.00	126.00	4 Laned	Mar. 1999	Mar. 2001	Mar. 2001	251.00
		Total: 126.00	126.00					251.00
			Jharkhand					
NH No 2:								
43.	Gorhar-Barwa Adda (TNHP/V-C)	78.75	75.28	Under Implementation	Sep. 2001	Mar. 2005	Aug. 2009	399.75
44.	Barwa Adda-Barkar	43.00	43.00	4 Laned	Mar. 1999	Dec. 2001	Dec. 2001	120.00
		Total: 121.75	118.28					519.75
			Karnataka					
NH No 4:								
45.	Haveri-Harihar	56.00	56.00	Under Implementation	Nov. 2008	Jul. 2010	Jul. 2010	196.65

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
46.	Harihar-Chitradurga	77.00	62.92	Under Implementation	Oct. 2008	Jun. 2010	Jun. 2010	207.56
47.	Tumkur Bypass	13.00	9.70	Under Implementation	#	#	#	83.00
48.	Chitradurga Bypass	18.00	18.00	Under Implementation	Apr. 2007	Sep. 2008	Sep. 2009	104.00
49.	Hubli-Haveri	64.50	64.50	4 Laned	Jun. 2001	Dec. 2003	Mar. 2008	260.93
50.	Maharashtra Border-Belgaum	77.00	77.00	4 Laned	Jun. 2002	Dec. 2004	Oct. 2004	332.00
51.	Belgaum-Dharwad	62.00	62.00	4 Laned	Apr. 2002	Nov. 2004	Jun. 2007	279.00
52.	Chitradurga-Sira	66.70	66.70	4 Laned	Mar. 2002	Aug. 2004	May 2008	304.00
53.	Sira Bypass	5.80	5.80	4 Laned	Jul. 2000	Apr. 2002	Apr. 2002	19.32
54.	Sira-Tumkur	41.40	41.40	4 Laned	Mar. 2002	Aug. 2004	Jan. 2005	184.00
55.	Tumkur-Neelmangala	32.50	32.50	4 Laned	Jun. 2002	Nov. 2003	Dec. 2003	155.00
56.	Neelmangala-Bangalore	30.00	30.00	4 Laned	#	#	#	
57.	Belgaum Bypass	18.00	18.00	4 Laned	Jun. 2001	Dec. 2003	Jun. 2006	115.90
NH No 7:								
58.	Bagalore-Hathipali	33.00	33.00	4 Laned	#	#	#	
		Total: 594.90	568.37					2241.36
				Maharashtra				
NH No 4:								
59.	Sarole-Wathar (PS-2)	29.00	29.00	4 Laned	Nov. 2001	Apr. 2004	Dec. 2003	118.93
60.	Mumbai Pune Expressway	80.00	80.00	4 Laned	#	#	Aug. 2001	
61.	Katraj-Sarole (PS-3)	28.50	28.50	4 Laned	Nov. 2001	May 2004	Mar. 2007	97.90
62.	Wathar-Satara (PS-1)	35.00	35.00	4 Laned	Jul. 2001	Dec. 2003	Dec. 2003	139.00
63.	Satara-Kagal	133.00	133.00	4 Laned	Feb. 2002	May 2004	Mar. 2006	600.00
64.	Mumbai Pune Expressway	10.00	10.00	4 Laned	#	#	Jul. 2002	
65.	Katraj Realignment (PS-4)	9.00	9.00	4 Laned	Nov. 2002	Feb. 2005	Jun. 2006	146.25
66.	Khambakti Ghat	9.00	9.00	4 Laned	#	#	May 2001	
67.	Westerly Diversion	34.25	34.25	4 Laned	Jun. 2000	Aug. 2002	Oct. 2003	109.38
NH No 8:								
68.	Dhaishar-Mumbai	4.00	4.00	4 Laned	#	#	#	
69.	Kajali-Manor	57.40	57.40	4 Laned	Nov. 2000	Oct. 2003	Nov. 2003	192.71

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
70.	Manor-Baseeim-Creek Section	58.00	58.00	4 Laned	#	#	Jun. 2001	
71.	Baseeim-Creek-Dhaishar	2.00	2.00	4 Laned	#	#	Feb. 2000	
		Total: 489.15	489.15					1404.17
				Orissa				
NH No 5:								
72.	Ganjam-Icchapuram (OR-VIII)	50.80	30.00	Under Implementation	Jul. 2006	Nov. 2008	Dec. 2009	263.27
73.	Sunkhala-Ganjam (OR-VII)	55.71	21.20	Under Implementation		Terminated		225.00
74.	Balasore-Bhadrak (OR-III)	62.64	35.56	Under Implementation	Dec. 2008	Dec. 2010	Dec. 2010	228.70
75.	Bhubaneswar-Khurda (OR-I)	26.30	26.30	Under Implementation	Jan. 2001	Jan. 2004	#	140.85
76.	Khurda-Sunakhala (OR-VI)	52.06	52.06	4 Laned	May 2001	Dec. 2003	Mar. 2006	189.68
77.	Bhadrak-Chandikhole (OR-II)	75.50	75.50	4 Laned	Dec. 2000	Dec. 2003	May 2005	305.30
78.	Bridges section (OR-V)	11.59	11.59	4 Laned	Aug. 2001	May 2004	Apr. 2008	155.00
79.	Chandikhole-Jagatpur	27.80	27.80	4 Laned	Feb. 2000	Feb. 2003	Jan. 2003	103.35
80.	Jagtpur-Bhubneshwar	28.00	28.00	4 Laned	#	#	Dec. 2000	
NH No 60:								
81.	Bridges Section (OR/WB-I)	0.00	0.00	4 Laned	Sep. 2001	Jun. 2004	Aug. 2006	80.00
82.	Laxmannath-Baleshwar (OR-4)	53.41	53.41	4 Laned	Mar. 2001	Dec. 2003	May 2007	272.00
		Total: 443.81	361.42					1963.15
				Rajasthan				
NH No 76:								
83.	Mangalwar-Udaipur (KU-VI)	58.18	58.18	4 Laned	Nov. 2001	May 2004	Mar. 2005	170.00
84.	Chittorgarh-Mangalwar (KU-V)	48.00	48.00	4 Laned	Nov. 2001	May 2004	Jan. 2004	161.20
NH No 79 :								
85.	Bhilwara Bypass-Chittorgarh (KU-IV)	66.00	66.00	4 Laned	Nov. 2001	May 2004	May 2004	202.88
86.	Nasirabad-Gulabpura (KU-II)	55.87	55.87	4 Laned	Nov. 2001	May 2004	Jan. 2004	182.09
87.	Gulabpura-Bhilwara Bypass (KU-III)	50.00	50.00	4 Laned	Nov. 2001	May 2004	Sep. 2004	164.25
NH No 79A:								
88.	Kishangarh-Nasirabad (KU-I)	36.23	36.23	4 Laned	Nov. 2001	May 2004	Jan. 2004	113.50
NH No 8:								
89.	Jaipur Bypass Phase II	34.70	34.70	4 Laned	Dec. 2001	Jun. 2004	Mar. 2005	210.00
90.	Kotputli-Amer	86.00	86.00	4 Laned	#	#	#	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
91.	Mahapura (near Jaipur)-Kishngarh (6 Lane)	90.38	90.38	4 Laned	Apr. 2003	Sep. 2005	Mar. 2005	644.00
92.	ROB at Kishangarh	1.00	1.00	4 Laned	Mar. 1998	Feb. 2000	Feb. 2000	18.00
93.	Jaipur Bypass Phase I	14.00	14.00	4 Laned	Sep. 1998	Jan. 2001	Jan. 2001	75.00
94.	Kesariaji-Ratanpur (UG-II)	48.40	48.40	4 Laned	Oct. 2001	Apr. 2004	Mar. 2005	226.05
95.	Udapur-Kesariaji (UG-I)	62.00	62.00	4 Laned	Oct. 2001	Apr. 2004	Jan. 2004	245.91
		Total: 650.76	650.76					2412.88
			Tamil Nadu					
NH No 4:								
96.	Kanchipuram-Poonamalee	56.40	56.40	4 Laned	Jul. 2001	Dec. 2003	May 2007	211.00
97.	Valelapet-Kanchipuram	36.20	36.20	4 Laned	Sep. 2001	Mar. 2004	Jan. 2004	130.00
NH No 46:								
98.	Krishnagiri-Vaniyambadi (KR-1)	49.00	49.00	4 Laned	Nov. 2001	May 2004	Mar. 2005	195.00
99.	Vaniyambadi-Pallikonda (KR-2)	51.00	51.00	4 Laned	Nov. 2001	May 2004	Feb. 2006	223.00
100.	Pallikonda-Ranipet and Walahjapet bypass (KR-3)	45.00	45.00	4 Laned	Oct. 2001	Apr. 2004	Jan. 2006	211.00
NH No 5:								
101.	Tada-Chennai (TN-1)	41.80	41.80	4 Laned	Jun. 2001	Dec. 2003	Dec. 2005	233.00
NH No 7:								
102.	Hathipali-Hosur	16.00	16.00	4 Laned	Dec. 1999	Dec. 2001	Aug. 2002	47.00
103.	Hosur-Krishnagiri	45.40	45.40	4 Laned	Jun. 2001	Jun. 2004	Jan. 2004	213.00
		Total: 340.80	340.80					1463.00
			Uttar Pradesh					
NH No 2:								
104.	Fatehpur-Khaga (TNHP/II-C)	77.00	75.78	Under Implementation	Mar. 2001	Oct. 2004	Dec. 2009	372.40
105.	Agra-Shikohabad (GTRIP/I-A)	50.83	5076	Under Implementation	Mar. 2002	Mar. 2005	Dec. 2009	367.49
106.	Allahabad Bypass Contract-II	38.99	38.00	Under Implementation	Jun. 2004	Dec. 2006	Jul. 2009	440.93
107.	Allahabad Bypass Contract-III	44.71	42.70	Under Implementation	Nov. 2004	May 2007	Aug. 2009	534.39
108.	Etawah Bypass (Balance Work)	13.60	13.60	4 Laned	Feb. 2006	Feb. 2008	May 2008	132.18
109.	Mathura-Agra	54.00	54.00	4 Laned	#	#	Feb. 2000	
110.	Allahabad Bypass Contract-I (Bridge)	1.02	0.00	4 Laned	Sep. 2003	Mar. 2006	Oct. 2008	91.36
111.	Etawah-Raipur (GTRIP/I-C)	72.83	72.83	4 Laned	Mar. 2002	Mar. 2005	May 2008	348.44
112.	Khaga-Kokhraj (TNHP/III-A)	43.00	43.00	4 Laned	Feb. 2001	Jun. 2004	Jan. 2005	151.70

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
113.	Sikandara-Bhaunti (TNHP/II-A)	62.00	62.00	4 Laned	Feb. 2001	Aug. 2004	May 2007	323.62
114.	Handia-Varanasi (TNHP/III-C)	72.00	72.00	4 Laned	Mar. 2001	Jul. 2004	Apr. 2008	286.00
115.	KanpurKatehpur (GTRIP/II-B)	51.50	51.50	4 Laned	Mar. 2002	Mar. 2005	May 2008	495.35
116.	Shikohabad-Etawah (GTRIP/I-B)	59.02	59.02	4 Laned	Sep. 2005	Sep. 2007	Sep. 2008	261.22
		Total: 640.49	636.18					3805.08
				Uttar Pradesh[55]/Bihar[21]				
NH No 2:								
117.	Varanasi-Mohania (GTRIP/IV-A)	76.00	75.10	Under Implementation	Mar. 2002	Mar. 2005	Dec. 2009	467.93
		Total: 76.00	75.10					467.93
				West Bengal				
NH No 2:								
118.	Barakar-Raniganj	33.00	33.00	4 Laned	#	#	Apr-2001	
119.	Dankuni-NH-2/NH-6 Junction near Kolkata	5.00	5.00	4 Laned	#	#	#	
120.	Raniganj-Panagarh	42.00	42.00	4 Laned	Mar. 1999	Nov. 2001	Nov. 2001	137.00
121.	Panagarh-Palsit	64.46	64.46	4 Laned	Jun. 2002	Dec. 2004	Jun. 2005	350.00
122.	Palsit-Dankuni	65.00	65.00	4 Laned	Oct. 2002	Feb. 2005	Jul. 2005	432.40
123.	Vivekananda Bridge and Approach	6.00	6.00	4 Laned	Sep. 2002	Apr. 2006	Jun. 2007	641.00
NH No 6:								
124.	Bridges section (WB-III)	1.73	0.48	Under Implementation	Terminated			81.00
125.	Dhankuni-Kolaghat (WB-I)	54.40	54.40	4 Laned	May 2001	Mar. 2004	Mar. 2007	393.00
126.	Kolaghat-Kharagpur (WB-II)	60.45	60.45	4 Laned	Dec. 2000	Dec. 2003	Mar. 2005	375.00
NH No 60:								
127.	Kharagpur-Laxmanath (WB-IV)	65.86	65.86	4 Laned	Jun. 2001	Mar. 2004	Jun. 2006	332.00
		Total: 397.90	396.65					2741.40
		Grand Total: 5818.52	5699.67					24876.83

Six lane stretches completed under Golden Quadrilateral

No.	Stretch	NH No.	Length (km)	State
1.	Mahapura (near Jaipur)- Kishangarh (6 Lane)	8	90.38	Rajasthan
2.	Mumbai Pune Expressway	4	80	Maharashtra
3.	Neelmangala-Bangalore	4	30	Karnataka
4.	Bangalore-Hathipali	7	33	Karnataka

Statement II

State-wise details of Projects undertaken for Six-laning

S.No.	Stretch	NH No.	Total Length (in Km)	Completed Length (In km)	Present Status	Date of Start	Date of completion as per contract	Date of Completion/ Anticipated Completion	Total Project Cost (Rs. Cr.)	Commulative Expenditure (Rs. Cr.)
					Andhra Pradesh					
1.	Chilkaluripet-Vijayawada (Six lane)	5	82.50	0.00	Under Implementation	#	#	#	572.30	0.00
			Total: 82.50	0.00					572.30	0.00
					Gujarat					
1.	Bharuch to Surat Package BOT-II (Six-lane)	8	65.00	47.10	Under Implementation	Jan. 2007	Jul. 2009	Jul. 2009	492.00	637.77
2.	Vadodara to Bharuch Package BOT-1 (Six lane)	8	83.30	83.30	Under Implementation	Jan. 2007	Jul. 2009	Jul. 2009	660.00	788.22
			Total: 148.30	130.40					1152.00	1425.99
					Gujarat[118.2]/Maharashra[120.77]					
1.	Surat-Dahisar (Six lane)	8	239.00	0.00	Under Implementation	Feb. 2009	Aug. 2011	Aug. 2011	1693.75	0.00
			Total: 239.00	0.00					1693.75	0.00
					Haryana[64.3]/Rajasthan[161.3]					
1.	Gurgaon-Kotputli-Jaipur (Six lane)	8	225.60	0.00	Under Implementation	#	#	#	1673.70	1.90
			Total: 225.60	0.00					1673.70	1.90
					Tamil Nadu					
1.	Chennai-Tada (Six lane)	5	43.40	0.00	Under Implementation	#	#	#	353.37	0.00
			Total: 43.40	0.00					353.37	0.00

Assistance to Media Persons

4348. SHRI P.T. THOMAS: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to provide any assistance to the media persons injured while reporting;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government for the welfare of media persons in the electronic and print media?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) to (c) The Government of India provides one time ex-gratia relief of Rupees One Lakh under the scheme 'Journalists

Welfare Fund' to accredited journalists who suffer permanent disability rendering them incapable of discharging their duties due to unnatural causes and in the course of their duty. The Scheme is available at www.mib.nic.in.

(d) Apart from above, Press Information Bureau (PIB) accredited journalists are also provided with facilities like Government Accommodation; benefits of Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS); concession in Rail fare as well as exemption in customs duty for import of professional equipments.

[Translation]

Fishing Areas

4349. CAPT. JAI NARAIN PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to implement National Fishery Scheme for the development of fishery in States like Uttar Pradesh and Bihar so as to provide employment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the fishing area in Bihar is shrinking; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The Government is already implementing the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) of Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture in the entire country including Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. The main objectives of the Scheme are to enhance fish production and productivity by bringing in more areas under modern aquaculture practices. THis will also generate employment and enhance the income of fish farmers. The other Schemes for fisheries sector development are being funded through the National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY).

(c) No, Madam.

(d) Question does not arise.

Expenditure on Advertisements

4350. SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of expenditure incurred on advertisements by various Government Departments/ Public Sector Undertakings during the last three years and the current year, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether the expenditure of the Government on advertisements is on the rise;

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

(d) whether any direction has been issued to all the Government Departments/Public Sector Undertakings to route their advertisements through the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP); and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) The details of expenditure incurred on advertisements by various Government Departments/Public Sector Undertakings, through the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP), for print media, during the last three years including the current financial year, are given in the enclosed Statement. Further, the expenditure on account of electronic media for the corresponding period are as under:

2006-07	Rs. 48.79 crore
2007-08	Rs. 137.42 crore
2008-09	Rs. 190.77 crore
2009-10	Rs. 1.73 crore [upto 29.8.2009]

It is not possible to bifurcate the details of electronic media state-wise.

(b) and (c) The expenditure of the Government on advertisements increased in the year 2008-09 due to increase in advertisements from various Ministries and due to increase in DAVP print advertisement rates.

(d) and (e) As per Print Advertisement Policy, al Central Government Ministries/Departments/Attached & Subordinate Offices/Field Offices shall route their advertisements, including display advertisements, through

DAVP. However, they may issue tender notices directly to empanelled newspapers, only at DAVP rates. PSUs, Autonomous Bodies & Societies of Government of India may issue all advertisements, directly at DAVP rates to empanelled newspapers. Further, as per the Electronic Media Advertisement Policy, all Central Government publicity releases on private TV/Radio channels will be routed through DAVP. All attached offices, autonomous organizations & PSUs under the Ministries/Departments will also route their releases through DAVP.

Statement

The details of expenditure incurred on print media advertisements by various Government Departments/Public Sector Undertakings, through the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP), during the last three years including the current financial year

Sl.No.	Name of State	Amount of Expenditure (Rs.)			
		2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	Current Financial Year 2009-10 Upto 29.07.2009
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	4,344.00	22,246.00	12,54,432.00	3,71,258.00
2.	Andhra Pradesh	7,18,65,249.00	7,21,59,805.00	10,68,07,562.00	2,88,16,597.00
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	17,19,985.00	32,44,366.00	41,53,869.00	8,89,755.00
4.	Assam	1,87,12,899.00	1,82,16,432.00	2,81,52,511.00	60,59,686.00
5.	Bihar	4,43,57,669.00	4,39,02,754.00	6,59,84,137.00	1,57,23,515.00
6.	Chandigarh	4,20,89,222.00	3,20,53,893.00	4,43,07,265.00	84,03,654.00
7.	Chhattisgarh	2,09,97,170.00	2,31,68,773.00	4,09,09,521.00	96,36,044.00
8.	Daman and Diu	5,47,149.00	16,12,000.00	33,09,888.00	8,91,723.00
9.	Delhi	67,57,79,500.00	54,24,68,610.00	86,40,69,488.00	13,61,51,827.00
10.	Goa	64,30,138.00	58,00,537.00	80,72,297.00	22,75,425.00
11.	Gujarat	8,16,36,344.00	7,12,90,733.00	12,92,22,607.00	2,99,22,608.00
12.	Haryana	1,67,72,582.00	1,68,37,174.00	3,27,85,066.00	68,23,548.00
13.	Himachal Pradesh	59,53,195.00	55,75,772.00	96,72,610.00	28,99,234.00
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	2,51,76,123.00	3,11,32,218.00	4,44,44,025.00	1,01,63,241.00
15.	Jharkhand	2,39,60,758.00	2,25,83,463.00	3,44,74,390.00	81,41,507.00
16.	Karnataka	4,93,03,245.00	4,22,92,515.00	5,08,64,015.00	1,54,15,647.00
17.	Kerala	4,12,81,687.00	3,95,09,713.00	5,61,94,097.08	1,41,82,010.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
18.	Madhya Pradesh	6,56,74,784.00	6,62,55,580.00	11,04,99,346.00	2,75,58,053.00
19.	Maharashtra	22,95,73,081.00	20,12,63,808.00	28,05,72,989.00	5,99,85,618.00
20.	Manipur	40,69,850.00	44,75,297.00	73,19,824.00	17,18,502.00
21.	Meghalaya	45,51,507.00	42,80,640.00	62,25,519.00	14,22,964.00
22.	Mizoram	23,02,167.00	47,41,219.00	70,46,302.00	14,12,144.00
23.	Nagaland	30,49,324.00	31,62,931.00	51,61,766.00	11,58,597.00
24.	Orissa	4,13,85,958.00	4,45,38,493.00	7,13,31,330.00	1,59,74,287.00
25.	Puducherry	15,82,565.00	13,23,113.00	32,33,804.00	12,69,258.00
26.	Punjab	4,56,00,932.00	4,11,44,623.00	6,00,57,269.00	1,55,89,782.00
27.	Rajasthan	8,52,36,159.00	7,07,01,935.00	11,65,93,812.00	2,87,55,192.00
28.	Sikkim	21,80,817.00	40,88,649.00	60,01,619.00	17,03,823.00
29.	Tamil Nadu	8,57,52,235.00	7,71,69,684.00	10,96,21,743.00	2,66,57,703.00
30.	Tripura	91,09,015.00	91,40,893.00	1,45,50,745.00	24,21,544.00
31.	Uttarakhand	1,71,75,087.00	1,79,05,180.00	3,28,22,128.00	98,99,790.00
32.	Uttar Pradesh	12,73,89,972.00	12,11,84,491.00	24,08,25,511.00	5,62,17,206.00
33.	West Bengal	13,17,95,908.00	13,46,97,710.00	17,69,82,805.00	3,73,81,813.00
	Total	1,98,30,16,640.00	1,77,79,45,250.00	2,77,35,44,292.08	58,59,03,555.00

[English]

Safety Management Rules For National Highways

4351. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has framed any new road safety management rules for all National Highway Projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to execute such rules through independent consultants/NGOs;

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

(e) the extent to which new rules are likely to improve safety on National Highways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (e) Road safety provision already exist in all National Highway Projects and hence, no new Road Safety rules are contemplated at this stage. Further, for Public Private Partnership (PPP) projects, the Model Concession Agreement prescribes appointment of the Safety Consultants during development, construction and Operation & Maintenance stages of PPP Projects to undertake safety audits. The appointment of Safety Consultants for PPP Projects is in progress.

[Translation]

Opening up of Agricultural Sector

4352. JOSEPH TOPPO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to open up the agriculture sector to the corporate sector; and

(b) if so, the extent to which the agriculture sector and the farmers community are likely to be benefited from this move?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) No, Madam. However, the National Policy for Farmers (NPF), 2007 recognizes the need for setting up Farmers' companies to benefit the small and marginal farmers for gaining efficiency and economies of scale in their farming operations. At the same time NPF, 2007 also suggests promotion of cooperative farming and service cooperatives, group farming by self help groups, small holders' estates, contact farming and state farms for the same objective in the interest of small and marginal farmers.

[English]

Cheap Rice Scheme

4353. SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has sought financial assistance from the Union Government for implementation of the scheme for providing rice at Rs. 2 per kg to the weaker sections including SCs/STs and OBCs; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

Foodgrain for Drought Relief

4354. SHRI N. CHELUVARAYA SWAMY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether requests have been received for allocation of foodgrains for drought relief from some States including Karnataka;

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

(c) whether the Government proposes to adopt any criteria for distribution of foodgrains to the needy in drought affected areas of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Government of India makes additional allocation of foodgrains, over and above normal allocations under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), in cases of natural calamities like drought, floods, cyclones, etc, on requests received from State Governments.

During the current South-West Monsoon season, (2009) requests seeking allocation of foodgrains for drought relief have, so far, not been received from any of the State Governments.

Items and norms of assistance from Calamity Relief Fund and National Calamity Contingency Fund were revised by Ministry of Home Affairs from June 2007.

Restoration of Old Film Prints

4355. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to restore the damaged/old film prints available with the National Film Archives of India (NFAI) and the National Film Development Corporation (NFDC);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds earmarked/sanctioned for the purpose; and

(d) the time by which such film prints are likely to be restored?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN): (a) to (d) Yes, Madam. Both National Film Archive of India (NFAI) and National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) propose to restore the damaged/old film prints available with them. NFAI has a

Plan Scheme which includes, *inter alia*, digitalization and restoration of films with an outlay of Rs. 20 crore during the 11th Plan. NFDC have initiated the process of restoration of their own and co-produced films. It is not possible to give a time-frame for restoration of films by NFAI and NFDC as it is an ongoing process.

[Translation]

Consumer Product Testing Mechanism

4356. SHRI GORAKH PRASAD JAISWAL:
SHRI YASHBANT LAGURI:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up Consumer Product Testing Mechanism;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) the areas identified for setting up of the same, State-wise; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) is already having a network of 8 testing laboratories at Sahibabad, Chennai, Mumbai, Kolkata, Bangalore, Mohali, Patna and Guwahati to support operation of its Product Certification Scheme, apart from 124 other laboratories recognized by it for testing of products. In addition, the test reports issued by laboratories under Central and State Governments, national level institutes like Indian Institutes of Technology and laboratories of Central Universities are also accepted by it for grant of licences.

BIS also has an ongoing enforcement mechanism to check quality of ISI marked products under which raids are done in the licensees' premises and samples are drawn from the factories and market for laboratory tests to ensure conformity of the products of the prescribed Indian Standards.

Traffic Management Studies

4357. SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India tops in the world ranking of fatal accidents;

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

(c) whether the Government has commenced/ proposes to commence courses relating to Traffic Management in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MAHADEO SINGH KHANDELA): (a) and (b) As per World Road Statistics (WRS) 2008, brought out by the International Road Federation, Geneva, the United States to America has reported the highest number of "Injury Accidents" during 2005 at 18,54,444. The corresponding figures for India and China during 2005 have been reported at 4,39,200 and 4,50,254 respectively. Simultaneously, in terms of number of persons killed in road accidents, China reported by highest figure of 98,738 during 2005 followed by India with 94,968 deaths and United States of America with 43,443 deaths in road accidents during the same year. Regarding cross-country status of road accidents it is the normialized figures which are comparable and not the absolute figures due to large differences in population etc. among the countries. Although in absolute terms, number of persons killed due to road accidents is one of the highest in India among the countries reporting data for the World Road Statistics, in the normalized terms (persons killed per 1,00,000 population), the Indian figure is well below many developed and developing countries. This Ministry has, however, taken several actions to improve road safety.

(c) and (d) Traffic Management is the responsibility of State Governments. This Ministry has not commenced any course particularly on the subject namely "Traffic Management". However, this Ministry has been organizing five day training programmes on Road Safey Management and Road Transport Regulation & Administration for the State Transport Department Personnel at certain identified Institutes such as Central Institute of Road Transport, Pune.

[English]

No Dues Certificate for Loan

4358. SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government seeks 'No Dues Certificate' from the farmers who apply for loans;

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

(c) the procedure followed in the case of online applications for loans in the country including Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No, Madam. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued instructions to the Banks directing them to dispense with the requirement of 'No Dues Certificate' for small loans upto Rs. 50000/- to small and marginal farmers, share croppers and the like and instead, obtain self-declaration from the borrowers.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As per available infomartion, Bank do not follow the system of online applications for farm loans in the country including Andhra Pradesh.

Assistance to Sugar Mills from SDF

4359. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals received and approved by the Government seeking financial assistance from the Sugar Development Fund (SDF) for the expansion and modernisation of sugar mills situated in various States of the country, State-wise;

(b) the names of the sugar mills which have been granted financial assistance from the said fund during each of the last three years and the current year, year-wise;

(c) whether these mills have fully utilised the amount received from this fund;and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) A Statement-I showing State-wise number of proposals received and approved during the previous three years, seeking loan from Sugar Development Fund for modernisation/expansion of sugar mills is enclosed.

(b) A Statement-II indicating names of the sugar mills (year-wise) who have been disbursed loan from Sugar Development Fund for modernisation/expansion during the last three years and in the current year is enclosed.

(c) Out of 43 disbursed during the previous three years as well as in the current year (as shown in Statement-II), loans against 21 projects have been fully utilised.

(d) A statement-III indicating the names of the 21 sugar mills who have fully utilised the loan is enclosed.

Statement I

State-wise number of proposals, received and approved during previous three years, seeking loan from Sugar Development fund for modernisation/ expansion of sugar mills.

Name of the State	Number of applications received			
	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (upto 31.7.2009)
Andhra Pradesh	—	4	3	—
Bihar	3	—	1	—
Gujarat	—	—	1	2
Haryana	—	—	1	—
Karnataka	3	—	2	—
Madhya Pradesh	1	—	—	—
Maharashtra	2	2	14	2
Tamil Nadu	2	3	1	—
Uttar Pradesh	14	1	1	—
Total	25	10	24	4

Name of the State	Number of applications approved*			
	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (upto 31.7.2009)
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	1	—	1	—
Bihar	1	2	—	—
Gujarat	—	—	—	—
Haryana	—	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5
Karnataka	1	3	1	—
Madhya Pradesh	—	1	—	—
Maharashtra	—	3	2	1
Tamil Nadu	1	2	3	1
Uttar Pradesh	3	7	4	3
Uttarakhand	1	—	—	—
Total	8	18	11	5

*Figures include applications received during the previous years to which loans were given during the years shown herein.

Statement II

Names of the sugar mills who have been disbursed loans from Sugar Development Fund for modernisation/expansion during the years 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 (upto 31.7.2009)

Sl.No.	Name of the sugar mill
1	2
	Year 2006-07
	Uttar Pradesh
1.	M/s. Tikaula Sugar Mills Ltd., District Muzaffarnagar.
2.	M/s. Cilwaria Sugar Mills (a unit of M/s. Simbhaoli Sugar Mills Ltd.), District Bharaich.
3.	M/s. Triven Engineering & Industries Ltd. Sugar unit at Khatauli, District, Muzaffarnagar.
4.	M/s. Upper Doab Sugar Mills (a unit of M/s. Sir Shadilal, Enterpriese Ltd.),Shamli, District Muzaffarnagar.
5.	M/s. DCM Shriram Consolidated Ltd. Ajbapur, District Lakhimpur Kheri.
	Tamil Nadu
6.	M/s. E.I.D. Parry (India) Ltd., Kurumbur Village, Pudukottai.
7.	M/s. Kothari Sugars & Chemicals Ltd. Kattur, District Trichy.
	Andhra Pradesh
8.	M/s. GSR Sugar (P) Ltd., Maggi Village, District Nizamabad.
	Bihar
9.	M/s. Harinagar Sugar Mills Ltd.,Harinagar, District West Champaran.
	Year 2007-08
	Uttar Pradesh
1.	M/s. DCM Shriman Consolidated Ltd. Ajbapur, District Lakhimpur Kheri.
2.	M/s. Chilwaria Sugar Mills (a unit of M/s. Simbhaoli Sugar Mills Ltd.), District Bahraich.
3.	M/s. The Oudh Sugar Mills Ltd. Unit: Hargaon Sugar Mills, District Sitapur.
4.	M/s. DCM Shriram Industries Ltd. Unit: Daurala Sugar Works, District Meerut.
5.	M/s. The Seksaria Biswan Sugar Factory Ltd. Biswan, District Sitapur.
6.	M/s. DSM Sugar (a unit of M/s. Dhampur Sugar Mills Ltd.), Asmoli, District Moradabad.
	Tamil Nadu
7.	M/s. Kothari Sugars & Chemicals Ltd., Kattur, District Trichy.
8.	M/s. E.I.D. Parry (India) Ltd., Pugalur Unit, District Tiruvannamalai.
	Andhra Pradesh
10.	M/s. GMR Industries Ltd., Sankili village, District Srikakulam.
	Bihar
11.	M/s. Harinagar Sugar Mills Ltd., Harinagar, District West Champaran.
	Karnataka
12.	M/s. The Ugar Sugar Works Ltd., Ugar Khurd, District-Belgaum.
	Year 2008-09
	Uttar Pradesh
1.	M/s. DSM Sugar (a unit of M/s. Dhampur Sugar Mills Ltd.), Asmoli, District Moradabad.

1	2
2.	M/s. L.H. Sugar Factories Ltd., Pilibhit, District Pilibhit.
Tamil Nadu	
3.	M/s. E.I.D. Parry (India) Ltd., Pugalur, District Karur.
4.	M/s. E.I.D. Parry (India) Ltd., Kurumbur Village, Pudukottai.
Andhra Pradesh	
5.	M/s. GMR Industries Ltd., Sankili Village, District Srikakulam.
6.	M/s. NCS Sugars Ltd., Latchayyapeta, District Vizianagaram.
Bihar	
7.	M/s. New Swadeshi Sugar Mills (a unit of The Oudh Sugar Mills Ltd.), Narkatiaganj, District West Champran.
8.	M/s.Upper Ganges Sugar & Industries Ltd., Unit: Bharat Sugar Mills, District Gopalganj.
Karnataka	
9.	M/s. Shree Renuka Sugars Ltd., Unit: Havalga, District Gulbarga.
10.	M/s. Shree Renuka Sugars Ltd., Unit: Munoli, District Belgaum.
11.	M/s. Athani Farmers Sugar Factory Ltd., Taluk Athani, District Belgaum.
12.	M/s. Nandi Sahakari Sakkare Karkhane Niyamit, Post Hours, District Bijapur.
Maharashtra	
13.	M/s. Vitthalrao Shinde Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Gangamainagar, District Solapur.
14.	M/s. Hutatma Kisan Ahir Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Walwe, District Sangli.
15.	M/s. Sagar Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Tirthpuri, District Jalna.
Year 2009-10	
Uttar Pradesh	
1.	M/s. Wave Industries Pvt. Ltd., (Formerly known as M/s. Chadha Sugar Pvt. Ltd.) Village Malasia, District J.P. Nagar.
2.	M/s. Rauzagaon Chini Mills, (a unit of M/s. Balrampur Chini Mills Ltd.), Rauzagaon, District Barabanki.
Uttarakhand	
3.	M/s. Rai Bahadur Narain Singh Sugar Mills Ltd. Lhaksar, District Haridwar.
Bihar	
4.	M/s. Upper Ganges Sugar & Industries Ltd., Unit: Bharat Sugar Mills, District Gopalganj.
Andhra Pradesh	
5.	M/s. NCS Sugars Ltd. Latchyapeta, District Vizianagaram.
Maharasthra	
6.	M/s. Hutatma Kisan Ahir Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Walwe, District Sangli.
7.	M/s. Shri Dnyaneshwar Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Dnyaneshwarnagar, District Ahmednagar.

Statement III

Names of sugar mills who have fully utilised the loan.

Sl.No.	Name of the sugar mill
1	2
Year 2006-07	
Uttar Pradesh	
1.	M/s. Chilwaria Sugar Mills (a unit of M/s. Simbhaoli Sugar Mills Ltd.), District Bahraich.
2.	M/s. Triveni Engineering & Industries Ltd., Sugar unit at Khatauli, District Muzaffarnagar.
3.	M/s. Upper Doab Sugar Mills (a unit of M/s. Sir Shadilal, Enterprises Ltd.), Shamil, District Muzaffarnagar.
4.	M/s. DCM Shriram Consolidated Ltd., Ajbapur, District Lakhimpur Kheri.
Tamil Nadu	
5.	M/s. E.I.D. Parry (India) Ltd., Kurumbur Village, Pudukottai.

1	2
6.	M/s. Kothari Sugars & Chemicals Ltd., Kattur, District Trichy.
Andhra Pradesh	
7.	M/s. GSR Sugars (P) Ltd., Maggi Village, District Nizamabad.
Bihar	
8.	M/s. Harinagar Sugar Mills Ltd., Harinagar, District West Champaram.
	Year 2007-08
Uttar Pradesh	
9.	M/s. The Oudh Sugar Mills Ltd., Unit: Hargaon Sugar Mills, District Sitapur.
10.	M/s. DCM Shriram Industries Ltd., Unit: Daurala Sugar Works, District Meerut.
11.	M/s. DSM Sugar (a unit of M/s. Dhampur Sugar Mills Ltd.), Asmoli, District Moradabad.
12.	M/s. The Seksaria Biswan Sugar Factory Ltd., Biswan, District Sitapur.
Tamil Nadu	
13.	M/s. E.I.D. Parry (India) Ltd., Pugalur, District Karur.
Andhra Pradesh	
14.	M/s. GMR Industries Ltd., Sankili Village, District Srikakulam.
Bihar	
15.	M/s. Harinagar Sugar Mills Ltd., Harinagar, District West Champaran.
	Year 2008-09
Karnataka	
16.	M/s. Shree Renuka Sugars Ltd., Unit: Havalga, District Gulbarga.
17.	M/s. Shree Renuka Sugars Ltd., Unit: Munoli, District Belgaum.
18.	M/s. Athani Farmers Sugar Factory Ltd., Taluk Athani, District Belgaum.
Maharashtra	
19.	M/s. Vitthalrao Shinde Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Gangamainagar, District Solapur.
20.	M/s. Hutatma Kisan Ahir Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Walwe, District Sangli.
Uttar Pradesh	
21.	M/s. L.H. Sugar Factories Ltd., Pilibhit, District Pilibhit.

Aided Project of National Highways

4360. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of internal and extent aided projects of National Highways, Statewise and NH-wise;

(b) the amount received in this regard during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise and NH-wise;

(c) the projects for which these funds have been utilised, NH-wise and State-wise; and

(d) the length of roads built thereunder during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) Externally aided projects of National Highways are being implemented through NHAI only. State-wise and NH-wise number of projects being implemented by NHAI are given in the enclosed Statement-I. State-wise number of National Highway projects under implementation by the respective State Governments are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(b) and (c) Funds are not allocated NH-wise. Details of funds received/utilized State-wise are given in the enclosed Statement-III.

(d) Improvement works under various categories including strengthening/improvement of riding quality etc. have been completed in a length of 17,184 km. during last three years, of which a length of 5174 km. has been upgraded to 4/6 lane standards.

Statement I

State-wise and NH-wise Details of Internally/Externally funded Projects

Sl.No.	State	Internally Funded Projects		Externally Funded Projects	
		N.H. No.	No of Projects	N.H. No.	No. of Projects
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	18, 5, 7, 9	37	5, 7, 9	12
2.	Assam	31, 31C, 36, 37, 57	29	—	—
3.	Bihar	31, 57	11	2, 28	8
4.	Jharkhand	—	—	2	2
5.	Bihar/Jharkand	—	—	2	1
6.	Chhattisgarh	6	3	—	—
7.	Delhi	1	2	—	—
8.	Delhi/Haryana	2, 8	3	—	—
9.	Delhi/Haryana/Uttar Pradesh	—	—	2	1
10.	Goa	17B	1	—	—
11.	Gujarat	14, 6, 8, 8A, 8B, NE-1	18	14, 15, 8, 8A, 8B	8
12.	Madhya Pradesh/Rajasthan	3	1	—	—
13.	Madhya Pradesh/Uttar Pradesh	75	1	25	1
14.	Maharashtra	3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 4B, 50, 9	31	8	1
15.	Orissa	5, 5A, 60	10	5	2
16.	Punjab	1, 1A, 21	7	1	1
17.	Punjab/Himachal Pradesh	1A	1	—	—
18.	Uttar Pradesh	1, 2, 3, 24, 25, 26, 28	17	2, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28	26
19.	Uttar Pradesh/Bihar	56A & B, 58	2	2	3
20.	West Bengal	2, 6, 8, 31, 31C, 34, 41, 60	15	—	—
21.	Gujarat/Maharashtra	8	1	—	—
22.	Haryana	1, 10	5	1	1
23.	Haryana/Punjab	1, 21, 22	2	—	—
24.	Haryana/Punjab/ Himachal Pradesh	22	1	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6
25.	Haryana/Rajasthan	8	1	8	1
26.	Jammu and Kashmir	1A	7	—	—
27.	Karnataka	4, 7, 13, 17, 48	22	4	2
28.	Kerala	17, 47, 47C	8	—	—
29.	Madhya Pradesh	3, 7, 75	9	25, 26, 76	8
30.	Rajasthan	3, 8, 11, 14, 76, 79, 79A	22	8,76	7
31.	Rajasthan/Gujarat	14	1	—	—
32.	Tamil Nadu	4, 5, 7, 7A, 45, 45B, 46, 47, 66, 67, 205	49	—	—
33.	Uttar Pradesh/Rajasthan	3, 11	2	—	—

Statement II

Details of National Highways Projects being implemented by the State Governments

Sl.No.	State	No. of Projects
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	58
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1
3.	Assam	35
4.	Bihar	71
5.	Chandigarh	03
6.	Chhattisgarh	59
7.	Delhi	4
8.	Goa	19
9.	Gujarat	67
10.	Haryana	28
11.	Himachal Pradesh	60
12.	Jharkhand	77
13.	Karnataka	81
14.	Kerala	31
15.	Madhya Pradesh	79
16.	Maharashtra	76
17.	Manipur	9
18.	Meghalaya	17
19.	Mizoram	16
20.	Nagaland	22
21.	Orissa	112
22.	Puducherry	7
23.	Punjab	66
24.	Rajasthan	31
25.	Tamil Nadu	88
26.	Uttar Pradesh	117
27.	Uttarakhand	58
28.	West Bengal	43

Statement III

State-wise details of funds Received/Utilized during the last Three Year and Current Year

(Amount Rs. in Crores)

Sl.No.	Name of the State/UT	2006-07		2007-08		2008-09		2009-10 (upto 30/6/09)	
		Allocation	Expenditure	Allocation	Expenditure	Allocation	Expenditure	Allocation	Expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	65.76	65.40	82.44	81.59	192.97	196.38	79.38	54.89
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	8.30	8.29	6.00	5.65	1.10	1.10	3.30	0.00
3.	Assam	79.11	77.10	87.96	86.00	88.25	87.65	40.68	31.50
4.	Bihar	111.26	106.17	96.82	90.28	104.02	95.02	54.31	42.47
5.	Chandigarh	1.00	0.96	2.00	2.00	3.39	3.39	1.30	0.00
6.	Chhattisgarh	39.45	36.19	42.19	40.15	67.42	65.74	32.75	24.48
7.	Delhi	3.00	1.47	9.00	8.30	15.80	15.80	5.00	2.39
8.	Goa	2.95	2.64	15.00	15.00	34.39	34.39	11.00	1.73
9.	Gujarat	67.69	68.92	67.70	65.16	102.33	101.06	43.23	31.66
10.	Haryana	64.00	64.00	81.25	81.24	103.23	103.23	35.00	26.71
11.	Himachal Pradesh	39.50	39.44	57.00	57.00	76.21	76.21	26.00	14.73
12.	Jharkhand	34.86	35.00	57.25	57.24	96.41	96.41	40.00	9.96
13.	Karnataka	88.91	86.75	104.21	106.51	215.30	214.91	66.57	37.73
14.	Kerala	62.02	54.44	58.48	50.10	72.53	73.20	46.54	36.49
15.	Madhya Pradesh	98.73	91.71	80.88	76.40	110.14	98.35	43.40	28.38
16.	Maharshtra	158.20	159.32	142.55	144.79	195.18	196.87	91.95	71.87
17.	Manipur	14.74	14.65	12.14	10.34	23.77	23.65	13.34	0.34
18.	Meghalaya	25.40	24.31	22.88	22.33	51.60	50.77	20.27	0.89
19.	Mizoram	15.53	15.53	15.00	15.00	13.55	13.55	9.30	0.82
20.	Nagaland	11.82	11.81	12.00	10.20	30.60	30.60	13.30	0.00
21.	Orissa	73.37	72.22	139.31	138.87	209.55	208.84	67.39	61.07
22.	Puducherry	5.00	4.99	7.55	7.49	2.95	9.25	2.30	0.01
23.	Punjab	75.34	74.69	85.95	85.47	156.77	156.77	52.01	37.63
24.	Rajasthan	80.37	80.78	103.18	102.81	214.35	216.54	62.56	52.07
25.	Tamil Nadu	84.69	79.40	94.03	94.48	133.77	131.96	62.12	43.00
26.	Uttar Pradesh	97.35	101.36	135.87	132.50	223.51	222.20	86.21	84.80

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
27.	Uttarkhand	54.61	52.86	41.30	38.98	112.40	112.29	30.89	19.26
28.	West Bengal	47.00	46.77	58.00	57.99	95.30	95.30	59.30	46.67
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.30	0.00
30.	NHAI *Internally Aided Funds								
	Externally Aided Funds	3478.00	9090.23	2525.18	15973.02	3524.74	18187.27	5340.00	3718.71

*Expenditure is incurred out of non-lapsable funds available with NHAI.

[Translation]

Repair of NH in Tamil Nadu

4361. SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several stretches of the National Highways in Tamil Nadu are in a dilapidated State including NH-82;

(b) if so, the details thereof including names of such stretches in the State NH-wise; and

(c) the details of the steps taken and funds allocated for the repair and maintenance of the National Highways in Tamil Nadu including their present status, NH-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) The National Highways passing through the State of Tamil Nadu are not in dilapidated state and are being maintained in traffic worthy condition within the available resources. The National Highway No. 82 does not pass through the State of Tamil Nadu.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Allocation of funds for repair and maintenance of National Highways are made State-wise and NH-wise. Amount allocated for the year 2009-10 under Maintenance & Repair to Tamil Nadu state is Rs. 23.75 crore.

[English]

Edible Oil Subsidy

4362. SHRI M.B. RAJESH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any request from the Government of Kerala regarding extension of edible oil subsidy to coconut oil; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The Government had implemented a 'Scheme for distribution of subsidised imported edible oils through States/UTs' during 2008-09. The Central subsidy had been Rs. 15/- per kg till January 2009 and thereafter Rs. 25/- per kg of imported edible oil handed over to the States for distribution under the Scheme. The Scheme ended on 31.3.2009. The Government of Kerala had requested that the same rate of subsidy be given for coconut oil. The Government of Kerala was informed that the 'Scheme for distribution of edible oils' is restricted to edible oils imported by PSUs and supplied to the States/UTs for distribution to increase domestic availability and stabilize prices and that the Scheme had no provision to subsidies domestic oils.

Production of Organic Turmeric

4363. SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the State where Organic Turmeric is produced;

(b) the details of the steps being taken by the Government for improving the quality and enhancing the productivity of organic turmeric in the country including Orissa; and

(c) whether steps have been taken for the procurement and marketing of Organic Turmeric by Government agencies and NAFED in the country including Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Organic Turmeric is generally grown in the North Eastern States including Sikkim and other hilly States/region of the country by default, as the fertilizer consumption in these States/areas is negligible.

(b) The Department of Agriculutre & Cooperation is implementing two Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the holistic development of Horticulture *viz.* Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North-Eastern States (TMNE) including Sikkim, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand and National Horticulture Mission (NHM) in remaining States an Union Territories. Promotion of organic farming along with certification of various Horticulture crops including turmeric is one of the components under both the schemes. Under these schemes, for adoption of organic farming, assistance is being provided to the farmers @ 50% of cost subject to a maximum of Rs. 10,000/- per ha limited to 4 ha per beneficiary. The assistance is also provided for certification of organic produce @ Rs. 5.00 lakh in cluster of 50 ha. Assistance is also provided for generating awareness through organizing trainings, workshops/seminars, publication of leaflets etc.

State Government of Orissa has taken initiatives for production of organic seed materials of turnmeric varieties Lime Roma, Suroma, Ranga, Rashmi etc. through Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology (OUAT). These varieties are having high yielding capacity and high curcumin content than the traditional varieties. The seed materials produced by OUAT are being supplied to Government farms and progressive farmers for multiplication and further distribution in te specific pockets of Koraput & Kandhamal districts of Orissa.

Incentives for organic certification of turmeric in Kandhamal district are being provided to Kandhamal Apex Spices Association for Marketing (KASAM).

(c) In Orissa, two Government agencies *viz.* KASAM and Orissa Milk Federation (OMFED) are procuring organic turmeric for marketing and export.

[Translation]

Inclusion of Sports in School Curriculum

4364. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to include sports in school curriculum to nurture talents in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of physical education teachers available for this purpose;

(c) whether the Government proposes to issue guidelines to the State Governments for including sports in school curriculum and appointment of physical education teachers;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the time frame fixed for the purpose; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government for its speedy implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PATIL): (a) to (e) Both New Education Policy 1986 and National Curriculum framework 2005 provide that sports and physical education are an integral part of the learning process, and are necessary for overall development of learners.

Since sports is a State subject, the Ministry does not maintain data about physical education teachers in schools.

[English]

Scheme for Promoting Sports among Tribal People

4365. SHRI P. BALRAM: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is implementing/ proposes to implement any scheme for promoting sports among the tribal people in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the number of tribal sports persons benefiting thereof in the country including Andhra Pradesh, gender-wise and State-wise;

(c) whether the Government proposes to give training to the tribals to participate in the Commonwealth Games;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount spent so far; and

(e) the funds earmarked and utilised for the training of tribals during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PATIL): (a) and (b) A scheme of Special Area Games (SAG) is implemented by Sports. Authority of India (SAI) under which, sports talent from tribal, costal and hilly areas is identified and nurtured. The trainees, who are in the age group of 14 of 21 years, are admitted in the training centres on residential and non-residential basis. They are provided with sports kit, sports equipments, competition exposure, insurance, medical expenses, etc. There are 21 centres across the country and the number of tribal trainees being trained during 2008-09 are given below:—

Sl.No.	Region	Residential			Non Residential			Grand Total
		Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	
1.	East	337	175	512	42	22	64	576
2.	Southern	93	162	255	82	68	150	405
3.	North East	491	323	814	88	38	126	940
4.	Central Centre	46	05	51	23	01	24	75
	Total	912	651	1563	230	124	354	1917

(c) and (d) Core probables including tribal sports persons have been identified and are being trained intensively for Commonwealth Games, 2010.

(e) There is no separate earmarking of funds for training of sportspersons from tribal areas.

Irregularities in Prasar Bharati

4366. DR. K.S. RAO:
DR. VINAY KUMAR PANDEY:
SHRI P. BALRAM:

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

(a) whether financial irrgularities have been reported in the Prasar Bharati;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has conducted any inquiry in this regard;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING, (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[Translation]

Food Banks

4367. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of food banks set up for ensuring food security in the country, including Jharkhand, State-wise; and

(b) the details of the steps taken by the Government to overcome food crisis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) To provide safeguard against starvation during the period of natural calamity like floods, etc. or lean season, Village Grain Bank Scheme is being implemented by the Department of Food & Public Distribution. So far, 16,478 Village Grain Banks (VGBs) have been sanctioned since 2005-06 in 20 States including 583 in Jharkhand. However, so far 10,224 VGBs are reported to have been set up as per reports received from State Governments. In 2005-06, the Government of India sanctioned 583 VGBs in the State of Jharkhand. So far, no report regarding setting up of the sanctioned VGBs has been

received from the Government of Jharkhand. A Statement showing the number of VGBs sanctioned by the Department and established, as reported by the State Governments is enclosed.

Government has taken the following steps to increase production and procurement of foodgrains in the country:-

(i) Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana has been launched with an estimated outlay of Rs. 25000 crore during 11th Plan period for holistic development of agriculture and allied sectors including foodgrains so as to achieve 4% growth in agricultural sector during 11th Plan period.

(ii) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme named National Food Security Mission has been launched in selected districts so as to increase the production of rice, wheat and pulses in the country by 10, 8 and 2 million tons respectively by the end of 11th Plan. An outlay of about Rs. 5000 crore has been approved for thhis scheme during the 11th Plan.

(iii) In districts other than those covered under the National Food Security Mission, Integrated cereals Development Programme in rice, wheat and coarse cereals based cropping systems is in operation.

(iv) Minimum Support Prices for paddy, wheat and coarse cereals have been increased.

(v) Other administrative measures have been taken to regulate exports and imports of cereals and pulses.

For availability of foodgrains at affordable prices, and for maintaining food security in the country to ensure that people living below poverty line get adequate foodgrains, the Government has been making allocation of foodgrains @ 35 Kg. per family per month under the Targeted Public Distribution System for 6.52 crore Below Poverty Line (BPL), and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) ration card holder families at highly subsidized prices. Depending upon availability of foodgrains in the Central pool, they are also allocated for APL category of population.

The Government has also been making allocation of foodgrains under various other welfare schemes such as Mid Day Meal, Wheat Based Nutrition Programme, Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls, Welfare Institutions/Hostels, SC/ST/OBC/Hostels, Village Grain Bank, Annapurna and Emergency Feeding Programme.

Statement

The number of Village Grain Banks (VGBs) sanctioned by department of Food and Public Distribution & set up by the States

Name of State	Total VGB's sanctioned	Total VGBs set up by the States
Maharashtra	1,377	—
Andhra Pradesh	4,957	4,957
West Bengal	420	420
Bihar	415	—
Gujarat	354	226
Madhya Pradesh	2,784	1,285
Orissa	500	240
Tripura	39	13
Rajasthan	550	—
Kerala	387	—
Chhattisgarh	1,904	1,904
Jharkhand	583	—
Meghalaya	44	40
Uttar Pradesh	1,281	500
Assam	100	67
Sikkim	80	80
Himachal Pradesh	55	—
Nagaland	300	300
Uttarakhand	55	—
Manipur	293	192
Total	16,478	10,224

Irrigated Land Area

4368. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH *ALIAS* LALAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of the total irrigated area as compared to the total cultivable land in each State/Union Territory;

(b) whether the Government has formulated any special package for the States having less than national average irrgated land; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) It is estimated that the total irrigated area compared to the cultivable land in the country is about 47%. The State-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) and (c) Irrigation being a State subject, irrigation projects are conceived, planned and implemented by the respective State Governments as per their own priority. However, Government of India provides central assistance to the State Governments under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP). As per the AIBP Guidelines, new projects are included in the programme only on completion of an ongoing project on one to one basis. However, the guidelines provides for inclusion of the projects benefiting states with lower irrigation development as compared to the national average in relaxation to the one to tone criteria.

Statement

State-wise distribution of cultivable land, total irrigated land (2006-07)

in Thousand Hectare

Sl. No.	States	Cultivable Land	Total Irrigated area	Percentage
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15911	6070	38.1
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	422	52	12.3
3.	Assam	3224	190	5.9
4.	Bihar	6638	4427	66.7
5.	Chhattisgarh	5581	1486	26.6
6.	Goa	197	38	19.3
7.	Gujarat	12412	4817	38.8
8.	Haryana	3782	5461	144.4
9.	Himachal Pradesh	813	182	22.4
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1048	459	43.8
11.	Jharkhand	4184	262	6.3
12.	Karnataka	12894	3603	27.9
13.	Kerala	2329	490	21.0
14.	Madhya Pradesh	17312	6543	37.8
15.	Maharashtra	21162	4445	21.0
16.	Manipur	231	51	22.1
17.	Meghalaya	1057	72	6.8
18.	Mizoram	213	18	8.5
19.	Nagaland	657	106	16.1
20.	Orissa	7473	2681	35.9
21.	Punjab	4270	7759	181.7
22.	Rajasthan	25600	7958	31.1
23.	Sikkim	155	12	7.7
24.	Tamil Nadu	8148	3309	40.6
25.	Tripura	310	107	34.5
26.	Uttarakhand	1504	568	37.8
27.	Uttar Pradesh	19268	19120	99.2
28.	West Bengal	5751	5429	94.4
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	47	0	0.0
30.	Chandigarh	2	2	100.0
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	24	7	29.2
32.	Daman and Diu	3	0	0.0
33.	Delhi	54	31	57.4
34.	Lakshadweep	3	1	33.3
35.	Puducherry	31	28	90.3
	Total	182708	85783	47.0

[English]

GM Crop Trials

4369. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTRUE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has allowed Genetically Modified (GM) Crops field trails in the country including for rice;

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

(c) whether the Union Government sought the views of the State Governments before permitting GM crops field trials in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether some State Governments have opposed such trials;

(f) if so, the details thereof and reasons forwarded by them;

(g) whether despite such opposition the Union Government permitted GM crops trials in some State;

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

(i) the details of the which have adopted GM free policy in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) has accorded approval for conducting field trials with GM crops namely; cotton, rice, okra, brinjal, potato, groundnut, tomato, corn, cabbage, cauliflower, mustard and sorghum.

The field trials of GM crops have been permitted as they have beneficial characteristics such as insect resistance, herbicide tolerance, virus resistance and improved product quality. The 'stacking' of these traits is an important feature that has been used increasingly to tackle multiple costraints in agriculture. It is expected that development of GM crops with tolerance to drought and salinity, improved nitrogen use efficiency, enhaned yield, quality and nutritional properties coupled with existing traits will be technically feasible in the near future and be a real value addition. It will make agriculture more efficient and competitive to meet the challenges of hunger, proverty, malnutrition and food security in tomorrow's world.

(c) and (d) As per Rules, 1989, the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee is the apex body to accord approval for field trials of GM crops. However, the concerned State Government agencies including Chief Secretary, Secretary, State Department of Agriculture and Director, State Agricultural Universtities (SAUs) are informed of the trials to ensure strict compliance of the biosafety measures.

(e) and (f) Officially, no State Government has opposed such trials. However, the Ministry of Environment and Forests had received a complaint from Prof. T K Bose, Member, West Bengal State Agriculture Commission that Bt okra field trials being conducted in Nadia district, West Bengal during 2007 are illegal as the M/s Maharashtra Seeds Pvt Ltd. (Mahyco) have not obtained the approval of the State Biotechnology Co-ordination Committee and District Level Committees, notified under 'Rules for the Manufactrue, Use, Import, Export and Storage of Hazardous Micro Organisms (HMOs)/Genetically Engineered Organisms (GMOs) or Cells, 1989' notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. It has been clarified that as per the said Rules, the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) is the apex body for permitting field trials of GM crops. However, the approvals granted by the GEAC are communicated to the concerned State Departments agencies. Subsequently, the State Government of West Bengal has informed that large number of agricultural farms in almost all the destricts and different agro-climatic zones are available with the State and therefore, in future, all field trials may be allowed in agricultural farms of the Government instead of leased land from farmers. The GEAC has agreed to the above suggestion.

(g) No, Madam.

(h) Does not arise.

(i) The Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India and Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India intimated that no State has adopted any GM free policy.

Monopoly of Private TV Operators

4370. SHRI C. SIVASAMI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain private television operators have monopolized the telecasting of popular channels and are not allowing the Multi-system operators (MSOs) to function in the market; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government and the steps taken to check such monopoly in lectronic media sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise. Howver, for non-discriminatory access of TV channels to all the distributors of TV channels which includes Multi System Operators (MSOs), the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has issued the Telecommunciation (Broadcasting and Cable Services) Interconnection Regulation 2004 dated 10.12.2004. Clause 3.1 and 3.2 which take care of any monopolistic practice of broadcasters of TV cannels. According to these clauses broadcasters have been prohibited from entering into exclusive controls with distributors of TV channels. Broadcasters have been mandated to provide signals of their TV channels to any distributor, if he so request, on non-discriminatory terms.

Facilities for the National Hockey Team

4371. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH:
SHRI SARVEY SATYANARAYANA:

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

(a) whether there have been reports of shabby treatment meted out to the players of the men and women National Hockey team and frugal daily allowance paid to them while playing international events;

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

(c) the steps taken to ensure that adequate facilities are available to the National Hockey players?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PATIL): (a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) All national teams, including hockey, are provided with full cost assistance for their training at national coaching camps and participation in trainings and competitions abroad.

Disaster Management Institute, Bhopal

4372. SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received a proposal to develop the Disaster Management Institute, Bhopal, as a Centre of Excellence for the prevention of industrial disasters and safe disposal of hazardous chemical residues;

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

(c) the estimated expendiure for the said project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) Earlier, a proposal from Disaster Management Institute, Bhopal was received during July, 2004 to strengthen this Institute as a Centre of Excellence for mitigation and management of Earthquake and Industrial Disasters. However, the Central Government during November, 2004 intimated the State Government regarding consideration of the proposal for development of this Institute as a Regional Centre of Excellence for Earthquake Risk Mitigation and Management.

Recently, the Governing Body of the National Institute of Disaster Management has approved the proposal for setting up a Centre of Excellence on Industrial and Chemical Disasters in Disaster Management Institute (DMI), Bhopal. Detailed proposal in this regard not yet been received by the Central Government.

Oil from Tobacco

4373. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Tobacco Research Institute (CTRI) has undertaken a project for extraction of oil tobacco;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether CTRI is also conducting research to explore other beneficial uses of tobacco; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The Central Tobacco Research Institute (CTRI) has conducted research on developing tobacco as an oil seed crop. In the study, it was observed that tobacco seed contains around 35% oil.

(c) Yes, Madam.

(d) CTRI has conducted research on other beneficial uses of tobacco and has developed an integrated approach for recovery of 95% pure solanesol, pure nicotine and organic acids from tobacco and tobacco waste and edible protein from green leaf.

Poultry Development

4374. SHRI K. SUGUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new Centrally Sponsored Scheme on 'Poultry Development' has been launched recently;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme;

(c) whether the Government also proposes to launch a poultry venture capital fund;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the salient features of the said fund including the funds allocated for the purpose, benefits likely to accure and time by which it is likely to be implemented; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to help the poultry industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTRUE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The Government has recently approved a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, "Poultry Development" from 2009-10 during XI Five Year Plan at a total outlay of Rs. 150 crore. The scheme has three components viz. 'Assistance to State Poultry Farms', (which is a continuing component) and two new components Rural Backyard Poultry Development' and"Poultry Estates'.

(c) and (d) The Government is already implementing a Central Sector Scheme 'Dairy/Poultry Ventrue Capital Fund' and the administrative approval for"Poultry Venture Capital Fund' has already been issued separately allocating an amount of Rs. 10 crore for 2009-10. The scheme is aimed at encouraging enterepreneurship in various poultry activities. The scheme is being implemented through National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD). Fifty percent of the approved loan for the bankable project is interest-free. Further, the interest component applicable for agriculture activities is being subsidised to the extent of 50% in cases of regular/timely repayment of loan by beneficiary.

(e) The Government has been addressing the interest of poultry sector through its various projects and policy decisions. Financial relief measures were provided to the poultry industry throughout the country in light of avian influenza outbreak in some areas of West Bengal resulting in reduced demand and prices of poultry products. Export of maize, which is an important poultry feed igredient, was also banned for a few months in 2008 to increase the domestic availability. Measures have also been taken up by the Government to protect from various diseases. As a result of some of these measures, the poultry industry is now commanding remunerative prices for poultry products.

Revival of MSME

4375. SHRI NITYANANDA PRADHAN: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted to determine the number of functional and sick small and medium industrial units in the country;

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

(c) whether the small industrial sector has registered a decline during the last three years;

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

(e) the remedial measures taken for the revival and growth of the sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) and (b) Ministry of MSME is conducting quinquennial survey for collection of data on Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) sector on various parameters including functional MSMEs,

production, employment etc. The total number of micro and small enterprises (MSEs) in the country as on 31st March, 2007 (latest available) is estimated to be 1,28,46,365. Since the medium enterprises were for the first time defined under the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006 which came into force from 2nd October, 2006, information on the number of functional medium enterprises in not avilable. Data on sickness for the MSME sector is compiled by Reserve Bank of India on annual basis. The number of sick MSMEs in the country as at the end of March 2008 is 99, 941. The State/UT-wise details on total number of MSEs and the number of sick MSMEs are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) to (e) There has been significant increase in growth in production in MSE sector during 2004-05 to 2006-07 (latest available). The growth rates were 10.88%, 12.32% and 12.60% respectively for the years 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07. To facilitate the promotion and development of micro and small enterprises (MSEs) and to enhance their competitiveness, the Government is implementing various schemes/programmes relating to credit, infrastrutural development, technology upgradation, marketing entrepreneurial development etc., for assisting MSE sector in meeting the challenges. Some of the major schemes/programmes being implemented are Credit Guarantee Scheme, Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme, Performance and Credit Rating Scheme, Cluster Development Programme, National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme (NMCP), Prime Minister's Employement Generation Programme and Market Development Assistance Scheme. Further the Government has enacted the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006 which has come into force from 2nd October 2006.

Statement

Statement showing State/UT-wise details of estimated no. of Micro & Small Enterprises (MSEs) and no. of sick Micro Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)

Sl.No.	Name of State/UT	Estimated No. of MSEs as on 31.03.2007	No. of sick MSMEs as on 31.03.2008
1	2	3	4
1.	Jammu and Kashmir	89,729	528
2.	Himachal Pradesh	95,572	361
3.	Punjab	4,41,797	1,573
4.	Chandigarh	26,612	138
5.	Uttarakhand	1,37,618	544
6.	Haryana	2,63,308	612
7.	Delhi	2,10,905	1,198
8.	Rajasthan	5,38,728	3,099
9.	Uttar Pradesh	21,16,791	17,435
10.	Bihar	6,29,509	8,263
11.	Sikkim	474	16
12.	Arunachal Pradesh	1,578	2
13.	Nagaland	19,024	74
14.	Manipur	57,171	51
15.	Mizoram	14,335	0
16.	Tripura	29,141	16
17.	Meghalaya	28,591	32
18.	Assam	2,35,576	1,188
19.	West Bengal	9,21,221	16,408
20.	Jharkhand	1,63,220	1,465
21.	Orissa	4,68,468	3,076
22.	Chhattisgarh	3,15,118	1,725
23.	Madhya Pradesh	9,76,981	5,197
24.	Gujarat	6,46,379	10,538
25.	Daman and Diu	3,999	72
26.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	3,171	73
27.	Maharashtra	9,89,254	6,847
28.	Andhra Pradesh	10,43,512	5,468
29.	Karnataka	8,04,811	3,531
30.	Goa	8,654	128
31.	Lakshadweep	675	0
32.	Kerala	5,42,610	4,063
33.	Tamil Nadu	10,06,684	6,183
34.	Puducherry	11,120	37
35.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	4,032	0
	All India	1,28,46,365	99,941

G.I. Application for Bydagi Chilli

4376. SHRI SARVEY SATHYANARAYANA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Geographical Indication (GI) application for Bydagi Chilli is pending with the GI registry of India;

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

(c) the steps taken/being taken to grant GI certificate to the said chilli to protect the interests of the farmers of Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Yes, Madam. Spices Board under the Ministry of Commerce has filed an application for GI Registration of Bydagi Chilli with the GI Registry, Chennai. The application has been filed vide G.I. Application No. 129 in Class 30 in the name of Spices Board on 01.08.2008. The first Consultative Group Meeting (CGM) pertaining to GI application for registration of Bydagi Chilli was held on 9th April, 2009 at GI Registry, Chennai.

[Translation]

Fencing of Indo-Bangladesh Border

4377. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH *ALIAS* LALAN SINGH:
SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE:
SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether fencing at several points along the Indo-Bangladesh border could not be carried out;

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

(c) whether the Government has made any efforts to ensure that the entire stretch of the border is fenced;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Border Security Force has proposed measures for improving the quality of the border fencing; and

(f) if so, the details therof and the time by which a decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (d) Government has sanctioned fencing over 3436 km. along Indo-Bangladesh border in phased projects. Upto March 2009, a total of 2650 km. of fencing has been erected. There are many non-feasible and problematic stretches like riverine, low-lying and water-logged areas, hilly terrains, villages and population till International border (zero-line) and 150 yards problem with Bangladesh. These issues have to be resolved before fencing. There are institutional mechanisms to address these problems. Technical options are also being explored to cover the reiverine and other difficult areas. All out efforts are being made to complete the sanctioned fencing works.

(e) and (f) The single rwo type of fencing erected under Phase-I project is being replaced by the composite multiple row type concertina fencing with the improved design and higher specifications. About 861 km. of fencing has been sanctioned for replacement, out of which 367 km. has already been replaced upto March 2009. The quality of construction is ensured by the mechanism of Third Party Inspection.

Agro and Rural Industries Societies

4378. SHRI JAYWANT GANGARAM AWALE: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the problems faced by the agriculture and rural industries cooperative societies in the country;

(b) the steps taken to address the problems during each of the last three years; and

(c) the details of the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) to (c) National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) under the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DoAC) is the nodal agency for assisting cooperative development in the country. Government through DoAC has undertaken various mesures for promotion and development of cooperative sector in the rural areas of the country, such as, farming of National Policy on Cooperatives, enactment of Multi-State Cooperative Societies (MSCS) Act, 2002, policy initiatives for revitalization of cooperative credit structure, etc. There has not been much significant involvement of cooperative soceities in the implementation

of various programmes in the agro and rural industries sector under the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.

Self-Sufficiency in Agriculture

4379. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH:
SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether various schemes of the Government including the National Food Security Mission, the Macro Management of Agriculture, Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize and the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana have helped the country attain self-sffuciency in Agriculture;

(b) if so, the achievements of the said schemes;

(c) the details of the crops in which the country has attained self-sufficiency; and

(d) the total funds allocated to the above schemes during each of the last three years and the current year, scheme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Due to substantial allocation under various Schemes of the Government including the National Food Security Mission (NFSM), the Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA), Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and encouraging response by the farmers to various initiatives of the Government, there has been substantial increase in agricultural production. The foodgrain production which was stuck in the band of approximately 190 million tonnes to 213 million tonnes during the last decade, increased substantially now. The country could ahieve a record level of foodgrain production of 230.78 million tonnes in 2007-08. The production of rice, wheat, coarse cereals, maixe, pulses, oilseeds and cotton during 2007-08 is estimated to be an all-time record. This positive trend continued during the last year. As per the 4th Advanced Estimates, foodgrain production during 2008-09 is likely to be 233.88 million tonnes.

NFSM is being implemented from Rabi 2007-08 in 312 districts identified in 17 states. An additional production of 20 million tonnes of foodgrains comprising 10 million tonnes of rice, 8 million tonnes of wheat and 2 million tonnes of pulses has been targetted to be acheived by the end of XI Plan (2011-12). From 2006-07 to 2008-09, the production of rice, wheat and pulses increased by 5.8, 4.77 and 0.46 million tonnes. During 2007-08, an amount of Rs. 398.73 was released. The release during 2008-09 was substnatially increased to Rs. 883.29 crore.

MMA aims at all round development in agriculture through Work Plans prepared by states. From 2006-07 to 2008-09, under the MMA, an amount of Rs. 2801.58 crore has been released.

Under ISOPOM, during 2007-08, production of oilseeds, pulses and maize was 297.55, 147.61 and 193.10 lakh tonnes, respectively. During 2008-09, as per the 4th Advance Estimates, the production of oilseeds, pulses and maize was 281.57, 146.62 and 192.87 lakh tonnes respectively. The area covered under oil palm was 21329 hectares and 26616 hectares during 2007-08 and 2008-09 respectively. From 2006-07 to 2008-09, an amount of Rs. 1045.76 crore has been released.

Under RKVY, the funds are released to the State Government on the basis of the projects approved by the State Government. The releases under RKVY have increased from Rs. 1246.89 crore during 2007-08 to Rs. 2886.80 crore duirng 2008-09.

(d) The total funds allocated under the National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA), Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) and the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) during the last three years and the current year are as under:

(Rs. in crore)

Year	NFSM	RKVY	MMA	ISOPOM
2006-07	*	*	910.00	304.85
2007-08	398.75	1489.70	1100.00	343.75
2008-09	1100.00	3165.67	1032.93	400.00
2009-10	1350.00	3153.55	1032.66	320.00

*RKVY & NFSM have been launched from 2007-08.

Rise in Crop Prices

4380. SHRI SANJAY SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that there has been rise in price of various crops consequent upon fall in their production;

(b) if so, the details of such crops;

(c) whether any assessment of the fall in production in percentage term has been made;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the corrective steps taken by the Government to control price of crops;

(f) whether the Government proposes to announce a special incentive package to encourage farmers to grow those crops; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) As per Fourth Advance Estimates released recently, production of coarse cereals, pulses and oilseeds in 2008-09 was less than that in 2007-08. The Wholesale Price Index (WPI) with base 1993-94=100 for June 2008 and June 2009 as well as production for such crops (except oilseeds) in 2007-08 and 2008-09 are given below. The percentage of all in production in such crops is also given:

(Production in million tonnes)

Crops	WPI in June 2008	WPI in June 2009	Production in 2007-08	4th Advance Estimates 2008-09	Percentage fall in production
Jowar	326.3	374.8	7.93	7.31	7.81
Bajra	236.7	305.6	9.97	8.83	1.14
Ragi	234.8	324.2	2.15	2.06	4.18
Tur/Arhar	216.1	287.7	3.08	2.31	25.00
Urad	308.6	380.4	1.12	0.83	25.89
Moong	253.3	329.8	1.52	1.01	33.55

The prices of edible oils did not increased between June 2008 and June 2009.

(e) to (g) In order to check the rising prices, Government has reduced the import duty to 0% on all crude edible oils (except crude soyabean oil), cotton, pulses, wheat and wheat flour, semi-milled or wholly milled rice and 7.5% on all refined edible oils. Government has also prohibited the export of all edible oils, pulses (except kabuli chana), wheat and non-basmati rice, with certain exception. Export of basmti rice is permitted with minimum export price of US $ 1100 per tonne.

A Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) is being implemented in 14 major Oilseeds and pulses and 15 maize growing States to increase the production and productivity of these crops in the country. National Food Security Mission (NFSM) has been launched from 2007-08 in 312 identified districts of 17 important rice, wheat and pulses growing States to increase the production of rice by 10 million tonnes, wheat by 8 million tonnes and pulses by 2 million tones by the end of Eleventh Plan.

Agricultural Research and Development Schemes

4381. SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Agriculture Productivity is below the international standards/norm;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any agriculture research and development scheme undertaken to raise the agricultural production to the level of international standards during the last three years and the current year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Our agriculture productivity is less in some of the crops and commodities in comparison to interantional standards, as Indian farming is predominantly rainfed farming and dependent on unpredictable monsoon rains. Besides, our input in terms of fertilizer use, micronutrient use, seed replacement rate etc. are much less as compared to a number of other developed and developing countries. Even the crop duration is important for increasing productivity. For example, wheat varieties grown in China in winter produce more, but take longer duration (270 days) as compared to Indian wheat varieties which take less time (150 days) to mature. Similar is the case in many other crops. Our crop productivity per unit area, per unit time and per unit energy is very much comparable to world scenario.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. The DARE/ICAR is constantly striving to achieve excellence in agricultural production. In the recent past, DARE/ICAR has released/ identified 96 varieties/hybrids of crops, such as Bt. Gene Cotton (*Bacillus thuringiensis),* Bikaneri Nerma resistant to boll worn. Besides, production of quality seeds of fields crops has reached a record level of 0.85 lakh tonnne during 2008-09.

In Fisheries Sector, through freshwater aquaculture, early breeding of Catla and Rohu has been achieved, paving the way for year-round availability of their seed.

In Animal Science Sector, ICAR has achieved a unique scientific landmark in the birth of cloned buffalo calf for the first time in the World and also launched quality animal seed production programme in sheep, goat, ipg and poultry. DARE/ICAR has also developed a good number of tools, implements, processes and pilot plans like zero till drill, strip till dril, pneumatic planter, manure spreader etc. which have helped the farmers in enhancing their agriculture production.

DARE/ICAR is working in frontier areas of research viz. marker assisted selection, stem cell research, nanotechnology, cloning, genome resource conservation etc. so as to enhance agricultural production. DARE/ ICAR in the XI Plan has established a National Institute of Abiotic Stress Management in Maharashtra to address the issues related to impending climate change and two institutes namely National Institute of Biotic Stress Management and Indian Institute of Agricultural Biotechnology are in the pipeline for undertaking high quality research. In addition, the Central Government has launched several schemes including Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, National Horticulture Mission and National Project for Soil health and Fertility for enhancing agricultural productivity.

[English]

Agricultural Research Centres

4382. DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI:
SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any system to review the working of Agriculture Research Centres to derive maximum benefits therefrom.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of Agriculture Research Centres in the country including Orissa and the efforts made by them to increase productivity particularly of Turmeric and Ginger, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government has any plan to open more Agriculture Resarch Centres during the 11th Five Year Plan;

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

(f) the funds earmarked and allocated therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has an in-built sytem to review the working of agricultural research centres through Quinquennial Review Team (QRT), Research Advisory Committee (RAC) and Institute Research Council (IRC) for monitoring the progress of agricultural research. In addition, ICAR has also developed mechanism for evaluation through independent agencies in specific cases.

(c) DARE/ICAR has established 97 Institutes comprising 49 National Institutes (including 4 Deemed Universities), 6 National Bureaux, 24 Directorates/Project Directorates and 18 National Research Centres. Besides there are 64 All India Coordinated Research Projects (AICRP) and 16 Network Projects located all over the country.

In Orissa DARE/ICAR has established 2 institutes, 2 Directorates and several AICRP centres.

ICAR has established Indian Institute of Spices Research, Calicut and National Research Centre on Seed Spices at Ajmer to provide technical support to the spice growers in the country, besides developing location and situation specific cultivars and technology. In Orissa, in the tribal area of Pottangi, a centre of AICRP Spices is functioning and it has developed techologies and varieties to improve production and productivity of turmeric and ginger.

(d) to (f) Yes, Madam. Two institute viz. National Institute of Biotic Strees Management and Indian Institute of Agricultural Biotechnology have been agreed, in-principle.

Air and DD Kendras

4383. SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any target has been fixed for setting up of Akashvani and Doordarshan Kendras during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

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

(c) the steps taken to ensure that the target is achieved within the stipulated time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN): (a) and (b) One Doordarshan Kendra (Studio Centre) at Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh) has been approved as part continuing schmes from 10th Plan under 11th Plan. As regards All India Radio (AIR) 195 new Akashvani Kendras including 145 of 100 Watt FM Transmitters have been approved as part of 10th Plan under 11th Plan. Details are given in the Statement inclosed.

(c) Construction of Doordarshan Kendra building at Tirupati is in progress and all out efforts are being made to complete this and other project within the stipulated time.

Statement

New Stations of 10th Plan continued in 11th Plan

Sl.No.	State/UT	No. of AIR Stations
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5
3.	Assam	3
4.	Gujarat	1
5.	Jharkhand	1
6.	Madhya Pradesh	1
7.	Maharashtra	2
8.	Manipur	3
9.	Meghalaya	1
10.	Mizoram	3
11.	Nagaland	3
12.	Orissa	1
13.	Punjab	2
14.	Rajasthan	2
15.	Tripura	4
16.	Uttar Pradesh	4

1	2	3
17.	Uttarakhand	6
18.	West Bengal	4
19.	Low Power FM Stations (100 Watt) in North-East Region	100
20.	Low Power FM Stations (100 Watt) in rest of the country.	45
21.	Total	195

*49 nos. of 100 Watt FM stations in North-East & 45 nos. of 100 Watt FM Transmitters in rest of the country are technically ready.

Note: Churachandpur, Rairangpur, Dharmanagar, Oras and Dungarpur are technically ready.

[Translation]

Inter-Structural Facilities of Roads

4384. SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received a request from the Gujarat Government for inter-structural facility of roads for the development of the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC); and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) The Government of Gujarat was requested for consideration of 6-laning of Ahmedabad-Bagodara-Bamanbore-Samakhiali-Gandhidham-Mandvi stretch of NH-8A, and Kandla-Gandhidham stretch of NH-8A as a part of development of road linkage for the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC). The sections of NH-8A from Ahmedabad to Bamanbore, Samakhiali to Gandhidham and from Kandla to Gandhidham are already 4-laned. The work of 4-laning between Bamanbore to Samakhiali section of NH-8A is in advanced stage of progress and this is targeted for completion in November 2009. The improvement to 4-lanes between Gandhidham and Mundra is included under National Highways Development Project (NHDP)-Phase-III. Also the Government has approved 6-laning of Gandhidham-Samakhiali stretch of NH-8A under NHDP-Phase-V. At present, there is no proposal for 6-laning of the remaining stretches of NH-8A.

M/s Gujarat Infrastructure Development Board (GIDB), a Government of Gujarat entity, forwarded a proposal for various infrastructure linkages including development of road connectivity in the DMIC region. The Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor Development Corporation (DMICDC), the Central Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) set up for implementation of the DMIC project, has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with GIDB in July 2008 for preparation of perspective and development plan for each node jointly and also to facilitate development of select early bird projects. The proposal of GIDB was forwarded to the DMICDC. DMICDC has awarded the consultancy services for preparation of Master Plan of the individual investment nodes in Gujarat in October, 2008.

[English]

Construction of Tunnel in J&K

4385. SHRI HASSAN KHAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is planning to construct a tunnel in Zojila Pass between Sonamag and Drass on the Sringar-Ladakh Highway; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) 12 km long Tunnel at Zozila and another tunnel of 3.10 km length at Z Morh are proposed. The contract for feasibility study and preparation of Detailed Projects Report (DPR) of Zozila Tunnel together with Z Morh Tunnel has been awarded to M/s iBilt Technology, New Delhi on 29th April 2009. The feasibility study will be completed within a period of 18 months.

Special Incentives to Farmers

4386. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of small and marginal farmers in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government proposes to provide special incentives to farmers particularly small and marginal farmers for procuring agricultural implements and machineries; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Based on the Agriculture Census 2000-2001 number of small and marginal operational holders of all social groups in the country is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) and (c) Incentives in the form of subsidy for the purchase of agricultural machines is available to all categories of farmers including small and marginal farmers under the Revised Macro Management of Agriculture Schemes. Subsidy for purchase of agricultural machines is also available under other schemes of the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, *viz.* 'Post Harvest Technology and Management', 'Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern States, Sikkim, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttrakhand' and"National Food Security Mission'.

Statement

State-wise number of Small and Marginal operational holders of all social groups

Sl.No.	States/UTs.	Number (in absolute units)	
		Marginal	Small
1	2	3	4
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	3,656	2,686
2.	Andhra Pradesh	7,023,118	2,518,124
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	14,994	20,059
4.	Assam	1,699,107	561,039
5.	Bihar	9,743,016	1,068,785
6.	Chandigarh	722	247
7.	Chhattisgarh	1,746,557	716,231
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	7,321	3,924
9.	Daman and Diu	5,350	656
10.	Delhi	15,922	6,027
11.	Goa	52,302	6,592
12.	Gujarat	1,297,708	1,256,602
13.	Haryana	704,013	294,102
14.	Himachal Pradesh	614,942	174,230
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	1,174,740	178,714
16.	Jharkhand	NA	NA
17.	Karnataka	3,251,928	1,909,203
18.	Kerala	6,335,428	226,810
19.	Lakshadweep	9,773	323
20.	Madhya Pradesh	2,837,801	1,951,053
21.	Maharashtra	5,305,743	3,605,606
22.	Manipur	75,405	48,730
23.	Meghalaya	114,948	56,961
24.	Mizoram	33,695	27,973
25.	Nagaland	4,809	8,894
26.	Orissa	2,294,520	1,113,599
27.	Puducherry	31,019	4,054
28.	Punjab	122,760	173,071
29.	Rajasthan	1,849,145	1,209,548
30.	Sikkim	36,318	15,358
31.	Tamil Nadu	5,845,962	1,226,193
32.	Tripura	405,788	54,598
33.	Uttar Pradesh	16,658,903	3,087,050
34.	Uttarakhand	628,267	158,402
35.	West Bengal	5,462,089	1,009,328
	Total	75,407,769	22,694,772

Note: (1) Data for the year 2000-01 for Jharkhand not collected.
(2) NA=Not Applicable.

Shortage of Personnel in PMF

4387. SHRIMATI BOTCHA JHANSI LAKSHMI:
SHRI ANANTH KUMAR:
SHRI RAMKISHUN:
SHRI ANANTHA VENKATARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shortage of personnel in the various Para-Military Forces (PMF) in the country;

(b) if so, the percentage of shortage during each of the last three years, forcewise and rank-wise;

(c) whether there is any proposal for fresh recruitments in the PMF;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether recruitment centres in the country have been identified; and

(f) if so, the details thereof including steps taken to address concerns of regional imbalances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) to (f) Recruitment in Central Para Military Forces is an ongoing process with the help of UPSC, SSC and Force recruitment boards. 60% of vacancies of Central Para Military Forces in constable (GD) rank are distributed amongst the States and UTs on the basis of population ratio. 20% of vacancies in the Border guarding forces (BSF, ITBP, SSB, Assam Rifles) are allotted to the border districts falling within their area of responsibility; the remaining 20% of vacancies in the border guarding forces and 40% in other CPMFs are allotted to the militancy and naxal affected districts as notified by the Government. Recruitment Centres for Constables exist in various States to ensure that no part of the country is neglected and regular recruitment takes place so that maximum number of vacancies are filled up.

Statement

Force	Percentage of shortage during last three years								
	Gazetted Officers			Non-Gazetted Officers			Other ranks		
	1.1.07	1.1.08	1.1.09	1.1.07	1.1.08	1.1.09	1.1.07	1.1.08	1.1.09
Assam Rifles	30.59	27.07	16.92	14.77	10.65	9.29	3.39	3.13	3.54
BSF	15	20	14	11	10	10	2	2	2
CISF	13.32	19.40	22.77	13.98	19.29	19.92	5.71	5.97	7.51
CRPF	28.72	26.79	23.94	24.27	22.31	23.75	9.11	2.93	3.07
ITBP	21.6	40.5	37.5	18.6	26.7	25.7	4.9	10.6	20.1
NSG*	27	38	24	19	22	21	NIL	1.7	0.83
SSB	34.83	38.17	35.41	31.15	26.12	27.57	11.75	10.21	8.16

*NSG is deputation force.

Sugar Production Capacity

4388. SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY:
SHRI OM PRAKASH YADAV:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

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

(a) the targets fixed and achieved for production of sugar during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) whether the sugar production capacity in the country was fully utilized during the said period;

(c) if so, the details thereof indicating the total production capacity and its utilisation during the said period, Statewise;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to bridge the gap between production and demand of sugar in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The Govt. does not fix the targets for sugar production. However the production of sugar during each of the last three sugar years (October—September) and the current sugar year, State-wise and sugar year-wise is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) to (e) The utilization of sugar production capacity depends on the availability of sugarcane. The production of sugarcane and sugar is cyclic in nature. Every two—three consecutive years of high sugarcane production in the country are followed by two—three years of low production. Sugar production capacity in the country was marginally under-utilized during 2005-06 and was over utilized during 2006-07 and 2007-08, as sugarcane production/availability in the country was higher than the requirement. However, during the current the current sugar season 2008-09, the sugar production capacity was highly under-utilized due to lesser production/ availability of sugarcane in the country. The State-wise total sugar production capacity and its utilization during above period are given in the enclosed Statements-II to V.

The production of sugar during current sugar season 2008-09 is estimated to be in the range of 150-155 lac tons and along with a carry over stock of 100 lac tons from the previous sugar season, the consumption requirement of about 225 lac tons of sugar in the country will be met. However, to augment the availability and to meet the requirement of sugar during starting months of next sugar season 2009-10, the Government has permitted duty free import of raw sugar by sugar mills under Open General License (OGL) up to 01.08.2009 and under Advance Authorization Scheme up to 30.09.2009. Designated agencies viz. STC, MMTC, PEC and NAFED have been permitted duty free import of up to 1 million ton of white/refined sugar under OGL up to 01.08.2009.

Statement I

Statewise Production of Sugar for The Last Three Sugar season i.e. 2005-06 to 2007-08 and current season 2008-09 upto 30.06.2009

(Figures in Lac Tons)

Sl.No.	State	Sugar Season			
		2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 (P) upto 30.06.09
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Punjab	3.88	5.50	5.34	2.43
2.	Haryana	3.88	6.77	5.99	2.28
3.	Rajasthan	0.05	0.07	0.06	0.04
4.	Uttaranchal	4.41	5.28	4.01	2.27
5.	Uttar Pradesh	55.64	83.52	73.20	41.70
6.	Madhya Pradesh	0.94	1.48	1.74	0.49
7.	Chhattisgarh	0.22	0.21	0.38	0.13
8.	Gujarat	12.44	13.90	13.66	10.21
9.	Maharasthra	52.64	90.13	90.75	45.75

1	2	3	4	5	6
10.	Bihar	4.19	4.83	3.36	2.22
11.	Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Orissa	0.52	0.65	0.63	0.30
13.	West Bengal	0.07	0.04	0.05	0.02
14.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
15.	Andhra Pradesh	12.76	19.24	13.35	5.93
16.	Karnataka	20.09	25.42	28.39	16.57
17.	Tamil Nadu	21.38	24.21	21.41	14.41
18.	Puducherry	0.26	0.55	0.51	0.17
19.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
20.	Goa	0.11	0.19	0.15	0.09
	All India	193.21	281.99	262.98	145.01

Statement II

State-wise Annual Installed Production Capacity and Capacity Utilisation for 2005-06 Season

Sl.No.	State	Annual Installed Production Capacity (in Lakh Tonnes) As on 30.09.2006	Sugar Production (upto 30.09.2006) (P) (In Lakh Tonnes)	Capacity Utilisation Percentage
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Punjab	6.8423	3.88	56.71
2.	Haryana	5.3372	3.88	72.43
3.	Rajasthan	0.2320	0.05	21.55
4.	Uttaranchal	4.1168	4.14	100.56
5.	Uttar Pradesh	52.3402	55.64	106.30
6.	Madhya Pradesh	1.5449	0.94	60.85
7.	Chhattisgarh	0.2230	0.22	98.65
8.	Gujarat	10.7070	12.44	116.19
9.	Maharashtra	70.0891	52.64	75.10
10.	Bihar	4.8488	4.19	86.41
11.	Assam	0.1840	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5
12.	Orissa	1.0179	0.52	51.09
13.	West Bengal	0.0670	0.07	104.48
14.	Nagaland	0.0640	0.00	0.00
15.	Andhra Pradesh	9.0810	12.76	140.51
16.	Karnataka	15.4364	20.09	130.15
17.	Tamil Nadu	15.2420	21.38	140.27
18.	Puducherry	0.3830	0.26	67.89
19.	Kerala	0.1020	0.00	0.00
20.	Goa	0.0930	0.11	118.28
	All India	197.9716	193.21	97.59

P-Provisional

Note:— 1. The statement does not include 6 factories viz., Talaja (Gujarat), Pachrukhi (Bihar), Dalminangar (Bihar), Sivkami (A.P.), Mailpatti (T.N.), Mannam (Kerala), as they have not operated for more than last 20 years and their capacity has been treated as dormant.

2. After de-licencing of sugar, factories expanding capacities do not inform of expanded capacities to the Directorate of Sugar.

Statement III

State-wise annual Installed Production Capacity and Capacity Utilisation for 2006-2007 Season

Sl.No.	State	Annual Installed Production (in Lakh Tonnes) as on 30.09.2007	Sugar Production (Upto 30.09.2007) (in Lakh tonnes)	Capacity Utilisation Percentage
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Punjab	6.8423	5.50	80.38
2.	Haryana	5.3572	6.77	126.37
3.	Rajastahn	0.2320	0.07	30.17
4.	Uttarakhand	4.1168	5.28	128.25
5.	Uttar Pradesh	65.4231	83.52	127.66
6.	Madhya Pradesh	1.5449	1.48	95.80
7.	Chhattisgarh	0.2230	0.21	94.17
8.	Gujarat	10.7922	13.90	128.80
9.	Maharashtra	70.5239	90.13	127.80

1	2	3	4	5
10.	Bihar	4.8488	4.83	99.61
11.	Assam	0.1840	0.00	0.00
12.	Orissa	1.0179	0.65	63.86
13.	West Bengal	0.0670	0.04	59.70
14.	Nagaland	0.0640	0.00	0.00
15.	Andhra Pradesh	9.3260	19.24	206.30
16.	Karnatka	16.9840	25.42	149.67
17.	Tamil Nadu	15.7920	24.21	153.31
18.	Puducherry	0.3830	0.55	143.60
19.	Kerala	0.1020	0.00	0.00
20.	Goa	0.0930	0.19	204.30
	All India	213.9171	281.99	131.82

P-Provisional

Note:— 1. The statement does not include 6 sugar factories viz., Talaja (Gujarat), Panchrukhi (Bihar) Dalmianagar (Bihar), Sivkami (A.P.), Mailpatti (T.N.), Mannam (Kerala), as they have not operated for more than last 20 years and their capacity has been treated as dormant.

2. After de-licencing of sugar, factories expanding capacities do not inform of expanded capacities to the Directorate of Sugar.

Statement IV

State-wise annual Installed Production Capacity and Capacity Utilisation for 2007-2008 Season

Sl.No.	State	Annual Installed Production Capacity (In Lakh tonnes) As on 30.09.2008	Sugar Production (upto 30.09.2008) (P) (in Lakh Tonnes)	Capacity Utilisation Percentage
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Punjab	6.8423	5.34	78.04
2.	Haryana	5.3572	5.99	111.81
3.	Rajasthan	0.2320	0.06	25.86
4.	Uttarakhand	4.1168	4.01	97.41
5.	Uttar Pradesh	73.2583	73.20	99.92
6.	Madhya Pradesh	1.6562	1.74	105.06
7.	Chhattisgarh	0.2230	0.38	170.40

1	2	3	4	5
8.	Gujarat	10.7922	13.66	126.57
9.	Maharashtra	71.6109	90.75	126.73
10.	Bihar	4.8488	3.36	69.30
11.	Assam	0.1840	0.00	0.00
12.	Orissa	1.0179	063	61.89
13.	West Bengal	0.0670	0.05	74.63
14.	Nagaland	0.0640	0.00	0.00
15.	Andhra Pradesh	9.3260	13.35	143.15
16.	Karnatka	17.6570	28.39	160.79
17.	Tamil Nadu	16.9712	21.41	126.15
18.	Puducherry	0.3830	0.51	133.16
19.	Kerala	0.1020	0.00	0.00
20.	Goa	0.0930	015	161.29
	All India	224.8028	262.98	116.98

P—Provisional

Note:— 1. The statement does not include 6 sugar factories viz., Talaja (Gujarat), Pachrukhi (Bihar), Dalmianagar (Bihar), Sivkami (A.P.), Mailpatti (T.N.), Mannam (Kerala), as they have not operated for more than last 20 years and their capacity has been treated as dormant.

2. After de-licencing of sugar, factories expanding capacities do not inform of expanded capacities to the Directorate of Sugar.

Statement V

State-wise annual Installed Production Capacity and Capacity Utilisation for 2008-09 Season

Sl.No.	State	Annual Installed Production Capacity (in Lakh Tonnes) As on 30.06.2009	Sugar Production (upto 30.06.22009) (P) (In lakh tonees)	Capacity Utilisation Percentage As on 30.06.2009
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Punjab	6.8423	2.43	35.51
2.	Haryana	5.3572	2.28	42.56
3.	Rajasthan	0.2320	0.04	17.24
4.	Uttaranchal	4.1168	2.27	55.14
5.	Uttar Pradesh	74.2543	41.70	56.16

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Madhya Pradesh	1.6562	0.49	29.59
7.	Chhattisgarh	0.2230	0.13	58.30
8.	Gujarat	10.7922	10.21	94.61
9.	Maharashtra	72.2631	45.75	63.31
10.	Bihar	4.8488	2.22	45.78
11.	Assam	0.1840	0.00	0.00
12.	Orissa	1.0179	0.30	29.47
13.	West Bengal	0.0670	0.02	29.85
14.	Nagaland	0.0640	0.00	0.00
15.	Andhra Pradesh	9.3260	5.93	63.59
16.	Karnataka	18.4648	16.57	89.74
17.	Tamil Nadu	17.5214	14.41	82.24
18.	Puducherry	0.3830	0.17	44.39
19.	Kerala	0.1020	0.00	0.00
20.	Goa	0.0930	0.09	96.77
	All India	227.8090	145.01	63.65

P— Provisional

Note:— 1. The statement does not include 6 sugar factories viz., Talaja (Gujarat), Pachrukhi (Bihar), Dalmianagar (Bihar), Sivkami (A.P.), Mailpatti (T.N.), Mannam (Kerala), as they have not operated for more than last 20 year and their capacity has been treated as dormant.

2. After de-licencing of sugar, factories expanding capacities do not inform of expanded capactities to the Directorate of Sugar.

[Translation]

Construction of Bridges Over National Highways

4389. SHRI OM PRAKASH YADAV: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of bridges constructed over different National Highways including Bihar during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government proposes to construct new bridges on the NHs in various States including Bihar;

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

(d) the amount allocated/released/utilised for this purpose, State-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) Details are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) Yes, Madam.

(c) and (d) Details of new bridges proposed to be constructed in Annual Plan 2009-10 are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(e) The funds for construction of bridges are met out of overall allocation for National Highways in the State and the utilization of funds depends on the progress made in construction of bridges. Construction of new bridges is a continuous process and is taken up under the Annual Plan depending upon availability of funds and inter-se-priority.

Statement I

Details of Bridges constructed during last 3 years and the current year

Sl.No.	Name of State	Number of bridges
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	12
3.	Assam	5
4.	Bihar	12
5.	Chhattisgarh	20
6.	Delhi	1
7.	Gujarat	223
8.	Haryana	9
9.	Himachal Pradesh	10
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	5
11.	Karnataka	52
12.	Kerala	5
13.	Madhya Pradesh	69
14.	Maharashtra	101
15.	Meghalaya	6
16.	Orissa	52
17.	Punjab	22
18.	Rajasthan	141
19.	Tamil Nadu	35
20.	Tripura	12
21.	Uttarakhand	6
22.	Uttar Pradesh	26
23.	West Bengal	8

Statement II

Details of New Bridges proposed to be constructed during A.P. 2009-10

Sl.No.	Name of State	Number of bridges	Estimates/ Sanctioned Cost (in Rs. crore)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	35	35.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	11.64*
3.	Assam	1	1.36*
4.	Bihar	18	71.06*
5.	Chandigarh	1	3.42
6.	Chhattisgarh	41	34.50
7.	Delhi	2	12.00
8.	Gujarat	63	242.48
9.	Haryana	21	20.50
10.	Himachal Pradesh	33	32.50
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	3	6.26*
12.	Karnataka	52	119.00
13.	Kerala	27	56.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	71	47.98
15.	Maharashtra	91	60.15
16.	Meghalaya	31	70.00
17.	Mizoram	1	6.00
18.	Nagaland	21	15.00
19.	Orissa	4	9.50*
20.	Puducherry	3	10.59
21.	Punjab	1	0.25
22.	Rajasthan	30	79.00
23.	Tamil Nadu	49	32.40

1	2	3	4
24.	Uttarakhand	4	3.80*
25.	Uttar Pradesh	53	38.95*
26.	West Bengal	14	43.20

*The estimated/sanctioned cost is exclusive of works of NHAI which sanctions the works package-wise and not bridge-wise.

[English]

Digital Transmitters

4390. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to transmit programmes on Television in the digital format;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of trasmitters likely to be set up/ replaced by digital transmitters during the current year, State-wise; and

(d) the likely cost of replacing High Power Transmitters/Low Power Transmitters from Analog to Digitial platform?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN): (a) and (b) Doordarshan has planned introduction of digital terrestrial transmission. The scheme in this regard is in process of approval.

(c) During current year, no digital transmitter is envisaged to be set up.

(d) Present estimated cost of setting up of digital High Power & Low Power transmitters (at existing sites) is about Rs. 8 crores and 1 crore, respectively.

Temperature Controlled Food Storage Godowns

4391. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of temperature controlled food storage godowns functioning in the country; State-wise;

(b) the current demand of such godowns in the country; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to establish such godowns as per the current demand during the 11th Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) 5386 temperature controlled food storage godowns having a capacity of 236.62 lakh MTs were available in the country as on 31.12.2008. The sector-wise commodity-wise, State-wise details of these cold storages are given in the enclosed Statements-I and II respectively.

(b) The estimation of current demand of such godowns in the country is not available. However, a Task Force on Development of Cold Chain in India was set up in 2007 to draw the road map and investment detail for development of integrated Cold Chain in the country. The Task Force in its Report has recommended upgradation/creation and revival of 37.83 lakh MT Cold Store, which also include setting up of mega perishable commodity complex at major consumption and export centres.

(c) The Goverment has undertaken the following initiatives to establish temperature controlled food storage godowns.

(i) The Ministry of Agriculture is implementing a scheme on "Capital Investment Subsidy for Constrution/Moderzination/Expansion of Cold Storage and Storage for Horticulture Produce" through National Horticulture Board (NHB). Under this scheme, credit-linked back-ended subsidy is provided @ 33.33% of the project cost with a maximum ceiling of Rs. 60.00 lakh for North Eastern and Himalayan States and @ 25% with maximum limit of Rs. 50.00 lakh in other States. The Government has also launched two Centrally Sponsored Schemes for the development of horitculture *viz.*, "Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern States, Sikkim, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttrakhand" (TMNE) and "National Horticulture Mission" (NHM) under which assistance is provided for construction of cold storages on the same norms as above. The assistance under TMNE is routed through NHB.

(ii) Agricultural Produce Export Development Authority (APEDA) under its schmes for

Infrastructure Development, "Setting up of both pre cooling facilities with proper handling system as well as cold storage for storing and "Setting up of specialized storage facilities such as high humidity cold storage deep freezers, controlled atmosphere or modified atmosphere storage etc." is providing assistance @ 25% of the cost of equipment subject to a ceiling of Rs. 10.00 lakh per beneficiary.

Statement I

Sectorwise Distribution of Cold Storages as on 31/12/2008

Sl.No.	State/UT	Private Sector		Cooperative Sector		Public Sector		Total No.	Total Capacity In MTs
		No.	Capacity	No.	Capacity	No.	Capacity		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands (UT)	01	170	00	00	01	40	02	210
2.	Andhra Pradesh	265	860907	11	11598	10	3451	286	875956
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	01	5000	00	00	00	00	01	5000
4.	Assam	19	85948	01	1000	04	1120	24	88068
5.	Bihar	242	1362429	18	77200	00	00	260	1439629
6.	Chandigarh (UT)	05	11216	01	1000	00	00	06	12216
7.	Chhattisgarh	63	286136	01	29	01	41	65	286206
8.	Delhi	76	103250	02	5201	16	17680	94	126131
9.	Gujarat	351	1075148	21	30669	05	6437	377	1112254
10.	Goa	29	7705	00	00	00	00	29	7705
11.	Haryana	233	377319	04	3403	06	11399	242	392121
12.	Himachal Pradesh	09	12896	02	767	07	6195	18	19858
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	15	40689	03	2134	01	46	19	42869
14.	Jharkhand	37	142733	08	27415	00	00	45	170148
15.	Kerala	170	54360	06	1080	11	1690	187	57130
16.	Karnataka	126	405393	18	6689	17	9594	161	421676
17.	Lakshadweep (UT)	00	00	00	00	01	15	01	15
18.	Maharashtra	373	525126	55	25346	32	13724	460	564196
19.	Madhya Pradesh	167	692724	20	101348	05	2434	192	796506
20.	Manipur	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
21.	Meghalaya	01	1200	00	00	02	2000	03	3200
22.	Mizoram	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
23.	Nagaland	01	5000	01	1150	00	00	02	6150

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
24.	Orissa	83	252097	26	55550	00	00	109	307647
25.	Puducherry (UT)	02	35	01	50	00	00	03	85
26.	Punjab	402	1298425	18	39092	00	00	420	1337517
27.	Rajasthan	97	310901	09	3832	01	14	107	314747
28.	Sikkim	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
29.	Tamil Nadu	122	224129	13	7562	04	5162	139	236853
30.	Tripura	03	12750	01	5000	07	11700	11	29450
31.	U.P. & Uttarakhand	1501	8770530	87	281480	03	8000	1591	9060010
32.	West Bengal	481	5647259	50	302000	00	00	531	5949259
	Total	4875	22571475	377	990595	134	100742	5386	23662812

Statement II

Commodity-wise Distribution of Cold Storages as on 31.12.2008

Sl.No.	State/UT	Potatoes		Multipurpose		Fruits & Veg.		Meat & Fish		Milk & Milk		Others Products		Total No. (1+2+3+4+5+6)	Total Capacity in MTs 8
		No.	Capacity	No.	Capacity	No.	Capactiy	No.	Capacity	No.	Capacity	No.	Cpacity		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	00	00	00	00	00	00	02	210	00	00	00	00	02	210
2.	Andhra Pradesh	00	00	208	814806	11	9843	44	26068	15	6838	08	18401	286	875956
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	00	00	01	5000	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	01	5000
4.	Assam	00	00	24	88068	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	24	88068
5.	Bihar	242	1362429	18	77200	00	00	000	00	00	00	00	00	260	1439629
6.	Chandigarh (UT)	01	1000	04	11131	00	00	01	85	00	00	00	00	06	12216
7.	Chhatisgarh	14	39242	48	246864	00	00	00	00	03	100	00	00	65	286206
8.	Delhi	00	00	53	117346	01	53	04	1239	09	4757	27	2736	94	126131
9.	Gujarat	194	824300	95	253224	02	1063	60	22211	25	11440	01	16	377	1112254
10.	Goa	00	00	01	3633	00	00	26	4004	02	68	0	0	29	7705
11.	Haryana	172	225991	65	164787	00	00	00	00	06	1343	00	00	243	392121
12.	Himachal Pradesh	05	9748	05	3837	06	6100	01	78	01	95	00	00	18	19858
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	05	11281	12	31473	00	00	00	00	02	115	00	00	19	42869
14.	Jharkhand	08	27415	37	142733	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	45	170148

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
15.	Kerala	00	00	08	13200	00	00	172	42840	06	1080	01	01	187	57130
16.	Karnataka	09	16530	94	394666	02	1959	34	5141	15	3128	07	252	161	421676
17.	Lakshdweep (UT)	00	00	00	00	00	00	01	15	00	00	00	00	01	15
18.	Maharashtra	0	0	183	431333	115	47914	62	63263	70	18407	30	3279	460	564196
19.	Madhya Pradesh	114	564600	62	226191	04	2577	00	00	11	3125	01	13	192	796506
20.	Manipur	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
21.	Meghalaya	00	00	03	3200	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	03	3200
22.	Mizoram	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
23.	Nagaland	00	00	02	6150	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	02	6150
24.	Orissa	41	136180	37	131060	09	31548	21	7659	00	00	01	1200	109	307647
25.	Puducherry (UT)	00	00	00	00	01	15	01	20	01	50	00	00	03	85
26.	Punjab	344	1097609	74	229318	00	00	00	00	02	10590	00	00	420	1337517
27.	Rajasthan	19	65896	76	246966	00	00	00	00	08	1781	04	104	107	314747
28.	Sikkim	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
29.	Tamil Nadu	00	00	66	213876	03	7675	51	10315	13	4512	06	475	139	236853
30.	Tripura	03	11000	08	18450	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	11	29450
31.	U.P. and Uttarakhand	1371	8163232	211	888332	04	3580	02	4027	02	801	01	38	1591	9060010
32.	West Bengal	481	5647259	50	302000	00	00	00	00	0	0	0	0	531	5949259
	Total	3023	18203712	1445	5064844	158	112337	482	187175	191	68230	87	26524	5386	23662812

Hijacking of Aircraft IC-814

4392. SHRI MANISH TEWARI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any inquiry has been conducts by a Committee/Commission into the allegations of payment of ransom to the hijackers of the Indian Airlines Aricraft IC-814 for the release of its passengers;

(b) if so, the details of the outcome of the inquiry; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which the Government proposes to conduct an inquiry on the said allegations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) No inquiry by a Committee/ Commission was conducted into the allegations of payment of ransom to the hijackers of the Indian Airlines Aircraft IC-814. Government do not feel that any public interest would be met by ordering an enquiry after the lapse of so many years.

[Translation]

Extradition of Fugitives

4393. SHRI BHISMA SHANKAR *ALIAS* KUSHAL TIWARI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of criminals who have been declared fugitive or have fled the country after committing crimes during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the Government has taken any steps for ensuring the extradition and trial of such fugitives; and;

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Red Corner Notices have been issued on the request of various investigating agencies forwarded through Interpol Wing of Central Bureau of Investigation in respect of 147 offenders and circulated through Interpol Secretariat General (IPSG) during the last three years, the details of which are as under:-

2006	49
2007	70
2008	28
Total	147

(b) and (c) It is the policy of the Government in the Ministry of External Affairs to conclude extradition treaties with as many countries as possible so as to ensure that fugitive criminals do not escape justice. Efforts are made through diplomatic channel for extradition of fugitives. Matter is taken up at the appropriate level from time to time.

Permission for Mining in Orissa

4394. SHRI YASHBANT LAGURI: Will the Minster of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of companies granted permission for mining in Orissa;

(b) whether any agreements were signed before granting such permission;

(c) if so, the salient features thereof;

(d) whether the said companies have not complied with various terms and conditions of the said agreements; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) Mineral concessions i.e. Reconnaissance Permit (RP), Prospecting Licence (PL) and Mining Lease (ML) are granted by the respective State Governments and prior approval of the Central Government is required only for the minerals mentioned in the First Schedule of the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 before grant of mineral concession by the State Government. During the last three years Ministry of Mines has granted prior approval in 9 cases for ML in Orissa.

(b) to (e) State Governments, including Orissa often grant mineral oncessions to companies with whom they have entered into Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) for Agreements. However such MoUs are not provided within the MMDR Act and compliance of MoUs are enforced by the State Government in accordance with the applicable law. Accordingly the Central Government does not maintain details of such MoUs/Agreements.

[English]

Agricultural Land

4395. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has developed barren land for agricultural purposes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check diversion of agricultural land of for non-agricultural purposes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) According to the concepts & definitions of land uses, barren land includes all land covered by mountains, deserts, etc. which cannot be brought under cultivation except at an exorbitant cost and is classified as unculturable land located in isolated blocks or within cultivated holdings. As such, there is no comprehensive scheme/programme for the development of barren land.

With a view to prevent soil erosion and land degradation, Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture is implementing various Watershed Development Programmes, namely, National Watershed Development Projects for Rainfed Areas (NWDPRA), Soil Conservation for Enchancing the productivity of Degraded Lands in

the Catchments of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone River (RVP & FPR), Reclamation and Development of Alkai & Acid Soils (RADAS) and Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSCA) in the country. Under these programme, upto end of X Five Year Plan about 18.77 million ha. of degraded land has been developed and parts of such developed lands are put to agricultural purposes to maintain balance in different types of land uses.

As per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India, Land falls under the purview of the State Governments and, therefore, it is for the State Government to bring suitable legislation to check the diversion of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes.

[Translation]

Fodder to Livestock in Drought Affected Areas

4396. SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM WAKCHAURE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cattle rearers of drought affected areas have sent their cattle to other States due to shortage of fodder;

(b) if so, the details of facilities/assistance being provided to these cattle rearers including in backward and rural areas;

(c) the arrangements made so far to make fodder available to livestock in drought affected areas including backward and rural areas alongwith the amount spent thereon; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to set up cowsheds in the country including backward/rural areas and to provide grants in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No, madam. States have not reported migration of cattle from affected areas to other States due to shortage of fodder.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Department is constantly monitoring the situation related to fodder shortage in the affected States. The Government of Himachal Pradesh has provided subsidy of Rs. 95,90.005/- on transportation of wheat straw to the affected areas.

(d) Funds are not provided to set up cowsheds under on-going Centrally Sponsored Fodder Development scheme. However, affected States may establish the cattle camps as per the existing norms of assistance under Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF).

Expansion and Modernisation of Air Stations

4397. SHRI PRABHATSINH P. CHAUHAN:
SHRI BALKRISHNA KHANDERAO SHUKLA:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to expand and modernise Godhara and Vadodara All India Radio Stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent of the areas of transmission covered by these stations;

(d) whether the Government proposes to enhance the tramission and capacity of these stations; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(c) Area coverage of 6 kW FM Station at Godhara is 6300 Sw. Km. and Area coverage of 10 kW FM Station at Vadodara is 3200 Sq. Km.

(d) No, Mdam.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

Bio-Metric System of Identification of Prisoners

4398. SHRI BHASKARRAO BAPURAO PATIL KHATGAONKAR:
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce digital records based on biometic system for the identification of prisoners all over the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether States have been consulted in the matter; and

(d) if so, the time by which the system is likely to be put into operation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) and (b) No, Madam. However, biometric system has been Introduced in Delhi Prisons, Ahmedabad Central Prison, Vadodara Central Prison and Prisons in Tamil Nadu by the respective State Governments. Since, Prison is a State subject, this facility is to be implemented by the respective State Governments.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

Sugar Export Subsidy

4399. SHRI HARIBHAU JAWALE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the payment for sugar export subsidy and buffer stock subsidy to some sugar mills is still outstanding against the Union Government;

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

(c) the time by which the Union Government is likely to clear the said dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) State-wise status of claims of sugar factories for export assistance is at Statement I. As regards claims of buffer stock subsidy, sugar factories are required to submit their claims on quarterly basis. The claims of the sugar factories are settled in three phases. In the first phase, claims for the two quarters of 1st buffer of 20 lac tons and one quarter of 2nd buffer of 30 lac tons are settled. In the second phase, claims for two quarters each of 1st and 2nd buffer are settled. In the third phase, the claim for the 4th quarter of 2nd buffer is settled. A Statement II, indicating number of state-wise and phase-wise outstanding claims is enclosed. The claims are outstanding mainly due to non-submission of complete documents by the sugar factories.

(c) The claims of the sugar factories for payment of buffer stock subsidy and export assistance are settled in terms of Rule 19A and 20A of the Sugar Development Rules, 1983, respectively, on submission of complete documents. In case of incomplete documents the sugar mills have been asked to fulfill the requirements as per Sugar Development Fund (SDF) Rules 19A and 20A. The processing and sanction of the claims is an ongoing process and there is always a time gap between receipt of claim and payment against the same.

Statement I

State-wise position of export assistance calims for settlement under Sugar Developmentt Rules 1983 (Rule 20A) as on 31.07.2009

Sl.No.	Name of State	Claims received	Claims settled	Balance
1.	Andhra Pradesh	28	16	12
2.	Chhattisgarh	03	00	03
3.	Goa	06	04	02
4.	Gujarat	97	62	35
5.	Haryana	06	04	02
6.	Karnataka	223	97	126
7.	Maharashtra	1074	416	658
8.	Puducherry	21	05	16
9.	Tamil Nadu	320	113	207
10.	Uttar Pradesh	89	59	30
	Total	1867	776	1091

Statement II

State-wise position of buffer stock subsidy claims for settlement under Sugar Development Rules 1983 (Rule 19A) as on 31.07.2009

Sl.No.	Name of State	No. of Sugar Factories	Phase-wise outstanding claims			Total No. of Claims
			Ist phase No. of Claims	2nd phase No. of Claims	3rd phase No. of Claims	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	22	16	51	17	84
2.	Bihar	8	0	4	6	10
3.	Gujarat	15	6	20	13	39
4.	Haryana	13	3	12	13	28
5.	Karnataka	32	22	43	22	87
6.	Madhya Pradesh	4	10	16	4	30
7.	Maharashtra	132	78	186	87	351
8.	Orissa	3	8	10	2	20
9.	Puducherry	2	3	4	2	9
10.	Punjab	11	6	24	11	41
11.	Rajasthan	1	3	4	1	8
12.	Tamil Nadu	33	17	61	22	100
13.	Uttar Pradesh	105	34	120	81	235
14.	Uttarakhand	9	12	24	8	44
	Total	390	218	579	289	1086

Protection of Consumer Rights

4400. SHRI PRATAPRAO GANPATRAO JADHAO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to amend the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 to make it more stringent and effective;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has received suggestions/recommendations from various consumer organisations to set up a National Consumer Safety Authority for protection of consumer rights;

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

(e) whether some manufacturers of consumer products are not providing essential infomation like the name of the company and its address on the pack;

(f) if so, the number of such cases reported during each of the last three years and the current, year, State-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) There is proposal to amend the provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 to widen the scope of the Act; to clarify and make the provisions more effective; facilitate quicker disposal of consumer complaints and to streamline the procedures.

(c) Yes, Madam.

(d) Proposal were received from a few voluntary organisations for setting up a National Consumer Safety Authority to protect consumers against the risks of injury to life and property from unsafe goods or services. These were considered and the Department of Consumer Affairs has decided not to set up an Authority for this purpose.

(e) to (g) Information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Publication of Books

4401. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Publications Division of the Ministry has published books in different Indian languages;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year alongwith the titles of these books, separately;

(c) the amount spent thereon during the said period, language-wise; and

(d) the efforts made/being made by the Government to publish more books in Indian language instead of English Language?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Details are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) Details are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(d) The Government makes constant efforts to publish more books in Indian languages such as:

(i) Ministry of Information & Broadcasting has instituted the Bharatendu Harishchandra Awards to promote original writings in Hindi. Every year these awards are given under the categories of Mass Communication and Journalism, Women's Issues, Children's Literature and National Integration.

(ii) Publications Division of the Ministry makes efforts to obtain original manuscripts in Indian languages on subjects of local and national relevance.

(iii) Books on subjects of national interest are also translated in various Indian languages from time to time to make them available to people all over the country.

(iv) Majority of the books of Publications Division are published in Hindi and other Indian languages as per the details given below:-

Year	Total No. of books published	Books in Hindi	Books in other regional languages	Books in English
2006-07	108	47	28	33
2007-08	103	51	22	30
2008-09	116	68	18	30

Statement I

Publications produced during the year 2006-2007

Publications printed and released from April 2006 to March 2007

	LANGUAGE	PRICE (Rs.)
	ENGLISH	
1.	Valmiki & Vyas	40.00
2.	Children's Ramayana	60.00
3.	Press in India	—
4.	Great Masters of Indian Cinema— Dadasaheb Phalke Award Winners	195.00
5.	A Career for you	150.00
6.	Dr. Zakir Hussain (BMI) (Dlx.)	85.00
7.	Speeches of President Rajendra Prasad (BMI) (Dlx.) (Rep.)	285.00

8.	Folk Tales of Kashmir	100.00
9.	Catalogue 2006 (billingual)	—
10.	5000 Years of Indian Architecture (Rep.)	60.00
11.	Sectional Catalogue—2006 (Five Items)	—
12.	The Story of India's Struggle for Freedom (Dlx.) (Or.)	75.00
13.	Indian Embroidery (Rep.)	75.00
14.	Selected Speeches of Subhash Chandra Bose (Dlx.) (Or.)	120.00
15.	Selected Speeches of Prime Minister Manmohan Singh (Vol. II) (Dlx.)	450.00
16.	Aspects of Indian Music (Rep.)	60.00
17.	History of Indian Railway (Rep.) (Dlx.)	250.00
18.	Folk Arts and Social Communication (Rep.) (Dlx.)	125.00
19.	Economic History of India Vol. I (Rep.) (Dlx.)	175.00
20.	Economic History of India Vol. II (Rep.) (Dlx.)	260.00
21.	Gopal Bhand (Rep.)	40.00
22.	Amir Khusaru (Rep.) (Dlx.)	150.00
23.	India—2007 (Annual Reference)	250.00
24.	Tales from India & Abroad	50.00
25.	Castles in the Air—Tales from Rajasthan	60.00
26.	Indian Navy—A Perspective (Dlx.)	300.00
27.	Press in India 2005-2006	—
28.	Annual Report Vol. I (M/o I & B) 2006-07	—
29.	Annual Report Vol. II (M/o I & B) 2006-07	—
30.	Outcome Budget 2007-08	—
31.	Speeche of Rajendra Prasad Vol. II (Rep.) (Dlx.)	310.00
32.	Tales from Tavi	60.00
33.	100 Years of Sartyagraha (Dlx.)	560.00

LANGUAGE		**PRICE (Rs.)**
HINDI		
1.	Press in India 2004-2005	—
2.	Kahavaton Ki Kahaniyan	90.00
3.	Bharat Chodo Andolan	45.00
4.	Hamare Pakshi (Dlx.)	190.00
5.	Paridhi Se Bahar	80.00
6.	Sangeet Bachhon Ke Liye	80.00
7.	Char Baatein	60.00
8.	Jalianwala Bagh (Rep.)	40.00
9.	Hindi Cinema Ka Itihas (Dlx.)	160.00
10.	Jabtshuda Geet	50.00
11.	Upgrah Ke Bahar Bhitar (Dlx.)	160.00
12.	Anokhi Duniya Anokhe Log	40.00
13.	Kahaniyan Balidan Ki (Rep.)	40.00
14.	Upbohkta Sanarakshan Abhiyan Aur Upbhogta Adhikar	100.00
15.	Indonesia Ke Sanskritik Shailalekh (Dlx.)	85.00
16.	Lahron Ka Kehar (Dlx.)	100.00
17.	Krantikari Mahilayen (Rep.)	60.00
18.	Maitrayi (Rep.)	33.00
19.	Panna Dhay (Rep.)	28.00
20.	Kamla Devi Chattopadhyay (Rep.)	30.00
21.	Annie Besant (Rep.)	32.00
22.	Prakash Bharti	—
23.	Chhatrapati Shivaji	55.00

24.	Nanddas (Dlx.) (Or.)	85.00
25.	Tulsidas (Dlx.) (Rep.)	90.00
26.	Bhule Bisre Krantikari (Dlx.) (Rep.)	100.00
27.	Bharat Ke Gaurav (Vol. III) (Dlx.) (Rep.)	150.00
28.	Ayurved—Samanaya Rog Aur Upchar (Dlx.) (Rep.)	120.00
29.	Vigyaan Hamare Aas Pas	100.00
30.	Vivekananda Chitravali	50.00
31.	Bharat Ke Gaurav—Part I (Dlx.)	125.00
32.	Sanskriti Ke Padav	65.00
33.	C. Rajgopalachari (BMI) (Dlx.)	130.00
34.	Bharat Ke Gaurav—Part II (Dlx.)	160.00
35.	Bhartiya Kala Ke Hastakshar (Dlx.)	190.00
36.	Sardar Panikkar (BMI)	140.00
37.	Bharat—2007 (Annual Reference)	250.00
38.	Bharat Ke Veeranganian (Rep.)	95.00
39.	Desh Videsh Ke Mahpurush (Rep.)	50.00
40.	Bhartiya Vesh Bhusha	120.00
41.	Akbar (Rep.)	60.00
42.	R.N. Thakur Chitrakatha (Rep.)	40.00
43.	Ye Gatha Veer Jawahar Ki (Rep.)	50.00
44.	Outcome Budget 2007-08	—
45.	Varshik Report 2006-07 Part I	—
46.	Varshik Report 2006-07 Part II	—
47.	Vigyan Mein Mahanta Ki Or.	90.00

LANGUAGE		**PRICE (Rs.)**
REGIONAL LANGUAGES		
1.	Lal Bahadur Shastri (Kannada)	100.00
2.	Bhartendu Harishchandra (Urdu)	130.00
3.	Gandhi—A Pictorial Biography (Oriya)	90.00
4.	Kalpana Chawla (Punjabi)	70.00
5.	Indian Customes (Malyalam)	185.00
6.	Kalpana Chawla (Oriya)	95.00
7.	An Approach to 11th Five Year Plan (Kannada)	—
8.	An Approach to 11th Five Year Plan (Bengali)	—
9.	An Approach to 11th Five Year Plan (Punjabi)	—
10.	An Approach to 11th Five Year Plan (Oriya)	—
11.	An Approach to 11th Five Year Plan (Tamil)	—
12.	An Approach to 11th Five Year Plan (Telugu)	—
13.	An Approach to 11th Five Year Plan (Assmese)	—
14.	An Approach to 11th Five Year Plan (Malayalam)	—
15.	An Approach to 11th Five Year Plan (Gujarati)	—
16.	An Approach to 11th Five Year Plan (Marathi)	—
17.	An Approach to 11th Five Year Plan (Urdu)	—
18.	Sulabh Pachtantra (Marathi)	75.00
19.	C.N. Annadurai (BMI) (Dlx.) (Tamil)	125.00
20.	Ajkal Aur Premchand (Urdu)	210.00
21.	Great Men & Women of India (Dlx.) (Tamil)	120.00
22.	Ancient India (Dlx.) (Telugu) (Or.)	130.00
23.	The Story of Telecommunications (Tamil) (Dlx.)	100.00
24.	Geet Ramayana (Marathi)	50.00
25.	Significance of Gandhi as a Man and Thinker (Urudu)	55.00

26.	Guru Nanak Se Guru Granth Sahib Tak (Punjabi)	150.00
27.	Rochak Aitihasik Kahaniyan (Part II) (Tamil)	90.00
28.	Desh Videsh Ki Kahaniyan (Telugu)	75.00

Total No. of Tittles Printed and Released from April 2006 to March 2007

English	—	33
Hindi	—	47
Regional Lenguages	—	28
Total	—	108

Publications produced during the year 2007-2008

Publications printed and released from April 2007 to March 2008

LANGUAGE		PRICE (Rs.)
ENGLISH		
1.	Lal Bahadur Shastri (Dlx.)	275.00
2.	United Nations in the Service of the Common Man	75.00
3.	Speeches of President Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam	600.00
4.	A Guide to Home Gardening	170.00
5.	Ancient India	85.00
6.	The Charkha and the Roses. (Rep.)	75.00
7.	How to Age Gracefully and Be Happy	60.00
8.	Bharatiya Vigyan Manjusha (Delx.) Rep.	600.00
9.	My Book of Human Rights	75.00
10.	Legends and Folk Tales from and around Asia	28.00
11.	Selected Speeches of PM Manmohan Singh—(Vol-III)	355.00
12.	Speeches of Dr. Rajendra Prasad (Vol-III)	335.00
13.	Indian Classical Dance (Rep.)	240.00
14.	Sardar Patel (Pictorial) (Rep.)	100.00
15.	Inspiring Historical Stories (Vol-I)	35.00
16.	Inspiring Historical Stories (Vol-II)	65.00
17.	Bhagat Singh the Eternal Rebel	150.00
18.	India-2008	300.00
19.	1857 the Uprising	160.00
20.	Our National Flag (Revised)	200.00
21.	The Dreaming Kid	30.00
22.	Creation Stories	40.00
23.	Catalogue-2008	—
24.	Delhi in 1857	100.00
25.	The Bhuj Story (Rep.)	50.00
26.	The Phantom Tales	65.00
27.	Sunita Williams	100.00
28.	Annual Report (M/o. I&B) Part-I	—
29.	Annual Report (M/o. I&B) Part-II	—
30.	Outcome Budget 2008-09	—
HINDI		
1.	Safalta Ka Mantra	60.00
2.	Bhartiya Swatantra Andolan Ka Itihas	230.00
3.	Ahilyabai Holkar	34.00
4.	Bhojpur Ki Lok Sanskriti Evam Paramparain	94.00
5.	Jharkhand Ki Lok Kathain	34.00
6.	Bharat Ke Samachar Patra 2005-06	—
7.	Bharatendu Harish Chandra Awards 2004-05	—
8.	Kahavaton Ki Kahaniyan	90.00
9.	Vaibav Aur Vairagya	200.00
10.	Kile Ka Rahasiya	35.00

11.	Kavi Soordas	95.00
12.	Mayamrig	60.00
13.	Mahan Ganithagya-Aryabhat	130.00
14.	Bhartiya Swatantra Andolan Ke Ithihas (Part-IV)	340.00
15.	Yeh Karvan Hamara	110.00
16.	1857 Swatantrata Sangram (Rep.)	75.00
17.	Uttarakhand ke Adiwasi (Rep.)	70.00
18.	Shahid Bachchon Ki Gourav Gatha	40.00
19.	Thirkhte Pankh (Rep.)	60.00
20.	Ayurveda-Samanaya Rog Avam Upchar (Rep.)	120.00
21.	Kala Pani (Rep.)	25.00
22.	Veer Kunwar Singh	50.00
23.	Tatya Tope	45.00
24.	Udahran	200.00
25.	Sangeet Bachon Ke Liye (Rep.)	80.00
26.	Bharat Ke Bodh Vihar	75.00
27.	1857 Sachitra Jhanki (Rep.)	80.00
28.	Shaheed Bhagat Singh	210.00
29.	Bharat-2008	300.00
30.	Maulana Jalauddin Rumi	70.00
31.	Lok Mein Jal	90.00
32.	Speeches of PM Vol-II (Dlx.)	450.00
33.	Adivasi Kala (Rep.)	45.00
34.	Ek Thee Sheena	45.00
35.	Bhukamp	50.00
36.	Bhartiya Swatantrata Andolan Ka Itihas-II (Rep.)	250.00
37.	Varshik Report (M/o I&B) Part-I	—
38.	Varshik Report (M/o I&B) Part-II	—
39.	Parinam Budget 2008-09	—
40.	Mahapurushon Ke Prerak Prasang (Rep.)	65.00
41.	Bharat Ki Viranganayen (Rep.)	95.00
42.	Desh-Videsh Ke Mahapurush (Rep.)	50.00
43.	Prachin Bharatiya Abhilekh	170.00
44.	Sanskritik Sangam Ki Bhumi Uttarakhand	185.00
45.	Bihar Ki Lok Kathaien (Rep.)	45.00
46.	Lucknow Ki Dhrohar	70.00
47.	Aacharya Ramchandra Shukala	165.00
48.	Dalit Devo Bhawa (Rep.)	300.00
49.	Babu Jagjivan Ram (BMI) Rep.	135.00
50.	Aaiye Avishkarak Bane (Rep.)	90.00
51.	A thought for the Day (Billngual) Rep. Delx.	145.00

REGIONAL LANGUAGES

1.	1857 (Punjabi)	105.00
2.	1857 Li Jange Azadi (Urdu)	120.00
3.	Great Man Great Deeds (Malayalam)	145.00
4.	1857 Revolt (Urdu)	135.00
5.	R.N. Thakur Ki Bal Kahaniyan (Malayalam)	75.00
6.	S. Srinivasa Iyenger (BMI) (Tamil)	95.00
7.	Ramanand Chattopadhyay (BMI) (Bengali)	75.00
8.	Eminent Broadcaster (Telgu)	145.00
9.	Nehru-A Pictorial Biography (Oriya)	125.00
10.	Mother Teresa (Telugu)	95.00
11.	Guru Nanak Se Guru Granth Sahib Tak (Marathi)	300.00
12.	Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel (BMI) (Marathi)	100.00

13.	Eighteen Fifty Seven (Telugu)	460.00
14.	Peacock (Tamil)	65.00
15.	Ravindranath Thakur Ki Bal Kahaniyan (Oriya)	145.00
16.	Baital Kathaien (Tamil)	60.00
17.	Nobel Puruskar Vijeta Mahilayen (Marathi)	125.00
18.	Guru Nanak Se Guru Granth Sahib Tak (Urdu)	145.00
19.	Sarojini Naidu (BMI) (Bengali)	205.00
20.	Vishwa Ki Shrestha Lok Kathaien (Part-2) (Malayalam)	125.00
21.	Satguru Ram Singh Te Kuka Lehar (Punjabi)	105.00
22.	Vishwa Ki Shrestha Lok Kathaien (Part-4) (Malayalam)	100.00

Total Titles Released in (April 2007-March 2008)

English	—	33
Hindi	—	51
Regional Language	—	22
Total	—	103

Publications produced during the year 2008-2009

Publications printed and released from April 2008 to March 2009

HINDI

Name of the Title		**Price (Rs.)**
1.	Bharatiya Lok Nritya	180.00
2.	Nana Saheb Peshwa	50.00
3.	Mahapurushon Ke Manoviond	65.00
4.	Bahadurshaha Zafar	50.00
5.	Safed Bagh	55.00
6.	Parvatarohan Ka Romanch	110.00
7.	Isa Ki Laghu Kathein	40.00
8.	Bharatiya Swatantrata Andolan-Ke Itihas (Part-III) Rep.	320.00
9.	Kissa Char Darvesh Ki	50.00
10.	Desh Videsh Ke Tyohar	80.00
11.	Bodh Dharam Ke 2500 Years	128.00
12.	P.M. Speeches (Vol. III)	654.00
13.	Prakash Bharati	—
14.	Soochna Bharati	—
15.	Katha Kalidas Ki	50.00
16.	Jatak Kathaien	118.00
17.	Amar Shaheed Bhagat Singh	86.00
18.	Dayal Singh Majithia	110.00
19.	Dr. Rajendra Prasad Sachitra Jeevani (Rep.)	100.00
20.	Upabhokta Sangrakshan	155.00
21.	Bharatiya Dak Tikito Ka Itihas	85.00
22.	Rajguru	135.00
23.	Kahaniyan Balidan Ki	50.00
24.	Lorik Chanda (Rep.)	40.00
25.	Bharat Ke Sanskritik Ekta (Rep.)	74.00
26.	Anokhi Duniya Anokhe Long (Rep.)	40.00
27.	Apni Hindi Sudharen (Rep.)	93.00
28.	Vigyan Baramasa	100.00
29.	Ramdhari Singh Dinkar	125.00
30.	Bharat Chodo Andolan (Rep.)	65.00
31.	Chhattisgarh Ki Lok Kathayen (Rep.)	52.00
32.	Chhau Nritya Kala	188.00
33.	Sing (Rep.)	105.00
34.	Man Jiska Majboot (Rep.)	65.00
35.	Ashtchap Kavi Parmanand Das	80.00
36.	Kahavaton Ki Kahaniyan	98.00

37.	Ashtchap Kavi Kumban Das	90.00
38.	Gramin Jiwan Main Vigyan	80.00
39.	Bundelkhand Ke Murtishilp	70.00
40.	Apni Hindi Sawarien	110.00
41.	Albert Einstien (Dlex.)	288.00
42.	Sanskrit Lokokti Kosh (Rep.)	70.00
43.	Begum Hazarat Mahal	90.00
44.	Khel Niyam Aur Prashikshan (Rep.)	76.00
45.	Jharkhand	95.00
46.	Ek Pati	80.00
47.	Bharat Ke Rashtriya Udhyan	215.00
48.	Bharat-2009	345.00
49.	Gramin Jivan Mein Vigyan (Rep.)	80.00
50.	Chhattisgarh Ke Lok Kathaein (Rep.)	40.00
51.	Vigyan Hamare Aaspas (Rep.)	100.00
52.	Niti Kathaien (Rep.)	55.00
53.	Saras Kathaien (Rep.)	50.00
54.	Bal Mahabharat (Part-I) (Rep.)	60.00
55.	Awala Daan (Rep.)	90.00
56.	Adiwasi Garh Chhattisgarh (Rep.)	100.00
57.	Netaji Sampurna Vangmaya (Vol.-II)	145.00
58.	Paryavaran	105.00
59.	Tilak Ka Mukadma	335.00
60.	Jamanalal Bajaj (BMI) Rep.	165.00
61.	Sant Kabeer (Rep.)	130.00
62.	Rashtra Mandal Khel	85.00
63.	Bhoomandlikaran	85.00
64.	M.A. Ansari (BMI)	115.00
65.	Shahidon Ka Parichay (Rep.)	315.00
66.	Bidhan Chandra Roy (BMI)	145.00
67.	Bharat Ke Samachar Patra	—
68.	Police Jaanch Main Vigyan	45.00

English

	Name of the Title	**Price (Rs.)**
1.	India in Space	235.00
2.	Gandhi Ordained in South Africa (Pop)	330.00
	.....Do.....(Deluxe)	380.00
3.	Vedic Lore	105.00
4.	Mass Media in India-2008	410.00
5.	Selected Speeches of PM Vol. IV (Dlux.)	480.00
6.	Acharya Narendra Dev	100.00
7.	Khudiram Bose	85.00
8.	CWMG (Vol.-4) Rep. Delx.	100.00
9.	CWMG (Vol.-23) Rep. Delx.	100.00
10.	Earth in Peril	155.00
11.	Democracy & Human Development in India	325.00
12.	Press in India 2006-2007	—
13.	Essay of Indian Economics	80.00
14.	Dr. Shanti Swaroop Bhatnagar	80.00
15.	India—Medival History (Rep.)	85.00
16.	India-Society, Religion & Literature in -Ancient & Medieval Period (Rep.)	105.00
17.	India-2009 (A Reference Annual)	345.00
18.	India: Pre Historic & Proto Historic Period (Rep.)	43.00
19.	Why People Protest	190.00
20.	India: Art & Architecture (Rep.)	75.00
21.	Report for Vote on Account (2009-10)	—
22.	Inscriptions of Ashoka (Rep.)	65.00
23.	Celebrating Seasons	60.00

24.	India Early History (Rep.)	75.00
25.	India Govt. Economics life in Ancient and-Medieval Period (Rep.)	70.00
26.	2500 Years of Buddhism (Rep.)	230.00
27.	CWMG (Vol.-21) Rep. (Deluxe)	100.00
28.	CWMG (Vol.-24) Rep. (Deluxe)	100.00
29.	CWMG (Vol.-25) Rep. (Deluxe)	100.00
30.	CWMG (Vol.-41) Rep. (Deluxe)	100.00

Regional Languages

	Name of the Title	**Price (Rs.)**
1.	Buddha Gatha (Oriya)	200.00
2.	Vishwa Ki Shreshtha Lok Kathaien-III (Marathi)	100.00
3.	Gandhi-A Pictorial Biography (Gujarati)	125.00
4.	Sectional Catalogue (Bilingual)	—
5.	Bapu Ke Saath (Rep.) (Teleugu)	77.00
6.	Videshi Yatriyon Ki Nazar Mein Bharat-(Rep.) (Tamil)	52.00
7.	Bahadur Bacche (Rep.) (Telugu)	38.00
8.	Punjab De Lok Nanch (Punjabi)	180.00
9.	C.N. Annadurai BMI (Rep.) (Tamil)	215.00
10.	Srinivas Iyengar BMI (Rep.) (Tamil)	125.00
11.	Desh-Videsh Ki Kahaniyan (Bengali)	75.00
12.	Indian Folk Dances (Punjabi)	315.00
13.	Rochak Itihasik Kahaniyan (Marathi)	80.00
14.	Rochak Itihasik Kahaniyan (Tamil)	65.00
15.	Khazeera-e-Ghalib (Urudu)	130.00
16.	Karantidoot Azimullah Khan (Punjabi)	40.00
17.	Vishwa Ki Shreshtha Lok Kathaien-Part-II (Oriya)	110.00
18.	Vishwa Ki Shreshtha Lok Kathaien-Part-IV (Oriya)	90.00

Total Titles Released during year 2008-2009

English	—	30
Hindi	—	68
Regional Languages	—	18
Total	—	116

Publications produced during the year 2009 to Till Date

Publications printed and released from April 2009 to July 2009

LANGUAGE		**PRICE (Rs.)**
ENGLISH		
1.	Annual Report 2008-09	—
2.	Outcome Budget 2009-10	—
HINDI		
1.	Nataji Sampurna Vangmay (Vol-10)	175.00
2.	Dalit Devo Bhawa (Part-II)-Dlx.	300.00
3.	Ashtchhap Ke Kavi—Chaturbhuj Das	70.00
4.	Dash Kumar Charit	90.00
5.	Thirukkural	70.00
6.	Purvottar ke Swatantrata Senani	60.00
7.	Lalu ka Mobile	55.00
8.	Outcome Budget 2009-10	—
9.	Annual Report 2008-09	—
REGIONAL LANGUAGES		
1.	Jawaharlal Nehru (BMI) (Tamil)	540.00
2.	Betal Kathai (Oriya)	110.00
3.	Sahasavanitha Durgabai Deshmukh (Telgu)	70.00

Total number of titles till July-2009

English	—	02
Hindi	—	09
Regional Languages	—	03
Total	—	14

Statement II

The amount spent thereon during the last three years and booked/under process for the current year till date language-wise is as follows:-

Sl.No.	Language	Year			
		2006-07 (Rs.)	2007-08 (Rs.)	2008-09 (Rs.)	2009-till date (Rs.)
1.	Assamese*	—	—	—	—
2.	Bengali	—	46,660	25,000	—
3.	English	65,83,645	45,52,760	46,22,580	—
4.	Gujarati	—	—	41,660	—
5.	Hindi	44,11,899	48,82,378	46,35,070	2,91,320
6.	Kannada	16,660	—	—	—
7.	Marathi	1,91,660	1,04,160	59,990	—
8.	Malayalam	—	86,650	—	—
9.	Oriya	—	44,990	66,660	18,330
10.	Punjabi	73,330	70,000	95,830	—
11.	Tamil	1,04,990	57,490	1,12,980	90,000
12.	Telugu	—	1,64,150	76,660	23,330
13.	Urdu	74,990	66,660	43,330	—

*Currently one book is under translation.

[English]

Improvement of Public Transport System in States

4402. SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA:
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:
SHRI NITYANANDA PRADHAN:

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

(a) whether there is any Central scheme to provide funds to the State Government to improve their public transport system.

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

(c) whether the Government has received proposal from the State for waiver of debts incurred by State Transport Undertakings (STUs);

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

(e) the details of steps taken by the Union Government to revive the sick STUs and ensure their viability?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MAHADEO SINGH KHANDELA): (a) and (b) A draft scheme has been prepared by this Ministry to provide financial assistance to the States/UTs to strengthen public transport system. The proposed scheme envisages central assistance for introduction of Information Technology such as Global Positioning System (GPS)/

Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) based vechicle tracking system, automatic ticket vending machines etc. and also for working out mobility plan. This is a central sector scheme and applicable for all the States.

(c) and (d) Consequent upon its decision to wind up Madhya Pradesh Road Transport Corporation (MPRTC), Government of Madhya Pradesh had submitted a proposal for waiver of an amount of Rs. 3711.73 lakh i.e. outstanding capital contribution of the Central Government provided to MPRTC.

(e) The State Governments are responsible for providing efficient and well coordinated public transport in their respective States. However, keeping in view the precarious financial position of various public transport institutions such as State owned Road Transport Undertakings. Planning Commission has allocated funds in the 11th Five Year Plan for providing central assistance to the States for strengthening public transport system in the country. The draft scheme prepared by this Ministry has been given in-principle approval by Planning Commission.

Failure of National Rainfed Area Authority

4403. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:
SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA) has been able to meet its objectives;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to improve the functioning of NRAA to meet its objectives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) The Union Government has set up a National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA) as an advisory, policy making and monitoring body to provide knowledge inputs regarding systematic up-gradation and management of country's dryland and rainfed agriculture. The Authority has published the Common Guidelines for Watershed Development Projects with a fresh framework for the next generation watershed programmes. It has also prepared a vision document "Harnessing Opportunities in Rainfed Areas". The Authority has organized workshops in the States for adoption of Common Guidelines. The Authority has also prepared a comprehensive report on 'Mitigation Strategy for Buldelkhand Regions of UP and MP'. To improve the functioning of the Authority, it has now been strengthened with human resources and infrastructure facilities with an outlay of R. 123 crores for the XI Plan period.

Exclusion of NAFED from Nominated Agencies

4404. SHRI SARVEY SATYANARAYANA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has excluded the National Agriculture Cooperative Merketing Federation (NAFED) from the list of nominated agencies for white sugar imports; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

Expansion of AAY

4405. SHRI PURNMASI RAM:
SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH:
SHRI ANANTHA VENKATARAMI REDDY:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to further expand the Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the targeted and actual number of beneficiaries under the scheme since its inception, State-wise;

(c) the allocations and offtake of foodgrains under the said scheme during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(d) whether reports have been received regarding diversion of AAY commodities during the said period;

(e) if so, the details thereof indicating the number and nature of complaints received, State-wise;

(f) the details of action taken including raids and seizures conducted in this regard alongwith the various commodities recovered therein; and

(g) the corrective steps taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No, Madam.

(b) A Statement-I on details of estimated and actually covered families under AAY is enclosed.

(c) Statement II of State-wise allocation and offtake of foodgrains under AAY during 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 (upto May, 2009) is enclosed.

(d) to (g) Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is implemented jointly by the Government of India and State/Union Territory Governments with sharing of responsibility in this regard. The identification of AAY families based on estimates and guidelnies issued by Central Government, issuance of ration card to them and supervision of distribution of allocated foodgrains to eligible AAY ration card holders through Fair Price Shops rest with the States/UT Governments.

Complaints as and when received by the Government from individuals and organizations as well as through Press Report about leakages/diversion under TPDS, including AAY, are sent to the concerned State Governments for enquiry and action.

During the last three years (2006, 2007 and 2008) for various malpractices noticed in functioning of TPDS, States/UT Governments have reported arrests/prosecution of 15, 553 persons under the provisions of Essential Commodities Act, 1955. Out of these, specific cases pertaining to Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) are not available.

The Government, from time to time, gets evaluation done on functioning of TPDS. The latest concurrent evaluation was done by National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) in 12 States. As per its evaluation reports, in 9 States, namely, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Jharkhand, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharastra, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand, AAY households were found receiving foodgrains close to their entitlement of 35 kg per family per month, while in 3 States, namely, Assam, Bihar and Mizoram, these were reported to be lower. These evaluation reports have been sent to concerned State/UT Governments for taking necessary action to streamline functioning of TPDS including AAY.

Statement I

Status of identification of Households under AAY

As on 31.07.2009

(Fig. *in lakh*)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	No.of BPL families as on 1.3.2000	Estimated No. of AAY families					AAY families identified & RC issued				
			Initial	1st exp.	2nd exp.	3rd exp.	Total	Initial	1st exp.	2nd exp.	3rd exp.	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1.	Andhra Pradesh	40.63	6.228	3.117	2.991	3.242	15.578	6.228	3.117	2.991	3.242	15.578
2.	Arunchal Pradesh	0.99	0.151	0.077	0.073	0.079	0.380	0.151	0.077	0.073	0.079	0.380
3.	Assam	18.36	2.815	1.408	1.352	1.465	7.040	2.815	1.408	1.352	1.465	7.040
4.	Bihar	65.23	10.000	5.003	4.802	5.205	25.010	10.000	5.003	4.802	4.480	24.285
5.	Chhattisgarh	18.75	2.874	1.439	1.380	1.496	7.189	2.874	1.439	1.380	1.496	7.189
6.	Delhi	4.09	0.626	0.315	0.301	0.326	1.568	0.626	0.315	0.301	0.26	1.502

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
7.	Goa	0.48	0.073	0.037	0.035	0.039	0.184	0.073	0.037	0.035		0.145
8.	Gujarat	21.20	3.250	1.626	1.561	1.691	8.128	3.250	1.626	1.561	1.661	8.098
9.	Haryana	7.89	1.209	0.606	0.581	0.629	3.025	1.209	0.606	0.581	0.528	2.924
10.	Himachal Pradesh	5.14	0.787	0.395	0.378	0.411	1.971	0.787	0.395	0.378	0.411	1.971
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	7.36	1.129	0.564	0.542	0.587	2.822	1.129	0.564	0.542	0.322	2.557
12.	Jharkhand	23.94	3.665	1.841	1.762	1.911	9.179	3.665	1.841	1.762	1.911	9.179
13.	Karnataka	31.29	4.797	2.400	2.303	2.497	11.997	4.797	2.400	2.303	2.497	11.997
14.	Kerala	15.54	2.382	1.192	1.144	1.240	5.958	2.382	1.192	1.144	1.240	5.958
15.	Madhya Pradesh	41.25	6.324	3.164	3.037	3.291	15.816	6.324	3.164	3.037	3.291	15.816
16.	Maharashtra	56.34	10.017	5.011	4.810	5.215	25.053	10.017	5.011	4.810	4.801	24.639
17.	Manipur	1.66	0.255	0.127	0.122	0.132	0.636	0.255	0.127	0.122	0.132	0.636
18.	Meghalaya	1.83	0.281	0.140	0.135	0.146	0.702	0.281	0.140	0.135	0.146	0.702
19.	Mizoram	0.68	0.105	0.051	0.050	0.055	0.261	0.105	0.051	0.050	0.055	0.261
20.	Nagaland	1.24	0.189	0.096	0.091	0.099	0.475	0.189	0.096	0.091	0.099	0.475
21.	Orissa	32.98	5.055	2.530	2.428	2.632	12.645	5.055	2.530	2.428	2.632	12.645
22.	Punjab	4.68	0.717	0.359	0.345	0.373	1.794	0.717	0.359	0.345	0.373	1.794
23.	Rajasthan	24.31	3.726	1.865	1.790	1.940	9.321	3.726	1.865	1.790	1.940	9.321
24.	Sikkim	0.43	0.067	0.032	0.032	0.034	0.165	0.067	0.032	0.032	0.34	0.165
25.	Tamil Nadu	48.63	7.455	3.730	3.580	3.881	18.646	7.455	3.730	3.580	3.881	18.646
26.	Tripura	2.95	0.452	0.227	0.217	0.235	1.131	0.452	0.227	0.217	0.235	1.131
27.	Uttar Pradesh	106.79	16.371	8.191	7.861	8.522	40.945	16.371	8.191	7.861	8.522	40.945
28.	Uttaranchal	4.98	0.763	0.382	0.367	0.397	1.909	0.763	0.382	0.367		1.512
29.	West Bengal	51.79	7.939	3.973	3.813	4.132	19.857	7.939	3.973	2.887		14.799
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.28	0.043	0.021	0.021	0.022	0.107	0.043				0.043
31.	Chandigarh	0.23	0.035	0.018	0.017	0.018	0.088	0.015				0.015
32.	Dadra Nagar Haveli	0.18	0.028	0.013	0.013	0.015	0.069	0.028	0.013	0.011		0.052
33.	Daman and Diu	0.04	0.006	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.015	0.006	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.015
34.	Lakshdweep	0.03	0.004	0.003	0.002	0.003	0.012	0.004	0.003	0.002	0.003	0.012
35.	Puducherry	0.84	0.128	0.065	0.062	0.067	0.322	0.128	0.065	0.062	0.067	0.322
	Total	652.03	99.946	50.021	48.001	52.030	249.998	99.926	49.982	47.035	45.806	242.749

Statement II

Allocation and Offtake under AAY of Rice & Wheat for the Years 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 (Upto May, 2009)

(fig. in 000 tons)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	2006-07		2007-08		2008-09		2009-10	
		Allotment	Offtake	Allotment	Offtake	Allotment	Offtake	Allotment	Offtake
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	654.29	656.77	654.29	698.40	654.29	644.57	109.05	117.91
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	15.97	9.07	15.97	10.86	15.97	15.86	2.66	2.67
3.	Assam	294.22	272.05	295.45	298.03	295.69	295.01	49.28	50.01
4.	Bihar	662.09	566.33	1019.99	872.40	1019.99	772.50	170.00	109.24
5.	Chhattisgarh	295.25	313.06	301.94	308.94	301.94	301.94	50.32	50.32
6.	Delhi	23.32	22.88	45.91	39.36	63.08	53.16	10.51	9.54
7.	Goa	6.11	3.94	6.11	5.04	6.11	5.36	1.02	1.06
8.	Gujarat	310.85	259.99	332.18	293.57	340.08	340.75	56.68	57.76
9.	Haryana	109.39	102.92	122.82	116.99	122.82	112.24	20.47	18.05
10.	Himachal Pradesh	76.81	77.24	82.74	80.02	82.74	83.70	13.79	14.46
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	104.01	98.43	107.39	107.71	107.39	111.22	17.90	15.74
12.	Jharkhand	305.27	299.27	352.09	323.04	385.54	367.10	64.26	55.02
13.	Karnataka	491.35	465.20	503.89	484.19	503.89	503.73	83.98	85.76
14.	Kerala	248.33	249.31	250.26	250.89	250.26	250.59	41.71	41.68
15.	Madhya Pradesh	650.16	603.99	652.66	629.10	664.26	655.13	110.71	128.03
16.	Maharastra	833.22	698.75	1021.67	866.00	1034.88	902.62	172.48	142.90
17.	Manipur	21.18	18.41	22.57	21.45	26.72	22.91	4.45	6.39
18.	Meghalaya	23.35	23.35	29.88	28.98	29.48	29.74	4.91	4.86
19.	Mizoram	10.92	11.25	10.92	11.62	10.92	10.07	1.82	2.63
20.	Nagaland	19.97	22.98	19.97	21.43	19.97	21.25	3.33	4.49
21.	Orissa	530.72	433.29	531.12	457.08	531.12	531.95	88.52	111.83
22.	Punjab	58.31	33.56	65.41	37.81	75.36	46.53	12.56	7.79
23.	Rajasthan	385.71	348.02	391.49	367.39	391.49	377.56	65.25	68.24
24.	Sikkim	6.47	6.47	6.94	6.94	6.94	6.94	1.16	1.73
25.	Tamil Nadu	783.14	775.37	783.14	794.61	783.14	827.17	130.52	108.79
26.	Tripura	28.54	25.46	45.94	41.25	47.52	48.88	7.92	6.13

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
27.	Uttar Pradesh	1720.0	1692.33	1719.48	1667.59	1719.48	1608.78	286.58	275.82
28.	Uttarakhad	59.66	47.40	63.52	55.63	63.52	55.07	10.59	11.05
29.	West Bengal	621.68	515.64	621.68	531.52	621.68	512.81	103.61	86.45
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1.80	0.82	1.80	1.30	1.80	1.45	0.30	0.12
31.	Chandigarh	0.89	0.07	0.89	1.21	0.82	0.53	0.10	0.04
32.	Dadra Nagar Haveli	1.77	0.38	2.20	1.94	2.20	2.20	0.37	0.00
33.	Daman and Diu	0.64	0.37	0.64	0.18	0.64	0.10	0.11	0.01
34.	Lakshdweep	0.16	0.16	0.46	0.63	0.49	0.49	0.08	0.00
35.	Puducherry	13.55	7.14	13.55	6.54	13.55	4.76	2.26	1.30
	Total	9369.10	8661.68	10096.95	9438.81	10195.77	9524.64	1699.26	1597.82

[Translation]

Latest Technology for Agriculture

4406. SHRI KUNVARJIBHAI MOHANBHAI BAVALIA:
SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL:
SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has framed any policy to developed/provide latest agriculture technology to the farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the success achieved as a result thereof so far;

(c) whether efforts have been made to make waste land and rocky land cultivable by using modern technology; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Madam.

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

(c) No, Madam.

(d) N.A.

Statement

The details of latest agriculture technologies provided to the farmers and the achievements thereof are given below:

I. The ICAR has created a network of 588 KVKs in the country as innovative institutional model for assessment, refinement and demonstration of technology/ products and empowering farmers, rural youths and extension personnel through training.

During 2008-09, KVKs have conducted 20,002 on-farm trials to identify location specificity of agricultural technology under various farming situations; 75,826 frontline demonstrations on various crops to establish the production potentials of improved agricultural technologies on farmers' field; organized 41774 training programmes with the participation of 12.42 lakh farmers and extension personnel.

In order to create awareness on improved agricultural technology, the KVKs organized 2.84 lakh extension programmes benefiting 0.69 lakh farmers and extension personnel. The KVKs also provided about 2.01 lakh quintal seeds and 133.20 lakh planting material for its availability to farmers.

A total of 1.52 lakh samples including 1.30 soil samples, 19714 water samples, 2256 plant sample, and 504 other samples were analyzed benefiting 10983 farmers from 18893 villages.

II. Latest agriculture technologies are provided through the following schemes of Extension Division of DAC:

(i) Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms was launched in May, 2005 with an objective to support State Governments' efforts of revitalization of the extension system. The scheme promotes a decentralized farmer-driven and farmer-accountable extension system through a new institutional arrangement for technology dissemination in the form of an Agriculture Technology Management Agency (ATMA) at district level. 586 ATMAs have been established covering 29 States and 2 UTs. Over 91 lakh farmers including 17.97 lakh women farmers have benefited through training and extension activities such as exposure visits, training, demonstration, Krishi meals, farm schools, etc. since the inception of the scheme in 2005.

(ii) Mass Media Support to Agriculture Extension: This scheme as launched during the Xth Plan period with a view to contribute to revamping the extension services in the country by using electronic media for transfer of technology/ information to the farmers. Under the scheme the existing infrastructure of Doordarshan and All India Radio is being utilized to produce and transmit programmes covering a wide spectrum of topics in agriculture and allied fields for bringing the latest information and knowledge to the farming community. Apart from telecast/ broadcast in Hindi, the scheme also aims at disseminating programmes in regional languages and local dialects for specific needs of different regions covered under the scheme. 180 Narrow casting Centres, 18 Regional Centres and 1 National Centre of Doordarshan Kendra telecast agricultural programmes for 30 minutes, five days a week. of 96 FM Transmitter of AIR to broadcast area specific agricultural programme with 30 minutes radio transmission in the evening six days a week.

(iii) Kisan Call Centre (KCC): The Deptt. of Agriculture & Cooperation launched the KCC scheme on 21st Jan. 2004 throughout the country. Presntly, 25 KCs are working with the single toll free number '1800-180-1551' from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. It is accessible through landline and mobile of any service subscriber and the reply is given by the KCC agents in the local language. The replies of the queries (which includes relevant technologies to be adopted) fo the farming community are being given in 22 local languages. Since inception of the scheme, over 34.67 lakh calls have been answered by KCCs since inception of the scheme upto June 2009.

[English]

Foreign Investment in Agriculture

4407. SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO:
SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has entered into a strategic partnership with the United States of America (USA) in the field of agriculture;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the amount likely to be invested by the USA in the agriculture sector in India; and

(c) the benefits likely to accrue to the Indian farmers and facilities to be created under the said parnership?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Measures to Boost Small Industries

4408. SHRI UDAY SINGH:
SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN:

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

(a) whether the Government has any plan to provide a stimulus package for small scale industries so as to make them competitive in the international market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the contribution of the small scale industries in the international market;

(d) whether any growth target has been set for the small scale industries during the current Five Year Plan;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;

(f) whether there is any proposal to set hubs for small scale sector under the existing Industrial Inrastructural Upgradation Scheme (IIUS); and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) and (b) To facilitate the promotion and development of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and enhance their competitiveness, the Government has announced a 'Policy Package for Stepping up Credit to Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs)' in August 2005 which envisages public sector banks to fix their own targets for funding MSMEs in order to achieve a minimum 20 per cent year-on-year growth in credit to the MSME sector. The Government has also announced in February 2007 a 'Package for Promotion of Micro and Small Enterprises' with an objective to provide support in areas of credit, technology upgradation, marketing, infrastructure, etc. Further, the Government has enacted the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006, which has come into force from 2nd October, 2006, for promotion and development of MSMEs and to enhance their competitiveness. Keeping in view the impact of global economic slowdown on MSMEs, the Government, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the Public Sector Banks have taken several measures for protecting and providing a stimulus to the MSMEs which, *inter alia*, include: (i) extending the loan limit under Credit Guarantee Scheme from Rs. 50 lakh to Rs. 1 crore with a guarantee cover of 50 per cent; (ii) increasing the guarantee cover under Credit Guarantee Scheme from 80 per cent to 85 per cent for credit facility up to Rs. 5 lakh, (iii) interest subvention of 2 per cent in pre and post-shipment export credit to small and medium enterprises (SME) sector; (iv) refinance limit of Rs. 7,000 crore to Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) for incremental on-lending to the micro and small enterprises (MSE) sector; (v) grant of need-based ad hoc working capital demand loans up to 20 per cent of the existing fund-based limits; and (vi) reduction in interest rates for borrowing by micro enterprises by 1 per cent and in respect of SMEs by 0.5 per cent.

(c) The share of micro and small enterprises in the total exports of the country during the year 2006-07 (latest available) is estimated to be 31.92 per cent.

(d) and (e) The targets set for the Eleventh Plan for the MSEE sector provide for increasing the production (at current price) and employment from Rs. 6,82,613 crore and 322.28 lakh persons in 2007-08 to Rs. 13,98,803 crore and 391.73 lakh persons in the terminal year (2011-12) of the Plan period respectively. As per the provisional estimates of production and employment in MSE sector for the year 2007-08 (latest available), the targets for 2007-08 have been achieved.

(f) and (g) The Industrial Infrasructure Upgradation Scheme (IIUS) targets creation of quality infrastructure in existing industrial clusters/locations with high growth potential. Under the IIUS, central assistance is provided by way of one-time grant-in-aid to the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) fromed by the cluster association for development of the infrastructure. However, funds are not provided to set up hubs for small enterprises sector under the scheme.

Exchange Programme for Farmers

4409. SHRI P.C. GADDIGOUDAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government conducts study tour exchange programme for the farmers to other countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the benefits accrued/likely to accrue therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Ministry of Agriculture has Memorandm of Understanding for International Cooperation with some countries which provide for exchange programmes for farmers.

(b) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Consumption and Production of Rice

4410. SHRI ANANTHA VENKATARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has assessed the domestic production and consumption of rice in the country during 2009-10;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the efforts being taken to increase the productivity and acreage under rice cultivation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Based upon the behaviouristic approach, the production of rice during 2009-10 is projects at 98.30 million tonnes against project demand of 94.83 million tonnes.

(c) In order to increase the production of rice in the country, the National Food Security Mission (NFSM) is being implemented since 2007-08. The NFSM-Rice is being implemented in 136 districts of 14 States with an objective to increase the production of rice by 10 million tonnes by the terminal year of the 11th Plan, *i.e.,* by 2011-12. Besides NFSM, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice Based Cropping Systems Areas (ICDP-Rice), subsumed under Macro Management Mode of Agriculture is also being implemented in the non-NFSM rice districts in the country to provide more flexibility to State based on local needs. Further, the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) with an objective to incentivise the State to increase investment in agriculture and allied sector is also under implementation.

[Translation]

Export of Agriculture, Rural and Khadi Products

4411. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL:
SHRI MUKESH BHAIRAVDANJI GADHVI:

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

(a) the total volume and value of agriculture, rural and khadi and village industrial products exported during each of the last three years, State-wise and UT-wise separately;

(b) whether any decrease has been registered during the said period; and

(c) if so, the reasons and the steps taken to increase the export of such products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) The products exported by export-oriented units under the purview of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), comprise heterogeneous items, such as wooden furniture, handicraft items, herbal ayurvedic medicines, silk and muslin, readymade garments, papad, etc. As such, the data of khadi and village industry (KVI) products exported are maintained only in terms of value of products exported and not in quantity. The State and Union Territory-wise details of value of KVI products exported during 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) No, Madam.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

State/Union Territory-wise details of value of KVI products exported during 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09

(Rs. lakh)

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09*
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6.00	12.50	112.05
2.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	0.00	28.86
3.	Delhi	0.00	42.49	181.88
4.	Gujarat	0.00	0.00	60.89
5.	Haryana	3.50	318.39	149.46
6.	Karnataka	67.20	78.20	17.81
7.	Kerala	0.00	229.83	171.45
8.	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	97.00	0.00
9.	Maharashtra	2503.04	2749.64	2375.30
10.	Puducherry	38.70	20.80	0.00
11.	Punjab	20.65	7.78	3631.56
12.	Rajasthan	2614.04	5398.80	3700.06
13.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	3.47	19.28
14.	Uttar Pradesh	28.10	230.10	34.23
15.	West Bengal	0.00	3.76	1.40
16.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	91.76	0.00	0.00
	Total	5373.00	9192.69	10484.23

*Provisional.

[English]

Smuggling of Drugs

4412. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that certain parts of the country is being used as transit point for drug smuggling;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that consumption of drugs is on the rise;

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

(e) the action proposed/taken by the Government to combat and curb drug consumption and smuggling?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) India's geographical location contributes significantly to illicit transit trafficking of drugs. Towards India's West is Golden Crescent, the region comprising Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran. Afghanistan is an internationally acknowledged source of opium and opium based drug like heroin. The Afghan heroin enters India through land borders of Pakistan adjoining Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir. Hashish and Ganja sourced to Nepal is also trafficked through into Nepal Border. Small amounts of drugs are also trafficked along the Bangladesh and Indo-Myanmar Border.

(c) and (d) No, Madam. Government does not have any authentic report to indicate that consumption of drugs is on the rise.

(e) The action taken by the Government to combat and curb drug consumption and smuggling is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Action Taken by the Government

(i) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment under its Scheme of Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drug) Abuse is providing financial assistance to Non-Governmental Organizations for running of De-addition Centres.

(ii) A National Drug Awareness Campaign is launched every year on the occasion of 'Inter National Day Against Illicit Trafficking and Drug Abuse' on 26th June. Under this campaign ill effects of the drugs are discussed with people so that correct information and life skills are available to young people to help them to choose drug free and health life style.

(iii) Information, Education and Communication (IEC) material like posters, banners, panels, brochures, audio and visual spots have been developmed to impart knowledge about drugs through radio, television, newspapers and other mass media. Special camps are organized from time to time in which the messages against drugs are spread through discussions, release, puppet shows, street plays and pantomime shows.

(iv) Intensive preventive and interdiction efforts along known drug routes.

(v) Improved coordination between the various drug law enforcement agencies in order to impart greater cohesion to interdiction.

(vi) Strengthening of international liasion to improve the collection, analysis and dissemination of operational intelligence.

(vii) BSF and SSB are Lead Intelligence Agencies and hold regular meeting with all enforcement agencies of the State Central Government.

(viii) Increased international cooperation for exchange of information and investigative assistance in administering control over the movement of precursor chemicals.

(ix) Conducting training programmes for law enforcement officials for upgrading their skills to combat drug trafficking.

(x) Implementing a scheme of monetary rewards for information leading to seizures of Narcotics drugs to informants and officers.

(xi) Financial assistance being provided to eligible States for strengthening their narcotic units.

[Translation]

Maintenance of National Highways in U.P.

4413. SHRI RAMKISHUN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several streches of the National Highways in Uttar Pradesh are in dilapidated State;

(b) if so, the details thereof including names of such streches in the said State, NH-wise; and

(c) the details of the steps taken and funds allocated for the repair and maintenance of the National Highways in Uttar Pradesh including their present status, NH-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (c) No, Madam. All National Highways in the State of Uttar Pradesh are presently being maintained in traffic worthy condition keeping in view the traffic, inter-se-priority and availability of funds. Funds are allocated to the State as a whole and not NH-wise. During last four years and current year, Rs. 292.75 crore have been allocated to the State of Uttar Pradesh for Maintenance & Repair of National Highways.

[English]

Improving Inter-Connectivity of Roads

4414. SHRI GAJANAN D. BABAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received requests from different State Governments for Central assistance to improve the inter-connectivity of roads in the State to spurt economic growth in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has any scheme/ proposes to launch a scheme in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof including the funds allocated/proposed to be allocated thereon during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (d) This Ministry has a scheme for development of State Roads providing connectivity with neighboring States under the Inter-State Connectivity (ISC) Scheme under the Central Road Fund (CRF) Act, 2000.

The State-wise details of the funds allocated for development of the State Roads under ISC scheme during the last three years and the current year are given in the enclsoed Statement.

During 2009-10, so far 10 no. of proposal amounting to Rs. 288.22 crore has been received from the State Governments of Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Punjab for consideration of in-principle approval under ISC.

Statement

The State-wise details of the funds allocated for development of the State Roads under Inter-State Connectivity (ISC) scheme during the last three years and the current year.

(Amount in Rs. Crore)

Sl.No.	States/UT	Allocations under ISC during			
		2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
1	2	3	4	5	6
States					
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5.61	0.00	3.17	4.78
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.93	3.19	3.14	0.68
3.	Assam	4.04	0.55	0.40	1.06
4.	Bihar	1.47	2.20	0.00	2.98
5.	Chhattisgarh	0.25	0.00	0.00	1.84
6.	Gujarat	6.37	3.57	1.25	0.75

1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	Haryana	7.56	6.62	4.60	1.78
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1.84	2.05	9.91	4.35
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.25	1.26	0.00	0.00
10.	Jharkhand	0.25	0.47	1.99	5.63
11.	Karnataka	20.25	15.44	15.00	9.06
12.	Kerala	0.25	2.68	1.25	7.42
13.	Madhya Pradesh	5.88	3.50	0.00	3.25
14.	Maharashtra	4.93	19.34	0.00	2.57
15.	Manipur	1.29	0.00	0.00	0.00
16.	Meghalaya	2.21	0.64	0.00	1.04
17.	Mizoram	0.25	4.41	13.39	2.82
18.	Nagaland	1.47	1.30	1.50	0.34
19.	Orissa	15.53	10.18	15.59	12.37
20.	Punjab	4.78	2.83	8.47	3.92
21.	Rajasthan	7.31	10.97	20.81	5.57
22.	Sikkim	3.68	9.38	9.69	6.26
23.	Tamil Nadu	0.25	0.16	4.19	12.39
24.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.13
25.	Uttarakhad	6.62	5.67	0.00	5.59
26.	Uttar Pradesh	12.60	6.24	17.82	6.15
27.	West Bengal	7.35	7.71	1.30	1.48
Union Teritories					
28.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50
29.	Chandigarh	0.00	1.00	3.00	0.00
30.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.50	2.00	0.50	0.00
31.	Daman and Diu	2.40	2.00	1.50	0.00

[Translation]

Norms for Setting up of NYKs

4415. SHRI BALKRISHNA KHANDERAO SHUKLA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has fixed any norms for setting up Nehru Yuva Kendras (NYKs) in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of NYKs set up in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(c) whether any proposal regarding setting up of Nehru Yuva Kendras in various States including Vadodara is under consideration of the Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PATIL): (a) to (d) The Government has not fixed any norms for setting up of Nehru Yuva Kendras in the country. However, the endeavor of the Government is to cover all the 623 districts of the country by opening Nehru Yuva Kendras. As on date, NYKs is functioning through its Kendrs at 501 districts, including one at Vadodra. The State-wise details of these 501 Kendras are given in the enclosed Statement. With a view to cover all the districts of the country, the Government proposes to extend the activities of Nehru Yuva Kendras in the remaining 122 districts in a phased manner.

Statement

Details of NYKs State-wise and location-wise

Sl.No.	Name of State	Name of the districts covered by NYK	Total No. of NYKs
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Anantapur, Vijayawada, Chittoor, Cuddapah, Guntur Kakinada (East Godavari), Karim Nagar, Khammam, Kurnool, Mehbubnagar, Nizamabad, Medak (Siddipet), Srikakulam, Vishakhapatnam, Adilabad, Vizianagaram, Nellore, Warangal, Hyderabad, Nallgonda, West Godavari (Elluru), Prakasham (Ongole), Ranga Reddy.	23
2.	Assam	Dibrugarh, Diphu (Karbi Anglong), Dhubri, Kamrup (Maligaon), North Lakhimpur, Nagaon, Cachar (Silchar), Tezpur (Sonitpur), Haflong (N C Hills), Karimganj, Barpeta, Kokrajha, Jorhat, Sibsagar, Nalbari, Goalpara, Dhemaji, Darrang (Mangaldoi), Hailakandi, Golaghat, Morigaon, Bongaigaon, Tinsukia.	23
3.	Bihar	Araria, Aurangabad, Banka, Begusarai, Bhagalpur, Bhojpur (Arrah), Buxar, Darbhanga, East Champaran (Motihari), Gaya, Gopalganj, Jamui, Jehanabad, Kaimoor (Bhabua), Katihar, Khagaria, Kishanganj, Madhepura, Madubani, Munger, Muzaffarpur, Nalanda, Nawada, Patna, Purnia, Rohtas (Sasaram), Saharsa, Samastipur, Saran (Chaptra), Sitamarhi, Siwan, Supaul, Vaishali (Hajipur), West Chamapran (Bettiah)	34
4.	Gujarat	Bharuch, Nadias (Kheda), Kutch (Bhuj), Godhra, Sabarkantha (Himmat Nagar), Junagarh, Mehsana, Surendra Nagar, Jamnagar, Bhavnagar, Valsad, Surat, Gandhi Nagar, Ahmedabad, Vadodra (Choota Udaipur), Dangs, Amreli, Palanpur, Rajkot	19
5.	Haryana	Ambala, Bhiwani, Gurgaon, Karnal, Sirsa, Kurukshetra, Rohtak, Faridabad, Sonepat, Jind, Hissar, Mahendergarh (Narnoul), Rewari, Yamuna Nagar, Kaithal, Panipat	16
6.	Himachal Pradesh	Bilaspur, Chamba, Dharamsala (Kangra), Hamirpur, Kinnaur, Kullu, Keylong (Lahoul Spiti), Mandi, Nahan (Sirmour), Solan, Shimla, Una	12
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	Kathua, Anantnag, Bidgam, Baramulla, Doda, Jammu, Kupwara, Kargil, Leh (Ladakh), Pulwama, Poonch, Rajouri, Sri Nagar, Udhampur	14

1	2	3	4
8.	Karnataka	Bijapur, Belgaum, Bidar, Chikmagalur, Gulbarga, Hassan, Kanwar, Kodagu (Madikeri), Kolar, Mangalore, Mandya, Mysore, Raichur, Tumkur, Dharwad, Chitradurga (Devengere), Bellary, Shimoga, Bangalore (Rural, Bangalore (Urban)	20
9.	Kerala	Alleppey, Kannur, Thodupuzha (Iddukki), Kozhikode, Malappuram, Palghat, Pathanamthitaa, Trivandraum, Trichur, Ernakulam, Kottayam, Kasargod, Wynad, Quilon	14
10.	Madhya Pradesh	Balaghat, Betul, Bhind, Bhopal, Chhatarpur, Chhindwara, Damoh, Datia, Dewas, Dhar, Guna, Gwalior, Harda, Hoshangabad, Indore, Jabalpur, Jhabua, Katni, Khandwa, Khargaon, Mandala, Mandsor, Morena, Narsinghpur, Panna, Raisen, Rajgarh (Bajora), Ratlam, Reewa, Sagar, Satna, Sehore, Seoni, Shahdol, Shajapur, Shivpuri, Sidhi, Tikamgarh, Ujjain, Vidisha	40
11.	Maharashtra	Aurangabad, Alibag (Rajgad), Bhandara, Kolhapur, Sholapur, Thane, Jalgaon, Nanded, Yavatmal, Amravati, Gadchiroli, Jalna, Buldhana, Nagpur, Mumbai (Kal), Satara, Ahmednagar, Nasik, Parbhani, Osmanabad, Dhule, Ratnagiri, Latur, Pune, Sindhudurg, Akola, Chandrapur, Wardha, Beed, Sangli	30
12.	Manipur	Churachandpur, Imphal, Senapati (Kongpokpi), Tamenglong, Ukhrul, Thoubla, Chandel, Bishanpur, Senapati-II	09
13.	Meghalaya	Jaintia Hills (Jowai), West Garo Hills (Tura), East Khasi Hill (Shillong), East Garo Hills (Willim Nagar), West Khasi Hills (Nangstoin)	05
14.	Nagaland	Kohima, Mokokchung, Zonheboto, Tuensang, Mon, Wokha, Phek	07
15.	Orissa	Balasore, Balangir, Mayurbhanj (Baripada), Behrampur (Ganjam), Kalahandi (Bhawani Patna), Dhenkanal, Keonjhar, Koraput, Phulbani, Puri, Sambalpur, Sundargarh, Cuttack, Naupada, Khurda (Bhubneshwar), Kendrapara	16
16.	Punjab	Amritsar, Bhathinda, Faridkot, Ferozepur, Gurdaspur, Hoshiarpur, Jalandhar, Kapurthala, Ludhiana, Patiala, Ropar, Sangrur, Mansa, Fatehrgarh Sahib, Tarn Taran	15
17.	Rajasthan	Ajmer, Banswar, Barmer, Bharatpur, Bhilwara, Bikaner, Bundi, Chittorgarh, Churu, Dungarpur, Jaipur, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, Jalore, Swai Madhopur, Sirohi, Tonk, Udaipur, Alwar, Kota, Pali, Dhoulpur, Nagaur, Sikar, Jhunjhunu, Jhalawar, Sri Ganganagar, Raisamand, Baran, Dausa	30
18.	Sikkim	East Sikkim (Gangtok), Nroth Sikkim (Mangan), West Sikkim (Gayzing), South Sikkim (Namchi)	04
19.	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore, Cuddalore (South Arcot), Dharmapuri, Madurai, Pudukottai, Salem, Sivaganga, Tiruchirappalli, Thanjavur, Tirunelveli, Nilgiri (Udagmandalm) Ooty, Vellore, Kamrajar (Virudunagar), Kanya Kumari (Nagercoil), Chengalpet (MGR), Erode (Periyar), Dindigul (Anna), Ramanathapuram, Chidambamar (Tuticorin), Chennai (Rural), Nagapatnam, Thiruvannamali, Villupuram, Tiruvallur, Theni, Tiruvarur, Namakkal, Karur, Perambulur	29

1	2	3	4
20.	Tripura	Agartal (West Tripura), Dharam Nagar (North Tripura), Udaipur (South Tripura)	03
21.	Uttar Pradesh	Agra, Aligarh, Allahabad, Azamgarh, Badaun, Bahraich, Ballia, Banda, Barabanki, Bareilly, Basti, Bijnor, Bulandsahar, Amethi, Deoria, Etah, Etawah, Faizabad, Farukhabad, Fatehpur, Firozabad, Ghaziabad, Ghazipur, Gonda, Gorakhpur, Hamirpur, Hardoi, Jalaun (Orai), Jaunpur, Jhansi, Kanpur Dehat, Kanpur Nagar, Lakhimpur Kheri, Lalitpur, Lucknow, Maharajganj, Mainpuri, Mathura, Mau, Meerut, Mirzapur, Moradabad, Muzaffarnagar, Pratapgarh, Pilibhit, Rai Bareilly, Rampur, Saharanpur, Shahjahanpur, Sidharth Nagar, Sitapur, Sonebhandra, Sultarnpur, Unao, Varanasi	55
22.	West Bengal	Barsat (24 Parganas North), Burdwan, Murshidabad, Darjeeling, Baruipur (24 Pargana South), Jalpaiguri, Midnapore, Purulia, Calcutta, Cooch Behar, Uttar Dinajpur, Bankura, Birbhum, Hoogly, Nadia, Howrah, Malda, Durgapur (Burdwan-II), Diamond Harbour (24 S. Parg), Tamluk Midnapore-II, Calcutta (South), Raghunathpur (Purulia)	22
23.	Arunachal Pradesh	Siang (Along), Lower Subansiri (Ziro), Upper Subansiri (Daporijo), Lohit (Tezu)	04
24.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Nicobar, Port Blair, Kamotra, Campbell Bay, Mayabander (Rangat), Diglipur	6
25.	Chandigarh	Chandigarh	1
26.	Delhi	Alipur, Mehrauli, Nangloi	3
27.	Goa	North Goa, Panji, South Goa (Margaon)	3
28.	Lakshadweep	Kavarati	1
29.	Puducherry	Karaikal, Puducherry, Mahe, Yanam	4
30.	Mizoram	Aizwal, Lungeli, Ghhimutuipuri (Saiha)	3
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	1
32.	Chhattisgarh	Bilaspur, Champa, Durg, Kanker (Bastar), Raigarh, Raipur, Rajnandgaon, Sarguja	8
33.	Jharkhand	Bokaro, Chatra, Deoghar, Dhanbad, Dumka, East Singhbhum (Jamshedpur), Garwah, Giridih, Godda, Gumla, Hazaribagh, Lohardaga, Palamau (Daltonganj), Ranchi, Sahabganj, West Singhbhum (Chaibasa)	16
34.	Uttarakhand	Almoa, Chamoli, Dehradun, Haridwar, Nainital, Pauri Garhwal, Pithoragarh, Tehri Garhwal, Uttarkashi	9
35.	Daman and Diu	Daman	2
	Total NYKs		501

[English]

FM Channel for Students

4416. SHRI K.P. DHANAPALAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had provided exclusive FM channel for educating students in the remote areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to provide exclusive FM channel for educating students all over the country including Kerala;

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

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN): (a) and (b) All India Radio (AIR) does not have any exclusive FM Channels for educating students in the remote areas of the country.

However, under the GYAN VANI initiative catalyzed by Ministry of Human Resources Development, the Ministry of Information & Boradcasting (Prasar Bharati) and IGNOU, have already established 26 FM radio stations and another 11 stations across the country are coming up under the Phase-I. These 37 stations, with a reach of 60-70 kms radially, are dedicated FM stations for education and broadcast programmes of interest to students. Some of these stations are located in places such as Jabalpur, Raipur, Guwahati, Shillong, etc. which have significant remote areas with tribal population in thier reach. The broadcasts of these FM stations usually reach the villages and areas surrounding the main town, in which they are located. Accordingly, some of the broadcasts of GV stations are tailored to cater to the needs of this population in the remote areas. The details of these station are given in the Statement.

(c) to (e) The 37 places at which Gyan Vani FM stations are already operational or are likely to be operationalised soon are spread across the country. In Kerala, two Educational FM stations will be operationalised soon at Thiruvananthapuram and Cochin.

Statement

Gyan Vani FM Radio Stations in Operation

Name of Station

1. Chennai (Tamil Nadu)
2. Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu)
3. Nagpur (Maharashtra)
4. Mumbai (Maharashtra)
5. Aurangabad (Maharasthra)
6. Delhi (Delhi)
7. Panaji (Goa)
8. Kolkata (West Bengal)
9. Patna (Bihar)
10. Raipur (Chhattisgarh)
11. Rajkot (Gujarat)
12. Ahmedabad (Gujarat)
13. Shillong (Meghalaya)
14. Varanasi (UP)
15. Allahabad (UP)
16. Kanpur (UP)
17. Lucknow (UP)
18. Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh)
19. Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh)
20. Bangalore (Karnataka)
21. Mysore (Karnataka)
22. Guwahati (Assam)
23. Indore (MP)
24. Jabalpur (MP)
25. Bhopal (MP)
26. Jaipur (Rajasthan)

Gyan Vani FM Radio Station to be operationalized soon

Name of Station

1. Agra (UP)
2. Chandigarh (UT)

3. Cochin (Kerala)
4. Tiruvananthapuram (Kerala)
5. Cuttack (Orissa)
6. Jallandhar (Punjab)
7. Madurai (Tamil Nadu)
8. Pune (Maharashtra)
9. Srinagar (Jammu and Kashmir)
10. Tiruchirapalli (Tamil Nadu)
11. Tirunelveli (Tamil Nadu)

Gujarati News Bulletin

4417. SHRI MUKESH BHAIRAVDANJI GADHVI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to broadcast Gujarati news bulletin from the DD news channel;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) Prasar Bharati is not considering any such proposal, at present. However, DDK, Ahmedabad is telecasting the following news bulletins in Gujarati:—

0900 hrs.	—	15 Minutes
1200 hrs.	—	05 Minutes
1600 hrs.	—	05 Minutes
1900 hrs.	—	15 Minutes

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Availability of Seeds and Fertilizers

4418. SHRI GORAKHNATH PANDEY:
SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to ensure availability of seeds and fertilizers to the farmers at reasonable rates during the sowing season;

(b) whether the Government proposes to provide subsidy to the small and marginal farmers for the purchase of seeds and fertilisers;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Assistance for infrastructure, seed production and distribution are provided to states to ensure availability of seeds to the farmers at reasonable rate during sowing reason under different crop development programmes/ schemes of the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation. The details of assistance/subsidy for seed production and distribution provided are given in the enclosed Statement.

The Government has taken necessary action to ensure availability of fertilizers in the country through indigenous production as well as through imports to bridge the gap between indigenous production and assessed requirement. The Maximum Retail Price (MRP) of fertilizer under the concessional scheme is declared by the Government which remains constant from February 2002. The MRP is lower than the cost of the fertilizer as such the farmers are getting fertilizer at reasonable price.

Statement

Components for which assistance is provided for seed related activities under existing

Sl.No.	Scheme/Component	Crop	Scale of Assistance
1	2	3	4
1.	Macro Management Mode of Agriculture-State Work Plan	Rice and Wheat	(i) Rs. 500/- per quintal or 50% of the cost, which ever is less for certified seed *distribution for rice and wheat.*

1	2	3	4
		Bajra, Jowar, Ragi and Barley	(ii) Rs. 800/- per quintal or 50% of the cost, which ever is less for certified seed distribution of varieties for *Bajra, Jowar and Barley.*
			(iii) Rs. 1000/- per quintal for certified seed distribution of hybrid of Bajra and Jowar.
			(iv) Rs. 1000/- per quintal or 50% of the cost, which ever is less for *assistance for production hybrid rice seed.*
			(v) Rs. 2000/- per quintal for 50% of the cost, which ever is less assistance for production *hybrid rice seed distribution.*
2.	Integrated Scheme on Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize	All Oilseeds, Pulses and Maize	(i) Full cost for purchase of Breeder seed.
			(ii) Rs. 1000/- per quintal for foundation and certified seed production.
			(iii) Rs. 1200/- per quintal or 25% of Seeds cost whichever is less for certified seed distribution.
			(iv) Full cost of Seed Minikits of high yielding varieties.
		Oil Palm Sprouts	(v) 75% of the cost with a ceiling of Rs. 7500/ha. for entire land holding of farmers.
3.	Technology Mission on Cotton	Cotton Seed	(i) 50% of the cost or Rs. 50/- per kg. whichever is less for foundation seed production.
			(ii) 25% of the cost or Rs. 15/- per kg. whichever is less for Certified seed production.
			(iii) Rs. 20/- per kg. for certified seed distribution.
			(iv) 50% of the cost limited to Rs. 40/- per kg. seed treatment.
4.	Technology Mission on Jute and Mesta	Jute and Mesta	(i) 50% of the cost limited to Rs. 3000/- per quintal for foundation seed production.
			(ii) 25% of the cost limited to Rs. 700/- per quintal for Certified seed production.
			(iii) 50% of the cost limited to Rs. 2000/- per quintal for certified seed distribution.
5.	National Food Security Mission	Rice	(i) Rs. 1000/- per quintal or 50% of the cost which ever is less for certified hybrid rice seed production.

1	2	3		4
			(ii)	Rs. 2000/- per quintal or 50% of Seeds cost whichever is less for certified hybrid rice seed distribution.
			(iii)	Rs. 5/- per kg. or 50% of the cost, whichever is less for certified high yielding varieties seed distribution.
			(iv)	Full cost of Seed Minikits of high yielding varieties.
		Wheat	(i)	Rs. 5/- per kg. or 50% of the cost whichever is less for certified high yielding varieties seed distribution.
			(ii)	Full cost of Seed Minikits of high yeilding varieties.
		Pulses	(i)	Rs. 1000/- per quintal for foundation and certified seeds production.
			(ii)	Rs. 1200/- per quintal or 50% of the cost whichever is less for certified seed distribution.
			(iii)	Full cost of Seed Minikits of high yielding varieties.
6.	Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure Facilities for Production and Distribution of Quality Seed	All Agricultural Crops	(i)	To upgrade the quality of farmer saved seed *financial assistance for distribution of foundation/ certified seeds at 50% cost of the seed* for production of quality seeds.
	a. Seed Village Programme		(ii)	Assistance to train the farmers on seed production and seed technology @ Rs. 15000/- for a group of 50-150 farmers.
			(iii)	Assistant @ 33% subject to maximum of Rs. 3000 for SC/ST farmers and @ 25% subject to maximuim of Rs. 2000 for other farmers for procuring seed storage bin of 20 qtls. capacity. Assistance @ 33% subject to to a maximum of Rs. 1500 for SC/ST farmers and @ 25% subject to maximum of Rs. 1000 for other farmers for procuring seed storage bin of 10 qtls. capacity.
	b. Transport subsidy on Movement of Seeds to North Eastern States including Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Uttarakhand & Hill areas of West Bengal	All certified seeds	(i)	100% differnce between road and rail transportation charge is being reimbursed to implementing States/Agencies for movement of seeds produced from outside the State of the identified State Capital/District Headquarter.
			(iii)	Actual cost restricted to maximum limit of Rs. 60/- per quintal whichever is less for movement of seeds transported within the State from State Capital/District Headquarter to sale outlets/sale counters is being reimbursed.

1	2	3	4
	C. Creation and Strengthening of Infrastructure Facilities	All Crops	To create/sterngthen infrastructure facilities for production and distribution of quality seeds for the States/State Seeds Corporation financial assistance for creating facilities for seed cleaning, grading, processing, packing and seed storage is being provided in public sector.
	d. Establishment and Maintenance of Seed Bank	All Agriculture Crops	The Government of India provide revolving funds for procurement of seed under Seed Bank. The 50% contribution made by Government of India and balance made by implementing agency. The maintenance cost of certified and foundation seed is also reimbursed for various activities i.e. transportations, processing and grading, storage losses and insurance of seeds. In case seed is declared as non seed then Government of India provide price differential.
	e. Strengthening of Seed Quality Control Organisation	All Crops	Financial Assistance extended to State Govt./Seed Certification Agency/STL/Seed Corporation for strengthening their Quality Control Organization. i. Strengthening the existing STL — Rs. 10 lakh ii. Strengthening the SCA — Rs. 15 lakh iii. Establishment of GOT Farm — Rs. 10 lakh iv. Facility for hybrids by teating — Rs. 10 lakh v. Establishment of DNA Lab. — Rs. 25 lakh vi. Facility for testing GM crops — Rs. 2 lakh vii. Training — Rs. 0.5 lakh viii. Financial Assistance for ISTA Lab/OECD membership — Rs. 4.55 lakh
	f. Bio-Technology—Tissue Culture Labs.	Specified Crops Banana, Sugarcane, Bamboo, Potato, Horticulture crops, Medicinal plants, Oil Palm & Ornamental plants.	Financial assistance upto Rs. One crore is granted to the beneficiary depending upon their proposal for strengthening/setting up of new tissue culture laboratory.
	g. Hybrid Rice Seed Production	Only Rice	Hybrid Rice Seed Production assistance Rs. 2000/-qtls. Hybrid Rice Seed Distribution assistance Rs. 2000/- qtls.
7.	Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana	All Crops	All Activities including Seed Infrastructure Facilities.

Dilapidated Roads and Overbridges

4419. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of dilapidated roads/overbridges across various rivers in the country, State-wise, river-wise and location-wise;

(b) whether the Government has received proposal for repair/construction of new roads/overbridges across various rivers in the county including Ganga and Kosi in U.P.; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, and the action taken by the Government on pending projects, State-wise, NH-wise, location-wise and river-wise during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (c) Road bridges on National Highways across various rivers in the country are in traffic worthy condition. However, there are some road bridges which require repair/rehabilitation. The details of proposals received for repair/rehabilitation of such road bridges are given in the enclosed Statement-I. Proposals for construction of new bridges across various rivers in the country which are under consideration are given in the enclosed Statement-II. The repair/construction of road bridges is a continuous process and is undertaken every year as per availability every year as per availability of funds and inter-priority.

Statement I

List of Bridges which Require Repair/Rehabilitation.

Sl.No.	State	Name of river	NH No.	Km.	Number of bridges
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Bihar	Ganga	19	214-219	1
2.	Chhattisgarh	Narangi	43	222/4	
		Hasdeo	200	193/2-6	3
		Mand	200	268/6-10	
3.	Gujarat	Shetrunji		51/1	
		Datardis	8E	114/1	3
		Rupen		166/1	
4.	Haryana	Ghaggar	10	263.840	
		Sahabdi	71	396.000	
		Bagna	72	30.500	
		Tangri	73	155.500	9
		Bhanu		168.30	
		Som	73A	12.900	
		Balsamand Distributary	65	194.100	

1	2	3	4	5	6
5.	Karnataka			293.08	
		Tungabhadra	13	294.243	
				306.197	
		Kabini	212	191.600	
		Cauvery	212	253.40	
		Pinakini	207	25.15	
		Souparnika	17	275.00	
		Haladi	17	281.000	
				281.200	16
		Bennihala	63	150.60	
		Don	218	174.200	
		Krishna	13	164.01	
		Malaprabha	13	173.850	
		Hattikeri	17	132.00	
		Gangavali	17	152.00	
		Aghanashini	17	172.00	
6.	Madhya Pradesh	Narmada	59A	126/8	2
			69	35/4	
7.	Maharashtra	Kapari	222	194/950	1
8.	Manipur	Thongjaovok	150	435.16	1
9.	Meghalaya	Kharukol	62	122/10	2
		Bhakla		203/2	
10.	Punjab	Satluj	17	49.000	2
			15	164.00	
11.	Rajasthan	Banas	12	89	1

Statement II

Proposals Under Consideration for Construction of Bridges on NHS.

Sl.No.	State	Name of river	NH No	Km	Number of bridges
1.	Assam		154&137	70/1, 73/3, 403/1, 480/1, 501/1, 509/1, 517/1	7
2.	Bihar	Tungi	82	38	2
		Mahane	30A	62	
3.	Chandigarh				
4.	Gujarat	Nayaro	8A-Extn	157/990	1
5.	Karnataka	Mullamari	218-E	405.90	
		Cauvery	209	357.00	
		Honehalla	209	338.25	
		Malaprabha	218	115.00	6
		Bennihala	218	161.500	
		Hirehalla	63	249.200	
6.	Madhya Pradesh	Sukhnni	59A	142/8	1
7.	Maharashtra	Tawa	8	423.223	1
		Wari		165	
		Herawati	28B	172/2	
8.	Uttar Pradesh	Bhakra	87	31.000	6
		Mahesara	29E	86.000	
		Kalyani	28	68.750	
9.	West Bengal	Angravasa	31	706.229	2
		Sundra	60	138.979	

[Translation]

Implementation of Official Langauges Act

4420. CAPT. JAI NARAIN PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any guidelines have been laid down for implementation of the Official Langauge Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding violation of the provisions of the Official Language Act;

(d) if so, the number of such cases reported during the last one year and the current year;

(e) the action taken against the erring officials;

(f) the funds granted by the Government for promotion of Hindi Language during each of the last three years; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to develop and monitor the implementation of the said Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) and (b) The Officials Language (use for official purposes of the Union) Rules, 1976 have been framed under the section 8 of the Official Langauges Act. In pursuance of the Official Language Resolution, 1968 the Deptt. of Official Language issues an Annual Programme every year to speed-up propagation and also to accelerate its progressive use for different official purposes. In pursuance of this, Annual Evaluation Report is prepared on the basis of the report received from the offices of the Central Government incorporating therein the shortcomings found in implementation of the Official Language Policy in the Ministries/Deptts. and other offices of the Central Government and suggestions and measures for their removal.

The Committee of Parliament on Official Language was constituted in 1976 under the section 4 of Official Language Act, 1963. The Committee after reviewing the different aspects of implementation of Official Language Policy in Central Government offices in details submits its report to the Hon'ble President. The recommendations made in the report of the committee are reviewed and submitted to the President of India for orders.

Besides, administrative orders are issued from time to time for ensuring the implementation of the Official Languages Act and the Rules.

(c) and (d) In 2008-09 and 2009-10 till date 60 complaints of violations of the Offical Language Act & Official Languages Rules in the offices of the Central Government have been received.

(e) The Official Language Policy of the Union Government is based on motivation, encouragement and goodwill. There is no provisions for any kind of punishment in the Official Languages Act and the Rules for not using Hindi Language in the official work. The responsibility of ensuring the use of Official Language Hindi in the offices of the Central Government has been entrusted to the administrative head of every office. The shortcoming noticed from time to time through the Quaraterly Progress Report received from the Ministries and Departments are brought to the notice of the Ministries/Departments concerned with the request to remove such shortcomings.

(f) The information is furnished in the statement annexed.

(g) Following Committees have been constituted for monitoring the implementation of the Official Languages Act/Policy:-

(i) The Committee of the Parliament of Official Language.

(ii) Kendriya Hindi Samiti under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister.

(iii) Hindi Salahakar Samiti in every Ministry/ Department under the Chairmanship of the Minister concerned.

(iv) Central Official Language Implementation Committee under the Chairmanship of the Secretary, Deptt. of Official Language.

(v) Departmental Official Language Implementation Committee in every Ministry/Deptt. Under the Chairmanship of the Joint Secretary concerned.

(vi) Town Official Language Implementation Committees in various major towns of the country.

Besides, the Deptt. Off Official Language monitors the implementation of the Official Languages Act, 1963, the Official Language Rules, 1976 and other relevant directives through the Quarterly Progress Reports received from the Ministries/Departments.

Statement

Amount provided for promotion of Hindi during the last three years

(Rs. in lacs)

Sl.No.	Name of the organization which have provided the amount	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
1.	Kendriya Hindi Sansthan, Agra	450.00	600.00	556.00
2.	Central Hindi Directorate	764.35	887.50	867.52
3.	Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminoloty	304.87	361.00	362.00

Note: The amount provided by the Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminoloty is for promotion of Hindi and other Indian languages.

Besides, the Department of Official Language has provided the amount detailed below duirng the last three yeras for the projects for propagating the use of Hindi in the Offices of the Central Government:—

2006-07	2099.75
2007-08	2591.12
2008-09	3086.39

[English]

Policy for Development of MSME

4421. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:
SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI:
SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:

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

(a) whether any long term policy has been formulated by the Government for the development of micro, small and medium enterprises during the 11th Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the the details thereof;

(c) the details of the contribution of micro, small and medium enterprises in creating employment opportunities and revenue earning during the 10th Five Year Plan;

(d) the details of the targets fixed by the Government for MSMEs in the country during the 11th Five Year Plan; and

(e) the extent to which the Government have been able to achieve such targets during the first two years of the current plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) and (b) The Government has enacted the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006, which has come into force from 2nd October, 2006 and provides for facilitating the promotion and development and enhancing the competitiveness of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs). The Government has also announced in February 2007 a 'Package for Promotion of Micro and Small Enterprises' with an objective to provide support in areas of credit, technology upgradation, marketing, infrastructure, etc. Further, the Government has launched the National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme (NMCP) which has ten components targeted at enhancing the entire value chain of the MSME sector, In addition, the Government is implementing various schemes/ programmes relating to credit, infrastructural development, technology upgradation, marketing, enterpreneurial/skil development, etc., for assisting the MSME sector in meeting the challenges. Some of the major schemes/ programmes being implemented are Credit Guarantee Scheme, Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme, Performance and Credit Rating Scheme, Cluster Development Programme, Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme and Market Development Assistance Scheme.

(c) The estimated employment provided by micro and small enterprises (MSEs) in the country increased from 263.68 lakh persons in 2002-03 to 312.52 lakh persons in 2006-07 (terminal year of Tenth Five Year Plan). As per the information furnished by the Department of Revenue, the total Central Excise revenue from MSEs during the Tenth Plan period is estimated at Rs. 11,715 crore.

(d) and (e) The targets set for the Eleventh Plan for the MSE sector provide for increasing the production (at current price) and employment from Rs. 6,82,613 crore and 322.28 lakh persons in 2007-08 to Rs. 13,98,803 crore and 391.73 lakh persons in the terminal year (2011-12) of the Plan period respectively. As per the provisional estimates of production and employment in MSE sector for the year 2007-08 (latest available), the targets for 2007-08 have been achieved.

Schemes for Agricultural Development

4422. SHRI N. CHELUVARAYA SWAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes being implemented alongwith the new schemes proposed for agricultural development;

(b) the details of funds allocated and utilised under the schemes during each of the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the achievements made in this reagard during the said period including Karnataka, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICUTLURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Sri Lankan Refugees

4423. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether instances of infiltration of Sri Lankan refugees including erstwhile LTTE cadres have been reported;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of such refugees who have taken shelter in the country; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check such infiltration and repartriate them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) Available inputs indicate that a small number of Sri Lankan Tamils continue to arrive and report at Rameswaram, Tamil Nadu as refugees. However, there is no specific input as yet, to indicate that the defeated LTTE cadres have infiltrated into India in the guise of refugees fleeing Sri Lanka.

(b) As per available information the total number of Sri Lankan refugees staying in Tamil Nadu as on 22.07.2009 in 115 Refugees Camps located in 26 districts are detailed below:—

Category	Families	Persons
Camp refugees	19,913	73,695
Non Camp refugees (31.05.2009)	10,091	27,467
Total	30,004	1,01,162

(c) Screening procedures have been tightened in Mandapam Refugee Camp to identify any infiltration of remnant LTTE cadres. The Law enforcing agencies, including Navy, Coast Guard and State authorities, have intensified patrolling along the coast. In addition, the Government follows a policy of voluntary repect to these refugees.

[Translation]

Madhava Menon Committee Report

4424. SHRI GORAKH PRASAD JAISWAL:
SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Madhava Menon Committee on the National Policy on Criminal Justice has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the salient feature of the said report;

(c) whether the Government has received suggestions from State Governments on the said report;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Some of the major recommendations made in the report, inter alia, include, suggestions relating to reclassification of crimes with the objective of empowering victims, speedy and efficacious delivery of justice, sentencing guidelines for purposive punishment, safeguarding the interest of the weaker sections, use of science and technology for Criminal Justice Reforms and compensation for victims etc.

(c) and (d) Only the States of Haryana, Sikkim, Orissa, Mizoram, Madhya Pradesh, Assam, Gujarat, Meghalaya, Punjab, West Bengal, Karnataka and Delhi and Union Territories of Puducherry, Andaman and Nicobar, Lakshadweep, Daman and Diu, Chandigarh have forwarded their comments/views on the Report. Out of these, most of the States/UTs have agreed with the recommendations made in the Report but some have differed.

(e) As the Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure fall in the Concurrent List of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India, and, as the recommendations of the Committee have wide ranging implications, taking a view on the report is subject to receipt of comments from all the State Governments and Central Government further taking a holistic view on the recommendations for which no time frame can be fixed.

[English]

FCI Godowns

4425. SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number and capacity of godowns in the country including Andhra Pradesh, State-wise;

(b) whether large number of godowns are lying closed;

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

(d) the ratio of the godowns to the production and procurement of crops in the country including Andhra Pradesh, State-wise;

(e) whether the Government proposes to construct godowns near railways stations/lines to cut transportation cost and check loss of foodgrains; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The State-wise number and capacity of FCI godowns (Covered & CAP) in the country (including Andhra Pradesh) is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) and (c) No, Madam. However, a few godowns are not in working condition due to various reasons like storage unworthness, being in defunct condition, under litigation, etc. State-wise details of closed godowns of FCI are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(d) The details of State-wise ratio of procurement of wheat & rice to capacity are given in the enclosed Statement-III.

(e) and (f) FCI godowns are costructed keeping in view the TPDS requirements and buffer stocking norms. Hence, as far as practicable, godowns are costructed near nodal points like rail-head, National/State Highways, agricultural market yards, consumption areas, etc. so as to minimize transportation costs/losses.

Statement I

Storage Capacity and Number of Godowns Available with F.C.I. as on 30.06.2009

Name of the Region/U.T.	No.of godowns (covered)	Storage Capacity (covered) (Fig. in Lakh MTs)	No of godowns (CAP)	Storage Capacity (CAP) (Fig. in lakh MTs)	Total Number of Godowns (Covered & CAP) (Provision	Total capacity (covered) & CAP) (Fig. in Lakh MTs) Nal)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Bihar	50	5.65	3	0.43	53	6.08
Jharkhand	19	1.16	0	0	19	1.16
Orissa	77	6.58	0	0	77	6.58
West Bengal	43	10.57	0	0	43	10.57
Sikkim	2	0.11	0	0	2	0.11
Assam	33	2.74	0	0	33	2.74
Arunachal Pradesh	10	0.21	0	0	10	0.21
Meghalaya	6	0.26	0	0	6	0.26

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Mizoram	6	0.23	0	0	6	0.23
Tripura	7	0.49	0	0	7	0.49
Manipur	3	0.20	0	0	3	0.20
Nagaland	5	0.32	0	0.32	5	0.32
Delhi	6	3.36	4	0.34	10	3.40
Haryana	115	19.91	30	3.28	145	23.19
Himachal Pradesh	17	0.25	0	0	17	0.25
Jammu and Kashmir	26	1.29	0	0	26	1.29
Punjab	259	60.56	113	9.89	372	70.45
Chandigarh	11	1.06	9	0.22	20	1.28
Rajasthan	104	13.35	21	3.22	125	16.57
Uttar Pradesh	115	21.99	30	4.89	145	26.78
Uttarakhand	20	2.07	4	0.30	24	2.37
Andhra Pradesh	168	34.48	7	2.62	175	37.10
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1	0.07	0	0	1	0.07
Kerala	23	5.17	5	0.20	28	5.37
Karnataka	64	6.16	9	1.36	73	7.52
Tamil Nadu	28	9.04	4	0.53	32	9.57
Puducherry	6	0.51	2	0.05	8	0.56
Gujarat	27	5.86	6	0.27	33	6.13
Maharashtra	67	17.19	4	0.92	71	18.11
Goa	1	0.15	0	0	1	0.15
Madhya Pradesh	121	8.39	4	0.35	125	8.74
Chhattisgarh	61	7.44	0	0	61	7.44
Total	1501	264.82	225	28.77	1756	275.59

Statement II

List of Closed Depot (Capacity in Lac MT)

Sl.No.	Name of State	Name of the Centre	Covered Capacity	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Bihar	Gaya (Silo)	0.32	In defunct codition
2.	Uttrakhand	Rudrapur (Silo)	0.06	In defunct codition.

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Delhi	Mayapuri (Silo)	0.21	Storage unworthy (A Committee has been constituted to judge worthiness of the Silo)
4.	Uttar Pradesh	Aligarh	0.12	Depot closed due to litigation case in High Court, Allahabad.
5.	-do-	Etah	0.12	-do-
6.	-do-	Kasganj	0.06	Closed due to Departmental Labour problem.
7.	-do-	Khurja	0.16	Depot closed due to litigation case in High Court, Allahabad.
8.	-do-	Khurja (Silo)	0.20	Storage unworthy
9.	-do-	Sandila	0.60 (CAP/Open)	Closed due to Labour problem/Court case pending in High Court
10.	-do-	Chanderi (Kanpur) (Silo)	0.72	Storage unworthy
11.	Maharashtra	Borivilli (Silo)	1.04	Storage unworthy
12.	-do-	Manmad	0.84	Storage unworthy.
	Total	4.45		

Statement III

Ratio of Procurement of Wheat and Rice

Name of the States/U.T.s.	Total capacity (Cov.&CAP)	Total# (Rice+Wheat)	Ratio of total procurment to capacity
1	2	3	4
Bihar	6.08	14.84	2.44
Jharkhad	1.16	1.33	1.14
Orissa	6.58	27.14	4.12
West Bengal	10.57	14.94	1.41
Sikkim	0.11	0	—
Assam	2.74	0.03	0.01
Arunachal Pradesh	0.21	0	—
Meghalaya	0.26	0	—
Mizoram	0.23	0	—
Tripura	0.49	0	—

1	2	3	4
Manipur	0.20	0	—
Nagaland	0.32	0	—
Delhi	3.40	0	—
Haryana	23.19	83.37	3.60
Himachal Pradesh	0.25	0.01	0.04
Jammu and Kashmir	1.29	0.07	0.05
Punjab	70.45	192.66	2.73
Chandigarh	1.28	0.22	0.17
Rajasthan	16.57	11.62	0.70
Uttar Pradesh	26.78	74.94	2.80
Uttranchal	2.37	4.94	2.08
Andhra Pradesh	37.10	81.74	2.20
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.07	0	—
Kerala	5.37	2.37	0.44
Karnataka	7.52	1.06	0.14
Tamil Nadu	9.57	11.46	1.12
Puducherry	0.56	0.07	0.13
Gujarat	6.13	0.75	0.12
Maharashtra	18.11	2.54	0.14
Goa	0.15	0	—
Madhya Pradesh	8.74	21.67	2.48
Chhattisgarh	7.44	26.36	3.54
Grand Total	275.59	574.13	2.083

#Procurement is for respective marketing seasons.

Women's Participation in Agriculture Sector

4426. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government provides grants to the State Governments for women's participation in the agriculture sector;

(b) if so, the details features of scheme;

(c) the details of the grants provided to the States under the scheme during each of the last three years, State-wise including Kerala; and

(d) the number of women benefited, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC), Ministry of Agriculture has been addressing gender issues in agriculture through 'Women Specific Training and Extension Programmes' and has facilitated formulation of over 28,000 Self Help Groups (SHGs) and imparted training to approximately 13.88 lakh women farmers of 143 districts in 21 states of the country upto 2004-2005. As per National Agriculture Policy, 2000, there has now been a shift in Department's approach from executing 'stand alone programmes' to gender mainstreaming. The programmes for women in Agriculture have been subsumed under the Scheme "Support to States Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms".

The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is, therefore, not implementing any programme specifically for women. However, as per the directives of Planning Commission, 2007-08 onwards funds to the tune of 30% are allocated for Women Component Plan (WCP) under all the Beneficiary Oriented Schemes of the Ministry and the State have been directed to ensure flow of benefits to women farmers.

The salient features of the scheme are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) The details of the grants provided to the States under Beneficiary Oriented Schemes during each of the last three years are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(d) The number of farmer including women who have been benefited under the various schemes are given in the enclosed Statement-III.

Statement I

Salient features of the Schemes of Department of Agriculture & Cooperation

Name of the Scheme	Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms
Objective & Salient features	A Centrally Sponsored Scheme, "Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms" was launched in May, 2005 with an objective to support State Governments efforts of revitalization of the extension system. The scheme promotes a decentralized farmer-driven and farmer-accountable extension system through a new institutional arrangement for technology dissemination in the form of an Agriculture Technology Management Agency (ATMA) at district level. The Cafeteria of activities being supported under the scheme are those taken up at both-the state as well as at district level. The state level activities include support for upgrading state level training institutions such as State Agricultural Management & Extension Training Institute (SAMETI); HRD of extension functionaries; organization of state level agricultural exhibitions; Krishi Expos and Regional Fairs; Rewards & Incentives; and Monitoring & Evaluation of the scheme. The district level activities are further categorized in four groups namely— **Farmer oriented activities viz.** Development of Strategic Research and Extension Plan (SREP)/District Agriculture Plans, Mobilization of Farmers Groups, Training/Exposure Visits, Field Demonstrations and Rewards & incentives. **Farm Information Dissemination Activities viz.** District level Exhibitions/ Melas, Information Dissemination through Printed Leaflets, development of technology packages in electronic form and Setting up of Farm Schools. **Research-Extension-Farmer Activities viz.** Farmer Scientist Interaction, Organization of Filed Days and Kisan Goshties, Assessment, Refinement, Validations and Adoption of Frontline Technologies. **Innovative Activities** at state level viz. extension activities through Agri-entrepreneurs ad PG Diploma in Agricultural include setting up of Community Radio Stations & support for district level training institutions. The scheme also has provision for other innovative activities as considered appropriate at state/district level.
Coverage	586 districts of 29 States and 2 UTs.

Name of the Scheme	Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in NE States including Sikkim, J&K, HP and Uttrakhand
Objective & Salient features	To improvelivelihood opportunities and bring prosperity to the NE Region including Sikkim, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttrakhand. The scheme was launched for integrated development of Horticulture. The mission is based on the 'end to end' approach taking into account the entire gamut of horticulture development with all the backward and forward linkage in a holistic manner.
Coverage	NE States including Sikkim. Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttrakhand.

Name of the Scheme	National Horticulture Mission
Objective & Salient features	To promote holistic growth of the horticulture sector through area based regionally differentiated strategies; enhance horticulture production; improve nutritional security and income support to farm house hold and other; establish convergence and synergy among on going and planned programmes for horticulture development; promote, develop and disseminate technologies and generate employment for skilled and unskilled persons specially un-employed youth.
Coverage	All States & UTs. except NE States including Sikkim, Jammu and Kashmir, HP and Uttrakhad.

Name of the Scheme	Micro Irrigation
Objective & Salient features	To increase the area under efficient methods of irrigation viz. drip and sprinkler irrigation as these methods have been recognized as only alternative for efficient use of surface as well as ground water resources.
Coverage	25 States & UTs.

Name of the Scheme	National Bamboo Mission
Objective & Salient features	• To promote the growth of bamboo sector through an area based regionally differentiated strategy. • To increase the coverage under bamboo in potential areas, with improved varieties to enhance yield. • To promote marketing of bamboo and bamboo based handictafts. • To establish convergence and synergy among stake holders for the development of bamboo. • To generate employment opportunity for skilled and unskilled persons specially un employed youth.
Coverage	All 28 States

Name of the Scheme	Macro Management of Agriculture 'Supplementary/Complementation of States Efforts through Work plan'
Objective & Salient features	Macro Management Scheme will aim at all round development in agriculture through Work Plans prepared by the states. • Gives flexibility to the states to develop and pursue the activities on the basis of regional priorities.

	• States have been given a free hand to finalize their sector wise allocation as per requirements of developmental priorities. • States are free to allocate funds to the various programmes included in their work plans according to their priorities within the financial ceiling.
Coverage	All States & UTs.

Name of the Scheme	National Projects on Organic Farming
Objective & Salient feature	To promote production, promotion and marketing development of organic farming in the country, Financial assistance is provided for setting up organic input units, training, field demonstration and marketing.
Coverage	All States & UTs.

Name of the Scheme	Intensive Cotton Development Programme (ICDP) under Mini Mission-II of Technology Mission on Cotton
Objective & Salient features	To enhance the production per unit area through (a) technology transfer (b) supply of quality seeds (c) elevating IPM activities and (d) providing adequate and timely supply of inputs to the farmers.
Coverage	All cotton growing states

Name of the Scheme	National Food Security Mission (NFSM)
Objective & Salient features	The National Food Security Mission (NFSM) was launched in October 2007-08 targeting 3 important foodgrain crops *i.e.* rice. wheat and pulses. The primary objective of the Mission is to enhance the production of these crops through increased productivity of wheat and rice and area coverage of Pulses.
Coverage	AP, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, MP, Maharshtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, UP, West Bengal and Kerala.

Name of the Scheme	Intetrated Scheme of Pulses, Oil Seeds, Palm Oil and Maize (ISOPOM)
Objective & Salient features	• To increase the production, productivity and to achieve self sufficiency in oil seeds, pulses, palm oil and maize • To promote crop diversification and to provided a focused approach to the programme implementation based on regionally differentiated approach. • Subsidy provided for sprinkler, pipes for carrying water and drip irrigation (oil palm)
Coverage	**Oil seed & Pulses-** AP, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, MP, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, UP and West Bengal. **Maize**—AP, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, HP, J&K, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, MP, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, UP and West Bengal. **Oil Palm**—AP, Karnataka, Gujarat, MP, Tamil Nadu, Goa, Maharashtra, Orissa, Kerala, Tripura Mizoram and West Bengal.

Name of the Scheme	Promotion & Strengthening of Agricultural Mechanization through Training,Testing & Demonstration
Objective & Salient features	To optimally and efficiently utilized the different sources of human, animal and mechanical/electric power; increase productivity and land; seed; fertilizer; pesticide and irrigation water; improve the quality of farm operations by promoting equipment of appropriate technology thereby reducing the cost of production as well as drudgery associated with various agricultural operations.
Coverage	All States & UTs.

Name of the Scheme	Post Harvest Technology & Management
Objective & Salient features	To give a boost to the technologies developed by ICAR, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research and those identified from within the country and abroad for primary processing, value addition, low cost scientific storage/ transport of cereals, pulses, oil seeds, sugar cane, vegetables and fruit crops by product management.
Coverage	All States and UTs.

Name of the Scheme	Grameen Bhandaran Yojna
Objective & Salient features	To create scientific storage capacity with allied facilities in rural areas to meet out various requirement of farmers by storing farm produce, processed farm produce, agriculture inputs, etc and prevention of distress sale by creating the facility of pledge loan and marketing credit.
Coverage	All States & UTs.

Name of the Scheme	Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna
Objective & Salient features	To re-orient agricultural development strategies to meet the needs of farmers and for fresh effort by the Central and State Governments to rejuvenate the agricultural sector so as to achieve 4% annual growth during the 11th Five Year Plan.
Coverage	All States & UTs.

Statement II

Releases to the States under Beneficiary Oriented Schemes During 2006-07 to 2008-09

(Rupees in Crore)

State	TMC			JTM			RKVY		ATMA			Micro Irrigation			NFSM		TMNE		
	2006-07	2007 08	2008-09	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2007-08	2008-09	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2007-08	2008-09	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Andhra Pradesh	12.27	13.69	8.82	0.50	0.28	0.23	61.08	297.17	467.00	2470.64	1025.87	112.77	145.59	154.08	44.6	84.15	–	–	–
Bihar				1.20	0.40	0.20	57.77		239.10	1463.00	2256.00		0.35	0.48	36.3	81.05			

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Chhattisgarh							62.96		110.00	422.24	400	2.56	17.50	21.65	14.6	71.65			
Goa							1.70		–	18.76	–	0.01	0.7	0.7					
Gujarat	10.95	13.72	12.90				49.81	243.39	194.00	311.21	189.39	39.30	52.0	73.22	7.3	8.33			
Haryana	1.92	3.17	38.5				21.52		116.00	285.84	477.00	2.3	4.68	12.77	21.1	11.05			
Himachal Pradesh							16.17	15.11	183.00	372.75	336.8						40.00	24.00	21.00
Jammu and Kashmir							–										30.20	22.96	20.15
Jharkand							55.68		157.00	557.73	–				–	9.80			
Karnataka	4.61	3.69	4.12				154.30	314.14	155.00	339.00	452.00	44.51	75.97	60.06	7.87	30.15			
Kerala							55.40		117.00	125.99	470.00	0.80	2.63	1.54					
Maharashtra	9.69	14.34	12.94				128.20	–	383.00	1283.14	1425.07	134.65	127.92	181.81	14.1	72.17			
Madhya Pradesh	3.77	4.42	1.42				101.62		294.–	612.23	2198.36	4.01	8.39	41.58	46.1	64.36			
Orissa	1.20	1.24	1.45	0.40	0.20	1.60	39.30		419.00	1233.16	1424.24	1.43	2.48	3.37	11.3	62.24			
Punjab									133.00	427.60	637.86	28.96	6.13	5.30	32.9	35.69			
Rajasthan	54.8		10.36				55.76		242.00	1152.97	575.00	25.67	29.06	36.58	24.6	18.83			
Tamil Nadu	29.15	3.60	4.00				153.60		263.99	679.14	1266.28		15.59	25.07	12.8	33.51			
Uttar Pradesh	0.39	0.08	0.59	0.12	0.24	103.90		601.00	2135.03	2586.00	1.45	5.52	3.06	83.8	155.20				
Uttaranchal						28.25		182.00	262.25	180.30							41.00	27.65	23.00
West Bengal	0.40	1.38	2.18	2.70	1.60	4.19	54.93		193.–	635.10	1815.27			0.30	13	63.36			
Assam							148.54		=	–	200.00				11.4	27.06	14.00	26.80	36.75
Arunachal Pradesh				–	0.04	0.11			126.00	142.25	39.00						16.12	28.30	17.65
Manipur							6.37		–	93.85	286.40								
Mizoram								118.60	46.55	192.56							32.00	30.95	30.50
Meghalaya						0.08	0.18			–	–	–	0.18				20.0	27.0	28.62
Nagaland					0.02	0.27	3.19		50.00	–	270.36	0.27					23.56	25.00	24.50
Tripura					0.18	0.10		4.16	–	94.66	286.00	0.10					14.00	24.00	17.00
Sikkim							2.77		65.00	83.09–	168.–						23.31	31.10	26.57
All NE States+Sikkim																		4.40	5.00
Delhi							0/10				7.47								
Puducherry							0.10		18.00	11,88	40.00								
Andaman and Nicobar Islands										18.00	11.88	40.00							
Lakshadweep							0.10		–	–	–								
Dadra and Nagar Haveli									–	–	–								
Daman and Diu									–	–	–								
Himalayan States																	8.50	11.75	8.01

NoteL TMC– Technology Mission on Cotton; JTM-Jute Technology Mission, RKVY-Rastriya Krishi Vikas Yojna; NFSM-National Food Security Mission, TMNE- Technology Mission for North Eastern States.

Statement III

Benefits flowing to women farmers Under Beneficiary Oriented Schemes During 2006-07 to 2008-09.

1. **Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms—** During the last three years 342751 women farmers have benefited from the scheme. The State wise break-up is as follows-Andhra Pradesh- 155742, Bihar-98310, Chhattisgarh-25494, Goa-2778, Gujarat-28281, Haryana-28660, H.P-36996, Jharkhand-16672, Karnataka-21485, M.P.-106207, Maharashtra-151735, Orissa-620780, Punjab-56070, Rajasthan-147667, Tamil Nadu-61235, Uttaranchal-42447, West Bengal-77824 U.P-240068, Assam-596, Arunachal Pradesh-1685, Manipur-1516, Mizoram-10929, Nagaland-42361, Andaman and Nicobar Islands-2150, Sikkim-3450, Jammu and Kashmir-4361, Puducherry-1214, Tripura, 1140, Kerala-37928.

2. **Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern States, Sikkim, J&K, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand (TMNE)**—During the last three years, 20469 women have been trained in different aspects of Horticulture. The State-wise break-up is as follows-Himachal Pradesh-323, Uttranchal-1525, Assam-1665, Manipur-2640, Mizoram-975, J&K-981, Manipur-2640, Mizoram-975, Nagaland-310, Sikkim-2600, Tripura-4000 and Uttaranchal-1525.

3. **National Horticulture Mission**—States/ Implementing Agencies have been advised that benefit to the tune of 30% of the allocation should flow to women.

4. **Micro irrigation—** During the last three years. A total of 49033 women have been benefited from the scheme. The State wise break-us is as follows-Andhra Pradesh-41672, Goa-3, Gujarat-3343, Haryana-119, Karnataka-5541, MP-918, Punjab-247, Uttranchal-190 women have benefited from the scheme.

5. **National Bamboo Mission**—States/Implementing Agencies have been advised that benefits to the tune of 30% of the allocation should flow to women.

6. **Macro Management**—The State/Implementing agencies have been directed to ensure benefits to the tune of 30% of the total allocation for the benefit of small and marginal farmers and women farmers.

7. **National Project on Organic Farming**—25% seats are reserved for training of women farmers. During the last three years 593 farmers including women have been trained.

8. **Watershed Development Project**—24348 Women Self Help Groups formed in the project area. Under the new common guidelines for watershed development issued by National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA), it has been envisaged that at least one member of WDT should be women and the watershed development committee should have at least 10 members, half of them should be representatives of SHGs. User Groups, SC/ST and women.

9. **Mini Mission-II of Technology Mission of Cotton and Mini Mission-II of Jute Technology**—States/Implementing Agencies have been advised that benefit to the tune of 30% of the allocation should flow to women.

10. **National Food Security Mission**—States/ Implementing Agencies have been advised that benefit to the tune of 30% of the allocation should flow to women.

11. **Integrated Scheme of Pulses, Oilseeds, Palm and Maize (ISOPOM)**—has been modified to make it more effective and result oriented. One of the salient features which has been included is subsidy/assistance to women farmers for sprinkler sets and pipes for carrying water from source to field. States/Implementing Agencies have been advised that benefit to the tune of 30% of the allocation should flow to women.

12. **Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure Facilities for Production and Distribution of Quality Seeds**—Implementing agencies/States have been directed to allocate sufficient funds and to ensure participation of women in Seed Village Programme.

13. **Promotion and Strengthening of Agricultural Mechanization through Training Testing & Demonstration**—The training institutes have been given the targets to train at least 10%

women candidates. During the last three years 1045 women have been trained and nearly 40,000 gender friendly equipment have been distributed. Similarly under the demonstration component the States have been directed to earmark 5-10% funds for women. The States/ UTs have been directed to popularize the 30 gender friendly equipments through Macro Management Scheme.

14. **Post Harvest Technology and Management**—The States/Implementing Agencies have been requested to earmark 10% funds for women under the component of (i) Training and (ii) Demonstration and 30% under the components of (i) establishment of units for transfer of primary processing technology, value addition, low cost scientific storage, packaging units and technologies for bi-product management in the production catchment under bilateral agreement and (ii) establishment of low cost PHT units/supply of PHT equipments.

15. **Grameen Bhandaran Yojna (Construction of Rural Gowdowns)**—1077 godowns with a capacity of 16.82 lakhs MTs have been sanctioned and under Development of Agriculture Marketing Infrastructure, Rs 45.46 crores have been sanctioned for women entrepreneurs as on 31.3.09. Awareness programmes are being organized to encourage women to avail the benefits under the scheme.

16. **Cooperative Education & Training**—National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) is running 4 exclusive women development projects at Shimoga (Karnataka), Behrampur (Orissa), Implhal (Manipur) and Bhopal (M.P.). Besides, each field project has got a special women development component. Under this women are organized into SHGs to help them develop thrift habits. Women are also provided training to equip them to undertake income generating activities with the help of their own resources or by borrowing from cooperatives. Assistance is also provided for marketing the produce in local market and by organizing exhibitions/fairs. During, 2006-07, 68180 women were trained and 490 SHGs were formed and in the year 2008-09, 179390 women have been trained.

17. **Assistance to NCDC Programmes for Development of Cooperatives**—National Cooperative Development Cooperation (NCDC) encourages women cooperatives to avail assistance under its various schemes. A large number of women members are engaged in cooperatives dealing in the area of fisheries, fruits & vegetables, marketing and processing, poultry, etc. So far assistance to the tune of Rs 126.70 crores has been provided for women cooperatives in the country. During 2008-09, financial assistance of Rs. 0.33 crore was released to the Govt. of West Bengal for hygienic production of dried fish and production of ornamental fish. Under ICDP Scheme, financial assistance of Rs. 1.56 crore was sanctioned to 129 women cooperatives in 9 districts of the States of Rajasthan-3, Jharkand 2, -Bihar-1, UP-2 and Kerala-1.

Objectives of PDS

4427. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the objectives of the Public Distribution System (PDS) Scheme;

(b) whether the PDS has failed to achieve the said objectives; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Objectives of PDS are— (i) to ensure availability and distribution of essential commodities (foodgrains, sugar and kerosene) at subsidized prices to poor people for their food security, and (ii) to supplement availability of foodgrains also to non-poor sections of population by distribution at subsidized prices, depending upon the available stocks in the central pool.

Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) with focus on the poor and in operation from 1997, has been achieving its objectives. Foodgrains @ 35kg per family

per month and sugar @ 500gms per person are allocated to States/UTs for 6.52 crore Below Poverty Line (BPL) & Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families for distribution to them at highly subsidized prices. This ensures food security to them. Foodgrains are also allocated for APL families @ 10-35 kg/ family/month.

As reported by the end of June 2009, the State and Union Territory Governments have issued 10.86 crore Below Poverty Line (BPL) ration cards which include 2.43 AAY cards and 13.36 crore Above Poverty Line (APL) ration cards for coverage under TPDS.

Mining without Environmental Clearance

4428. SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to sanction the exploration of minerals and mining activities without environmental clearance in the country including in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which such proposal is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (c) State Government grants mineral concession as the owners of minerals. However, prior approval of Central Government is necessary before grant of mineral concession in respect of specified minerals listed in the First Schedule of the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957. The Central Government grants such prior approval subject to environment and forest clearance. Thus the Central Government does not give sanction for mining and exploration work directly. Further there is no such proposal with Government to give sanction for exploration and mining activities without environmental clearance.

World Bank Concern Over National Highways Projects

4429. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has expressed concern over laxity of construction, development and improvement works of National Highways and stopped/threaten to stop funding of projects including NH-28;

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

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto;

(d) whether the Union Government has received any requests from developers regarding provision of grants for some road projects being bid out under phase III of NHDP; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) World Bank expressed concern over the slow progress in respect of some packages under Lucknow Muzaffarpur National Highway Project (LMNHP) of NH-28 in the States of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. The concerns of World Bank were mainly poor performance of some contractors, work site safety arrangements and improving the contract management of NHAI.

(c) A detailed time bound action plan has been drawn up to adequately address the concerns of the World Bank and enable early completion of the project. A proposal to restructure World Bank loan delinking four poor performing packages has been made. After restructuring, the balance works in these four packages would be completed from Government funds.

(d) and (e) The developers had requested for release of entire 40% Viability Gap Funding (VGF) during construction period as against the existing provision of release of 20% VGF during construction period and balance 20% during Operation and Maintenance (O&M) period.

[Translation]

Organic Fertilizers

4430. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken steps for examination and certification of organic fertilizers in view of its increasing use;

(b) if so, the details therof;

(c) the number of companies manufacturing organic fertilizers in the country as on date;

(d) whether the Government proposes to bring the said manufacturing and marketing companies under the quality control mechanism;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether there are reports of soil having been sold in the name of organic fertilizers to the farmers of Maharashtra and several other States in the country; and

(g) if so, the action taken by the Government against Companies/persons found responsible?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Organic fertilizer intended for use in certified organic farming are required to be approved under National Programme on Organic Production (NPOP) through accredited certification agencies.

(c) As organic fertilizer production is a low cost, raw material intensive activity, a large number of small scale production units exist in the country. 27 fruit and vegetable waste compost units and 1,201 vermiculture hatcheries have been sanctioned by the Government under National Project on Organic Farming.

(d) and (e) To ensure the quality of organic fertilizers Government has defined standards for selected organic fertilizers under Fertilizer (Control) Order (FCO) 1985. National Centre of Organic Farming and its six regional centres have been notified as authorized testing laboratories. State Governments can also notify their quality control laboratories under FCO.

(f) and (g) State Government of Maharashtra has reported that one complaint was received from Kolhapur in Maharashtra about mixing soil with pressmud and sea sand. FIR has been registered against the accused person.

Food Crisis

4431. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI:
SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:
SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:
SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE:
SHRI SARVEY SATYANARAYANA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the report 'Agriculture Outlook' for 2009-2010 published jointly by Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development and UN Food and Agriculture Organisations warning about impending food crisis due to problems of food security in future;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Various reports describe the agricultural situation in the world and also in Asia as steady in the current year and mid term. The Goverment has taken several initiatives to ensrue that food production not only keeps pace with increasing demand but there is surplus to meet unforeseen situation. These initiatives include higher investment in agriculture and rural infrastructure, in R&D, on enhancing productivity, in strengthening post harvest infrastructure, appropriate diversification and also strengthening markets so that small holder farmers improve their earnings.

Transmitters at Borders

4432. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH *ALIAS* LALAN SINGH:
DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI:
SHRI JAGDISH SHARMA:
SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the existence of certain transmitters at Indo-Pak borders being utilised by the terrorists to contact each other through satellite phones;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is taking steps to destroy the said transmitters; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (d) It has come to notice that availability of mobile services is being used by terrorist elements for communication along the International Border for trans-border communication. Illegal use of satellite phones by such elements for communication with their counterparts has also come to the notice.

Construction of Quality Roads

4433. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the National Highways constructed recently were damaged in a very short span of time;

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

(c) whether any enquiry was conducted in the matter;

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

(e) the action taken against agencies/persons responsible?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (e) Yes, Madam. Two instances of damages had occurred on National Highways (NHs) during 2007-08. These damaged stretches were between km. 226 to km. 264 on NH-48 in the State of Karnataka and on NH-1C (Domel-Katra road) in the State of Jammu & Kashmir. Both the sections of the road were repaired and made traffic worthy in the year 2008-09.

Enquiry has been initiated regarding the damage on NH-48. The contract was terminated in November, 2008 and the matter is under arbitration.

An enquiry has been ordered regarding the damage on NH-1C and its proceedings are in progress.

Distribution of Seeds

4434. SHRI SANJAY SINGH CHAUHAN:
SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN:
SHRI KUNVARJIBHAI MOHANBHAI BAVALIA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes/programmes under implementation for the production and distribution of seeds to the farmers;

(b) the details of the Government agencies managing seed distribution in the country, State-wise including in Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh;

(c) whether the Government encourages research and developmental work on seeds; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The details of the schemes/programmes implemented for production and distribution of seeds to the farmers are as follows:

(i) Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA).

(ii) National Food Security Mission (NFSM).

(iii) Integrated Scheme for Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM).

(iv) Technology Mission on Cotton.

(v) Technology Mission on Jute and Mesta.

(vi) Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure Facilities at Production and Distribution of Quality Seeds.

(vii) Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY).

(b) The details of the Government agencies managing seed distribution in the country are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) Yes, Madam.

(d) The details of scheme-wise funds allocated for research in seed developmental during the last three years and the current year are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

Statement I

Details of Government Agencies involved in Distribution of Seeds

Sl.No.	Name of State	Name of Government agencies								
1	2	3								
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Department of Agriculture	Andhra Pradesh State Seed Development Corporation	National Seeds CorporationLtd.	State Farm Coropration of India	Krishak Bharati Cooperative	Andhra Pradesh Cooperative Oilseed Growers Federation			
2.	Karnataka	Department of Agriculture	Karnataka State Seeds Corporation	National Seeds Corporation Ltd.	State Farm Corporation of India	University of Agricultural Sciencies Bangalore, Dharwad	Karnataka Cooperative Oilseed Growers Federation			
3.	Tamil Nadu	Department of Agriculture	Coosperative Societies	National Seeds Corporation Ltd.	State Farm Corporation of India	State Agricultural University Coimbatore,	Tamil Nadu Cooperative Oilseed Growers Federation			
4.	Kerala	Department of Agriculture	Karnataka State Seeds Corporation	National Seeds Corporation Ltd.	State Farm Corporation of India					
5.	Gujarat	Department of Agriculture	Gujarat State Seeds Corporation	National Seeds Corporation Ltd.	State Farm Corporation of India	Krishak-Bharti Cooperative	Gujarat Cooperative Oilseed Growers Federation			
6.	Maharashtra	Department of Agriculture	Maharashtra State Seeds Corporation	National Seeds Corporation Ltd.	State Farm Corporation of India	Cooperative-Socities				
7.	Rajasthan	Department of Agriculture	Rajasthan Seed & Tarai Development Corporation	National Seeds Corporation Ltd.	State Farm Corporation of India	State Agriculture University, Coimbatore	Rajasthan State Cooperative Oil Federation (Tilam Sangh)			
8.	Madhya Pradesh	Department of Agriculture	Madhya Pradesh State Seeds Farms Development Corporation	National Seeds Corporation Ltd.	State Farm Corporation of India	Jawahar Lal Nehru Krishi Vishavidhylaya, Jabalpur	Madhya Pradesh Cooperative Oilseed Growers Federation	Rajmata Vijya Raje Scindia Krishi Vishavvidhylaya Gwalior		
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	Department of Agriculture		National Seeds Corporation Ltd.	State Farm Corporation of India	State Agriculture University				
10.	Punjab	Department of Agriculture	Punjab Seeds Corporation	National Seeds Corporation Ltd.	State Farm Corporation of India	Punjab Agriculture University, Ludhiana	Punjab Agro Foodgrain Corporation Ltd.			
11.	Himachal Pradesh	Department of Agriculture		National Seeds Corporation Ltd.	State Farm Corporation of India					
12.	Uttar Pradesh	Department of Agriculture	Uttar Pradesh State Seeds Development Corporation	National Seeds Corporation Ltd.	State Farm Corporation of India	Uttaranchal Seeds & Tarai Development Corporation	UP Cooperative Socities	UP State Agro Industrial Corporation Ltd., KRIBHCO, IFFCO, NAFED	State Agricultural University, Kanpur, Faizabad, Meerut, Banaras Hindu University	UP Ussar Bhoomi Sudhar Nigam Ltd.
13.	Haryana	Department of Agriculture	Haryana Seeds Development Corporation	National Seeds Corporation Ltd.	State Farm Corporation of India	Krishak Bharti Cooperative	National Fertilizer Ltd.			

1	2	3					
14.	Uttarakhand	Department of Agriculture	Uttarakhand Seeds & Tarai Development Corporation	National Seeds Corporation Ltd.	State Farm Corporation of India	GB Pant University of Agriculture Sciences & Technology	Uttarakhand Cooperative Marketing Federation
15.	Orissa	Department of Agriculture	Orissa Seeds Development Corporation	National Seeds Corporation Ltd.	State Farm Corporation of India	NAFED	
16.	Bihar	Department of Agriculture	Bihar Rajya Beej Nigam	National Seeds Corporation Ltd.	State Farm Corporation of India	Uttarakhand Seed & Tarai Development Corporation	
17.	West Bengal	Department of Agriculture	West Bengal State Seeds Corporation	National Seeds Corporation Ltd.	State Farm Corporation of India	Uttarakhand Seed & Tarai Development Corporation	
18.	Jharkhand	Department of Agriculture		National Seeds Corporation Ltd.	State Farm Corporation of India	Birsa Agricultural University, Ranchi	Uttarakhand Seed & Tarai Development Corporation
19.	Assam	Department of Agriculture	Assam Seeds Corporation	National Seeds Corporation Ltd.	State Farm Corporation of India	Uttarakhand Seed & Tarai Development Corporation	Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat
20.	Arunachal Pradesh	Department of Agriculture		National Seeds Corporation Ltd.	State Farm Corporation of India		
21.	Manipur	Department of Agriculture		National Seeds Corporation Ltd.	State Farm Corporation of India		
22.	Meghalaya	Department of Agriculture		National Seeds Corporation Ltd.	State Farm Corporation of India		
23.	Mizoram	Department of Agriculture		National Seeds Corporation Ltd.	State Farm Corporation of India		
24.	Sikkim	Department of Agriculture		National Seeds Corporation Ltd.	State Farm Corporation of India		
25.	Nagaland	Department of Agriculture		National Seeds Corporation Ltd.	State Farm Corporation of India		
26.	Tripura	Department of Agriculture		National Seeds Corporation Ltd.	State Farm Corporation of India		
27.	Puducherry	Department of Agriculture		National Seeds Corporation Ltd.	State Farm Corporation of India		
28.	Goa	Department of Agriculture		National Seeds Corporation Ltd.	State Farm Corporation of India		
29.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Department of Agriculture					
30.	Daman and Diu	Department of Agriculture					
31.	Delhi	Department of Agriculture		National Seeds CorporationLtd.	State Farm Corporation of India	Indian Agricultural Research	NAFED
32.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Department Of Agriculture	Panchyat Rajya Institutions				

Statement II

Details of scheme-wise funds allocated for research in seed development and implemented by ICAR Institutes and State Agricultural Universities

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Scheme	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
1.	National Seed Project (Crops)	658.55	1598.55	1425.52	1469.67
2.	Seed Production in Agriculture Crops and Fisheries	15446.49	2982.16	477.10	1765.08
3.	Network project on Transgenics	1101.13	1988.76	2300.00	3224.49
	Total	17206.17	6569.47	4202.62	6459.24

Employment in Agricultural Sector

4435. SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of farmers and farmland owners at the end of the Tenth Five Year Plan in the country, separately and State-wise; and

(b) the details of the employment created in agriculture and animal husbandry sectors during the said period, year-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) As per latest available Population Census data released by the Registrar General of India in 2001, the details of State-wise number of cultivators and agricultural labourers in 2001 are given in the enclosed Statement. Population Census data are given in only two categories, viz. cultivators and agricultural labourers.

Statement

Number of Cultivators and Agricultural Labourers in 2001

(in 000 numbers)

State/UT	Cultivators	Agricultural labourers	Total
	2001	2001	2001
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	7860	13832	21692
Arunachal Pradesh	279	19	298
Assam	3731	1264	4995
Bihar	8193	13418	21611
Chhattisgarh	4311	3091	7402
Delhi	37	16	53
Goa	50	36	86
Gujarat	5803	5162	10965
Haryana	3018	1279	4297
Jammu and Kashmir	1592	246	1838
Jharkhand	3890	2851	6741
Karnataka	6884	6227	13111
Kerala	724	1621	2345
Madhya Pradesh	11038	7401	18439
Maharashtra	11813	10815	22628
Manipur	380	113	493
Meghalaya	467	172	639
Mizoram	256	27	283
Nagaland	549	31	580
Orissa	4248	4999	9247
Punjab	2065	1490	3555
Rajasthan	13140	2524	15664

1	2	3	4
Sikkim	131	17	148
Tamil Nadu	5116	8638	13754
Tripura	313	276	589
Uttarakhand	1570	260	1830
Uttar Pradesh	22167	13401	35568
West Bengal	5654	7363	13017
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	21	5	26
Chandigarh	2	1	3
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	39	15	54
Daman and Diu	4	1	5
Puducherry	11	72	83
Lakshadweep	0	0	0
All India	127311	106777	234088

source:- Census 2001

[English]

Agricultural Research Policy

4436. DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI:
SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the State Agricultural University (SAU) and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has a research policy unit to ensure research relevant to farmers' need and encourage interaction between research and providing feed back mechanism for farmers;

(b) if so, the State where these units are in operation;

(c) whether the Government proposes to amend the relevant Acts to grant full administrative and financial autonomy to ICAR with enhanced funding; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes Madam. For addressing the farmers' need and encourage interaction between researchers and farmers, all the State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) are having Research Council and Extension Council, both having progressive farmers as representatives. There research programmes are oriented to meet the needs of farmers and other stake holders and emphasis is also laid on farmers' education, training and advisory services. The SAUs are operational in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, J&K, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Uttranchal and West Bengal. Besides, a Central Agricultural University at Imphal covers the states of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Sikkim and Tripura, and the Central University, Medziphema cover Nagaland.

Each of the 97 institutes under DARE/ICAR, situated across the country, also has a Research Advisory Committee comprising eminent scientists and two persons representing agricultural/rural interests, who actively take part in deciding the research agenda of the institutes.

Besides, the National Research Central for Agricultural Economics and Policy Research, New Delhi, established under ICAR, assists in agricultural research policy support keeping in view the farmers' perspective.

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has established a network of 568 Krishi Vigyan Kendras in rural districts of the country as an innovative institutional model for assessment, refinement and frontline demonstration of technologies/products and training of farmers and extension personnel.

(c) and (d) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government at present.

Allocation of Foodgrains Under PDS

4437. SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA:
SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ:
SHRI KUNVARJIBHAI MOHANBHAI BAVALIA:
DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT:
SHRI ARJUN MUNDA:

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

(a) whether the Government has allocated foodgrains for export from the Central pool during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the comparative figures of foodgrains allocated for export and those for distribution to the Above Poverty Line (APL) and Below Poverty Line (BPL) families under the Public Distribution System (PDS) during the said period;

(c) whether the foodgrains were issued for export at prices comparable to PDS prices;

(d) if so, the details of the price at which the foodgrains were issued for various welfare schemes and for exports separately;

(e) whether requests have been received for change in criteria for allocation of foodgrains to the States; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (f) The Government had allocated 6.00 lakh tons of wheat for export to Afghanistan in 2008-09 from the Central Pool at economic dost, payable to Food Corporation of India by Ministry of External Affairs. However, no export has taken place from this to Afghanisatan.

The details of allocation of foodgrains (rice and wheat) made to APL and BPL (including AAY) families under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) during last three years (2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09) are as under:

(In lakh tons)

Year	AAY & BPL	APL	Total
2006-07	273.74	302.83	576.57
2007-08	274.62	118.16	392.78
2008-09	276.01	111.75	387.76

The Central Price of foodgrains under TPDS are as follows:

Category	CIP (Rs. per quintal)	
	Rice	Wheat
BPL	565	415
AAY	300	200
APL	830	610

Foodgrains under other Welfare schemes are issued at BPL price except in the case of Village Grain Bank Scheme under which foodgrains are issued free of cost to the State/UT Governments.

Allocation of foodgrains under TPDS are made as per norms indicated below:

(i) BPL/AAY allocation norms: Allocation of foodgrains under the TPDS is made for BPL including AAY families on the basis of 1993-94 poverty estimates of the Planning Commission projected on the population estimates of Registrar General of India as on 1.3.2000 or the number of families actually identified and ration cards issued to them by State/UT Government, whichever is less. Accordingly, allocations of foodgrains for AAY and BPL categories are made @ 35 kg. per family per month for all accepted 6.52 crore families to all States/UTs.

(ii) APL allocation norms: Allocations under APL category are made depending upon the availability of stocks of foodgrains in Central Pool and past offtake. Allocations of rice under APL category during 2008-09 was made to States/UTs on the basis of average of offtake level during 2006-07 and 2007-08. However, allocations of wheat under this category were initially maintained at the level of 2007-08. In view of higher availability of foodgrains in the Central Pool, subsequently, considering requests from State/UT Governments and availability of stocks in the Central Pool, adhoc/additional/ festival allocations of foodgrains range between 10 kg. and 35 kg per family per month in different States/UTs.

Many State Governments have issued BPL and APL ration cards in excess of estimated numbers of such families and have requested for higher allocation of foodgrains under these categories. Total number of BPL and APL ration cards issued by State Governments are 10.86 crore and 13.36 crore, respectively, by 30.6.2009. There have also been representations that foodgrains should be allocated on the basis of revised population figures.

Based on 2004-05 poverty estimates and March, 2009 population estimates, number of BPL families works out to 5.91 crores in the country. However, presently,

allocations of foodgrains under TPDS by Central Government are being continued for 6.52 crore BPL & AAY families. For the APL category, the annual allocations during 2009-10 have been increased to about 172 lakh tons as compared to about 112 lakh tons last year.

Irrigation for Arable Areas

4438. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total arable area not under any irrigation system and solely dependent on rain fall, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government proposes to provide irrigation facilities to such areas; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The total cultivable land in the country is about 182.71 million hectare of which net irrigated area is nearly 60.85 million hectare. The remaining 121.86 million hectare is dependent on rainfall. The state-wise extent of cultivable land corresponding un-irrigated land is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) and (c) Water being a State subject under the Constitution, schemes for development of irrigation are conceived, planned and implemented by the respective State Governments as per their own priorities. The Government of India encourages the State Governments to create additional irrigation potential through early completion of the ongoing major and medium irrigation projects and taking up surface minor irrigation schemes by providing grants under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP). Central grant is also provided to the States under the schemes for "Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies" (RRRWB) and "Command Area Development and Water Management" (CAD & WM) for efficient utilization of created facilities.

Statement

State-wise cultivable land, net irrigated land and landwithout irrigation (2006-07)

(in thousand hectaters)

Sl.No.	States	Cultivable land	Net irrigated land	Unirrigated land
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15911	4453	11458
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	422	52	370
3.	Assam	3224	140	3084
4.	Bihar	6638	3161	3477
5.	Chhattisgarh	5581	1282	4299
6.	Goa	197	24	173
7.	Gujarat	12412	3388	9024
8.	Haryana	3782	2990	792
9.	Himachal Pradesh	813	104	709
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1048	309	739
11.	Jharkhand	4184	164	4020

1	2	3	4	5
12.	Karnataka	12894	2946	9948
13.	Kerala	2329	392	1937
14.	Madhya Pradesh	17312	6365	10947
15.	Maharashtra	21162	2951	18211
16.	Manipur	231	51	180
17.	Meghalaya	1057	67	990
18.	Mizoram	213	16	197
19.	Nagaland	657	65	592
20.	Orissa	7473	1846	5627
21.	Punjab	4270	4028	242
22.	Rajasthan	25600	6496	19104
23.	Sikkim	155	9	146
24.	Tamil Nadu	8148	2889	5259
25.	Tripura	310	61	249
26.	Uttarakhand	1504	343	1161
27.	Uttar Pradesh	19268	13080	6188
28.	West Bengal	5751	3136	2615
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	47	0	47
30.	Chandigarh	2	1	1
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	24	7	17
32.	Daman and Diu	3	0	3
33.	Delhi	54	24	30
34.	Lakshadweep	3	1	2
35.	Puducherry	31	18	13
	Total	182708	60857	121851

Mining of Minerals

4439. DR. K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of technology and investment required to exploit the full potential of commercial mining of metals and minerals in the country;

(b) the number of domestic and foreign companies allowed to take up mining and exploration of minerals in the country and the result achieved therefrom, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government proposes to formulate a new mining policy to encourage domestic and foreign mining companies to invest in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) Mining of minerals depends broadly on availability of mineral resources, economic viability, demand of the market etc. The technology and investment required for exploration and mining varies for different minerals and areas. Under the liberalised economic environment, investment decisions, including choice of location, are taken by the entrepreneurs based on their techno-economic judgements and commercial considerations. The details are not centrally maintained.

(b) The details of prior approvals conveyed by the Government to the State Governments for grant of mineral concessions are given on the website of Ministry of Mines *(http://mines/gov.in).*

(c) and (d) The Govt. of India has already enunciated the National Mineral Policy, 2008 which envisages streamlining and simplifying the procedures in grant of mineral concessions in order to attract investment, including FDI, into mining sector.

Price of Fruits and Vegetables

4440. SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that prices of fruits and vegetables sold by Mother Dairy has increased during the last few months;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check the price rise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The rise in price is a seasonal phenomenon influenced by climate.

(c) Mother Dairy continues to offer the procured produce of fruits and vegetables at reasonable prices to the consumers as compared to the open market.

Disbursement of Funds by NAFED

4441. SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Agriculture Cooperative Marketing Federation (NAFED) has disbursed huge funds tc private parties for promoting both agricultural and non-agricultural activities;

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

(c) whether the NAFED is facing financial crisis;

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

(e) whether a huge amount of loan given to private companies by the NAFED is pending recovery; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to recover the amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (f) NAFED, which is a national cooperative society governed under the provisions of Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002 has reported that it has diversified its business activities and undertaken new business initiatives in Public Private Partnership mode. Under this, NAFED disbursed funds amounting to Rs. 3945.50 crore to 62 parties. Out of 62 parties, 32 have settled their accounts. A Statement giving details of 62 paraties to whom funds have been disbursed by NAFED, year-wise, amount wise, date-wise and amount due as on 30.6.2009, is enclosed. Out of Rs. 3945.50 crore funds disbursed by NAFED under such business activities, the amount recovered as on 30.6.2009 is Rs. 2869.99 crore and total amount due is Rs. 1523.31 crore including interest and service charges as intimated by NAFED.

NAFED has taken steps to recover the outstanding amount by filing criminal complaints with CBI/Economic Offences wing of the Crime Branch of Delhi Police, besides initiating legal cases and Arbitration proceeding against the defaulting partis. All these legal cases are being vigorously pursued by NAFED. The properties/ stocks of the defaulting parties in all possible cases have been restrained and action for disposal of such properties/stocks has also been initiated. The cases have also been filed under Section 138 of Negotiable Instrument Act for dishonour of all cheques of the defaulting parties.

NAFED is facing a financial crisis due to non-recovery of dues, high debt burden, higher interest liability and financial losses.

Statement

Party-wise Status of Business undertaken by NAFED on Tie-UP Basis Along with outstanding position as on 30.6.2009

Sl.No.	Name of Business associate/date of MOU	Commo-dity	Total Amount Paid	Amount Due as on 30.06.2009			Toal amount Due as on 30.06.2009	Account Settled/ Non Settled
				Principal	Interest	Service Charges		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	West Zone							
1.	M/s OM Prakash Purshottam Dass, Bhopal Date of MOU (1) 06/08/2004 (2) 12/08/2004	Rice	37.00	10.62	7.44	0.00	18.06	Nonsettled
2.	M/s R.R.Corporation, Mumbai Date of MOU (1) 01/01/2005	Comm.V Ehicle	4.00	1.98	0.08	0.20	2.26	Nonsettled
3.	M/s Soundcraft Industries, Mumbai	Diamon	2.29	2.29	1.65	0.02	3.96	Nonsettled
4.	M/s Sheel Merchantile, Pune Date of MOU 4/9/2004	Copper/ Tiles	50.20	16.86	7.47	0.13	24.46	Nonsettled
5.	M/s Vishal Exports Overseas, Ahmedabad Date of MOU (1) 19/10/2003 (2) 01/05/2005 (3) 24/06/2005	G.NUT/S Easam/	243.10	73.59	28.46	0.00	102.05	Nonsettled
6.	M/s Roj Enterprises Pvt. Ltd. Pune Date of MOU 24/03/2004	Agri.C Ommod-ITY	30.55	19.57	11.40	0.53	31.50	Nonsettled
7.	M/s Shahbhupatrai, Mumbai Date of MOU 22/06/2004	Dry Fruits	74.60	5.14	1.91	0.72	7.77	Nosettled
8.	M/s Virat Exports Pvt. Ltd. Delhi Date of MOU (1) 20/04/2004 (2) 01/02/2006	MINT	9.01	3.79	0.41	0.03	4.23	Nonsettled

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9.	M/s Reliance Polycrete, New Delhi Date of MOU 31/01/2005 CFR	Iron Ore	18.38	17.60	7.80	0.18	25.58	Nonsettled
10.	M/s Megnostar Telecommunicatcn, ND Date of MOU 30/09/2004	Mobile Phones/ Comm. E QUIP. Bater Ry ETC	60.92	28.54	3.18	0.00	31.72	Nonsettled
11.	M/s Kripa Overseas, New Delhi (After accepting the joint settlement proposal dt. 03.05.07 of M/s. Kripa Overseas and M/s. Rital Impex (owned by same family members) by Delhi High Court *vide* their orders dated 16/5/2007 the dues of the both of the parties have clubbed and dues are being settled in joint account) Fate of MOU (1) 20/09/2004	Heeng/ HMS		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Nonsettled
12.	M/s Rital Impex, and Kripa Overses New Delhi (76.86+10.00) Joint settlement with Kripa Overses Date of MOU 27/02/2004	Dry Fruits	85.36	60.32	13.11	0.00	73.43	Nonsettled
13.	M/s Veecon Impex, New Delhi Date of MOU 24/09/2004	Spices/ Dry	30.00	11.81	0.74	0.00	12.55	Nonsettled
14.	M/s M.K International Ltd. New Delhi Date of MOU 12/12/2003	Rice/W Heat	96.91	5[illegible].61	22.86	1.84	76.31	Nonsettled

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
15.	M/s Roshan Lal Lalit Mohan, Delhi Date of MOU 5/7/2004	Dry Fruits	59.72	42.56	21.96	0.20	64.72	Nonsettled
16.	M/s Gwalior Sugar Co. Ltd., Gwalior Date of MOU 26/07/2004	Agri Inputs	10.48	2.43	0.46	0.00	2.89	Nonsettled
17.	M/s Earthtech Enterprises Ltd. New Delhi Date of MOU (1) 16/10/2003 (2) 12/02/2004	Wheat/ Soya/	1344/24	415.71	148.51	0.00	564.22	Nonsettled
18.	M/s Omni Point Corporation, New Date of MOU 12/1/2005	Agri Commo-dity	19.80	11.45	3.89	0.22	15.56	Nonsettled
19.	M/s Handum Industries, Date of MOU 16/06/2004	Steel Items	298.76	65.75	1.32	4.17	71.24	Nonsettled
20.	M/s Swastic Olechme Ltd., Hyderabad Date of MOU 11/08/2004	RBD Oil	11.97	5.30	3.42	0.18	8.90	Nonesttled
21.	M/s Capro Connection, Chennai Date of MOU 23/07/2004	Iron Ore	7.80	4.97	3.11	0.63	8.71	Nonsettled
22.	M/s Disha Impex, Bangalore Date of MOU	Iron Ore	34.78	4.77	3.41	0.23	8.41	Nonsettled
23.	M/s Swarup Group of Industries, Mumbai Date of MOU (1) 26/03/2004 (2) 24/04/2004	Iron Ore	239.82	152.22	109.85	0.65	262.72	Nonsettled
24.	M/s Maheshwari Oil Inds., Hyderabad Date of MOU (1) 09/08/2004 (2) 10/09/2004	S.F/Soy A Oil	7.06	3.39	2.16	0.02	5.57	Nonsettled

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
25.	M/s Shivananda Project, Hyderabad 21/08/2004	Black Jagga	0.37	0.15	0.08	0.04	0.27	Nonsettled
26.	M/s Kozylone Ind.Ltd. Hyderabad Date of MOU 11/02/2005	Rubber Coir	4.43	1.37	0.50	0.01	1.88	Nonsettled
27.	M/s Zenith Mining Pvt. Ltd. Cuttuck Date of MOU 16/03/2004	Iron ORE	90.80	60.06	28.51	0.72	89.29	Nonsettled
28.	M/s Siddhi Agro (P) Ltd. Kolkata Date of MOU 26/08/2004	Crude Palm Oil	1.86	1.68	1.35	0.02	3.03	Nonsettled
29.	M/s Thiru Aroran, Channai Date of MOU 11/08/2004	Raw Sugar	37.00	0.00	0.90	0.00	0.90	Unsettled
30.	M/s Appollo Ind. Project, Mehsana Date of MOU 27/02/2004	Psyllu M Seed	30.92	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Settled
31.	M/s Zenith Ltd. Mumbai Date of MOU 12/05/2004	HR	12.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Settled
32.	M/s Shri Chakra Udyog Pvt. Ltd. Mumbai Date of MOU 12/07/2004	Pulses/ Tiles	53.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Settled
33.	M/s Brother Industries, Cochin Date of MOU 02/04/2004	Copra	0.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Settled
34.	M/s Veecon IPA, New Delhi Date of MOU 24/09/2004	Foodg Rains	21.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Settled
35.	M/s RPIL & Ramesh KR. Kolkata Date of MOU 10/02/2004	Maize/ Iron Ore						Settled

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
36.	M/s RPIL, Kolkata Date of MOU 18/01/2005	Yellow peas						Settled
37.	M/s RPIL, Kolkata Date of MOU (1) 18/12/2003 (2) 02/04/2004 (3) 11/03/2005	Wheat/ Rice/ Project	99.93	0.00	0.00		0.00	Settled
38.	M/s M.K.Agri International Ltd. New Delhi Date of MOU 30/1/2004	Raw Sugar/ Molas Ses	127.15	0.00	1.12	0.00	1.12	Non Settled
39.	M/s Swil Ltd. Bharuch, Gujarat Date of MOU 23/11/2004	Copper	122.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Settled
40.	M/s Steelbird Fibre Glass, New Delhi Date of MOU 07/05/2004	HMS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Settled
41.	M/s Vallabhdass Kanji Ltd. Cochin Date of MOU 24/11/2004	Spices	1.58	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Settled
42.	M/s Hindustan Rice & Gen. Mills Date of MOU 14/07/2004	Paddy	2.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Settled
43.	M/s RPIL, Mumbai Date of MOU 19/05/2004	Jowar/ Bajra	5.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Settled
44.	M/s REI Agro Ltd. Delhi Date of MOU 16/07/2004	Paddy/ Rice	23.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Settled
45.	M/s Lakhi Mini Rice Mill, Siliguri Date of MOU 07/01/2005	Paddy	0.135	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	Settled
46.	M/s Pala MKTG. SOC. Ltd. & M/s Monopoly Mktg. Coop. Soc. Cochin Date of MOU 08/09/2004	B. PEPPER	0.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Settled

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
47.	M/s Shree Shankar SW. Coop. Cold ST. Patna Date of MOU 24/04/2005	Potato	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Settled
48.	M/s Rai Agro India Ltd. Chandigarh Date of MOU 22/04/2005	Wheat	2.86	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Settled
49.	M/s N.S. Trading Corporation, Delhi Date of MOU 27/05/2004	D. Fruits/ Spices	35.88	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Settled
50.	M/s Uppal Housing Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi Date of MOU 02/12/2004	Estate	45.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Settled
51.	M/s C & M Farming, Nasik Date of MOU 09/06/2004	Maize	3.21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Settled
52.	M/s Tirupati Enterprises, Ahmedabad Date of MOU 23/06/2004	Casto R Seed	145.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Settled
53.	M/s D.S. Construction, New Delhi Date of MOU 10/02/2004	Estate Dev.	81.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Settled
54.	M/s R.R. Flour Mills, Indore Date of MOU 26/09/2004	Wheat	0.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Settled
55.	M/s Mehak Foods Inds. Pune Date of MOU 16/03/2005	Cattle Feed	1.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Settled
56.	M/s Growyeild Corp. Mumbai Date of MOU 11/01/2005	Cattle Feed	0.32	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Settled

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
57.	M/s Anusha Traders, Calicut Date of MOU 16/02/2005	B.Pepp ER	0.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Settled
58.	M/s Mahashwari Bros. Chennai Date of MOU 12/01/2004	Coal	13.72	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Settled
59.	M/s Ganga Steel, Chennai Date of MOU 04/08/2004	HMS/ST EEL Items	88.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Settled
60.	M/s Metastrips Ltd. Goa Date of MOU 20/10/2004	Copper	106.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Settled
61.	M/s Nirmiti Impex, Pune Date of MOU 21/05/2004	Mango Pulp	0.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Settled
62.	M/s Exfin India Mineral Ore Co. Pvt. Ltd. Varanasi Date of MOU	Iron ORE	8.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Settled
	Total		3945.50	1075.51	437.06	10.74	1523.31	
	Gross Total		3945.50 (A)	1075.51 (B)	437.06	10.74	1523.31	

Procurment Price of Levy Sugar

4442. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has fixed the procurement price for levy sugar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether association of sugar mills have opposed this move;

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

(e) the time by which the final procurement price of levy sugar is likely to be decided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (e) The Central Government has notified the ex-factory levy sugar price for 2008-09 sugar season on provisional basis vide notification dated 21.01.2009. Uttar Pradesh Sugar Mills Association has challenged the same in Hon'ble Delhi High Court vide Writ Petition No. 7951/ 2009 on the ground that the said notification has been issued without taking into account the State Advised Price (SAP) of sugarcane for the year 2008-09 announced by

the State Government of Uttar Pradesh. The matter is presently sub judice.

Upgradation of Facilities Provided by SAI

4443. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any measures to upgrade the facilities provided in the Sports Authority of India (SAI) Regional Centres and Sub-Centres across the country;

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

(c) the expenditure incurred on upgradation of these centres during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PATIL): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Upgradation of facilities in these Centres in the form of civil amenities, play fields and staff welfare measures have been carried out. Details of such measures are as under:—

Construction of Shooting Ranges, Volleyball & Basketball Courts, Football & Archery grounds, synthetic athletic surface, Hockey surface, swimming Pools, Synthetic courts, furnishing of guest houses/hostels, quarters for foreign Coaches, staff quarters, modern fitness centres, storm water drainage. Administrative Block, Shopping complex, Staff quarters, improvement in Roads, Boundary Walls, Water supply, floodlighting & wooden flooring, horticulture works, street lights etc.

(c) Details of expenditure incurred on upgradtion of the centres during last three years is as under:—

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Centre (s)	Expenditure			
		2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	Current year
1.	Gandhinagar	359.95	168.73	22.22	—
2.	Imphal	507.75	809.86	110.00	368.00
3.	Bohpal	377.76	398.69	397.17	210.92
4.	Lucknow	26.77	—	—	25.00
5.	Trivandrum	333.72	582.55	—	145.00
6.	Sonepat	206.41	654.39	82.77	87.59
7.	Guwahati	242.28	652.70	921.62	180.55
8.	Bangalore	577.00	557.51	483.23	240.59
9.	Patiala	1139.92	499.69	114.17	521.00
10.	Kokata	379.11	465.65	138.00	71.95
11.	Hazaribagh	150.00	19.97	200.00	—

[Translation]

Drip Irrigation Scheme

4444. SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM WAKCHAURE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated to various States under Drip Irrigation Scheme during each of the last two years and the current year;

(b) the details of districts which have been declared as drought affected districts; and

(c) the financial assistance provided during the said period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The details of funds allocated to various States under Micro Irrigation Scheme (Drip & Sprinkler) for the last two years and the current year are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) The names of the districts which have been declared as drought affected during 2009 are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(c) The details of financial assistance provided during the last two years and the current year, State-wise are given in the enclosed Statement-III.

Statement I

Details of Funds allocated under Micro Irrigation Scheme for last two years and the Current year (2009-10)

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	Name of State	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	14865.67	14931.68	16832.01
2.	Chhattisgarh	3686.44	2201.89	3450.24
3.	Goa	15.44	15.76	11.62
4.	Gujarat	16510.69	15077.31	14656.44
5.	Haryana	959.41	1719.82	577.92
6.	Karnataka	8309.60	11431.42	14370.24
7.	Kerala	0	0	148.40
8.	Madhya Pradesh	1296.55	9056.92	5114.82
9.	Maharashtra	14781.64	18969.87	17355.11
10.	Orissa	835.85	358.67	947.63
11.	Punjab	509.47	1037.10	1001.80
12.	Rajasthan	3087.30	7628.10	6493.80
13.	Tamil Nadu	13372.09	0	2526.01
14.	Uttar Pradesh	0	2567.03	0

Statement II

Details of Districts declared drought affected on account of deficit rainfall during SW Monsoon 2009

Sl.No.	Uttar Pradesh	Assam	Manipur	Jharkhand
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Ambedkar Nagar	Bongaigaon	Bishnupur	Chatra
2.	Balia	Cachar	Chandel	Garhwa
3.	Bareilly	Dhubri	Churachandpur	Latehar
4.	Basti	Goalpara	Imphal East	Palamau

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Deoria	Golaghat	Imphal West	
6.	Farrukkhabad	Hailakandi	Senapati	
7.	Fatehpur	Jorhat	Tamenglong	
8.	Ghazipur	Kamrup	Thoubal	
9.	Hardoi	Karbi-Anglong	Ikhrul	
10.	Hathrus (Mahamayanagar)	Kokrajhar		
11.	Jaunpur	Lakhimpur		
12.	Kannauj	Morigaon		
13.	Kanpur Dehat	Nagaon		
14.	Kashiram Nagar	Sivasagar		
15.	Mainpuri	Baksa		
16.	Mau	Barpeta		
17.	Rai Bareilly	Chirang		
18.	Sultanpur	Darrang		
19.	Sant Kabir Nagar	Dhemaji		
20.	Unnao	Dibrugarh		
21.	Agra	Kamrup (Metro)		
22.	Aligarh	Karimganj		
23.	Allahabad	Nalbari		
24.	Auraiya	North Cachar Hills		
25.	Azamgarh	Sonitpur		
26.	Badaun	Tinsukia		
27.	Balarampur	Udalguri		
28.	Banda			
29.	Chandauli			
30.	Etah			
31.	Faizabad			
32.	Ferozabad			

1	2	3	4	5
33.	Gautambudhnagar			
34.	Ghaziabad			
35.	Jalaun			
36.	Jyotibafulenagar			
37.	Kanpur Nagar			
38.	Mahoba			
39.	Mathura			
40.	Meerua			
41.	Moradabad			
42.	Rampur			
43.	Saharanpur			
44.	Shahjahanpur			
45.	Siddharthnagar			
46.	Sitapur			
47.	Varanasi			

Statement III

Details of Financial Assistance provided during last two years and the current year, State-wise

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	Name of State	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5747.76	9727.31	6930.66
2.	Chhattisgarh	783.39	954.45	1171.00
3.	Goa	0	2	0
4.	Gujarat	7349.60	4898.61	4447.27
5.	Haryana	604.19	1207.28	0
6.	Karnataka	6864.51	7318.66	0
7.	Kerala	0	0	0
8.	Madhya Pradesh	700.46	4649.84	0

1	2	3	4	5
9.	Maharashtra	13897.34	14748.06	8407.08
10.	Orissa	108.40	337.94	320.16
11.	Punjab	427.05	504.88	415.71
12.	Rajasthan	2341.71	2382.31	2815.00
13.	Tamil Nadu	2200.00	0	0
14.	Uttar Pradesh	0	150	0

[English]

Farmers Living Below Poverty Line

4445. SHRI PRATAPRAO GANPATRAO JADHAO:
SHRI P.C. GADDIGOUDAR:
SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of farmers living below poverty line in the country including Maharashtra;

(b) the details of schemes being implemented for the farmers alongwith the allocation earmarked for the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(c) the details of funds released by the Government during each of the last three years, scheme-wise and State-wise; and

(d) the number of farmers benefited as a result thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Consumer Rights

4446. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints have been received regarding violation of the Weights and Measures Act;

(b) if so, the number and nature of the complaints received during the last three years and the current year, Stae-wise;

(c) whether the Government proposes to strengthen consumer rights and to appoint a third party to test the samples of packaged products;

(d) if so, whether the Government proposes to enact a comprehensive law regarding weights and measures; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The information is being collected from States/UTs.

(c) At present, the Government has no proposal to appoint a third party agency to test the samples of packaged products.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

[English]

Agriculture Clinics

4447. SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up agriculture clinics in the country including Punjab and Haryana to test the soil, devise techniques for water management and to help the farmers to cultivate agriculture and horticulture produce;

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

(c) the extent to which these clinics would help in motivating the farmers to get higher produce?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) This Ministry has a Central Sector Scheme "Establishment of Agri-clinics and Agri-business Centres (ACABCs)" to support unemployed agricultural graduates to set up agriculture clinics in the country including in Punjab and Haryana. The scheme has the following objectives:

(i) To provide extension and other services to farmers on payment basis.

(ii) To support agriculture development and entrepreneurship, and

(iii) To promote self-employment.

Under the scheme, till 29th July 2009, a total of 6562 unemployed agriculture graduates have established agriculture clinics out of which 61 are in Punjab and 63 are in Haryana. These agriculture clinics are set up under different activities which includes Soil Testing Laboratories also. All over the country, 56 Soil Testing Laboratories have been established under agriculture clinics including two in Haryana and one in Punjab. The stae-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) The extension services provided by agri-preneurs have empowered the farmers to adopt advanced technology, know-how and practices resulted in increased crop production and productivity.

The Mid Term Evaluation report of Agri-Clinics and Agri-Businees Centres Scheme has indicated that "According to the Extension officials of Maharashtra, the productivity of the crops have icreased by 20% in the catchment area of the Agri-clinics and farmers have gained in terms of income and better quality of the produce. Similarly in Andhra Pradesh, productivity has increased by 30% and in Rajasthan by 10%. The extension services provided by agri-preneurs have empowered the farmers to adopt advanced technologies, know how and practices. One of the reasons mentioned for increase in productivity is constant monitoring and advice to the farmers during the crop raising period.

Statement

State-wise Agri-Ventures Established under ACABCs Scheme (Period from 01/04/2002 to 29/7/2009)

Sl.No.	State	Total Number of Agriculture Clinics established	Number of Agriculture Clinics implementing soil-testing laboatories
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	320	1
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	—
3.	Assam	65	1
4.	Bihar	737	17
5.	Chandigarh	00	—
6.	Chhattisgarh	76	1
7.	Delhi	00	—
8.	Goa	01	—
9.	Gujarat	170	2
10.	Haryana	63.	2
11.	Himachal Pradesh	66	—
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	68	—
13.	Jharkhand	47	—
14.	Karnataka	743	10
15.	Kerala	23	—
16.	Madhya Pradesh	138	1
17.	Maharashtra	1123	10
18.	Manipur	51	—
19.	Meghalaya	00	—
20.	Mizoram	00	—
21.	Nagaland	10	—
22.	Orissa	74	1
23.	Puducherry	15	—
24.	Punjab	61	1

1	2	3	4
25.	Rajasthan	629	—
26.	Sikkim	00	—
27.	Tamil Nadu	412	2
28.	Tripura	00	—
29.	Uttar Pradesh	1567	3
30.	Uttarakhand	49	—
31.	West Bengal	53	4
	Total	6562	56

R&D Activities in Agriculture Sector

4448. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:
SHRI NITYANANDA PRADHAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to enhance the Research and Development activities in agriculture sector;

(b) the achievement made in this regard; and

(c) the extent to which farmers have been benefited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Visualizing the need to enhance Research and Development (R&D) activities in agriculture sector, the Government has allocated an outlay of Rs. 12023 crore to DARE/ICAR during the XI Plan which is substantially higher in comparison to X Plan outlay of Rs. 5368 crore and IX Plan outlay of Rs. 3376.95 crore. To address the emerging challenges the research agenda has been prioritized in the XI Plan.

(b) DARE/ICAR through its 97 institutes spread all over the country has made significant achievements in enhancing agricultural production and productivity, resulting in 4 times increase in foodgrains production, 6 times increase in horticultural crops and milk, 9 times in fish and 27 times in egg production since 1950-51. In the recent past, DARE/ICAR has released/identified 96 varieties/hybrids of crops, a Bt. Gene Cotton *(Bacillus thuringiensis)* variety Bikaneri Nerma for resistance to boll worm. Besides, the quality seed production of field crops has reached a record level of 0.85 lakh tonne during 2008-09.

In Fisheries Sector, through freshwater aquaculture, early breeding of Catla and Rohu achieved, paving way for year round availability of their seed.

In Animal Secience Sector, ICAR has achieved a unique scientific landmark in th birth of cloned buffalo calf for the first time in the World and also launched quality animal seed production programme in sheep, goat, pig and poultry.

DARE/ICAR has also developed a good number of tools, implements, processes and pilot plans like zero till drill, strip till drill, pneumatic planter, manure spreader etc. which have helped the farmers in enhancing their agriculture production.

DARE/ICAR has also geared up its activities to address the issues related to abiotic stress by establishing a National Institute of Abiotic Strees Management in Maharashtra.

(c) The technologies developed by DARE/ICAR are disseminated to farmers through a wide network of Krishi Vigyan Kendras which provide frontline demonstration and training to farmers and rural entrepreneurs. Also ICAR has developed state-specific technologies for the benefit of farmers, thus, providing support in terms of achieving higher productivity/production.

Security to VIPs

4449. SHRI UDAY SINGH:
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:
SHRI K. SUDHAKARAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to review the list of VIPs who are getting security cover;

(b) if so, whether the expenditure on VIP security has increased in the past few years;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government has consituted any Committee with regard to VIP security; and

(e) if so, the time by which such Committee is likely to give its recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The security arrangements for all VIPs/Central protectees are reviewed periodically in two high level committees in MHA.

(b) to (e) The expenditure incurred on providing security to VIPs/Central Protectees cannot be estimated as different State Governments/UT Administrations and their agencies are involved in making security arrangement for them. No such committee has been constituted for this purpose.

National Service Scheme (NSS)

4450. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has evaluated the functioning of National Service Scheme (NSS) in the country;

(b) if so, the details and findings of the study and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has also sought suggestions from the general public on the functioning of the NSS; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PATIL): (a) and (b) Tata Intitute of Social Sciences, Mumbai has evaluated the fuctioning of NSS and submitted its final report, in July, 2009. The study covered (1) nature and spread of NSS activities, (2) the impact and sustainability of NSS, (3) administrative aspects. The evaluation study *inter alia* recommended enhancement of the per volunteer cost, intruction of incentives to volunteers by way of certificates, weightage in admission to higher education improvement in training facilities.

(c) and (d) A communciation seeking suggestion for improvement in the scheme of NSS has been sent to all State/UT Governments and the same has been posted on the website of NSS.

[Translation]

Consumer Protection Movement

4451. SHRI RAMKISHUN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has assessed the performance of the consumer protection movement in the country;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether several complaints regarding the quantity, value and quality of packaged goods have been received recently;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether guidelines have been issued to the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) for dealing with such cases to protect the interest of the consumers; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Impact assessment was carried out of consumer awareness campaign 'Jago Grahak Jago' by Indian Institute of Mass Communication in the year 2006-07. The survey was carried out in 12 States, covering 36 districts and 144 villages. The study was carried out in both urban and rural areas.

(b) More than 64.6% respondents were found to be aware of the campaign. The rural respondents expressed greater need for educating consumers about their rights than those in the urban areas. As regards the sources of awareness, TV and radio were found to be useful in both rural and urban areas; whereas newspapers were found to be more effective in urban areas. Doordarshan emerged as the channel, which was viewed by the maximum number of respondents.

The most effective campaign were those related to Maximum Retail Price, Certification of BIS mark, such as ISI, Hallmark etc., use of proper weights and measures, checking expiry date.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

(d) Yes, Madam.

(e) 18 complaints on quantity, value and 28 complaints on quality of pre-packed goods were received. These were forwarded to States for taking corrective action.

(f) BIS has a procedure for dealing with complaints against BIS certified products.

(g) Once the complaint is received, visits are made to licensees premises to investigate the matter. In cases of default action is taken as per provisions of Bureau of Indian Standards Act and rules and regulations made thereunder.

[English]

Public Transport in Rural Areas

4452. SHRI BHASKARRAO BAPURAO PATIL KHATGAONKAR:
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:

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

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to augment Public Transport System in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is cosidering to provide low floor buses in the rural areas;

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(e) the time by which services of such buses would commence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MAHADEO SINGH KHANDELA): (a) to (e) Keeping in view the state of affairs of public transport system especially in rural areas and also the financial position of the State owned Road Trasport Undertakings this Ministry has prepared a draft scheme to provide financial assistance to the States/UTs for procurement of buses for operation in rural/moffusil areas. The proposed scheme envisages procurement of buses conforming to bus body code notified by this Ministry. Since the proposal is at an initial stage, no definite time frame for procurment of buses under the scheme could be envisaged at this stage.

Strengthening of Cooperatives

4453. SHRI GAJANAND D. BABAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether various States have urged the Union Government to work out an action plan to strengthen the cooperative movement and resolve the common difficulties;

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

(c) whether the Cooperative Ministers of various States had agreed to work out a joint action plan in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action plan prepared by the Union Government to strengthen and enhance the cooperative movement in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No, Madam.

(b) to (d) Question does not arise. However, the Government has undertaken various measures to strengthen and enhance the cooperative movement in the country, such as, framing of National Policy on Cooperatives, enactment of Multi-State Cooperative Societies (MSCS) Act, 2002 policy initiatives for revitalization of cooperative credit structure etc. Government is also implementing Central Sector Scheme for Cooperative Education and Training through National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) and National Council for Cooperative Training (NCCT). Further, Central Sector Schemes for Cooperative Development are being implemented by National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC).

National Policy on Cooperatives and MSCS Act, 2002 provide guiding principles to State to bring their cooperative legislation on principles of autonomous, democratic and professional functioning of the cooperatives in their States. The Schemes of the Central Government implmented through NCUI, NCCT and NCDC and the policy initiatives for revitalization of cooperative credit structure have been helpful for strengthening and enhancing the cooperative movement.

Film City in Gujarat

4454. SHRI MUKESH BHAIRAVDANJI GADHVI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has recieved any proposal from the Government of Gujarat to set up a film city in Gandhinagar; and

(b) If so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

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

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to part (a) above.

Coastal Security Schemes

4455. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has approved and formulated a comprehensive Coastal Security Scheme;

(b) if so, the progress achieved under the said scheme so far, State-wise;

(c) whether various equipments required for the smooth functioning of the said scheme have been received by the States;

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

(e) the funds allocated and utilized under the said scheme during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (e) A comprehensive Coastal Security Scheme was approved in January 2005 for implementation over a five year period commencing 2005-06, to enhance coastal security by strengthening infrastructure for patrolling and surveillance in the coastal areas.

The Coastal Security Scheme, which is supplemental in nature and, is being implemented in nine coastal States, *viz.* Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal, and four coastal union Territories, *viz.* Daman and Diu, Lakshadweep, Pondicherry and Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Under the Scheme, 73 coastal police stations, 97 check posts 58 outposts and 30 operational barracks have been approved. The Police Stations will be provided with 204 vessels fitted with modern navigational and maritime equipment. 153 jeeps and 312 motorcycles have also been approved. A lump sum assistance of Rs. 10 lakhs per police station is also provided for computers and equipments, etc. The approved five-year outlay for the Scheme is Rs. 400 crores for non-recurring expenditure and Rs. 151 crores for recurring expenditure on fuel, maintenance and repairs of vessels and training of personnel.

The present status of infrastrcture created so far under the scheme, State-wise, is given in the enclosed Statement.

The Goa Shipyard Ltd, Goa, and Garden Reach Shipbuliders and Engineers Ltd., Kolkata, are presently manufacturing 110 nos. 12-Ton boats and 84 nos. 5-Ton boats to be provided to coastal States and Union Territories under the Coastal Security Scheme. The supply of these interceptor boats has started since April, 2009. So far, 19 boats have been delivered to the coastal States and UTs.

Furhter, the Government has also released funds meant for purchase of vehicles and lump sum amount for equipments etc., approved under the Scheme, in respect of Coastal Police Stations which have already been operationalised.

Under the scheme, funds to the tune of Rs. 988.97 lakhs were released in 2006-07, Rs. 5438.046 lakhs in 2007-08 and Rs. 5865.884 lakh in 2008-09 and the same has been utilised by the States/UTs.

Statement

Physical Progress, in Respect of Coastal Police Stations, Check Posts, Outposts and Barracks Under the Coastal Security Scheme

(as on 30.06.2009)

State/UT	Coastal Police stations					
	Santioned Nos.		Made Operational	Construction complete	Construction in progress	Construction not yet started
Gujarat	Coastal PS	10	10	9	1	—
	Check-posts	25	Nil	1	7	17
	Out-posts	46	Nil	3	32	11
Maharashtra	Coastal PS	12	12	—	4	8
	Check-posts	32	9	18	Nil	14
	Barracks	24	Nil	17	Nil	7
Goa		3	3	—	1	2
Karnataka		5	5	5	—	—
Kerala		8	1	1	—	7
Tamil Nadu	Coastal PS	12	12	12	Nil	—
	Check-posts	40	16	16	19	5
	Out-posts	12	Nil	2	4	6
Andhra Pradesh		6	6	6	—	—
Orissa		5	0	—	2	3
West Bengal	Costal PS	6	4	—	—	6
	Barracks	6	Nil	Nil	Nil	6
Puducherry		1	1	—	—	1
Lakshadweep		4	4	—	2	2
Daman and Diu		1	1	—	1	Nil
Andaman and Nicobar Islands		—	—	—	—	—
Total	Coastal PS	73	59	33	11	29
	Check-posts	97	25	35	26	36
	Out-posts	58	Nil	5	36	17
	Barracks	30	Nil	17	Nil	13

Amendment in Seed Act

4456. SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to amend the Seed Act; and

(b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The Seeds Bill, 2004 has been proposed in consultation with the experts, to overcome the following deficiencies of the existing seed legislation:—

(i) present Seeds Act regulates only notified kind and varieties and does not address non-notified varieties, research hybrid varieties, etc.;

(ii) It does not have provision for seed health;

(iii) green manure seeds, narcotics, plantation corps, etc. are not covered;

(iv) there is no provision for declaring expected performance of the variety of seeds;

(v) there is no provision for compensation;

(vi) there is no provision for regulation of transgenic materials;

(vii) the definition for "farmers exemption" is ambiguous;

(viii) penalties for infringement are very mild.

The following benefits are expected from the Seeds Bill, 2004:—

(i) regulation of seeds and planting material of all agricultural, horticultural, plantation, etc. crops so as to ensure availability of true to type seeds to Indian farmers;

(ii) check on sale of spurious and poor quality seed of all kind/varieties;

(iii) increase in the proportion of quality seed available for sowing;

(iv) simplification of procedures and more efficient regulation;

(v) increased private participation;

(vi) regulation of import and sale of transgenic seed and planting material;

(vii) liberalised import of seeds and planting materials;

(viii) provision of farmers' exemption from registration, etc.

The salient features of the Seeds Bill, 2004 are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Salient Features of the Seeds Bill, 2004

- Compulsory registration of varieties to be sold in India.
- Farmers will have the right to save, use, exchange, share or sell seed without registration.
- De-licensing of seed dealers.
- Enhancement of penalty up to Rs. 25,000 for not maintainging physical purity and seed health, and imprisonment extended to six months or with a fine up to Rs. 50,000 or both for providing false information related to genetic purity, misbranded seeds and supply of spurious seeds.
- Provision for labeling of expected performation of seeds so that farmers are assured of quality of seeds purchsed by them.
- Provision for compensation to the farmer in case of failure.
- Lucid definitions have been provided in the proposed Seeds Bill for terms like seeds, farmers, transgenic materials, registration of varieties, dealer, producer, nursery, etc.
- Seed health has been added as an additional standard for quality seed.

- For regulating export and import of seeds and planting material suitable provisions have been made which are in harmony with the provisions of the Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) Order, 2003.
- Import of seed for sale shall be permitted only of registered varieties. Registration of such varieties shall be granted on the basis of trials conducted for minimum period as prescribed.
- An unregistered variety may be allowed to be imported in limited quantity for research and trail purposes on the basis of data as prescribed.
- Any person inteding to import seed or planting material will declare that such material is, or is not, as the case may be a product of transgenic manipulation or involves Genetic Use Restriction Technology.

Central Assistance to States

4457. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has stopped providing Central assistance to some States for construction and maintenance of roads due to non adherence of loading norms for goods transport vehicles;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to restore the said assistance to these States;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) No, Madam. The Union Government has not stopped providing Central assistance to some States for construction and maintenance of roads due to non adherence of loading norms forgoods transport vehicles.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Provision of Water For Irrigation

4458. SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set any target to irrigate an additional 16 million hectares in the country in the Eleventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. As per the recommendation of the working Group on Water Resources for XIth Five Year Plan (2007-12), Ministry of Water Resources has set a target of creation of irrigation potential of 16 million hectare from major and medium irrigation projects, minor irrigation schems and scheme on repairs, renovation and restoration of water bodies during XIth Five Year Plan. The breakup of the target is given below:

Major and medium irrigation Project	9.00 million hectare
Minor irrigation schemes	
(i) Surface water	1.50 million hectare
(ii) Ground water	4.50 million hectare
Repair, Renovation and Restoration of water bodies	1.00 million hectare
Total	16.00 million hectare

Promotion of Small Scale Industries

4459. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has any proposal to promote small scale industreis in the country with foreign assistance; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) and (b) Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) through Department of Economic Affairs have arranged a loan of US $150 million from Asian Development Bank (ADB) for: (i) enhancing sustainability of khadi; (ii) increasing income and employment; (iii) increasing artisans' welfare; and (iv) development of selected Village Industries (VIs). The

proposal is aimed at revitalizing Khadi and Village Industries (KVI) sector in the country. The specific intervention under this includes assistance to 300 khadi institutions, which are willing to undertake reforms. Other interventions include 50% representation of spinners and weavers in institutions' management, developing khadi mark and franching, developing niche products, replacement of sales rebate with production incentives. The Implementing Agency for the scheme would be Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC).

Threat of Terror Attacks

4460. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:
SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:
DR. SANJEEV GANESH NAIK:
DR. KIRIT PREMJIBHAI SOLANKI:
SHRI UDAY SINGH:
SHRI NITYANANDA PRADHAN:
SHRI MILIND DEORA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country faces threats of air-borne and sea-borne terror attacks;

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

(c) whether the State Governments includnig Gujarat, Goa and Maharashtra have been urged to take additional precautions;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps the Governmet proposes to take to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (e) There are no specific inputs regarding this. However, as and when any specific inputs are received, the concerned Central/State authorities take appropriate actions immediately. There is standard institutional mechanism to handle such situations.

The Government has been, on continuing basis, reviewing the security arrangements in the light of emerging challenges, including terrorist incidents, and a number of significant steps have been taken to enhance the level of preparedness to counter these incidents, to strengthen the intelligence and security appartus, and strengthen legislative and investigative provisions to counter terrorism.

With a view to strengthen coastal security of the country, many important decisions/initiatives have been taken.

The Indian Navy has been designated as the authority responsible for overall maritime security which includes coastal security and offshore security. The Indian Coast Guard is additionally designated as the authority responsible for coastal security in territorial waters including areas to be patrolled by Coastal Police. The Director General Coast Guard has been designated as Commander Coastal Command responsible for overall coordination between Central and State agencies in all matters relating to coastal Security. The Indian Coast Guard is taking many other steps for strengthening their infrastructure.

The implementation of existing Coastal Security Scheme, which provides for setting up of 73 coastal police stations, 97 check posts, 58 outposts and 30 operational barracks, equipped with 204 vessels and vehicles, in the nine coastal States four coastal Union Territories, has been expedited. So far, 59 coastal police stations have already been operationalised. Supply of interceptor boats to the States/UTs has also started.

For further strengthening the coastal security, several other important initiatives have been taken. The coastal States/UTs are carrying out the exercise of vulnerability/ gap analysis jointly with Coast Guard, to firm up their additional requirements, in respect of coastal police stations, vehicles, boats etc., for formulation of a comprehensive proposal for further approval of the Government of India.

Department of Shipping has been mandated to streamline the process of registration of all types of vessels, i.e. fishing as well as non-fishing vessels, and also to ensure fitting/provision of navigational and communication equipments on these boats.

Department of Fisheries is taking steps to issue ID cards to all the fishermen. The Registrar General of India (RGI) is also issuing ID cards under Multi-purpose National Identity Card (MINCs) Scheme to all the population in the coastal villages including fishermen.

[Translation]

Price Rise of Essential Commodities

4461. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:
SHRI PURNMASI RAM:

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

(a) whether the global prices of essential commodities including foodgrains have increased exorbitantly during the last one year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any assessment has been made regarding the impact of low monsoon and rising internatioinal price of essential commodities on their availability and prices in the domestic market;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any Committee has been set up to study the situation and devise ways to overcome the present crisis;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the remedial steps taken to improve the availability and control prices of essential commodities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The international prices of foodgrains such as Rice, Wheat, Maize and pulses such as chana, Yellow peas and edible oils have declined over the last one year. However, the international prices of sugar, pulses such as Tur dal, Urad dal, Massor dal, Moong dal have registered in increase.

(c) and (d) According to latest report, as on 24.07.2009, the kharif area coverage is more than 50% of normal in case of cotton, jowar, maize, bajra, coarse cereals, sugarcane, jute and oilseeds. However, less area coverage has been reported in rice (43%) and pulses (46.02%). Kharif sowing continues upto end of July/first week of August. Therefore, area coverage is expected to improve. Secondly, Government has adequate stocks of wheat and rice. It has procured 25.23 million tonne of wheat and 31.91 million tonne of rice as of 24.7.2009. Substantial quantities of edible oil, pulses and sugar have also been imported, which provide the necessary cushion against inflationary pressures and expectations. Hence the overall impact on prices is expected to be marginal.

(e) and (f) Committee of Secretaries regularly monitors the price situation and gives directions to the Ministries/Departments concerned on appropriate remedial measures to be taken.

(g) The Measures taken by Government to improve the availability and control prices of essential commodities are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

List of Government Measures

(A) Short Term Measures

1. Fiscal Measures

(i) Reducing import duties to zero—for wheat, pulses, edible oils (crude) and maize (under TRQ of 5 lakh tonnes per annum, beyond which 15% duty will apply).

(ii) Reducing import duties on refined & hydrogenated oils & vegetable oils to 7.5%.

(iii) Reducing the import duty on Skimmed Milk Powder (SMP) from 15% to 5%.

(iv) Allowed import of raw sugar under Advance Authorization Scheme by sugar mills (at zero duty) upto 30.9.2009 (notified on 17.2.2009 and 2.3.2009).

(v) Allowed import of raw sugar at zero duty under O.G.L. upto 1.8.2009 by sugar mills (notified on 17.4.2009).

(vi) Allowed import of white/refined sugar by STC/ MMTC/PEC and NAFED upto 1 mollion tonnes by 1.8.2009 under O.G.L. at zero duty (notified on 17.4.2009).

(vii) Levy obligation was removed in respect of all imported raw sugar and white/refined sugar.

2. Administrative Measures

(i) The export of edible oils is permitted in branded consumer packs of upto 5 kgs., subject to a limit of 10,000 tonnes during the next one year upto 31st October, 2009.

(ii) Export of wheat and wheat products (atta, maida and suji) on private account was permitted after 15th May 2009, with a cap of 2 million tonnes in 2009-10.

(iii) Banning export of non-basmati rice, edible oils and pulses (except kabuli chana).

(iv) No changes in Tariff Rate Values of edible oils.

(v) Imposition of stock limit orders in the case of paddy, rice, pulses, sugar, edible oils and oilseeds.

(vi) The periodic enhancements in MSP-currently Rs. 1080 per quintal for wheat, Rs. 850 per quintal (+Bonus of Rs. 50 per quintal) for common rice and Rs. 880 per quintal (+Bonus of Rs. 50 per quintal) for Grade A rice, to maximize procurement of wheat and rice.

(vii) Using Minimum Export Price (MEP) to regulate exports of onion (averaging at $205 per tonne for August 2009) and basmati rice ($1100 PMT) w.e.f. 20.01.2009.

(viii) Maintaining the Central Issue Price (CIP) for fice (at Rs. 5.65 per kg. for BPL and Rs. 3 per kg. for AAY) and wheat (at Rs. 4.15 per kg. for BPL and Rs. 2 per kg. for AAY).

(ix) Futures trading in Rice, Urad and Tur suspended by the Forward Market Commission in the year 2007-08 continued duirng the year 2008-09. Futures trading in sugar was suspended w.e.f. 27.5.2009 upto 31st December, 2009. Futures trading in wheat was revoked on 14.5.2009.

(x) Distribution of one million tons of imported edible oils to States/UTs at a subsidy @ Rs. 15/kg.

(xi) To augment availability of pulses, the Public Sector Undertakings (namely, STC, MMTC and PEC) and NAFED were permitted to import and sell pulses under a scheme and losses, if any, upto 15% are reimbursed by the Government.

(xii) Distribution of imported pulses to State Governments at a subsidy of Rs. 10/- per kg.

(xiii) Government allowed import of raw sugar under advance authorization Scheme and permitted sugar factories to sell processed raw sugar in the domestic market and fulfill export obligation on ton to ton basis.

(xiv) Released 6 lakh tonnes of additional non levy sugar for April-June 2009 Quarter taking the total release to 60 lakh tonnes against 50 lakh tonnes in corresponding Quater in 2008 and 50 lakh tonnes in Jan-March 2009.

(xv) The availability of non-levy sugar for April, 2009 including the additional quota released stood at 22 lakh tons against 17 lakhs for March, 2009 and 17 lakh tons for April, 2008. For the month of May, 2009, release of non-levy sugar including additional quota released stood at 21 lakh tons as against 17.5 lakh tons for May, 2008. For the month of June, 2009, the release of non-levy sugar stands at 16 lakh tons as against release of 13.5 lakh tons for June, 2008. Besides about 1 lakh ton of raw sugar imported and reprocessed by sugar mills have been released during the month of June, 2009. For the month of July, 2009 a quantity of 14.90 lakh tons of sugar has been released which includes 12.67 lakh tons of normal non-levy sugar, 1.33 lakh tons of dismantled buffer stock and 0.90 lakh ton of refined raw sugar imported by sugar mills.

(B) Medium term Measures:

In the medium term, Government has taken initiatives such as the Integrated scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM), National Food Security Mission (NFSM) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) to improve production and productivity in agriculture.

[English]

Per Capita Availability of Foodgrains

4462. SHRI N. CHELUVARAYA SWAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita availability of wheat, rice and other foodgrains during each of the last three years, State-wise and crop-wise;

(b) whether per capita availability of these foodgrains has declined during the said period;

(c) if so, the details thereof including Karnataka, State-wise and crop-wise;

(d) the reasons therefor; and

(e) the remedial steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) There have been fluctuations in per capita availability of wheat, rice and foodgrains mainly due to fluctuations in production caused by variations in weather conditions. The net per capita availability of wheat, rice and foodgrains for the period 2006-08 are given below:

(grams per day)

Year	Wheat	Rice	Foodgrains
2006	154.3	198.0	445.3
2007	157.8	194.0	442.8
2008 (Prov.)	145.1	175.4	436.6

Statewise data on per capita availability of foodgrains is not maintained.

(e) To increase the production and thereby the availability of foodgrains Government implements a number of programmes/schemes. National Food Security Mission launched in 2007-08, aims to increase the production of rice by 10 million tons, wheat by 8 million tons and pulses by 2 million tons by the end of Eleventh Five Year Plan (2011-2012). Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana launched in 2007-08 seeks to push up the investment in agriculture to improve productivity and reduce yield gaps across the country. The Government also provides good quality seeds, disease free planting material, adequate and easy reach of institutional credit at reasonable interest, development of agricultural market infrastructure. Through the extension activities farmers are educated to adopt modern agricultural practices. Given the production and availability in the country, appropriate measures are taken by the Government which include review of imports.

Futures Trading in Vegetables

4463. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether prices of vegetables, including potato continue to rise despite a very good harvest during the current year;

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

(c) whether the Government has reviewed the system of futures trading in vegetables including potato to check its prices; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Delayed Monsoon, hike to petrol and diesel prices on 1st July 2009, increase in demand owing to rise in prices of pulses as well as seasonal factors have contributed to increase in prices of vegetables and fruits. Production of potato in 2008-09 is estimated at 314.63 lakh tonnes. However, potato production in West Bengal, Bihar and eastern UP was affected because of late blight disease; lesser quantities of potatoes in cold storage; increased demand from processing industries, delayed monsoon leading to delay in potato planting; increased rates of other vegetables, resulting in increased demand for potatoes in domestic markets. Potato prices are ruling in the range of Rs. 10 per kg to Rs. 23 per kg across the country as on 30.07.09.

The total onion production in the country during the year 2008-09 is estimated around 76.37 lakh tonnes compared to last year's production of about 74.51 lakh tonnes. Approximately more than 25 lakh MT of onion are stored in different states in the current year, which is 20% more compared to last year. Government has also controlled exports of onions through the mechanism of MEP. As a result, onion prices have been stable in the past few months and in most citites have been around Rs. 10 to 15 per kg as on 30.07.09.

(c) and (d) There is no futures trading in vegetables at present, with the exception of potatoes. After a period of suspension from 7th May, 2008 to 30th November, 2008, the futures trading in potatoes has been revived.

Prices of most of the vegetables including (potatoes) are rising due to reasons given at (a) and (b) above and therefore, cannot be attributed to futures trading.

Forensic Science Laboratories

4464. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for modernising and upgrading the equipment of Forensic Science Laboratories in the country;

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

(c) whether the number of forensic laboratories in India is adequate to handle various investigations;

(d) if so, the total number of laboratories functioning in the country;

(e) whether inadequacies in the Forensic Science have affected the timely administration of the criminal justice system; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (f) Group of Ministers on Internal Security, Verrappa Moiley Commission on Administrative Reforms recommended that to meet the growing challenge of crimes in India, the forensic support need to be augmented & strengthed. At present there are 9 laboratories at Central Government level and 107 laboratories at State Government level catering to the various needs of the investigating agencies. The State Forensic Science Laboratories are availing funds under Police Modernisation Scheme (MPF) to modernize and upgrade their forensic facilities. Under the 11th Five Year Plan following Schemes of Directorate of Forensic Science (DFS) have been prioritized/approved viz.

Compostite Scheme on "Modernization of Forensic Science Applications" for DFS and its outlying units of MHA, GOI—outlay Rs. 200 cores.

Composite Centrally Sponsored Plan Scheme of "Creation of RFSLs and DMFUs for States and UTs—Outlay Rs. 100 crores.

In the Composite Scheme on "Modernization of Forensic Science Application" there are 26 Plan Schemes which *inter-alia* contain the schemes of estblishment of New Hi-Tech Central Forensic Science Laboratories (CFSLs) and Government Examiners of Questioned Documents (GEsQD), Creation of National DNA database facility, Creation of New Forensic Division/Modernization of CFSLs and GEsQD etc. Similarly in respect of the scheme of""Creation of Regional Forensic Science laboratories (RFSLs) and District Mobile Forensic Units (DMFUs)", there is proposal for creation of 6 Regional Forensic Science Laboratories and 52 Mobile Forensic Science Laboratories in different States. All these efforts would improve Forenisc Science services/support resulting in crime prevention and timely detection resulting in increase in overall conviction rate which would act as a deterrent to perpetration of crimes.

Investment in Road Infrastructure

4465. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to raise foriegn investment for building 7000 kilometres of roads in a year;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount likely to be raised;

(c) whether the Government also proposes to undertake road shows overseas to showcase investment opportunities in road infrastructure in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) Presently majority of projects are being development through Public Private Partnership where the builders are investing their funds for building roads on Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. To get more participation of foreign investors in the massive development of National Highways Development Project (NHDP), it is proposed to undertake road shows overseas and a road show has already been held in Singapore on 16-17 of July, 2009.

Setting Up of Electronic News Gathering Units

4466. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether several proposals have been received from different State Governments for setting up Electronic News Gathering (ENG) units in the country;

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

(c) the action taken by the Government on these proposals;

(d) whether the Government proposes to set up some more ENG units in the country during the current year; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The proposals to set up the Electronic News Gathering (ENG) Units have been received for Itanagar (Arunachal Pradesh), Shillong (Meghalaya), Panaji (Goa) and Silchar (Assam).

(c) For setting up of the ENG Unit at Itanagar (Aurnachal Pradesh), the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has already posted a regular Indian Information Service (IIS) Officer at Doordarshan Kendra, Itanagar. The approval for Starting up the ENG Unit has already been accorded. ENG Units at Shillong (Meghalaya), Panaji (Goa) and Silchar (Assam) cannot presently be set up, as there are no sanctioned post of IIS.

(d) No, Madam.

(e) Des not arise.

[Translation]

Production of Aluminium

4467. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of aluminium produced by production units during each of the last three yeras and the current year, unit-wise;

(b) whether the aluminium production is sufficient to meet the requirement of the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the steps taken to increase production of aluminium?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) As per information obtained from the respective Companies, the total quantity of aluminium produced by the primary aluminium producing Companies during the last three years, till date is as follows:-

Name of the Company	Aluminium production in tonnes			
	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (upto June, 2009)*
National Aluminium Company Limited (NALC)	3,58,734	3,59,213	3,61,262	1,04,776
Hindalco Industries Limited	4,42,686	4,77,723	5,23,453	1,35,439
Madras Aluminium Company Limited (MALCO)	37,652	37,635	23,224**	—
Bharat Aluminium Company Limited (BALC)	3,13,189	3,58,671	3,56,781	72,056
Vedanta Aluminium Limited (VAL)	—	—	82,031	52,862
Total	11,52,261	12,33,242	13,46,751	3,65,133

*Provisional figures

#MALCO has closed its smelter in December 2008.

(b) to (d) The total consumption of aluminium in 2008-09 in the country was approximately 13.59 lakh tonnes against the production of 13.47 lakh tonnes. Increase in production of aluminium is decided by the respective Companies. However, as regards NALCO, which is the only aluminium Company in the Public Sector, it is expanding its aluminium production capacity from 3.45 lakh tonnes per annum to 4.6 lakh tonnes per annum during the second phase expansion.

[English]

Seasonal Ban on Fishing

4468. SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA:
SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI:
SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to impose a seasonal ban on fishing in the country;

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

(c) whether the Government has taken any steps to mitigate the adverse impact on the livelihood of the fishermen consequent to such ban; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India imposes uniform fishing ban every year by all fishing vessels in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) beyond territorial waters on the East Coast including Andaman Nicobar Islands and West Coast including Lakshadweep Islands for the period mentioned below:

East coast-from 15th April to 15th June (both days inclusive) [62 days]
West coast-from 15th June to 31th July (both days inclusive) [47 days]

Besides, all coastal States also impose fishing ban in their terrioritial waters. SImilarly seasonal fishing ban is also imposed by the State Governments on inland capture fisheries. The period of ban varies from State to State as per the climate conditions.

The fishing ban is imposed for conservation and effective management of fisheries resources.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. The Government through the Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen' provides financial assistance of Rs. 600/- per months for three months to the fishers during the ban period.

Post Harvest Agriculture Losses

4469. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any steps to contain post harvest agriculture losses due to poor storage and delay in transportation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to give incentive/subsidy to the farmers to establish their own storage facility; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The steps taken to contain post harvest agriculture losses due to poor storage and delay in transportation are as under:

(i) Ministry of Agriculture is implementing a credit-linked back-ended Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme of Construction of Rural Godown. The main objectives of the Scheme is to create scientific storage capacity with allied facilities in rural areas to meet out various requirements of farmers for storing farm produce, processed farm produce, agricultural inputs, etc. Under this scheme, subsidy @25% is given to all categories of farmers, agriculture graduates, cooperatives & Central Warehousing Corporations/State Warehousing Corporations. All other categories of individuals, companies and corporations are eligible for subsidy @15% of the project cost. Subsidy @33.33% is given in the case of North Eastern State/hilly areas & SC/ST entrepreneurs and their cooperatives as well as women farmers.

(ii) The Ministry of Agriculture is also implementing a reformed linked central sector scheme of credit-linked back-ended Capital Investment Subsidy for Development/Strengthening of Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure, Grading and Standardization. The scheme provides assistance in the form of subsidy for setting up infrastructural facilities for post harvest operations of agricultural and allied commodities. Subsidy is provided @ 25% of capital cost of the project subject to maximum of Rs. 50 lakh for each project. Subsidy is given @ 33.33% for North East State, hilly and tribal areas and in the states of Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and to SC/ST entrepreneurs and their cooperatives subject to maximum of Rs. 60 lakh for each project. There is no upper ceiling on subsidy in respect of infrastructure project of State Agencies. Assistance is also available for mobile infrastructure for post harvest namely Reefer vans or any other refrigerated vans used for trasporting agricultural produce.

(iii) Under National Horticulture Mission financial assistance is provided for taking up various activities related to horticulture including development of Post Harvest Management and Marketing Infrastructure etc. For the development of Post Harvest Management and marketing infrastructure, subsidy @ 25% of captial cost of the project for General Areas and 33.33% of capital cost of the project for Hilly and Tribal Areas is available to both public and private sector enterprises. The subsidy for the private sector is credit-linked and back-ended.

(iv) The Ministry is also implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern State including Sikkim". The scheme aims to create infrastructural facilities for post harvest management, marketing and export. For the post harvest management, the following assistance is being provided:

- Credit linked back ended Capital investment subsidy for cold storage @ 33.33% of project cost up to Rs. 2.00 crore.
- Credit-linked back-ended capital investment subsidy scheme for Controlled Atmospheric (CA) storage @ 33.33% of the project cost up to Rs. 16.00 crore/unit.

(v) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing a Plan Scheme for Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure to provide financial assistance to project proposals received from public/private organizations. The scheme envisages financial assistance in the form of grant in aid @ 50% of the total cost of the plant and machinery and technical civil works in general areas and 75% for North-Eastern region and difficult areas subject to a maximum of Rs. 10.00 crore. The initiatives are aimed at filling the gaps in the supply chain, strengthening of cold chain infrastructure, establishing value addition with infrastructure facilties.

(vi) The Department of Food and Public Distribution has set up grain storage, research and training centre for carrying out applied research and training activities in the field of scientific storage of foodgrains to minimize post harvest losses in foodgrain. The Department of Food and Public Distribution, through Food Corporation of India (FCI), has taken various steps to reduce/ contain storage and transit losses of foodgrains namely security and safety of storage complex, quality control measures and safeguards for movement and storage.

(c) Yes, Madam.

(d) Under the Central Sector Scheme of Construction of Rural Godowns, farmers are eligible for setting up of godowns for which subsidy @ 25% is available subject to maximum of Rs. 50% lakh for each project. Subsidy is given @ 33.33% for farmers in North East States/hilly areas & SC/ST enterpreneurs and their cooperatives as well as women farmers, subject to maximum of Rs. 60 lakh for each project.

DTH/TV Sets to Poor Families

4470. SHRI MUKESH BHAIRAVDANJI GADHVI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to provide Direct-to-Home (DTH) sets and television sets at subsidized rates/free of cost to families belonging to below poverty line and tribals in the country; and

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

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

(b) Does not arise.

Computerisation in FCI

4471. SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India (FCI) has undertaken/proposes to undrtake computerisation project for networking of all its godowns spread across the country for better inventory management;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the project is likely to be completed alongwith the cost involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Food Corporation of India has undertaken a project for computerization of stocks under Integrated Information System for Foodgrains Management (IISFM). The IISFM Project was undertaken as a Plan Scheme with a total estimated cost of Rs. 97.66 Crore in August, 2003 with objective to put in place an on-line MIS for stock position in any FCI Depot at any given point of time.

For implementation of the project, a Tripartite Agreement was entered by FCI, National Information Centre (NIC) and National Informatics Centre Services Incorporated (NICSI) on 24/09/2003. As per the agreement, NIC is the overall cosultant of the project on turnkey basis; NICSI is supplying hardware, software and support services.

Scope of the project was widened in October, 2005 to include 'Financial Accounting of FCT' & 'Computerization of State Agencies' of major procuring/ distributing States.

(c) IISFM software is divided in two Modules—District Module and Depot Module. District Module is fully operational since June, 2006. Depot Module is in an advanced stage of implmentation.

Consumer Information Centres

4472. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up Consumer Information Centres;

(b) if so, the details and the salient features thereof;

(c) the amount allocated by the Union Government for setting up of the said Centres during each of the last three years and the current year; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to set up more such centres during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, 103 District Consumer Information Centres (DCIC) have been set up in 24 States/UTs during 2000 to 2004. The list of DCICs set up is enclosed as Statement.

(b) The main functions of DCIC are to disseminate information on consumer protection not only to direct users but to all local bodies and institutions, act as watchdogs for consumer, facilitate filing of complaints, liaise with the District Weights and Measures authorities and to raise consumer awareness. The Scheme for setting up DCIC was launched in the year 2000.

(c) The information is as under:

Year	Grant released
2006-07	Rs. 53,00,000
2007-08	Rs. 12,08,900
2008-09	Nil
2009-10 (1.04.2009 to 31.7.2009)	Rs. 4,98,000

(d) On the basis of evaluation of this scheme in 2004, the Scheme has been closed, there is no proposal to set up such centres in the current year.

Statement

Details of District Consumer Information Centre (DCIC)

Sl.No.	District	Name of Organisation
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh		
No. of DCICs sanctioned-3		
1.	Guntur	Garthapuri Consumers Council, Tripuramallu, Vari Street, Old Guntur, Guntur, AP
2.	Cuddapah	Jagajeevan Balheenvarga Abhivruddhi Sangam, No. 6-45, Kateeb Street, Vempalli, Cuddapah AP
3.	Vishakhapatnam	Narsipatnam Consumer Awareness Society, B.C. Colony, Narsipaptnam Vishkhapatnam (A.P.)
Uttar Pradesh		
No. of DCICs sanctioned-25		
1.	Lucknow	Bhartiya Gyan Beethika, 21/1013 Indira Nagar, Lucknow UP
2.	Basti	Janta Sewa Samity, Village, Pakadoan, Post, Mahson, Disst. Basti UP
3.	Bulandshahr	Nav Jagrit Sewa Sansthan, 116 Radhanagar Bulandshahr, UP
4.	Sant Kabir Nagar	Gramin Vikas Sewa Sansthan, Village Gadauna, Post: Govindpur, Distt: Basti UP
5.	Deoria	Nav Srijan, 365/7 Sadar Bazaar, Lucknow UP
6.	Hathras	Rawat Shiksha Samity, Chamargate, Jalesar Adda, Hathras, UP
7.	Auraiya	Samta Nav Nirman Samity, Nishat Gang Lucknow, UP
8.	Meerut	Diggi Nirbalothan Samity, Aurangshahpur, Meerut, UP
9.	Balia	Gramin Krishi Pashudhan Evam Uday Vikas Sansthan, 118 Gannewali Gali, Aminabad, Lucknow UP
10.	Pratapgarh	Jagriti, Ashtabhujanagar, Pratapgarh, UP
11.	Kannauj	Madhav Mohan Samaj Kalyan Sansthan, Suraja Devi Netra Chikitsalaya, Saurikh Tiraha, Chhibramau, Kannauj, UP
12.	Ghazipur	Nirbal Varg Gramodyog Vikas Samiti, Village- Sakara, Post-Hussianpur, District Gazipur, U.P. 233226
13.	Mainpuri	Manish Sarvodaya Gramodyog Sewa Sansthan, Vill. & Post Ghiror, Distt. Mainpuri, UP
14.	Kanpur	Smriti Sewa Sansthan, 118/1, Shastri Nagar, Kanpur-208 005, UP
15.	Mirzapur	Bindhya Gramodyog Sansthan, Village Bharhuna, Bindhya Colony, Mirzapur, UP

1	2	3
16.	Jaunpur	Chandra Shiksha Sansthan, 629-A Kharka Road, Near State Bank of India main branch, Jaunpur UP
17.	Hardoi	Integrated Rural Dev. Society, 112, New Civil Lines, Hardoi-241001 (U.P.)
18.	Siddharthnagar	Bhartiya Samaj Sudhar, Katra, Civil Station Road, Basti UP
19.	Aligarh	Dwarka Gramodyog Sansthan, 103, Brij Vihar, ADA Colony, GT Road Bana Devi, Aligarh UP.
20.	Mathura	Akhil Bhartiya Brij Samaj Kalyan Sansthan, 44/7, Krishnapuri, Mathura (UP)
21.	Sant Ravidas Nagar	Social Educational Welfare Association (SEWA) Netaji Lane, Ramaipalti, Mirzapur (UP)-231001
22.	Hamirpur	Dehati Gramodyog Vikas Samiti, 437, Paschimi Saron, Hamirpur, DCIC Hamirpur
23.	Barabanki	U.P. Bhartiya Gramin Vikas Sansthan, ESI/171 Sector-A, Sitapur Road Yojana Aliganj, Lucknow (U.P.)
24.	Rae Bareilly	Pragati Sewa Niketan, 547, Satya Nagar, Behind Eye Hospital, Near office of Supt. Post Office, Rae Bareilly 229001 (UP)
25.	Noida	Consumer Coordination Council, A-20 & 21 (NITS Bldg.) Sector-62, Noida-201301 (U.P.)
Manipur		
No. of DCICs sanctioned-9		
1.	Chandel	Resource Centre for Social Welfare and Community Development, Japhor Bazar, Post Box-18 Distt. Chandel/Manipur
2.	Thoubal	Rural Voluntary Services, Wangval Nayai Leikai, Disst: Thoubal-795138, Manipur
3.	Imphal West	Manipur Women Coordinating Council, opp Manipur University, Canchipur, Imphal-795003
4.	Imphal West	Greenland Development Organisation, Sagol Band, Terasapal, Leirak, Tyrs Road, Imphal, Manipur-795001
5.	Bishnupur	Backward Development Services, Wangjing Bazaar, Distt: Thoubal-795148 (Manipur)
6.	Senapati	SC/ST, Backward Children Women Organisation, Thoubal, Khunou, Post & Distt. Thoubal, Manipur
7.	Chandel	Manipur Boarder Area Development Society, P.O. Chakpikarong, Zapphu Bazar, Chandel Distt; Manipur
8.	Churachandpur	Dedicated Peoples Organization Keishampat, Leimajam, Keikai, Imphal-750001 Manipur
9.	Imphal East	Manipur Rural Service Association, Old Checkon, Ananda Singh Hr. Sec. Acade My Gate, Imphal East Distt. Manipur-785001

1	2	3
Orissa		
No. of DCICs sanctioned-10		
1.	Mayurbhanj	Jatiya Seva Pratishthan, Sri Ramji Bhawan Temple Street, Baripada, District Mayurbhanj-757001 (Orissa)
2.	Kandhamal	Orissa Rural Integrated Service Association for Women and Rural Development
3.	Bhadrak	Madan Mohan Community Management Group, At & PO-Natiapal, via-Baudevpur, Distt: Bhadrak Orissa
4.	Kalahandi	Carada, At. Janakpur, Post Gudialipadar, Distt. Kalahandi
5.	Bolangir	Centre for Women & Rural Development, At & PO-Salepalli, Via-Jarasangha Distt: Balagir Orissa
6.	Balasore	Basti Area Development Council, Balasore Orissa
7.	Angul	Social Action Research Centre, C/o Santoshi Institute, At. Gudianali Near, BB School, Dhenkanal-759001 Orissa,
8.	Puri	Nari Mangal Mahila Samiti, NMMS, at Panchpalia PO Gualipada Distt. Puri-752016 (Orissa)
9.	Dhenkanal	Nari Chetana Mahila Institute (NAMI), Housing Board, Qr. No. M/1 PO/ Distt. Dhenkanal DCIC Dhenkanal
10.	Cuttack	Project Swarajya, Ganesh Ghat, Bakharabad, Cuttack-753002 (Orissa)
Maharashtra		
No. of DCICs sanctioned-4		
1.	Ahmednagar	Ahmednagar Jilla Madhyavatri Grahak Sewa Mahasangh, 4047 A, Shah Sadan, Mahajan Gali Ahemad Nagar, Maharashtra.
2.	Parbani	Lok Deep Manav Vikas Sanstha, Vidya Nagar, Parbani Maharashtra.
3.	Nanded	Sarvodaya Educational & Voluntary Organisation, Nanded, Maharashtra.
4.	Gondia	Lok Kalyan Shikshan Sansthan, Gondhia Distt., Maharashtra.
Gujarat		
No. of DCICs sanctioned-9		
1.	Rajkot	Rajkot Saher Jilla Grahak Suraksha Mandal, 329, Popatbhai Sorathia Bhawan, Sadar Bazaar, Rajkot 360000 Gujarat
2.	Sabarkantha	Consumer Protection Association, PN. Institute of Medical Science Campus Clinical Research Centre, "Jai Somnath' Himmatnagar, Gujarat.
3.	Bhavnagar	Bhavnagar Grahak Suraksha Mandal, Sardar Smruti, Cresent Circle, Bhavnagar-364001, Gujarat
4.	Surat	South Gujarat Consumer Protection Education & Research Centre, 6/ 2399, 2nd Floor, Seri Corner, Mahidharpura, Surat Gujarat.

1	2	3
5.	Bhuj	Shree Sewa Bharti Foundation, Kailashnagar, Bhuj Kutchh Gujarat.
6.	Godhra	Gujarat State Rachnatmak Karyakar Sangh Gothib, Satrampur Godhra, Gujarat.
7.	Dahod	Grahak Suraksha Mandal, Daulatgang Bazaar, Dahod Shri Gopal Bhai Dhanka, Gujarat.
8.	Vadodara	"Jagrut Grahak", Deepak Chambers 2nd floor, Nawabwada, Raopura, Vadodara,-390001 Gujarat.
9.	Patan	Jagruk Grahak Mandal, C/o Bhagani Samaj, Kanasada Darvaja, Patan-384 265 (Gujarat).
West Bengal		
No. of DCICs sanctioned-9		
1.	Midnapur	Chingurdania Vivekananda Samaj Seva Sangha, Vill. & P.O. Chingurdania, Distt. Purba Medinipur-721430. West Bengal
2.	Bankura	Charabedia Rural Economic & Area Development Society, Village-Charabedia, PO-Layekpara, Distt. Bankura West Bengal.
3.	Kolkata	Better Business Bureau, 39, Shakespeare Sarani, "Premlata", 7th Floor, Room No. 702, Kolkata-700017
4.	Kidderpore	Port Area Consumer Association, 16, Micheal Dutta Street, Kidderpore, Kolkata, West Bengal
5.	Nadia	Nadia District Consumer Forum, Padia Building, R.N. Tagore Road, (High Street), P.O. Krishnagar, Distt. Nadia, West Bengal
6.	Hooghly	Hooghly Zila Prosad Das Sen Road Kreta Surksha Samity, 8 Prasad Das Sen Road, Chinsurah, District Hooghly, West Bengal
7.	24 Paraganas (South)	Bagaria Relief Welfare Ambulance Society, Village & Post: Bagaria. Distt. South 24 Pargana WB.
8.	Jalpaiguri	Cosmos, 24, Bose Road, Kolkata, West Bengal-700008
9.	Birbhum	Womens Interlink, 21/1 Old Ballygunge 2nd Lane Kolkata—7000019
Madhya Pradesh		
No. of DCICs sanctioned-6		
1.	Bhopal	National Centre for Human Settlement & Environment E-5/A Girish Kung Arera Colony, Bhopal MP
2.	Bhopal	Upbhokta Sanrakshan Salhakar Samiti, H-378 Gautan Nagar, Govindpura, Bhopal,
3.	Gwalior	Consumer and Civic Rights Association, Hanuman Chauraha, Janakganj, Laskar, Gwalior
4.	Katni	All India Consumer Protection Organization, Narmada Colony, Jhinjhari, Katni-4835401 (M.P.)

1	2	3
5.	Sagar	Prakhar Pragya Shiksha Prasar Samiti, 236, Madhukar Shah Ward, Sagar
6.	Gwalior	Sri Krishna Shiksha Prasar Samity, H.O. 64 A, Ambedkar Nagar, Infront of Geetanjali Complex, Bhopal (MP)
Uttranchal		
No. of DCICs sanctioned-4		
1.	Dehradun	Himalayan Environmental Development Institute, 229, Tilak Maket Road, Subhash Nagar, P.O. Clementown, Dehradun Uttaranchal.
2.	Chamoli	Uttarakhand Gramin Vikas Samity, Village & PO-Gwaldam, Distt: Chamoli Uttranchal
3.	Almora	Ganga Parvatiya Lok Vikas Sansthan, Almora, Uttaranchal
4.	Nainital	Kafal, Kafal House, Pindari Glacier Road, Post Bharari, Distt: Bageshwar (Uttaranchal)
Delhi		
No. of DCICs sanctioned-1		
1.	Mayur Vihar	Citiszenship Development Council, 4, OCF Pocket-B. Institutional Area (Behind Neelam Marta Mandir), Mayur Vihar, Phase-II, Delhi-91
Sikkim		
No. of DCICs sanctioned-3		
1.	North Distt. Sikkim	Government of Sikkim, Food & Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Gangatok, Sikkim-737101
2.	South Distt. Sikkim	Government of Sikkim, Food & Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Gangatok, Sikkim-737101
3.	Gangtok (East)	Government of Sikkim, Food & Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Gangatok, Sikkim-737101
Rajasthan		
No. of DCICs sanctioned-3		
1.	Dausa	Zilla Parishad, Dausa Rajasthan
2.	Chittorgarh	Zilla Parishad, Chittorgarh, Rajasthan
3.	Ajmer	Ajmer Zilla Gramin Upbhokta Sansthan, Masuda, Ajmer, Rajasthan
Puducherry		
No. of DCICs sanctioned-2		
1.	Ayyenkutipalay	All India Consumer Council, (Now Consumer Association of Pondcherry) MIG-15, Ayyenkutipalayam Puducherry.
2.	Karaikal	Kottucherry Nugarvur, Pathupappu Kuzhu, 12, Vellai Pillaiyar Koil street, Kotucherr, Karaikal Puducherry.

1	2	3
Tamil Nadu		
No. of DCICs sanctioned-3		
1.	Ramanathapuram	Nugarvore Urimai Padukappu Kazhagam, Paramakudi, Distt. Ramanathapuram, Tamil Nadu-623707
2.	Salem	Society for Community Development Project, Seerangapalayam Road, Kumarasamypaty, Salem-636 007, Tamil Naud.
3.	Sivagangi	Society for Emancipating Noe Social Education, Main Road, Thiruppachetty, Sivagangi (TN)
Daman and Diu		
No. of DCICs sanctioned-1		
1.	Moti Daman	District Panchayat, Daman and Diu Moti Daman.
Chandigarh		
No. of DCICs sanctioned-1		
1.	Chandigarh	Consumers Forum Chandigarh, Room No. 3, 3rd floor, Karuna Sadan, Sector-11-B, Chandigarh.
Haryana		
No. of DCICs sanctioned-1		
1.	Jhajjhar	New Gram Samity, Village and PO, Tanda Heri, Bahadurgarh, Block, Distt. Jhajjar Haryana.
Mizoram		
No. of DCICs sanctioned-1		
1.	Aizawl	Mizoram Consumers' Union, Aizwal, Treasure Square, Aizal-796001 Mizoram.
Kerala		
No. of DCICs santioned-1		
1.	Thiruvananthapuram	Coinpar, Mudavanmugal, Poojapura, Trivendram Kerala.
Karnataka		
No. of DCICs sanctioned-3		
1.	Gulbarga	Sri Basa Baseswar Rural Development Trust, House No: 1-8 LL/A-7, Anushrinilay Bhagvati Nagar, Gulbarga Karnataka.
2.	Udupi	Balakedra, Vedike, Near Kalpana Cinema, Udupi Karnataka.
3.	Hubli	Consumer Protoection & Research Foundation, Near Swai Gandharva Hall, Hubli, Karnataka.
Assam		
No. of DCICs santioned-1		
1.	Nagaon	Gram Vikas Parishad, At Rengaloo Post Jumaimar, Via. Kathitoli, Distt. Nagaon. Assam.

1	2	3
Nagaland		
No. of DCICs sanctioned-1		
1.	Dimapur	Nagland Tribal Rural Development Association, Old Dairy Farm Road, Post, Box. No. 196, Purana Bazar, Dimapur-797112, Nagaland.
Bihar		
No. of DCICs sanctioned-1		
1.	Vaishali	Hanuman Prasad Gramin Viakas Sewa Samity, Distt. Muzaffarpur Bihar.
Jharkhand		
No. of DCICs sanctioned-1		
1.	Dhanbad	Shri Narsinh Memorial, Vikas Nagar, Katras Road, Matkuria, Dhanbad Jharkand.

Funds to Maharashtra under Modernisation of Police Force

4473. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:
DR. SANJEEV GANESH NAIK:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Maharashtra Government has submitted a revised proposal for assistance and grants for modernisation of police force;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government had directed the State Government to revise the same and send a fresh proposal;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (d) Under the Scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces annual action plans for 2009-10 were invited from State Governments by 7th January, 2009. The annual action plan of Maharashtra for 2009-10 for Rs. 676.48 crore was received in the Ministry of Home Affairs, on 20th May, 2009. Since the proposal was not in accordance with the guidelines issued to the State Government and the tentative amount for which action plan was invited, the State Government was requested to revise their proposal. The revised proposal for Rs. 178.26 crore received from the State Government of Maharashtra on 15.06.2009 was considered in the meeting of the High Powered Committee in the Ministry held on 16.06.2009 and was approved in principle. However, based on the observation of the High Powered Committee, the State Government of Maharashtra was advised to revised the proposal and send to Ministry. The revised plan is still awaited from the State Government of Maharashtra.

[Translation]

Sowed Area under Paddy and Oilseeds

4474. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the area under which paddy and oilseeds have been sowed in the current year as compared to last year, State-wise;

(b) the reasons for decrease in the area of paddy cultivation and the likely shortfall in production;

(c) whether some scientists and agriculture experts are of the view that the sowing of paddy and coarse grains is very less even in irrigated areas;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The coverage of Kharif paddy reported so far is about 191.30 lakh hectares as on 30.7.2009 against last year coverage of 256.76 lakh hectares during corresponding period and sowing of oilseeds area coverage till 30.7.2009 is less by 2.87 lakh hectares as compared to corresponding period season during last year. The statement indicating area coverage of paddy and oilseeds during current Kharif and corresponding period Kharif 2008 season is enclosed.

(b) The coverage under area of paddy has declined so far during Kharif 2009 season due to drought like situation prevailing at present. Less coverage of paddy has been reported mainly in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Orissa and West Bengal. It is too early to make an estimation of production of paddy during current Kharif seasons too early at this stage.

(c) to (e) In States like Punjab and Haryana with assured irrigation, the present coverage of Rice is 102% and 97% respectively on 30.7.2009. Whereas the area coverage under coarse cereals as on 30.7.2009 is more than coverage during corresponding period of last year. In this regard State are also directed to use the technical support of KVKs, Agriculture Universities and also the information available on ICAR website in planning and implementing the alternate strategies for the optimum utilization of available water.

The Ministry of Agriculture is constantly reviewing the sowing progress with the State Governments through weekly video-conferences/meetings, particularly in the wake of weak monsoon so far to coordinate adequate response. For different scenarios, contingency crop-plans for specific-agro climatic conditions have been prepared. General features of these plans include replacement of main crop such as rice with alternate crop like millets in case of delayed sowing; planning of early maturing varieties of the main crop; promoting technical package of practices like direct sowing, less plant spacing, more seed rate etc. Truthfully labled seeds are also allowed to be distributed under various schemes in the affected areas. Age norms are relaxed for the seed varieties distributed under Government Schemes. In case of delayed planting, additional doses of nutrients are recommended for crops in good rainfall areas which to some extent compensate the reduction of production in rain-deficient Sttaes/areas.

Statement

Area Coverage of Paddy and Oilseeds during Kharif 2009 and Kharif 2008 season

Sl.No.	Crop/State	As on 30.7.2009		Area sown in lakh hectares	
		This year Kharif 2009	Last Year Kharif 2008	This year Kharif 2009	Last Year Kharif 008
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5.51	5.04	7.26	12.53
2.	Assam	11.76	12.41	0.00	0.00
3.	Bihar	10.32	24.53	0.04	0.08
4.	Chhattisgarh	27.54	30.29	1.73	2.24
5.	Gujarat	3.91	3.79	18.73	20.60
6.	Haryana	9.80	11.00	0.00	0.09
7.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	—	—
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.33	0.47	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	Jharkhand	2.56	7.07	—	—
10.	Karnataka	4.08	3.47	10.30	8.16
11.	Kerala	0.80	0.81	—	—
12.	Madhya Pradesh	10.23	10.15	55.13	53.88
13.	Maharashtra	6.62	6.67	30.69	26.55
14.	Orissa	19.71	22.56	0.80	1.01
15.	Punjab	26.60	27.02	0.12	0.13
16.	Rajasthan	0.71	0.77	14.07	15.91
17.	Tamil Nadu	1.54	1.96	1.04	0.94
18.	Uttar Pradesh	29.86	57.92	1.64	2.45
19.	Uttarakhand	2.31	2.49	—	—
20.	West Bengal	12.62	23.87	0.05	0.50
21.	Others	4.49	4.47	0.19	0.04
	All India	191.300	256.760	141.790	144.660

[English]

Package for Sugarcane Farmers

4475. SHRI N. CHELUVARAYA SWAMY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has given/proposes to give a special package to the sugarcane farmers and sugar mills to help them come out of the financial crunch and for their development and modernisation.

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

(c) whether some sugar producing States have not been provided the benefits of the said package; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) A statement is annexed.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

The details of schemes/special packages given/ proposed to be given are as follows:

1. Short term loans to sugar factory

The Central Government has recently sanctioned and notified two schemes viz., (i) to give loans for modernisation of sugar factories to purchase and install machinery and equipment required for simultaneous processing of raw sugar with crushing of cane for the manufacture of sugar, and (ii) for development of sugarcane in the specified areas of the sugar factories for purchase of seeds, fertilizers and pesticides. These schemes are aimed at not only improving sugar availability but also at giving incentives to the sugar factories through concessional loans for simultaneous processing of raw sugar and to assist the sugarcane

farmers for purchase of necessary inputs namely seeds, fertilizers and pesticides during the ensuing sugar season, 2009-10.

2. Creation of buffer stock

A buffer stock of 20 lac tons was created for a period of one year from 01.05.2007 to 30.04.2008. Another buffer stock of 30 lac tons was also created for a period of one year from 01.08.2007 to 31.07.2008. The sugar factories are reimbursed the interest, insurance and storage charges as buffer subsidy for the buffer maintained. The amount is to be utilised for cane price payment as a first priority. Further, banks provide additional credit on creation of buffer stock by waiving the margin requirement, which is to be exclusively used for cane price payment. The two buffer stocks involves subsidy of about Rs. 880 crore from the Sugar Development Fund (SDF) and additional bank crdit of Rs. 978 crore.

3. Export assistance

Export assistance to defray expenditure on internal transport, marketing and handling charges and ocean freight @ Rs. 1350/- per ton to sugar factories in coastal States and Rs. 1450/- per ton for those in non-coastal States, subject to actuals if export has been made only by road/rail, for export of sugar including raw sugar to the neighbouring countries, was initially provided from 19.04.2007 to 18.04.2008. This facility was later extended upto 30.09.2008. It involves an expenditure of about Rs. 840 crore from SDF and is aimed at clearing cane price arrears as first priority.

4. Extending financial assistance to sugar mills

A loan scheme under the title "Scheme for extending financial assistance to sugar undertakings, 2007" (SEFASU, 2007) to extend financial assistance to sugar undertakings was formulated and implemented to provide additional liquidity support to the extent of notional central excise duty on production of sugar in 2006-07 and 2007-08 sugar seasons and exclusively earmarked for cane price arrears/dues of 2006-07 and 2007-08 sugar seasons, respectively. The total interest subvention upto a maximum 12% p.a. is to be borne by the Central Government (5% out of interest subvention from the general exchequer and balance upto 7% from the SDF). A sum of about Rs. 2700 crore worth of loan is estimated to have been disbursed by the banks to sugar factories as per information available till date.

5. Restructuring of term loans of cooperative sugar factories

NABARD package was announced in September, 2005, for restructuring outstanding terms loan of cooperative sugar factories as on 1.4.2005, which included reschedulement of repayment period upto 15 years and reduction in rate of interest to 10% per annum on restructured term loans. Central Government also decided to give interest subvention on the reduction of interest subject to a maximum of 3% per annum.

The NABARD package of 2005 was extended in 2007 to include cooperative sugar factories not included earlier in the package alongwith extension of moratorium period from two years to five years. It was decided to convert outstanding loans on account of harvesting and transport charges and short margins appearing in factories' account as on 01.04.2007 to five year term loans without interest subvention.

All the above special packages/schemes are applicable to States and UTs in the country.

Fishery Training and Extension Units

4476. SHRI VIKRAMABHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Fisheries Training and Extension Units sanctioned during each of the last three years and the current year including Gujarat, State-wise; and

(b) the funds released to various States for the purpose including Gujarat during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) A statement indicating number of Fish Farmers Training/Awareness Centres sanctioned and funds released for the same to the State including Gujarat during the last three years and the current year is enclosed.

Statement

State-wise information regarding Fish Farmers Training Centres and Fish Farmers Awareness Centres sanctioned and funds released for the same during the last three years and the current year.

A.	**2006-07**		**Amount Released**
1.	Chhattisgarh	One Awareness Centre	Rs. 6.00 lakh (1st installment)
2.	Gujarat	One Awareness Centre	Rs. 5.25 lakh (1st installment)
3.	Rajasthan	One Training Centre	Rs. 6.95 lakh (1st installment)
4.	Sikkim	One Awareness Centre	Rs. 5.00 lakh (1st installment)
5.	Manipur	One Awareness Centre & One Training Centre	Rs. 8.80 lakh (1st installment)
B.	**2007-08**		**Amount Released**
1.	Sikkim		Rs. 10.36 lakh (2nd installment for Training Centre & Awareness Centre Sactioned in 2006-07.
2.	Orissa	Three Training Centres & One Awareness Centre	Rs. 9.00 lakh (1st installment)
3.	Tamil Nadu	Four Training Centres	Rs. 26.00 lakh (1st installment)
4.	Rajasthan		Rs. 6.00 lakh (2nd & final installment) for training Centres sanctioned in 2006-07
C.	**2008-09**		**Amount Released**
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	One Awareness Centre	Rs. 16.00 lakh
2.	Goa	One Awareness Centre	Rs. 8.00 lakh (1st installment)
3.	Manipur	One Training Centre	Rs. 14.00 lakh (1st installment of Rs. 4.00 lakh for Taining Centre sanctioned in this year and Rs. 10.00 lakh as 2nd installment of Training Centre & Awareness Centre Sanctioned in 2006-07.
C.	**2009-10**		**Amount Released**
1.	Tamil Nadu		Rs. 26.00 lakh (2nd installment for 4 Training Centres sanctioed in 2007-08.

Note: As per the latest guidelines applicable from 2009-10 onwards, Training & Awareness Centres have been merged into a single Training cum Awareness Centre.

[Translation]

Ban on Hoardings along NHS

4477. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made any rules/ guidelines to ban installation of big hoardings along the National Highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) As per Ministry's extant policy, no advertisement hoardings are permitted on National Highways within the Right of way except informatory signs of public interest such as hospitals, but stations etc. or advertisement of temporary nature announcing local events such as Mela, Flower show etc. Under the policy of private sponsorship of road signs and greening of National Highways, the private entrepreneurs are allowed to depict the name/logo of their company in a sign of specified dimension.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Flood Relief to Orissa

4478. SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of assistance provided to the State of Orissa for flood relief during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether the State Government has requested for more funds for the said purposes; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) The State Governments are primarily responsible for undertaking relief and rehabilitation measures in the areas affected by natural calamities. The Government of India support, where necessary. Financial assistance to deal with natural calamities is provided to the States as per the Scheme of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF), corpus of which is contributed by the Government of India and State Government in the ratio of 3:1.

Additional financial assistance is also provided from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) in the wake of natural calamities of severe nature including floods. Thus the first charge of relief expenditure is on CRF. Funds from NCCF are released only in the event of calamities of severe nature where funds available in CRF account of the State are inadequate to meet the situation in conformity with the extant items & norms of assistance.

The Government of India had released, Central Share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and funds from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) to Government of Orissa, to enable the State Government to undertake relief operations in the areas affected by natural calamities, which also includes flood relief. Details of funds released during the last three years and the current years is under:—

Years	Total allocation under CRF	Centre's share of CRF released	Released from NCCF
2006-07	310.24	291.34	25.00*
2007-08	319.38	180.87	0.00
2008-09	328.97	324.50	98.87
2009-10 (till date)	339.03	49.37	0.00

*This amount was released for management of flood relief.

Traffic Problem in Delhi

4479. SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any Traffic Management Plan to improve the traffic situation in Delhi including in rainy season;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the status of implementation;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the other steps taken by the Government to decongest the traffic and ensure free and unrestricted movement of traffic in Delhi including in rainy season?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (d) A scheme named "Developing of Traffic and Communication Network in NCR and Mega Cities and Model System of Traffic Management" has been included for implementation in 11th Five Years Plan with a provision of Rs. 200 crore. The scheme has two components viz., (i) Introduction of Intelligent Traffic System (ITS) and (ii) Setting up of an Integrated Date communication Network (Cyber Highway). The above said scheme comprises a wide range of novel tools for managing transport network, as well as services for travelers. The project broadly includes the state-of-art command and control centre, a city video surveillance system covering the maximum number of roads and intersections with fixed/PTZ cameras which will enable real time monitoring of traffic, assessment of road congestion, area control system, red light jumping cameras, intelligent transport system, variable message signs etc. Phase I of ITS Project will cover the area specific to the requirement of the Commonwealth Games (2010).

The traffic Management Plan prepared and implemented by Delhi Police is based on the following principles:

Regulations: The focus of traffic regulations is to improve traffic flow on travel corridors and reduce journey time. For this purpose, traffic Police keeps studying the traffic flow, congestion/bottlenecks points and ensure possible remedies to improve traffic flow pattern.

Road Safety Education: The thrust is on training programmes for drivers, motorists, pedestrians, school children etc. both in the organized and un-organized sectors.

Engineering Solution Measures: (i) Low cost Traffic Management measures (ii) High Cost Traffic Management Measures such as implementation of Intelligent Traffic System (ITS); use of modern enforcement equipments etc. and Creative Solutions module.

Enforcement strategies: The emphasis of Traffic Police is on quality having direct bearing on road discipline and safety.

The Traffic Management Plan of Delhi Police during the rainy season includes sharing of information by Delhi Traffic Police with all civic road agencies annually regarding the roads affected by water logging during heavy rains, de-silting and repair of roads/streets; collection of information by Traffic Control Room regarding traffic related problems caused by rains to alert all field officers to take necessary action; mobilization of all traffic officers to patrol and monitor the movement of traffic in their respective jurisdiction; deployment of additional manpower in the affected areas from offices and line reserves; area specific planning of diversions and implementation to ensure proper movement of traffic; mobilization of all heavy duty and light cranes to tow away the stranded vehicles; dissemination of information through FM Radio. Display of messages on Variable Message Signs (VMS) to educate and inform about the roads being closed due to water logging, in advance; deployment of Traffic Police personnel at intersections where Traffic signals get affected due to rains and failure of electricity, to ensure orderly movement of traffic; etc..

The Transports Department, Government of NCT of Delhi has informed that in order to reduce congestion in Delhi roads, they have taken a decision to improve quality of public transport through extension of Metro throughout Delhi and NCR; introduction on BRT Corridors, procurement of low-floor Buses for DTC; modernization of Private Stage Carriage Service; installation of GPS based automatic tracking and monitoring system and introduction of automated fare collection system for seamless travel across modes.

[Translation]

Study on after effect of Earthquake

4480. SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM WAKCHAURE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India (GSI) or any other scientific institutions/agency have conducted any study on the safety of life and property especially in the atermath of devastating earthquakes in the country including Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds provided for the purpose including to the GSI;

(d) whether the GSI has taken the assistance of experts in this field; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Madam. Geological Survey of India (GSI) is engaged in earthquake related studies and has done some pioneering geo-seismological work. GSI does not directly provide measures on the safety of life and property but offers significant scientific inputs for seismic hazard mitigation. GSI conduct such studies both in the pre and post earthquake scenarios. Till date GSI has conducted studies of all major earthquakes since the Assam earthquake of 1897 including the Gujarat earthquake of 2001.

(b) In recent years, GSI carried out extensive studies on post earthquake damages and other phenomena related to earthquakes in the sites of devastating tremors, e.g., (i) Bihar-Nepal (21.8.1998), (ii) Uttarkashi (20.10.1991), (iii) Latur/Killari (30.9.1993), (iv) Jabalpur (22.5.1997), (v) Chamoli (29.3.1999), (vi) Bhuj (26.1.2001), (vii) Sumatra-Andaman (26.12.2004), (viii) Kashmir (8.10.2005).

GSI carries out seismic microzonation of urban centres to produce hazard/risk maps and ancillary maps like fundamental frequency, liquefaction susceptibility, shear wave velocity etc.

The GSI reports document post-earthquake damage survey, isoseismal maps, earthquake induced ground changes, seismotectonic analyses etc. are useful for planning by State/Central Government agencies.

GSI is also engaged in Seismic Hazard Assessment of earthquake prone areas by identifying the possible source regions of earthquakes (active fault studies) as well as ground deformation study by geodetic DGPS survey, seismological, microseismic/geophysical investigations and observational seismology (broad band observations ad Jabalpur, Nagpur and Agartala) etc.

(c) GSI carries out such work from the funds allotted under Union Budget under the sub-head 'special investigation'. No separate funds are provided to GSI for undertaking such studies.

(d) and (e) During May-June 2009, GSI participated in a joint field traverse in parts of Assam and Meghalaya with the scientists of University of Colorado and University of Michigan, USA, with an objective to understand post seismic events and hazard evaluation of North-Eastern India. Besides GSI also participated in collaborative work after the Sumatra-Andaman earthquake of December 2004.

Cutting of Trees for Construction of Roads

4481. SHRI PREMCHAND GUDDU: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of trees are felled/ relocated for the construction of National Highways and toll free roads in various States including Madhya Pradesh during each of the last three yeras and the current year;

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

(c) whether compensatory plantation was carried out for the trees felled;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (e) During widening and improvement of National Highways, existing trees are generally preserved as far as possible. Where the cutting of trees is unavoidable, the executing agencies take clearance from the concerned Government Departments. For major projects, environment clearance which includes cutting of trees is obtained from the Ministry of Environment & Forests. Details of trees cut all over the country including Madhya Pradesh, is not maintained. Requisite amount for compensatory afforestation is deposited with the Forest Deaprtments. At least twice the number of trees cut are planted under compensatory afforestation.

Notification of National Highways

4482. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain National Highways including NH from Bilaspur in Chhattisgarh to Varanasi via Kalghora, Ambikapur have not been notified in the gazette;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard alongwith the time by which the upgradation work on the above Highways is likely to be commenced/completede?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) All the National Highways (NH) including NH starting from NH-200 near Bilaspur connecting Katghora and terminating at its junction with NH-78 near Ambikapur has been notified as National Highway-111 in the gazette. However, NH-111 does not extend from Ambikapur to Varanasi.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Development of National Highways is a continuous process and improvement thereof including upgradation work is taken up in phased manner depending upon traffic density, inter-se priority and availability of funds.

[English]

Connectivity of Ports with Highways

4483. SHRIMATI POONAM VELJIBHAI JAT:
SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL:

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

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to connect major and minor ports in the country with the National Highways;

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

(c) the number of projects launched so far in this regard, State-wise and NH-wise; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for the speedy commencement/completion of such projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (c) Details regarding development of road connectivity to major ports are given in the enclosed Statement-I. Development of road connectivity to minor ports other than National Highways comes under the purview of the concerned State Government. Some National Highways being developed under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase-III are also serving minor ports. Details are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(d) Special Purpose Vehicles (SPV)/Companies of NHAI have been set up for implementing major port connectivity projects. Concerted efforts are being made through interaction with Port Trusts and State Governments for speedy completion of projects.

Statement I

Status of Major Port Connectivity Projects under NHDP Phase-I

Sl.No.	Name of Work	Length (in km)	Project Cost (Rs. crore)	Status (by June, 2009)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	**West Bengal** Haldia Port Connectivity (NH-41 from Kolaghat to Haldia in West Bengal	52.2	522	Terminated contract re-awarded and commenced in October, 2008. Likely to be completed by September, 2010.
2.	**Orissa** Pradip Port Connectivity (NH-5A) from Chandikhole to Paradip in Orissa.	77	427.4	Completed and opened to traffic in June, 2009
3.	**Andhra Pradesh** Visakhapatnam Port Connectivity (Port Road) in Andhra Pradesh	12.5	116	Completed and opened to traffic in November, 2006

1	2	3	4	5
4.	**Tamil Nadu** Chennai-Ennore Port Connectivity in Tamil Nadu	30	309	Two Road Contracts terminated. Restructured project is pending for award.
5.	Tuticorin Port Connectivity Project on NH-7A in Tamil Nadu	47.2	231.2	Contract terminated in May, 2009 and balance work to be awarded
6.	4-laning of NH-47 from km 348.4 to km 358.75 in Kerala	10.40	193	Terminated contract re-awarded and commenced in October, 2008. Likely to be completed by April, 2010.
7.	**Karnataka** New Mangalore Port Connectivity Project on NH-17, 13 & 48 in Karnataka.	37.5	196.5	46% progress.
8.	**Goa** Mormugao Port, Goa-Connectivity on NH 17 B in Goa	18.3	145	13.1 km completed in 2004. Balance work awarded in June, 2009.
9.	**JNPT** JN Port Mumbai			
	(i) JNPT Package-I (NH-4B & NH-4)	30	159	Completed and opened to traffic in June, 2005
	(ii) Package-II (SH 54 & Aamra Marg including Panvel Creek Bridge)	14.4	143	Substantially completed.

Note: (1) The connectivity of Mumbai Port was dropped as it was passing through Salt Pan.
(2) The connectivity to Kolkata Port is held up for want of transfer of defence land.

Statement II

Details of Projects under NHDP Phase-III also Serving Some Minor Ports

Sl.No.	Description of Project	Minor Port being served	Status of Project
1.	Four laning of Gandhidham-Mundra Section of NH-8A (Extn.) in the State of Gujarat	Mundra Port, Gujarat	Feasibility Study of the project has been completed and Request for Qualification (RFQ) for pre-qualification of bidders has also been completed. The project is targeted for award during the year 2009-2010.
2.	Four laning of Maharashtra/ Gujarat Border—Surat-Hazira Section of NH-6 in the State of Gujarat	Hazira Port, Gujarat	The project has been awarded with scheduled completion by May, 2012.
3.	Vijayawada to Machilipatnam on NH-9 in the State of Andhra Pradesh	Machilipatnam, Andhra Pradesh	Project is being restructured for re-invitation of bids.

Commonwealth Games Village

4484. SHRI PRABODH PANDA:
SHRI MILIND DEORA:

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

(a) whether the construction work of the Commonwealth Games Village is progressing as per schedule;

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

(c) the steps for speedy completion of the Games Village;

(d) whether a number of project have been undertaken by the Games Organising Departments for beautification of the capital/games venues; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the status of each project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. 56% work of the Commonwealth Games Village project is over and it will be completed by 31st March, 2010.

(c) The progress of the work at Commonwealth Games Village is monitored closely at various levels including Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Organizing Committee (OC), Lt. Governor and Chief Minister, Delhi. It is also monitored in the Co-ordination Committee meetings and also in weekly co-ordination meetings at DDA's level.

(d) and (e) For the 17 disciplines of CWG-2010, 12 venues will be developed as Competition venues and the various venue owning agencies i.e. Sports Authority of India, Delhi Development Authority, Govt. of National Capital Territory of Delhi, University of Delhi etc. are spending considerable funds for developing these venues as world class venues to deliver the best results. An amount of Rs. 1770 crore has been allocated by the Planning Commission to the Govt. of NCT of Delhi for improvement in the city infrastructure which, *inter-alia*, includes substantial amount for beautification of Delhi. In addition to these, NDMC and MCD will also spend considerable amount from their own resources for sports and civic infrastructure, Power, Water etc.

[Translation]

Production of Foodgrains

4485. SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM WAKCHAURE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has fixed any target for production of foodgrains and fruits in the country including in the backward and rural areas during the current five year plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount proposed to be invested by the Government including in the backward and rural areas, State-wise; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to achieve these targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) On the recommendation of National Development Council, Centrally Sponsored Scheme a "National Food Security Mission" (NFSM) is in operation from October 2007 to meet the projected of 235 million tonnes of foodgrains by the end of 11th Plan *i.e.* 2011-12. The mission envisages increase in production of foodgrains by 20 million tonnes including 10 million tonnes of rice, 8 million tonnes of wheat and 2 million tonnes of pulses by end of 11th Plan.

In order to increase fruits production in the country during current five year plan, a target to cover an area of 15.97 lakh hectares under various horticulture crops including fruits has been fixed.

(c) Statement-I to IV indicating State-wise allocation and release of various Crops Development Schemes are enclosed.

(d) Government of India is implementing various crops development schemes to enhance the production of foodgrains and fruits such as National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Integrated Cereals Development Programme (ICDP) under Macro-Management Mode of Agriculture, Integrated scheme for Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM) and National Horticulture Mission (NHM) to achieve the target foodgrains & fruits by the end of 11th Five Year Plan.

Statement I

Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Food Security Mission Allocation & Release of fund during 2007-08 to 2009-10

As on 30.7.2009
(Rs. in crore)

Sl.No.	State	2007-08		2008-09		2009-10	
		Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release
1.	Andhra Pradesh	44.82	44.62	106.03	84.15	125.049	93.910
2.	Assam	11.67	11.4	32.63	27.06	27.277	18.560
3.	Bihar	36.30	36.3	109.61	81.05	81.884	18.340
4.	Chhattisgarh	14.55	14.55	87.52	71.65	50.834	20.650
5.	Gujarat	7.37	7.37	21.55	8.33	15.106	0.000
6.	Haryana	21.51	21.15	27.21	11.04	29.406	7.380
7.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	13.07	9.80	11.931	4.680
8.	Karnataka	7.87	7.87	35.81	30.15	48.732	30.190
9.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	1.89	1.89	3.472	2.780
10.	Madhya Pradesh	46.47	46.12	114.58	64.38	84.35	27.330
11.	Maharashtra	14.14	14.14	78.88	72.17	72.562	56.000
12.	Orissa	11.34	11.34	69.26	62.24	43.104	34.660
13.	Punjab	32.88	32.88	45.19	35.69	48.594	0.000
14.	Rajasthan	24.62	24.59	41.7	18.83	42.161	8.330
15.	Tamil Nadu	13.87	12.81	47.82	33.5	32.377	15.530
16.	Uttar Pradesh	83.79	83.79	192.25	155.2	253.032	58.990
17.	West Bengal	16.00	13.00	70.39	63.36	72.289	0.000
	Total	387.20	381.93	1095.39	830.49	1042.160	397.330

Statement II

Release of under National Horticulture Mission in 2007-08 to 2008-09 and allocation during 2009-10

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	State	Release		Alloction
		2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	78.37	129.68	132.33
2.	Bihar	2.7	31.23	45.00
3.	Chhattisgarh	62.52	30.00	82.24
4.	Goa	0.03	1.00	3.95
5.	Gujarat	19.54	35.32	100.56
6.	Haryana	64.76	33.00	100.56
7.	Jharkhand	7.81	50.00	56.07
8.	Karnataka	85.71	125.37	132.00
9.	Kerala	61.48	75.17	69.21

1	2	3	4	5
10.	Madhya Pradesh	55.37	60.00	80.00
11.	Maharashtra	132.25	130.22	163.47
12.	Orissa	38.12	23.41	76.71
13.	Punjab	24.1	14.13	45.33
14.	Rajasthan	56.73	40.98	70.34
15.	Tamil Nadu	85.37	96.88	120.00
16.	Uttar Pradesh	94.26	63.73	135.02
17.	West Bengal	6.82	6.07	42.68
18.	Delhi			3.37
19.	Lakshadweep	0.3		
20.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands			
	Total	876.24	946.19	1433.28

Statement III

Allocation and release of funds under Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm & Maize during 2007-08 to 2009-10

(Rs. inlakh)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Allocation 2007-08	Release 2007-08	Allocation 2008-09	Release 2008-09	Allocation 2009-10	Release 2009-10 (30.7.2009)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5325.00	5325.00	3000.00	3000.00	3000.00	500.00
2.	Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
3.	Bihar	1100.00	1100.00	800.00	800.00	600.00	380.97
4.	Chhattisgarh	500.00	500.00	884.06	884.06	650.00	400.00
5.	Gujarat	1000.00	1000.00	1600.00	1600.00	1800.00	1000.00
6.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.00	
7.	Haryana	800.00	800.00	700.00	700.00	600.00	300.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	100.00	100.00	10.00	10.00	60.00	59.43
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	75.00	75.00	0.00	0.00	75.00	82.63
10.	Karnataka	2500.00	2500.00	2700.00	2700.00	2350.00	300.00
11.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2500.00	2500.00	3500.00	3500.00	3000.00	1480.00
13.	Maharashtra	2000.00	2000.00	2900.00	2900.00	2200.00	643.48

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
14.	Mizoram	300.00	300.00	390.00	390.00	400.00	
15.	Orissa	900.00	900.00	575.00	575.00	600.00	
16.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	30.94	30.94	50.00	15.00
17.	Rajasthan	3600.00	3600.00	3140.00	3140.00	3000.00	823.84
18.	Tamil Nadu	1200.00	1200.00	1900.00	1900.00	1900.00	450.00
19.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
20.	Uttar Pradesh	1600.00	1600.00	1450.00	1450.00	1550.00	844.49
21.	West Bengal	800.00	800.00	400.00	400.00	600.00	
	Total	24300.00	24300.00	24040.00	24040.00	22500.00	7279.84

Statement IV

Allocation and release of funds under Marco Management of Agriculture during 2006-07 to 2009-10

(Financial: Rs. in Lakh)

Sl.No.	Name of State/UT	2006-07		2007-08		2008-09		2009-10 (As on 30.7.2009)	
		Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	421.00	2541.54	5200.00	4643.82	6535.00	3428.72	7261.11	3267.50
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2200.00	2200.00	2650.00	2650.00	2050.00	2050.00	2050.00	0.00
3.	Assam	2000.00	1000.00	2050.00	1594.64	1625.00	812.50	1625.00	0.00
4.	Bihar	2170.00	1564.37	2400.00	3042.14	3900.00	4593.03	4333.33	1950.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	2300.00	1129.76	2350.00	2455.48	2170.00	2170.00	2411.11	1085.00
6.	Goa	260.00	385.77	300.00	432.63	100.00	140.00	111.11	50.00
7.	Gujarat	2810.00	2330.84	4350.00	5771.65	3645.00	5045.00	4050.00	0.00
8.	Haryana	2040.00	2700.00	2250.00	2250.00	1690.00	2300.00	1877.78	0.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2040.00	2770.59	2300.00	2214.88	2000.00	2585.09	2222.22	1000.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	4000.00	3351.50	4240.00	2554.04	3660.00	3026.35	4066.67	0.00
11.	Jharkhand	1660.00	830.00	1700.00	850.00	1065.00	532.50	1183.33	532.50

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	10	11
12.	Karnataka	5990.00	5214.24	7010.00	7346.88	5025.00	4885.43	5583.33	2512.50
13.	Kerala	3060.00	1350.00	3450.00	1725.00	1275.00	907.50	1416.67	637.50
14.	Madhya Pradesh	4980.00	3963.00	6500.00	4789.92	6285.00	5834.64	6983.33	3142.50
15.	Maharashtra	8730.00	11751.30	12450.00	12034.63	9275.00	10313.09	10305.56	4637.50
16.	Manipur	2200.00	2200.00	2650.00	3309.25	2050.00	2050.00	2050.00	1025.00
17.	Mizoram	2500.00	2300.00	3000.00	3000.00	2325.00	2716.28	1425.00	0.00
18.	Meghalaya	1800.00	900.00	1850.00	925.00	1425.00	1425.00	2325.00	1162.50
19.	Nagaland	2500.00	2221.04	3000.00	2384.00	2325.00	2325.00	2325.00	0.00
20.	Orissa	2550.00	3550.00	3300.00	3736.11	3280.00	4360.00	3644.14	1640.00
21.	Punjab	0.00	426.00	1300.00	650.00	1750.00	1750.00	1944.44	0.00
22.	Rajasthan	7390.00	8212.55	8600.00	7835.42	5750.00	3775.00	6388.89	2875.00
23.	Sikkim	1900.00	2000.00	2400.00	2335.46	1850.00	1850.00	1850.00	0.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	4590.00	6337.70	5450.00	6662.51	3460.00	4270.00	3844.44	1730.00
25.	Tripura	2000.00	2000.00	2400.00	14440.80	1850.00	1850.00	1850.00	925.00
26.	Uttar Pradesh	7400.00	5668.14	81.00	7153.27	11375.00	10893.24	12566.67	5655.00
27.	Uttarakhand	2170.00	3144.37	2650.00	2353.87	2300.00	2300.00	2555.56	0.00
28.	West Bengal	3190.00	3190.00	3500.00	3364.21	4425.00	3811.30	4916.67	0.00
29.	Delhi	0.00	0.00	50.00				40.00	0.00
30.	Puducherry	0.00	0.00	50.00	25.00	35.00	17.50	40.00	0.00
31.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	25.00	25.00	40.00	20.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	4.00
32.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00			0.00	0.00	
33.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	10.00	5.00	30.00	10.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	0.00
34.	Lakshadweep	25.00	12.50	30.00	15.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	0.00
35.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00			0.00	0.00
	Total	88700.00	85275.21	107600.00	99579.61	94520.00	92037.17	103266.67	33831.50

———————

12.01 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Papers to be laid. Shri Meena.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): On behalf of Shri Pranab Mukherjee, I beg to lay on the Table a Statement (Hindi and English versions) on Quarterly review of the trends in receipts and expenditure in relation to the Budget for the third quarter of the financial year 2008-2009 under sub-section (1) of Section 7 of the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act, 2003.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—645/15/09]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955:-

(1) G.S.R. 531(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th July, 2009 containing order regarding imposition of stock-holding and turnover limits on sugar as well as khandsari sugar for a further period of six months.

(2) G.S.R. 528(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th July, 2009 making certain further amendments in the five orders, mentioned therein.

(3) G.S.R. 529(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th July, 2009 making certain further amendments in the two orders, mentioned therein.

(4) G.S.R. 530(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th July, 2009 making certain further amendments in the four orders, mentioned therein.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—646/15/09]

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): I beg to lay on the Table:-

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Prasar Bharati, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Prasar Bharati, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—647/15/09]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the National Projects Construction Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Water Resources for the year 2009-2010.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—648/15/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): I beg to lay on the Table:-

(1) A copy of the Outcome Budget (Hindi and English versions) of the Department of Atomic Energy for the year 2009-2010.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—649/15/09]

(2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Technology Development Board, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Technology Development Board, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.

(3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—650/15/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): I beg to lay on the Table:-

(1) A copy of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Assistant Sub-Inspector (Stenographer) Group 'C' posts Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 2009 (Hindi and English versions) published in the Notification No. G.S.R. 518(E) in Gazette of India dated the 14th July, 2009 under sub-section (3) of Section 156 of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force Act, 1992.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—651/15/09]

(2) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 1525(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd June, 2009 containing order so as to add that the Communist Party of India (Maoist) and all its formations and front organisations as terrorist organisation in the Schedule to the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 issued under sub-section (1) of Section 35 of the said Act.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—652/15/09]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): On behalf of Prof. K.V. Thomas, I beg to lay on the Table:-

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

(a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Goa Meat Complex Limited, Panaji, for the year 2006-2007.

(ii) Annual Report of the Goa Meat Complex Limited, Panaji, for the year 2006-2007, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—653/15/09]

(b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Karnataka Meat and Poultry Marketing Corporation Limited, Bangalore, for the year 2007-2008.

(ii) Annual Report of the Karnataka Meat and Poultry Marketing Corporation Limited, Bangalore, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—654/15/09]

(2) Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

(3) A copy of the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Rights (Criteria for Distinctiveness, Uniformity and Stability for Registration) Regulations, 2009 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R.452(E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 2009 under section 97 of the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act, 2001.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—655/15/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. GANDHISELVAN): I beg to lay on the Table:-

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—656/15/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 10 of the National Highways Act, 1956:—

(1) S.O. 1407(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th June, 2009 regarding acquisition of land

for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 37 (Morabazar-Khaloighuguti Section) in the State of Assam.

(2) S.O. 1499(E) and S.O. 1500(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th June, 2009 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 215 (Rimuli-Rajamunda Section) in the State of Orissa.

(3) S.O. 1742(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th July, 2009 regarding rates of fee to be recovered from the users of four laned stretch of National Highway No. 7 (Kadthal-Armur Section) in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT—657/15/09]

12.02 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA AND BILL AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA*

[English]

SECRETARY GENERAL: Madam, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:—

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Constitution (One Hundred and Ninth Amendment) Bill, 2009 which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha in accordance with the provisions of article 368 of the Constitution at its sitting held on the 3rd August, 2009."

Madam, I lay on the Table the Constitution (One Hundred and Ninth Amendment) Bill, 2009, as passed by Rajya Sabha on the 3rd August, 2009.

---

*Laid on the Table.

12.03 hrs.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

(i) (a) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 28th Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture on Demands for Grants (2007-08 and 2008-09 respectively), pertaining to the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE), Ministry of Agriculutre*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): I beg to lay the statement on the status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Twenty Eighth Report of Standing Committee on Agriculture in pursuance of the direction 73 A of the Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha, issued vide Lok Sabha Bulletin - Part-II dated September 01, 2004.

The Standing Committee on Agriculture has examined the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Agricultural Research and Education(DARE) for the year 2007-08 and presented their Twenty-eighth Report on the Recommendations/ Observation of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2007-08). The Committee have accepted the Replies of the Government to their Recommendations Nos. 7,8,9 and 10 (Total- 4). Hence, the Department has furnished the Replies, of the Government to all these Recommendations in the Action Taken Report.

All these recommendations of the Committee have been considered. The details of Recommendations/ Comments of the Committee and Action taken by the Government alongwith present status which have already been communicated to Parliamentary Committee are given in the Annex-I which is laid on the Table of the House.

(i) (b) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 38th Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture on Demands for Grants (2007-08 and 2008-09 respectively), pertaining to the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE), Ministry of Agriculutre**

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): I beg to lay

*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, *See* No. LT 658/15/09.

**Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See No. LT 658/15/09.

the Statement on the status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Thirty Eight Report of Standing Committee on Agriculture in pursuance of the direction 73 A of the Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha, issued vide Lok Sabha Bulletin - Part-II dated September 01, 2004.

The Standing Committee on Agriculture has examined the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Agricultural Research and Education(DARE) for the year 2008-09 and presented the Recommendations/ Observations contained in the Thirty Eighth Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2008-09). The Department has furnished the Replies of the Government to all the Recommendations in the Action Taken Report.

All these recommendations of the Committee have been considered and the details of Recommendations/ Comments of the Committee and Action Taken Report by the Government alongwith present status which have already been communicated to Parliamentary Committee are given in Annex-I which is laid on the Table of the House.

(i) (c) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 29th and 39th Reports of the Standing Committee on Agriculture on Demands for Grants (2007-08 and 2008-09 respectively), pertaining to the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries (DADF), Ministry of Agriculture*

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): I beg to lay the Statement on the status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Twenty-Ninth and Thirty-ninth Reports of the Standing Committee on Agriculture in pursuance of the directions issued by hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha *vide* Lok Sabha Bulletin—Part II dated September 01, 2004 under the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha.

The Standing Committee on Agriculture examined the Demand for Grants of Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries (DADF) for the year 2007-08 and laid the Report in Lok Sabha on 27th April, 2007. The report contained 15 recommendations. The Action Taken Replies of the Government were sent to the Committee on 31st July 2007.

The Standing Committee on Agriculture examined the Demand for Grants of Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries (DADF) for the year 2008-09 and laid the Report in Lok Sabha on 16th April, 2008. The Report contained 15 recommendations. The Action Taken Replies of the Government were sent to the Committee on 16th July, 2008.

The status of Action Taken regarding implementation of the recommendations of PSCA is indicated in the Statements which is laid on the Table of the House.

*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, *See* No. LT 659/15/09.

12.03¼ hrs.

(ii) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 140th Report of the Standing Committee on Home Affairs on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the 132nd Report on Demands for Grants (2008-09), pertaining to the Ministry of Home Affairs*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): I beg to lay the Statement on the above subject in pursuance of rule 389 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of Lok Sabha, issued by the Hon'ble Speaker. Lok Sabha vide Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II dated September 1, 2004.

The meeting of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs was held on 24th February 2009, to review the Action Taken Replies furnished by the Ministry of Home Affairs on the 132nd Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Demand for Grants (2008-2009) of the Ministry of Home Affairs. Thereafter, the Committee submitted its 140th Report which contained further observations/recommendations on the 132nd Report, on 26th February, 2009.

The Committee in its 140lh Report made as many as nine (9) recommendations (Paragraph Nos. 3.1.9, 3.2.4, 3.3.5, 3.4.9, 3.5.5, 4.1.3, 4.2.5, 4.3.4 and 4.4.11) in respect of which the Ministry of Home Affairs was required to take action. The ATRs have been sent to Rajya Sabha Secretariat by MHA.

This Ministry has accepted the recommendations contained in the 1401 Report fully or with slight modification. In respect of some recommendations, the Ministry is taking necessary action in consultation with

*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, *See* No. LT 660/15/09.

various agencies. It may be mentioned that action to be taken by this Ministry in respect of number of recommendations are of a continuing nature and necessary action has since been taken or is being taken accordingly.

A detailed Statement showing the action taken/being taken with reference to the recommendations contained in various paragraphs of the 140 Report of the Committee is laid on the Table of the House.

12.03½ hrs.

(i) STATEMENT CORRECTING REPLY TO USQ NO. 432 DATED 07.07.2009 REGARDING MEGA CITY AND DESERT AREA POLICING ALONGWITH REASONS GIVEN FOR DELAY IN CORRECTING THE REPLY

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): Madam, I beg to lay the Statement to correct the reply of the parts (a) to (g) of the Unstarred Question No. 432 dated 7.7.2009 in the Lok Sabha. As a large number of questions were to be answered on 7.7.2009 which are prepared by respective divisions of the Ministry and soft copies of the same are sent to Parliament Division for preparing hard copies of the final replies, whihle doing this exercise due to human error, it so happened that reply given to answer question No. 420 got pasted as a reply to Question No. 432. This error occurred only in English version of the reply to the Question and was noticed subsequently. Then the exercise to correct the reply earlier given vide Unstarred Question No. 432 dated 7.7.2009 has been started.

Part of the Question answered	For	Read
(a) to (g)	(a) and (b) Government has received a Resolution passed on 20th February, 2005 by both the Houses of Maharashtra State Legislature recommending the establishment of a separate Development Board for Konkan region of the State. The Planning Commision, who were consulted in the matter in February, 2006, are of the view (May, 2006) that backwardness by itself is not a reason for constitutional amendment for establishing a separate Development Board for Konkan region as there are other instruments available to the Centre and State Governments to gear up their developmental machinery. The matter was referred back to Planning Commission in 2007 for re-examination in view of the persisting demand of Government of Maharashtra. However, they reiterated their earlier view. No definite time-frame can be specified in this regard.	(a) and (b) No, Madam. During the year 2008-09, out of the Central allocation of Rs. 40.00 crore made to the State of Gujarat under the Scheme for Modernisation of State Police Forces (MPF), the entire amount was released by Ministry of Home Affairs to the State Government of Gujarat. Besides this, an additional amount of Rs. 8.00 crore was released to the State Government of Gujarat on 31st March, 2009. Also, an amount of Rs. 2.5 lakh was released to Directorate of Coordination (Police Wireless) for POLNET in Gujarat. Thus, a total amount of Rs. 48.025 crore was released to Gujarat in 2008-09 under the MPF Scheme. During the current financial year 2009-10, the first instalment of Rs. 5.92 crore has already been released to Gujarat under the MPF Scheme. (c) to (g) Mega City Policing and Desert Area Policing are integral components of the Scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces. Funds for Mega City Policing and Desert Policing are provided within the overall allocations under the MPF Scheme. There is no separate scheme to fund Mega City Policing and Desert Area Policing.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—661/15/09]

12.04 hrs.

(ii) STATEMENT CORRECTING REPLY TO USQ NO. 2360 DATED 21.07.2009 REGARDING TOUR BY MCD OFFICIALS ALONGWITH REASONS GIVEN FOR DELAY IN CORRECTING THE REPLY

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): Madam, I beg to lay the Statement to correct the reply of parts (a) and (b) of the Unstarred Question No.2360 dated 21.7.2009 in the Lok Sabha. Action was taken immediately to make the Statement on the floor of the House. However, it took some time in preparing Hindi version of the Statement and the requisite copies thereof.

FOR

(a) and (b) The number of domestic and foreign tour undertaken by the officials of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) and the expenditure incurred thereon during each of the last three years and the current year are as under:

Year	Number of tours undertaken		Expenditure incurred (in Rs.)	
	Domestic	Foreign	Domestic	Foreign
2006-2007	48	4	20,14,311	2,55,987
2007-2008	63	3	27,83,044	9,24,903
2008-2009	79	3	29,42,243	9,24,903
Current Year (2009-2010)	22	1	12,66,345	1,01,710

The MCD has informed that the tours were undertaken with a view to upgrade the knowledge and skill regarding public health, welfare of women & child, smooth working of the Corporation, building bye-laws and Master Plan, patient care and health care, strategies for disease control including dengue and malaria, preventative/ curative measures for animals, food hygiene, sanitation, maintaenance of sanitary land fillsite, solid waste management, etc.

READ

(a) and (b) The number of domestic and foreign tour undertaken by the officials of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) and the expenditure incurred thereon during each of the last three years and the current year are as under:

Year	Number of tours undertaken		Expenditure incurred (in Rs.)	
	Domestic	Foreign	Domestic	Foreign
2006-2007	48	4	20,14,311	2,55,987
2007-2008	63	3	27,83,044	2,55,987
2008-2009	79	3	29,42,243	9,24,903
Current Year (2009-2010)	22	1	12,66,345	1,01,710

The MCD has informed that the tours were undertaken with a view to upgrade the knowledge and skill regarding public health, welfare of women & child, smooth working of the Corporation, building bye-laws and Master Plan, patient care and health care, strategies for disease control including dengue and malaria, preventative/ curative measures for animals, food hygiene, sanitation, maintaenance of sanitary land fillsite, solid waste management, etc.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT–662/15/09]

12.04 hrs.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS—*Contd.*

(iii) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 137th Report of the Standing Committee on Home Affairs on Rehabilitation of J&K Migrants, pertaining to the Ministry of Home Affairs*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): I beg to lay the

*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, *See* No. LT–663/15/09.

statement on the above subject in pursuance of Rule 389 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of Lok Sabha issued by the Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha vide Lok Sabha Bulletin Part II dated September 01, 2004.

The Department related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs reviewed the Action taken Replies furnished by the Ministry of Home Affairs on the 119th Report presented to Parliament in 2006 and 126th Report presented in 2007. Thereafter, the Committee submitted its 130TH Report which contained further observations/recommendations on the 126 Report to the effect that the Committee has appointed a sub-Committee to make a detailed study on rehabilitation measures for Jammu migrants. After the study is completed the Committee will present a separate report thereon.

The Committee in its 137th Report made as many as twenty one (21) observations/conclusions/ recommendations (Paragraphs 4.1 to 4.21) in respect of which the Ministry of Home Affairs was required to take action. This Ministry has accepted all the recommendations except that recommendation Nos. 4.3, 4.8 and 4.17 have been accepted partially and recommendations Nos. 4.13, 4.14, 4.15 and 4.18 not accepted, for the reasons elaborated in the attached annexure. As action on most of the recommendations has to be taken by the State Government, the matter would be pursued with the State authorities.

This Ministry has already sent the Action Taken Report on the recommendations contained in the 137th Report to the Rajya Sabha Secretariat.

A detailed Statement showing the recommendations contained in various paragraphs of the 137th Report of the Committee and a reply thereto is attached.

12.04$^{1}/_{2}$ hrs.

(iv) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 23rd Report of the Standing Committee on Petroleum & Natural Gas on Oil Refineries—A Critique pertaining to the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): I beg to lay the Statement on the status of implementation of recommendations contained in the 23rd Report of the Standing Committee on Petroleum & Natural Gas (14th Lok Sabha) in pursuance of direction 73A of the Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha vide Lok Sabha Bulletin-Part II dated September 01, 2004.

The Twenty-third Report of the Standing Committee on Petroleum & Natural Gas (14th Lok Sabha) was presented to the Lok Sabha on 18.12.2008. The Report relates to "Oil Refineries - A Critique".

Action Taken Statements on the recommendations/ observations contained in the Report of the Committee had been sent to the Standing Committee on Petroleum & Natural Gas on 18.3.2009 and 30.3.2009.

There are 20 recommendations made by the Committee in the said Report where action is called for on the part of the Government. These recommendations mainly pertain to issues like expansions in the existing refineries of Public Sector Oil Companies, Paradip Refinery and Petrochemical Project, profitability of North-East Refineries, Numaligarh Refinery Limited, Barauni and BRPL, enhancement of Gross Refining Margins of Public Sector Refineries, R & D expenditure incurred by the Oil Public Sector Companies, deployment of adequate manpower in R&D Centres of Oil Companies, processing of high sulphur crude by the Public Sector refineries, completion of upgradation projects of different Public Sector Oil Refinery Companies in accordance with the stipulation of the Auto Fuel Policy, Capacity Expansion cum Modernisation Project of BPCL Kochi Refinery, Fuel and Loss and Hydrocarbon Loss of the Public Sector Refineries, export of Petroleum products, Integrated Refinery Business Improvement Programme, rainwater reservoir facility, Community Development activities etc.

Present status of implementation of various recommendations made by the Committee is indicated in the Annexure to my Statement, which is laid on the Table of the House. I would not like to take valuable time of the House by reading out the contents of this Annexure. This may please be considered as read.

12.05 hrs.

METRO RAILWAYS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2009*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): Madam, I beg to move for leave to

*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, *See* No. LT—664/15/09.

*Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2 dated 04.08.2009.

introduce a Bill further to amend the Metro Railways (Construction of Works) Act, 1978 and to amend the Delhi Metro Railway (Operation and Maintenance) Act, 2002.

MADAM SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Metro Railways (Construction of Works) Act, 1978 and to amend the Delhi Metro Railway (Operation and Maintenance) Act, 2002."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I introduce the Bill.

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Now we take up matters of urgent public importance.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (Kasargod): Madam Speaker, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to some serious issues in the textile sector especially in the handloom sector in the State of Kerala. In the wake of global recession, a large number of units were closed and a large number of units were declared as sick units. As a result of this, thousands of employees have lost their jobs. All the trade unions have met the Prime Minister and the Textiles Minister last time and there was a discussion on this issue. It is really very difficult for the handloom workers to pay back their loans that they have taken. In this connection, the trade unions and all the political parties have put forward a suggestion to introduce a special package scheme to the handloom workers, as it has been done in the agricultural sector, to waive the loans that they have taken.

In 1985, the Textiles Policy has put 22 handloom designs in the reserve category, but now it has been reduced to 11 items. So, I request the Government to retain those 22 items in the reserve category so that some assistance is given to the handloom sector. Then, when they get the export order for textiles, 25 per cent should be earmarked for the handloom sector alone. In the festival season like the Onam festival season in Kerala, a special rebate can be given to the handloom sector and some stimulus for marketing and also to assist the poor people. In addition to that, it is a longstanding demand of the workers and the societies to have a National Handloom Policy, especially the Wage Policy. So I request the Government to consider all these things positively.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Mainpuri): Madam Speaker, I would like to say that hon. Prime Minister had given a statement in the House recently in which he had used the phrase 'trust and verify', but now that has been changed to 'betray'. Hafiz Saeed has been allowed to move freely in Pakistan and no restrictions have been imposed on his movements ...*(Interruptions)* Hafiz Saeed is saying this himself. He was the mastermind behind Mumbai terrorist attack and Pakistan has released him. Hon. Minister of Home Affairs said that he had submitted the case with complete evidence to Pakistan. Prime Minister trusted Pakistan but Pakistan changed its stand. The government can not excuse itself in the name of Supreme Court. It is also true that the case was not pleaded well in the Supreme Court. He is a hardcore terrorist and notorious criminal and he has once again become a threat to our country. The entire opposition including me had expressed apprehension at the time of issuing the joint statement. We had asked the Government to throw it into the dustbin as Pakistan would again stab us in the back. This betrayal on the part of Pakistan has once again posed a threat to the country and encouraged terrorism.

Now I would like to ask hon. Prime Minister whether the Government has lodged its protest with Pakistan on the issue or held any talks with Pakistan or asked the Pakistan Government to extradite the suspects if they cannot be prosecuted in Pakistan. Why this demand was not made? So I would like to tell you that you have lost faith in Pakistan. Hence I would like to say that the phrase 'trust and verify' has been exposed now. Now what have you though? You had given an assurance in the House that you would take care of the security of the country. It was not right to sign the joint statement in Sharm-Al-Sheikh. Even now I want to say that India should give a befitting reply. I support the friendship between India and Pakistan. I am of the opinion that India, Pakistan and Bangladesh should form a union. We are socialists who always support the union. It happened quite opposite of what was stated by the Prime Minister and it has dented the self-respect of the country. You had assured the public of the country. But now what do you want the public of the country to believe? This is what I want to know from the Prime Minister.

If hon. Leader of the House can give any assurance of behalf of the Prime Minister, he should also. It is not a trivial threat. Terrorism has got encouragement and the country has come under threat. If any other incident like

Mumbai attack occurs, the Government will be responsible. So I want that this issue should be discussed afresh in the House. What is the policy of the Government and to what extent the Government has succeeded in checking the terrorism? It should be clear before the public of the country. It was such a good opportunity when it was proved all over the world that Pakistan was a country which promoted terrorism. Pakistan was left alone. Our Prime Minister's signature on joint statement gave Pakistan an opportunity of face the world. India is the most affected country in terms of terrorism. In such a scenario to give an excuse that Pakistan itself is in trouble is not acceptable. You are worried about Pakistan's problem. Do you worry less about India and more about Pakistan? ...*(Interruptions)* So, I would like to tell you ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri Madhu Goud Yaskhi.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (Raigarh): Madam Speaker, it is not an issue of Zero-hour ...*(Interruptions)* Shri Mulayam Singh Ji should be ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: I am giving you also an opportunity. I will call your name. Your name is included in the list.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Why are you doing when the names of all the Members have been included in the list? Nobody will be able to speak. I will call all the Members one by one.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Madam Speaker, Mulayam Singh Ji has raised a serious matter in the House. The matter raised during Zero-hour. ...*(Interruptions)* should not be deferred. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: What deferment you are talking about? It is Zero-hour.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Let other Members speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: It is a matter released to the security of the country. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please sit down.

Shri Madhu Goud Yaskhi.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI (Nizamabad): Madam, I would like to raise a matter of urgent public importance. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Sit down please. You are speaking without being allowed to speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI: Madam, today in our country about 48 per cent of the population...*(Interruptions)*

[Trasnslation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Sit down please. I will call your name.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: The issue raised by him during Zero-hour cannot be ignored. The Leader of House should reply to it. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: We can not compel the Government. You have raised the matter during Zero-hour. Now calm down.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)...**

MADAM SPEAKER: Why are you standing? Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

*Not recorded.

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing else other than what Shri Madhu Goud Yaskhi is speaking, will go on record.

(Interruptions)... *

[English]

SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI: Thank you, Madam Speaker for allowing me to raise a matter of urgent public importance... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Please calm down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI: Madam, today in our country, over 48 per cent of the population are women. *...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Let the Zero-hour continue. Please calm down.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Let the Zero-hour continue or else your turn may not come.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI: Unfortunately, for the past many years, the atrocities on women have increased... *(Interruptions)* the violence against women has increased... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: You will be called. Please sit down. Let the hon'ble Member speak.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI: The dowry deaths, early marriage of girls, sex selected abortions and violence and atrocities have increased for the past decade. *...(Interruptions)*

*Not recorded.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Madam, what about that matter. *...(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI: Madam, I would like to draw the attention of the Central Government to take a note of the... *(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: I have your name in the list. I will be calling you.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: I cannot compel the Government to give the reply during 'Zero Hour'.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: You will be called after Madhuji.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Please take your seats.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Please sit down; let me run the House.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD (Saran): Madam, he is the mastermind of Mumbai attack. *...(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Laluji, Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA (Hazaribagh): Madam, Please allow me to speak on this issue. *...(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: I am calling.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Yaskhi *ji*, I will call you later.

[Translation]

Yashwant Sinhaji, please speak.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Thank you so much, Madam. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Let me run the House.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahemadabad East): Comply with the orders from the Chair. You are in the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please take your seat. Why are you Commenting.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Please sit down; please be quiet.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please address the Chair.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: You have to sit down when I am standing.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Why have you stood up.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SANDEEP DIXIT (East Delhi): Hon'ble Speaker had called him first. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Silence Please.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: I had called him but his issue was different. He has the same issue, therefore, let him speak first. I will call him later on. It is a triggle do not get agitated over it.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: It is my decision.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Please take your seats.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Subject is the same, that is why I have called him to speak in place of him. Later on I will give him a chance to speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Silence Please.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Sinha Ji, please speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Madam, While associating myself with the issue raised by Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav ji, I would like to submit that I had raised a very clear question during the discussion taken place in the House on the foreign visits of the hon'ble Prime Minister. The question was as to what changed during the period of 30 days when he met President Zardari on 16th June and thereafter Prime Minister, Gilani on 16th July that he altered his mandate. The hon'ble Prime Minister in his reply stated that during this period he had received a dossier from Pakistan. He mentioned the names of the terrorists which were given in that dossier. It was also mentioned in the dossier as to what action was going to be taken by Pakistan in this regard.

So far as I remember, the name of Hafiz Saeed was not there in the dossier. As per the Government, Hafiz

Saeed was the mastermind of Mumbai terror attack. Since Hafiz Saeed has direct links with Pakistan's intelligence agency ISI, they dare not touch him. Every time they let him off on one pretext or the other. As hon'ble Mulayam Singh ji has stated that it is the weakness of the prosecution or on the pretext that the person who had to argue the case was not available, the Supreme Court of Pakistan let him off for an indefinite period. He is being treated as if there were no case against him. Before that, on 28th July the Home Minister of Pakistan had stated that there was no solid evidence against Hafiz Saeed. Recently, our Home Minister has also sent a fresh dossier and told the people of the country that this dossier contains enough evidence against Hafiz Saeed, that Hafiz Saeed can be prosecuted. In reply to that Pakistan has set him free. I have ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Your time is over.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: This time allotted to you is already finished therefore, you conclude your speech now.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Madam Speaker, I have not yet finished my points. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: You had to speak for three minutes only. You have already spoken for three minutes.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Madam Speaker, I am raising a very important point. Yesterday when the news arrived. ...*(Interruptions)* The operative part is yet to be initiated ...*(Interruptions)* Yesterday, when the news arrived, the Minister of External Affairs gave a statement to the newspapers. In his statement to the newspapers, he said that now the talks will not reach any conclusion. ...*(Interruptions)* It is futile to have talks. I want that. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Your time is over.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Yes, Mr. Madhu Goud Yaskhi, you may speak now.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Whatever Mr. Madhu Goud Yaskhi speaks will go on record and nothing else.

(Interruptions)... *

SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI: Thank you Madam Speaker for allowing me to raise a very important issue. Today, of the total population, 48 per cent are women. But the condition of women in our country is very pathetic...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Let there be order in the House

SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI: During the past decade, atrocities on women have been increasing. Discrimination and violence against women are on the rise. Atrocities, killings, dowry deaths are becoming the routine feature nowadays....*(Interruptions)* Though we have a number of stringent laws to check and tackle such crimes against women, yet their implementation is very poor. In spite of women coming forward and complaining about rape and sexual harassment, there is no action. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Your speech is over, now you listen to him.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: You please sit down. All of you please listen to him.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except what Mr. Goud speaks.

(Interruptions)... *

Not recorded.

SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI: In this regard, I would like to draw the attention of the Central Government about a rape case of a tribal woman in Chhattisgarh. There is no action against the culprits by the Chhattisgarh Government. ...*(Interruptions)* A statement by the unfortunate rape victim in and itself is enough to take cognizance of the crime.

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Why are you on your legs? Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI: In this regard I would like to quote a recent Supreme Court Judgment: "In the Indian setting, refusal to act on the testimony of the victim of sexual assault, in the absence of corroboration as a rule is adding insult to injury....*(Interruptions)* A girl or a woman in tradition-bound non-permissive society of India would be extremely reluctant even to admit that any incident, that is to reflect on her chastity, has ever occurred. A rape victim testimony does not require corroboration from any other evidence including the evidence of a doctor."...*(Interruptions)*

Madam, as reported in the latest edition of *Tehalka* magazine, in spite of this woman coming forward and giving a testimony – even she reported this incident to the National Human Rights Commission — they failed to act upon and take action against the culprits. ...*(Interruptions)*

Madam, even a destitute tribal woman has no access to police, Judiciary or media. Then, where would she go for justice? We talk about naxalism, increase of naxalism, specially in Chhattisgarh and generally, in the whole of the country. But if no justice is given to such unfortunate rape victims, they would also become naxalites!....*(Interruptions)*. Even a brother had made a statement that her sister had been raped and killed, but there is no action, so far, by the Chhattisgarh Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

I would therefore, urge upon the Central Government to take cognizance of these incidents and do the needful.

Why is Naxalism increasing? It is because of the utter failure of the judiciary and governance, particularly in the State of Chhattisgarh. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

[English]

expect what Shri Madhu Goud Yaskhi is saying.

*(Interruptions)...**

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: I have permitted everyone to speak and you are not permitting him to speak. No, that is not proper.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI: Madam, through you, I would like to demand from the Central Government to assess the effectiveness of the legal framework. ...*(Interruptions)* In spite of so many lofty laws, the implementation is very poor. ...*(Interruptions)* The efficiency and effectiveness of the legislations enacted to protect the women in the country is the need of the hour. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Have you completed? Please conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI: Today it is a matter of pride for all of us that a lady is the Speaker of this House. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

But it is shameful on us that we failed to protect the women in the country. We are not doing our justice. Thank you....*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 1 p.m.

12.26 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Thirteen of the Clock.

---

*Not recorded.

13.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha reassembled at Thirteen of the Clock.

[MADAM SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ (Vidisha): Madam, let the present issue continue. The Leader of the Opposition would like to speak.

MADAM SPEAKER: I would like to inform the House that some of the hon. Members, who have given notices for raising their issues during the Zero Hour after the present issue is over, will be given opportunity to speak. So, they need not worry. Now, the Leader of the Opposition will speak.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI (Gandhinagar): Madam Speaker, a short while ago my colleague Shri Mulayam Singh ji raised a very serious issue. The main point of the debate, which was held on that issue, was joint statements made, and even a discussion was held on that also. A number of hon. Members felt very sad over one of the joint statements. However, the External Affairs Minister made a statement yesterday. It was made outside the House and not in the House. A number of hon. Members can confirm as to what he has said. Today, Mulayam Singh ji raised an issue concerning Hafiz Saeed. Today morning, I read the statement of the hon. Minister of External Affairs published in the Times of India. The hon. Minister has given an exclusive interview to the said newspaper. In his interview to the Times of India, the hon. Minister has said;

[English]

"We know for a fact that Hafiz Saeed is the mastermind of Mumbai attacks."

[Transaltion]

He has said so. Everybody is well aware of the serious attack that took place in the month of November last year. It continued for three days and the entire country as well as the whole world saw it. It was as if there was attack on India. It was masterminded by Hafiz Saeed, he head of Lashkar-e-Taiba, who has been declared a terrorist by the UN Security Council. Despite all these activities the Government of Pakistan has withdrawn the action initiated against him. They got it quashed by the Court also. On this issue Shri S.M. Krishna ji commented.

[English]

"Regardless of how many times the PMs or the Foreign Ministers meet or the Foreign Secretaries meet, it will have no impact."

[Translation]

That is why he has said,

[English]

"All talks are futile till Islamabad gives positive indication of tackling terror."

[Translation]

Now the House would like to know whether as per the joint statement issued by our Prime Minister and Mr. Gilani, the Prime Minister of Pakistan we have delinked action on terrorism from composite dialogue process and our Secretaries will meet as often and continue to hold talks. The Minister of External Affairs has not given a statement in the House but told the Times of India that all talks are futile until Pakistan takes action against the prepetrators of terrorism. This statement of the Minister of External Affairs contradicsts the delinking issue referred to in the joint Statement. I am happy that the Minister has contradicted that joint statement. I am happy that the Minister has contradicted that joint statement. If he has made a well-thought out statement, it would be better if our Prime Minister also confirms it. Madam Speaker, your postponed the proceedings of the House for half an hour and I thought that thereafter the hon. Prime Minister himself would come or at least the Minister of External Affairs would come and repeat the statement in the House as the Parliament was in session and it was necessary to make a statement in the House. Last time this issue was discussed in detail. I demand that the Hon. Prime Minister or the Minister of External Affairs should come immediately and confirm this statement. We know that even the Secretary level talks are futile until action is taken against Hafiz Saeed as it has become a touch-stone

[English]

Saeed's trial has become the acid test for Pakistan.

[Translation]

As per the statement made by the Minister of External Affairs.

[English]

All talks are futile until action is taken.

[Translation]

The hon. Prime Minister or the Minister of External Affairs should come to the House and repeat the statement given to the Times of India and we will welcome that.

SHRI SANJAY NURUPAM (Mumbai North): Madam Speaker, the 26/11 terrorist attack on Mumbai cannot be forgotten. After that the Government of India took a decision that any talks with Pakistan would be meaningless until and unless Pakistan takes some decisive action against terrorism and destroys the terrorist outfits operating on the Pakistani soil completely. I think that the Government of India for the first time succeeded in bringing Pakistan in the dock at the international level, Pakistan was concerned and Pakistan has really taken action against terrorism under international pressure. As we have been fighting against terrorism for the last several years, Pakistan has also been fighting against terrorism for the last few months and Pakistan itself is in much troubled. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please keep quiet.

SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: I listened to your leader peacefully. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except what Shri Sanjay Nirupam is saying.

*(Interruptions)...**

[Translation]

SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Madam Speaker, the whole world knows that Pakistan has been fighting against the terrorists like Baitullah Masood. Benazir Bhutto, the former Prime Minister of Pakistan was killed in a terrorist attack.

SHRI RAKESH SINGH (Jabalpur): Why are you advocating Pakistan?

SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: I am not advocating. ...*(Interruptions)* You should now worry. I am more patriotic than you are ...*(Interruptions)* I am also a patriot and a natioinalist. When Mumbai was attacked by the terrorists, Sanjay Nirupam was the first person to visit the Taj Hotel and nobody on behalf of the Shivsena and the BJP went there. ...*(Interruptions)* Madam, it cannot be denied that Hafiz Saeed is the mastermind of Mumbai terrorist attack and Pakistan will have to book Hafiz Saeed. This is what I also demand on behalf of my country, my party and the Government. The other day I read in the newspapers that our Home Minister had stated that the fourth dossier relating to Hafiz Saeed was sent. If there is any need, more dossiers should be sent. Pakistan may do whatever it wants but Pakistan cannot let off Hafiz Saeed. We have to maintain the pressure on Pakistan so that the persons responsible for carrying out Mumbai attack may be brought to book and punished. But the manner in which Pakistani army as well as the Government are fighting against terrorism in Pakistan, there is a need to hold talks for exchanging information in regard to those terrorists. These talks are likely to be held at Secretary level or External Affairs Minister level. But the sharing of information is essential as both the countries are neighbours. Panditji also used to say that we could choose friends but not neighbours. When the neighbouring country is burning, and terrorist attacks are taking place there, I think, talks should be held with that country in order to exchange information. But above all these things the talks cannot be conclusive until and unless the terrorist outfits and terrorists operating India from Pakistan are uprooted completely. So on behalf of entire Mumbai I also demand from the Government of India to impress upon the Pakistan Government to arrest Hafiz Saeed again and take action to punish him.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura): Madam Speaker, I will not repeat what Shri Mulayam Singhji, Advaniji and Yashwant Sinhaji have already said. A joint statement has been released by our Prime Minister and Pakistani Prime Minister in Sharm-Al-Sheikh recenlty. I am saying this because after 26/11 we had succeeded in exposing Pakistan before the world community. The entire opposition is saying that we had got an opportunity and after 26/11 attack the world community was convinced that Pakistan had been indulging in inhuman attacks against India. The whole world community criticized Pakistan. There is a reference to Baluchistan in the joint statement released in Sharm-Al-Sheikh which is against the public sentiment in the country. Today it has been proved in the case of Hafiz Saeed. The Government of India submitted a dossier officially to the Pakistani Government. Hafiz Saeed is undoubtedly the mastermind of the Mumbai attack but everyone knows how he has been released. I do not want to repeat what my fellow Members have already said in this regard in the House.

*Not recorded.

I just want to submit that not many days have passed since the released of that joint statement and what to talk of acid test, arresting and punishing Hafiz Saeed, now the Minister of External Affairs has given a statement that there is no meaning of holding talks further as Hafiz Saeed has been freed and declared as a respectable citizen of Pakistan. I want to submit, through you, that the joint statement released by both the Prime Minister has jolted the world community. Our External Affairs Minister says that Saeed's trial has become the acid test. I want to submit that the joint statement released by the Government in Sharm-Al-Sheikh is against the interests of the country and we had been reiterating this fact.

Madam, the Parliament is in session and I do not have any objection to the statement given by the Minister of External Affairs outside Parliament because it was necessary to reply at that time. But the Government of India should clarify and give the details in this regard. It was not correct to say that terrorism and talks would continue sumultaneously. Now it should be said that there would be no talks. I support the demand made by the leader of opposition and I want that either the Minister of External Affairs or the Prime Minister should give a clarification in this regard. With these words I conclude my speech.

SHRI LALU PRASAD (Saran): Madam Speaker, hon. Mulayam Singh Yadav Ji has not raised any personal issue or an issue related to his party. This issue is related to the country and has caused a threat to the country. Every person in India knows that Hafiz Saeed is the mastermind of barbarous Mumbai attack. This name sends the whole country into shivers. Nobody opposes the talks between the two countries. There should be a dialogue at Government level. But the Government of India has been continuously asserting that all the evidence shows that Hafiz Saeed is the mastermind of Mumbai attacks and evidence has been submitted to Pakistan and Pakistan should take stringent action against him. But what action has been taken? I find that the Government of India has been making contradictory statements and not learning any lessons. There is a saying, "once bitter twice shy". But we are not learning any lessons. The Minister of External Affairs has given a statement. It may be that he may retract his statement given to the Times of India but a message has gone to the whole country that Pakistan Government has shown us where we stand. We all must ponder over what has happened which is quite clearly known to one and all. We are not against the Pakistani masses, we are not opposed to friendship with neighbours and there should be dialogues with neighbours. But we have always beent he victim. The hon. Prime Minister and the Minister of External Affairs shuld clarify on behalf of the Government of India. Hone Mulayam Singhji, Sharadji and all the other Members have the same opinion. Advaniji has raised the issue and it is not his personal issue. Had he raised 'Jai Shri Ram' issue, I would have remained silent. I support what hon. Mulayamji and Sahraj ji have said and demand a clarification from the Government

[English]

What is the truth behind it?

[Translation]

What is the truth? The Government should tell the truth.

[English]

What action are you going to take?

[Translation]

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR (Bangalore South): Laluji, Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs has come but the Minister of External Affairs has not come. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please do not talk to each other.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LALU PRASAD: He will inform the Union Minister of External Affairs ...*(Interruptions)* What is the strategy of the Government of India? It is a matter of self-respect of the country. We cannot be satisfied until and unless the persons involved in carrying out Mumbai attacks are punished. It is a wrong message. I also demand what the senior leaders have demanded in the House because it is a national question. Our country has been demoralized. I would like to submit that these things are denting the morale of the country. So the hon. Prime Minister or the Minister of External Affairs should clarify.

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: This matter is over. I will now take up other matters under 'Zero Hour'.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: They have asked for a reply. How can this matter be over? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: We had an official information that you would call them. ...*(Interruptions)* Even the leader of the House is not present now. ...*(Interruptions)* It seems that no matter is left with the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is sitting here, he must be knowing. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: We want a reply from the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL (Dumariyaganj): You have given all the leaders an opportunity to speak, please allow me also to speak. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: I cannot compel the Government to give the reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: The Minister of External Affairs should give a reply. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: This issue has been complicated further. We want to know from the Government whether the Prime Minister agrees to the statement given by the Minister of External Affairs or the Minister of External Affairs has overruled the Prime Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Is there any collective responsibility of this Government or not? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Has the Minister of External Affairs overruled by the Prime Minister? ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: It is a matter of 'Zero Hour'. I cannot compel the Government to respond.

[Translation]

We cannot compel the Government. It is a matter of 'Zero Hour'. We cannot compel the Government.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: The Government has not given any clarification in this regard, so we are walking out.

13.20 hrs.

(Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav and some other hon. Members then left the House)

SHRI LALU PRASAD: The Government is not giving any reply, so we are walking out.

13.20$^{1}/_{2}$ hrs.

(Shri Lalu Prasad and some other hon. Members then left the House)

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Does the Prime Minister agree with the Statement given by the Minister of External Affairs or the Minister has over ruled the Prime Minister? The Government should explain it. The situation in the House is similar to what we often see in our houses. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: This cannot end here.

[Translation]

Today they do not want to accept it. ...*(Interruptions)* But either they should declare as to when the hon'ble Prime Minister or the Minister of External Affairs will give clarification in this regard or otherwise at the moment giving a statement outside. ...*(Interruptions)* The statements of Prime Minister and External Affairs Minister differ in this regard. As per my view, it is wrong, he should have stated it in the House itself. ...*(Interruptions)* but I am opposing it. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: It is contempt of the Parliament ...*(Interruptions)*. He gives statements in newspapers but not here. ...*(Interruptions)* He gives statements in newspapers but not here in the House. ...*(Interruptions)* because if he speaks here, it would go into the records. ...*(Interruptions)* Please call the Minister of External Affairs.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: It is incorrect....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)...**

MADAM SPEAKER: I cannot compel the Government to respond. Let me take up other matters of the 'Zero Hour'. Shri M.I. Shanavas.

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: We stage a walkout from the House against it.

13.22 hrs.

(Shri L.K. Advani and some other hon. Members then left the House)

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except what Shri Shanavas is saying.

*(Interruptions)...**

SHRI M.I. SHANAVAS (Wayanad): Madam Speaker, I am extremely thankful to you for allowing me to raise an urgent matter of public importance concerning the border districts of Kerala and Karnataka. I would like to request the hon. Central Government, through you, to kindly intervene in a very serious matter that has become a great point of concern for the people of Wayanad and Kozhikode districts of Kerala and also the Chamraj Nagar District of Karnataka. The Karnataka High Court on 27th July has passed an order on a Public Interest Litigation that NH-212, the only logistical transport road that is connecting Wayanad and Calicut to Karnataka, should be closed in the night.

Madam, Wayanad has a devastating experience of landslide and natural calamities. Still, the district is slowly awakening from the drastic affects of the natural calamity. This order of the Karnataka High Court may be vacated. The Central Government may take steps to influence both the Governments to take steps. About three weeks back, the Chamraj Nagar District Collector issued a ban on traffic in this NH 212. I personally contacted the Karnataka Chief Minister and he was very helpful. He vacated that ban order. Now thousands of vehicles are passing through this road every night and tens of thousands of passengers are moving every night. So, this has become a grave problem. All the people are up in arms against this order. All the MLAs, Chambers of Commerce, traders, and all the political parties are coming on to the road for an agitation. So, I would request the hon. Central Government to prevail over the State Government of Karnataka to move the Karnataka High Court to vacate the stay and see that night traffic goes on as usual on NH-212.

[Translation]

*SHRI PRASANTA KUMAR MAJUMDAR (Balurghat): Hon. Speaker Madam, you must be aware that the state of West Bengal is divided into two parts - South Bengal and North Bengal. The latter is extremely important not only to the state but also to the entire country for various reasons. North Bengal is surrounded by China, Bhutan, Nepal, Bangladesh etc. On August 2, Hon. Prime Minister of India took a meeting with the security officials of the country regarding the internal security of the nation. It was a very high level meeting you all know. In that meeting the role of China was discussed threadbare. China has already crossed Lhasa to reach Sikkim and Darjiling through Bhutan and Nepal. It has also reached even Siliguri. Thus North Bengal is occupying a very significant position in the country as it is a bordering area. So we need to consolidate the military bases in that region. Meanwhile various foreign powers are trying to build up contacts with the separatist groups operating in the area. There are KLOs, Gorkha Mukti Morcha, Greater Cooch Behar and KPP insurgents who are regularly disrupting normal life in North Bengal by instilling fear in the minds of ordinary people. Therefore we need to strengthen the entire stretch militarily. Why did North Bengal transform into such a place?

It was such a nice place with tea gardens, orange orchards timber manufacturing units all around. This area is very important from the point of view of the foreign exchange earnings of this country. The tea gardens are gradually de-generating - the labourers do not get their due. Their Provident Funds have been grabbed by the garden owners. We've seen that the land there is very fertile Teesta, Jaldhaka rivers flow in the region. The Teesta Project should be taken up in right earnest to do away with the economic disparity. North Bengal is deprived of all basic facilities. The foreign powers are trying to intrude here. It is a matter of national concern. Through

*Not recorded.

*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Bengali.

you I'd like to request the Government of India to take necessary action in this regard. I thank you for allowing me to speak and conclude.

[English]

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (Kolkata Uttar): Madam, I intend to raise a very important issue. The *Shmashaan Bhoomi* or the *Kabristans* are located generally far away from the villages. During the monsoon season, the dead bodies get wet while being carried to those places. There are no shelters provided in cremation grounds for people to move under when it rains. As a result of that, people often leave the burning ghats before the dead bodies are fully burnt. This is the last ritual in the life of a human being. I, therefore, urge upon the Government to take a decision at the national level to see that all burning ghats or *Shmashaan Bhoomis* in the country are provided with proper sheltering roofs, drinking water, and other basic amenities.

This is going out of the way. Madam, from your side, some direction should reach the Government so that they treat this as a national problem, and through NREGA programme, the Government would implement this throughout the country.

[Translation]

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH (Allahabad): Madam, you had called my name when we were walking out from the House.

MADAM SPEAKER: I had not called your name but I had told you to resume your seat.

YOGI ADITYA NATH (Gorakhpur): Madam, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards a major event of Sanatan Dharam "Mahakumbh Mela" which is organized at four major places of Prayagraj, Haridwar, Ujjain and Nashik after every 12 years. THis festival is falling next year in 2010 after Makar Sakranti. Approximately 6 to 8 crore devotees from almost all the sects of Sanatan Dharam are expected to visit these places and take a holy dip in river Ganga.

Madam, Ardha Kumbh was organized at Haridwar in 2003-04. At that time, the then Central Government had provided Rs. 100 crore to the Government of Uttarakhand to make arrangements for the 'Mela. The ensuring Mela would start next year in January but it is unfortunate but no central assistance has been provided in this regard so far. The Government of Uttarakhand has demanded Rs. 500 crore from the Central Government. What steps are proposed to be taken by the Government to facilitate 6-8 crore devotees? It is a matter of concern to what extent the Government is serious about it. The Central Government has provided 3472 crore rupees for organizing commonwealth games, a large event to be held in the country next year. Similarly, crores of devotees from all over the country and abroad would be present in Hairdwar. Therefore, I would request the Government, through you, to consider the demand of Uttarakhand Government and provide Rs. 500 crore immediately to make arrangements for Kumbh Mela to provide basic amenities to these devotees and to facilitate them to visit these pilgrim centers.

13.33 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: The matters under rule 377 may be treated as laid on the Table of the House.

(i) Need to provide adequate funds for the gauge conversion work between Dindigul and Pollachi in Tamil Nadu

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN (Dindigul): I urge the Railway Minister to allot the needed funds for the gauge conversion work between Dindigul and Pollachi in Tamil Nadu. The work should be completed within two years because it is the most important project.

(ii) Need to undertake excavation of gypsum reserves on the banks of river Chenab near Dharamkund in Jammu and Kashmir

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH (Udhampur): A huge stock of purest form of Gypsum spread over a belt of nearly 3 km long, 500 metre wide & 200 metre depth is existing in the lower contours of hills on the right bank of river Chenab near Dharamkund starting from upstream side of Dharamkund Bridge over river Chenab. This wide belt of Gypsum is also existing on the right bank of Chingi Nallah at lower contour between Dharmkund & Jangaldam. As per approximate estimates the market value of Gypsum, after working out the expenditure on extraction comes out to be more than Rs. 33,000/- crores. The market value of finished products which can be used for Plaster of Paris, medical purposes & other numerous

*Treated as laid on the Table.

requirements, is anticipated to be much more than the cost worked out as above. But, Government has not taken any interest to exploit this 'White Gold' reserve. The result may be that this huge stock of Gypsum worth crores of rupees which is mostly situated on the lower contours of Chenab Valley and its 90% of stock existing at lake formation level of under-construction Sawalakote Hydel Project may get submerged in the Sawalkote Dam Lake which is anticipated to come into existence within 6 years. The proposed year of completion of the Hydroelectric Project is 2014.

(iii) Need to check the rising prices of essential commodities

[Translation]

SHRI DATTA MEGHE (Wardha): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the sky rocketing prices of essential commodities like pulses, sugar, edible oils and vegetables. As a result of limited production and weak monsoon several States are in the grip of drought. The situation is that the prices of pulses such as Arhar and Urad have risen to Rs. 80 to 90 per kg. and the prices of sugar which were Rs. 18-20 per kg. a few months ago have now gone above Rs. 30 per kg. The prices of corainder leaves in Nagpur market have reached to Rs. 100 per kg. Similarly, the prices of other vegetables have also increased. Loose flour is not available at less than Rs. 15 per kg.

Weak monsoon can result in increase in prices of some commodities but the point is that the Government has not yet taken concrete steps to stabilize the prices and to keep them within the reach of common man.

Therefore, I request the Govt. to take concrete and effective steps immediately without any delay to check the prices of essential commodities and to bring them down within the range of common man.

(iv) Need to ensure construction of roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana as per specified norms and standards in Pratapgarh Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh

RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH (Pratapgarh): The roads under construction in my parliamentary constituency Pratapgarh under Pradhanmantri Gram Sadak Yojana are not being constructed as per the specified norms and standards and as a result these roads would not cost for more than two-three years. The raw material being used for the construction is of sub-standard quality. a number of roads in various areas of my Parliamentary constituency especially from Katra to Mandata and from Pratapgarh to Dilippur-Jamtale to Jagnipur have been constructed under Pradhanmantri Gram Sadak Yojana.

Through this House, I request the Government to conduct an inquiry in regard to whether the specified norms and standards have been followed in the construction of roads under PMGSY in my Parliamentary constituency during the last five years. Action should also be taken against the persons responsible for the poor quality of work.

(v) Need to start construction of a new broad gauge railway line between Chengannur and Trivandrum via Kottarakara and Kilimanur in Kerala

[English]

SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH (Mavelikkara): I would like to mention that there is a proposal for construction of a new broad-gauge railway line between Chengannur and Trivandrum via Kottarakara and Kilimanur. Survey for this line was already conducted several years back and the feasibility study was also done three to four times. After that also, another survey was conducted on the same route.

Even though Chengannur is the central part of Travancore, there is no rail connectivity from Chengannur to Trivandrum. Chengannur is a pilgrim centre and it is the gate way to Sabarimala Temple. Every year, lakhs and lakhs of Ayyappa devotees are coming from various parts of the country for their onward journey to Sabarimala. Like Chenagannur, Pandalam Town is also a pilgrim centre for Ayyappa devotees. Adoor and Kottarakara are Taluk Headquarters. Chadayamangalam and Kilimanur are two of the most important towns in Kerala.

Fom Chengannur to Trivandrum there is one State Highway which is called M.C. Road. Due to non-availability of rail connectivity, there is always a traffic congestion on this road as all the heavy vehicles are using this road. Lots of agitations have taken place there in the past for speedy implementation of this Chengannur-Trivandrum new railway line. The Kerala Government has also written several letters to the Railway Ministry but nothing has been done so far. There is a long pending demand of the people of these areas.

I, therefore, urge upon the Railway Minister to allocate more funds and complete this railway line immediately.

(vi) Need to construct the proposed Ranjit Sagar Dam in Sajapur district, Madhya Pradesh

[Translation]

SHRI SAJJAN VERMA (Dewas): The percentage of irrigation facilities and schemes in much less in Madhya Pradesh than in other parts in the country. The environmentalists and geologists of the country have cautioned several times that if proper attention is not given to this region, this region will be the first to turn into desert within the next 30 to 35 years. Hence it has become necessary to formulate some small and big irrigation schemes at the earliest in order to increase the ground water level in this area.

A survey is being conducted for several years in regard to a scheme for constructing a dam namely Ranjit Sagar dam in Shajapur tehsil in Shajapur district in my Parliamentary constituency and the survey is now complete but construction under this scheme has not been started till date. I request the Ministry of Water Resources to get this scheme cleared from Central Water Commission and get the work started at the earliest.

(vii) Need to ensure payment of minimum wages and other service benefits to the beedi workers engaged with the unregistered Beedi manufacturing units in the country particularly in Andhra Pradesh

[English]

SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI (Nizamabad): The Beedi manufacturing firms and factories have grown in large numbers in the country over the past few years, predominantly in the areas extending from West Bengal to Andhra Pradesh. As per a report, Nizamabad, Karimnagar and other Telangana District have more than ten lakh such labourers.

Most of these firms are not registered with the Government and do not follow the statutory guidelines of the Government of India. Not only issues pertaining to health hazards of the working labourers in these firms have come to light but also it has been reported that these Beedi firms do not pay the minimum wages to the labourers as stipulated in the Minimum Wages Act. These firms do not extend the EPF and ESI facilities to labourers. Tax evasion by these unregistered firms is another issue which should be dealt with severely.

I urge upon the Central Government to take suitable steps to put a check on these unregistered Beedi firms and make arrangements for inspection and monitoring of these firms so that labourers working in these firms get their dues, wages and facilities as per law.

(viii) Need to open a Kendriya Vidyalaya in Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu and fill up vacant posts in Kendriya Vidyalayas in the country

SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU (Tirunelveli): In my Tirunelveli District, Tamil Nadu, Central Government Offices *viz.*, EPF, Income Tax, Central Excise, Highways are located and the services of many of the employees are transferable in nature. Moreover, families of persons working in various defence establishments are residing here. They are facing a lot of difficulties without KV School for admission of their children.

Moreover, as on 1.7.2009, 4496 posts (both teaching and non-teaching in different categories in various Kendriya Vidyalayas are vacant. Though steps have been taken to fill up these vacancies through direct recruitment as well as promotion, the process is time-consuming. The students are facing lot of difficulties and the syllabus could not be covered within the time schedule. Hence, I urge upon the Union Government that recruitment process of teachers should be made continuously and the vacancies be filled as soon as they arise.

I, therefore, urge upon the Hon'ble Minister to set up a Kendriya Vidyalaya in Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu and fill up the backlog of vacant posts in Kendriya Vidyalaya without delay.

(ix) Need to take steps to bring back the valuable items belonging to Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj from abroad

[Translation]

SHRI SONAWANE PRATAP NARAYANRAO (Dhule): Madam, Shri Shivaji Maharaj was not only a valiant warrior but also a foresighted leader of his time. He had firm faith in the philosophy that all religions are equal and his contribution even today and it may inspire any government.

Madam, even today crores of Indians get inspiration from Shivaji Maharaj's acts and his sword 'Bhawani' is a symbol of his valour. This sword and other things will certainly inspire the youth to fight against injustice. I believe that knowing history is essential to live in the present and to take cognizance of the future.

Madam, I am of the opinion that India's unity lies in its diversity. Each State has its own history and tradition. The Union Government should respect all these diverse traditions and history.

I would like to submit through you to ensure that steps are taken to bring back Bhawani Sword and other items, which have been kept in London museum within a certain time limit.

(x) Need to provide special financial assistance for promoting irrigation facilities in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR (Chandrapur): The condition of farmers has been deteriorating continuously in Maharashtra, especially in Vidarbha region. A large number of farmers have been committing suicide due to loss in agricultural produce in this very region. The farmers have been committing suicide even after the Prime Minister's package and loan-waiver. It shows that there is a need to take other initiatives for providing a modest livelihood to the farmers. The farmers in Vidarbha region are engaged in agriculture which depends mostly on rains, hence there is always an uncertainty in regard to their production. Another big reason for the poor state of the farmers is that they do not get proper price for their crops vis-a-vis the production cost of their crops. First of all there is a need to improve the irrigation facilities in order to make agriculture profitable for the farmers. The fact finding committee constituted by the Planning Commission has also observed that irrigation by pump needs to be given priority in Vidarbha. The Vangana, the Pan-ganga, the Vardha, the Urai and the Godavari are major rivers in Vidarbha. The dam construction projects for irrigation are proposed on these rivers. But these projects have been pending for years on account of land acquisition, forest clearance and the farmers have to be displaced on a large scale. Hence there is a need to give priority to irrigation by constructing barrages in the rivers in Vidarbha and through lift irrigation. The Union Government should announce a special package and allocate plenty of funds for providing irrigation facilities in the backward region in Vidarbha on the lines of Nanded and Kolhapuri dam in Maharashtra. I request the government, through you, to take serious note of the proposal and take steps in this regard so as to remove the backwardness of the farmers in Vidarbha and prevent them from committing suicide.

(xi) Need to honour Dr. Gangubai Hangal with Bharat Ratna Award

[English]

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI (Dharwad): Dr. Gangubai Hangal is one of illustrious names in the annals of classical music of India that carved its own niche. With her passing away on 21 July 2009 in Hubli, an ever-sparkling singing star has faded away. Born in a very ordinary family in 1913 in Dharwad, she lived a life of 97 years. During this period, her only life mission was Hindustani Classical music. She not only sung and made millions to listen but her more accomplished mission was to kindle the zeal of Indian Classical Music among millions of people across the country. By this, she made unforgettable contribution to the field of art and culture of our contemporary society. Today the Gangubai is household name not only in the Karnataka but also all over India. During her long and meaningful journey of her life hundreds of awards and honors were bestowed upon her. The Government of India has already bestowed upon her 'Padma Vibhushan' long ago. But long pressing and ever-persistent demand of people of Karnataka and music lovers all over the country is to bestow 'Bharata Ratna' upon her.

Now I feel specially honoured for the reason that she lived in my constituency and to press for honouring Dr. Gangubai Hangal with 'Bharat Ratna' award posthumously as a real tribute to the departed soul.

(xii) Need to introduce a train between Bhagalpur and Deoghar via Vikramshila in Bihar

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN (Bhagalpur): The ancient Buddhist University, Vikramshila and Mandar Hill used for "samudramanthan' are situated in my Parliamentary constituency, Bhagalpur which are very important from tourism point of view. If the Ministry of Railways approves a railway line from Bhagalpur to Deoghar via Vikramshila, it would promote tourism in a religious place like Deoghar as well as Vikarmshila as Vikramshila University is an ancient Buddhist University where tourists and researchers come for study. Tourists

from distant places come to visit Deoghar for spiritual pursuits and for darshan of Mandarhill which adds more importance to both these places. Hence there is a need for a new rail line connecting Bhagalpur-Vikramshila-Deoghar as a circuit. If this rail line is approved, it would provide employment opportunities to the people living in the three places namely Bhagalpur, Vikramshila and Deoghar and also facilitate the development of this region. Lakhs of tourists and devotees come for visiting and studying all these important locations, hence I would like to request the hon. Minister of Railways, through you, to approve the rail line from Bhagalpur to Deoghar via Vikramshila.

(xiii) Need to make functional the glass factory in Chitrakoot district, Banda Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh

SHRI R.K. SINGH PATEL (Banda): Schemes are being formulated to generate employment for the unemployed persons in the country and new industries are also being set up. Foundation of a glass factory was laid in Bargarh, Chitrakoot district, Banda, Uttar Pradesh. Crores of rupees were spent on setting up this factory. This glass factory would have been the biggest glass factory of Asia. This factory was being constructed here because adjacent to it was silica sand mine in Shankargarh. The factory is lying closed in half constructed condition. Revival of this factory will reduce unemployment and the Government will earn adequate revenue from this. I would like to urge that this factory may be revieved immediately.

(xiv) Need to provide financial package for development of Utensil and Handloom industries in Khalilabad, Sant Kabir Nagar Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh

SHRI BHISMA SHANKAR *ALIAS* KUSHAL TIWARI (Sant Kabir Nagar): Khalilabad is the first industrial area of Uttar Pradesh and its bronze and other metal utensil industry alongwith the handloom industry were famous not just in the country but in a number of other countries as well but today the artisans related to utensil industry and weavers involved in textile industry have become unemployed and are deprived of even food. The problem with all these industries is that they face acute shortage of raw material and due to lack of proper marketing of finished product all the benefits are being reaped by the middlemen. There is unemployment to such an extent that the artisans are migrating from here to other states to earn their livelihood and they are forced to live a miserable life. Therefore, the Government is requested to grant an economic package for the industrial development of this area so that means of livelihood could be made available for the poor artisans and weavers.

(xv) Need to expedite construction of Saharsa-Forbesganj broad gauge railway line in Bihar

SHRI VISHWA MOHAN KUMAR (Supaul): I would like to draw the attention of the hon'ble Minister towards the proposed Saharsa-Forbesganj major line in my parliamentary constituency. Despite completion of survey for the construction of this railway line, work on this line has not been started. Completion of this line will fulfill the dreams of lakhs of Mithilanchal people.

Therefore, hon'ble Minister is requested to make immediate arrangements for the construction of Saharsa-Forbesganj rail line, so that the problem could be solved.

(xvi) Need to undertake the expansion work of Vellore Airport to facilitate the setting up of Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Aeronautical Science and Training of Pilots Academy in Vellore, Tamil Nadu

[English]

SHRI D. VENUGOPAL (Tiruvannamalai): Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Aeronautical Science and Training of Pilots Academy in memory of former Prime Minister Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi will now be set up in Vellore instead of Sriperumbudur near Chennai as per the technical suggestion by the Airports Authority of India under Union Ministry of Civil Aviation. Establishing of this Institute will be done by Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation with AAI under Public Private Partnership Mode along with the expansion of Vellore Airport. Hence I urge upon the Union Government to take up at the earliest the expansion of Vellore Airport to facilitate the setting up of Rajiv Gandhi Pilots Academy. This expansion will also help adding pace to the Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry's establishing of Industrial corridor of excellence between Chennai and Bangaluru.

(xvii) Need to regularize the services of catering workers in the Railways

SHRI M.B. RAJESH (Palakkad): I would like to invite the attention of Government to the pathetic condition of thousands of railway catering workers. As a part of privatization, IRCTC was introduced in railways and it is

tendering catering units to the highest bidders. Thousands of catering workers have already been rendered jobless. Hence, I demand that Government should conduct a thorough review of this policy. Introduction of Food Plazas by the IRCTC has adversely affected the job security of catering workers. Hence it is urged that Food Plazas should be introduced only as an additional facility for higher class passengers and not as a permanent replacement for NVRR/VRR. Sufficient number of vending passes also should be allocated. Catering staff should be considered for recruitment in the lowest grade as railway employees. Welfare Fund, PF and other social security benefits should be implemented for all catering staff. The Government should take all measures to protect thousands of catering workers in Indian Railways who are facing acute insecurity due to the policies of privatization.

(xviii) Need to declare Vidyasagar Memorial Hall in West Medinipur, West Bengal as a national heritage site

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (Midnapore): Medinipur Town is the district headquarters of Paschim Medinipur district of West Bengal. The town is an import milepost in the annals of Indian Freedom Struggle. On 15 December 1938, Kavi Guru Rabindranath Tagore inaugurated Vidyasagar Memorial Hall in ths town for which the foundations stone was laid by former President of India and great philosopher Dr. Sarvapally Radhakrishnan.

This Vidyasagar Memorial Hall, in memory of legendary educationist and social reformer, Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar, plays an important role in developing cultural & research works for the present and future generations.

But due to financial constraints the affairs of Hall have come to a miserable condition. Though the Hall Committee has come out with a novel programme for establishing a full-fledged cultural complex housing the Hall itself, but it is lying pending.

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government and Hon'ble Prime Minister to take necessary steps so that the Vidyasagar Memorial Hall is declared a National Heritage site and a seat of world related cultural activities.

(xix) Need to implement incentive measures and concessions for the welfare of the sugar industry

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK (Kolhapur): The sugar industry has a unique place in India economy and rural development in particular. It is the second largest agro-processing industry in the country. The steep drop in sugar production to 145 lakh tonnes in 2008-2009 season after 264 lakh tonnes in 2007-2008 following a decline in cane production due to deficit rains has resulted in surge in prices of sugar in open market. With cane prices ruling high many mills are not able to utilize their crushing capacities.

The slow progress in respect of monsoon, it is most likely that the sugarcane production may not be as per expectations and may decline. This sugarcane production coupled with poor recovery will affect profit margins of sugar mills. Against this background the sugar industry particularly in cooperative sector seeks permanent withdrawal of tax on self-generated electricity to encourage captive power generation. Further, the Government should allow duty free import of sugarcane harvesting equipment. This will overcome shortage of labour.

Like wise excise duty on molasses should be at Rs. 2.50 a tonne against the present Rs. 750 a tonne. Further the sugar factories be given concession in cost of coal for off-season power generation by them. The Government should provide facility for letter-of-credit to cooperative sugar factories to enable them to import raw sugar to tide over the shortage of domestic sugar production.

In view of the present situation of sugar industry, I urge through your good office Madam that the demand of the sugar industry may be met without delay.

13.33 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH AMENDMENT) BILL, 2009

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Now, the House shall take up item no. 17A.

Before I request the Minister to move the Bill for consideration, I want to inform the House that the voting will take place at 3 o'clock.

Shri Veerappa Moily.

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): Madam Speaker, I have to inform the House that the President, having been informed of

the subject matter of the proposed Constitution (One hundred and Ninth Amendment) Bill, 2009, as passed by the Rajya Sabha, recommends the consideration of the Bill in Lok Sabha, under clause 3 of article 117 of the Constitution.

MADAM SPEAKER: Do you want to say anything more at this juncture?

SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY: I beg to move*:

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Madam Speaker, it is an important Constitution Amendment Bill; it is for extending the period of reservation from 1947 through 70 years. It is because the present reservation will cease to have an effect on the 25th January, 2010. The point is that the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have made considerable progress in the last 60 years. There is no doubt about it. But the reasons which weighed the Constituent Assembly in making the provisions with regard to the aforesaid reservation of seats and also nomination of the Anglo-Indians have not ceased to exist. They still prevail. I would be in a position to set out some statistics in support of these facts.

In view of this, I seek consideration of this House to pass this important Bill which will definitely re-assert our democracy as a social democracy of the world.

MADAM SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

[Translation]

SHRI ARJUN MUNDA (Jamshedpur): Hon'ble Madam Speaker, on behalf of the Bhartiya Janta Party I rise to support the Constitution Amendment Bill to extend reservation for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes under Article 334 of the Constitution for the next ten years and we support extending this for another ten years.

13.36 hrs.

[SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI *in the Chair*]

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to raise the issue that when this topic was being discussed in the House that those oppressed people who have been left for behind even after attaining complete independence, will be able to get one more opportunity in the coming ten years. All the people of the country will receive equal opportunities in the name of Right to equality if the Government takes the responsibility and helps the backward, dalit and tribal category people.

Sir, today we know as to where the dalit and tribal people stand and what their situation is, but when we go and see their actual life and the human development index, then only we will see their actual condition. What does the human development index indicate? Today if we look at the health sector we will find a very strange picture as to how they are living their lives today even after 60 years of independence.

I would like to tell you about Paharia trible. This trible lives in the mountains. Even after 60 years of independence if someone falls sick in Paharia family one has to travel 30-35 kolometers to get treatment. It means that if one can walk for 30-35 kilometers then only one can receive treatment. That is why the sick people are left to die in the mountains itself.

We simply say that a provison has been made for reservation. But the spirit, the objective and the target for which it was made have gone haywire. In case of health, same is the fate of not only Pahadia Scheduled Tribe but also the Scheduled Tribes living in remote areas. In 1855, Sidhu Kanu was leading a movement against the Britishers. It was a freedom movement. The Britishers had ordered to crush that and their officer in command had asked them to go there with quinine tablets as that was a malaria prone area. He told them that they would have to fight with only tribals but with malaria also. If you go through those books, you can see whether we have got rid of the realities of those days. Have the people living in the remote areas, especially the tribals got rid of malaria?

Sir, one would be surprised to see the census data, the reports of UNDP, WHO. From these reports on would learn the real position in health sector. What is the mortality rate in respect of SCc/STs? Their newborn babies are hardly able to celebrate their first birthday. What is the child mortality rate in IMR? 120 children out of one thousand do not survive beyond the age of five years. This is the condition in health sector.

Similar is the condition in education sector. The Government says that it has provided reservation. Was a provision of reservation made for making them struggle for 60 years? It was made so that even after 60 years of our independence they can neither live nor die. What are our achievements in the field of education? In remote areas, even today there is no facility of education. That is why, there is a backlog of vacancies in Government sector. I am not talking about the states, as I have no data. Even today, they have no opportunities. Same is the condition in technology sector. Education is required for making their base sound. They are not getting the required education. They are not getting admission in IITs, NITs. It is said that their preparation is not upto the mark. If they do not get even basic education properly, how can they prepare for IIT and NIT? The figures of education reveal that they are being deprived of opportunities. Therefore, I would like to say that the government did not implement the provision of reservation during the last 60 years with proper will power. And, consequently, such is the scenario in education and health sector. Article-334 of our constitution provides for reservation. Scheduled areas have been identified under Article-244 in fifth and sixth schedules of our constitution.

Mr. Chairman, shri, quite humbly, I would like to say through you that if the Government has a will power, it should make tribal sub-plan area mandatory so that it can be ensured that the section of society whom we want to give reservation should also enjoy total constitutional protection. If the government makes a constitutional provision and does not make it mandatory, it wil be as good as a jaw without teeth. The Government says that it has empowered them but on the other hand it has made arrangement to ensure that they remain deprived. Consequently, that particular section of society is not getting the benefits it should have got. The Government envision for their development on the basis of tribal sub-plan. Coming to allocation without budgetary provisions, I would like to know what is the outcome of funds provided under Article-275(1) for scheduled areas in Article-244.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, there are 72 Government of India departments as on date and they function under the Government of India. However, only 19 departments make budgetary provisions. If some provisions exist for remaining all the departments than why they disregard the constitutional provisoins? Every year a report from scheduled area is supposed to be sent to the Government through the concerned Governor. But such report is not sent. Through the said report we can come to know as to in which manner the SCs/STs are availaing the benefits of funds, provided by the Central Government to the State Government. The Government does not want the benefits of the said funds reach the SCs/STs. It clearly indicates that in the absence of will power SCs/STs are sitting under the shade of a leafless tree. A poor tribal sitting under the shadow of a green tree, without any cloth on his body, is generating oxygen. People, in many parts of the country, responsible for controlling pollution are spreading pollution and that tribal sitting in jungle is generating oxygen. The fact is that he is deprived of health and educational facilities.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to make some more points and there is a need to pay attention to these. So far as scheduled areas are concerned, the Government says that there are special provisions for scheduled areas. But, the indicators are reflecting otherwise. I would like to lay on the Table the reports of Thorat commission and the UNDP. The people of our country should know what are the conclusion of the report? I would like to tell about scheduled areas. In Jharkhand 144 blocks fall in scheduled areas and scheduled tribes live outside plan area (OSP). If one goes thorugh the data relating to these areas one would come to know the actual position. I would like to refer to the figures of 1991 and 2001. ...*(Interruptions)* Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to lay these on the tables. I would like to refer to one or two block, say, Dunka scheduled area.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, 30 thousand tribals fought against Britishers in Santhal Pargana in 1855. I would like to apprise the House of their present condition. As per 1991 census, their population was 51.13 per cent which has come down to 49.8 per cent as per 2001 census. These are not my figures, these are the official figures of the Government of India. As per these figures, the population in these blocks has declined by 2 per cent between 1991 and 2001. Tribal population has come down in 100 blocks out of 114 blocks. It is the indicator of the manner in which development of tribals has taken place. I support the Government's initiative for extending the reservation for 10 more years but the Government should have a will power and a commitment to do something solid for the dalits in the next 10 years what it could not do in the past. And the Government should elaborate its will power. The population of tribals is declining. I would like to dwell upon the present condition of tribals who fought for country's freedom, pepole like Birsa Munda laid their lives for the country's freedom. I urge that I may please be given 1-2 minutes more as it is for the first time I have come to the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Arjun Munda, from your Party, two more Members are there to speak on this Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI ARJUN MUNDA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to bring it to the notice of the House that the Working Group of the 9th and 10th Five Year Plan had a chapter on Women Development, whereas, their is no mention of it in the current 11th Plan. The Planning Commission has made no efforts to state as to how the women who have migrated to country's capital, Delhi are being treated, wheras, the data reveal that 13 lakh tribals are living in Delhi. It has been clearly stated in the report of Thorat Commission and also in the UNDP report. He has not made any mention of it. They are treated in inhuman ways and are also physically exploited. The 9th and 10th Five Year Plans had this important aspect about these people which has been deleted from the 11th Plan papers.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, now I will conclude in two minutes. The forests. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will call another hon. Member.

[Translation]

SHRI ARJUN MUNDA: Sir, I wang to speak on the intentions of the Government.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are making good points. But you should bear time factor in mind. Two more Members of your party are yet to speak.

SHRI ARJUN MUNDA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, such an important issue is being debate. My submission is that since we are discussing the condition of tribals in our country and less time has been allotted for it, therefore, the time may be extended.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The scope of the Bill is very limited. So, this is not the occasion to raise these matters. You can bring another Motion and on that we can discuss all these issues.

[Translation]

SHRI ARJUN MUNDA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is your order. I want protection from the Chair.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. Please sit down now. I too need protection from you.

SHRI ARJUN MUNDA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, since it is your order, however, before taking my seat I would like to lay my speech on the Table and I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on such an important issue.

SHRI P.L. PUNIA (Barabanki): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to participate in the important debate on the 109th Constitution (Amendment) Bill. THis amendment seeks to extend the reservation in Lok Sabha and State Vidhan Sabhas for the next 10 years, i.e. upto 25th January 2017. The provision relating to nomination of Anglo-Indians is also being extended for further 10 years. The public representatives of this section of society will be able to raise the issues relating to the agony, problem and hardships of this neglected section of society and will be able to attract the attention of the Government towards it.

The statement of Objects and Reasons of the said Constitution (Amendment) Bill clearly indicates that enough has been done for the welfare of the said dalits and neglected section of the society during the last 60 yeras and the Government has been able to improve their condition. However, the problems prevailing during the days of constituent assembly are still prevalent to some extent. Therefore, a need for further extending it for next 10 yeras has been felt. Dalit society is greatly thankful to the UPA Government for extending reservation for further 10 years. Dalits are also greatly thankful to UPA for their contribution in appointing hon. Meira Kumar Ji, the symbol of their honour and intellect, as Speaker of the Lok Sabha, the apex poast of our democracy. I am also greatly thankful as until now, Congress is the only party which alone as done a lot for upliftment of dalits. It was the Congress which had made Baba Saheb Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar ji the Chairman of the Drafting Committee of the Constituent Assembly. Giving due recognition to his intellect, his qualifications and abilities and giving him due respect he was made the Chairman of Drafting Committee.

I feel, the dalits are highly grateful to the Congress. Whatever their upliftment has been done, has been done by the Congress party, be it providing reservation in jobs, their economic upliftment or economic betterment through special component plan, clearing backlog of vacancies, launching of special drive to clear backlog of vacancies meant for them.

The hon. Member, who spoke before me, was saying that desired upliftment of dalits has not been achieved. His anguish is right; but he was refusing the regional imbalance. Some areas, like tribal areas have not been developed yet. The development of the people living in the said areas, has not taken place. Congress party has always worked for development of neglected sections of society.

Education holds the most important place. Baba Saheb Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar ji had given three basic principles, which are—to make the society educated, be united and land a struggle if need arises. Education is the most important and the Congress party has done a lot for education. The UPA Government has also done a lot. Schools were opened everywhere under Sarva-Shiksha Abhiyaan. Since these schools have been opened in all the villages, it means that the dalit community, the backward and the poor will reap the benefits of these schools. I know it very well that if someone becomes a little financially sound in a rural area, that person goes to the city to provide education to his children, he starts living there, makes a house of his own or starts living on rent, but he ensures to provide the best education to his children. So the only community, which was neglected here, was the dalit community. Only the Congress party has worked towards providing education to the dalit community for their further upliftment.

14.00 hrs.

A lot of funds have been spent on works under the Sarva-Shiksha Abhiyaan. Extensive arrangements have been made for providing lodging facilities and opening hostels for the students moving to cities for further education. The student wants to join the services like IAS, IPS, banking and LIC but there as no training facility available for them. The Congress party has made coaching facilities available at various places.

14.01 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Sir, in all the BPL related schemes, BPL list has been taken as the base be it the pension scheme, free electricity connections under the Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Vidyuditikaran Yojana or fee treatment under various medical facilities, all are based on BPL list. I would like to tell you that 80-90 percent people in the BPL list are from Scheduled castes. Directly we have no special schemes for the dalits. We have given all the facilities to the dalit communities as per the BPL norms. It is true that we have talked about improving their standard of living. Whatever work has been done by the Government till date is very less. Today their standard of living is not equal to other people. Inequality still exists in villages. If a dalit goes to a village he is not seen with equality. Even today there are many such villages where the 'barat' of Scheduled Castes cannot pass through the main street and if a person belonging to a high caste is passing by them a scheduled caste person cannot keep sitting on his cot. A lot of provision have been made to deal with these problems.

Prevention of Atrocities on Scheduled Castes, and Scheduled Tribes Act was formulated and 22 crimes were added to it each in case anyone abuses someone in the name of caste then that would be treated as a crime. Congress party has taken a number of steps to give them a respected life. I believe we are extremely thankful to the UPA Government and Congress party for this.

Sir, I would also like to say that Congress party has always worked towards bringing respect to the dalit community. Today Bahen Mayawati ji has become the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh for the fourth time. When she became Chief Minister for the first time, Mulayam Singh Government was in power and that time Bahujan Samaj Party withdrew its support. The Samajwadi party then said that it was willing to prove its majority in the State Assembly. Congress party was aware of it and Motilal Vohra ji was the Governor at that time. He realized that a daughter of dalit community is going to become Chief Minister for the first time so she should be given a chance. Mulayam Singh Yadav ji could have proved his majority rightfully but he was not given a chance. This Government was dismissed and Mayawati ji was sworn in as Chief Minister. Bahujan Samaj party President, a dalit woman, became the Chief Minister for the first time. Had Mulayam Singh Yadav ji been given a chance to prove his majority in the Assembly, Mayawati ji would not have become Chief Minister and if she would not have become Chief Minister for the first time, she would not have become CM for second, third and fourth time also. Today if Uttar Pradesh has a BSP Chief Minister, it is because of the Congress party. ...*(Interruptions)* Congress party has always worked for the uplitfment of all the dalit community ...*(Interruptions)* they may be in any state, be it Uttar Pradesh or any other state and they have always done it and will keep doing the same. ...*(Interruptions)* Congress party has got various schemes for the development of the lower category people. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down.

SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Sir, I would conclude within no time. Today, all the schemes for the upliftment of dalits are to directly benefit the lowest category people. Sir, I support this Constitution Amendment proposal. I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This will not go on record.

*...(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You please sit down. Keep your point only after you are given a chance.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will not speak much on this matter. Supporting another ten years extension to the provision of reservation through this Bill, through you, I would like to tell that it's not for the first time that this period has been extended. It has been 62 yeras since our country gained independence. The Personnel Department under the Home Ministry had conducted a survey to assess the number of scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and OBC's working in the Government of India. The survey of government services, except the Railways and the defence, was released on 1.1.2005. I do not have the list of all the departments but the percentage of the SC, ST and OBC's in the 80000 posts in the Group A is 11.7%, 4.5% and 4.7% respectively. The time period in the Group A, B, C and D is extended for the upliftment of these castes. We do not see whether they are getting the benefit of the opportunity being provided to them or not. There is backlog of SC people in the Group 'A' services. Just now Shri Punia was saying, Shri Arjun Munda was saying but I do not want to go into those details. As Shri Munda was saying that the high status people or those who are vocal ensure their rights in India. There are workers, backward classes also but if there is a community which has been most neglected then it is the tribal community. All the resource wealth of India is bount in the hilly areas. Resources like iron, mica and coal etc. can be found in Bengal, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Gujarat. All the multinational companies and corporates in the country are vying there. No community is in such a bad situation in the country as the tribals followed by the dalits and the backward classes. The most helpless, displaced people in the country are the tribal people. Their history, culture and environment have been torn apart. I had told the hon. Minister that the maximum corruptoin under MNREGA is taking place in the tribal areas. They are the people without voice. For thousands of years neither the trees speak nor the hills, earth, animals and forest. When nothing speaks in an area, then its inhabitations also become quiet. Their voice also falls silent.

In India, only special people have a voice. Only those who have brains raise their voice. The farmers, workers and the tribals of the country are silent for thousands of years. The forests, animals, hills all are silent, all are speechless. They are not cunning but ordinary people. The common man lives mostly in the hills, forests and tribal areas. He is not able to speak up even when he is hungry. His land is being looted but even then he is unable to speak. Mostly, these people are looted in India. Whether it is MNREGA or some other scheme, all the laws made for the tribals do not have any meaning when faced with ground realities. Such laws have no meaning. Mahatma Gandhi ji used to say that one should not accept anything until it benefits the last man of the country. I believe that a tribal is the last man of the country. There is no other community in India which is more deprived than him. He is hungry and his land has been snatched. Coal, mica, iron deposits are there. They have been displaced to the montains from the best land of the country. They are now facing many problems and difficulties. This Constitution Amendment Bill is being brought for the fifth time. How many times the Government will bring this Bill? I say that 11.3% people beling to the scheduled castes.

A little while ago Puniaji was speaking. He was saying that the Government did this, the Government did that. I want to ask what has the Government done? In these 60 years, only 11.3% people belonging to the scheduled castes are in the Government service. Even there is a backlog of 5-7 per cent. The ST category has a backlog of $^1/_2$-2 percent. There is a backlog in the Group 'A' services. Extending this provision for another ten years will be meaningful only if we see the reality as to how much difference is made in the lives of the common man of India. There is no difference in their lives. Their helplessness and poverty has increased. Arjun Sengupta says that 78 per cent people are living on Rs. 20. Now, who are those people surviving on Rs. 20? Because Rs. 20 is the average. So, some of them are living on two rupees, five rupees or seven rupees. Even the Planning Commission says that 26% people are living

*Not recorded.

below poverty line. Sengupta Commission says that it is 78% people. What would it mean if the Government of India will have two viewpoints and give two kinds of figures. I will not speak about it because there is no time. I had taken time from Shailendra ji. I just want to say that if there is one community in India which is the weakest, which is in much trouble and the most unorganized and trampled in the name of development then it is the tribal community.

Hon. Minister should find some new solution. He should see their history also. Birsa Munda has a history. I come from Jabalpur. Not any martyr, whether it was the Rani of Jhanshi, Kunwar Singh or Mangal Pandey, was blown in fronts of a cannon. Shankar Shah, the last form the family of Durgavati in Jabalpur, was blown apart with the cannon alongwith Raghunath Shah. Both of them were killed with a cannon. But, the history also belongs to such people who have a say. Even history is recorded of such people who have power of letters. The tribals are neither worthy of writing nor of speaking. Such discrimination exists in the history. I know a little bit about their history because Birsa Munda held a special place among the tribals. But, Shankar Shah and Raghunath Shah who were blown by a cannon in front of the Elgin hospital High Court were the last generation of the Rani Durgavati. It has been kept away from the history. Even history belongs to those who have power of pen. History belongs to those who are aware. Only tribals of India have no organization. They have no way; I would like to request the hon. Minister that the first thing he should do in the course of extending the period of this provision for another ten years is to remain vigilant to ensure that everything is done for the all round development of the tribals who are the most deprived and neglected in the country. Their Government can have a meaning only when they bring these helpless, innocent and voiceless people to the mainstream. Until they do this, India cannot be complete. In addition to this, I would request you once again that extending it for another 10 years will have a meaning only when backlog in all the services is cleared. The Government has not been able to clear the backlog of the Group 'A' services. The OBC category is in very bad condition, I will not speak about it because this Bill is about extending the reservation for the SC, ST for ten years. But, one can guess the condition of the 52% backward classes of the country from the fact that their percentage in the Group 'A' service is just 2.3 while there is 27% reservation for them. I would like to say that this extension every time is to · benefit those who are already well off. This will not help the country. Extension of reservation for the next 10 years can be meaningful only when backlog of vacancies particularly in Group 'A' services is also cleared. There is not enough time and with this I would like to say that if the Government works for the poor in the extended 10 years then a new India 646 would emerge, Gandhiji's dream would be realized and the concern of Baba Saheb would get addressed. With these words, I thank you and conclude.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Kaushambi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I express my deep gratitude for giving me an opportunity to speak on the amendment of the article 334 through the Constitution (109th Amendment) Bill.

Sir, suggestions of the hon. Members of the ruling parties and the Opposition have been received and I would also like to add my point of view to that. It is a fact that we have given several 10 years' extensions to the provision relating to reservation through this august House since the Constitution was adopted in 1950. But, I have to say with deep regret and an hon. Member Shri Sharad Yadav ji was also saying that giving extension for another 10 years will not help. In fact, even today there is 27 per cent reservation but there are many such departments which have backlog of SCs and STs. It is a sad story. Today, we are going to extend it again for another ten years but we should evaluate what we have gained or lost and where we stand after 62 years of independence. We should make efforts so that the backlog of the posts reserved for the dalits, weaker and exploited sections of the society is cleared. Reference was made here today about the Constitution. It is a fact that Baba Saheb Bhimrao Ambedkar ji was the architect of the Constitution and his soul and the souls of other Members of the Constituent Assembly would be sad to see this situation if they were here to watch this situation. If we do evaluation today, then we will find that we have not been able to serve the purpose as on date for which we give extension for ten years for reservation. Their souls would be weeping today. It is very sad. We have extended the reservation for the SCs and STs so that their standard of living, their social, economic and educational level can be upgraded and that they also enter the mainstream of the society. This is the reason that an SC/ST youth joins crime when he fails to get employment even after receiving education. He runs towards terrorism and naxalism and that is why crimes relating to terrorism and naxalism are rising in the country today. It has to be considered seriously.

As far as backlog has been mentioned, I would like to draw the attention of the House in this regard. Recently principals have been appointed on the basis of the Human Resources Ministry advertisement. An interview was held.

But, the SC candidates were given lesser marks and declared failed and candidates of general category were selected in their place. They approached me and gave me this information. This is not happening in the HRD Ministry only. There is a backlog of SC/ST vacancies in the country whether it is a state government or other ministries or departments of the Central Government and these vacancies have not been filled till date. It is a very sad thing and here we speak about extending reservation for ten years further.

Just now, our friends spoke about the people belonging to the scheduled tribes. Arjun Mudna ji expressed his views in this regard. The then U.P. Government had sent two proposals to the Central Government after getting them passed by the Legislative Assembly which said that 14 castes of the state should also be given the status of the scheduled caste because these people also think themselves as the neglected castes and out of the mainstream of the society. If they are given the status of SC then, perhaps, they may also be uplifted. Even today, these people are looking at us with arms stretched wide open and with eyes full of hope. I do not know where the hon. Minister has gone. He should, at least, look at such people and think about them.

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): I am writing a note.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: If he is writing then it means that the whole Government is listening. His leader hon'ble Sonia ji is also listening. I 649 would like to say that at least the proposal sent twice by the U.P. Legislature should be approved and implemented so that these people can join the mainstream of the society and their living standard should also improve. U.P. Government has appointed safai karamcharis. Had I been in power, I would have selected only scheduled caste candidates for these posts while many candidates of general category and backward classes have been selected. What is the purpose of this? It seems that the objective for which we have provided reservation for these people and which we are discussing here to extend also, is not being fulfilled. There is no arrangement for cleanliness in the villages today. The economic condition of the rural people has not improved while speeches about giving them funds are made. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Only the speech of Shailendra Kumarji will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)**

*Not recorded.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will conclude after raising one more point. The Social Justice and Empowerment Ministry has assured, and it has been made a constitutional right too, that coaching facilities would be provided to candidates of SC/ST categories, who want to sit for IAS and IPS examinations. But this arrangement is not working at the moment. An arrangement of special component for people of SC and ST categories was made but this system has also been as andorned. I seek the revival of the coaching and special component scheme so that the children of SC/ST categories may also be able to become IAS and IPS officers. The slum clusters have access to neither water nor electricity. The people living there do not have employment. Their condition is pitiable. The issue of extending reservation for SC and ST category in Parliament and Legislative Assemblies for a further period of ten years is being discussed. I would like to ask the Government to give serious consideration to the issues raised by me and fill up the backlog vacancies of reserved posts.

With this, I support Bill and conclude my speech.

DR. BALIRAM (Lalganj): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am obliged to you for giving me the opportunity to speak. An important right is being discussed in the House today. The constitution makers had given special rights to the socially and economically backward people in the country, to ensure their upliftment and progress. After the constitution came into force on 26 Jan. 1950, Baba Saheb had said to Babu Rajendra Prasad that this was the best and most comprehensive of all the constitutions in the world. But if the intentions of the people in charge of enforcing its provisions are not good then the spirit of the Constitution would be defeated.

The framers of the constitution had not thought In their wildest dreams that the rights granted to the oppressed people for a period of ten years would be extended for so long. They had imagined that their situation would be improved in ten years. But the constitution was not followed properly due to which the said provisions get extended after every ten years. Hence, I would like to submit to this House that the intention of Baba Saheb Dr. Ambedkar, the intention of Baba Saheb Dr. Ambedkar, the intention of the framers of Constitution, regarding the oppressed category, the SCs and STs, have not been fulfilled in the right spirit and they have not got the constitutional rights accorded to them. At that time, Baba Saheb Dr. Ambedkar had said that he had faced great challenges in bringing this right to this extent. He

said that if his followers are not able to take his efforts forward they should keep it in that stage only and should not allow it to revert. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please do not interrupt. Please take your seat.

DR. BALIRAM: He said that the right that I have given to you in the Constitution is not enough, you need more rights. If you are not able to get more rights at least do not let go of that which you have been given. 62 years have passed after independence. Hon. Sharad Pawarji was saying that only 11 perccnt target has been achieved regarding the reservation for SC/ST. But if we go througt the data and review it we will find that only 9 percent the target has been achieved. Therefore, I would like to submit that hence the SCs and STs need to be given the full benefit of reservation. I would like to ask the government, through you, to implement reservations properly as merely extending the period will not work. I would like to say to the Government that there should also be reservation in Rajya Sabha, Legislative Councils and the judiciary on illness of reservation provided in government services, and the educational sector. This would make society safe and secure. I conclude by supporting the Bill.

[English]

SHRI GOBINDA CHANDRA NASKAR (Bangaon): Respected Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Constitution (One Hundred and Ninth Amendment) Bill, 2009 brought herein the interests of the deprived classes, the deprived people and the people of the weaker sections. Under the Article 334 of the Constitution of India, provisions have been laid relating to the reservation of seats for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes and representation for the Anglo-Indian community by nomination in the House of the People and in the State Legislative Assemblies. I request the hon. Deputy-Speaker that the hon. Members of this House would be agreeing to support this Bill because this is for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes and other downtrodden people and the people belonging to the weaker sections.

Sir, more than sixty years have already lapsed after our Independence. The date 26th January is for the commencement of our Constitution. On 25th January next year this right of reservation will be expiring. I request the hon. Members of the House to support this Bill.

Our beloved leader and former Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi and late Shri Rajiv Gandhi have done a lot for the development of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in respect of their educational and economic development and their upliftment and social empowerment of the people belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. But, Sir, there are some problems in our State of West Bengal. The people belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes and the OBCs have been deprived of their right by the Left Front Government. ...*(Interruptions)* Near about 20,000 people belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes and the OBCs have been.... * by the Leftist hoodlums. ...*(Interruptions)* There is no Government remaining there. ...*(Interruptions)* There is no one to look after these people there. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME (Bolpur): Sir, this is a serious allegation. This has nothing to do with the discussion before the House....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GOBINDA CHANDRA NASKAR: Sir, I refute this. ...*(Interruptions)* In the State, they are suffering. They are not getting protection. The people belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes are not getting their rights. ...*(Interruptions)* They are not getting what is being given by the Central Government as per the reservations due to them. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The word is expunged.

[Translation]

This word will not go on record.

[English]

SHRI GOBINDA CHANDRA NASKAR: Sir, they are not getting the scholarships and the grants being given by the Central Government. ...*(Interruptions)* They are not getting the stipend. All the grants meant for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes are being diverted to separate schemes and to the deposit fund and are not properly being utilized by the State Government. The State Government is an idle spectator. They are not issuing the certificates to the people belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in due and stipulated time of 45 days. The people of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes have been deprived by the Government of their rights and there is none to look after these people. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude.

*Not recorded.

SHRI GOBINDA CHANDRA NASKAR: Sir, please look into the population of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. According to 2001 census, the population of Scheduled Castes was 16.66 crore, consisting 16.23 per cent of the total population of India. Punjab has the highest percentage of Scheduled Castes at 28.85 per cent followed by Himachal Pradesh at 24.7 per cent and West Bengal at 23.30 per cent. More than 80 per cent of the population of Scheduled Caste resides in ten States as detailed below.

Uttar Pradesh has a population of 3.52 crore of Scheduled Caste people; West Bengal has 1.85 crore; Bihar has 1.31 crore; Andhra Pradesh has a population of 1.23 crore; Tamil Nadu has 1.19 crore; Maharahstra has 0.99 crore; Rajasthan has 0.97 crore; Madhya Pradesh has 0.92 crore; Karnataka has 0.86 crore; and Punjab has 0.70 crore of Scheduled Caste people.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (Kolkata Uttar): Sir, it is important. He may please be allowed for a few more minutes.

SHRI GOBINDA CHANDRA NASKAR: Sir, Article 46 is for the promotion of educational and economic interests of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections. It is said—"The State shall promote, with special care, the economic"development, educational upliftment and social empowerment of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and OBC people." But in the case of West Bengal, all are neglected. There is no one to see to their problems. The people of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are exploited. There is still social injustice in the State of West Bengal. There is none to look after the Scheduled Castes there. In the case of Lalgarh, in the case of West Midnapore, in the case of Purulia and in the case of Bankura, most of the Scheduled Tribe people have been ...* *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude. Shri Baju Ban Riyan.

SHRI GOBINDA CHANDRA NASKAR: Sir, Article 338 of the Constitution provides for constitution of a National Commission for the Scheduled Castes to *inter alia* investigate and monitor all matters relating to the safeguards provided for the Scheduled Castes under the Constitution. *...(Interruptions)* In this connection, I would like to bring to the notice of the House that in West Bengal, there is no safeguard at all

Article 340 of the Constitution deals with the appointment of the Commission to investigate the conditions of socially and educational backward classes. You see the position of the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and other backward classes in West Bengal and how they have been ...* betrayed and neglected over there. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI GOBINDA CHANDRA NASKAR: In the end, I support this Bill. *...(Interruptions)* I request the House to unanimously pass this Bill which seeks an amendment to Article 334 of the Constitution.

SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN (Tripura East): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me the chance to participate in discussion on this Bill. The Bill seeks an amendment in Article 334 of the Constitution to replace the words '60 years' by the words "70 years". Under Article 334 of the Constitution, there is a provision to provide some reservations to the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and the Anglo Indian people in the Assembly and in the Parliament also. In this regard, I would submit that the same percentage is continuing for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. It should be more. The population of the total Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people in India has increased while this percentage is as it is.

Those who belong to the Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe, they are recognized as the Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe only in their respective States and respective districts. For example, if any tribal MP lives here in Delhi and leaves his original State, then his son, daughter and other family members will not be recognized as the Scheduled Tribe. This is the position now. So, I demand through this House that we should pass a legislation that if a Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe belong to any district, place or State in India, he would be treated as an SC or ST throughout India. Otherwise, their economic condition and living conditions cannot be improved. In Delhi Government, there is a reservation provision for ST, but in the list of the Scheduled Tribes in Delhi, there is no Scheduled Tribe. So, all the reserved vacancies meant under Delhi

*Not recorded.

*Not recorded.

Government remain as backlog vacancies or they are filled, after dereserving them, by people belonging to other categories. So, this problem can be solved if the SC and ST people recognized in any part of India are recognized as ST and ST people throughout India. They should be Indian Scheduled Caste and Indian Scheduled Tribe people. Then, this problem can be solved.

After 60 years of Independence, the plight of these SC and ST people – their economic position and their living standard – has not improved to the desired level despite the fact that lot of money has been allocated and lot of schemes have been framed. Up to the 10th Five Year Plan and up to the 10th Finance Commission, they have formulated many schemes and also made many budgetary allocations, but the plight of the Scheduled Caste and the Scheduled Tribe people – their living condition and their financial condition – has not improved.

Some Member was referring to some State Government and saying that they are not doing this and that. But my experience shows that the downtrodden people including these minorities are getting more facilities in the States where the four-Party Left Front Government — CPI (M), CPI, Forward Block and RSP — are ruling and are in the administration than the States ruled by the Parties who are now in the UPA. *...(Interruptions)* To prove this, I will request the Government to form one Commission or form a Study Group. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Member, please conclude your speech.

SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN: If the Study Group visits all the States, then we can determine and it will be found out whether the CPI (M) Government or the Left Front Government are doing well or other Governments are doing well. Therefore, I think that it is not correct to blame some political parties who are ruling in the States. *...(Interruptions)* There may be some States ruled by the BJP and there may be some States ruled by the NDA and like that. Therefore, I think that this type of falsehood and this type of misleading the House — only to put the blame on them that this Government is doing nothing — is not correct. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Member, please conclude your speech.

SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN: Sir, please give me a few more minutes to speak.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The time allotted to you is over.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN: All of us in the House agree *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The next speaker is Shri Arjun Charan Sethi.

SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, please give me only two more minutes to speak.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will be able to give you only one more minute and not two more minutes to speak.

SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN: Sir, I am just completing my speech by mentioning a sentence or two. All of us here had agreed and we had assured in the elections about the reservation for women and that it is necessary, and that we should pass a Bill here. Our hon. Rashtrapati had also mentioned here that we should pass this Bill. They are weaker than us. Therefore, this is a must for the representation in the Legislative body, this Parliament and the Assembly. I hope that this Government will bring this Bill for women reservation as soon as possible.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The next speaker is Shri Arjun Charan Sethi. You can speak only for five minutes.

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI (Bhadrak): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak a few words on the Constitution (Amendment) Bill moved by the hon. Minister Shri M. Veerappa Moily. The Bill seeks to extend by another 10 years reservation for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Parliament as well as in the State Legislatures, and also for the Anglo-Indian community.

Sir, hon. Members from both the sides have already spoken about the intention for which originally the reservation was made for these communities, which has not yet been fulfilled. As a result, this Government and also the previous Governments have brought forward the amendment to the Constitution, and they have extended the reservation for the SCs and STs. The hon. Minister has also admitted in this particular Bill and I would like to quote one sentence, which states that:

"Although the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes have made considerable progress in the last sixty years, the reasons which weighed with the

Constituent Assembly in making provisions with regard to the aforesaid reservation of seats and nomination of members have not ceased to exist..."

As the hon. Members who have spoken here have mentioned and also as admitted by the hon. Minister here, the intention for which this provision was made by the Constituent Assembly has not been fulfilled. Therefore, the Government wants to extend the reservation, and I fully support this measure. At the same time, since I have a very short time at my disposal, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the following aspect. Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhiji's dream was removal of untouchability from the society. We accept the fact that untouchability should be removed from our society.

Recently, the Ministry of Social Justice asked the National Law School, Bangalore, to commission a survey to study the impact of Protection of Civil Rights Act on untouchability. The Survey reveals that out of 648 Dalits who were questioned, 516 Dalits said that they were not allowed to enter the temples, while 151 respondents said that they were not allowed to take out of the processions of their deities. Around 16 per cent of non-Dalits conceded that the SCs were banned from temple activities. Around 29 per cent of them said that they would wait for others to finish eating, before the SCs could start eating. While 20 per cent of non-SCs said that they would expect the SCs to wash their plates after eating.

This is a very serious thing. As I have already stated, we are all committed here in the House, and all the previous Governments were also committed to remove untouchability from the society. This Survey was commissioned by the Ministry of Social Justice, and these facts were published in the report which was submitted to the Ministry of Social Justice. I am sorry to say that even after 62 years of our Independence, this kind of heinous untouchability is still prevailing in the society. Therefore, mere Amendment to the Constitution will not be enough. The goal of the Father of our Nation Mahatma Gandhi has not yet been achieved. So, I would request the hon. Minister, who hails from Karnataka, and this Survey was conducted by the National Law School, Bangalore, to kindly go through this report and take remedial measures so that we can be proud of our Constitution and we can be proud of not only the present Government, but also of all the previous Governments who were in power over the past 60 years. However, if this still continues, then we will certainly hang our heads in shame.

With these words, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on this Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (Raigarh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am obliged to you for giving me the opportunity to speak on this important Constitution Amendment Bill. I support this Bill regarding the amendment -in the constitution and I would like to draw the attention of the Union Government and particularly the hon. Minister towards the western coast in Maharashtra which is the Konkan region. The fishermen in that coastal area are known as Koli. They are call Koli in Maharashtra. These fishermen had been included in the list of scheduled tribes in the Constitution. They were included as Mahadeo Koli in the list. Later on, they were removed from the list which led to a lot of problems. Those people who had got jobs in PSUs, banks or insurance companies against the reserved quota were removed from service. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you would be surprised to know that not only were their jobs taken away but they were also served notices in which they were accused of submitting fake certificates. This is a false accusation because these certificates were issued by the Government. This caused great difficulty to the people living in the coastal areas of Maharashtra because being included in the scheduled list under the name of Mahadeo Koli they were drawing all the benefits of reservation. They had got jobs and public and private sector companies, banks and insurance companies. The Cabinet of Maharashtra Government had taken a decision that the people who had availed of these benefits on the basis of the certificate issued for belonging to Mahadeo koli tribe would not be removed from service but they would not get any promotion in future. Despite this decision, the departments of the Government of India, the PSUs, banks or insurance companies where these people were employed have issued them notices to the effect that since they have got jobs on the basis of false documents they are being dismissed from service. Those people who had served for 15-20 years have been served notices demanding that they should return the salaries drawn during the said period.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is a very serious matter. In this case, the beneficiaries are not at fault in any way. They have not submitted fake certificates. The certificates were issued by the Government. I would like to demand from the Union Government, through you, that it should take a Cabinet decision on lines of the decision taken by the Cabinet of the Maharashtra Government to safeguard

the jobs of such people employed in Government departments, PSUs banks and insurance companies and also implement that decision.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support this Bill.

[English]

DR. P. VENUGOPAL (Tiruvallur): Respected Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak on the Constitution (Amendment) Bill. At the outset, I welcome the proposed Bill. It is true that even after sixty years of Independence, the need for reservation for SCs and STs is very much felt. This is because the living conditions, social status, economic level and education level of these people have not improved to the expected level. We have to deliberate on the reasons and provide timely solution to uplift the SC and ST people as envisioned in the Constitution.

I would request the Government to have a re-look at the Right to Education Bill so that totally free education is provided to SC and ST children particularly in rural areas. I say this because among the school dropout, children belonging to SC and ST may come to a high percentage. There are villages in the country where SC, ST children do not attend the school at all. When we are going to give free education, the Government should see that SC and ST children are made to enroll in the school. Then alone we will be able to raise the literacy rate of SCs and STs.

I am proud to say that the founder of the AIADMK and the former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Dr. MGR was the first Chief Minister in the country to provide reservation to women and SCs and STs in the Panchayati Raj institutions in the year 1986, much before the Panchayati Raj for the country was introduced. It was only after that that the late Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi introduced the same reservation system in the year 1991.

While speaking on this Bill, I am reminded of what the former Prime Minister the late Morarji Desai said when reservation for SCs and STs was being extended during his Prime Ministership. He said that reservation to SC/ST will continue in this Constitution as long as there is untouchability. This view of the late Morarji Desai signifies the social status of SC/ST people in the country. The voice of SC/ST is heard in the Parliament and Legislative Assemblies because of reservation provided in the Constitution.

On behalf of the AIADMK, I welcome the Amendment Bill.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Sir, the amendment being brought to Article 334 of the constitution is for extending reservation from 60 years to 70 years. I remember that in the last Lok Sabha this period was extended from 50 years to 60 years and before that through 62nd amendment it was extended from 40 to 50 years. It is being extended by 10 years every time and there is a justification for it as there is still provision for reservation of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in Parliament and State Assembly seats. Therefore, it should be extended for another 10 years. We support the 109th amendment.

Sir, Karia Munda Committee was constituted in the past with a view to providing reservation for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in the Judiciary. I would like to know why that issue was put into cold storage. At the same time, I would like to alert and caution about such tendency. What happened to that Karia Munda Committee report? That Committee was constituted under your leadership only. This is my first point.

Sir, my second point is that it was stated in the Common Minimum Programme that section 341 would be amended for providing representation to Pasmanda Muslims, what happened to that? Pasmanda Mulsims are the deprived people of Muslim community. The people on that side must be feeling uneasy, as they get uncomfortable as soon as they hear anything about Muslim community. It is essential for the country to bring them in the main stream of the country. So long as social disparities persist, reservation is justified. Why should the Pasmanda Muslims not be included?

Sir, Naunia, Mallar, Tatwa, Raghba, and Gound castes have been included. These should be included in Scheduled Castes or Scheduled tribes. These castes have been included under backward castes. This needs to be amended.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You please speak on Amendment.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Sir, various community study groups and state governments have recommended this. Mallah community comes under scheduled caste in some states while it comes under backward caste in other states. This needs to be corrected immediately.

Sir, my fourth point relates to extending reservation to political people for next 10 years for which this present amendment is being moved but there is a provision of 7.5 percent reservation in the Engineering Institutes and Higher Education Institutes since the time of Ex-Prime Minister Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru. The Delhi Government is planning to reduce it from 7.5 percent to 1 percent. This reservation is not being provided right now. Majority of hon'ble Members made a representation before all the authorities but nobody listened to them. On one hand we are extending reservation by 10 years for the political people. There has been a provision of 7.5 percent reservation in admissions in Delhi for the children studying since the time of Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru in order to keep them in the mainstream of the country.

15.00 hrs.

Why has above reservation in admissions been withheld? All the hon'ble tribal members have given a written representation in this regard. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA (Dausa): All have given in writing. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Everybody has given in writing. Where is the problem, where has the matter got stuck and what is the conspiracy all about? Instead of brining them in the mainstream of the country Admissions have been stopped. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: After these four points I would once again like to remind and ask what happened to the Committee chaired by Karia Munda and what happened to its report? People are sitting over it by dumping and putting it into cold storage. ...*(Interruptions)* Therefore, these four points of mine should be adequately taken care of. With this I support the 109th amendment.

[English]

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (Midnapore): I rise to support the Constitutional Amendment Bill.

While supporting this Bill, I want to know some clarifications from the hon. Minister. It is already said about Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. In the Statement of Objects and Reasons, it is said that they have made considerable progress. But what about the Anglo-Indian communities? Nothing has been said in the Statement of Objects and Reasons about this. At least one sentence should have been there, why nomination should be continued. What is the reason behind it?

My another point is a proposal for setting up a Special Commission to study the situation and the condition of the tribal people of our country; it is a must and the Government should ponder over it so that a Commission is set up to study the livelihood and the condition of the tribal people of our country.

15.02 hrs.

[MADAM SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

My third point is that there are so many communities of the tribals, who have not yet been identified as the tribal community. Such is the condition; they are left out even today. The Commission would ponder over it and bring them into the mainstream.

My last point is this. It is very difficult, particularly in the cosmopolitan towns, to get the SC/ST certificates. Even the schedule of the SC/STs varies from State to State. There is no uniformity. This problem is there particularly in the cosmopolitan towns. It is very difficult for the tribal families to prove their original land and original records before the administration and before the Executive. This problem should be sorted out. The Government would ponder over all these and I hope that it would come out with a proposal for setting up a Special Commission for the sake of the tribal people of our country.

With these words, I support this Bill.

[Translation]

DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Please allow me to speak.

MADAM SPEAKER: Time is over now. Please let the hon'ble Member speak now.

...(Interruptions)

DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: I would like to draw the attention of the Government that the Delhi Government has brought a Bill from the back door and is trying to bring down reservation being given in Educational Institutes from 7.5 percent to 1 percent. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please let the Hon'ble Minister reply.

DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Law is not being implemented. We are being subjected to atrocities. I would like to request hon'ble Minister that counseling of student has been withheld in Delhi whereas, it is Supreme Court's decision that all those people will get the benefit who are not in the presidential list. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: All right, you have made your point. Now you sit down. You have heard hon'ble Minister's reply. Now you sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: The Government of Delhi is doing injustice to the ST's on the pretext of High Court's order. ...*(Interruptions)* That Bill must be rejected and the students counseling should be started once again. The reservation should be extended from 10 years to 50 years and it should be brought under 9th schedule of the Constitution...*(Interruptions)*. All the backlog vacancies should be filled under a special drive ...*(Interruptions)*.

MADAM SPEAKER: Now you please sit down . ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record, except what the hon. Minister says.

*(Interruptions)...**

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Please be silent. Now you sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please be quiet.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except what the Minister says. Only that will go on record.

*(Interruptions)...**

*Not recorded.

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): Madam Speaker, first of all, I should thank all the Members from this side and the other side for having extended the full support to this Bill.

This Bill has two components—one relating to the reservation to be provided to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes and another relating to nominations of the Anglo-Indians. I have already stated in the beginning and it is also said in the Statement of Objects and Reasons that what weighed for providing reservation and also for providing the nomination at that time—that means about 60 years back – those criteria and those reasons still weigh and that is how we seek the approval of the House to grant extension for another ten years. I may be permitted to state a few facts and then I will proceed on the other aspects and also the dimensions of this Bill.

What is provided here as on today in the House of the People is, out of the total seats of 543, the Scheduled Castes will be provided with 79 seats and the Scheduled Tribes 41 seats. Insofar as the State Legislative Assemblies are concerned, out of 3961 seats, the Scheduled Castes reservation will be 543 seats and for Scheduled Tribes – 527 seats. In fact, when we perambulate the kind of literacy or the proportion of the agricultural labour, still about 46.5 per cent of the Scheduled Caste workers are agricultural labour as against the national average of 26.5 per cent. Likewise, about 68 per cent of the main workers belonging to the Scheduled Tribes are engaged in primary sector activities. As against the national average of 64.8 per cent, the literacy rate among the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is around 54.77 per cent and 47.1 per cent respectively. So, there is a need to travel more distance to ensure that the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes come to the mainstream of life.

Madam, Speaker, before I proceed on this further, I would like to quote one of the statements made by one of the Members of the Constituent Assembly Shri Shankar Rao Deo from Mumbai. He said:

> "We have allowed it to continue for ten years. If we all work and try to remove this blot of untouchability not from the Constitution but from our hearts..."

I emphasize on the word 'hearts',

> "If we destroy it not in law but in spirit, then I am sure this last blot or sign of it will also go."

I think, if all the political parties resolve today or on a determined day that they all will practice inclusive politics and not exclusive politics, not fragmented politics, then perhaps we may not need five years, or ten years, it may happen in a couple of years. This is the kind of determination we need to have today, particularly when we are going to extend this for another ten years. I would also like to mention here that we need to find out the reasons as to why even today we are not in a position to take them along.

There are a number of programmes initiated. I must say to the credit of the hon. Chairperson of the UPA and the hon. Prime Minister that for the first time ever the Eleventh Five Year Plan document talks of the fastest growth and of inclusive growth. If we can take the society forward based on these twin principles, then perhaps many of these objectives could be achieved. After all political representation will have to be totally backed up with social, economic and educational foundation and the accumulated effect of that will be political liberty.

Madam, Speaker, in fact a number of programmes had been initiated by this UPA Government in its last term and those also are being continued during this term of the Government. I need not dwell on the programmes like the NREGA, the Right to Information Act, the Social Security Net and presently the National Food Security Act, the Right to Education Bill, the Mid-day meal programme, the"*Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan*, the *Madhyamik Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan* etc. Many of these programmes are definitely targeted to cover up the deficit areas in our programmes and these should ultimately result in social and political inclusiveness.

Here I would like to quote what Dr. Ambedkar stated once:

> "In our social and economic life we shall, by reasons of our social and economic structure, continue to deny the opportunity of one man one value."

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD (Saran): Since the members from all the parties are supporting this bill, please be brief. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY: Thank you very much. I appreciate the gesture made by Shri Lalu Prasad Yadavji and all the other hon. Members of the House for supporting this Bill with a united voice. I, on behalf of the UPA Government, appreciate this gesture. But while appreciating this gesture, I would like to add that let there be a change in spirit and heart within us to practice inclusive politics in this country.

Madam, Speaker, with these words, I seek the support of the House to pass this Bill.

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Members, before I put the motion for consideration to the vote of the House, I may inform that this being a Constitutional Amendment Bill voting has to be by Division.

Let the Lobbies be cleared—

MADAM SPEAKER: Now, the Lobbies have been cleared. Secretary-General.

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Kind attention of the hon. Members is invited to the following points in the operation of the Automatic Vote Recording System:-

Before a Division starts, every hon. Member should occupy his or her own seat and operate the system from that seat only.

As may kindly be seen, the "Red bulbs above display boards" on either side of Hon. Speaker's Chair are already glowing. This means the voting system has been activated.

For voting please press the following two buttons simultaneously immediately after sounding of first gong, namely,

One "Red" button in front of the Hon. Member on the head phone plate and also

Any one of the following buttons fixed on the top of desk of seats:

Ayes	—	Green Colour
Noes	—	Red Colour
Abstain	—	Yellow Colour

It is essential to keep both the buttons pressed till the second gong sound is heard and the red bulbs are "off".

It is important for the hon. Members to note that the vote will not be registered if both buttons are not kept pressed simultaneously till the sounding of the second gong.

Please do not press the amber button (P) during division.

Hon. Members can actually "see" their vote on display boards and on their desk unit.

In case vote is not registered, they may call for voting through slips.

MADAM SPEAKER: The Lobbies are already cleared.

The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The Lok Sabha divided:

DIVISION NO. 1 **AYES** **15.14 hrs.**

Acharia, Shri Basu Deb
Adhikari, Shri Sisir
Adhi Sankar, Shri
Aditya Nath, Yogi
Adsul, Shri Anandrao
Advani, Shri L.K.
Agarwal, Shri Jai Prakash
Agrawal, Shri Rajendra
Alagiri, Shri S.
Ananth Kumar, Shri
Angadi, Shri Suresh
Antony, Shri Anto
Argal, Shri Ashok
Aron, Shri Praveen Singh
Awale, Shri Jaywant Gangaram
Azad, Shri Kirti
Azharuddin, Mohammed
Baalu, Shri T.R.
'Baba', Shri K.C. Singh
Bahuguna, Shri Vijay
Bairwa, Shri Khiladi Lal
Bais, Shri Ramesh
Baite, Shri Thangso
Bajwa, Shri Pratap Singh
Baliram, Dr.
Balram, Shri P.
Bandyopadhyay, Shri Sudip
Banerjee, Kumari Mamata
Banerjee, Shri Kalyan
Bansal, Shri Pawan Kumar
Bapiraju , Shri K.
Basavaraj, Shri G. S.
Basheer, Shri Mohammed E.T.
Baske, Shri Pulin Bihari
Bauri, Shrimati Susmita
Beg, Dr. Mirza Mehboob
Besra, Shri Devidhan
Bhadana, Shri Avtar Singh
Bhagat, Shri Sudarshan
Bhagora, Shri Tara Chand
Bhaiya, Shri Shivraj
Bhoi, Shri Sanjay
Bhujbal, Shri Sameer
Bhuria, Shri Kanti Lal
Biswal, Shri Hemanand
Bundela, Shri Jitendra Singh
Bwiswmuthiary, Shri Sansuma Khunggur
Chacko, Shri P.C.
Chang, Shri C.M.
Chakravarty, Shrimati Bijoya
Chaudhary, Dr. Tushar
Chaudhary, Shri Arvind Kumar
Chaudhary, Shri Jayant
Chauhan, Shri Dara Singh
Chauhan, Shri Mahendrasinh P.
Chauhan, Shri Prabhatsinh P.
Chauhan, Shrimati Rajkumari
Chavan, Shri Harishchandra
Chidambaram, Shri P.
Chinta Mohan, Dr.
Chitthan, Shri N.S.V.

Choudhary, Shri Bhudeo
Choudhary, Shri Harish
Choudhary, Shri Nikhil Kumar
Choudhry, Shrimati Shruti
Choudhury, Shri Abu Hasem Khan
Chowdhary, Shrimati Santosh
Chowdhury, Shri Adhir
'Commando', Shri Kamal Kishor
Das, Shri Bhakta Charan
Dastidar, Dr. Kakoli Ghosh
Davidson, Shrimati J. Helen
De, Dr. Ratna
Deka, Shri Ramen
Deo, Shri V. Kishore Chandra
Deora, Shri Milind
Devi, Shrimati Rama
Dhanapalan, Shri K. P.
Dhurve, Shrimati Jyoti
Dikshit, Shri Sandeep
Dome, Dr. Ram Chandra
Dubey, Shri Nishikant
Elangovan, Shri T.K.S.
Engti, Shri Biren Singh
Ering, Shri Ninong
Gaikwad, Shri Eknath Mahadeo
*Gandhi, Shri Dilipkumar Mansukhlal
Gandhi, Shri Rahul
Gandhi, Shri Varun
Gandhi, Shrimati Maneka
Gandhi, Shrimati Sonia
Gandhiselvan, Shri S.
Ganeshamurthi, Shri A.
Gavit, Shri Manikrao Hodlya
Geete, Shri Anant Gangaram
Ghatowar, Shri Paban Singh
Gogoi, Shri Dip
Gouda, Shri Shivarama
Gowda, Shri D.B. Chandre
Guddu, Shri Premchand
Haldar, Dr. Sucharu Ranjan
Handique, Shri B.K.
Haque, Shri Mohd. Asrarul
Haque, Sk. Saidul
Hari, Shri Sabbam
Hassan, Dr. Monazir
Hazari, Shri Maheshwar
Hooda, Shri Deepender Singh
Hussain, Shri Ismail
Hussain, Shri Syed Shahnawaz
Islam, Sk. Nurul
Jagannath, Dr. Manda
Jagathrakshakan, Dr. S.
Jain, Shri Pradeep
Jaiswal, Dr. Sanjay
Jaiswal, Shri Shriprakash
Jakhar, Shri Badri Ram
Jardosh, Shrimati Darshana
Jat, Shrimati Poonam Veljibhai
Jatua, Shri Choudhury Mohan
Jawale, Shri Haribhau
Jayaprada, Shrimati
Jena, Shri Mohan
Jena, Shri Srikant
Jigajinagi, Shri Ramesh
Jindal, Shri Naveen
Joshi, Dr. C.P.
Joshi, Dr. Murli Manohar
Joshi, Shri Kailash
Joshi, Shri Mahesh
Judev, Shri Dilip Singh
Kachhadia, Shri Naranbhai
Kamal Nath, Shri
Karunakaran, Shri P.
Karwaria, Shri Kapil Muni
Kashyap, Shri Virender
Kaswan, Shri Ram Singh
Kataria, Shri Lalchand
Kateel, Shri Nalin Kumar
Kaur, Shrimati Preneet

*Voted through slip.

Khan, Shri Hassan
Khandela, Shri Mahadeo Singh
Khatgaonkar, Shri Bhaskarrao Bapurao Patil
Khatri, Dr. Nirmal
Khursheed, Shri Salman
Killi, Dr. Kruparani
Koda, Shri Madhu
Kowase, Shri Marotrao Sainuji
Krishnasswamy, Shri M.
Kumar, Shri Mithilesh
Kumar, Shri P.
Kumar, Shri Ramesh
Kumar, Shri Shailendra
Kumar, Shri Virendra
*Kumar, Vishwa Mohan
Lakshmi, Shrimati Panabaka
Lal, Shri Pakauri
Lalu Prasad, Shri
Lingam, Shri P.
Mahajan, Shrimati Sumitra
Mahant, Dr. Charan Das
Maharaj, Shri Satpal
Mahtab, Shri B.
Majhi, Shri Pradeep
Majumdar, Shri Prasanta Kumar
Maken, Shri Ajay
Malik, Shri Jitender Singh
*Mandal, Shri Mangani Lal
Mani, Shri Jose K.
Manjhi, Shri Hari
Meena, Shri Namo Narain
Meena, Shri Raghuvir Singh
Meghe, Shri Datta
Meghwal, Shri Arjun Ram
Meghwal, Shri Bharat Ram
Meinya, Dr. Thokchom
Mirdha, Dr. Jyoti
*Mishra, Shri Govind Prasad
Mishra, Shri Mahabal

*Voted through slip.

Misra, Shri Pinaki
Mitra, Shri Somen
Mohan, Shri P.C.
Mohapatra, Shri Sidhant
*Moily, Shri M. Veerappa
Mondal, Dr. Tarun
Mukherjee, Shri Pranab
Munda, Shri Arjun
Munda, Shri Karia
Muniyappa, Shri K.H.
Muttemwar, Shri Vilas
Nagar, Shri Surendra Singh
Nagpal, Shri Devendra
Naik, Dr. Sanjeev Ganesh
Naik, Shri Shripad Yesso
Namdhari, Shri Inder Singh
Napoleon, Shri D.
Naqvi, Shri Zafar Ali
Narah, Shrimati Ranee
Narayanrao, Shri Sonawane Pratap
Narayanasamy, Shri V.
Naskar, Shri Gobinda Chandra
Nirupam, Shri Sanjay
Noor, Kumari Mausam
Ola, Shri Sis Ram
Owaisi, Shri Asaduddin
Pakkirappa, Shri S.
Pal, Shri Jagdambika
Pal, Shri Rajaram
Pala, Shri Vincent H.
Panda, Shri Baijayant
Panda, Shri Prabodh
Pandey, Dr. Vinay Kumar
Pandey, Shri Gorakhnath
Pandey, Shri Rakesh
Pandey, Shri Ravindra Kumar
Pangi, Shri Jayaram
Paswan, Shri Kamlesh
Patasani, Dr. Prasanna Kumar

*Voted through slip.

Patel, Shri Bal Kumar
Patel, Shri Devji M.
Patel, Shri Dinsha
Patel, Shri Kishanbhai V.
Patel, Shri Lalubhai Babubhain
Patel, Shri Nathubhai Gomanbhai
Patel, Shri Praful
Patel, Shri Somabhai Gandalal Koli
Pathak, Shri Harin
Patil, Shri C.R.
Patil, Shri Danve Raosaheb
Patil, Shri Pratik
Patle, Shrimati Kamla Devi
Paul, Shri Tapas
Pawar, Shri Sharad
Pilot, Shri Sachin
Potai, Shri Sohan
Prabhakar, Shri Ponnam
Pradhan, Shri Amarnath
Prasada, Shri Jitin
Premdas, Shri
Punia, Shri P. L.
Purkayastha, Shri Kabindra
Raghavan, Shri M.K.
Raghavendra, Shri B.Y.
Rai, Shri Prem Das
Rajagopal, Shri L.
Rajbhar, Shri Ramashankar
Raju, Shri M.M. Pallam
Rajukhedi, Shri Gajendra Singh
Ramachandran, Shri Mullappally
Ramasubbu, Shri S.S.
Ramkishun, Shri
Ramshankar, Prof.
Rana, Shri Jagdish Singh
Rana, Shri Rajendrasinh
Rane, Shri Nilesh Narayan
Rao, Dr. K.S.
Rao, Shri Rayapati Sambasiva
Rathwa, Shri Ramsinh
Rawat, Shri Ashok Kumar
Ray, Shri Bishnu Pada
Ray, Shri Rudramadhab
Reddy, Shri Anantha Venkatarami
Reddy, Shri Gutha Sukhender
Reddy, Shri K.R.G.
Reddy, Shri M. Sreenivasulu
Reddy, Shri Y.S. Jagan Mohan
Riyan, Shri Baju Ban
Roy, Shri Mahendra Kumar
Roy, Shri Nripendra Nath
Roy, Shrimati Shatabdi
Saha, Dr. Anup Kumar
Sahay, Shri Subodh Kant
Sahu, Shri Chandu Lal
Sai, Shri Vishnu Dev
Sai Prathap, Shri A.
Sangma, Kumari Agatha
Sardinha, Shri Francisco Cosme
Saroj, Shri Tufani
Saroj, Shrimati Sushila
Satpathy, Shri Tathagata
Satyanarayana, Shri Sarvey
Sayeed, Shri Hamdullah
Scindia, Shrimati Yashodhara Raje
Selja, Kumari
Semmalai, Shri S.
Sethi, Shri Arjun Charan
Shanavas, Shri M.I.
Shankar, Shri Bhisma *alias* Kushal Tiwari
*Shantha, Shrimati J.
Shariq, Shri S.D.
Sharma, Shri Madan Lal
Shetkar, Shri Suresh Kumar
Shetti, Shri Raju
Shinde, Shri Sushilkumar
Shukla, Shri Balkrishna Khanderao
Sibal, Shri Kapil
Siddeshwara, Shri G.M.

*Voted through slip.

Singh, Chaudhary Lal
Singh, Dr. Bhola
Singh, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad
Singh, Kunwar R.P.N.
Singh, Shri Bhoopendra
Singh, Shri Dushyant
Singh, Shri Ganesh
Singh, Shri Gopal
Singh, Shri Ijyaraj
Singh, Shri Jaswant
Singh, Shri Jitendra
Singh, Shri Mahabali
Singh, Shri Murari Lal
Singh, Shri Pashupati Nath
Singh, Shri Radha Mohan
Singh, Shri Rajiv Ranjan *alias* Lalan Singh
Singh, Shri Rakesh
Singh, Shri Ratan
Singh, Shri Ravneet
Singh, Shri Rewati Raman
Singh, Shri Sukhdev
Singh, Shri Uday
Singh, Shri Virbhadra
Singh, Shri Umashankar
Singh, Shri Yashvir
Singh, Rajkumari Ratna
Singh, Shrimati Meena
Singh, Shrimati Rajesh Nandini
Singh Deo, Shri Kalikesh Narayan
Singla, Shri Vijay Inder
Sinha, Shri Yashwant
Siricilla, Shri Rajaiah
Sivaprasad, Dr. N.
Sivasami, Shri C.
Solanki, Dr. Kirit Premjibhai
Solanki, Shri Bharatsinh
Solanki, Shri Makansingh
Sugavanam, Shri E.G.
Suklabaidya, Shri Lalit Mohan
Suman, Shri Kabir
Suresh, Shri Kodikkunnil
Sushant, Dr. Rajan
Swamy, Shri Janardhana
Swaraj, Shrimati Sushma
Tagore, Shri Manicka
Takam, Shri Sanjoy
Tamta, Shri Pradeep
Tandon, Shrimati Annu
Tanwar, Shri Ashok
Taviad, Dr. Prabha Kishor
Taware, Shri Suresh Kashinath
Tewari, Shri Manish
Thakur, Shri Anurag Singh
Thambidurai, Dr. M.
Tharoor, Dr. Shashi
Thomas, Shri P.T.
Tirath, Shrimati Krishna
Tomar, Shri Narendra Singh
*Toppo, Shri Joseph
Trivedi, Shri Dinesh
Tudu, Shri Laxman
Udasi, Shri Shivkumar
Upadhyay, Shrimati Seema
Vardhan, Shri Harsh
Vasava, Shri Mansukhbhai D.
Venugopal, Dr. P.
Venugopal, Shri D.
Venugopal, Shri K.C.
Verma, Shri Sajjan
Verma, Shri Beni Prasad
Verma, Shrimati Usha
Viswanathan, Shri P.
Vivekanand, Dr. G.
Vundavalli, Shri Aruna Kumar
Vyas, Dr. Girija
Wakchaure, Shri Bhausaheb Rajaram
Wasnik, Shri Mukul
*Yadav, Prof. Ranjan Prasad

*Voted through slip.

Yadav, Shri Akhilesh
Yadav, Shri Dinesh Chandra
Yadav, Shri Hukmadeo Narayan
Yadav, Shri Anjankumar M.
Yadav, Shri Madhusudan
Yadav, Shri Mulayam Singh
Yadav, Shri Sharad
Yaskhi, Shri Madhu Goud

NOES

*Toppo, Shri Joseph

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Members, subject to correction@, the result of the division is:

Ayes: 375

Noes: 1

The motion is carried by a majority of the total membership of the House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the Members present and voting.

The motion was adopted.

MADAM SPEAKER: Now, the House shall take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

MADAM SPEAKER: The Lobbies are already clear. I shall now put clause 2 to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"That clause 2 stands part of the Bill."

The Lok Sabha divided:

DIVISION NO. 2 AYES 15.16 hrs.

Acharia, Shri Basu Deb
Adhikari, Shri Sisir
Adhi Sankar, Shri
Aditya Nath, Yogi
Adsul, Shri Anandrao
Advani, Shri L.K.
Agarwal, Shri Jai Prakash
Agrawal, Shri Rajendra
Alagiri, Shri S.
Ananth Kumar, Shri
Angadi, Shri Suresh
Antony, Shri Anto
Anuragi, Shri Ghanshyam
Argal, Shri Ashok
Aron, Shri Praveen Singh
Azad, Shri Kirti
Azharuddin, Mohammed
Baalu, Shri T.R.
'Baba', Shri K.C. Singh
Bahuguna, Shri Vijay
Bairwa, Shri Khiladi Lal
Bais, Shri Ramesh
Baite, Shri Thangso
Bajwa, Shri Pratap Singh
Baliram, Dr.
Balram, Shri P.
Bandyopadhyay, Shri Sudip
Banerjee, Kumari Mamata
Banerjee, Shri Kalyan
Bansal, Shri Pawan Kumar
Bapiraju , Shri K.
Basavaraj, Shri G. S.
Baske, Shri Pulin Bihari
Bauri, Shrimati Susmita
Beg, Dr. Mirza Mehboob
Besra, Shri Devidhan
Bhadana, Shri Avtar Singh
Bhagat, Shri Sudarshan
Bhagora, Shri Tara Chand
Bhaiya, Shri Shivraj
Bhoi, Shri Sanjay
Bhujbal, Shri Sameer
Bhuria, Shri Kanti Lal

*Corrected through slip.

@The following Members also recorded/corrected their votes through slips.

Ayes 375 + S/Shri Dilipkumar Mansukhlal Gandhi, Vishwa Mohan Kumar, Mangani Lal Mandal, Govind Prasad Mishra, M. Veerappa Moily, Shrimati J. Shantha, Shri Joseph Toppo and Prof. Ranjan Prasad Yadav = 383

Noes 1- Shri Joseph Toppo wrongly voted for Noes. Later on, he corrected through slip for Ayes =0

Biswal, Shri Hemanand
Bundela, Shri Jitendra Singh
Bwiswmuthiary, Shri Sansuma Khunggur
Chacko, Shri P.C.
Chang, Shri C.M.
Chakravarty, Shrimati Bijoya
Chaudhary, Dr. Tushar
Chaudhary, Shri Jayant
Chauhan, Shri Dara Singh
Chauhan, Shri Prabhatsinh P.
Chauhan, Shrimati Rajkumari
Chavan, Shri Harishchandra
Chinta Mohan, Dr.
Chitthan, Shri N.S.V.
Choudhary, Shri Bhudeo
Choudhary, Shri Harish
Choudhary, Shri Nikhil Kumar
Choudhry, Shrimati Shruti
Choudhury, Shri Abu Hasem Khan
Chowdhary, Shrimati Santosh
Chowdhury, Shri Adhir
'Commando', Shri Kamal Kishor
Das, Shri Bhakta Charan
Dastidar, Dr. Kakoli Ghosh
Davidson, Shrimati J. Helen
*De, Dr. Ratna
Deka, Shri Ramen
Deo, Shri V. Kishore Chandra
Deora, Shri Milind
Devi, Shrimati Rama
Dhanapalan, Shri K. P.
Dhurve, Shrimati Jyoti
Dikshit, Shri Sandeep
Dome, Dr. Ram Chandra
Dubey, Shri Nishikant
Elangovan, Shri T.K.S.
Ering, Shri Ninong
*Gandhi, Shri Dilipkumar Mansukhlal
Gandhi, Shri Rahul
Gandhi, Shri Varun
Gandhi, Shrimati Maneka
Gandhi, Shrimati Sonia
Gandhiselvan, Shri S.
Ganeshamurthi, Shri A.
Gavit, Shri Manikrao Hodlya
Geete, Shri Anant Gangaram
Ghatowar, Shri Paban Singh
Gogoi, Shri Dip
Gouda, Shri Shivarama
Guddu, Shri Premchand
Haldar, Dr. Sucharu Ranjan
Handique, Shri B.K.
Haque, Shri Mohd. Asrarul
Haque, Sk. Saidul
Hari, Shri Sabbam
Hasan, Shrimati Tabassum
Hooda, Shri Deepender Singh
Hussain, Shri Ismail
Hussain, Shri Syed Shahnawaz
Islam, Sk. Nurul
Jagannath, Dr. Manda
Jagathrakshakan, Dr. S.
Jain, Shri Pradeep
Jaiswal, Dr. Sanjay
Jaiswal, Shri Gorakh Prasad
Jaiswal, Shri Shriprakash
Jakhar, Shri Badri Ram
Jardosh, Shrimati Darshana
Jat, Shrimati Poonam Veljibhai
Jatua, Shri Choudhury Mohan
Jawale, Shri Haribhau
Jayaprada, Shrimati
Jena, Shri Mohan
Jena, Shri Srikant
Jigajinagi, Shri Ramesh
Jindal, Shri Naveen
Joshi, Dr. C.P.
Joshi, Dr. Murli Manohar
Joshi, Shri Kailash

*Voted through slip.

Joshi, Shri Mahesh
Judev, Shri Dilip Singh
Kachhadia, Shri Naranbhai
*Kamal Nath, Shri
Karunakaran, Shri P.
Karwaria, Shri Kapil Muni
Kashyap, Shri Virender
Kaswan, Shri Ram Singh
Kataria, Shri Lalchand
Kaur, Shrimati Preneet
Khan, Shri Hassan
Khandela, Shri Mahadeo Singh
*Kharge, Shri Mallikarjun
Khatgaonkar, Shri Bhaskarrao Bapurao Patil
Khatri, Dr. Nirmal
Khursheed, Shri Salman
Killi, Dr. Kruparani
Koda, Shri Madhu
Kowase, Shri Marotrao Sainuji
Krishnasswamy, Shri M.
Kumar, Shri P.
Kumar, Shri Ramesh
Kumar, Shri Shailendra
Kumar, Shri Virendra
*Kumar, Vishwa Mohan
Lakshmi, Shrimati Panabaka
Lalu Prasad, Shri
Lingam, Shri P.
Mahajan, Shrimati Sumitra
Mahant, Dr. Charan Das
Maharaj, Shri Satpal
Mahtab, Shri B.
Majhi, Shri Pradeep
Majumdar, Shri Prasanta Kumar
Maken, Shri Ajay
Malik, Shri Jitender Singh
Malik, Shri Sakti Mohan
Mandal, Shri Mangani Lal
Manjhi, Shri Hari

*Voted through slip.

Meena, Shri Namo Narain
Meena, Shri Raghuvir Singh
Meghe, Shri Datta
Meghwal, Shri Arjun Ram
Meghwal, Shri Bharat Ram
Meinya, Dr. Thokchom
Mirdha, Dr. Jyoti
Mishra, Shri Mahabal
Misra, Shri Pinaki
Mitra, Shri Somen
Mohan, Shri P.C.
Mohapatra, Shri Sidhant
Moily, Shri M. Veerappa
Mondal, Dr. Tarun
Mukherjee, Shri Pranab
Munda, Shri Arjun
Munda, Shri Karia
Muniyappa, Shri K.H.
*Muttemwar, Shri Vilas
Nagar, Shri Surendra Singh
Nagpal, Shri Devendra
Naik, Dr. Sanjeev Ganesh
Naik, Shri Shripad Yesso
Namdhari, Shri Inder Singh
Naqvi, Shri Zafar Ali
Narah, Shrimati Ranee
Narayanrao, Shri Sonawane Pratap
Narayanasamy, Shri V.
Naskar, Shri Gobinda Chandra
Nirupam, Shri Sanjay
Noor, Kumari Mausam
Ola, Shri Sis Ram
Owaisi, Shri Asaduddin
Pakkirappa, Shri S.
Pal, Shri Jagdambika
Pal, Shri Rajaram
Pala, Shri Vincent H.
Panda, Shri Baijayant
Panda, Shri Prabodh

*Voted through slip.

Pandey, Dr. Vinay Kumar
Pandey, Shri Ravindra Kumar
Pangi, Shri Jayaram
Paswan, Shri Kamlesh
Patasani, Dr. Prasanna Kumar
Patel, Shri Devji M.
Patel, Shri Dinsha
Patel, Shri Kishanbhai V.
Patel, Shri Nathubhai Gomanbhai
Patel, Shri Praful
*Patel, Shri Somabhai Gandalal Koli
Patel, Shrimati Jayshreeben
*Pathak, Shri Harin
Patil, Shri A.T. Nana
Patil, Shri Danve Raosaheb
Patle, Shrimati Kamla Devi
Paul, Shri Tapas
*Pawar, Shri Sharad
Pilot, Shri Sachin
Potai, Shri Sohan
Prabhakar, Shri Ponnam
Pradhan, Shri Amarnath
Pradhan, Shri Nityananda
Prasada, Shri Jitin
Premdas, Shri
Punia, Shri P. L.
Purkayastha, Shri Kabindra
Raghavan, Shri M.K.
Rai, Shri Prem Das
Rajagopal, Shri L.
Rajbhar, Shri Ramashankar
Raju, Shri M.M. Pallam
Rajukhedi, Shri Gajendra Singh
Ramachandran, Shri Mullappally
Ramkishun, Shri
Ramshankar, Prof.
Rana, Shri Jagdish Singh
Rana, Shri Rajendrasinh
Rane, Shri Nilesh Narayan

*Voted through slip.

Rao, Dr. K.S.
Rao, Shri Rayapati Sambasiva
Rathwa, Shri Ramsinh
Rawat, Shri Ashok Kumar
Ray, Shri Bishnu Pada
Ray, Shri Rudramadhab
Reddy, Shri Anantha Venkatarami
Reddy, Shri Gutha Sukhender
Reddy, Shri K.R.G.
Reddy, Shri M. Sreenivasulu
*Reddy, Shri Y.S. Jagan Mohan
Riyan, Shri Baju Ban
Roy, Shri Mahendra Kumar
Roy, Shri Nripendra Nath
Roy, Shrimati Shatabdi
Ruala, Shri C.L.
Saha, Dr. Anup Kumar
Sahay, Shri Subodh Kant
Sai, Shri Vishnu Dev
Sai Prathap, Shri A.
Sangma, Kumari Agatha
Sardinha, Shri Francisco Cosme
Saroj, Shri Tufani
Saroj, Shrimati Sushila
Satpathy, Shri Tathagata
Satyanarayana, Shri Sarvey
Sayeed, Shri Hamdullah
Scindia, Shrimati Yashodhara Raje
Selja, Kumari
Sethi, Shri Arjun Charan
Shanavas, Shri M.I.
Shantha, Shrimati J.
Sharma, Shri Jagdish
Sharma, Shri Madan Lal
Shetkar, Shri Suresh Kumar
*Shinde, Shri Sushilkumar
Shukla, Shri Balkrishna Khanderao
Sibal, Shri Kapil
Singh, Chaudhary Lal

*Voted through slip.

Singh, Dr. Bhola
Singh, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad
Singh, Kunwar R.P.N.
Singh, Shri Bhoopendra
Singh, Shri Dushyant
*Singh, Shri Ganesh
Singh, Shri Gopal
Singh, Shri Ijyaraj
Singh, Shri Jaswant
Singh, Shri Jitendra
Singh, Shri Murari Lal
Singh, Shri Pashupati Nath
Singh, Shri Radha Mohan
Singh, Shri Rajiv Ranjan *alias* Lalan Singh
Singh, Shri Rakesh
Singh, Shri Ratan
Singh, Shri Ravneet
Singh, Shri Rewati Raman
Singh, Shri Sukhdev
Singh, Shri Uday
Singh, Shri Virbhadra
Singh, Shri Yashvir
Singh, Rajkumari Ratna
Singh, Shrimati Meena
Singh, Shrimati Rajesh Nandini
Singh Deo, Shri Kalikesh Narayan
Singla, Shri Vijay Inder
Sinha, Shri Yashwant
Siricilla, Shri Rajaiah
Sivaprasad, Dr. N.
Sivasami, Shri C.
Solanki, Shri Makansingh
Sugavanam, Shri E.G.
Suklabaidya, Shri Lalit Mohan
Suman, Shri Kabir
Suresh, Shri Kodikkunnil
Sushant, Dr. Rajan
Swamy, Shri Janardhana
Swaraj, Shrimati Sushma
Tagore, Shri Manicka
Takam, Shri Sanjoy
Tamta, Shri Pradeep
Tandon, Shrimati Annu
Tanwar, Shri Ashok
Taviad, Dr. Prabha Kishor
Taware, Shri Suresh Kashinath
Tewari, Shri Manish
Thakur, Shri Anurag Singh
Thambidurai, Dr. M.
Tharoor, Dr. Shashi
Thomas, Shri P.T.
Tirath, Shrimati Krishna
Tiwari, Shri Bhisma Shankar alias Kushal
Tomar, Shri Narendra Singh
Trivedi, Shri Dinesh
Tudu, Shri Laxman
Udasi, Shri Shivkumar
Upadhyay, Shrimati Seema
Vardhan, Shri Harsh
Vasava, Shri Mansukhbhai D.
*Venugopal, Dr. P.
Venugopal, Shri D.
Venugopal, Shri K.C.
Verma, Shri Sajjan
*Verma, Shri Beni Prasad
Viswanathan, Shri P.
Vivekanand, Dr. G.
Vundavalli, Shri Aruna Kumar
Vyas, Dr. Girija
Wasnik, Shri Mukul
Yadav, Prof. Ranjan Prasad
Yadav, Shri Akhilesh
Yadav, Shri Dinesh Chandra
Yadav, Shri Hukmadeo Narayan
Yadav, Shri Anjankumar M.
Yadav, Shri Madhusudan
Yadav, Shri Mulayam Singh
Yadav, Shri Sharad
Yaskhi, Shri Madhu Goud

*Voted through slip.

NOES

Nil

*Voted through slip.

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Members, subject to correction**, the result of the division is:

Ayes:	343
Noes:	Nil
Abstain:	1

The motion is carried by a majority of the total membership of the House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the Members present and voting.

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1

Short Title and Commencement

MADAM SPEAKER: I shall now put clause 1 to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"That clause 1 stands part of the Bill."

The Lok Sabha divided:

DIVISION NO. 3 **AYES** **15.17 hrs.**

Acharia, Shri Basu Deb
Adhikari, Shri Sisir
Adhi Sankar, Shri
Aditya Nath, Yogi
Adsul, Shri Anandrao
Advani, Shri L.K.
Agarwal, Shri Jai Prakash
Agrawal, Shri Rajendra
Alagiri, Shri S.
Ananth Kumar, Shri
Angadi, Shri Suresh
Antony, Shri Anto
Anuragi, Shri Ghanshyam
Argal, Shri Ashok
Aron, Shri Praveen Singh
Awale, Shri Jaywant Gangaram
Azad, Shri Kirti
Azharuddin, Mohammed
Baalu, Shri T.R.
'Baba', Shri K.C. Singh
Bahuguna, Shri Vijay
Bairwa, Shri Khiladi Lal
Bais, Shri Ramesh
Baite, Shri Thangso
Bajwa, Shri Pratap Singh
Baliram, Dr.
Balram, Shri P.
Bandyopadhyay, Shri Sudip
Banerjee, Kumari Mamata
Banerjee, Shri Kalyan
Bansal, Shri Pawan Kumar
Bapiraju , Shri K.
Basavaraj, Shri G. S.
Basheer, Shri Mohammed E.T.
Baske, Shri Pulin Bihari
Bauri, Shrimati Susmita
Beg, Dr. Mirza Mehboob
Besra, Shri Devidhan
Bhadana, Shri Avtar Singh
Bhagat, Shri Sudarshan
Bhagora, Shri Tara Chand
Bhaiya, Shri Shivraj
Bhoi, Shri Sanjay
Bhujbal, Shri Sameer
Bhuria, Shri Kanti Lal
Biju, Shri P.K.
Biswal, Shri Hemanand
Bundela, Shri Jitendra Singh
Bwiswmuthiary, Shri Sansuma Khunggur

---

*The following Members also recorded/corrected their votes through slips.

Ayes 343 + Dr. Ratna De, S/Shri Dilipkumar Mansukhlal Gandhi, Kamal Nath, Mallikarjun Kharge, Vishwa Mohan Kumar, Vilas Muttemwar, Somabhai Gandalal Koli Patel, Harin Pathak, Sharad Pawar, Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, Sushilkumar Shinde, Ganesh Singh, Dr. P. Venugopal and Shri Beni Prasad Verma = 357

Abstain 1- Shri Vishwa Mohan Kumar wrongly voted for Abstain. Later on, he corrected through slip for Ayes = 0

Chacko, Shri P.C.
Chang, Shri C.M.
Chakravarty, Shrimati Bijoya
*Chaudhary, Dr. Tushar
Chaudhary, Shri Arvind Kumar
Chaudhary, Shri Jayant
Chauhan, Shri Dara Singh
Chauhan, Shri Mahendrasinh P.
Chauhan, Shri Prabhatsinh P.
Chauhan, Shrimati Rajkumari
Chavan, Shri Harishchandra
Chidambaram, Shri P.
Chinta Mohan, Dr.
Chitthan, Shri N.S.V.
Choudhary, Shri Bhudeo
Choudhary, Shri Harish
Choudhary, Shri Nikhil Kumar
Choudhry, Shrimati Shruti
Choudhury, Shri Abu Hasem Khan
Chowdhary, Shrimati Santosh
Chowdhury, Shri Adhir
Das, Shri Bhakta Charan
Dastidar, Dr. Kakoli Ghosh
Davidson, Shrimati J. Helen
De, Dr. Ratna
Deka, Shri Ramen
Deo, Shri V. Kishore Chandra
Deora, Shri Milind
Devi, Shrimati Rama
Dhanapalan, Shri K. P.
Dhurve, Shrimati Jyoti
Dikshit, Shri Sandeep
Dome, Dr. Ram Chandra
Dubey, Shri Nishikant
Elangovan, Shri T.K.S.
Engti, Shri Biren Singh
Ering, Shri Ninong
Gaikwad, Shri Eknath Mahadeo
Gandhi, Shri Dilipkumar Mansukhlal
Gandhi, Shri Rahul
Gandhi, Shri Varun
Gandhi, Shrimati Maneka
Gandhi, Shrimati Sonia
Gandhiselvan, Shri S.
Ganeshamurthi, Shri A.
Gavit, Shri Manikrao Hodlya
Geete, Shri Anant Gangaram
Ghatowar, Shri Paban Singh
Gogoi, Shri Dip
Gouda, Shri Shivarama
Gowda, Shri D.B. Chandre
Guddu, Shri Premchand
Haldar, Dr. Sucharu Ranjan
Handique, Shri B.K.
Haque, Shri Mohd. Asrarul
Haque, Sk. Saidul
Hari, Shri Sabbam
Hasan, Shrimati Tabassum
Hassan, Dr. Monazir
Hazari, Shri Maheshwar
Hooda, Shri Deepender Singh
Hussain, Shri Ismail
Hussain, Shri Syed Shahnawaz
Islam, Sk. Nurul .
Jagannath, Dr. Manda
Jagathrakshakan, Dr. S.
Jain, Shri Pradeep
Jaiswal, Dr. Sanjay
Jaiswal, Shri Gorakh Prasad
Jaiswal, Shri Shriprakash
Jakhar, Shri Badri Ram
Jardosh, Shrimati Darshana
Jat, Shrimati Poonam Veljibhai
Jatua, Shri Choudhury Mohan
Jawale, Shri Haribhau
Jayaprada, Shrimati
Jena, Shri Mohan
Jena, Shri Srikant
Jigajinagi, Shri Ramesh

*Voted through slip.

Jindal, Shri Naveen
Joshi, Dr. C.P.
Joshi, Dr. Murli Manohar
Joshi, Shri Mahesh
Judev, Shri Dilip Singh
Kachhadia, Shri Naranbhai
Kamal Nath, Shri
Karunakaran, Shri P.
Karwaria, Shri Kapil Muni
Kashyap, Shri Virender
Kaswan, Shri Ram Singh
Kataria, Shri Lalchand
Kateel, Shri Nalin Kumar
Kaur, Shrimati Preneet
Khan, Shri Hassan
Khandela, Shri Mahadeo Singh
*Kharge, Shri Mallikarjun
Khatgaonkar, Shri Bhaskarrao Bapurao Patil
Khatri, Dr. Nirmal
Khursheed, Shri Salman
Killi, Dr. Kruparani
Koda, Shri Madhu
Kowase, Shri Marotrao Sainuji
Krishnasswamy, Shri M.
Kumar, Shri Mithilesh
Kumar, Shri P.
Kumar, Shri Ramesh
Kumar, Shri Shailendra
Kumar, Shri Virendra
*Kumar, Vishwa Mohan
Lakshmi, Shrimati Panabaka
Lalu Prasad, Shri
Lingam, Shri P.
Mahajan, Shrimati Sumitra
Mahant, Dr. Charan Das
Maharaj, Shri Satpal
Mahtab, Shri B.
Majhi, Shri Pradeep
Majumdar, Shri Prasanta Kumar
Maken, Shri Ajay
Malik, Shri Jitender Singh
Malik, Shri Sakti Mohan
Mandal, Shri Mangani Lal
Mani, Shri Jose K.
Manjhi, Shri Hari
Meena, Shri Namo Narain
Meena, Shri Raghuvir Singh
Meghe, Shri Datta
Meghwal, Shri Arjun Ram
Meghwal, Shri Bharat Ram
Meinya, Dr. Thokchom
Mishra, Shri Govind Prasad
Mishra, Shri Mahabal
Misra, Shri Pinaki
Mitra, Shri Somen
Mohan, Shri P.C.
Mohapatra, Shri Sidhant
Moily, Shri M. Veerappa
Mondal, Dr. Tarun
Mukherjee, Shri Pranab
Munda, Shri Arjun
Munda, Shri Karia
Muniyappa, Shri K.H.
Muttemwar, Shri Vilas
Nagar, Shri Surendra Singh
Nagpal, Shri Devendra
Naik, Dr. Sanjeev Ganesh
Naik, Shri Shripad Yesso
Namdhari, Shri Inder Singh
Napoleon, Shri D.
Naqvi, Shri Zafar Ali
Narah, Shrimati Ranee
Narayanrao, Shri Sonawane Pratap
Narayanasamy, Shri V.
Naskar, Shri Gobinda Chandra
Nirupam, Shri Sanjay
Noor, Kumari Mausam
Ola, Shri Sis Ram
Owaisi, Shri Asaduddin

*Voted through slip.

Pakkirappa, Shri S.
Pal, Shri Jagdambika
Pal, Shri Rajaram
Pala, Shri Vincent H.
Panda, Shri Baijayant
Panda, Shri Prabodh
Pandey, Dr. Vinay Kumar
Pandey, Shri Gorakhnath
Pandey, Shri Rakesh
Pandey, Shri Ravindra Kumar
Pangi, Shri Jayaram
Paswan, Shri Kamlesh
Patasani, Dr. Prasanna Kumar
Patel, Shri Bal Kumar
Patel, Shri Devji M.
Patel, Shri Dinsha
Patel, Shri Kishanbhai V.
Patel, Shri Lalubhai Babubhai
Patel, Shri Nathubhai Gomanbhai
Patel, Shri Praful
Patel, Shri Somabhai Gandalal Koli
Patel, Shrimati Jayshreeben
Pathak, Shri Harin
Patil, Shri A.T. Nana
Patil, Shri C.R.
Patil, Shri Danve Raosaheb
Patil, Shri Pratik
Patle, Shrimati Kamla Devi
Paul, Shri Tapas
Pawar, Shri Sharad
Pilot, Shri Sachin
Potai, Shri Sohan
Prabhakar, Shri Ponnam
Pradhan, Shri Amarnath
Pradhan, Shri Nityananda
Prasada, Shri Jitin
Premdas, Shri
Punia, Shri P. L.
Purkayastha, Shri Kabindra
Raghavan, Shri M.K.
Raghavendra, Shri B.Y.
Rai, Shri Prem Das
Rajagopal, Shri L.
Rajbhar, Shri Ramashankar
Raju, Shri M.M. Pallam
Rajukhedi, Shri Gajendra Singh
Ramachandran, Shri Mullappally
Ramasubbu, Shri S.S.
Ramkishun, Shri
Ramshankar, Prof.
Rana, Shri Jagdish Singh
Rana, Shri Rajendrasinh
Rane, Shri Nilesh Narayan
Rao, Dr. K.S.
*Rao, Shri K. Narayan
Rao, Shri Rayapati Sambasiva
Rathwa, Shri Ramsinh
Rawat, Shri Ashok Kumar
Ray, Shri Bishnu Pada
Ray, Shri Rudramadhab
Reddy, Shri Anantha Venkatarami
Reddy, Shri Gutha Sukhender
Reddy, Shri K.R.G.
Reddy, Shri M. Sreenivasulu
Reddy, Shri Y.S. Jagan Mohan
Riyan, Shri Baju Ban
Roy, Shri Mahendra Kumar
Roy, Shrimati Shatabdi
Ruala, Shri C.L.
Saha, Dr. Anup Kumar
Sahay, Shri Subodh Kant
Sahu, Shri Chandu Lal
Sai, Shri Vishnu Dev
Sai Prathap, Shri A.
Sangma, Kumari Agatha
Sardinha, Shri Francisco Cosme
Saroj, Shri Tufani
Saroj, Shrimati Sushila
Satpathy, Shri Tathagata

*Voted through slip.

Satyanarayana, Shri Sarvey
Sayeed, Shri Hamdullah
Scindia, Shrimati Yashodhara Raje
Selja, Kumari
Semmalai, Shri S.
Sethi, Shri Arjun Charan
Shanavas, Shri M.I.
Shantha, Shrimati J.
Shariq, Shri S.D.
Sharma, Shri Jagdish
Sharma, Shri Madan Lal
Shetkar, Shri Suresh Kumar
Shetti, Shri Raju
*Shinde, Shri Sushilkumar
Shukla, Shri Balkrishna Khanderao
Sibal, Shri Kapil
Siddeshwara, Shri G.M.
Singh, Chaudhary Lal
Singh, Dr. Bhola
Singh, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad
Singh, Kunwar R.P.N.
Singh, Shri Bhoopendra
Singh, Shri Dushyant
Singh, Shri Ganesh
Singh, Shri Gopal
Singh, Shri Ijyaraj
Singh, Shri Jaswant
Singh, Shri Jitendra
Singh, Shri Mahabali
Singh, Shri Murari Lal
Singh, Shri Pashupati Nath
Singh, Shri Radha Mohan
Singh, Shri Rajiv Ranjan *alias* Lalan Singh
Singh, Shri Rakesh
Singh, Shri Ratan
Singh, Shri Ravneet
Singh, Shri Rewati Raman
Singh, Shri Sukhdev
Singh, Shri Uday
Singh, Shri Virbhadra
Singh, Shri Umashankar
Singh, Shri Yashvir
Singh, Rajkumari Ratna
Singh, Shrimati Meena
Singh, Shrimati Rajesh Nandini
Singh Deo, Shri Kalikesh Narayan
Singla, Shri Vijay Inder
Sinha, Shri Yashwant
Siricilla, Shri Rajaiah
Sivaprasad, Dr. N.
Sivasami, Shri C.
Solanki, Dr. Kirit Premjibhai
Solanki, Shri Bharatsinh
Solanki, Shri Makansingh
Sugavanam, Shri E.G.
Suklabaidya, Shri Lalit Mohan
Suman, Shri Kabir
Suresh, Shri Kodikkunnil
Sushant, Dr. Rajan
Swamy, Shri Janardhana
Swaraj, Shrimati Sushma
Tagore, Shri Manicka
Takam, Shri Sanjoy
Tamta, Shri Pradeep
Tandon, Shrimati Annu
Tanwar, Shri Ashok
Taviad, Dr. Prabha Kishor
Taware, Shri Suresh Kashinath
Tewari, Shri Manish
Thakur, Shri Anurag Singh
Thambidurai, Dr. M.
Tharoor, Dr. Shashi
Thomas, Shri P.T.
Tirath, Shrimati Krishna
Tiwari, Shri Bhisma Shankar alias Kushal
Tomar, Shri Narendra Singh
Toppo, Shri Joseph
Trivedi, Shri Dinesh
Tudu, Shri Laxman

*Voted through slip.

Udasi, Shri Shivkumar
Upadhyay, Shrimati Seema
Vardhan, Shri Harsh
Vasava, Shri Mansukhbhai D.
Venugopal, Dr. P.
Venugopal, Shri D.
Venugopal, Shri K.C.
Verma, Shri Sajjan
*Verma, Shri Beni Prasad
Verma, Shrimati Usha
Viswanathan, Shri P.
Vivekanand, Dr. G.
Vundavalli, Shri Aruna Kumar
Vyas, Dr. Girija
Wakchaure, Shri Bhausaheb Rajaram
Wasnik, Shri Mukul
Yadav, Prof. Ranjan Prasad
Yadav, Shri Akhilesh
Yadav, Shri Dinesh Chandra
Yadav, Shri Hukmadeo Narayan
Yadav, Shri Anjankumar M.
Yadav, Shri Madhusudan
Yadav, Shri Mulayam Singh
Yadav, Shri Sharad
Yaskhi, Shri Madhu Goud

NOES

Nil

MADAM SPEAKER: Subject to correction**, the result of the division is:-

Ayes:	384
Noes:	Nil
Abstain:	1

*Voted through slip.

**The following Members also recorded/corrected their votes through slips.

Ayes 384 + Dr. Tushar Chaudhary, S/Sh.Mallikarjun Kharge, Shri Vishwa Mohan Kumar, K. Narayan Rao, Sushilkumar Shinde and Beni Prasad Verma = 390

Abstain 1 - Shri Vishwa Mohan Kumar wrongly voted for Abstain. Later on, he corrected through slip for Ayes = 0

The motion is carried by a majority of the total membership of the House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the Members present and voting.

The motion was adopted.

Clause1 was added to the Bill.

MADAM SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Enacting Formula and the Long Title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

The Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

MADAM SPEAKER: The Minister may now move that the Bill be passed.

SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed".

MADAM SPEAKER: The Lobbies are already cleared. I shall now put the motion to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"That the Bill be passed".

The Lok Sabha divided:

DIVISION NO. 4 **AYES** **15.20 hrs.**

Acharia, Shri Basu Deb
Adhikari, Shri Sisir
Adhi Sankar, Shri
Aditya Nath, Yogi
Adsul, Shri Anandrao
Advani, Shri L.K.
Agarwal, Shri Jai Prakash
Agrawal, Shri Rajendra
Alagiri, Shri S.
*Anandan, Shri M.
Ananth Kumar, Shri
Angadi, Shri Suresh
Anuragi, Shri Ghanshyam
Argal, Shri Ashok

Aron, Shri Praveen Singh
Awale, Shri Jaywant Gangaram
Azad, Shri Kirti
Azharuddin, Mohammed
Baalu, Shri T.R.
'Baba', Shri K.C. Singh
Bahuguna, Shri Vijay
Bairwa, Shri Khiladi Lal
Bais, Shri Ramesh
Baite, Shri Thangso
Bajwa, Shri Pratap Singh
Balram, Shri P.
Bandyopadhyay, Shri Sudip
Banerjee, Kumari Mamata
Banerjee, Shri Kalyan
Bansal, Shri Pawan Kumar
Bapiraju , Shri K.
Basavaraj, Shri G. S.
Basheer, Shri Mohammed E.T.
Baske, Shri Pulin Bihari
Bauri, Shrimati Susmita
Beg, Dr. Mirza Mehboob
Besra, Shri Devidhan
Bhadana, Shri Avtar Singh
Bhagat, Shri Sudarshan
Bhagora, Shri Tara Chand
Bhaiya, Shri Shivraj
Bhoi, Shri Sanjay
Bhujbal, Shri Sameer
Bhuria, Shri Kanti Lal
Biju, Shri P.K.
Biswal, Shri Hemanand
Bundela, Shri Jitendra Singh
Bwiswmuthiary, Shri Sansuma Khunggur
Chacko, Shri P.C.
Chang, Shri C.M.
Chakravarty, Shrimati Bijoya
Chaudhary, Dr. Tushar
Chaudhary, Shri Arvind Kumar
Chaudhary, Shri Jayant
Chauhan, Shri Dara Singh
Chauhan, Shri Mahendrasinh P.
Chauhan, Shri Prabhatsinh P.
Chauhan, Shrimati Rajkumari
Chavan, Shri Harishchandra
Chidambaram, Shri P.
Chinta Mohan, Dr.
Chitthan, Shri N.S.V.
Choudhary, Shri Bhudeo
Choudhary, Shri Harish
Choudhary, Shri Nikhil Kumar
Choudhry, Shrimati Shruti
Choudhury, Shri Abu Hasem Khan
Chowdhary, Shrimati Santosh
Chowdhury, Shri Adhir
Das, Shri Bhakta Charan
Dastidar, Dr. Kakoli Ghosh
Davidson, Shrimati J. Helen
De, Dr. Ratna
Deka, Shri Ramen
Deo, Shri V. Kishore Chandra
Deora, Shri Milind
Devi, Shrimati Rama
Dhanapalan, Shri K. P.
Dhurve, Shrimati Jyoti
Dikshit, Shri Sandeep
Dome, Dr. Ram Chandra
Dubey, Shri Nishikant
Elangovan, Shri T.K.S.
Engti, Shri Biren Singh
Ering, Shri Ninong
Gaikwad, Shri Eknath Mahadeo
Gandhi, Shri Dilipkumar Mansukhlal
Gandhi, Shri Rahul
Gandhi, Shri Varun
Gandhi, Shrimati Maneka
Gandhi, Shrimati Sonia
Gandhiselvan, Shri S.
Ganeshamurthi, Shri A.
Gavit, Shri Manikrao Hodlya

Geete, Shri Anant Gangaram
Ghatowar, Shri Paban Singh
Gogoi, Shri Dip
Gouda, Shri Shivarama
Gowda, Shri D.B. Chandre
Guddu, Shri Premchand
Haldar, Dr. Sucharu Ranjan
Handique, Shri B.K.
Haque, Shri Mohd. Asrarul
Haque, Sk. Saidul
Hari, Shri Sabbam
Hasan, Shrimati Tabassum
Hassan, Dr. Monazir
Hazari, Shri Maheshwar
Hooda, Shri Deepender Singh
Hussain, Shri Ismail
Hussain, Shri Syed Shahnawaz
Islam, Sk. Nurul .
Jagannath, Dr. Manda
Jagathrakshakan, Dr. S.
Jain, Shri Pradeep
Jaiswal, Dr. Sanjay
Jaiswal, Shri Gorakh Prasad
Jaiswal, Shri Shriprakash
Jakhar, Shri Badri Ram
Jardosh, Shrimati Darshana
Jat, Shrimati Poonam Veljibhai
Jatua, Shri Choudhury Mohan
Jawale, Shri Haribhau
Jayaprada, Shrimati
Jena, Shri Mohan
Jena, Shri Srikant
*Jigajinagi, Shri Ramesh
Jindal, Shri Naveen
Joshi, Dr. C.P.
Joshi, Dr. Murli Manohar
Joshi, Shri Kailash
Joshi, Shri Mahesh
Judev, Shri Dilip Singh

*Voted through slip.

Kachhadia, Shri Naranbhai
Kamal Nath, Shri
Karunakaran, Shri P.
Karwaria, Shri Kapil Muni
Kashyap, Shri Virender
Kaswan, Shri Ram Singh
Kataria, Shri Lalchand
Kateel, Shri Nalin Kumar
Kaur, Shrimati Preneet
Khan, Shri Hassan
Khandela, Shri Mahadeo Singh
Kharge, Shri Mallikarjun
Khatgaonkar, Shri Bhaskarrao Bapurao Patil
Khatri, Dr. Nirmal
Khursheed, Shri Salman
Killi, Dr. Kruparani
Koda, Shri Madhu
Kowase, Shri Marotrao Sainuji
Krishnasswamy, Shri M.
Kumar, Shri Mithilesh
Kumar, Shri P.
Kumar, Shri Ramesh
Kumar, Shri Shailendra
Kumar, Shri Virendra
Lakshmi, Shrimati Panabaka
Lal, Shri Pakauri
Lalu Prasad, Shri
Lingam, Shri P.
Mahajan, Shrimati Sumitra
Mahant, Dr. Charan Das
Maharaj, Shri Satpal
Mahtab, Shri B.
Majhi, Shri Pradeep
Majumdar, Shri Prasanta Kumar
Maken, Shri Ajay
Malik, Shri Jitender Singh
Malik, Shri Sakti Mohan
Mandal, Shri Mangani Lal
Mani, Shri Jose K.
Manjhi, Shri Hari

Meena, Dr. Kirodi Lal
Meena, Shri Namo Narain
Meena, Shri Raghuvir Singh
Meghe, Shri Datta
Meghwal, Shri Arjun Ram
Meghwal, Shri Bharat Ram
Meinya, Dr. Thokchom
Mirdha, Dr. Jyoti
Mishra, Shri Govind Prasad
Mishra, Shri Mahabal
Misra, Shri Pinaki
Mitra, Shri Somen
Mohan, Shri P.C.
Mohapatra, Shri Sidhant
Moily, Shri M. Veerappa
Mondal, Dr. Tarun
Mukherjee, Shri Pranab
Munda, Shri Arjun
Munda, Shri Karia
Muniyappa, Shri K.H.
Muttemwar, Shri Vilas
Nagar, Shri Surendra Singh
Nagpal, Shri Devendra
Naik, Dr. Sanjeev Ganesh
Naik, Shri Shripad Yesso
Namdhari, Shri Inder Singh
Napoleon, Shri D.
Naqvi, Shri Zafar Ali
Narah, Shrimati Ranee
Narayanrao, Shri Sonawane Pratap
Narayanasamy, Shri V.
Naskar, Shri Gobinda Chandra
Nirupam, Shri Sanjay
Noor, Kumari Mausam
Ola, Shri Sis Ram
Owaisi, Shri Asaduddin
Pakkirappa, Shri S.
Pal, Shri Jagdambika
Pal, Shri Rajaram
Pala, Shri Vincent H.
Panda, Shri Baijayant
Panda, Shri Prabodh
Pandey, Dr. Vinay Kumar
Pandey, Shri Gorakhnath
Pandey, Shri Rakesh
Pandey, Shri Ravindra Kumar
Pangi, Shri Jayaram
Paswan, Shri Kamlesh
Patasani, Dr. Prasanna Kumar
Patel, Shri Bal Kumar
Patel, Shri Devji M.
Patel, Shri Dinsha
Patel, Shri Kishanbhai V.
Patel, Shri Lalubhai Babubhai
Patel, Shri Nathubhai Gomanbhai
Patel, Shri Praful
Patel, Shri Somabhai Gandalal Koli
Patel, Shrimati Jayshreeben
Pathak, Shri Harin
Patil, Shri A.T. Nana
Patil, Shri C.R.
Patil, Shri Danve Raosaheb
Patil, Shri Pratik
Patle, Shrimati Kamla Devi
Paul, Shri Tapas
Pawar, Shri Sharad
Pilot, Shri Sachin
Potai, Shri Sohan
Prabhakar, Shri Ponnam
Pradhan, Shri Amarnath
Pradhan, Shri Nityananda
Prasada, Shri Jitin
Premdas, Shri
Punia, Shri P. L.
Purkayastha, Shri Kabindra
Raghavan, Shri M.K.
Raghavendra, Shri B.Y.
Rai, Shri Prem Das
Rajagopal, Shri L.
Rajbhar, Shri Ramashankar

Raju, Shri M.M. Pallam
Rajukhedi, Shri Gajendra Singh
Ramachandran, Shri Mullappally
Ramasubbu, Shri S.S.
Ramkishun, Shri
Ramshankar, Prof.
Rana, Shri Jagdish Singh
Rana, Shri Rajendrasinh
Rane, Shri Nilesh Narayan
Rao, Dr. K.S.
Rao, Shri Rayapati Sambasiva
Rathwa, Shri Ramsinh
Rawat, Shri Ashok Kumar
Ray, Shri Bishnu Pada
Ray, Shri Rudramadhab
Reddy, Shri Anantha Venkatarami
Reddy, Shri Gutha Sukhender
Reddy, Shri K.R.G.
Reddy, Shri M. Sreenivasulu
*Reddy, Shri Y.S. Jagan Mohan
Riyan, Shri Baju Ban
Roy, Shri Nripendra Nath
Roy, Shrimati Shatabdi
Ruala, Shri C.L.
Saha, Dr. Anup Kumar
Sahay, Shri Subodh Kant
Sahu, Shri Chandu Lal
Sai, Shri Vishnu Dev
Sai Prathap, Shri A.
Sangma, Kumari Agatha
Sardinha, Shri Francisco Cosme
Saroj, Shri Tufani
Saroj, Shrimati Sushila
Satpathy, Shri Tathagata
Satyanarayana, Shri Sarvey
Sayeed, Shri Hamdullah
Scindia, Shrimati Yashodhara Raje
Selja, Kumari
Semmalai, Shri S.
Sethi, Shri Arjun Charan
Shanavas, Shri M.I.
Shantha, Shrimati J.
Shariq, Shri S.D.
Sharma, Shri Jagdish
Sharma, Shri Madan Lal
Shetkar, Shri Suresh Kumar
Shetti, Shri Raju
Shinde, Shri Sushilkumar
Shukla, Shri Balkrishna Khanderao
Sibal, Shri Kapil
Siddeshwara, Shri G.M.
Singh, Chaudhary Lal
Singh, Dr. Bhola
Singh, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad
Singh, Kunwar R.P.N.
Singh, Shri Bhoopendra
Singh, Shri Dushyant
Singh, Shri Ganesh
Singh, Shri Gopal
Singh, Shri Ijyaraj
Singh, Shri Jaswant
Singh, Shri Jitendra
Singh, Shri Mahabali
Singh, Shri Murari Lal
Singh, Shri Pashupati Nath
Singh, Shri Radha Mohan
Singh, Shri Rajiv Ranjan alias Lalan Singh
Singh, Shri Rakesh
Singh, Shri Ratan
Singh, Shri Ravneet
Singh, Shri Rewati Raman
Singh, Shri Sukhdev
Singh, Shri Uday
Singh, Shri Virbhadra
Singh, Shri Umashankar
Singh, Shri Yashvir
Singh, Rajkumari Ratna
Singh, Shrimati Meena
Singh, Shrimati Rajesh Nandini

*Voted through slip.

Singh Deo, Shri Kalikesh Narayan
Singla, Shri Vijay Inder
Sinha, Shri Yashwant
Siricilla, Shri Rajaiah
Sivaprasad, Dr. N.
Sivasami, Shri C.
Solanki, Dr. Kirit Premjibhai
Solanki, Shri Bharatsinh
*Solanki, Shri Makansingh
Suklabaidya, Shri Lalit Mohan
Suman, Shri Kabir
Suresh, Shri Kodikkunnil
Sushant, Dr. Rajan
Swamy, Shri Janardhana
Swaraj, Shrimati Sushma
Tagore, Shri Manicka
Takam, Shri Sanjoy
Tamta, Shri Pradeep
Tandon, Shrimati Annu
Tanwar, Shri Ashok
Taviad, Dr. Prabha Kishor
Taware, Shri Suresh Kashinath
Tewari, Shri Manish
Thakur, Shri Anurag Singh
Thambidurai, Dr. M.
Tharoor, Dr. Shashi
Thomas, Shri P.T.
Tirath, Shrimati Krishna
Tiwari, Shri Bhisma Shankar alias Kushal
Tomar, Shri Narendra Singh
Toppo, Shri Joseph
Trivedi, Shri Dinesh
Tudu, Shri Laxman
Udasi, Shri Shivkumar
Upadhyay, Shrimati Seema
Vardhan, Shri Harsh
Vasava, Shri Mansukhbhai D.
*Venugopal, Dr. P.
Venugopal, Shri D.
Venugopal, Shri K.C.
Verma, Shri Sajjan
Verma, Shri Beni Prasad
Verma, Shrimati Usha
Viswanathan, Shri P.
Vivekanand, Dr. G.
Vundavalli, Shri Aruna Kumar
Vyas, Dr. Girija
Wakchaure, Shri Bhausaheb Rajaram
Wasnik, Shri Mukul
Yadav, Prof. Ranjan Prasad
Yadav, Shri Akhilesh
Yadav, Shri Dinesh Chandra
Yadav, Shri Hukmadeo Narayan
Yadav, Shri Anjankumar M.
Yadav, Shri Madhusudan
Yadav, Shri Mulayam Singh
Yadav, Shri Sharad
Yaskhi, Shri Madhu Goud

*Corrected through slip for Ayes.

NOES

*Solanki, Shri Makansingh

MADAM SPEAKER: Subject to correction**, the result of the division is:

Ayes:	385
Noes:	1
Abstain:	1

The motion is carried by a majority of the total membership of the House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the total Members present and voting.

The Bill is passed by the requisite majority, in accordance with the provisions of article 368 of the Constitution.

The motion was adopted.

---

*Corrected through slip for Ayes.

**The following Members also recorded/corrected their votes through slips.

Ayes 385 + S/Shri M. Anandan, Ramesh Jigajinagi, Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, Makansingh Solanki and Dr. P. Venugopal =390
Noes 1—Shri Makansingh Solanki wrongly voted for Noes. Later on, he corrected through slip for Ayes =0
Abstain 1—Dr. P. Venugopal wrongly voted for Abstain. Later on, he corrected through slip for Ayes =0

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: The Lobbies may be opened.

15.29 hrs.

RIGHT OF CHILDREN TO FREE AND COMPULSORY EDUCATION BILL, 2009—*Contd.*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Now, the House will take up Item No. 18—Dr. Shrimati Girija Vyas.

[Translation]

DR. GIRIJA VYAS (Chittorgarh): Madam Speaker, that day many issues were discussed and out of above discussions a point which emerged and which I have repeatedly mentioned is. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Members, let there be order in the House.

[Translation]

DR. GIRIJA VYAS: It would go down in the history as an outstanding achievement. It will add a new dimension to development. It is a step towards fulfillment of commitment but at the same time we will have to accept that this bill was also a dream of Shri Rajiv Gandhi who had envisaged a vision for India in 21st century. Therefore, this bill has to be passed very cautiously and with commitment. I have mentioned it time and agam. I agam request that there is a need to change the mindset of Governments, society and teachers also. Availability of schools, teachers and infrastructure is essential but these should produce some results. That day also I had mentioned with disappointment that if we go through the annual figures. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Members, maintain silence in the House. Please listen to Dr. Girija Vyas.

[Translation]

DR. GIRIJA VYAS: If we compare the figures of 2006 and 2008, the percentage of primary students which was 44% in 2006 has reduced to 41% in 2008. So far as mathematics is concerned, it was 28% in 2006 whereas it increased to 31% in 2008. That is why I mentioned that there should be some outcome.

Madam, there IS also an apprehension m people about local bodies. ...*(Interruptions)*

15.31 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Silence please.

DR. GIRIJA VYAS: Therefore, through you, I have repeatedly requested the hon'ble Minister that it is essential to ensure the tenure of local bodies while formulating rules. There is an apprehension particularly among female teachers that injustice may be done to them. I would like to draw your attention towards this also.

I would like to praise this bill especially for ensurmg state's responsibility. Hon'ble Shrimati Sonia ji is present in the House. Through you, I would like to thank her that initially this subject was proposed to be included under State list but now to fulfill the dream of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, it has been presented as a bill in the Parliament. Now, this bill has ensured the State's responsibility instead of parents. Though we have brought this bill very late but it is a corrective measure.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the year 1906, Shri Sahajrao Gaikward who was from Barva royal family had made the Primary education compulsory. In the year 1918, Chhatrapati Shahuji Maharaj even fixed penalty for the parents who were not sending their wards for primary education. Now under Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan and following the Directive Principles, and making 86th amendment, the provision made under the bill to provide free education is really a leap into 21 st century. We should be concerned over it instead of criticizing it. I had mentioned it that day also.

Through you, I would like to mention one more point to the hon'ble Minister that India was one of the signatories of the decision taken in UN convention to provide free education to children in the age group of 0-18 years. However, this bill has no mention about it and the matter has been left entirely on the State Governments, which is creating apprehensions. A child learns maximum during 3-6 years of age and I think it would be injustice with the future generation in the country if during this period of age, a child is left in the hands

of State Government or ICDS where not only the teaching infrastructure is inadequate but food arrangements are also improper; a lack of commitment is visible everywhere.

Hon'ble Minister, the House is witnessed to the 24 hours long debate on this issue. Through you, I would like to submit that we are thankful to you for introducing this bill with such a great zeal, however, we will have to bridge the gaps which have been left in this regard.

The problems of child labourers cannot be overlooked. One can see the plight of schools meant for child labourers on visiting a village, it is not a matter pertaining to education but it is essential to connect it with education. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. GIRIJA VYAS: I am concluding. I had already stated a lot on that day. In the end, I would like to mention two more points. It has been mentioned here that GDP in education should be up to 6%, however, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the manner in which State Governments are tackling it. In view of the situation prevailing in schools and incidents of sexual harassment reported from some schools, I would like to request the hon'ble Minister to make some provision in the rules in this regard also.

I would like to submit that the right to education should not be confined to merely right to school. The dream envisaged by Rajiv ji should not get shattered J rather the children should actually get the right to education. The motive with which this bill has been brought to provide education to all should be achieved. Shri Sibbal himself had stated that this is the appropriate time to pass this bill otherwise it will not be materialized. Recalling the words of hon'ble Minister, I would like to quote:

> Yeh Roshni Yeh Lamhey Kahi Rayga Na Ho Jayen Kutch Khwab Dekh Dalo Kutch Inklab Layo.

The objective with which hon'ble Prime Minister and Sonia ji have assigned this responsibility to centre with a view to fulfill the dreams of Shri Rajiv ji, it is our duty to show commitment to provide quality education to children in a progressive environment with sincere teachers. Four things are very important. First is-stringent law. The bill has made a praiseworthy effort in this regard. Secondly, active and committed implementing agencies from top to ground level. The Government will definitely pay attention towards it. Third is-awareness programme as no provision has been made to impose penalty on parents. We will have to create awareness among parents. Fourth is-commitment at every level. When all the four pillars will work together, we the representatives sitting here will feel proud that we have shown a path to the future generation, that we have shown a commitment and taken initiative for preparing the future generation towards a new democracy. Fresh mindset and scientific approach.

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA (Rampur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on this important bill. He himself had stated that it was conceptualized sixteen years ago. The bill regarding free and compulsory education was to be presented at that time. Today at least we are discussing it. I would say, better late than never. We consider children as future of our country. However, even after 60 years of our independence we have failed to provide the kind of education, which should have been provided to the children. Fortunately the Government is making all out efforts to provide legal support to the right to education provided by our Constitution. I would like to state that amending the Act or propagating it in the society will not deliver the goods. In the absence of strict compliance of it, I fear this bill is going to meet the same fate which the child labour Act has met.

Today, there are approximately 10 crore child labourers in our country who indulge in petty jobs like cleaning the utensils, brooming etc. They want to go to the school but their condition is not good. We feel pity on them. I would request that we have failed to enforce the Child Labour Act stringently but this bill should not meet the same fate. I would like to tell that the facilities desired by child labourers are not being provided to them. Their parents are not able to provide them the facilities, which are required in childhood. Today there is a need to change the mindset of their parents. The point is how we can motivate their parents to send their children to schools. It is a matter to be pondered over. It is the time to shape the future of these children. Their parents send them for work out of compulsion.

Sir, I would like to state that getting good education should not be the right of a particular section of the society. The right to get uniform education should be for all sections of the society. Poverty has divided our country into two parts. Proper infrastructure is not provided in the schools for these poor children who want to get education. I would also like to mention that under Sarv Shiksha

Abhiyan, 80% books are provided in the schools but in reality not more than 20% books reach the schools, though in records, it appears that all the books have been given to the children. Central Government allocates funds under Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan. I would like to state that such a facility has not been provided to the children in rural areas due to which the large number of students drop out.

Sir, I would like to submit that 19 crore children take admission in schools but by the time they reach 10th or 12th class this number shrinks to 8 crore. I want to bring to your notice that a large number of children are thus deprived of education. Secondly, the percentage of rich and poor children is being provided here is 60 percent and 40 percent respectively. My humble submission is that Governments come and Govts. So but the state governments do not show interest in this. No Government can provide opportunities of school education to the children if it shows interest only in making idols, sculptures of elephants and erecting walls. If figures of Uttar Pradesh are seen today *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please, conclude now. There is shortage of time and many hon. Members have to speak.

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: I want to say that I have demonstrated at Jantar Mantar along with the poor street children for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. It is not being controlled and monitored by the Central Government. If they depend solely on the figures given by the state Governments, then the future of the children will be dark because certain states do not have interest in education at all. The figures for U.P. today is just 42%. It is our responsibility to save the remaining children who are deprived of education but no such step is being taken today. They have some hopes. They roam around with their certificates, their lives have become difficult. Earlier, a girl child studying up to 12th class used to get Rs. 20,000 during the rule of our party in Uttar Pradesh under the leadership of Mulayam Singh ji. But, what happened after the change of Government there? The scheme for which fund was provided as Kanya Vidya Dhan for the education of the girl child was discontinued. I want to say that it should be controlled and monitored by the Central Government and the land allotment should also be done by it because many projects get stalled due to it. Many projects get stalled due to it. Many a times there is no coordination between the views of the Central Government and the State Government and land is not allotted as a result of which schools are not constructed.

You have seen the recommendations of the Kothari Commission. It says that the schools should be within a distance of one kilometre. But, many times children are forced to go to school by bicycle or on foot as it is not possible to construct roads at some places. How will, then, the children attend the schools five kilometres away? I want to submit that this Bill will be meaningful if a provision is made to have schools within one kilometre on the basis of recommendations made in the Kothari Commission's report. Questions are raised about the quality of education. The Government can make schools and provide infrastructure but what about the appointment of teachers? No teacher would go there because the Government schools do not - pay salary as much as the private schools. We visit our constituencies, therefore, we know the facts. It is necessary to increase the percentage given for children in the private schools.

I would like to say that the age limit of 6 to 16 years provided in it should be made 3 to 18 years because children in rural areas study after 6 years of age but children in urban areas start going to school even before completing 3 years. So for urban areas, this age limit may be made zero to 18 years, and it will be even more better if it is changed and made from 3 years to 18 years for rural areas. I would like to tell that the literacy rate of SC/ST and minorities is very low as per the provision made for this Bill.

I urge upon you that they should get more facilities. Just a while ago, we have passed an imported Bill in the House. Therefore, all the facilities for the education of the children belonging to the SC, ST and minority categories should be provided.

With this, I conclude. I am thankful to you for giving me the time.

[English]

I also lay a part of my speech on the Table.

[Translation]

*Sir, children are the future of our country but I am sorry that the standard of education and the education system in the country does not seem to be proper even after 60 years of independence.

I am happy that rights relating to education as enshrined in the Constitution are being given legal cover.

*...*This part of the speech was laid on the Table.

But, just making legislation is not enough, there is also the need to implement it strictly, otherwise, I am afraid that it will also become meaningless just like the Child Labour Law.

Sir, I am saying this with much pain that we have child labour in India which is equal to the total number of child labour in the whole world. Even after completion of 60 years of independence. I we have about 10 crore etve child labour out of which two-third live in rural areas and one third in urban areas. The time which they should spend for their studies to have a good future, they are forced to spend working in factories. Even though they are willing to study, they are far from education. We will have ot pay special attention to this category. They and their families will have to be drawn to education by changing their mindset.

Sir, the objective of education is the all round development of the children by developing their hidden talent. For this, we will have to pay attention to the standard of education too. Only a particular section should not have the right to get good education. People from all sections of society should have the right to get uniform education.

There is large scale illiteracy and poverty too in the country and both are related to each other. Our literacy rate is 52.55 per cent. As far as states are concerned, Rajasthan has the lowest literacy rate of 25.30 percent, Bihar has 32.33 percent and Uttar Pradesh has 42.65 percent.

The present situation is that there is a large number of children in the villages but there is dearth of quality and schools in the field of education. In our country, there are thousands of schools which do not have their building. If the schools have a boundary wall/then there will be no roof; if they have roof and doors; then black boards will be missing; where there are black boards, there will be lack of books and teachers. The books made available by the Government get lost on the way.

Sir, as far as the quality of education is concerned, there are separate arrangements for the poor and the rich in the country. The poor have to depend on the said schools. How will the 75 percent population of the country progress! if there will be no uniform education? The country can not progress as long as such discrimination will continue and two kinds of policies will be pursued. Some children will get education in convent schools and the others will study in schools without teachers. How can there be uniformity in such a situation? I think that education is gradually being taken over by private schools, individuals and private institutions.

Sir, I would like to raise another important matter in the House. It is often observed that serious efforts on part of the Union Government to open schools are stumped because of the disinterest shown by the state governments which makes it difficult for the Central Government to acquire land for the said purpose. The future of the children is jeopardized due to the negligence of the state governments. I would like to request the government to take over the responsibility of the implementation of the Bill so as to safeguard the future of the children.

Sir, this Bill provides for free education for children between the age of 6 and 14. There is no provision in the Bill for children who are 3 to 6 years of age and those who are 14 to 18 years of age. The rural children who belong to the poor category go to school at the age of 6 whereas children in urban families are sent to school when they attain the age of 3. By the age of 6, these children receive two or three years of schooling and reach classes LKG/UKG. They learn the alphabet at the age of 3 whereas their rural counterparts start their learning at the age of 6. How are we expected to bring about uniformity? I would like to request the government to amend the provision to provide free education to children aged between 3 and 18 because the 18-year-old student would be able to earn his livelihood after completion of his education which would not be possible for a 14 year old.

Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards another issue. The erstwhile Mulayam Singh Government in Uttar Pradesh used to provide 20,000 rupees to students after passing class XII, to enable them to continue further studies. But this provision was discontinued as soon as the reins of the government changed hands. I would like to request the government to implement this provision at the central level. Dr Lohia used to say that medicine and education should be free and food and clothing should be cheap.

There is also the problem of dropouts. The dropout rate in our country is 61.6 percent. There are a large number of students who are not able to complete their education. The dropout rate of children of scheduled caste category is 70.6 percent whereas that of scheduled tribe is 78.5 percent. I would like to request the government to take care of the children belonging to minorities, dalit

and disabled categories. We need to pay special attention to the disabled children. Besides trained teachers, teaching aids such as Braille material etc., should also be made available for them so that education makes their aspirations of getting social justice and being treated equally more attainable.

Sir, this law should be enforced and it should be ensured that it is properly implemented and monitored. A district level monitoring committee for its implementation should be formed and the chairmanship of the said committee should be entrusted to the MP elected from the district concerned so that complaints related to that area are attended to on an immediate basis.

Sir, the National Children Commission should also be provided special rights. I would like to urge the Government to implement the recommendations of the Kothari Commission as soon as possible.

Sir, my next suggestion is that primary and upper primary schools should be set up within a one kilometre radius so as to attract more and more parents and children.

Sir, I would like to request the government to bring other schemes such as Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan, Indus, NCLP etc. under the scope of this Bill. Besides, the present teacher-student rate of 1:40 should be changed to 1:20 so that the teachers are able to pay equal attention to all the students.

Sir, if this legislation is implemented in the right spirit, it would prove to be a milestone. On the one hand, the implementation of this Bill would rescue education from the clutches of mafia and the persons having vested interests and on the other, it would also provide an opportunity to loosen the bonds of casteism on the society. If free and compulsory education succeeds in defeating casteism, Mahatma Gandhi and Ram Manohar Lohia's vision of ensuring social justice in the country would be achieved in one go and would lead to the advent of a new revolution.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: A number of hon. Members want to speak on the Bill since there is a shortage of time, if any hon. Member wishes to place his speech on the Table, he may do so.

SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL (Jhanjharpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I had listened to the speech the Human Resource Development Minister had given while presenting the Bill in the House. He had said many things at the timefout of which two hold great significance. He said that this is a historical Bill. I agree with this sentiment. I also feel that this is historical Bill and also a historic moment because a commitment given in the Constitution was not fulfilled till 1960-65. The Constitutional commitment was not fulfilled but many programmes for educating children between the age of 6 and 14 years were started in the country. First formal education schemes were implemented, thereafter schemes for informal education and adult education were started but none of the schemes proved to be fruitful and the children of the country were not educated. As far as adult education is concerned, we are lagging far behind China and Sri Lanka. These countries boast of 91 percent and 85 percent adult literacy rate respectively whereas this rate is merely 65 percent in our country. 19 crore children have to be educated in the country. This figure would go up by 4 crore 70 lakh by 2020. I would like to point out to the Minister that there is an inherent contradiction in this. On the one hand, the government is running the Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan and on the other, there is this Bill. Both contradict each other. The government has fixed 6-14 years as the age for providing education under the Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan ...*(Interruptions)* Lal Singhji, please do not interrupt. You get frequent opportunities to speak. Please give us also an opportunity to speak. You may speak in your turn.

CHOUDHARY LAL SINGH (Udhampur): I have a point of order.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This is no time raise a point of order. Please take your seat.

SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: The target or objective of this Bill is also similar to that of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, i.e. to educate the children. The hon. Minister is a learned person, so, I would like to thank him. It will give name and fame to Shri Sibal. He said that it is a historical bill. I wish him to become a historical Minister. I wish him to go down in the pages of history for having achieved such a great feat by getting, such a bill with a great objective, passed during his stint as a Minister. If we are in a position to educate all our children within a specified time period. In view of it, we will have to stop Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. The arrangements and the provision made in the said Bill will run concurrently. I think it was envisaged, but it has not been followed. It was said that 2,76,903 new schools will be opened by

December, 2008. it was also said that 2,25,383 school buildings will be constructed and additional 9,18,981 classes will be started. Apart from it, it was envisioned to make arrangement for drinking water in 1,82,019 schools. Toilets will also be constructed in schools. The hon. Minister has said that absence of toilets in schools is one of the major reasons for drop outs among girl students. These are not my figures. In the economic survey presented before the budget, the Government has stated that 2,51,023 toilets will be constructed in schools. It was also stated that text books will be provided free of cost to 8.40 crore schools children. 9.66 lakh teachers will be appointed and 23.82 lakh teachers will be provided in service training. In his speech, the hon. Minister also said that if we find that some teachers are not properly qualified and are unable to provide good quality education to the children we will train them within five years and if they are still unable to deliver the goods we will remove them. This kind of target has been set in this bill. I would like to ask the government and the hon. Minister as to whether the Government could achieve the said targets and consequently the said bill had to be brought. The Government launched, not one but three literacy schemes for the children. The present scheme is an important one. It was a time bound scheme, still the Government failed to make the desired number of children literate. How both the contradictory things will go on? He will have to make it clear in the House as to whether the targets set for SSA are being included in the present scheme or both the schemes will run parallel. He will have to give a clarification in this regard before the bill goes for voting.

The Government formulated education polity long ago and it has o been amended from time to time. Hon. Jayaji made a mention of Kothari Commission. The said commission had favoured creation of common schools. He has spoken about neighbourhood schoos. The Government did not act upon the recommendation of opening a common school. The large countries in the world, be it America or in Europe or any of the Scandinavian countries, which have cent percent literacy rate, have followed the concept of common schools. But what is going on in our country. The number of private schools is increasing unabatedly and the Government has no control over it. If after passing of the said bill the Government proposes to achieve its targets through those private schools, it will not be possible to do so. What is the actual condition? The number of such schools increased by 11.70 percent in 2002-03, whereas, it increased by 16.68 per cent in 2005-06. These figures are old ones. This number is still increasing. The Government, will have to control it.

The hon. Minister is a renowned advocate. He has made another point. He has said that the present bill provides for free education to children. But it will be the responsibility of the State Governments to implement the said provision. But until and unless the centre make the education compulsory what will the State Governments do? If the central Government doesn't make ti compulsory, the centre and the states will have conflicting views. The Supreme Court has held that the right to education is a fundamental right. We have a right to acquire property, right to freedom of religion, right to move freely throughout the territory of India. If the Government exercises any control over it we can go to this court against it and seek protection of our rights. Therefore, he has said that the State Governments should make education compulsory. We will provide free education. Section (7) of the said bill has entrusted the responsibility in this regard to the State Governments. The Government has said that it will refer the issue to the 13th Finance Commission for providing financial assistance to the Sates for implementation of this Act. Suppose, we do not face recession again.

16.00 hrs.

Sir, though the recession came, but we were not badly affected by it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You conclude your speech.

SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Sir, I am the role member speaking on behalf of my party, therefore, let me make my point. It has been stated that the share of states in central taxes has declined this year. Central Tax collection has decreased. As per BE 2008-09 the states were to receive Rs. 178765 crore, whereas, now as per the revised budget estimates stage in 2008-09 it has come down to Rs. 160179 crore. It has harmed only Bihar, that too by Rs. 6616 crore. In the Budget 2009-10 it has been pegged at Rs. 164361 crore from previous year's Rs. 178765 crore. It means, this year the States will get Rs. 14404 crore less and last year the states share was shrunk by Rs. 18586 crore. This is one kind of loss to the States. If the Government fails to collect taxes on time or it faces recession and consequently some kind of rebate is granted to the corporate sector or large industrial houses and the Government opened it coffers for loot, the tax collection will go down and ultimately the State will get less share.

I am referring to the recommendation of 12th Finance Commission. And ifit is referred to the 13th Finance Commission what shall be the guarantee that the State will not have to face the same fate.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Kindly conclude your speech soon.

SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: The issue of infrastructure also come up. Universities or colleges, too, need infrastructure and they have their own parameters. Land is the most important aspect in this regard. Two or three room schools in villages are constructed out of funds provided by a legislature or an M.P. or built under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. I would like to know from the hon. Minister that. When a student goes out of the said school, he enters someone's field. It is about the development of sports. He has talked about the physical development but there is no mention about the land in the parameters and infrastructure created by the Government. How much will be the estimated expenditure, how much land is required, the number of rooms needed for the games, library, principals and teachers, classes, the number of playgrounds needed-all these except land, have been mentioned by the Government in the Schedule-II, Land has not been mentioned because the Minister want to do politics in it. The Minister has given explanation that it is free for the students for which the grant will be given by the Centre. The Minister has said that the Government will request the 13th Finance Commission to give its opinion on the matter. Similarly, the Union Government want to put the onus regarding land on the State Government. It is true that the State Government will provide the land but there should be a model for this. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You were given 9 minutes, but you have already spoken for 14 minutes.

SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Sir, I would like to ask the hon'ble Minister to clarify as to why no mention about land has been made in the Schedule-II?

With these words, I support the Bill. But, the contradiction in the goals of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and this Bill should be cleared. Secondly, mention should also be made of the fact that land has not been included in the parameters specified in the Schedule-II. Thirdly, the State Government should be made free of the financial burden and the Central Government should bear the financial burden. With these words, I support the Bill and conclude.

*SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL (Mahesana): I thank you for giving me an opportunity to express my views on the Right of Children to nee and (ompulsory Education Bill 2008.

Article 45 under the Directive Principles of State Policy in the Constitution states, "The State shall endeavour to provide free and compulsory education for all children until they complete the age of o fourteen years" within a period of ten years from the commencement of this Constitution. Since 1947 Committees and Commissions on Education have been constituted regularly. There was Education Policy of Lord Macaulay, Dr. Radhakrishnan Commission, Kothari Commission, Mudliar Commission, New Education Policy of 1968, Yashpal Committee. The main formula of the Kothari Commission of 1946 was, "The future of India is being nurtured in the class rooms."

The decision of Shri Unnikrishnan in 1993 was also a milestone in this direction which stated that the article 45 should be read with the article 21. The Supreme Court has stated clearly in its verdict that every child upto the age of 14 years has the right to get free education.

Though, the right to education was included in the fundamental rights in 2002 after much deliberations but instead of giving this right to every child, it has been restricted only to the children aged 6-14 years. Nothing is being considered about children in the pre-primary stage while the fact is that this right should be made granted right from the age of three years itself. What we need is, in fact, not education policy but Vidya Niti (Knowledge Policy).

This year is the centenary year of the "Hind Swarajya". Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi was also the first Indian educationist who gave the idea of basic education. Bapu's intent was to provide elementary education in mother tongue. But, today, we are caught in the triangular current of mother tongue, national language and inter-national language. In fact we should bring in such a policy in which equal weightage is given to mother tongue and English language.

This Bill is replete with the terms admission, permission, capitation but it lacks any vision and mission. The basic intent of the Bill is lost in the three words-quality, equality and quantity.

*Speech was laid on the Table.

In Gandhi's view our education policy should be in accordance with our culture and society which is missing in this Bill. It seems like Indian values of life are being neglected completely and the education policy of Lord McCauley is being followed which teaches only consumerism. Complete neglect of Indian values of life like sense of philanthropy, sense of duty, patriotism is clearly visible.

In order to develop the children and jawans of the country, the education and defence budget should have equivalence but even today education gets 4.5% of budget. As per Unicef, 6% budget should be provided for education. There has been a 100/0 decline in this year's budget for education.

This Bill is silent on the curriculum also. Gandhiji had said that the curriculum should teach the children to become self dependent. Our objective should be to provide education which teaches self-dependence alongwith quality. The curriculum at the local institutions should vary in accordance with the mental and physical power and capability. It would be gross injustice to see in the same light the children from the 5-star schools of Kolkata, Chennai, Mumbai and the children struggling with poverty in Kalahandi. It will have only quantity and not quality and will only add to the army of unemployed ! Education policy should be able to create national character and not unemployment.

The leader of the Sarvodaya Movement, Vinoba Bhave's education policy was based on H3 i.e. education policy based on Hand, Head and Heart. All the three have different connotations. An Education policy titled towards private institutions is visible in this Bill. This will only result in flourishing of corporate culture which has making money as its sole objective and has nothing to do with the 25% reservation provided for the poor and minorities. This leaves ample scope for increase in corruption and bribery. And this very reason will lead to the collapse of the fundamental objective of the constitution. "Common education, common rights."

This Bill will become a law after it is passed but the question relating to its implementation is very serious and significant. There are many problems in its implementation. Even today there has been no improvement in about 10 lakh Primary Schools which are looking in buildings, drinking water, toilets, electricity and teachers of India. We will have to make tremendous efforts for implementing this education policy. The intentions behind this Bill are good but the picture looks quite hazy when it comes to implementation part of it. The increase in dropout ratio would be a big impediment in this regard. Women constitute half of the population of the country. The dropout ratio of girls is a matter of concern. This issue needs to be deliberated upon. It would not be good for the children living in hilly areas, villages and the settlements located far from the districts to walk 2-3 kilometres on foot to reach their schools. What will they study in schools if they get tired before reaching the schools? The ratio of girls and boys will defeat the very purpose of equal education and equal rights. The ratio of teacher and students is also not clear in this Bill. This ratio should be 1:20.

This Bill does not contain any suggestion regarding the amount of funds to be allocated to the states. It is also not clear whether the sharing pattern of funds between the centre and the States should be 65:35 or 50:50. The States will have to bear a large amount of funds on account of this Bill. The Centre should formulate a liberal policy in this regard and allocate sufficient funds to the States.

There is no specific provision of monitoring in this Bill. It should have been clear whether monitoring will be done by only the State or the Centre or both or any Committee will be constituted for monitoring. The term-'neighbourhood schools' has also not been defined in this Bill. There is no clear cut policy whether a Committee is to be constituted for monitoring in every school. There is no specific provision regarding code of conduct for the students and the teachers in this Bill. It should have been clear whether there is provision for any tribunal to deal with the issues relating to discipline among the students and the teachers. This Bill is very good in principle but difficult to implement in practice. There is lack of transparency and responsibility in this Bill.

I would like to suggest that a fresh discussion on this Bill should be held between the Centre and the States and after that the efforts to implement this Bill would be meaningful and there should be provisions for yearly review. This education policy will be strengthened if the Members of Legislative Assembly or Members of Parliament having more interest in primary education are included in the monitoring committees.

Many experiments have been undertaken in education policy during the last 62 years but we have not achieved

the desired success till date. The education should not be like a burden rather it should be such that a child can plan his future without being burdened. With these words while pointing out the shortcomings in if I support this Bill.

[English]

*SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack): Thank you for allowing me to deliberate on the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Bill 2009 today in this House. At the outset, I may say that Child rights' movement has gained a lot of momentum in the first decade of the 21st Century in our country. Although, it had little impact on the policy and legal reforms related to children but certainly it made a visible impact regarding the awareness and dissemination of information about a child's right. One would agree that all this development would have showed the way further towards crucial policy and legal reforms in the case of the Fundamental Right to Education of the Child. All these significant developments have been shadowed of late by the Central Government by introducing the much criticized diluted and distorted Right to Education Bill in its new avatar: The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Bill. This is nothing but a heinous crime against the population of Indian children. The ardent proponents of neo-liberal agenda who are defending the Bill in its present from owe an explanation to the children of India for their treachery to join hands with the market forces to deny the child the fundamental right to equitable quality education.

By any legislation the definition clause assumes a lot of significance and provides clarity while implementing the law. It is unfortunate that the crucial definition necessary to ensure equitable quality education have been omitted. But dropping the phrase "equitable quality", the Govt. very clearly has indicated that it is not willing to provide equitable quality education to all children as a matter of principle and commitment as per the Constitution. Instead, the Bill in its present form confirms the continued discrimination by legitimizing two distinct parallel streams, inequitable, multi-layer and low-quality education system for the poor children, and so-called quality education to the entire section through various other means.

This Right of Children to free and compulsory Education Bill has been hanging fire for several years. The Rajya Sabha has passed this Bill which promises free and compulsory education for children aged between six and 14 years. While at the time of framing of the Constitution the founding fathers realized the significance of education, yet it could not be declared a fundamental right. The 86th Constitution Amendment Act, 2002 requires the State to provide free and compulsory elementary education to all children. This Bill seeks to give effect to this Amendment. All children between the age of six and 14 years shall have the right to free and compulsory elementary education. No child shall be held back, expelled, or required to pass a board examination until the completion of elementary education. A child who completes elementary education shall be awarded a certificate. One is reminded that the Apex Court in 1993 had ruled in a case of Unnikrishnan vs. State of Andhra Pradesh that "the citizens of this country have a fundamental right to education and the said right flows from Article 21." The 86th Constitution Amendment Act, 2002 added Article 21A to the Constitution which requires the state to provide free and compulsory education to all children from the age of six to 14 years. It also modified Article 45 – directive principles to instruct the State to provide early childhood care and pre-school education. This Bill, that is before us, today seeks to give effect to the 86th Constitutional Amendment. It is supposed to detail the responsibilities of the Central and State Governments, teachers, parents and community members in ensuring all children receive free and compulsory elementary education.

So, far, our country's track record on providing education to its poor masses has been extremely poor. While the drop out rate is rather high, the government schools which cater to the underprivileged lack quality, both in terms of infrastructure and teaching. Surveys have found that many primary schools do not have proper buildings and several operate from one room. In the given situation where many schools lack basic facilities, ensuring a school in every child's neighbourhood will be a tall order. For those households with income below the official poverty line which account for 27.5 per cent of the India's one billion-plus and independent research and CRY's own experience shows that the number of poor in India is closer to 70 per cent, those for who day to day incomes barely cover living expenses, this Bill is conspicuously silent on increasing the State outlay for Government schooling. Instead, it shifts the responsibility of"poor students' to private schools by the 25 per cent reservation clause, which have in the past raised objections to such a proposal. Instead of the equitable education based on mutual dignity that this Bill envisages, such a provision shuts out the poor as a class and further deepen class

*Speech was laid on the Table.

barriers. This Bill also limits its ambit to children between ages of 6 and 14. Any parent or teacher will agree, education upto Class VIII is hardly enough to equip a child with the basic skills needed either for gainful employment even to make an individual equipped to function with a basic degree of self reliance and empowerment. To be fair, the Bill is part of a movement that shows the government has at least begun to take primary education seriously. For instance, through its far from the school voucher system liberals would like to see, the Bill allows the private schools to be reimbursed for serving 25% seats for disadvantaged children. And outlays for Sarva Shikshya Abhiyan, the programme to universalize elementary education, have increased since it began in 2001. But good intentions do not necessarily make for good results.

The CAG has noted that as of March, 2005 four years after SSA began, 40% children remained out of the school. The Planning Commission has worried in the 11th Plan that while enrolment may be increasing, retention remains a major problem. So while there is a Rs.13,100 crore allocation this year for SSA, the process of learning remains in disrepair. The government is more worried about schools, the input, than actual schooling, the output. That is the broader point. Even if some public good and services are declared to be right by law, changing reality is altogether different. About half a century ago, the Oxford political theorist Isaiah Berlin drew a sharp distinction between "negative" and""positive" liberties. Negative liberties are individual rights that require the state to back off. Whether or not that's easy, such a concept is simple to enforce. But positive rights howsoever, require the state to actively intervene to provide services. But its not easy. Just expenditure isn't enough. If the Government thinks that just spending money will enable learning then we have hardly reformed since 1991.

Innumerable survey show teacher bunk school with impunity, that many do not teach even while at school, and that children with several years of schooling cannot do simple sums or write simple paragraph. There is a need to ensure the right to minimum quality. This can be done by amending sections 8,9 and 29. HRD Minister has talked about ratings for private colleges. Surely government and private schools need rating too and the worst should be closed down. Millions of slum dwellers send their children to unrecognized private schools. These are not of high quality and parents deem them better than free government schools. Non-education in government schools is glaring. The Bill has no provision to ensure teacher accountability to students or discipline.

The Bill doesn't effectively provide for accountability at any level of the system, from the teacher to the administrator. Should the state fail to meet it's obligations under the Bill, it will not be penalized in any manner, nor will individual Government functionaries, as in the case of the Right to Information Act, where failure to implement provisions carries with it personal liabilities for the concerned administrators. While the Bill has many details about setting up of and admission to schools, it does not adequately address the issue of attendance. Street children, beggars and runaways are in critical need of the"'compulsory" education but there is no mention of compulsory attendance or a mechanism to ensure such attendance in schools.

We must remember that 50 per cent of the children joining primary schools in India dropout by the age of ten. Out of 100 girls admitted in nursery, only 50 go past class-V, 18 go past class-VIII and only one go past matriculation. One fourth of school dropouts are in India. The students passing out of elite college of engineering, medicine and business administration comprise hardly one percent of the total graduates.

By 2015, 55 per cent of the Indian population will be below 20 years of age. If the present trend of education doesn't change, only 10 percent i.e. 5 crore will join higher education. Otherwise it would have 45 crore dropouts. Therefore, there is a need to have sufficient incentives for productive teachers., No one who understands the idea of India can fail to be moved by the implications of the Right of children to Free and Compulsory Educational Bill, for the future of India's children. But for it to be relevant to that future, it needs to be something of which we can all be proud, something that is inclusive and sensitive to the needs of the many sections of society it impacts. This is a incomplete Bill and I am afraid may exacerbate the problems that exist, without providing us with the solutions we need. With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

*SHRI BHARAT RAM MEGHWAL (Sriganganagar): Through you, I would like to thank Hon. Minister of Human Resources Development. I have got an opportunity to express my views on this important Bill which is being discussed in the House today.

*Speech was laid on the Table.

Right to free and compulsory education has been included in the category of fundamental rights but even today all the children are not able to get education in several parts of India. This Bill will address this shortcoming. To provide for compulsory education for the children aged between 6 to 14 years is a commendable step towards ensuring bright future of India.

I represent Sriganganagar Parliamentary constituency in Rajasthan which is a border area and is backward in terms of education. There is need for making special arrangements for providing education in this area including setting up of standard educational institutions and opening schools within a radius of one or two km from the residence of small children.

Even today the childhood of children is being ruined on account of child labour in Sriganganagar parliamentary constituency. The parents send their small children for earning wages and not to schools on account of their poverty. This Bill provides for education for the children all over the country. In this context I would like to suggest that Late Shri Rajiv Gandhiji had got a document namely 'Challenge of Education' prepared on the basis of a survey during his tenure and a fresh survey should be conducted on the lines of that survey so as to assess how many children of this age group are admitted to schools and what is the dropout percentage after Class V and class VIII. Here the important question is why do the children stop going to schools? As the children grow older, their parents take them with themselves to earn wages. One reason is that the financial condition of their parents is not sound. There is lack of awareness and required resources for education in our country. Even today the parents are not willing to send their daughters to neighbouring villages for education in rural areas, particularly in Rajasthan. It has been seen often that the quality education is almost negligible in the Government schools even though qualified teachers and proper infrastructure facilities are available. I would like to suggest that the teachers should not be engaged in non-teaching works. It has adverse impact on their teaching output.

In the last, I would like to suggest that if primary education and higher education are provided through non-government organizations in private sector, the level of education can be improved and the overall development of the children, particularly aged between 6 to 14 can be achieved.

With these words, I support this Bill.

*SHRIMATI DARSHANA JARDOSH (Surat): Through you, I would like to make some suggestions regarding education to the hon. Minister of Human Resource Development. During the recent years, the BJP led government in Gujarat has been conducting Vibrant Gujarat summit quite successfully. Now we are getting its fruits. Skilled workers are needed for the new industries as this state has become a favourable investment destination for the industries of the whole world and Gujarat government has been making efforts like setting up a chain of ITI, Polytechnic colleges and starting new courses as per the need to raise skilled workers, but it is not enough. The centre, too, will have to make some efforts. Gujarat still needs courses in advanced technology and IITs etc. and I urge upon the hon. Minister to think in this regard.

There is a need to set up a Study-Cum-Research centre for environmental studies in Gujarat, especially in view of global warming. In view of its 26 kms. long coastline and Gujarat being a geographically rich state there are ample opportunities for research work in the state. Its long coastline and the brackish water (saline and sweet sea water) are conducive for prawn farming. In view of it, I would urge the hon. Minister to set up an Aquatic Biology Research Centre in Gujarat. It can open up job avenues for the youth living in coastal areas. Gujarat also touches the international coast line. In view of future strategic requirement the State Government of Gujarat has passed a bill for setting up a Defence University in the State. I think Gujarat is the only state to have taken such a step. The Central Government can also take initiative in this regard. Gujarat Government has set up a Sainik school in Balachadi. Opening more such schools will be in the country's interests. But I would urge upon the Central Government to pay attention to it also.

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan should be implemented more vigorously. Recently, Gujarat Vidhan Sabha considered a proposal for setting up country's first children university for which I congratulate the State Government. In view of recent spurt in socio-cultural problems, I would urge the Central Government to lend a helping hand to Gujarat for planned development of children.

I represent Surat city famous for diamond industry. 80 out of 100 diamonds in the world are produced in Surat. Revenue from this industry goes only to the centre. The youth of Gujarat should be imparted training in

*Speech was laid on the Table.

courses relating to jewellery making, marketing finishing of raw diamonds. Training centres aftering these courses should be started as per the needs of diamond industry. This is the need of the hour.

Lakhs of people come to Surat from across India. I urge the Government to open a medical institute on the lines of AIIMS in Surat. Injustice is being done to Gujarat so far as allocation of seats in PG courses is concerned. This problem should also be addversed.

Though Gujarat is going to celebrate its golden jubilee, yet, Veer Narmada University in South Gujarat still lacks a Gujarati Department. My submission is that UGC should start a Department of Gujarati in the said university.

[English]

*DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI (Bhubaneswar): Right to education has been universally recognized since the universal declaration of Human Rights in 1948. At the time of framing our Constitution, it was placed only in part IV of the Constitution under the Directive Principles of State Policy. If we look into the Constituent Assembly debates, we would find that even at that time there were strong arguments to include the right to education as a fundamental right in our Constitution. We had to wait for more than 50 years to make an amendment to the Constitution making education a fundamental right in our Constitution. The Right of children to Free and Compulsory Education Bill, 2008, seeks to give effect to this cherished goal. Nevertheless now the Minister has tabled this Bill I would like to congratulate him.

The right to education is an enabling right it is entirely different from other rights because education creates the voice through which the right can be claimed and protected. However, the 86th Constitutional Amendment, which gives fundamental right to education to 6-14 years, and this Bill has repeated the mistake by not recognizing the importance of pre school training. There is a global recognition that the early years of childhood are very important and crucial years for lifelong development,. Some studies on the development of the human brain have shown that neglect during early years can often result in irreversible reduction in the development of the brain's potential clause 11 of the Bill states that the Government may make necessary arrangements for providing free pre-school education for such children. The word"may' has reflected the real intention of the section it is only a face saving sentence.

*Speech was laid on the Table.

Education for 14 to 18 years age groups can be tailored to provide such skills in the form of education to go for higher education or additional vocational education. So I request the Hon. Minister through you, Madam, to ensure that free education system contemplated here should cover all schools, from pre-primary school to plus-two stage. This Bill also fails to define"equitable'. Can this Bill provide the same quality of education to that available tin modern public schools. There is a need also to regulate the quality of education imparted in these schools.

This Bill is not clear on financial allocations. Universalisation of Primary education remains a mirage till today because the Centre was not ready to bear the burden of that. The allocation for school education in the current Budget is only Rs. 200 crore. Unless the Government commits that certain minimum expenditure per pupil, the provision of free education will not serve any purpose. If this is not done it is clear that the Government is interested in providing service education to all but good quality education to only elite groups of our country. When I read the Budget, the Finance Minister has given the priority not to primary education but to higher education.

What I am trying to understand is, what their real priority is. What is the policy of the UPA Government? Are they going to give priority for higher education, or, for primary education. There are various compositions of children. So, they are subject to poverty, deprivation of basic needs, etc. If we look at their composition, some may be working in factories, some of them could be child labour, some of them are under parent care, etc. so they are spread everywhere. In such a situation, I would like to know whether you will be able to organize the whole group, and bring them under one umbrella for your purpose. In order to facilitate this problem this Bill must be amended for creating a parallel and alternative non-formal education system which will give work education so they are able to earn a living. The government should give equal importance to primary education and allocate funds separately therefore, which forms the base of education.

[Translation]

*SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH (East Champaran): Sir, on the occasion of the debate on the Bill providing for compulsory and free education for children of six to fourteen years of age, I would like to draw the attention of the government to the state of Bihar.

*Speech was laid on the Table.

Bihar's population is 9.75 crore, population wise, Bihar is the second largest state in the country. Large number of people in rural area live below poverty line. There are 1.96 crore children in the age group of 6-14 years in the state. Out of it, 1.54 crore children cannot afford going to school. Similarly, 51.6 per cent children drop out of schools after fifth class. The state is facing severe financial crunch and consequently the state is not able to run educational institutes right from primary level to higher education levels smoothly.

Sir, some improvements have taken place in the field of education during the last four years in Bihar. Earlier, education was in bad shape in the State. The State Government is making sincere efforts for bringing this sector on right track. There is a need for the Central Government to provide adequate help to the state in this regard. The Government of India is aware that the children in the age group of 6-14 years in Bihar have to work as o Speech was laid on the Table, child labourers due to utter poverty. Bihar is a poor state. Sir, if we want the whole nation to be educated, we cannot do so by neglecting Bihar.

Sir, on this occasion, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Human Resource Development to the need for setting up a central university in East Champaran, Motihari, Bihar.

Sir, as soon as the State Government of Bihar came to know of the decision regarding setting up a central university in Bihar, the State Government deliberated upon this matter and finally decided that East Champaran, the Karmbhoomi of Mahatma Gandhi would be the most appropriate place for setting up the said university. For several years there has been a demand for setting up a university in the name of Mahatma Gandhi at Motihari. The people of this area are greatly enthusiastic about the decision of the government of Bihar for setting up a central university and in some areas, the people came forward to offer their land for the said university. Since the state has identified three places in East Champaran district it has kindled the hopes of the people.

Principal Secretary, Department of Human Resources Development, Bihar Government himself came to Delhi with a list of proposed sites and met the officials of Human Resource Development Ministry and he was assured that the committee constituted for selection of sites would visit the sites and take a decision.

Sir, I am pained to say that hon. Minister of Human Resource Development has asked Bihar Government to identify other suitable and well-connected, especially through air, sites in and around Patna other than the 'Karmbhoomi' of Gandhiji.

Sir, this government, which uses the name of Gandhiji to remain in power, has been setting up central universities at other important places far away from the capital cities in other states. This place namely East Champaran (Motihari) is the 'Karmbhoomi' of Mahatma Gandhi. Every nook and comer in Champaran still reminds of Gandhiji. Most of the Ashokan pillars are located in Champaran in the country. Champaran is the 'Tapobhoomi' of Maharshi Valmiki. The highest Buddha stupa is situated in Kesaria of Champaran. One medical college is being set up in Betiya in Champaran this year. There is an old and big airport in Baxaul in this very region. The ancient Ambedkar University is situated in Muzaffarpur which is 50 km. away in the east of this region and East Champaran (Motihari) is directly connected with Delhi and other places in the country. The East-West-Corridor from Porbandar to Silchar passes through this place. Now one can go to Motihari from Patna within three hours after fourlaning of road.

Hon. Chief Minister of Bihar has again written a letter to the Government of India on 13th July of 2009 in which he has justified the setting up of Central University in Motihari.

Sir, I would like to request the hon. Union Minister, through you, that the Central University should be set up in East Champaran, the 'Karmbhoomi' of Mahatma Gandhi. It will not only help us make Bapu's attachment to this region memorable but also fulfill the years old demand of setting up a university in this region.

*SHRI HUKMADEO NARAYAN YADAV (Madhubani): Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Bill is being discussed in the House. The common people have always been made have many fanciful dreams in independent India. It is also a fanciful dream and a populist slogan. People have already seen slogans like 'Garibi Hatao' and 'Congress ka haath, aam aadmi ke saath'. The poor, weak, dalit and backward people have been derided in this country. This bill is also a big mockery. Yet I support this Bill with the hope that the next generation will think upon this Bill. During the tenure ofhon. Shri Atal Behari Vajpayee's Government, the Constitution was amended so as to provide right of education to the children upto the age of 14 years and a positive step was taken in building a new India by including this right as a fundamental right. Sarv Siksha

*Speech was laid on the Table.

Abhiyaan scheme was introduced. The school buildings were renovated in the villages. New buildings were constructed. Boundary walls were constructed around the schoo buildings to enhance the beauty and secure the property of the schools. Primary schools were upgraded as Upper Primary and Secondary schools. Double storeyed buildings were constructed in the rural areas. Secondary schools were upgraded as High schools. Education upto class-XII was provided in the High schools. Management committees consisting of parents/guardians were constituted in all the schools. School uniforms and cycles were provided to the girls enrolled in High schools. Toilets were constructed in all the schools, especially for the girls. Shiksha Mitras and Shiksha-Sahayaks were appointed in order to make Sarv Shiksha Abhiyaan successful in Bihar and thereby employment was provided to hundreds of youth. Had that system been expanded with more facilities including scholarships to the children, particularly the girls, this new Bill would not have been required. This new scheme is being introduced just to play a political game and to ensure that the NDA government does not get any credit. Education is being made a victim of political competition and malice. As the intentions are not good, this scheme is likely to meet the same fate. I would like to request that education should be kept apart from political games and populist measures. They should contemplate an all-round development of education.

Most of the people in the country belong to are dalits forest dwellers, extremely backward and other backward classes and they are poor and weak. They have been treated as slaves from political, social, economic, educational, administrative and cultural point of view even after independence of the country. What is the future of the children who are destined to eat stale rice mixing it with water and salt in the morning? Who cares for those children who eat stale bread with salt, oil and onion? Who thinks for those poor children who are forced to take care of cattle and help their parents in their work? This Bill is a farce. Law will be made by the Parliament, credit will be taken by the government in Delhi and resources will be mobilized by the State Governments. It is like a fanciful dream for the poor in the country that the Government of India wants to make all the children literate and scholars but the State Governments do not want to do this. This law is being used as a weapon to attack the federal system. Was any discussion held with the State Governments? Was their consent taken? Are they ready to carry this burden? It should be realized only after taking the consent of the state governments and keeping in view the economic and social structure of the country. The poor should not be ridiculed through this fanciful dream. The existing system should be improved and streamlined. The intentions of this government are not good and the government wants to create a farce and controversy through this Bill in the country. It is a dream to provide compulsory education to those who do not have food to eat, clothes to wear and money to buy books. Efforts should be made to realize this dream. The rich have always ridiculed the poor.

There are two countries in one country. There are two types of citizens. The children of one category of citizens are getting high quality education. One to five lakh rupees are spent on those children every month. They eat omlette, cutlet, chocolate, toast, Sandwich, choumin, biryani, fruits milk and butter. They are brought up as Indian Englishmen in India. The children of other category eat stale bread and rice and sit on jute sack for study. Their schools have no buildings. These are the children of real India. Have you seen that India? They have not even lanterns for reading at night. One thing should be done through this Bill—"Rajput, bhangiki santaan, sabki shiksha ek saman". The quality of education and the school should be the same for all—be he the son of the President or the son of a peon. When all the children read, grow and live together, the unity and integrity of the country will be strengthened. There will be one type of citizens in the country. A sense of indian ness will grow among them. The gap between the elite class and the low class will be bridged. But this government is not going to do it because their aim is to create two types of citizens in the country. How the children of the rich can study with the children of the poor? The day the children of the affluent class, bureaucrats, businessmen and politicians are taught together, India will become a great nation in the world. When all the children will go to school, grow, live and play together, they will get equal education and equal opportunities will be available to them and only then this nation will become a great nation. The society will be based on equality. All the differences will disappear. All will feel a sense of equality. When all the children will study in one school, the quality of education will also improve. The buildings of the schools will be upgraded. The quality of mid-day meal will be good. Anegalitarian society will be created. A sense of oneness will grow. Bal Vikas, Anganwadi schemes are just an eyewash. All the schemes are lost in red-tapism. A movement should be started for making Sarv Shiksha Abhiyaan a success. Every child should be provided equal food, clothes, nutrients and education. Will this government do so? I am convinced that this government will do nothing but is only pretentious on this issue.

The poor and the farmers will not be given fair treatment by the government. There is no intention to uplift such children. The government wants to fool them just to get their votes. The panchayats and local governments have no funds. Who will implement it? It is a mirage. We have brought a legislation. They want to make these people scholars and scientists but will not give them resources to be one. Yet this Bill will make them conscious. One day their desire for egalitarian society will bring an end to all the disparities. They will bring a revolution for equality in education. Mr. Sibbal ji. They will change all these private commercial schools and the discriminatory education system. Today you are creating a mirage for them but one day the next generation will be to forman egalitarian society. I support this Bill in the hope that such day, may come.

*SHRI VIRENDER KASHYAP (Shimla): Sir, the government has now presented the Right of Children to Free an Compulsory Education Bill, 2008 for debate in Lok Sabha which has been passed by only 54 members in Rajya Sabha. In this regard I only want to say that it is better late than never. This Bill should have been passed much earlier. It is true that the framers of the Constitution of India had placed education in the State List and provided in Article 45 of the Constitution under Directive Principles of State Policy for compulsory and free education to the children aged between 6 to 14 years and ten years time for implementation of this provision. I regret that those ten years have not been completed even 62 years of independence.

Sir, this Bill is being discusse today. It will be passed by this House and will be enacted and implemented all over the country but will it change the fate of the children suffering from malnutrition. The number of children suffering from malnutrition is no less in our country. Whether the fate of those children can be changed who are studying in the schools having no benches, blackboards and buildings? Even today there are hundreds of schools in the country in which there is only one teacher to teach hundreds of students studying in five different classes. Whether this Bill will be able to change their fate? There are 12 percent such schools in the country.

Sir, I welcome this fact that after passing this Bill education will be a legal right for the children aged between 6 to 14 years but there is doubt about the fate of the children aged between 3 to 6 years who will be the foundation for the children aged 6 to 14 years. Whether we have formulated any plan for them? Whether we are making any plan or provision so as to strengthen the foundation for further education. How will they be protected against malnutrition? There is no reference in regard to the kind of punishment likely to be given to those parents who do not send their children to schools.

Sir, today the private schools are mushrooming across the country. Those schools are being given recognition in violation of the existing rules. The owners of private schools are earning crores of rupees in no time. A provision has been made to compulsorily provide 25% seats in those schools for the children belonging to the poor and backward sections. The Government will compensate such schools which will give admission to such children in fixed percentage. I wonder if we are belittling the importance of the Government schools by making such a provision.

Sir, today, we should also work on a special scheme for all the children of the society who have remained backward, exploited and oppressed for centuries. The number of such children is maximum in our country. Today, we should not look at education from the commercial point of view but we should take education forward by making it a mission. Today, we are claiming that our literacy rate has reached 65 per cent. In addition to increasing the literacy rate we should also pay attention to quality of education. We will also have to pay attention to the economic condition of the parents. We will also have to consider that children should not leave their higher education midway due to the poor economic condition of their parents because it is a common belief that

[English]

"Hungry Children do not make good learners"

[Translation]

Therefore, provision for education in the budget will have to be made properly.

Sir, Kothari Commission had said in the recommendations made in its report in 1968 that atleast, 6% of GDP should be spent on education. We could not implement this recommendation till date. The UP A Govt. has not made any substantial increase in the budget for education this year. This step shows the casual approachof this Government. If this Government really

*Speech was laid on the Table.

wants to improve the future of the children of the country through education, then it must include the following points in the Bill:-

1. Mother tongue should be promoted.
2. Privatization of education should be discouraged.
3. The teacher should be made more effective and responsible to raise the standard of education.
4. Basic facilities should be provided in the Government Schools.
5. Keeping sports in mind, extra-curricular activities should also be included.

Sir, the Bill proposes that there will be no Board Examination for the 10th class. In my opinion, this is not a proper decision. We have seen that when similar provision was made for the 5th and 8th classes, there was a marked lack of efficiency in the children passing these classes. Today, we see that the number of such children is rising who cannot read anything. They do not know the alphabet. Some of them cannot even answer the questions of classes lower to that they are studying in.

Sir, I have even seen such children who have been promoted to 6th or 7th class but they are not aware of their subjects. I would like to tell you an incident. Once I visited some High School. The principal of that school showed me the answer book of a student. I was stunned to see it. I could not see any word of Hindi or English script in that thin answer book. When I asked the principal as to what he was showing me, he said that the copy contains the questions solved by the student. But, nobody had any idea about the script in which that student had solved the questions. This gave me a new experience that how much the educational level of the students has fallen that they do not know the script even after reaching High School. This made me think about the kind of educational policies that we are implementing. I, therefore, would just suggest the Government to reconsider if we are making a mistake by discontinuing Board Examination at this stage.

Sir, I believe that there will not be lack of such teachers in many schools of the country who will no doubt be teaching students of 5th class but will not be able to solve the questions even of that very class if asked to do so. Therefore, the teachers should be provided training and such a system of high officials above them should be created that they can check their efficiency from time to time and enhance it progressively.

Sir, I am sure that the hon. Minister will make provisions in the Bill in accordance with the suggestions given by me. With these words, I conclude.

DR. BALIRAM (Lalganj): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I welcome as well as support the Bill brought before the House by the hon. Minister for providing free education to the children aged 6 to 14 years. But, through you, I would like to tell the hon. Minister that the suggestions and reports submitted by the various Commissions in the field of education were not implemented by the successive governments be it Mudaliar Commission, Radhakrishnan Commission or Kothari Commission. Kothari Commission had said that 12% of the country's budget should be spent on education.

16.06 hrs.

[DR. M. THAMBIDURAI *in the Chair*]

But, even till now 12% of the budget has not been spent on education. Therefore, through you, I would like to tell the hon. Minister that the reports submitted by such Commissions should be taken seriously.

Apart from it, he has said good quality education will be provided. If we look at other countries, be it England, China or Russia and be it rural areas or urban areas in these countries, we find that they provide uniform educational environment. All the schools have the same model. But it is not so in our country. In some areas in our country, we find children receiving education under trees, elsewhere, we find schools with just one or two rooms. I want to know if we will be able to provide that type of qualitative education in our country.

Sir, so far as poor children are concerned, the founding fathers of our constitution have envisioned compulsory education after giving a serious thought to several aspects. The Constitution provides for free and compulsory education to children upto the age of 14 years. But, even after 62 years of our independence, we have not been able to implement it. I welcome the hon. Minister for taking such a revolutionary step. If, it is really implemented, it will lead to development of our children and our country will, no doubt, progress. Our's is a democratic country and if people in a democratic country are not educated, democracy cannot survive there. Education is must for survival of democracy. Therefore,

my submission is that our poor children, who are not going to government schools should be attracted to government schools. They are going to the nursery or convent schools. Though, the Governmentis luring them, they are provided mid-day meals. Some poor children are no doubt going to schools as they are getting mid-day meals. But, until and unless we are able to change the mindset of their guardians, unless we enact such laws, how long we be able to lure them on some or the other pretext? The poor children living in villages are facing a serious problem these days. Poverty is increasing unabatedly and consequently they are pinning for even a single penny. The condition is that as soon as poor children attain the age of 7-8 years, their parents immediately think of sending them to some hotel or restaurant so that they could earn something there. The poor man thinks that even in the earns ten rupees per day, somehow he will be able to feed himself. Our constitution prohibits child labour and it provided for stringent punishment if anyone employs children upto the age of 14 years. But if we go to any hotel or even factories we find children serving tea or washing utensils. Therefore, my submission is that strict laws should be enforced in this regard. We should make such provisions, whereby, the guardians of such children cannot send their children for such jobs and the are attracted towards education. I urge upon the hon. Minister to make such provisions under the said Act so that it could become meaningful. Therefore, not going into more details, I would like to say that the Government should take concrete measures in this regard. Though our constitution already provides for such an arrangement, despite 62 years having elapsed since our independence, we could not have been able to implement it. The government is brining a Bill to this effect and it will be passed also, but what shall be its use if it remains only on paper. Therefore, I urge upon the hon. Minister to have a political will in this regard as education is necessity of the people. If they are not educated, their development will not take place. Therefore, I support the Bill and I urge upon the hon. Minister to take concrete measures in this regard.

So far as the States are concerned, they themselves should make arrangements for it. But, until and unless the center provides funds for its implementation none of the states will be able to implement it. Today, if we have no private institutes, be it any party in power, the Government cannot make arrangements for schooling of all the children across the country. My submission is that if the government provides adequate funds to the States and get more and more schools opened, then only the poor children will be able to avail its benefits.

In the end, I support the Bill.

[English]

SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE (Sreerampur): Hon. Chairman, Sir, while supporting this Bill, I want to make a few personal observations. Hon. Minister, you have taken long years for the introduction of this Bill. Ten years are coming to an end. The provision made in article 45 of the Constitution, at the time of commencement of the Constitution, had come to an end long ago. Though provisions of article 45 are there from the commencement of the Constitution, the dream of the framers of the Constitution is yet to see the light in our country.

At the end of the Sixth Five-Year Plan, in the year 1985, primary education for the age group of six to eleven was made free in all States; and for the age group of eleven to fourteen, it was made free in all the States, except in Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and our communist State, West Bengal. *...(Interruptions)* These are the statistics, and they have to accept it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him speak, and please do not interrupt him.

SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE: Most of the States, except West Bengal, and four Union Territories have enacted a legislation to make education compulsory up to the age of 14 years. It is the socio-economic compulsions which keep the children away from schools. To remove such obstacles, Sir, I do not find any provision that has been made by the hon. Minister in the Bill, excepting the provision concerning Mid-Day meals. If today, we really want to see compulsory education up to the age of 14 years in our country, some provisions have to be made in the Bill so that it should be able to encourage the people of the remote areas of this country. They should be brought to the school. Such encouragement should be made. It is not just by providing mid-day meal, it is not just by providing financial assistance by the Central Government; it has to be made effective.

So far as providing mid-day meal is concerned, there are gallons and gallons of discrepancies, complaints are there, scam is there. Why is the Government distributing the mid-day meal through the MR dealers? Let it be done through the peoples' representatives, through the panchayats, through the zila parishads. Let it be made effective. Give the responsibility of distribution of the mid-day meal to the persons. One of my friends was telling just now about the distribution of mid-day meal. I just

point out that today we cannot shut our eyes to the hard realities of commercialization of education and evil methods being adopted by many institutions to earn large amounts for their private and selfish gains. I have seen that the hon. Minister has prevented the capitation fees. I really give my thanks to this Government and the hon. Minister for this. Hon. Minister is the most erudite person of our country; he is the most erudite lawyer of our country. He has taken care of that. I would just request the hon. Minister to see that capitation fee is stopped in our country. Education should not be commercialised. It should be made for the benefit of the people of this country.

I have some suggestions to make for the hon. Minister. Although hon. Minister has made a provision regarding syllabus, under section 7, sub-section (vi), yet I would request him to please make section 7, sub-section (vi) mandatory. He should also make it a time-bound programme. There should be a universal syllabus in our country. No State Government, no ruling party should be allowed to politicise syllabus in our country.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE: Sir, I am the only speaker from my Party. I have been given 20 minutes time. Kindly allow me to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your Party is allotted eight minutes. Try to finish your speech accordingly.

SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE: Sir, the hon. Minister must take care about the syllabus. It is a real factor in our country. Please bring out strict laws regarding the conduct of the teachers. Kindly make a law so that no teacher like the civil servants should remain in politics. Let them devote their time in developing the students of our country. Why should they remain in politics? When they are getting the aid, when they are getting the salary from the Government, they should be treated at par with the civil servants. A provision should be made in the Conduct Rules. They should not remain in politics. They must devote their time in building up the students of the country. I will not take time. I would just say that teachers should not remain in politics.

I would now tell you one incident. During the Second World War, a professor was reading in his library. A soldier came and he wanted to kill him. The professor asked him as to why he wanted to kill him. The soldier said: "Everyone in the country has gone to the battle field for fighting for the country. But you are sitting in the library and reading." The professor asked him: "What do you mean by the country?" He said: "What is in the North, what is in the South, what is in the East and what is in the West form part of our country! The professor said: "Do you think that this is the only country?" He further said: "Victory is our gain; peace is preserved; history is made not in the battle field but in the educational institutions. Education is the seed bed of culture. We have to form them from that time." They come up right from their childhood and then they grow up as statesman or solider or patriots or philosophers. They will determine the progress of the country. Kindly make it viable. Kindly extend this benefit to the poorest of the poor living in the remotest parts of the country and encourage them. Such provisions should be made to encourage them. There must be very wide publicity of this measure. The news of this should reach the remotest areas of the country. With these words, I thank you.

SHRI T.R. BAALU (Sriperumbudur): Sir, I rise to support the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Bill, 2009 because this Bill is going to lay the foundation for the future of the 41 per cent population of the country which consists of young Indians.

The genesis of this Bill lies in two judgments of the Supreme Court –Mohini Jain *vs.* the State of Karnataka of 1992, and Unnikrishnan *vs.* the State of Andhra Pradesh in 1993. This particular idea would have sprouted from these two judgments. After these two judgments, article 21A was inserted through Constitution (Eighty-Sixth) Amendment Bill in 2002.

In the case of Mohini Jain *vs.* the State of Karnataka, the Supreme Court had said that the right to life under article 21 and the dignity of any individual cannot be assured unless otherwise they are accompanied by right to education. In 1993, in the case of Unnikrishnan *vs.* the State of Andhra Pradesh, the Supreme Court said that the citizens of India have a fundamental right to education and the said right flows out of article 21. Not only that, the Supreme Court had categorically said that the citizens have got a right to free education up to the age of fourteen years. It was a seven-judge bench verdict. After that verdict, the Constitution (Eighty-Sixth) Amendment Bill was passed by the Parliament.

In the Constitution (Eighty-Sixth) Amendment Bill adopted in 2002, this Parliament talked about providing free and compulsory education from six to fourteen years of age only. At the same time, this had not been notified

because the Clause 1(3) of the Eighty-Sixth Amendment said that it should be notified after subsequent law. That will happen after the passage of this Bill today. At the same time, article 21(A) has already been inserted.

I would like to quote the great national poet Subramaiam Bharati. He said:

"Anna Chathiram Aayiram Kattal
Alayam Pathinayiram Nattal
Annaiayinum Punniam Koti
Angor Ezhaikku, Ezhutharivu Tharudal."

It means: You may construct thousands of *choultries*; you may establish ten thousands of temples; but nothing is so sacrosanct than providing education to the needy poor.

Sir, the late Bharati's dream of independent India could be achieved only after 26 years of his death. The late Bharati's dream for elementary education to all children is going to become a law 78 years after his death, now after the passage of this Bill. I am happy to record that in this august House, that the 'movement of education to all' was started in the land of Dravidian Movement, that is from Tamil Nadu only. During the Rule of the Justice Party, our parent Party'– a specific G.O. was issued to close all the schools which are not admitting the SC/ST students. It has happened during the Justice Party's period. At the same time, it was Pitty Tyagarayar, one of the tallest leaders of the Dravidian movement, was the root-cause for serving mid-day meals in corporation schools. The very scheme was adopted by Karmaveerar Kamarajar, the former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. The very scheme was followed by Dr. M.G. Ramachandran during his stint as the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. The same scheme has been now improved by my beloved leader, Dr. Kalaignar Karunanidhi by providing three eggs per week to non-vegetarian students and by providing abundant bananas to the vegetarian students.

These are the developments that are taking place in the state of Tamil Nadu, so that drop outs can be checked. What is happening in Tamil Nadu? In 2001-02, in primary schools, the rate of drop out was of the order of 12 per cent. In 2007-08, it was 1.23 per cent only. In the middle schools, the drop out rate in 2001-02 was 13 per cent; now it is 1.9 per cent only. In the last three years, in Tamil Nadu, the Government of Tamil Nadu has opened 336 primary schools, 1577 middle schools, 320 high schools, 300 higher secondary schools; 26,000 teachers have been appointed; 25,948 class rooms have been constructed. Hence, the drop out is minimal. The quality of education is also being maintained.

What is the figure at the All India level of the drop outs? As far as 1st to 8th standards are concerned, in the case of boys, it is 50.4 per cent and in the case of girls, it is 50 per cent. The Government of India has increased the budget on children from Rs. 37,168 crore in 2008-09 to Rs. 42,361 crore now.

I will take only five more minutes. You are very much kind to me. I will conclude; please give me time.

There was an increase of Rs. 5,193 crore. It is on the budget on children. At the same time, one should understand that in the last year, it was 4.13 per cent, compared to the total budget and expenditure on children. But this year, it is 4.15 per cent only. At the same time, out of the children's budget, education is given 71.3 per cent; child development is given 16.7 per cent; for child health, 11.1 per cent is given; for child protection, 0.8 per cent.

As per the 2000 census, the total literacy rate is 64.8 per cent only – the female literacy is 53.7 per cent and the male literacy is 73 per cent. As of now, the figure would have increased because of SSA, as I understand. But at the same time, the States have got a lot of grouse against the Central Government because in the 9th Plan, it has provided 85 per cent share; in the 10th Plan, it was 75 per cent; in the 11th Plan, it was 65 per cent. But at the end of the 11th Plan, they are going to provide only 50 per cent. The States have got a lot of grouse against this.

Sir, please give me 2-3 minutes; I will conclude. As far as the Juvenile Justice Act, 2000, is concerned, who is a juvenile?. They have explained that juvenile is a child of not more than 18 years. But what are you providing here? You are providing free and compulsory education between 06-14 years. For 03-06 years, you have to provide elementary education. From 14 to 18 years, you have to provide education, if not elementary education. So, as per Juvenile Act, it is for the Central Government to provide free education or education up to 18 years.

As regards neighbourhood school, I congratulate the Government. The UPA Government is known for its practical approach. From 1st to 5th standard, I studied within my village and for 5th to 8th standard, I had to

walk seven kilometres in the muddy and slushy boundaries of the paddy fields. I used to travel seven kilometres in the morning and seven kilometres in the evening for studying in a school called Thiruvalluvar Higher Elementary School, Alangottai village, Thiruvarur District. So, I used to travel 14 kilometres daily. For 1st to 8th standard, that is elementary education, I had neighbourhood school in my village and a school which was seven kilometres away. So, I want to know from the hon. Minister which one he is going to provide. You have to provide neighbourhood school only. It should be within one kilometre only. It should not be beyond one kilometre. You have to take care of that.

I have to appreciate the provision in clause 21(1). It is a very good clause. It provides that a school shall constitute a School Management Committee consisting of 75% elected representatives who are parents or guardians of children admitted in such school. It also provides that fifty per cent of the members of such committee shall be women. Clause 21(2) provides that this committee shall monitor the working of the school; prepare and recommend school development plan; and monitor the utilisation of the grants received from the appropriate Government or local authority or any other source. So, it is a very good section.

At the same time, I would also tell my friend that another clause says that at least 25 per cent will have to be admitted. 'At least' means that even up to 100 per cent they can admit. So, the neighbourhood school which is going to be run by you, definitely it will be abandoned as quickly as possible because the private schools will provide all the infrastructure. So, kindly take all this into account.

Since the Chairman wants me to conclude, I would conclude, though I have not covered all the points. The Government is taking all the steps but at least in the rules you have to provide for the handicapped persons. For them, you have to provide special-type latrines and bathrooms, you have to provide for nurses and so on. I think the Government would definitely take care of all these things.

I congratulate my friend, Shri Kapil Sibalji. I wish him all the success.

[Translation]

*SHRI RAMASHANKAR RAJBHAR (Salempur): After 60 years of India's independence now we are discussing the Right to Free and Compulsory Education Bill for the children aged 6 to 14 years whereas provision for making education a fundamental right was already made in the constitution. There is no mention about the children aged below 6 years in this Bill. When the children of affluent people start going to school from the age of 3 years in modern India, are the children of the poor not supposed to go to nursery classes? The age-limit of 6 to 14 years should be modified to 3 to 14 years in this Bill. The children of the poor will benefit from this Bill only when their parents understand the importance of education. We spend funds on advertising the fact that mothers should breast feed their children. They get the message from television and other sources and know the benefits of breastfeeding. But the advertisement relating to importance of education and Sarva Siksha Abhiyaan are shown through television, newspapers and posters. But are the children of the poor and their parents educated? Do they read newspapers or have television? Who will inspire them? The government should formulate a scheme to propagate the importance of compulsory education in the villages because under the present social set up the poor think that if the children go to work, they will earn something and they will get nothing from education. Compulsory education will be successful only when the responsibility of those parents is fixed who do not send their children to schools. And, will the government provide in this Bill that the teachers, syllabus and the schools providing this compulsory education will be as per CBSE norms and will the children of the poor get the same education which the children of the well-off families get? Will the dual education policy be replaced by a uniform education policy? Uniform and compulsory education should be carried on as a social movement. The objective of this Bill will be achieved only when special packages and schemes are provided to propagate the importance of compulsory education to the children of various petty workers like rickshawpullers, ragpickers, beggars, bonded labourers and others and to persuade them to get enrolled in schools, otherwise it will also remain just as a law like several other schemes.

[English]

Sk. SAIDUL HAQUE (Bardhman-durgapur): Sir, education plays an important role in nation building. There is no doubt about it. The Kothari Commission started its report with the words that destiny of India is now being saved in her class rooms. Education is so much important. It is a tribute and that is why, Vivekananda calls — 'education is the manifestation of the perfection already in man'. If that education goes out of the reach of the

*Speech was laid on the Table.

common man, what will happen? Rabindra Nath Tagore tells that if that happens, the gap between the rich and the poor will be more and more and that is what exactly happened in our country. We have 17 per cent of the world's population and we have 34 per cent of world's illiterate in our country. The hon. Minister has mentioned that at the time of our Independence the rate of literacy was 14 per cent which has now increased to 65 per cent. No doubt there has been an increase in the rate of literacy. But let us also remember that at the time of our Independence the population of our nation was around 33 crore and out of that 28 crore people were illiterate. Now, at this moment, we have almost 45 crore people who are illiterate. The figure has almost doubled. It is a serious situation.

I want to mention about the enrolment of students. This can check the source of illiteracy. What we find today is that the enrolment figure at upper primary is only 48.45 per cent and the drop out rate is almost 50 per cent. That is why out of about 20 crore school going children there are about 10 crore out of school. Such is the scenario in our country. It has rightly been mentioned by the hon. Minister that we have taken around 16 years, since the time the judgement on the Unnikrishnan case was pronounced, to reach to this stage.

I would like to make some points about certain provisions of the Bill. The subject of education is in the Concurrent List. The way the Bill has formulated, the provision contained is very centralised in nature which seeks to curb the power of the States and the Panchayats. Provisions such as formation of the Academic Authority, judging the standard of schools, recognition of teachers' training etc. are areas which are generally decided upon by the States. Such authorities should remain with the States because in the State of West Bengal there are democratically elected State Primary Board, Secondary Board and Higher Secondary Board which decide about such things. In our State education is free for students up to class XII. If this provision in the Bill is given effect to, then what will be the function of these Boards?

The hon. Minister has mentioned that private participation in education is the best way forward. Now, if private participation in education is to be encouraged, then what will happen? Private parties would not go to the remote areas. They will only concentrate only in the semi-urban areas. This will result in two types of education. The private initiative in education will be with the aim of making business out of it. That is why privatisation will automatically lead to commercialisation of education resulting in two types of education – one for the elite class and the other for the down-trodden.

Sir, many speakers here have mentioned why free education is being restricted only up to the age of 6 to 14 years. I would also like to reiterate this point. The hon. Minister may say to bring this Bill within the purview of clause 21(A) of the Constitution. In Chapter III, clause XII of the Bill it has been mentioned, "Pre-schooling may be provided by the appropriate Government". Now, if appropriate Governments can do that, why not the Central Government will take the initiative and do it? It should be from the age of 3+ to the age of 17+ years. India is a signatory to the UN Convention on the Rights of Children which recognises rights of education up to the age of 18 years. The hon. Minister has rightly mentioned about quality education. So, I would like to suggest that the Bill should be re-named as "Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Quality Education".

My next point is about financial allocation. The Bill does not talk of the share of Centre and the States. That is very important because what surprised me was the fact that no fund has been allocated in this year Budget for implementation of the right to education of children. Not only that the fund allocation for the implementation of the elementary education in the Budget has been reduced by Rs. 200 crore. How will it happen then? As per the Kothari Commission six per cent of the GDP should be spent on education, but today we are spending only 3.67 per cent. My specific suggestion to the hon. Minister is that as has been suggested by an Expert Group constituted under the recommendation of the Saikia Committee that there should be a Budget on Education for the next 10 years. My point is that Centre should spend 75 per cent of total Budget and the States should contribute 25 per cent. After 10 years the share of the Centre and the State should be 50:50.

Now, according to another provision of the Bill, 25 per cent of the seats in the schools should be reserved for the students of weaker sections and disadvantaged groups. Why should it be 25 per cent? If we are to consider the education of people belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, the OBCs and the Minority sections, it should be at least 35 per cent. This is my specific proposal. The Bill also does not say anything categorically about providing mid-day meals. That aspect should be incorporated in the Bill. There should also be a monitoring mechanism by local self Government and State Government, and the

implementation of the mid-day meals scheme to be done by self-help groups. In our State, this is being monitored through the Village and Urban Education Committees.

My next point is about the duty of the parents. In Chapter III, clause 10, it is said that it shall be the duty of every parent or guardian to admit his or her child in the neighbourhood school. But what will happen to the street children or the platform children? Their guardians or parents are not so alert or they are not so much conscious. My point is, the responsibility of admission should be on the shoulders of the local self-Government and also on the concerned State Government. They will have to sensitise the guardian and let the children get admission.

Special provisions should be there for the physically challenged children. It has been said by many hon. Members and I am also repeating it.

My next point is about corporal punishment. In this Bill, it is said that no child should be subject to corporal punishment or mental harassment. If that happens, then the teacher will be punished on the basis of the service rules. That is all right. But if it happens so on the part of the management, then what will be the effect? My concrete proposal is that its recognition should be withdrawn then.

As regards neighbourhood schools, nothing has been said clearly in the Bill. It should be clearly mentioned as regards the distance covered, about the time in which it will be covered, etc.

The Bill talks about lessening of non-academic duty of teachers. It is all right. But then why should the teachers do the census duty? Why should they do the electoral revision duty? These will also hamper the teaching and learning process. That part should not be done by the teachers.

The Bill talks about the duty of the teachers but it does not say anything about the non-teaching staff of the upper primary schools. What will be their duty? All these points should be covered by the Bill.

So, my concrete suggestion is that the Bill should be placed in such a way so that the autonomy or the power of the States is not curbed. There was an amendment to the constitution of panchayat. Panchayats have been empowered and so, their powers should also be there. It should be for the age group of 3+ to 17+ and fund allocation should be clearly stated that 75 per cent of the total expenditure will be borne by the Central Government and 25 per cent will be borne by the State Government.

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY (Dhenkanal): Sir, I stand here to debate on this very important Bill today, a Bill which some sections of the society are viewing as a 100-day achievement of the UPA-II Government.

It is a Bill which most of the speakers in this House today have more or less agreed as an ill-thought out, conceptually weak Bill. It is a hurriedly prepared Bill just to show that within 100 days, they have achieved this much. Let us all admit one thing. You, Sir, will definitely agree, as you have struggled a lot in your life, that nothing in life is for free. Even the parent's love for children is not for free. Somewhere deep down in the parent's heart, maybe not spoken, there is a desire that when they grow old, when they are infirm, maybe their child will grow up and protect and look after them. So, parent's love is also not free.

When a Government talks about free education, it obviously implies that free education is meant only for that section of society which is weak and which is incapable of paying school fees. When we think of that section of society, we also think of a revolutionary poet, Bob Marley, who said that a hungry man is an angry man. It implies that free education willy-nilly will mean free education versus full belly. What does that show us? It shows that a family, where the father is a carpenter, or a plumber or an electrician, wants the child, if it is a son, to become an apprentice who will go out with him, work with him, learn the trick of the trade as well as be an earning member of the family as soon as possible.

You are talking about children between the ages of six and fourteen. By fourteen, a child in India, who belongs to the weaker sections of the society, is invariably an earning member. The family depends on him for their bread. So, if you go and tell them – if the Government ever in India can create a machinery that can approach all these families and tells them – to send their wards to a school for formal education, the parents will pooh-pooh them away. It is primarily because we are in a country – let us admit the facts – where we have not handled ourselves well in the past sixty-two years and we have only created a larger base of people who are incapable of approaching better levels of education.

On the other hand, we see that when the parents pay for their children's education, there is accountability, both from the parents' and from the schools' side. They demand that every class has a teacher; they demand that schools have the books available, which is not the case in the Government schools or in the Government colleges, whether it is at the elementary level or at the higher level. Therefore, this is a Bill which needs even more debate. It is not a superficial flippant which this Government should rush through just to show that its CV is getting thicker.

Is the Government doing it because it is preparing to apply for the next job after four and half years or after five years? If that be the case, then all of us, like in the case of Constitution (Amendment) Bill where you yourself must have seen, an amazing unanimity was shown – just one person, probably by mistake said "No", will agree and say, "Fine, go through the Bill." But if there is sincerity, if there is love for the nation and love for the poor people, debate this Bill properly.

The focus in this Bill, you will notice, is mostly on inputs, like class rooms, building toilets, which means overall infrastructure, teacher training, library, etc. But, what about the output? What about the learning achievements? What about teaching our children how to behave properly? What about teaching our children what are the values of this country? Or are we just going to ape the Americans, like this Government is doing right from the nuclear deal? Are we going to ape the West?

We are talking about forcing private schools to have 25 per cent reservation for students belonging to economically weaker sections. Who will choose these students? Which school will accept these students? What will be the psychological situation and condition of these students, who know that when 75 per cent of the other students are paying and that they have come here for free? What will be the attitude of the teachers who are supposed to teach these free students plus the paid students? Let us not ignore these facts.

Another part is about those 75 per cent of those students. What about their fee structure? Will you burden them with higher fees? Will they have to compensate for these 25 per cent students? Will that not be injustice to the larger sections of the society? What is the cap on fee? Even today we see that private schools arbitrarily go through the roof with their fees. There is no control.

I personally feel that vocational training is one of the most important things. As I mentioned earlier, if a farmer's son stays home and learns how to farm, learns how to handle the field when the monsoon is delayed, if he learns what are the difficulties with the cropping pattern, what are the insects that damage the crop, he will be a good farmer and he will be economically viable to this country. If a carpenter's son goes and runs hand plane with his father, if he learns where to nail it, then he will be an asset to this society. A perfect carpenter will be an asset to the Indian society. So, what does education really imply? In my opinion, education really implies at disciplining your mind. It is not which Moghul Emperor started *Deen-e-Elahi* as a religion or what is the seventh theorem of Geometry that helps any of the distinguished Members here in this House or all our Nobel laureates or anybody. What helps them? What helps these brilliant and young people sitting here all around me with bright faces? It is the disciplined mind and we have one of the brightest Ministers as the Minister of Human Resources Development. He is not unlike some of his colleagues. He is not a ... *. He is a very bright person in this sub-continent. He is revered ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, ... should not go in the proceedings.

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: I did not say, ...

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: You said, ... I do not think it should form part of the proceedings. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: If it is unparliamentary, then please delete it. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please be brief and come to the point.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: But what I meant was that he is a bright person and he has success to show in his career. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please come to the point.

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: So, Sir, as a bright person, he has to also realize that you cannot create just semi-literate half-educated people who will be mere job seekers. Where are you going to create so many jobs from? Where will you employ these people?

*Not recorded.

You are talking of creating a knowledge hub in India. That is because our presumption is because all our neighbours Japan, China right up to the West America, England and everybody else, every society is an aging society whereas India is a young country. That is very good. We are all happy. We will have these young people all over this country. But then an untrained youth force may be more damaging for this country than it will be beneficial. So, will our education system be able to handle this half-educated young people or will they all go on strike demanding jobs, demanding benefits and eventually whosoever will be in power at that time will not know the din that we would have created today by saying that Ayes have it, Ayes have it? *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Sir, one of the most important things that I find in education is that I have been educated in the southern part of India, in a place called Pondicherry. I find that when teachers are inspired, when teachers are allowed to create a curriculum out of their experience of interacting with children, then only you create a school system – a learning system that thrills or exhilarates the students. If the students cannot be thrilled, the child or the baby is not happy to go to school, no matter what the economic situation, there will be no learning. What eventually will happen? It will be mugging and by mugging, we will never create enterprising minds. We will only create muggers and people who will be forced to work as servants. We will only create more servants people looking for jobs. *...(Interruptions)*

Sir, I would like to come to a few details before I wind up. The threat to teachers to be adequately educated within five years, to be adequately prepared within five years or else lose their jobs and to schools to get their infrastructure act together within three years or else lose recognition is something that is impractical. In the rural areas, when we see the Government schools, they function in tents. The children are sitting under trees and learning and when the question of recognition comes, if it is a Government school, it is to be there. It is understood that it is a recognized school. It is no matter whether there is any toilet whether there is a class room, there is nothing which matters. So, for whom are you creating this rule that they have to create infrastructure? Is it for Government schools or private schools? When it is private schools, they already have everything. That is why parents pay such high fees to put their wards in private schools. It is only Government schools which do not have infrastructure and it is only Government schools where the poor go to study.*...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Sir, I have just a couple of suggestions that I would like to quickly go through. Definitely, you will be amazed to know about it. There should be an independent assessment of learning in schools. There should be transparency. It should be made public. A National Learning Assessment Institute or something like that is what we are contemplating now. We are thinking and debating about it. As I said just now, a National Learning Assessment Institute should be created which could be mandated to test learning across the country in all schools, take samples and make the findings public.

The School Management Committee part in this Bill is a very welcome thing. But I personally feel that it needs more powers over finances and functionaries of the school.

At the end, I would say that it is also sad that we have kept the poor children of Jammu and Kashmir out of this Bill. I do not know why we always accept the fact as if Jammu and Kashmir is not a part of this nation. We should incorporate it into this Act. Hon. Minister, maybe, as a test case, start your experiments in Jammu and Kashmir and prove it to our neighbouring countries and to the rest of the country that this is your dream project; this is what you want to do when you are in charge of HRD. Do you actually want to prove it? Or, do you just want to be flippant about it which would actually mean nothing?

With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL (Amravati): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I welcome and support the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Bill. The framers of the Constitution of the country had provided in the constitution that every child, be the child of the poor or the rich, should get education. After independence of the country several laws and schemes were brought during the last 62 years. Schemes like Sarva Siksha Abhiyan, Mid-day meal were implemented, yet why did we feel the need to make such a law? The need to bring such a law was

felt because even today a lot of children are not getting education in the country. Even after so many years of independence why is it said, 'we will carry out a survey', 'we will see? We need to go to the root of the problem. If there are no approach roads for every village and electricity in the tribal areas, neither the teachers nor the children will go to school. We need to go to the grass root level in order to see how a scheme or an act is being implemented. The Prohibition of Child Labour Act was enacted but we still find small children working in small hotels and roadside dhabas. The Act is not implemented itself rather we have to find out as to why a child is working there. There is a saying—'Ration par bhashan chalta hai, bhashan par ration nahi milta'. When one is hungry and there is none to provide food, the child is compelled to do whatever he gets to do. So we should go to the root of the cause. If we honestly want the children to receive education and learn, it is necessary to find out the problems being faced by them.

17.00 hrs.

Why is he working and not getting education? We need to find out what measures need to be taken. Several acts have been enacted earlier. There is provision in constitution also in this regard, but the laws are not much effective if there is no accountability for monitoring.

I want to share one of my experiences in this regard. I hail from Amravati district in Vidarbha. There is a tribal area namely Melghat which has two tehsils. This example will show our attitude. There are several small villages sprawled over an area of 25-30 square kilometers. There is no road and electricity in that area. There is a school namely Ashramshala in that area. How and when will the children go to that school? The children have to go to forest in order to earn their livelihood. That is why there are no children in the schools in that area.

The second thing is that there are 'gwalas' for rearing the cattle in the tribal area. But they are not admitted to that school because they are not tribals. There will be no positive result until and unless we change our attitude. The tribal schools are meant for the tribals but it must be taken into account that other children are also living in that area. Those children are willing to go to school and their parents are also willing to send their children to school but these children are not admitted to school because the name of the school is Tribal Ashramshala. ...*(Interruptions)*

Mr. Chairman Sir, I am speaking in brief. I will conclude after raising a few issues. Our colleague Mr. Satpathy has just spoken and I also agree that our hon. Minister is very intelligent. I do not want to say anything more. We need to go to the root of this problem as to why we felt the need to bring this law after 62 years of independence. I think that even today the children are not getting education and learning and that is why we have to bring this Bill. No child can get compulsory education or free education until and unless we go to every house in every village, be it a small village or a big village or a tribal area. There will be no positive result until and unless the accountability for monitoring the implementation of this Bill is in place. I have a bad experience in this regard as to how the ashramshalas function, how donation is sought, how cheating is done, etc. We must find out and analyze all these things.

Mr. Chairman Sir, thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRI S. SEMMALAI (Salem): Respected Chairman Sir, I express my thanks to you for giving me this opportunity.

Sitting in this august House, we believe that the destiny of our nation is decided in Parliament. However, the Kothari Commission constituted to suggest reforms in education expressed the view that the destiny of our nation is being shaped in our classrooms. So, education becomes fundamental to build a strong nation. Education is an endless journey towards the goal to be achieved.

Sir, the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Bill will make education a fundamental right for children in the age group of 6 to 14 years and it would inject the much needed life into the education system of our country. At the outset, I welcome the Bill and appreciate the move initiated by our hon. Minister.

In our country, there are 400 million children. Among them, 70 per cent come from poor background. For the poor and downtrodden sections, education is not the top priority; feeding their children is their priority. Sending the children to work and adding to the household income is the prime aim of the parents. Hence the Government has to evolve a suitable strategy to increase enrolment, retention and attendance under this Act.

The founder of our Party and former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Dr. M.G.R., introduced 'Nutritious Noon Meal Programme' for the school going children. This

proved to be a great success with higher enrolment and lesser drop-outs. This strategy may suitably be tried.

In the proposed Bill, clause 4 says:

"Provided that where a child is directly admitted in a class appropriate to his or her age, then, he or she shall, in order to be at par with others, have a right to receive special training, in such manner, and within such time-limits, as may be prescribed."

In this context, Mr. Chairman Sir, I am reminded of the system introduced by my Leader and former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Dr. J. Jayalalitha, during the period 2001-2005. She introduced a system called 'Bridge Course' to enable the drop-outs to undergo learning process to catch up with the by-gone years of education. In other words, a student dropping out from Second standard and remaining out of school for two years can go to Fifth standard after studying nearly six months in the 'Bridge Course'. Such system is essential and should be incorporated in the proposed Bill.

Again, my Leader and the former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu during her regime introduced supply of free textbooks and bicycles to children as a motivation to attend school regularly. Suitable amendment in the proposed Act may be brought to motivate the school going children, sufficient outlay may be made and suitable provision may be incorporated in the legislation.

Sir, clause 10 of the Bill states:

"It shall be the duty of every parent or guardian to admit or cause to be admitted his or her child or ward, as the case may be, to an elementary education in the neighbourhood school."

Merely stating the parental duty to bring the children to the school will not provide any solution to the existing problem. But no mention has been made in the proposed Act as to how this provision is going to be enforced.

In this regard, I suggest that the village committees may be formed, as my colleague, DMK Leader, Shri T.R. Baalu, has stated. In the proposed Bill, clause 21 states that a management committee is going to be formed. My suggestion is that the parents also should be educated. The awareness among the parents is also very essential. So, I suggest that a village committee may be formed to create awareness among the parents and educate them to send their children to school. Like that, a monitoring committee at the block level with education officials and well informed persons may be formed to encourage and persuade parents and motivate children to attend the schools regularly.

Sir, clause 16 says:

"No child admitted in a school shall be held back in any class or expelled from school till the completion of elementary education."

My question is what will happen to students after completion of elementary education?

So, at this juncture, I would like to suggest that if a child is held back in a class after completion of elementary education he or she may be allowed to continue the studies in the next standard after holding an examination in the failed subjects at the beginning of the academic year subject to his or her passing the examination.

So, I would request the Minister of Human Resource Development to consider the above suggestions and bring suitable amendments for incorporation in the proposed Act.

With these words, I conclude my comment on the Bill.

DR. N. SIVAPRASAD (Chittoor): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Sir, for giving me the opportunity. Without any consideration to the objections raised by some of the Members in the House, the Bill was passed in Rajya Sabha on 20th July, 2009. The Union Government is rushing ahead with its 100-day neo-liberal agenda embedded in privatization and commercialization of education. It deprives the Fundamental Right already given to them by the Supreme Court through the Unnikrishnan Judgement. Indeed, the Bill amounts to be not only anti-Constitutional, anti-educational and anti-child but also promoter of unabashed privatization and commercialization of school education.

Sir, as the time is short, there are some lacunae in the Bill which I would like to bring before the Minister, through you.

The Bill allows the authorities to dilute the meaning of 'free education' in an *ad hoc* manner. It distorts the concept of Neighbourhood School recommended by the Kothari Commission and resolved by the Parliament in the National Policy on Education 1986, as modified in 1992, thereby authorizing the Government to compel the

poor children to study in inferior quality schools. It maintains Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan's discriminatory multi-layered school system. It permits the Government to build schools of entirely unacceptable, ambiguous and sub-standard norms and standards. It continues with inferior quality education for almost three-fourths of the children, particularly girls and disadvantaged. It undermines the universally accepted pedagogic role of mother-tongue in acquiring knowledge and learning languages other than one's mother-tongue, including English. It discriminates between the children studying in Government schools and the private unaided schools in various ways. This is bound to lead to further deterioration of the quality of education in the Government schools, making private schools, both aided and unaided even more expensive and inaccessible to a wide section of the society. The worst sufferers of such discrimination will be the girls, thereby leading to increased gender disparity. It aims at demolishing the Government school system under the pretext of providing free education to the weaker sections on 25 per cent of the seats in private schools. On several grounds it is clear that this misconceived provision would not give any benefit whatsoever to the deprived children even in the short term.

There are certain suggestions which I would like to make. There should be a Common School System based on Neighbourhood Schools in consonance with the basic spirit and principles enshrined in the Constitution. We have to provide a fundamental right to free and compulsory education of equitable quality to all the children until the age of 18 years, that is until class 12th, without any conditionality whatsoever. We have to incorporate a Constitutional guarantee within the Bill for providing adequate funding of the entire school system. We have to include in the Bill a provision to completely ban all forms of privatization and commercialization of education especially Public-Private Partnership, adoption of schools by private agencies and voucher schools.

Therefore, Sir, I would request you to either send the Bill to a Select Committee or return the Bill to the Parliamentary Standing Committee with directions to hold public hearings in all district headquarters of the country in a democratic and transparent manner in order to make essential changes in the present Bill or draft a new Bill afresh in consonance with the basic spirit and the fundamental principles enshrined in the Constitution and the Supreme Court's Unnikrishnan Judgment.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI (Sheohar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful and grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak. I would like to highlight the shortcomings of the Right of children to Free and Compulsory Education. Education inculcates samskars in man. Education leads to all round development of children but now-a-days it is losing this prominent role. Now education is totally incapable of inculcating samskars. It only transmits information. Not to speak of all-round development, it is not able to provide even one-sided development of children. Education is reduced to mere examination.

Majority of such girls and boys get depressed and ultimately become dangerous and anti social elements. This scenario is becoming dangerous for the country and the society as well. Therefore, there is a need for carrying out sweeping changes in education. Only education enables a man to face all the problems and challenges in life.

The present age is full of challenges. Life today has become so difficult and its almost impossible to move ahead. Everyone finds himself unsatisfied, perplexed, depressed and unsafe. Life has become devoid of principles, ideals, morality and values. The man and the society is getting disintegrate. Man is no more a man and he is confined to the caste, colour, sect, party, section of society, region and religion. It is true that every country has its history of rise and fall but at the same time every country has it's values, faiths, the way of life and culture. The past has left some heritage and the future has some dreams, plans and imagination. And further lies the present or the reality.

Universalization of primary education has been a long cherished dream of our country since we attained independence. And now it is most suitable time to implement the proposed legislation as soon as possible. However, in 2002, the then hon. Minister of Human Resource Development, Dr. Murali Manohar Joshi had made it a fundamental right and Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan was launched during that period. It was targeted to be implemented by 2010.

The present government had set 2007 as its target, which could not be achieved so far. As per the Ministry, NUEPA has worked out revised financial requirement for a period of seven years from 2008-09, to 2014-15 as Rs. 2.28 lakh crore. It includes four years of the 11th

plan and three years of the 11th plan. However, for the period from 2008-09 to 2011-12, which comes under the 11th plan, the estimated requirement is likely to be Rs. 1.51 lakh crore. Out of it, the centre's share is Rs. 1.02 lakh crore and remaining funds will be borne by the states. But the government cannot overlook the fact that several state governments are not in a position to bear the huge expenditure likely to be incurred on implementation of the said Act.

However, the Chief Minister of my state Shri Nitish Kumarji and Deputy CM Sushil Kumar Modi are making every efforts for betterment of education in Bihar. The children of the age group of 6-14 years are served khichdi or other meals in schools. Girl students of 8th class are provided with bicycles, dress, shoes, socks etc. and now boys are also being given these items and consequently the children are enthusiastic and are taking more interest in studies.

Sir, Akshar Anchal scheme has also been launched. Women in the age group of 15-35 year can avail its benefits. It is meant for all-round development of women and also to protect them from exploitation. This bill provides for 25 percent reservation for poor children in private schools. It has also been provided that the government will compensate the schools in this regard. But private schools charge many other items, such as building fees, library fee, computer fee etc, apart from tuition fee. The government will compensate only tuition fee that too at the rate of government schools. At the same time, private schools will not accept any donation from the beneficiaries. Now the question arise, if the government pays only the tuition fee and the private schools will not be allowed to charge anything else, then will they be able to maintain the present level of education? Will the additional burden of fee etc. be passed on to remaining 75 per cent students? The government will have to clarify it.

Sir, I would like to say that an M.P. can recommend names of only two students for admission to Kendriya Vidyalyas. It deprives large number of brilliant students from getting admission in Kendriya Vidyalyas. Therefore, there is an urgent need to increase the said quota. In private schools also, where 25 per cent reservation has been provided for poor students, the admissions of poor, brilliant students should be made only on the basis of recommendation of local M.Ps. For how long India will keep debating the issue of basic education, which was in principal solved by our freedom fighters 60 years ago and it was resolved by the government to implement it by the year 1960.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, please wind up.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI: Sir, I have been waiting for long to make my point, therefore, I may please be given some more time. In place of wermonsing the State Governments, the Central Government should be given next priority to education after maintenance of law and order. It is essential to do away with its lapses.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please try to wind up. If you want, you can lay the rest of the speech on the Table. That is allowed. That is recorded.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI: Sir, India is predominately a country of youths. It is a matter of proud for us that so far as the number of working hours and talented persons is concerned, we are second in the world. As per an estimate, our 54 per cent population comprises of youth, below the age of 35 years. And it's large chunk comprises of children below 14 years of age. But, ironically, more than 35 per cent of our population is still illiterate and it includes more than 50 per cent women. 50 per cent children of the age group of 11-12 years drop out of schools before they enter 5th class. Majority of them are from rural areas.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can lay the paper on the Table. That will be recorded.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI: Sir, the NDA Government in 2002 incorporated the right of the children of the age group of 6-14 years to free and compulsory education as a fundamental right under Article 21 (A) of our constitution under Constitution (Amendment) Act. I would like to dwell upon some of the points of the right to free and compulsory education.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up. You have taken a long time.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI: Sir, so far as the bill brought by the hon. Minister is concerned, I would like to say that I come from a village and whenever I go there for seeking their votes I get pained when I see the plight of poor children working in hotels over there. We need to improve their condition. We have completed 62 years of our independence. Whenever we approach them for votes, we promise that we will work for their upliftment, their development. But as soon as the elections are ever, we forget them. If our children do not study, what shall be their future? It is because of lack of education that our youth, who are unemployed, become criminals. If we provide them proper education their economic condition will improve. Until and unless they are economically better, their parents cannot send them to good schools for studies. They will work in restaurants. The parents are compelled to send their children for working in restaurants.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can lay the rest of your speech.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI: Their parents know how their children work in hotels. The children are the only means of their livelihood.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is enough.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI: Until and unless Bihar is given the status of a special state, its economic condition cannot Improve. And unless our children progress this bill will remain useless.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record. That is all.

*(Interruptions)...**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except the speech of Shri Ijyaraj Singh.

*(Interruptions)...**

*Not recorded.

MR. CHAIRMAN: She has taken more time. I had given time.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Madam, you have already taken 15 minutes. Please allow other Members to speak. You can lay your speech on the Table of the House. It will be recorded. You can speak the next time.

[Translation]

*SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI: I would like to dwell upon some points of the Right of the Children to Free and Compulsory Education Bill. If we do not pay attention to those points dozens of our laws relating to social reforms, such as anti-dowry law, child marriage law will be rendered useless.

There is a need to have qualified teachers in science, mathematics, social studies, language, arts, education, health and physical education. There is a need for separate toilets for girls and clean drinking water and cleanliness for all the students. Apart from it, there is a need for kitchen for cooking mid-day meals, ground for sports and boundary wall for security.

Sir, the condition of primary schools is entirely different. Even today we have only 53 per cent fully developed primary schools. In some of the schools there is no roof, students study in villages, hardly half of the schools have separate toilets for girls. In this sccnario, it is interesting to see as to how many schools will follow the required norms.

Sir, illiteracy amongst children is mainly because of child labour and it is because of poverty. Sir, 60 years have elapsed since we attained independence, but we have not been able to get rid of child labour. As per Unicef, in India, there are almost 70-90 million child labourers. Here, it may be monitored that 80 per cent children drop out of schools as their parents send them to work to earn livelihood. Sir, perhaps you are aware that the poor students stay absent from classes not because of their disinterest towards studies but because of inability of their guardians to feed their families without children's contribution. They send their children to carpet industry, cracker factories, bangles manufacturers, urban dhabas and even to houses to work as domestic help. They call them as 'chhottu'. Lakhs of such children become labourers at tender age, sometimes, they are caught from their places of work and handed over to their parents. Again, their parents send them to work.

*...*This part of the speech was laid on the Table.

Poverty is its main reason. Girls face more problems. When the parents go for jobs, the girls are handed over responsibility of looking other domestic chores, cooking, up keeping of livestock. Consequently, such girls remain uneducated.

Sir, first of all, improving the economic condition is more important than compulsory and free education. These parents can send their children to schools only if they are able to earn their livelihood and feed them. Therefore, my submission is that before we implement the right to education, we must provide the means of livelihood to the poor families in each state.

In case of Bihar, it will be possible only if Bihar is accorded the status of a special state. If the parents of children get job their economic condition will improve and then only they will be able to send them to schools. When their father migrate to other states like Delhi, Punjab or elsewhere leaving their mother behind to look after them. At this stage, when she finds it difficult to feed them she sends them for work be it to some dhabas, carpate factories, bangle manufacturers or for washing utensils as there are no industries and sugar mills are lying closed. Poverty in Bihar cannot be alleviated unless small or big industries are set up there and in such a scenario the Right to Free and Compulsory Education Bill will remain meaningless.

Sir, it is quite strange that the bill has no mention of education for children below 6 years of age, whereas, we have 17 crore children of this age group in our country. If we do not pay attention to it right from beginning we will not be able to attract the children of above 6 years and we will not be able to achieve our targets. Large number of our children are suffering from mentally or physically ailments. We should make separate arrangements for them. Disability has not been properly defined in this bill. There is no mention of some mental disorder like autism, brain disorder etc. The children suffering from these diseases cannot be neglected. Sir, my submission is that if we pay attention to these things then only passing of free and compulsory education bill will be meaningful. Otherwise, it will be useless. The people send us here with great hopes and aspirations that we will alleviate their poverty. But, everyone knows what happens after we come here.

Sir, the Central Government blames the state government on educational aspects but economic condition of all the states is not same. Under such a scenario, leveling of charges against the State Government alone is not proper. The Central Government will have to take full responsibility and ensure funding for its implementation so that the desired targets may be achieved.

Supporting the said bill I call for removing shortcomings of the bill.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ijyaraj Singh to speak now.

SHRI IJYARAJ SINGH (Kota): Sir, I thank you for this opportunity of speaking in the House. This is my first time. I feel proud to be standing here in the House, proud to be in a House which has seen many great people, men and women who have forged the destiny of this nation, proud to be a representative of my people. Yet, at the same time, I feel humble because I realise that the people I just mentioned had to work very hard to reach the heights they have reached.

I will try and set aside these emotions and speak on the Bill in front of us, that is the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education. We are the world's largest democracy, certainly in terms of population and for a democracy to be successful and effective, it is necessary that the people be educated and informed. We, in Government and in Administration, strive all the time to ensure that our populace is empowered. We want to empower the weaker sections of our society which are economically weak as well as socially backward. We realize that a good education is the surest way and best way of ensuring this.

Our first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehruji had said —"No subject is of greater importance than that of education. It is the men and women in a country that make and build a nation and it is education that is supposed to build these men and women." How right he was!

Before one delves into the contents of the Bill and its essence, it is necessary to take an overview of what our system is like today. Simplistically we can say our system consists of two parts. There is the private school system which charges a fee for education. To this send the upper class most of the children. Then we have the Government schools which are free or we can say practically free and this is the section to which most other people send the children. The Centre runs schools like Kendriya Vidyalayas, Navodaya Vidyalayas and other institutions like Sainik Schools. The States have their

own system, their own schools all over the areas. In my home State of Rajasthan the elementary school system consists of two parts – that is the primary schools as well as the upper primary schools. These are run under the Ministry of Panchayati Raj and Rural Development.

However, if we take all the Government schools together, we see that they do not cover all areas of habitation. There are urban areas all over the country which do not have schools in a particular neighbourhood. Children studying here have to go to far off neighbourhoods if they want to study in a Government school. Their neighbourhood might or might not have a private school and even if there is one, their parents might or might not be able to afford it. The system is similar in rural areas. The problem is similar. However, it might be even more difficult because in remote areas the nearest school might be many many miles away.

In addition to this problem of accessibility of schools to children, there is a problem of teachers in these Government schools. Often Government schools do not have teachers appointed to them because they do not want to go to areas which are far off or in some way inconvenient. If there are teachers appointed, we find that often they do not turn up or turn up infrequently. In fact, a World Bank survey recently said that 25 per cent of all Government school teachers are absent at any given point of time which is a startling statistics. Specifically you see that this problem stems entirely from not having educated people available in a particular area to teach. I think we are familiar with this problem because we get inundated with requests of transfers of teachers.

As a result of these problems, a percentage of parents of children belonging to economically weaker sections still send their children to private schools. The statistics are given that 50 per cent of parents send their children to private schools. While there are some excellent private schools, several of them, in fact, there are some schools which provide sub-standard education. They have been charging exorbitant fees and have poorly paid staff who are sometimes not even fully qualified.

I must say that this situation varies from State to State. Some States have a better system than others. The Bill in front of us today seeks to introduce a system of neighbourhood schools which provides free education and tries to address the problem which we have just mentioned.

The two primary methods by which it does this are as follows. The first is that where there are no schools in the neighbourhood, one should be setup within three years. Secondly, it also says that 25 per cent of the seats in private schools should be reserved for the economically weaker sections of the society from that neighbourhood.

In dictating that every child has the right to study free in a neighbourhood school, we do away with the problem of accessibility. This applies to both urban and rural areas. This will certainly encourage students and children to study because otherwise they might not have had a chance to go to neighbourhood schools or private schools present there because they might have been too expensive for them. It will also greatly benefit the education of the girl child because it is also observed that families might send their son to a far off school, but they would not do that to a girl. Therefore, if a girl child gets educated this way, it will greatly benefit the society. We all know that an educated woman is of great benefit to the society as well as the household.

The Bill has several significant features. It says that no child will be held back in any class or has to face an examination till completing elementary school, that is, 8th class. They have a School Management Committee which looks after the affairs of the school. It also sets a standard for the size of the school. The Bill also says that there must be a certain student-teacher ratio. It also specifies a certain standard to be achieved for the teaching staff.

The intended neighbourhood school system is an attempt to bridge the gap in our school system, the gap between the private school and the government school and gives a choice to the parents. It is also an attempt to bridge the gap between the haves and the have-nots by helping the economically weaker and socially backward sections of the society and help them being upwardly mobile.

The 25 per cent reservation in the private schools is also a way of national integration. As our nation develops, and we nurse the ambition of becoming a Super Power, it is relevant to note that countries around the world, such as USA, Germany, Japan and Korea, have a very strong and effective neighbourhood school system.

Sir, I support this Bill wholeheartedly. However, there are some points on the implementation side that must

be noted and paid a great deal of attention too. First and foremost is the fact that a 'neighbourhood' must be defined. This will finally have an effect in determining whether remote areas in a particular State will have access to a school and how far they will have to go, to be in a school. This is particularly pertinent to my State, Rajasthan. For example, in areas such as Barmer where remote villages or cluster of huts called *dhanis* are there, how far they will have to go to get education?

Another important issue is the cost of providing 25 per cent seats in the private schools. The cost of this is supposed to be borne by the Centre or the States. Now there must be an efficient mechanism for calculating the cost and transferring it quickly to the schools. Otherwise, there is a fear among the parents and the school officials that this burden will be passed on entirely to the 75 per cent remaining school children. There is also a concern that the working of such private schools would be interfered with, but we do not want to have another licence *raj* or inspector *raj*. How do we select the 25 per cent children that have to come from the weaker sections of the society? It is another chance for the inspector *raj* to flourish. These are some points the hon. Minister must take care of.

The financial responsibility for implementing the provisions of this Bill is to be shared concurrently by the State and the Centre. How smoothly they coordinate their efforts will also be the key to the success of this Bill. Students, or children we can say, are the future of any nation. It is the teachers who mould them or direct them. Therefore, it would not be wrong to say that teachers are moulders or guides of our nation's'fortunes and the future. Therefore, it is of utmost importance that we have a high level of teaching. They should be trained properly and teachers are the backbone of any education system. It must be emphasised that the right to free education is also the right to have good quality teachers.

In addition, I would like to say that it is vitally important to have relevant and practical curriculum. We must emphasise vocational training. We must also emphasise our values, our traditions and our customs and make the children appreciate them. We should also expose them and instruct them in physical activities, extra-curricular activities and sports as all these add to the character of a child. There is an old saying "do not let academics interfere with your education." I think, it is something we should all adhere to and think about seriously.

The other day I came across a few interesting lines of a *shloka* which I shall recite.

[Translation]

Vidya dadati vinayam, vinyadai yati patratam.
Patratvata dhanam aapnoti, dhanat dharma tata sukham.

Means,

Education makes us courteous and courtesy gives us ability and quality. Ability provides us money and fame. We carryout religious and social obligations by dent of money and fame and it gives us pleasure. I wish this kind of education to spread in whole society so that socially backward weaker people can avail its' benefits.

[English]

With these words, I would like to conclude now. I thank you once again for giving me this opportunity to speak in this august House.

[Translation]

*SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL (Bikaner): Sir, through you, I would like to put forward some suggestions pertaining to the ongoing discussion on the Bill providing for the Right to Free Education for children between the age of 6 and 14 and the issue of making it mandatory for the states.

The responsibility of funding has been given to the states under the said Bill. This would make it difficult to ensure implementation of the bill in its true spirit. So, the Central Government should arrange for hundred percent funding for education proposed to be provided under the Bill.

The Bill makes no provision for children under 6 years of age. So, I would like to suggest that this Bill should have provisions for children below 6 years of age or any reputed NGOs who volunteer for the said work may be made a part of the system under ICDS.

Teachers for the children who live in slums/jhuggi-jhonpris/leper settlements would have to be arranged at their own dwelling places otherwise, these children would remain deprived of education. Therefore, I demand that required amendment to this effect may also be made.

*Speech was laid on the Table.

The proposed Bill has separate provisions for the deaf, dumb, physically and mentally challenged children. There is a need to open special schools for them. Through you, I ask the hon. Minister to appoint fully trained teachers for the said purpose in accordance with the norms laid-down by the government in this regard.

Alongwith education, the children who belong to BPL families and live in hard circumstances also need to be provided scholarships so that their parents could not force them to work as labourers and are encouraged to send them to school.

For wide publicity of the provisions of the Right to Education Bill, seminars and conferences should be held at various places. There is a perpetual shortage of teachers in the states and they prefer serving in urban areas to serving in rural areas. To tackle this problem, at the time of new recruitments, only those people who are willing to stay in rural areas and encourage children to study should be inducted as teachers.

The Right to Education Bill has no provisions for penalizing those parents and children who dodge schooling. So, there is a need to make provisions for penal action alongwith advertisements and awareness generation.

What is needed more than compulsory education is quality education. The objectives of compulsory education would be defeated unless there is improvement in the quality of education.

At present, there are two levels of education available in our villages. The children who belong to BPL category study in government schools where the standard of education is abysmally low. In fact, the teachers employed in these schools send their own children to private schools in the village. What an irony is this. As long as this discrepancy remains the quality of education cannot be improved.

The Bill should also have provisions for imparting not only education but also for ensuring character building and inculcating moral values in the children so that they could play an important role in nation building in the future.

The standard of education should be such that a child is able to compete in the global arena and succeeds in gaining employment in any country in the world.

A panel of retired teachers with proven credentials should be prepared for conducting periodic inspection of rural schools and helping the government with suggestions for improving the quality of education.

[English]

DR. MIRZA MEHBOOB BEG (Anantnag): Sir, thank you very much. I wholeheartedly appreciate this Bill that the hon. HRD Minister has brought before the House, but I would also like to draw his attention to some of the following points.

I am saying this because we, in the State of Jammu & Kashmir (J&K), did it long back. Actually, it was decades back that education was made not only free, but compulsory in the State of J&K. It was way back during Mr. Sheikh Abdullah's time when our Party Jammu & Kashmir National Conference (JKNC) was in power there.

Mr. Kirti Azad, when he initiated this debate, talked about the financial implications of this. Mr. Azad, we had taken care even about the financial implications because it was long back. It was the only State in the entire country, which went for a revolutionary step, namely, land to the landless tiller. It is yet to be done in the rest of the country. When I say land to the landless tiller, by that I mean that land was distributed amongst the poor farmers, and they did not have to pay a single penny as compensation and they became the masters of their land. So, the downtrodden farmers in the State of J&K were made the landlords by that legislation; were made the owners of their land; and they were economically uplifted. Thereafter, education, the most important thing, was made compulsory. But I must tell you and I must confess to you that in spite of these two important things that happened in the State of J&K, yet we are nowhere near to the States like Kerala or other Southern parts of our country with respect to the literacy rate.

Nobody doubts the intent, the desire and the keenness of the HRD Minister and about the Bill, but the problem and the apprehensions that are expressed in the House — cutting across the Party barriers — is about the implementation of the Bill, which is very important. We have failed in it. We have not taken care of it, and it has not gone down on the ground. Therefore, the apprehensions were expressed here.

Everybody knows and all the hon. Members sitting in the House know very well that when you have an

option between private sector schools and Government-run schools, everyone would like to go for private sector schools. It is because everyone wants to have quality education, and everyone would opt for private sector schools because there you get an education, which is quality education; which is competitive; and which will take you far ahead. As regards the Government schools, I can say and I can vouch that none in the House would send his or her wards to a Government-run school because the schools, at best, can make you literate, but it can never make you educated. I am saying this because as they say that you may read the entire library of London — which is the biggest library in the world — yet you may remain uneducated.

Therefore, my request to the hon. HRD Minister would be this. It is a wonderful Bill, and a wonderful legislation. But it is very sad that it took us 62 years to give the right to education to our children. The only problem is its implementation, and I would like to request him to see that the problems with regard to the implementation of such Bills are removed. If it is implemented in its earnest, then it is a wonderful piece of legislation. I feel that we should have done it earlier, but it is never late if we start now.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The next speaker is Shri Asaduddin Owaisi. I would be able to give you only five minutes to speak.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI (Hyderabad): Sir, it is really shameful that more than one-third of our population is still completely illiterate. My objection to this Bill, I have been given less time, is that we are tackling this problem from the supply side with 25 per cent seats kept aside for deprived sections, and we are following the 'rights' approach. The reason I base my argument is on this ground that the single biggest success programme of UPA was NREGA. Now, that tackled distress, migration and unemployment from the demand side, and it followed the 'guarantee' approach. Now, education, similarly, should be guaranteed. When you have 93 per cent of enrollment, I would have accepted, and I was hoping that the Government would have made it a guarantee of education. When NREGA has been so successful, you are talking about 'Right to Education'. What the people of India, especially the poor people, require is guarantee of education, which is not there.

Now, I support my argument in the following way. In the 1990s, when the Customs Duty was modified saying that if an 'x' hospital brings equipment, then the condition was that it should earmark so many number of beds for poor people. But what happened was that it did not succeed. Now, you are doing the same thing. You want to give 25 per cent reservation to deprived sections. I will give you an example. In a posh locality, if you have a Delhi Public School, who would go there for the 25 per cent reserved seats? Whereas, in slums, you have schools where 80 per cent of the teachers do not turn up, 70 per cent of the boys and girls do not turn up, those seats will be lying vacant. So, I fail to understand the logic behind this 25 per cent reservation. How is it going to work? Moreover, how can you allow public-private partnership in the field of education? I can understand, if it be in building infrastructure and other things, but to allow PPP in the field of education, it is highly detestable.

Another point which I would like to bring to your notice is why should the State recognized education be compulsory. I do not want to go to the State recognized education; I will go to *Madarsa* education; I will go for *Vedic* education; or, I will go for vocational education. This Bill does not talk about it. Moreover, it is the responsibility of the bureaucracy, and the policy-makers like us; it is our responsibility. You are shifting the responsibility on poor parents.

Another important point is that our UPA Chairperson has written a letter demanding that the Government bring in Food Security Act. There are many Government Schools in my constituency wherein all these poor students go with an empty stomach. The Mid-Day Meal Scheme, yes, I understand; 11 per cent was the retention rate because of the Mid-Day Meal Scheme. The Food Security Act should be brought immediately for this Bill really to succeed.

Muslim students' drop-out rate is 63 per cent between the age group of 6 and 14. How can you allow reservations in Muslim/minority-run education schools? It goes contrary to the law laid down by the Islamic Academy, by T.M. Pai, Inamdar. How can you do this? How can you say that a minority-run school should reserve 25 per cent seats? It contravenes article 30 of the Constitution, which is a Fundamental Right. I hope when the Minister stands up, he will reply to the points which I am making over here.

Another point is, clause 4 says, "Provided where a child is directly admitted in class appropriate, has a right to receive special training". Who will give the special training? Especially, the first generation learners coming

from economically weaker sections, and they are getting admission, who will give them this training? A well-off man like me can get his son and daughter by giving special tutorials, by having tuitions, but what about a poor person? Will this be given in the school itself to the first generation learners?

In conclusion, I am requesting the Prime Minister that using his own insight into supply-driven Government failures, get this Bill redrafted. This Bill does not even talk about the financial implications and a Financial Memorandum. You are bringing in a Bill which will open public-private partnership. I will give you the example of Andhra Pradesh. In Andhra Pradesh, we have 88 lakh students in Government Schools, and 47 lakh in private schools. That means, you are placing all your eggs with the private schools in the hope that the private schools will educate them. The cost of education will increase for sure; there will be 100 per cent increase.

These are immediate concerns which the hon. Minister has to answer. For God's sake, do not impose rule of reservation in minority-run schools. It contravenes article 30. It goes against the laid down law in Inamdar. In fact, Justice Shaw Mohammed Quadri in the Islamic Academy Case said that he would give a different opinion. You cannot even have reservations in aided and minority-run schools.

Since there is paucity of time, I wish to put only these strong objections of mine before you.

[Translation]

*SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY (Godda): Sir, Lok Sabha constituency, Godda, as situated in Santhal Pargana, the most backward region of this country. The people have toperennially face the problems relating to food, living and employment in this region. There are Navodaya Vidyalayas, but the general category seats other than the reserved category seats remain vacant. Due to lack of employment opportunities, the people make their children work in households and fields. What is the provision for them in this Bill? The private schools run by different societies like DPS and others charge capitation fees in the name of education. All the schools are registered with different societies but the people are misled by the branding of the schools. There are no laws to regulate those schools in our country. Education has become a business.

So, there should be a provision to check it in this Bill. A union law should be formulated in this regard. The children should not get admitted in the schools for Khichdi or any other temptation but for education and good future. Technical education should be provided to those children alongwith the basic education as per convenience of the children or the parents.

According to Mahatma Gandhi and Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya, the government should come forward to ensure the implementation of an act or scheme for the last man of the society otherwise the present condition even after 62 years of independence will not be improved during the next 50 years.

DR. RAJAN SUSHANT (Kangra): Sir, this Bill is very important, opportune and a historic Bill. I consider this Bill not only of national importance but also of international importance. I would like to congratulate hon. Kapil Sibbal Ji and hon. Shrimati Sonia Gandhi Ji for bringing this Bill. At the same time, I would like to thank hon. Shri Lal Krishna Advani Ji and Smt. Sushma Swaraj Ji, the leaders of my party, for giving me an opportunity to speak on this important Bill. I would like to highlight as to why this Bill is historic and of international importance.

17.46 hrs.

[SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI *in the Chair*]

Sir, you know that nowadays the whole world is going through economic slowdown. The global market, trade and employment have also been affected by the economic downturn. The world powers, be it America or be it China, are competing with each other. These two countries want to have a greater share in the global market, be it a market of defence weapons or foodgrains, or fruits or vegetables, petroleum products or milk products.

Sir, if these two countries want to be the sole supplier of defence weapons, they would want other countries to fight with each other because they need buyers for their defence weapons, be that Pakistan or Afghanistan. Similarly if they want to be the sole supplier of foodgrains, they need a market, so they have to look towards India.

Sir, you must be aware that the W.T.O. agreement proposed to be signed in November indicates this fact. Though our Swadeshi Jagran Manch has opposed it strongly and created public awareness in this regard. But I want to say that all these problems are arising out of the competition between these world powers.

*Speech was laid on the Table.

Sir, I want to say that it is hedonism and the philosophy of western culture. As per this philosophy, everyone is self-centred and this believes in maximum exploitation of maximum natural resources. If there will be maximum exploitation of natural resources, the environment is likely to be affected and as a result thereof there will be global warming which will cause drought and flood. I want to draw your kind attention towards the root of all these problems.

Sir, global industrialization and the rise of multinational companies, modem machines and the increasing population are leading to shortage of employment opportunities all over the world. Today all this is happening due to the culture of hedonism.

Sir, today I want to say that all these problems will be resolved through this Bill. That is why I am drawing your attention to all these facts. These issues are going out of control due to hedonism. I want to say that be it rise in population or be it hedonism, the only solution of all these problems is that the whole world should adopt such a culture that everyone will eat, wear clothes, and occupy space as per one's minimum requirement and using anything in excess should be declared a criminal act.

We will have to get rid of our selfish attitude and follow "ayam nijah paroveti gananah laghuchetsam, udarcharitanam tu vasudhaiva kutumbakam" meaning the whole world one family. With it I would like to add that we need to adopt the thinking "Sarve bhavantu sukhinah,sarve santu niramayah." This is Indian thinking. If all these problems are to be resolved, the whole world will have to be acquainted with the philosophy of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbkam'. For this India needs to become educated and India will have to become the 'World Guru'. India will be educated when everyone in India will get education. I regret to say that as of now 40 crore Indians out of 120 crore Indians are uneducated. The number of children aged 6 to 14 years is 20 crore. The figures of the census of 1981-2001 scare me. There has been a rise of 34 crore in the population of India during a period of 20 years. We produce a new America in India during a period of 20 years. So far as the number of illiterate persons is concered, this number has increased by 6.5 crore during a period of 20 years. We are producing an illiterate England in India. Whatever schemes we formulate, all these schemes will be futile until and unless hedonistic culture is replaced by renunciation and the policy of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbkam' is followed and the rise in population is checked. Hence, this Bill is opportune, historical and very important.

Hon. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to give a suggestion through this Bill that education has been considered as the best contraceptive. Education is the best tool to check population explosion. You are aware that in countries like America, Germany, Japan and Italy there is cent percent literacy rate and just because of that their population growth is only one per cent. The present bill is significant in India, though it has been brought belatedly. Though the bill has been brought by the UPA Government 62 years after India attained independence and 19 years after hon. Supreme Court's decision in this regard, yet, it was passed during NDA regime in 2002. Instead of passing the buck on each other, all the Members should support it and remove shortcomings, if any, in the present bill expeditiously. There are 2-3 important suggestions. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. You can lay the rest of your speech on the Table. There is no time.

[Translation]

DR. RAJAN SUSHANT: I would like to make 2-3 suggestions. Since, we have signed and ratified UN Convention of Persons with Disabilities, I feel, it is part of our necessity and hence we should incorporate it in Chapter-I clause 2D of the Bill, wherein, provision for SCs/STs has been made.

Simultaneously, wherever, we open a school, we should open an Aanganwadi Kendra also. Apart from it, I would also like to make a suggestion on funding. All the hon. Members are concerned with regard to the sources of financing. A CABE committee was constituted under the chairmanship of Kapil Sibbal. It submitted its report in 2005. The report stated that an expenditure of Rs. 54000-70000 crore will be involved in its implementation. Now, it has been brought down to Rs. 30,000 crore. I understand all the state governments are worried as to how the funding required would be mobilized? I would like to make suggestion. The single solution to all those problems is to check growth in population. But, if we want our country to progress, still, we will have to bring the said bill ...*Interruptions).* I will make only two points. First, we should create a fund in the form of a drive such as Bharat Shiksha Abhiyan Fund. Secondly, on the lines of Bhoodan Andolan, we should inspire people to donate fund in the name of education. The government should give income tax rebate on the money donated on this account. I think we can gamer adequate in this way.

In the end, I would like this Bill to be passed after evolving consensus thereon. It is essential for bright future of our country. I would like to lay rest of my speech on the Table.

*This bill is quite significant and historical and it is keeping with present times. It is not only of national importance but of international importance as well. It addresses global issues concerning education. I congratulate hon. Kapil Sibbal, Minister of Human Resource Development for this help. At the same time, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to express my view on this historical bill and I would also like to be thankful to our hon. leader Shri L.K. Advani and hon. Sushma Swaraj ji.

I would like to clarify why this bill is of historical as well as international importance. All of us are aware that the world is reeling under recession. There is a recession in trade. There is lack of jobs, there is a problem of environmental pollution. There are drought and floods and the world is facing many more such problems. There is tough competition amongst the world powers, there is clash of interests, be it America or China. What is the clash? What is the competition? Who will be biggest producer and who will become the biggest seller, i.e. who will have a dominant position over world market? Be it the market of weapons, petro- products, foodgrains, oil seeds, fruits, milk or milk-products. The issue is who will produce maximum items and who will become the largest trader?

If they want to sell arms, they come to Pakistan or Afghanistan and if they want to sell foodgrains, India is ideal place for them because of its large population. That is why they are in favour of such agreement. There is going to be a WTO meeting in November, 2009. These super powers either want war or war-like condition. The western ideology is behind it. They have materialistic culture. They want maximum exploitation of natural resources. But if it keeps on going like this, it will pollute the environment and lead to the global warming, resulting in either drought or floods.

Similarly, centralization of technology, entry of MNCs, latest machinery and the population explosion has resulted in slowdown in jobs. There is huge disparity in all the fields, be it social, economic or educational field. There is a need to bring parity in all the fields, and we will have to shun materialism. We will have to shun individualism and adopt collectivism. We will have to eat, drink, wear and even have place for living only as per the basic need. Eating, drinking, wearing and owning a place for living more than the basic need will have to be made a punishable offence. We will have to treat whole world as our family, i.e. vashudhaiv kutumbkam. 'Ayam nija provahit ganana laghuchetsam. Udarcharitanam tu vashudhaiv kutumbkam.' For all, we will have to say, 'Sarve bhavantu sukhina, sarve santu niramaya, Sarve bhadrani pasyantu ma kaschid dukha bhagbhaved. We will have to adopt such views. And it will not come through being materialistic but by renunciation. This is Indian philosophy, - the Vedas have said so. But it is not meant just for India but for the whole world. We will have to propagate and adopt it throughout the world and we will have to disseminate their thought in the entire world. We will have to materialize it everywhere. India will have to take lead and become world leader and India can be world leader only when it achieves cent percent literacy. That is why I want to emphasise that this bill is a historical bill, which takes care of all global issues and concerns.

I would like to explain how today's India looks? India's total population is 120 crore and out of it, approximately 40 crore people are illiterate and our 19-20 crore population is in the age group of 6-14 years. Data relating to increase in India's population are surprising. In a span of 20 years, between 1981 and 2001 our population increased by 34 crore, that's more than total population of America. It means, after every 20 years, we are creating an America. Similarly, in a span of 20 years, i.e. between 1981 and 2001 we added 6.50 crore illiterate people to our population. It means after every 20 years, India is creating an England, that too of illiterates. Our population was 30 crore in 1947, which has swelled to 123 crore in the year 2009, means it has increased by approximately 90 crore in 62 years. It is serious population explosion. It is the greatest problem as well as a challenge before us. At the same time, it is danger also. Population 858 explosion has added more woes to the problem of unemployment. The government has been doing a lot to tackle it, to overcome it. Be it through MNREGS or various other schemes. But we cannot solve this problem unless we are able to control our increasing population. The growth in population in developed countries like America, England, Germany, Japan, France or Italy is just one per cent and that is why the development in these countries is more viable. Therefore, my submission is that first we will have to check on increasing population. And best way to check it is to educate our women. As has been said:

*...*This part of the speech was laid on the Table.

[English]

"As women education attainment rises their fertility rate and desired family size declines."

It has also been said:

"Education is the best contraceptive."

[Translation]

This is proven by the developed countries in the world where literacy rate is 100 per cent whereas the population growth rate is merely one percent. In India, Kerala is an example of this fact. Out of the 593 districts in the country, the rate of population growth is lower in the districts, which have a high literacy rate. Hence, this Bill would prove to be a panacea in checking increasing population.

A number of suggestions and reactions have been received regarding the said Bill. The ex-Vice-Chairman of National Knowledge Commission, Shri Pushp Bhargavaji, has appealed to the Prime Minister to withdraw the present Bill. He feels that in its present from the Bill is discriminatory towards the poor children. He has suggested that poor and rich children, children belonging to different castes and religions should be taught in the same school. He finds the Kendriya Vidyalayas of today and the government schools existing prior to year 1965 to be far better than the private schools being operated today. The Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, Shri Montek Singh Ahluwalia has estimated that expenditure of 2.28 lakh crore rupees in the next seven years or 32,671 crore rupees per year is likely to be incurred on its implementation. In this regard, I would like to suggest 860 - that Finance Commission, which is going to release its report in October 2009, should be immediately contacted for additional allocation of funds under the budget for education. While discussing this Bill, Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi, Smt. Sumitra Mahajan, Kumari Meenakshi Natrajan, Smt. Supriya Sule, Shri Shailendra Kumar, Shri Brahatrihri Mahtab, Shri P.K. Biju, Mohd. E.T. Baseer, Dr. P. Venugopal and Shri Kirti Azad have given many important suggestions.

For India to become a world leader, it is necessary to study history. The Vedic Age, Post-Vedit Age, Buddha and Jain eras, the Mughal Empire, East India Company's reign, the British India era and the Post-Independence period have to be studied. During the Vedic era free education was available to all people across the caste spectrum. Educated women were called Brahmavadini, Devi and Rishika. Apala, Homasha, Shashpati, Ghoshala, Mamta, Lopamudra were educated women. The lower castes and women were denied education during the post-Vedic period (1400-600 BC) Nalanda, Taxila, Ujjain universities were famous during the Buddha and Jain era. Nearly 10,000 students studied in Nalanda University. During the Muslim dynasty, which was founded by Mohd. Ghori after defeating Prithviraj Chauhan, women were not provided education. Only the princesses were grven education within the confines of the palaces. But men were given all facilities for education. Madrasas were established for them. A number of princesses such as Nurjahan, Sultana Razia, Sultana Saleema, Gulbadan, Jainunnissa, Mamtaz Mahal, Jahanara etc. were highly educated. Similarly, growth in education took place during the reign of East India Company and the British rule. Education became the responsibility of the states after independence of the country in 1947 and in 1976, education was made a joint responsibility of the states and centre. There is provision regarding the Right to Education in Article 45 under the Directive Principles in the Indian Constitution. A number of commissions have been constituted in this regard; the Supreme Court gave an important ruling in 1993; the 86th amendment was passed in 2002 under which Article 21(d) was added; Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan was started by Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi during the rule of the NDA Government under the leadership of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji, the CABE committee was constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri Kapil Sibbal. Finally, 62 years after independence; 16 years after the ruling of the Supreme Court; and seven years after the initiative taken by the NDA Government this Bill has been passed in the Rajya Sabha and is on the verge of being passed by the Lok Sabha. Hence, I would like to congratulate you. Better late than never. This Bill has been brought with great difficulty. Please pass it after due consideration. I have a few suggestions for providing the growth of education:

1. Illiterate children between the age of 6 and 14 should be identified. Awareness campaigns for the purpose should be run through the media, radio and T.V. etc. PRIs and MCs should also be included in the work.

2. India has signed the United Nations Convention of Persons with Disabilities and is committed towards it but it is not mentioned anywhere in the Bill. 'Inclusive' word should be specifically inserted in clause 2 (d) in chapter-I of the Bill.

3. Mobile schools should be opened for migratory labourers, nomadic tribes, Gujjars, Gaddies and tribals.

4. Schools following the Gurukul pattern should be opened in houses in villages and should have playing fields, sports equipment, toilets, libraries, picture books etc.

5. An anganwadi centre should be attached with each school.

6. Local untrained teachers should be appointed in the beginning and thereafter trained teachers should be appointed. Majority of teachers should be women.

7. The local language or dialect, that is, the mother tongue of students should be made the medium of instruction in schools. There are 2900 dialects in the world, out of which 1652 are in India. 'Hindi' should be widely used, being the official language and least priority should be given to English.

8. School hours should be fixed after holding consultations with the local population and the parents of students, keeping in view the local circumstances. The school hours should not be fixed but should be flexible.

9. Education should be geared towards self-employment.

10. Certain facilities such as illustrated books in local languages and uniforms should be provided free of cost to facilitate education. Children should be provided all the meals of the day and medicines should be made available to them as well as their families. Students should be provided scholarship. Income support scheme, income subsidies for their families and teenage mothers project should be started.

11. There should be provision of penalty if a child misses school. Penalties should be fixed for parents, employers in cases of child labour, local schools and revenue department.

12. The total amount of Rs. 2.28 lakh crore is estimated to be spent on implementation part of this Bill in next 7 years. 1.25 lakh crore rupees is being provided to family welfare in the five year plan period. Family welfare targets are likely to be met by spreading education. Those funds should be directed towards education.

13. Seven-eight months have passed since the passage of the Gramin Nyayalaya Bill but the said work have not yet been constituted.

14. There are BSAF, NSAF, PMSAF, CMSAF for education in the country. Income tax rebate may be given on donations made for advancing education.

15. We need to break the illiteracy-population-poverty nexus. Population will be contained and prosperity will come only when 100 percent literacy is attained.

16. Prosperity will be followed by happiness and this songfwill resound in the country:

"Jahan daal-daal par sone ki chidiya karti hai basera, woh Bharat desh hai mera. Jahan satya-ahimsa aur dharm ka lagta pag-pag dera, woh Bharat desh hai mera."

I support this Bill and conclude by requesting that the Bill may be passed after addressing our objections and incorporating the suggestions.*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, since there are many more hon. Members yet to speak, I request all of you to please lay the speeches on the Table of the House. Still there are about 20 hon. Members to participate in the debate. The hon. Minister would reply to the debate at 6.30 p.m.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. We do not have much time. Please sit down.

SHRI M.I. SHANAVAS (Wayanad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I know that there is time constraint; I would like to cut short my speech, and present only a very few points.

After 62 years of Independence, we are assembled here to take up a challenge, a challenge that has got no parallel in the history of this country. I have been following various speeches, sitting here. Shri Kirti Azad initiated the debate from the Opposition Benches. Though his speech was powerful, I found no direction in the speech. He was reminded of Mohammad bin Tuglak on seeing this wonderful legislation.

When you see impossible things are made into possibilities, we may think of Tuglaks. Thirty years back, when Indira Ji nationalized the banks, it was called the Tuglakian legislation. But she proved to be right. This UPA Government has come out with many legislations,

which are revolutionary legislations. There are NREGA Scheme and the loan waiver scheme. Also, a billion people were benefited from the Right to Information Act. When all these legislations are being made in this House, they say, they are not going to happen; they ask, where is the money and what is going to happen. But everything is made into possibilities. This august House is witnessing a new challenge, that has been taken up by the hon. Minister, who is piloting this Bill.

I was hearing the speech of Shri Satpathy; he was asking the hon. Minister as to what will the 75 per cent of students think by seeing the 25 per cent of the students from the weaker sections. That is not the essence of this legislation. I would like to inform that when 75 per cent of the students see that weaker sections of the students are assembled along with them, they would feel that India is great. Those who had been deprived of the opportunity to go to the classes, they are being given admission. You may see the special schools. The admissions into the special schools are only for the Central Government employees' children. But now, the sons or the children of the tillers of the soil would go into these special schools and there are reservations for them. In 6000 and odd Sainik Schools and the Central Schools, it is there.

Education is a business now. The private players are doing very many things. But this Bill is a very small one with only 12 pages and 38 clauses. But I express my opinion that this Bill speaks volumes. This is the spirit of the UPA leadership – to fulfil the dreams.

Somebody in this House said that this is to fulfil within 100 days, what we said, we are doing these things. It is not so. Eight years back, in the 86th amendment, it had become mandatory for the Government to do it. But this Government is only doing this. This Government has gone far beyond all the expectations. It is going forward.

Let me bring one thing before the august House. A question was raised as to where do the *madrasa* people go? There is no compulsion for the students to go into only this school. The students can opt for the *madrasas*. This is a revolution – a revolution is taking place.

I would like to present a few points or suggestions to the hon. Minister.

18.00 hrs.

In clause 2(d), the definition of child belonging to disadvantaged group is given.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, if the House agrees, the time of the House may be extended by one hour.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

SHRI M.I. SHANAVAS: This is a great provision. So can I request the hon. Minister to include minorities also as a disadvantaged group? Now Chapter VI of this Bill talks about protection of the right of children. It is a watch dog of this wonderful Bill.

A National Advisory Council was there when this Bill was piloted in the Rajya Sabha. Then an amendment came and the State Level Advisory Council was introduced. Let me request the hon. Minister, Mr. Kapil Sibal to include the District Level Advisory Councils and the senior most Member of Parliament as its Chairman because a State Level Advisory Council cannot do anything.

Thirdly, I would like to request the hon. Minister with respect to syllabus. A Central Government which means to do business will have to be very particular about the syllabus. I am not going to do politics but unfortunately in my State, in the school syllabus the history of freedom struggle is not there. The history of the Communist Party is studied there....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except the speech of Shri Shanavas.

*(Interruptions)...**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI M.I. SHANAVAS: We should have a national syllabus. A national syllabus on nationalism, patriotism, socialism, secularism and Indian culture. Everything should be there. H.G. Wells said that history is a race between education and catastrophe. Here is education for the millions of children. We are going ahead with this Bill.

Now with a magnifying glass, we can see certain irregularities. Anybody can find it out. But just like all the other revolutionary legislations which have been passed by the UPA Government, it is also a revolutionary legislation. This Government can find the money. Where is the money? Money will be there. When Rs. 70,000 crore was announced for the farmers, everybody asked

*Not recorded.

where is the money? But money was paid and four crore farmers were benefited. In my Constituency, 1,50,000 farmers got the money. So money will be there if the will is there. If the will of the leadership is there, this is going to change the whole country.

With these words, I thank you for giving me this opportunity.

[Translation]

*SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE (Akola): Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to express my views before the House on this important subject.

Sir, children constitute 41% of our population. With regret I have to say that we are not able to provide proper education to them even after so many years of independence.

It is a matter of joy that the right to education is being included as a fundamental right in the Constitution. But, Sir, this Act will also prove to be meaningless if it is not implemented properly.

Sir, abolition of Child Labour Act was also passed by this House but even after that about 10 crore child labourers exist in the country. About 50 lakh children work as domestic help in the country. The valuable time of childhood which they should spend among the books in schools, they are spending by working in the factories. They are not able to complete their education even though they are interested in studying. We will have to think seriously about them.

Sir, the aim of education is to develop the children by developing their hidden talent. The country will not become fully literate and strong until we educate our entire population. Literacy rate of our country is just 52.55% today. The situation in states is far worse. The condition of our country today is such that there is a large number of children in the villages but there is lack of education and quality education. We have not progressed any further in the education sector even after implementing several attractive schemes.

The foundation of children's education in our country should be very strong. We should pay special attention to the primary education so that its foundation becomes strong. We have thousands of school in our country today, which have no building and children study under trees. If the school has walls then ceiling would be missing; some schools have ceiling and door but lack blackboards. If blackboard is there then books and teachers are lacking. The books provided by the Government for children get lost on the way and never reach them. How will the children be able to study in such conditions and such schools, and how will their future improve?

Sir, as far as the quality of education is concerned, it has been found in a survey that 47% of the children studying in remote villages are not able even to read a book properly. There are separate arrangements for the poor and the rich in this country. The poor have to depend on those very schools lacking facilities then how will their children progress? How will the 75% population of the country progress if there is no equal education? The country cannot progress as long as such discrimination and dual policies continue.

I urge the Government to fix this age limit from 3 years to 18 years so that a student could stand on his own feet after completing his studies, which is not possible at the age of 14 years. Until we improve the quality of education, I do not think that all the children will get equal opportunities for education.

Sir, besides, there is also the problem of dropouts. About 50% of students in our country are not able to complete their education. We can check this by appointing trained teachers.

Sir, it has been provided in this Bill to appoint one teacher for 40 students in primary classes, which is not right. In my opinion, it is necessary to have a teacher for 20 students so that the teacher could pay attention to the students equally.

Sir, my next suggestion is that primary schools should be opened within a kilometre and upper primary schools within two kilometres so that maximum number of children are attracted towards education.

Sir, my submission to the Government is that the Government shemes like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Indus and NCLP etc. should also be brought within the ambit of this Bill.

*SHRI RAKESH SINGH (Jabalpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on this important issue. I agree that it is a right step but unfortunately, even after 60 years of our

*Speech was laid on the Table.

*Speech was laid on the Table.

Independence, we could not do much in regard to primary education.

Government is concerned about it but there are several discrepancies which should be taken into account.

Though the bill has been introduced late but it is an appropriate step because no nation can afford to have illiterate people.

Sir, today the country is confronting a number of challenges including economic recession, terrorism, threat to security etc. Disruptive Forces are weakening the country. Education can be the best defence against such forces because mostly it is the illiterate people who are misled and engaged in anti-national activities. Citizens are the invaluable assets of a nation. The future of the country rests on its children and education is the only medium to brighten the future.

Unfortunately, maximum number of illiterate people are living in India. The steps which should have been taken right after our Independence, were never taken. Consequently, nearly six crore children are working as labourers in their childhood days. Even today 30% girls are married off in their school age.

Sir, I would like to mention the statement of an hon'ble Chief Justice of India given during the course of a hearing of a matter that even today 65000 schools are running without any building, 71000 Primary Schools have no classrooms, 95000 Primary Schools have only one classroom, 8000 schools have no teacher, 1,50,000 schools have only one teacher and in 60,000 schools student-teacher ratio is 100:01. Potable water is available only in 35% schools and only 13% schools have toilet facility, only 5% schools have separate toilet facility for girl students.

Sir, this is the situation of primary education in our country. Even then should we depend upon States in the matter of education. The figures cited above are not mine. Whether merely introducing this bill would change the level of education in our country. The people of our country have given you a number of opportunities to rule the country, now the same public would like to know as to who is responsible for this situation. This Government has been in power since Independence.

We have not been successful in respect of imparting pnmary education. We should think to increase the number of school children. Merely enacting the law would not deliver the goods. We have enacted Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act also under which engaging children below 14 years of age, as labourers is prohibited but we all know as to what extent it is being followed. Violation of this Act is often seen III factories, shops, dhabas etc.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, in such a scenario, how we would be able to encourage the children to go to schools. It should be clearly understood that imparting education to poor people is not something like giving them alms rather it is their right as the hon'ble Minister himself has stated. But whether providing education upto middle level will serve the purpose. How we would assure the poverty ridden people that this education will help them earn a square meal which is their top priority. Poor people instead of sending their children to school prefer them to work as they feel that it would help them in their earnings. And those who send them to schools, they hope that after getting education they will settle down decently and their poverty will be removed.

But how many of them are able to fulfill their wishes. How many of these children become successful in achieving a standing in the society through this education which lacks uniformity and discriminates also. When poor people realize that this little education neither help their children to become self-reliant nor they are willing to work as labourers, how this would inspire the poor people to send their children to schools.

Now there is a need to evolve an education system which should make the children self-reliant with no discrimination among the children in regard to standard of education.

Had we given equal opportumties to all sections of the society in respect of school education right from the time of independence, perhaps there would have been no need of reservation for some people today.

Sir, since time immemorial, education has never been considered as a means of earning livelihood in our country. This fact has been supported by the Committee constituted in 1948 under the Chairmanship of Dr. Radhakrishnan that education is the initiation of a process which helps in upliftment of soul and establishes the values in one's life with truthfulness.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, how has education taken on the garb of business in a country where purpose of education has always been noble. Where have we failed after all?

You have simply been constituting committees for the last 60 years.

Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards the developed countries particularly the G-8 countries namely America, Britain, Canada, Japan, France, Germany, Russia and Italy. Except Britain, the rest of these countries have a wonderful government schooling system. In America, especially, government has been running schools for the last 150 years where all categories of children study together.

Why don't we, who always look towards Western and European countries for all matters pertaining to development, implement the neighbourhood system in our own country.

Even today, we are dependent upon the private schools for quality education. We have taken it for granted that government schools in our country cannot provide quality education and as a result the standard of education in those schools is declining day by day. Have we also taken it for granted that quality education is the right only of the affluent section, just because the weaker sections and the rural population cannot afford to pay the fees of private schools?

The fallout is that children in rural areas have to go to faraway places to go to school. Even if they are fortunate enough to have a school nearby, that school lacks a building, if that school has a building, it is without a roof and if both building and roof are there, then teachers are not available there. Even if teachers are available, they are not properly trained to teach. Still, the students of such schools are expected to compete on an equal footing with children studying in urban areas and in private schools in order to progress in life.

Sir, a number of committees were constituted for educational reforms III the country but their recommendations have not been implemented. Kothari Education Committee was constituted in 1966. This committee had pointed out that quality education was not accessible for all and was only limited to a particular sector of society. Provision of good education does not depend on who is more qualified to get it but on who has the means to pay high fees.

This committee had also recommended enforcement and provision of neighbourhood school system in the country for ensuring uniform and quality education for all in the country.

The committee had recommended that provision of compulsory and free education should be implemented in the country before 1986.

Kothari commission had also said that the spending on education should be at least 6 percent of the GDP and this objective should be achieved before 1986. But even now merely 3-5 percent of GDP is being spent on education in the country.

Unfortunately, the recommendations of the Kothari commission were sidelined. Instead, we focused on developing specific institutions as model institutions. But, we forgot that the majority of students in these institutions would belong to the affluent section of society and this would only lead to disparity between the children of the haves and have-nots.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to say that Lord Macaulay had overhauled the education system in the country with a view to create a workforce of 'Babus' who would be Indians but who would have mentality of a Britisher and the ill-effects of this education system started by him are before us now.

I would like to say that no nation can achieve its full potential for development if it denies its roots. Hence, the need of the hour is an education policy, which is geared towards familiarizing the children with the culture and ancient glory of our nation. This would be achieved only when our faith in our culture and value system gets strong.

Sir, I would like to conclude with few more points.

How is this bill going to encourage the BPL population in the country, particularly in rural areas, who earn less than 20-30 rupees per day and whose only priority is getting two square meals a day and sending their children to school.

- Right to Compulsory Education extends only upto the eighth standard. Will these children be thrown-out on the streets once again, after that?
- According to the said Bill no child would be declared to have failed a class upto class-VIII and neither could the school throw out any child. In this scenario, how is the standard going to be monitored.
- Naturally, people would be inclined to send their children to the private schools under the 25 percent quota. What are the norms for giving admission under the 25 percent quota?

— It may also be clarified what steps the Government proposes to take to reduce the weight of bags on the shoulders of tiny tots for whom even their lunch boxes are too heavy to lift. These bags are not only causing physical harm to the children but also putting them under mental pressure.

*SHRIMATI JYOTI DHURVE (Betul): Sir, I appreciate and welcome The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Bill, which has come up in the House for discussion.

This Bill is going to be immensely useful in alleviation of poverty and illiteracy in the country. On the one hand, it will spread the light of education, at the same time, on the other hand it will solve a lot of problems. On studying the said Bill, I understand that the said Bill has been prepared with good motive, but the provisions made therein do not conform to the spirit of the Bill. I would make my point on it in brief.

The hon. Minister has said that the Government has focused on the right of children to free and compulsory education. I feel, paying attention to this issue after 62 years of our independence appears to be mere daydreaming. Today, when various countries have advanced a lot in this sector, waking up so lose for the said right makes us apprehensive.

Today, we have been able to achieve a literacy rate of just 65-70 per cent. It means, since our independence, we have, so far, moved to little above one per cent in the field of education. The rate of enrolment in primary schools was 95% in the year 2003-04, and dropout rate was 33.74%. In case of girls, dropout rate was 28.5%, and it rises to 52.29% by the time they reach 8th class.

What are the reasons for dropouts? The major among them are location of schools away from home, say at a distance of 15-20 kms from home; sense of insecurity; absence of toilets in schools; lack of women teachers and finally the lack of awareness in the families of students. I do not think any special provision has been made to address the problem of dropping out. No scheme has been framed in this regard. Also, there is an absence of any scheme for creating awareness so as to motivate children for taking admission in schools.

I would also like to dwell upon mobilizing resources for primary education. There is a shortage of buildings for schools. Dilapidated school buildings speak for themselves. Children are compelled to study under open sky and we are running a number of schools in tents.

There is an acute shortage of teachers in schools. The condition of teachers is known to all. So far as their salary is concerned, they are getting salary even less than that of a peon. They are no longer teachers, they have been rendered as educational workers, and no doubt, they are in pitiable condition. In this scenario, how far can we reform our education? Still there is a shortage of study material, libraries, labs, playgrounds etc.

Sir, it is a great irony that when this historic bill was presented in 2008, only 54 Members were present in the House. The lack of seriousness about such an important matter and implementing it after 8 years is quite unfortunate.

Sir, we have been raising slogan like 'education for all' and 'uniform education for all' but I do not think we have made any remarkable change in primary education, though several years have elapsed since we became independent. School children in majority of our schools have very poor knowledge in comparison to what they ought to have. The condition of government schools in rural as well as in urban areas is well known to everybody. There are schools but no rooms, no basic amenities like toilets and drinking water and not even black boards and chalks. These are the bitter truths of our educational system. If there are teachers, they do not come in time or the number of teachers is so less that they are not in a position to pay proper attention to all the children.

The report of a government survey revealed that 32 thousand schools across the country have no teachers, not even one and 1.3 lakh schools have one teacher each. The promise of spending 6% of our GDP on education is still a dream. No doubt, education has been made compulsory, but how will it be possible to implement it? It compels me to think otherwise. Will the poor children be able to get education on par with the rich children? Solution to it does lie in merely paying more attention to higher education.8 8 4 Nothing can be done until and unless the foundation of education is strengthened at primary level.

There is need to have a monitoring mechanism for primary education. A provision needs to be made regarding sharing of expenditure in this regard by the Central Government and the State Governments in the ratio of 75:25. The Right to Education Bill is likely to

*Speech was laid on the Table.

prove as important as providing 100 days employment to the people. A provision has been made for providing education to the poor children by providing 25% seats in the public schools, but as the poor have no food to eat, their seats are bound to remain vacant. There is no justification for this provision.

There is a need to provide such education to the children, which makes them. self-reliant. Getting higher education is likely to be a dream until and unless primary education system is proper. The deteriorating quality of primary education puts a question mark on the dream of India becoming as economic superpower. Today it is not possible without providing education and healthcare facilities to the children. I hope that hon. Minister will pay attention to it.

I request the government through you to take the required steps for building the infrastructure for free and compulsory education for building a new India and strengthening the country further.

[English]

*SHRI BADRUDDIN AJMAL (Dhubri): Plato's Republic popularized the concept of compulsory education in Western intellectual thought. Since then most countries have made some kind of education as compulsory to all people.

In October, 1937, Gandhiji called a conference. The conference passed a resolution which agreed that free and compulsory education should be provided to every child of seven to fourteen years of age.

It was only in 2002 that education was made a fundamental right in the 93rd amendment to the Constitution.

Thus it has taken 55 years from Independence to make education a fundamental right of children and a further 6 years for the Right to Education Bill to be introduced in parliament. Through we have taken too much of time it is better late than never.

I wish to congratulate Hon'ble Education Minister Shri Kapil Sibaljee to give the rights of children top priority and making us a party to this historic decision which will determine the course of India in the 21st century as said by Kapiljee in Rajya Sabha.

*Speech was laid on the Table.

In Assam, the Government does not open a school. It is the community which opens schools with the permission of the Government which are locally known as "Venture Schools". The schools are than given recognition after meeting some conditions. Followed by recognition the schools are provicialised (taken over) under respective State Laws. Currently, such community schools which are yet to be provicialised serve nearly 25% of the school going children in the State. These schools are in very bad shape in absence of any state funding. These were set up as per requirement and with the understanding that in due course of time the schools will be provicialised by the Government. But due to financial crisis the State Government is not provicialising the schools since last 15 years.

With a view to spreading education in the remote and backward areas educationist and social workers with the help of common people establish educational institutions. Even though, it is the duty of Govt. to establish schools and colleges accordingly to the need of the society. This has not happened and as result we have in our country fewer schools and colleges. However, local people establish such institutions Govt. should take steps to recognize them and provide grants so that these institutions survive and develop. But in our state the picture is a dismal one. Schools in remote and backward areas have been utterly neglected by the Government and even after decades of their establishments the Govt. has failed to accord necessary grants and has failed to pay the salaries to the teachers. It is shocking to know that the Govt. of Assam has not provicialised any school since 1992 and as a result, there are 16,153 venture schools including 8,567 Lower Primary Schools, 4,638 ME schools, 1,825 High Schools, 636 Madrasas, 130 Junior colleges, 133 Colleges and 26 Sanskrit schools in the state today.

The fallout of this apathy has been disastrous. Many school and Madrassa teachers have committed suicide after being unable to bear the hardship and helplessness. It is indeed apathetic that our school teachers in the remote backward areas of the country, who are sincerely devoted to make bright future of the present young generation, are so ignored and forgotten. While the salary of the beaurocrats, MLAs and Ministers have been increased manifold, it is deplorable that our venture school teachers are driven by plight to commit suicide. This sorry state of affairs is a serious hindrance to the moral courage and goodwill of the teachers. How can we create good human resource when the people who make them live in such pitiable condition? 25% of the

total students of the state read in the non-provincials or venture schools. So if the Govt. Is genuinely committed to bring about any improvement in the status of our education, it should first address the need of these non-provincial or venture schools. The disparity between the Govt. schools in cities and towns and the ventures schools in the remote backward areas beggars belief. While the students reading in the better equipped schools make it to colleges easily those reading in venture schools record a high dropout rate and high failure rate. Lack of books, lack of other study materials and lack of teachers contribute to the dismal scenario and the part of the Govt. Thus it is the highest imperative now to take up the issue of the non-provicialised schools and do all it can to see that school buildings are repaired, basic teaching aids are provided, mid-day meals are supplied and last but not the least, and teacher are paid the minimum salary.

Teachers of ventures schools have launched movements demanding fulfillment of their demands. They have staged "dharnas" submitted memorandum to the Education Ministers, to the Hon'ble Governor, they have taken out protest marches on the streets, but all these have fallen on deaf ears. It is high time the Assam Govt, especially the C.M. and the Education Minister realize the grave condition of the teachers of the venture schools and take immediate steps to provicialise these schools by taking the help of the central Government.

I strongly suggest to take note of this unique exception of the norms of the opening schools in Assam. The Government must make appropriate amendment in the Bill so that these venture schools are covered in the category of schools as specified in sub-clause (i) and (ii) of clause (n) of Section-2.

I wish to draw the attention of the House and Government regarding State run Madrassas. The Bill should specifically mention that Madrasas which are aided by State Government also fall in the category of schools as specified in sub-clause (i) and (ii) of clause (n) of Section-2. This will ensure at par growth of the Madrassas without any so called scheme of Modernization which barely meets their needs.

Special emphasis on SC, ST, disadvantaged groups are appreciable. I request the Government to specifically include/mention "Muslims" as disadvantaged group under sub-section-d of clause 2 of Section-1.

The clauses 1-4 of Section 7 have direct bearing on State Government especially the special category states like Assam.

I can understand the limitations of my Congress Colleagues in assessing the consequent liabilities of the State Government and communicating the inability their Government to implement the bill due to financial crunch.

All the special category states are in default in providing state –share of SSA. Under the present circumstances it will be difficult to manage even the 10% state share for the purpose which will be not less than the 25% of the current education budget of the state government.

Therefore, I would suggest that the Central Government should bear entire capital expenses for the NE states especially Assam; also bear the entire recurrent cost for a period five years for the NE states especially Assam.

Annual financial implications of the bill will be not less than Rs. Fifty Thousand crores. The bill is being discussed and debated for six years. It is very unfortunate that the department of education fails to assess and include in the bill the tentative capital and recurrent financial liabilities of the central and state Governments.

I strongly urge the Government to let the House know about the financial impact of the bill especially on state exchequer. I also urge the Central Government to provide the bulk of the additional funds required to ensure the Right to Education.

Though for the non-state actors like private schools the Act has made specified provisions of penalty for non-adherence, surprisingly, it is not specified what action will be initiated if the appropriate authority like Central, State Government and local authority fail to adhere to the norms specified in the bill. Therefore, I strongly demand that penalty provisions should be specified in the bill for appropriate authorities. This will ensure a accountability and fair play.

As a singnatory to the UN Child Rights Convention, India has accepted the international definition of a child, which is up to age 18. The bill proposes to cover only children from age 6 to 14, clearly excluding and violating the rights of the 0-6 and 14-18 years olds. Therefore, the children below six years and above 14 should be included.

The minimum hours of instruction should be increased 800 hours at primary level to 1000 hours and from 1000 hours to 1200 hours at Upper Primary level. Also, the Government has not addressed the issue of shortage of teachers, low skill levels of many teachers, and lack of educational infrastructure in existing schools let alone the new ones that will have to be built and equipped.

The bill has not made provision for exercise books, pen, pencil, uniform etc. in the absence of which the doors will remain closed for the poor. These should be included to make education truly free for all.

While the clause requiring private schools to reserve 25% seats for free quota is significant, the basis on which one can get admission in this quota is this quota is not mentioned. This should be mentioned.

The bill sought to implement non-detention policy and issue of only completion certificate. Thus it fails to guarantee that a child has acquired competencies deriving from the education process. No standards are set for learning outcomes which is very deplorable at present. It is a matter of concern that as per ASER Survey 2008, 34% Class-I children in India can not read anything and recognize any number and 9% of class-I-VIII could not read anything and recognize any numbers. Therefore, it is required to guarantee education along with graduation.

The Bill draws no attention on the existing shortcomings of the institutional structures for teachers' training and innovation. There should be more clear and strict provisions for capacitating the educational support structures, like the SCERT, SIEMAT and DIET. Formation of a separate cadre of these organizations would greatly contribute towards professionalizing teaching.

While the provisions provide that an aggrieved person may lodge a complaint with the local authority. It is not appropriate that the very same body that is responsible for ensuring protection of the rights of the child is also made responsible for deciding upon a complaint against it. Adequate and appropriate redressal mechanism should be included in the bill.

In the end, I quote Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru saying, "Children were like the buds in a garden. They should be carefully and lovingly nurtured, as they were future of the nation and the citizens of tomorrow." Let us therefore make children worthy of our country by unanimously passing the Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGDANAND SINGH (Buxar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, a very important Bill for the country has been presented and I want to say something while supporting this Bill. All of us have a bitter experience of primary education at local level. I think that perhaps this Bill is not going to address those problems, which we have experienced till now.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, hon. Minister of Human Resource Development has also talked about a provision of setting up schools with two teachers in this Bill. If there are 60 children then there will be two teachers and two rooms for those 60 children up to class-V and if the number of children increases 60, the number of teachers and rooms will be increased respectively. I think when we are talking about primary education up to class-V, there must be provision for at least five rooms and five teachers irrespective of the number of students.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to bring one thing to the notice of hon. Minister, through you, that as per this Bill one teacher will teach for 45 hours in a week. If there are two teachers then a total of 90 hours will be available for teaching. If we divide this time into five classes then one class will get only 18 hours for study. How hour children will get quality education in such case? When we are discussing this Bill here, I would like to ask one thing as to whether we would want our children to study in such chools or whether the children of politicians, officers or the rich of the rwt villages would study in these schools? They will not send their children to these schools. They will send their children to these schools only when these schools are able to provide good and quality education. When they will send their children to these schools only then we can expect improvement in education in this country.

Sir, how quality education can be provided without quality test? If there are no examination or tests then a student will go from class-I to class-VIII in a routine way. It is good that the school should not hold back any children but if a guardian feels that his child is not competent enough to go to next class and weak in studies then he should have the right to hold back his child and give another opportunity to improve.

Sir, this Bill is not going to help in increasing the intellectual property of India. Primary education and basic education is the biggest platform for higher studies. There is a sea of difference between the primary schools of the

villages and the cities and no provision is being made to bridge this gap in this Bill. I would like to say to hon. Minister of Human Resource Development that if he wants to take the nation in confidence for providing free and compulsory education after 62 years of independence, then at least five rooms and five teachers should be provided for primary education. You may conduct a survey and set up schools at only suitable locations but one or two teachers cannot teach five classes. If there is only one teacher and he is supposed to teach all subjects including English, Maths and Hindi and all three classes simultaneously, one can imagine what he will be able to teach the children? There can be no quality education in such schools having one or two teachers.

Sir, such education is leading to increase in dropout. I am sorry to say, Sir, every poor man of India wants to get his children educated. There is no need of advertisement for education. It is not a problem today that the children do not want to study rather the problem is that we have not been able to provide education to those who are willing to study. We have not been able to educate them. If this Bill has been brought for literacy mission then I have to say nothing but if this Bill has been brought for providing quality education then a lot of changes will have to be made in this Bill. Today rural education is going through a critical phase and there is a need to improve it substantially. There is only one criteria of improvement. When the farmers and guardians of children start sending their children to these schools, you can say that quality education is being provided. The number of literate persons may increase if there is no dropout, and all the children are enrolled and come to school in the name of free education and mid-day meal but our children would not become doctor, engineer or competent enough to face any competitive exam.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to say forcefully that there should be opportunity for equal education for equal competition in this country. When I am talking about opportunity for equal education, I would like to add that if there is lack of anything in this regard then we would be able neither to increase intellectual property of the nation nor to provide quality education. It will not be possible to take India at a higher level with this kind of education because the lack of basic education has kept the nation illiterate, poor and backward in comparison to other countries in the world. I thank you once again for making an effort but I would also like to say that this effort should not be made half heartedly but with full conviction. Basic education is the seed from which the intellectual wealth of the nation germinates. This seed needs to be nourished. Rooms, furniture and electricity should be provided for the schools.

The problem of drinking water should be addressed, toilet facilities should be provided. They should be provided with reading material and teachers should be competent. The number of teachers should not be reduced. If the number of teachers is reduced it would not be possible to provide quality education in the country. If this happens, even after passage of this Bill, our nation will remain backward in the matter of education.

[English]

*SHRI FRANCISCO COSME SARDINHA (South Goa): Sir, I rise to support the Education Bill which is before the House. Education is the backbone of the development of any country. If you see the literacy rate of the developed countries, it is very high. Education can produce a better farmer, a better artisan and a better citizen. Every citizen in this country has a right to education enshrined in the constitution. But what is the national literacy average after 62 years of independence?

When children in the age group of 6-14 should have been in the school playing and studying with other students of the same age group, we see them engaged in factories, in tea stalls toiling to earn their daily bread.

With all the beautiful schemes like Day Meal Scheme, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan which have been started by the Government, we have not got the desired results.

It is unfortunate to note when we are discussing here about the standard of education. It is disheartening to note that still in different states in the country there are hundreds of schools run without a school building and there are hundreds of schools with only one room building and where there is a room there is no teacher and there are hundreds of schools where the number of students and teacher ratio is more than 1:100. So one side we are talking of compulsory education and on the other side there are no proper teachers to look after these school going children. When Government makes it compulsory side by side, it should make sure that teachers are there so that the students attending school should not leave the school saying that what we are doing there is only a lip service.

Government should make sure that there is proper environment like drinking water, toilets etc. Government

*Speech was laid on the Table.

should try to have a common syllabus throughout the country in the primary and secondary level.

Sir, So many committees like Yash Pal Committee and many others have been formed to study the shortfalls of education at various levels but their recommendations are yet to be implemented.

Sir, there should be timely implementation of the recommendations once the recommendations are accepted.

From the age of six to fourteen years, education should be made compulsory. Any person or the organization who engages them for any work should be penalized and the households belonging to socially backward strata to be checked whether their children are attending the school or not.

It has been observed that many students who have not done well in qualifying exams are trying to pursue with their higher studies.

Sir, such children should be encouraged to go for vocational courses but we must make sure that there is proper machinery in the institutions which cater for these courses so that the children who come out can stand on their own feet. As far as standard X is concerned, the concept that there should not have exams should be done away, should be given up and instead the old method should be continued as we must not forget that at the end of a course performance is measured by some exam be it internal or external. If the assessment is given out some students will not study at all and the standard will fall.

Also if the child wants to pursue with higher studies and the vacancies are less than lower level how will the admissions be given without competitive exams.

As far as professional colleges are concerned no new permissions should be given unless they have the proper infrastructure as we have observed that there are even some engineering colleges approved even without proper facilities and infrastructure which student's community discovers only after joining the institution.

Sir, thousands of our students go abroad to pursue with their higher studies. Some of them go with scholarships to renowned institutions but others go because they do not get admission for the courses of their liking.

Some of the institutions they join in the foreign countries are not worth its name and they come to know only after they join the institution. So I request the Government to open new professional colleges in the country and also to see that the Ministry guides the student community when they try to go abroad for higher studies and for that the Ministry must have the list of all foreign universities where Indian students can pursue their studies.

Sir everything we cannot depend on Government of India. In fact, Government of India should be a fillip to the existing programmes that the States have for this purpose.

*SHRI PRASANTA KUMAR MAJUMDAR (Balurghat): Hon. Chairman Sir, this Bill has been brought with a noble intention. Here we are talking about universal education, quality education, secular education here. In this age of globalization, age of technology, age of competition, education needs to be universalized. Education brings awareness, awareness leads to transformation. In India, we have a huge population and most of the people are poor – they can't even manage two square meals a day. They are below poverty line without food, shelter and proper education. Under such circumstances, how can they be educated properly, how can this Bill be implemented – this question remains to be answered. Education is in the concurrent list. We know that any democratic country will follow the Constitution. Earlier when this issue was raised, the States were asked to give their opinions. What would be the curricula, mode of teaching, eligibility of the teachers, process of recruitment – nothing is said about that. The method of evaluation is also unclear – whether grading system will be followed or markings will be made – nothing is articulated. Wherefrom the funds will come – what part of it will–be borne by the State, what part by the Centre needs to be clarified. We are talking about compulsory education of children in the age group of 6-14 years but educationists say that primary learning of a child starts at the age of 3. Who will take this responsibility?

The Bill is silent on vocational training, on literacy, non-teaching staff. If we want to impart quality education, teachers should be trained properly. But in what manner so many teachers will be trained? What are the infra-structural facilities? It has been said that the capitation fees will be done away with. But capitation fee should

*...*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Bengali.

be taken in some other form – that has to be checked. Central Government has talked about privatization and commercialization of education. But this is not proper. It is said that only those who follow the rules will be given accreditation – others will not be given. Government is thinking of centralization and privatization of education in India.

We need to spread education undoubtedly. But first of all we need food – empty stomach does not help the learning process. So with supply of tiffin, students should be made disciplined. The problem is that the teachers on one hand impart education and on the other, cook midday meal. They do all kinds of work along with teaching – keep accounts, keep records, purchase utensils, cook food – in fact they are having multifarious tasks. So my humble request to Hon. Minister is that cooking and teaching should not be mixed up – these should be two separate aspects and teachers should be relieved from the job of cooking midday meals. Only then he education imparted in schools will really be able to illuminate thousand minds.

With these words, I thank you and conclude my speech.

SHRI MOHAMMED E.T. BASHEER (Ponnani): Thank you Mr. Chairman for giving me this opportunity to make my observations on this very important Bill.

I heard some of my friends on the other side saying that this Bill is anti-democratic, not in conformity with Constitution and that it is neo-liberal. Unfortunately, our friends from the other side are having some permanent words in their basket which they will use for any occasion. It is like that. It is a stock thing which they will use for any occasion. *...(Interruptions)* When I am saying a truth, kindly do not get annoyed.

This Bill can be described as a glittering chapter in the history of Indian education after Independence. It is really laudable. I congratulate the hon. Minister for taking this bold initiative. He is doing this not only in this case but also in other matters. He is bringing about basic reforms in the field of education. I would like to say that the name of Shri Kapil Sibal will be written in golden letters in the history of Indian education.

This Bill really serves some important purposes. First, this Bill will curb commercialization of education. Secondly, this will mark an end to some untouchability prevailing in some schools. There are some schools, the doors of which are closed to the students belonging to downtrodden and weaker sections of the society. That will also be put an end to. Similarly, this will ensure accessibility of education to all the children. This will stop discrimination against any section of the society. This will ensure 25 per cent reservation for weaker sections and disadvantaged groups.

The Government introduced 27 per cent reservation in IIM, IITs, Central Universities, etc. last year. There was a lot of criticism that that would downgrade the quality of education. What really has happened? I have a copy of an article appeared in the latest issue of the *Outlook* magazine. They have conducted a survey as to what has happened during the last one year after the introduction of 27 per cent reservation. The title of the article is "27 Per Cent a Pass Mark". A year after quota, the *Outlook* finds these students do as well as others. IIT Principals and National Institute Heads are all saying that the students selected in the reserved category are as good as other meritorious students.

So, by introducing this 25 per cent, our quality of education will never have any minus points. It will ensure good quality of education. There is no capitation fee and there is no physical punishment. These are all good things of this Act.

There is another thing. That is about recognition. Once this legislation is passed, schools without recognition cannot function. There must be some control. The mushrooming growth of private institutions should not be encouraged. But at the same time, what about giving recognition? If that is not ensured, there is no meaning in this. Unfortunately, in some States the education laws are even against the Constitution. In the Constitution, article 31 says that the minorities can establish and administer educational institutions of their own choice. But, unfortunately, some State Governments are not allowing that. They are not giving permission. Even the NOC for CBSE schools are not given. That is the thing. It is happening in the State of Kerala. Everybody knows that. They are dead against giving recognition. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except Shri Basheer's speech.

(Interruptions)... *

*Not recorded.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Karunakaran, you are a senior Member. Please sit down..

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except what Shri Basheer says.

*(Interruptions)...**

SHRI MOHAMMED E.T. BASHEER: They are doing it with political motivation. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except what Shri Basheer says.

*(Interruptions)...**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAMMED E.T. BASHEER: They should not unnecessarily interfere like that. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Basheer, please conclude. The time allotted to you is over.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAMMED E.T. BASHEER: I would like to say one thing very important and that is about the formation of the Managing Committee. The teachers will not be utilized for non-academic activities like surveys, census, etc. This is in the best interest of academic activities.

Sir, I would like to say one thing about special schools. When we talk about education for all, what is the meaning of it? I would like to appeal to the hon. Minister and the Government that ignoring these special schools, physically handicapped, mentally retarded children etc. is not a correct step. So, I would like to request the hon. Minister to include these particular sections of the society also within the purview of this Act.

Sir, I do not want to take much time of the House. This is a very good piece of legislation. The intention is very good and the contention is also very good and if we add both of these, then comes the implementation part. On the implementation side, we will have some problem. If that part is well-attended, this will be a best piece of legislation.

Sir, I whole-heartedly support this Bill and conclude my speech.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Prem Das Rai. You conclude your speech within three minutes.

SHRI PREM DAS RAI (Sikkim): Yes, Sir. I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak on this Bill.

I rise in support of the Right of Children to Fee and Compulsory Education Bill, 2009. My Party, the Sikkim Democratic Front, which is a part of the UPA, extends full support to this historic Bill.

Sikkim is a small State with meagre resources. Yet we are one of the States that has not been fighting shy of ploughing enough resources to the development of the education sector. This Act will indeed put more pressure on the State to do more for the children between the ages of 6 to 14.

We do agree that there is a need to do what the Act proposes. We support it. However, it will be difficult to commit the financial resources for this and so propose that for the first five years, we get a 100 per cent grant for this from the Centre. After that it can be done on the basis of 90:10 as for all special category States.

On the other hand, we need to have the right outcomes in terms of imparting high quality education so that the students emerge from the fifth grade with good capability and would be in a position to get middle level education in any other school. Towards this end, there is a need for a correct curriculum and teaching capability to be imparted to our teachers. This effort will require us to focus heavily on the 'how' part of it. We do desire that no stone is left unturned in learning from experience in this field from many NGOs and others who have been providing stellar service which continues even as we speak. I would like to quote the example of IIMPACT NGO, started in 2003. Today there are over 300 centers with an enrollment of 9,000 girl children in five States. High quality teaching in consultation with the Gram Panchayats makes this extremely attractive since the cost per child barely crosses Rs. 2,500 per annum. Fully funded by the community and by the DONERS this makes it an excellent example of private public partnership. This does not mean that there is a

*Not recorded.

corporate takeover, but really giving space to the thousands of young men and women who would like a platform to contribute to the success of our young and upcoming generation.

We need to make the mechanisms for forcing greater accountability on all components of the delivery system for this. In view of this, the Bill may consider modification and perhaps even greater specificity in this direction. It is too vague at this time leaving the onus on the States who are already over-burdened as perhaps not equipped to do so. Perhaps a broad framework can be specified to enable this very critical function to happen, else we will still be groping with this issue in the years to come. There are no specific penalties if the authorities fail to provide the right to elementary education. Should the State fail to meet its obligations under the Bill, it will not be penalized in any manner, nor will individual Government functionaries (unlike in the case of the Right to Information Act, where failure to implement provisions carries with it personal liability for the concerned administrators).

Sir, the Standing Committee set up to examine the Bill notes that there are 18 States which have had similar legislations. However, the experience of the same has not been very encouraging. Hence, it is important that this Bill does not remain only as the good intentions.

With these words, I support this Bill and do hope that the hon. Minister will take note of the points listed above by me.

*SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS (Kalahandi): This, in my view, and Honorable Members will agree, is the most critical issue of our times. The 21st century has been declared (by UNESCO) 'The Century of Knowledge'. But with over 300 million illiterates in our country, how can we participate effectively in this century of knowledge. We have been told, and these are all truisms now, education is the key to social empowerment. Education is the very foundation of good citizenship. It is infact the soul of the society as it passes from one generation to another. More important, in present times, education gives us the tools to convert national resources into wealth and social goods.

If education is so central to our national interest, than one would naturally ask the question, why is universal education so elusive in our country? The 86th Amendment in 2002, and Article 21(A) made education a fundamental right. Several states have their own laws and bills for education for all. The United Nations has made education a question of entitlement. In our country the recent Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is meant to provide education to all. And to improve the quality and prevent drop outs etc., there are programmes like National Technology Mission, DPEP (District Primary Education Programme), National Support for primary education. National Open School, mid day meals etc., yet education to all and meaningful education remain an ever elusive dream.

What are the obstacles? Our President in one of her speeches reminded us that universal education can be realized only by political determination and popular participation. Do we have them? We all know, Laws and Bills will not make universal education a reality, although they provide an enabling framework. We need to identify the obstacles to accessing education. The biggest one is poverty. Any poor is caught in a vicious circle. Many argue that education will lead the people out of poverty. But it is a catch 22 situation. In order to help the poor families to send their children to school, we need to address their extreme poverty conditions. That will also make a dent on child labour. Any child out of the school is a potential or actual child labour, even the child is working at home. And child labour has many adverse consequences.

The second is the social prejudices – let us take the case of girl child. There is a deep-seated prejudice. It has been said that–"if you educate a man, you educate an individual, but if you educate a women, you educated a family". Then how can we ignore the education of a girl child. A serious sensitization campaign is necessary, by involving CBOs and NGO. The female literacy is still around 50%, while the male literacy has gone up to 75%.

The third obstacle is the access to education. The right to Education Bill provides that at least 25% of children should be taken in private schools, from poorer sections. The private schools have spread to the rural areas charging fees that cannot be afforded by the poor. IN government run schools, there is acute shortage of teachers, no class rooms, no adequate teaching aids. In my state, the poorest in the country, one teacher has to manage 5 classes and above 250 students alone. Is it practicable? Can any one do justice to the children, except baby sitting them.

*Speech was laid on the Table.

Fourth obstacle is the provision of Age in the Act. It talks of 6 to 14 age group, what about those from 0-6 years. This is the time the children move towards child labour without any support. To bring them back to schools then becomes a problem. Elementary education is important, it cannot be replaced by scheme like ICDS.

5th issue is the question of resources. The current spending on education 5% of GDP. This is much less in view of the enormity of the task. It should be increased to at least 7% so that the education is made available and affordable. Education in the neighbourhood is still an idea, not a reality. The distance is a big hurdle for children.

Finally, I will close by saying that we have created elitism in education. The better-off people can afford to send their children to good private schools, but the poor are left out with no school, no teacher, no infrastructure, and lot of promises.

At elementary level, all the children up to at least upper primary should go to the same schools, and it should made free to all, then the structural class distinctions would vanish in future. There would be a fair play creating an egalitarian society that our founding father had dreamt of.

It is a matter of great shame that in Orissa the Scheduled Caste students are not allowed in the residential schools to study in class VI to class VIII. As a result large number of Scheduled Caste boys and girls are deprived of higher education. This issue needs the urgent attention of Government of India. With this I support the Bill brought by the honourable Education Minister.

*SHRI P.K. BIJU (Alathur): With your permission may I quote our father of nation, Mahatmaji. "Education should be so revolutionized as to answer the wants of the poorest villager, instead of answering those of an imperial exploiter."

Madam, Universalisation of Elementary Education has been a long awaited dream since the independence of our country. It is a core objective in our education policy eversince the proposal of Kothari Commission. We had introduced many programmes to achieve this goal time to time. What is the situation today? As we all know, the condition of primary education in our country is not at all hopeful. After 60 years of Independence we are still struggling to provide basic education to our children. Even the KNC report, basically the bible of liberalization of education also pointed out the problems and need of more government allocation for SSA, (NKC report, page No.26 para-5, dealing with universal schooling, right to education) when they support privatization in education. Surprisingly, this government proposes gradual reduction in the allocation for SSA.

When we talk about universalisation of education, right to education and of late the quality education, the other side dropout rate from our schools is increasing. The National Sample Survey of 2004-05 underlined this fact. The available data show that, rate of dropout in the primary and secondary level has been increasing over the last 8-10 years in our country. Did you ever think of that? And of course, the victims are the poor children in this country. It is the unequal development caused by liberalization made the condition of the poor in this country more pathetic. Consequently, the children in poor and weaker sections are forced to discontinue their education due to financial problems at their home. I do believe I have right to raise this issue in this house because I also faced this financial discrimination.

You know where are they going from school? Many of our children are thrown out from school and engaged in child labour en masse. As long as you are not ready to see this underlying cause of illiteracy, how do you address this problem? You talk about 100% enrollment in the primary level. But you simply neglect the reality. We should definitely see this in the context of increasing inequality in our society, which is the direct result of the overemphasis on neo-liberal, privatization policies in which the present government is deeply involved. This is a fact – fact exposed by National Sample Survey. Do you think you can address this fundamental crisis in our education system by such policies? Strong measures should be taken to bring them back to–schools. Respected Minister, do you think this bill, in its present form, is sufficient to achieve this goal? That is my question.

The bill presented here itself is a good example of lack of seriousness of consecutive governments in this key matter. What is the fate of this bill? It has undergone through different stages of metamorphosis eversince the 86th amendment in the year 2002. BJP Government simply vanished from the responsibilities ater passing the 86the Amendment. What did Congress government do? In 2005, the Congress government circulated a draft of The Right to Education Bill. A High-Level group was

*Speech was laid on the Table.

also created by the Cabinet. But at last decided not to introduce the Bill in the parliament. Why? Because they found the financial implications of the legislation were too high! Do you think you can ensure education to all the children in this country without spending money? Have you any magic? Who will spend money if the government play tricks? You changed the bill again and again until your market managers are satisfied. You found a way out from the financial responsibilities. The great mantra – PPP. Let the private sector take the responsibility. What is your role – Your responsibility then?

While the minister presented the bill he said the emphasis is on quality, not universalisation of education. You propose Rs. 1900/- to be given for private schools for each child in the 25% reserved seats. You estimate an expenditure of Rs. 1800-2200 per child per year for providing quality education. The expenditure to educate a child in the central school is Rs. 15000 per year. It is rupees Rs. 12000-14000 in the Jawahar Navodaya Schools. I don't understand how do you give quality education by spending an amount many times less than that of central school and Navodaya. It is virtually impossible.

Now the Bill is here with a lot of diversion and dilution in its spirit. Now the bill is presented within the strict directions of planning commission. All these are done to avoid financial commitments. Now for the interest of poor people, but just to satisfy the market forces. Without taking the financial responsibility – 2.28 lakh crores for 7 years according to your own initial estimate––how can you do that? What is the amount required? Who all will share the money? Where do you find the resources?

You say, the government reimburse unaided schools for per child expenditures and provide resources for school infrastructure, teacher training, additional teachers, schools resources, etc. which Government? From where? In June 2005, the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) Committee estimated that the average additional financial requirement is around Rs. 73,000 crore per year for six years. But from where you will mobilize this huge amount if you don't allot money in the Budget? This Bill does not provide any financial estimate.

There is no allocation in the budget. The clause 7 of the bill on The Financial Memorandum and various other clauses in the chapter three of the proposed bill titled *DUTIES OF APPROPRIATE GOVERNMENT, LOCAL AUTHORITY AND PARENTS* talks about financial arrangements. It vaguely says the centre and State Government will share the financial responsibilities – like the Central Government shall prepare estimates of expenditures and provide the State Government with a percentage of these costs, in consultation with the State Government. But what is the formula? You simply put responsibility over state – is it? Clause 8, 9 and 10 put other responsibilities also over state, local authority and parents. Then what is your role? I seriously doubt the sincerity of this Government on this bill, seeing the way you try to avoid financial and other responsibilities.

This will certainly undermine the goals of such a bill. I think I should emphasis this point. There is no concrete measure proposed or planned to handle this key issue of financing for the implementation of the bill. The Finance memorandum says that the central government may request the Finance Commission to consider providing additional resources to the State Governments in order to carry out provisions of the Bill. The Finance Memorandum also says "However, the expenditure on provision of funds by the Central Government would be met from the Consolidated Fund of India through annual budgetary provision under the Department of Schools Education and Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development". Now the Government is enacting a law, but not even a single paisa allocated in the budget for the implementation of the bill? Can you explain this?

Let the state do whatever required – is this your attitude? But you know most of the State Governments are not in a position to take this huge responsibility. They already expressed their inability. Still the bill put responsibility to provide free and compulsory elementary education to all children over the State Government and the local authority. It seems the Central Government is playing a trick by putting responsibility over state. This will definitely affect the bill.

Without allocation of money, you undermine the sancitity of this bill. Or you tell us frankly planning commission has restricted you from allocating resources for this. That was the reason behind stopping the introduction of this bill in 2005. Now, I say you have the same motive here also. Respected HRD minister, without proper allocation of fund, this bill is going to have a natural death. You know that. You must come out with concrete measures for financing and implementation of the bill. You must allocate resources for that. Don't put responsibility over states and local authorities as it is suggested in the bill.

Your bill is totally silent about special children. What about their education. You must include them also under the purview of this bill. Similarly, there is no concrete programme proposed in the bill to bring child workers back to school. As I mentioned earlier, the number of child labours are increasing especially after the introduction of neo-liberal policies. No universalisation of education is possible without educating this section of unfortunate kids, whose number is more that 10 crore in our country. I strongly recommend to include provision in the bill that can legally ensure the return of children working in different places to school.

One major drawback of the bill is that it doesn't have a proper implementation mechanism. Where is the implementation mechanism of this bill? A clear and effective monitoring mechanism is very essential at different levels for taking strict action against those who violate the provisions of the bill. It is particularly important in the case of private and self financing schools which hardly have any social responsibility. There is every chance of irregularities. The government has to note that.

What about minority schools? What is your plan regarding 25% seats in Minority schools? It is possible that this will conflict with Article 30 of the Constitution, which allows minorities to set up and administer educational institutions. How do you ensure 25% seats in minority schools and self-financing schools? What happened in Kerala, you know? When Kerala government passed a legislation to control such commercial educational institutions to ensure social responsibility, the managers and those who commercialise education could bypass such a law. How do you address such issues when it comes to the case of this bill? I hope the Minister will clarify this.

The bill addresses only the children between the ages of six and 14 years. What about the education of children below 6 years. There are 172 million children is here in our country at the age 3-6 years. Now, Pre-school education is the privilege of an affluent minority in this country. I strongly recommend to include the children between 3-6 years old also under the purview of this bill. Similarly, the Bill talks about free transportation of students if the schools is more than one Km. distant. But I do not know whether our respected HRD Minister is aware of the fact that we don't have proper roads in many of our villages.

Therefore in my opinion, this is a tactic of the Minister and Government to escape from the responsibilities by putting all those on the state governments. Don't you know this will become a law once it is passed? I strongly say this rule without allocating the amount needed is not going to ensure the Right to Education, Instead it is going to deny the right to education. If the government is sincere, if the you must allocate money in the budget for implementing this bill. That is my strong demand.

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY (Kokrajhar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me this opportunity to speak on the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Bill, 2009. At the same time, I heartily congratulate and thank Shri Kapil Sibal for piloting this kind of a very noble legislation. But, at the same time, I would like to highlight some of my critical observations with regard to some shortcomings which I have come across in this Bill.

First of all, I would like to draw the kind attention of the hon. Union Minister of HRD Shri Kapil Sibal towards the untold sufferings, troubles and difficulties being faced by the Bodo medium school children in Assam. You must be recalling one very tragic history. In the years 1972 to 1976, there was a vigorous movement launched by the Bodo Sahitya Sabha demanding the Roman Script for the Bodo language. At that point of time, the Prime Minister of India was the late hon. Shrimati Indira Gandhi. The then Prime Minister of India, the late Shrimati Indira Gandhi persuaded the leadership of the Bodo Sahitya Sabha to accept the Devnagari Script instead of the Roman Script for the Bodo language. She tried to persuade the leadership of the Bodo Sahitya Sabha to accept the Devnagari Script on certain conditions. The conditions were such that if the Bodo Sahitya Sabha leaders agreed to accept the Devnagari Script for the Bodo language, then, all the responsibilities of the Bodo Medium Education Schools and the progress and development as well as the safeguard of Bodo language and literature would be taken over by the Central Government, but very unfortunately Government could not keep its own words.

As on today, in Assam, there are more than 1000 numbers of primary schools of Bodo medium and around 500 numbers of upper primary schools of Bodo medium and around 500 numbers of high schools of Bodo medium clubbing together around 2000 numbers of Bodo Medium Schools have been languishing like anything since 1990s. These schools have not been taken up by

the State Government of Assam due to paucity of funds. I have been mounting tremendous pressure upon the Government of India since long saying adequate Central Fund should be given to the Government of Assam and to the Bodoland Territorial Administration so that these languishing schools can be provincialised with immediate effect. If the Bodo medium education cannot be rescued from the jaws of total destruction, then, what may happen to the future of several lakhs of Bodo young generation? This is the vital question.

[Translation]

That is why I would like to urge the Human Resource Development Minister, through you, that adequate security arrangements should be made for the Bodo-medium schools otherwise the tribal students studying through Bodo medium would not be benefited in any way.

[English]

Because, you know, the Bodo language was incorporated in the List of the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution of the country in the year 2003.

[Translation]

If education through Bodo language is discountinued debite inclusion of the Bodo language in the constitution. then what would be our status in India.

[English]

This is the vital question.

[Translation]

The Assam Government lack funds. That is why

[English]

They could not take up these schools. There may be around 2 lakh numbers of venture schools of different mediums of instruction across whole of Assam, which are languishing like anything. So, through you, Sir, I would like to appeal to the hon. Madam Soniaji, the Chairperson of the UPA as well as the hon. HRD Minister, Shri Kapil Sibal to look into this kind of a serious situation and the untold sufferings faced by the Bodo medium students as well as the students of Assamese medium, Bengali medium and Hindi medium as well.

[Translation]

In the end, I would like to request that the Govt. should provide Rs. 500 crore on an immediate basis for provincialisation of these schools.

[English]

I also lay a part of my speech on the Table.

Honourable Chairman Sir, through you, I would like to request the honourable Chairperson of UPA-II, Shrimati Sonia Gandhi and the honourable Union Minister of HRD – Shri Kapil Sibal to take appropriate steps to help sanction minimum of Rs 500 crore to help facilitate the provincialisation of 1000 primary schools, 500 upper primary schools and 500 High schools of Bodo medium languishing both within Bodoland area and in many other districts of Assam since the recent past couple of decades with immediate effect and thereby rescue the moribund Bodo medium education from the jaws of total perish and extinction.

**DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA (Inner Manipur): I rise to participate in the discussion on the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Bill, 2009 as passed by the Rajya Sabha on the 20th instant. I stand here to support the Bill.

When we became a Republic, our forefathers were well aware of the fact that Education is very crucial for the success of our democracy. Universal elementary education plays a vital role in strengthening the social fabric of a vast and young democratic country like ours. This Bill, to be precise, is for providing free and compulsory education to the children between six and fourteen years. At the moment, the Union Government is having a mission programmes in SSA and MDM, assisting and helping the State Governments to provide quality education to the children of the same age group, *i.e.* between six and fourteen years.

We all do understand the importance of the formative stage in the life of a child. If we can mould a child during this formative period in the way they are desired and deserved to be, we are sure that these children when they grow up they will become responsible citizens of this great country. And the country shall be safe in their hands. If the children in the age group between six to fourteen years of this great country are taught to

*...*This part of the speech was laid on the Table.

**Speech was laid on the Table.

fully understand the correct spelling of words of their mother tongue and some basic principles of Mathematics mostly arithmetic, algebra and geometry for their day to day calculations and some important essence of moral lessons of the region and the country, they will be able to fully understand any issue or problem and at the same time they will be able to freely express their opinion on any important issue.

Side by side, we have the three language formula and they are to be taught their mother tongue, the National language, Hindi and English also. So, good knowledge of languages-one's mother tongue, Hindi and English; good art of calculations and sound moral character will definitely help in the formation of a strong national character among the youth of the country, which has been crying need of the hour for the integrity, solidarity and sovereignty of the country. At the same time, I propose that once they complete the elementary education, during the secondary education level we can have community camps where children from all communities, caste and creed are kept together and they can be given basic training in almost all important of life to come out as an INDIAN.

Going back to the time when our constitution was framed, those great sons of India provided the Directive Principles of State Policy in which Article 45 enumerated that the State shall endeavour to provide, within ten years from the commencement of this constitution, for free and compulsory education for all children until they complete the age of fourteen years. Further, Article 21A as inserted by the Constitution (Eighty-sixth Amendment) Act, 2002, provides for free and compulsory education of all children in the age group of six to fourteen years as a Fundamental Right in such manner as the State may, by law, determine. Now, in the same Amendment a new Article 45, "The State shall endeavour to provide early childhood"care and education for all children until they complete the age of six years." So far this has been taken care through the ICDS.

The present Bill as passed by the Rajya Sabha has all these provisions of the constitution by giving the provisions of neighbourhood schools in clause 3(1) in Chapter II and in clause 10 in Chapter III. Further clause 11 in Chapter III provides for pre-school education of children above the age of three years until they complete the age of six years. This Bill is complete in all respects for providing free and compulsory education to all sections of children between six and fourteen years. I once again wholeheartedly support the Bill.

*SHRI M. KRISHNASSWAMY (Arani): Sir, I rise to participate in the Consideration Motion of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory education Bill 2009. It is under the Directive Principles of State Policy. I would like to draw the attention of the House to the fact that it was our Congress leader Karma Veerar Kamaraj who had brought the scheme of mid-day meal to school students and also made tuition fee free for students up to SSLC, *i.e.* 11th Class, in the earlier education system. During his period as Chief Minister, he opened schools in each village in Tamil Nadu so that the present Chief Minister, Dr. Kalaignar Karunanidhi called Kamaraj's birthday, the July 15th as Education Development Day. Now it has become so popular that regular budget allocations are made in the Budgets of the State Governments and the Central Government.

40% of India's population is the school going children. So, if they have been given proper education and development of their mental and physical skills, they will facilitate building of the nation. As our veteran leader, the architect of India, Pandit Nehru used to say, school is a temple of learning. Report of the Kothari Commission also says that "the nation is re-built in the class-rooms". I congratulate the UPA Government for bringing this landmark Bill after 62 years of Independence boldly. The credit goes to Madam Sonia Gandhi, hon. Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh and Minister for Human Resource Development, Shri Kapil Sibal.

However, I would like to bring to the notice of the Government that the present allocation of 4.15% of GDP for education is not enough, if we want to bring about universal free and compulsory education a reality. Therefore, the budget allocation has to be increased. There are many schemes in operation like Operation Black Board, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Adult Literacy, etc. In the 1980s, our Congress Government gave new impetus to Education by renaming the Department as Human Resource Development Department and the New Education Policy was formulated and implemented.

I request the Hon'ble Minister to provide free education from pre-primary school to plus-two stage. We find the urban areas child labour on the construction site, in the road laying works, doing work along with their parents or uncle. The future of these children is doomed without basic education. They work and feel as if it is their fate. I would suggest that the Government through some NGO or departmental agency adopt those

*Speech was laid on the Table.

children, provide them the basic necessities like food, clothing and shelter and education. They should be provided all study materials and a small stipend also, which would act as an incentive for incurring other required expenses. On weekends, they can go to their parents or relatives so that the children do not feel homesick and at the same time concentrate in studies and do not waste their prime life in the childhood. Similarly, children who are engaged illegally in the various factories, match industry, fireworks industry should be rescued and put in Navodaya Schools or residential schools so that all their requirements are taken care of.

The perspective of curriculum should be progressive, secular and skill-oriented so that they could easily get jobs after education in various sectors. Education should not be commercialized and quality education is the right of all children whether rich or poor. Keeping that in view, infrastructure facilities in every school like proper room, trained teachers, audio visual materials should be provided. Screening of students and parents before admission, collection of capitation fee from the parents should be prohibited. Since it is an important Bill, I request that all will agree in passing this Bill unanimously.

*SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH (Hamirpur): Sir, on 26 January, 1950, the Constitution of India came into existence, "the People of India having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a SOVEREIGN, SOCIALIST, SECULAR, DEMOCRACTIC REPUBLIC and to secure all its citizen, JUSTICE, social, economic and political EQUALITY of status and opportunity.....assuring dignity of individual."

In 1993, Uni Krishnan Judgement, the Apex Court held right to education is the human right and can be treated as Fundamental Right. The Constitution of India is not a dead document closed in the book called Constitution of India, it is a living and organic thing.

Article 21-A-Right to Education says that the State shall provide free and compulsory education to all children age 6 to 14 years and in such manner as the State law by the determine. Year 2005 (6) SSC 530 P.A. Inamdar case says, golden goals set out in the preamble of the Constitution are to be achieved. The Indian politic has to be educated and educated with excellence.

On 20 July, 2009, Rajya Sabha passed the Bill. Now, it has come before the Lok Sabha.

*Speech was laid on the Table.

Between 1950 to 2009, 59 years have passed. In 1993 the Supreme Court gave a wake up call by observing in Uni Krishnan case that education is human right like the Fundamental Right. In 2002, "Right to Free and Compulsory Education to all children of age 6 to 14 years in such manner as the State may law determine" was included as constitution amended. Since then 7 years have passed.

I really wish to convey my congratulations to the Hon'ble Minister for HRD and I presume that it is the lawyer guts who has taken such bold steps for implementing the golden goal for the Constitution. I reiterate and give all praise and I would like to give him a good hand that he has tried to repair the past. If I may say so, was Congress not interested in imparting free education to children between 6 to 14 years, which was command of Constitution?

I congratulate Hon'ble HRD Minister Shri Sibal *Ji* and since I also belong to fraternity of lawyer. Hon'ble Minister deserves all kudos. His intentions are good and we are confident that he will be able to implement the golden goal of the Constitutions repair the past. While supporting the Bill, I have genuine doubt and reservations. I wish to place with utmost humility in my command through you to the Hon'ble Minister for HRD.

Learning quality education or quantity by counting the school buildings has to be considered. Till 1960, Government Schools were the best education units, but thereafter they were on pushed back seat. Today, in the Municipal schools even in Metropolitan towns or cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Allahabad have trained teachers and highly paid, fully qualified but there are no students. Why? Reason is clear, not teaching at all. Quality education is lacking.

Still today in 2009, Central Schools (KVs) have given best results throughout the country even as compared to private schools. These KV Schools have no central air conditioned buildings and nor air conditioned buses but are flooded with students because they have team of dedicated teachers with experience and have complete monitoring and disciplined atmosphere. According to recent survey, 4 lakh central schools are required to cope with the demand. Decline of standard of education in 1950's to 1960. A middle pass student, which is equivalent to class 8, had better command of language, mathematics and could read and write well as compared to B.A. pass.

Before this Bill, at present 18 States and 2 Union territories have framed laws to compulsory elementary education, but implementation has been poor. Reason was two fold (i) lack of motive (ii) negligible community involvement. Public participation is necessary. For example, there is Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 but public and society has not responded and the dowry is rampant. If my Bihari friend permit me to say that in dowry demand, Bihar is leading. Bihar is also leader in demand of dowry and thus has faulted in compliance of Dowry Prohibition Act due to lack of community support. It is a populous measure of the U.P.A. Government but it's implementation and particularly keeping in the 100 days agenda is like building castle in the air. Rather learned Sibal *Ji* is fond of fly by night operation – 100 days. Educational development is not like a construction of housing colony. It takes time and due diligence is required.

As per the opening speech of HRD Minister, 2.28 lakh crores is required for implementing the Right to Free Education in 7 years and Rs. 12000 crore is the yearly requirement. Has the State got financial capacity to make 25% contribution? It is a question for consideration by the U.P.A. Government. The present State financial starvation coupled with equally important requirement of agriculture, irrigation, electricity, medical, health will have to be ignored or material reduction will be required in the Budget, and thus, the balance has to be seen.

The Right to the Education is the Constitution obligation. One of the ten commandments in the Constitution "THE FLAGSHIP PROGRAMME OF THE UPA GOVERNEMNT" should not as housing contractor and would go for J.V. (Joint Venture) with State Governments, who have no match in finance with the Centre. The State Government can be asked to participate in many other ways other than finance like providing land, monitoring the development etc. The financial participation require re-look, otherwise the FLAGSHIP of UPA will sink in deep water. If flagship programme of the U.P.A. Government which has put in 100 days agenda shows the intention of the Government, more political than educational.

Broadly, followings are the focus, which have been ignored. (i) Distribution of financial burden between the Centre and State; (ii) the implementation part of the Act is lacking in the Bill; (iii) in elementary education, the age, when the children are sent to the school, the duties of the parents participation, the development of the child have been ignored in the effort to create flood of the student who can only write their names and can read little bit; (iv) the importance of English has not been focused, which is a Universal medium of education and to earn bread and butter. Let us see the IT software revolution; and (v) vocational training development of skills of the children is lacking in the Bill.

I oppose the abolition of Board examination of high School. I would like to draw the attention of the HRD Minister that please do not compare the education system of western countries, British and American school with the primary schools of the country, which are situated in rural areas. India lives in villages. Soul of India is in villages and 75% children are part of rural population. Grading system of promoting the student is not workable. The life of the teachers who do not award the better grading would be in jeopardy. They would be vulnerable to the pressure of the guardians. Today, if a child fails in 9th or 11th classes, which is not board examination, most of the school give pass certificate with the T.C. easily and thus, the failed students of the one school get admission in the other school as passed student in lower class, even if he might have failed in all subjects.

There should be 25% reservation in private schools for children from economically weaker sections and payment of fees by the State to the private school cannot be implemented in the Bill. It requires clear guidelines. 75% rich students are made to pay 25% poor background students. I suggest a better formula of this 25% quota reimbursement, otherwise it would beat corruption.

Neighbourhood definition should be included in the Act. If it means distance for community, etc. Women representation is lacking in the formation of the Committee of Management. The UPA Government says one thing and act differently. There is gender bias in the formation of the Committees.

In section 2-F, elementary education means from 1 to 8th class. Here, pre-nursery and nursery should be included. The definition of neighbourhood should be clear. What is the meaning? Distance-wise, geographical-wise, etc.?

In Chapter III – duties of appropriate Government, if parents do not co-operate the ward for free school, what are the consequences? In clause 7(1) responsibility of State and Central Governments clearly demarcated. For example, funding and management proportion. In

clause 7(vi) (a) vocational training, so that the student coming from the poor of the society join vocational line. Section 10 – it is the duty of parent or guardian to admit his or her child in elementary education in the neighbourhood school. Consequences should be given, if duties are not followed. If not admitted, then consequences to parents? In section 12(c), to admit from Class I we should start from Nursery level. Chapter 5 – Curriculum – teaching of English should be focused, otherwise no job. For example, there is IT and software revolution due to English. In Schedule Section 19, language English should be included. Age – start should not be six years, rather it should be 4 or 5 years.

*SHRI LALIT MOHAN SUKLABAIDYA (Karimganj): I stand to support the Bill, "the Right of Children to Free & Compulsory Education" as placed by the Hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development.

Madam, after the independence, when the Constitution was enacted, it was a directive principle of the State Policy that India would be fully literate by 1960.

The target not achieved, date was fixed again and refixed.

Without literacy it is not possible to educate people, on the other hand without education the person cannot be developed mentally and cannot become independent in life.

A child to us is most innocent and they do not have any demand in the society. They want only to grow physically and mentally.

Most parents do their best for their upliftment. But there are parents who cannot afford to do anything for their children's development due to poverty- rather they send their children for earning money.

In this scenario the bill presented in the House is most welcome. Once the Bill is passed into Act then every parent will be legally bound to send their children to school. So we welcome-we will achieve the goal of giving our children elementary education one day.

I welcome this because there is a proverb better late than never. So this is very good as this will enable people to impart education to children from 6 years to 14 years which is the gate pass for going for higher education.

The Government want that its citizens to be educated – because without education, awareness does not grow and without awareness, Democracy is not effective.

In this connection I want to point out some of the problems in my State. In other States all over India elementary education is upto class VIII – age 14 years. But in our State there are primary schools for students of age from 6 yrs to 9 years, and middle schools age from 10 to 13 years and 14 to 16 for High Schools.

There are also schools – combined schools – 10 years to 16 years. Since the private schools under this Act are required to keep 25 per cent of seats for disadvantaged group, for which the Government will bear the cost, we have also some sorts of Private Schools some of which are recognized by the Government and in case of Primary Private Schools only permission is required-there is no provision of recognition. These schools have been functioning since last 20 to 25 years and imparting education only to the disadvantaged students but the teachers do not get any salary – that is all honorary teachers - after life long service they retire without any benefits. Many of them are starving at their old age - though these people contributed a lot to the service of the society. My question is that whether these types of schools will come under this Act and whether the cost of teaching at these schools will be borne by the Government. Salary is the main cost. They want salary through provincialisation of the school.

I raised the issue in all my budget discussion during last five years-because these people want their services to be provincialized since the number is huge the Government of Assam will not be able to meet the expenses- you know the State of Assam is trailing other States-while other states are marching ahead.

Another point I want to refer - you proposed that under this Act there will be uniform syllabus for elementary education. My point is that since elementary Education is the basic education and a student whatever learns in the elementary school, makes the foundation of his life. My suggestion is that in making the syllabus it should be very ambitious-in the sense that it should make the foundation of national integrity – so the syllabus should be made in such a way that there should be only one thing that national integration and that should be learnt by the students in these schools.

You have mentioned about the number of teachers class wise and student wise- but in reality in the States

*Speech was laid on the Table.

this is not possible. And as such there should be some flexibility.

The aim of the Act is imparting elementary education - in rural areas will be successful only when Clause 24/ 1A could be executed – now if the teachers can be motivated to do that it will be a grand success.

[Translation]

*SHRI RAJARAM PAL (Akbarpur): The title of the Bill should be changed to Right to Universal, Free, Compulsory and Quality Education Bill, 2009.

The proposed Right to Education Bill, 2009 provides for Right to free and compulsory education for children in the age group of 6 to 14 years. Children below 6 years and between 14 and 18 years have been left out of the purview of this Bill. Non-inclusion of children below 6 years and above 14 years of age defeats the objectives of this bill. As per the Bill a 15 years old illiterate or married girl cannot claim a right to education. Various students and researchers have shown that merely 50 percent of the children receive primary health care, the rest fall prey to malnutrition and are deprived of pre-primary education. Under the provision of PWD Act, 1995 any disabled child below the age of 18 years is eligible to receive free education but under this Bill if such a child is below 6 years or above 14 years of age then he would not be eligible for the same. This provision should adhere to the definition of child as given in Juvenile Justice (care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000.

All children between the age of 0 and 18 years should be included within the purview of the Bill. The Government should fix a date for enforcement of the Bill and the Bill should be in line with the millenium development goals.

Child means a male or female child of the age of six to fourteen years. This provision is against the charter of child Rights. This means that the state does not take responsibility for children between the age of 0 and 6 years. The children above the age of 14 years living in difficult circumstances and deprived of education would not be covered in this Bill. This is against the spirit of Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 and Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995. Article 21 (a) of the Constitution has also not discriminated against children below 6 years and above 14 years of age in the matter of right to education. Hence all children between the age of 0 and 18 years should be included while defining the word 'child'.

So far as the question of the specified category in relation to a Government school is concerned, why should the Government have two categories of schools? This dual system is against the common school system or common curriculum. It is nothing but Government sponsored inequality. This Act should be applicable to all schools. I apprehend that the model schools established under the so called public private partnership (PPP) scheme shall reap the benefits and these schools will be free from any regulatory mechanism.

All the children who have attained the age of 6 have a right to free education till completion of elementary education. The responsibility of carrying out the provision of the said Act, has been left with the State Governments. It is beyond comprehension as to how the extant Bill fulfills the norms of education being placed in the concurrent list of our Constitution.

Clause 6 in Chapter III provides that the appropriate Government and the local authority shall establish, within such area or neighbourhood, as may be prescribed, a school, within a period of three years from the commencement of this Act.

The wait for the next three years will keep the children away from schools. At the same time, it will not be possible to achieve the target of 'Dakar' framework and the current millennium development targets. Why will the guardians get their children admitted in schools which charge fees? Why is common education system not being implemented? Can some of the guardians not claim for free education.

The Government will ensure that every child gets free and compulsory elementary education. Secondly, it is provided that the guardians who get their children in schools, not established, owned or controlled by the Government, cannot claim the expenditure incurred by them on the process of such admission. Sub-section (9) of the said section provides that the appropriate government shall ensure good quality elementary education conforming to the standards and norms specified in the Schedule.

The State Governments should provide good quality education to children by implementing the recommendations of Kothari Commission. The norms of good quality education have not been provided in the

*Speech was laid on the Table.

Schedule only a reference in this regard has been made with regard to the nature of basic infrastructure. The Government should prepare norms for monitoring good and quality elementary education.

As per the provision for pre-school education system the state governments shall prepare children in the age group of 3-6 years for elementary education and shall also make arrangements for providing basio child care and education. If any State Government desires, it can make necessary arrangements for pre-school education.

If the State Governments are expected to make arrangements for pre-elementary education for the children of the said age-group, then why was it not incorporated in the Act? Why have the children in the age group of 6-14 years only been covered under the said Act.

With regard to the responsibilities of schools and teachers, it has been provided that for the purpose of this section, any school, as mentioned in sub-clause (ii) of Sec. 2(c) and sub-clause (iii) and (iv) and sub-clause (i) of Section 2(c), apart from any neighbouring school, shall admit class I, to the extent of at least twenty five percent of the total strength of that class for providing free and compulsory education.

Who shall decide the number of children of weaker and disadvantaged sections and who shall identify them for admission in schools? What is the provision, in case the number of children available for admission is more than the seats available in neighbouring schools? So far it is also not clear as to who the guardian or parent will approach rightfully in case a child has been deprived admission. The number of schools run by the states is less in proportion to the number of children seeking admission. Therefore, it fails to ensure the promise of the government to provide education to all.

It is the responsibility of every school to ensure admission to every child and that too, on equal basis. Therefore, a Common Education Bill should be passed on the basis of the recommendations of the Ram Murti Committee constituted to review the recommendations of Kothari Committee (64-66) and National Policy of Education, 1986.

The Central Government can relax the essential and desirable qualifications required for appointment of teachers at the maximum for-five years in certain circumstances where State Governments are unable to impart training to the teachers as per the minimum qualifications laid down in sub-section-I. This provision supports the appointment of para-teachers for further Five Years and to compromise with the quality of education. I feel there is no need of such a provision in this bill when a sufficient number of trained and qualified educated youth are available for appointment as teachers.

Another provision is that neither the child or his family will have to go through the procedure of interview or screening nor have to pay any capitation fee etc. at the time of admission in school.

This provision is applicable on those schools only which comes under the ambit of this bill. The actual problem lies with the unaided private schools which demand capitation fee for admission. Unfortunately, no provision has been made in the bill to regulate such schools.

The schools other than the schools specified in sub-clause (iv) of clause (n) of section 2 shall constitute a School Management Committee.

This clause would be applicable on state schools and aided schools only. Private schools will be kept out of its ambit. According to this clause no interference can be made in the functioning of private schools. Here I would like to know as to what system would be followed for Village Education Committee and whether the duel system of Village Education Committee and School Management Committee would be followed? Village Eeducation Committee should be strengthened like School Management Committee by assigning additional responsibilities. Rules regarding fee, curriculum, fee management and criteria etc. should be uniform in all the schools.

There is also a provision that no legal proceedings shall lie against the Central Government, National Commission, School Management Committee, the local authority or any person working on the direction of the above, in respect of anything which is done in good faith.

Chances of misuse of this provision are very high. Who will decide whether the action has been The taken with good intention? This clause should be removed from the bill. The poor parents whose wards could not go to schools or could not get admission in the nieghbourhood schools, cannot take legal action against the Governments, local authorities and guilty of depriving children of education.

*SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR (Hamirpur): The hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development has presented the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Bill, 2009 which has been passed in Rajya Sabha. This bill should have been introduced years ago but it has been delayed. Anyway, "it is better late than never". This bill was presented in Rajya Sabha last year and then sent to Standing Committee on Human Resource Development for Consideration. The Committee had suggested amendments in some provisions of the bill which have been incorporated in the Bill by the Government. The bill has proposed free and compulsory education to children in the age group of 6 to 14 years.

Sir, so far as the education of children is concerned, the efforts made by the Government in this regard have not been proved successful. The Government was hopeful that introducing mid-day-meal scheme in schools would increase the number of school goers but the results have not been as expected. The irony is that bills are passed and laws are enacted in our country but are not be in implemented effectively.

Sir, despite the all out efforts of the Government, 40% children in our country do not go to school. The reason is poverty. Free and compulsory education is beneficial only if it is able to remove their poverty. There are so many hindrances in the field of child education which should be removed. In our society, children from affluent families get good education by spending lots of money, whereas the children of ordinary families are deprived of it. The Primary Schools run by the Government are in very bad shape. Many of these schools are running without teachers and infrastructure. Some schools do not have even chalk, blackboard, mats etc. Untrained teachers are in abundance. The disparity in education prevailing at the moment is giving rise to two different sections in the society. Right to education should include not only the Free and compulsory education but also uniform education.

Sir, when we talk about education for all, it should be clearly understood that it is not like the freebies but it is a matter of right. Imparting middle level education to all will not serve the purpose. Uniformity in the quality of education will prove true to the principles of social justice an democracy. There is a need to pay attention to the recommendations of Kothari Commission regarding common education system. At present, the standard of commercialized education being provided is highly questionable and there is a glaring disparity in the education available to the haves and the have-nots. This is giving rise to unrest in society. When the issue of education for all is raised, emphasis should be laid on quality education and proactive efforts should be made to bring about uniformity in education for all. On the one hand, equal education for all is being talked about and on the other, education is being treated as a profitable business. If quality education for all to be ensured then it is necessary to oppose the privatization of education.

The Kothari Commission and the Radha Krishnan Commission had envisaged the concept of neighbourhood schools as the means of ensuring universal education. If the concept had been implemented in the right spirit, the vast discrepancies that exist in the educational system would not have been there. The concept of neighbourhood schools is that every student who lives within the jurisdiction of a school, be it a poor or a rich student, would study in that school. If you take this concept to mean that if there is no school within one-kilometer range of a neighbourhood then a school should be opened there then this would help in expanding the scope of education, but this is not the concept of neighbourhood school. Neighbourhood means sharing and sharing alike, it means neighbours studying in the same school. Neighbourhood schools were envisaged to check disputes between neighbours, between castes and communities, between the rich and the poor. The Education Minister may study the Kothari Commission report carefully. This concept has been explained in detail therein. I regret to say that even after 60 years we have not been able to implement the important recommendations of the Kothari Commission in the country.

The Knowledge commission has acknowledged in the context of recommendations that merely 60 percent students are able to get higher education. The commission has kept three main targets regarding educational reforms at percent. These targets are expansion, excellence and inclusiveness but the education sector in the country lacks these qualities. The commrssion has talked of educational revolution through improvement in standards. Our present education system tests not the understanding and creative abilities of the students but their ability to memorize. Do we want our future generation to be experts of mugging up or do we wish to have polish and encourage their creativity through education. The Knowledge commission has recorded in its recommendations that it would be totally unfruitful if the education system continues to test the memory of the students instead of their understanding.

*Speech was laid on the Table.

Sir, It is necessary to remember that a number of children face the basic challenge of feeding themselves and their kin right from their childhood. Would education help them in this objective? The mid-day meal scheme would be able to tackle their immediate needs but would education make them able to earn enough to win the fight against hunger? The poor parents send their children to school in the hope that they would be able to rise above their circumstances and would not be forced to remain poor. How many of these poor parents realize their aspirations? Discriminatory and uninteresting education pattern renders a number of children unable to attain a better standard of life and also kills their interest in earning from hard labour. Education should make the poor feel benefited in actual financial terms.

Sir, it seems difficult that the government would be able to implement the Bill after its passage effectively when we see the budget provision for education made by the UPA Government during the current financial year. The Kothari commission had recommended that the Government should spend at least 6 percent of Gross Domestic Product on education, but today, even 62 years after independence we are not in a position to spend 6 percent on education. It seems that the government is half-hearted about implementing this Bill due to which achievement of its objectives seems to be a difficult task. The vision of right to free and compulsory education for all would be realized only when adequate financial and institutional resources are made available and not only the programmes are formulated keeping in mind the ground realities but are also implemented strictly. There are dozens of laws for social reforms and development regarding untouchability, sati, child marriage and abolition of dowry in the country but they are found to be ineffectual whenever any incident occurs. All literacy programmes including the Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan have proved to be failures.

Sir, Himachal Pradesh has achieved great success in the field of primary, middle and higher education. When tested against the national criteria, but proposals for establishment of Kendriya Vidyalayas, IIT, IIM, engineering college and polytechnic in the state have been pending with the government for many years. The base of higher education is primary education. If the base is strong then the targets regarding higher education can be achieved. If the government is serious about providing primary education then it should not delay formulation or the enforcement of a legislation in this regard. Are we ready for this step or is it likely to remain merely an attractive slogan on the election manifesto?

Sir, as per an estimate, after the passing of this bill, an expenditure of Rs. 12 thousand crore is likely to be incurred which would be shared by State Governments and the Central Government together. However, it seems that the State Governments are not in a good financial condition, therefore, even if the Central Government contributes its share, State Governments would not be able to contribute their share. As a result thereof, the provision of bill would not be implemented fully. Therefore, my suggestion is that the Central Government should bear the entire expense of its implementation. A number of states in the country are not only facing the shortage of schools but the existing schools are also facing the shortage of teachers and infrastructure. The Government may succeed to a great extent if the target is only to get the maximum enrollment of children of 6 years of age and to refrain them from dropping out till the age of 14 years, but if the objective is to impart quality education and to develop a constructive approach in the future generation, the existing education system is a total failure. Therefore, in order to attain this objective, we will have to strengthen the structure of our education and to impart quality education. State Governments alone cannot do this. The Central Government has to spend a major part of the resources required for it.

The real challenge before us is about Secondary level education. To strengthen Secondary level education, we will have to double our resources. There is a burden of providing secondary education to 3 crore children. The Government should seriously think about making arrangements to provide secondary level education to these children. Today, 72 thousand posts of teachers are vacant at secondary level, which we have not filled up till today. 2 lakh new teachers are required at all levels from Primary to Higher education. Once all this is done, then only the basic objective of our education would be completed. Secondary schools double in number than the existing ones are required. If such number of secondary schools are opened, then only the children aspiring to get education at this level would be benefited.

I would like that the training programmes for the teachers should be organized from time to time so that they could be apprised of the latest techniques and updates and enabled to educate the students as per the current scenano. Poverty should be removed so that parents of the poor and backward sections are not compelled to withdraw their children from schools to earn their livelihood. We should promote our Mother tongue. Education should be imparted in mother tongue. Mother tongue and National language should be given utmost

importance. Privatization of education should be discouraged. High-level training should be imparted to teachers to maintain quality in education and they should also be apprised of modern techniques of education from time to time. Sports teachers, trainers and equipments should essentially be provided in schools so that alongwith their studies, the students could be physically strong and healthy and could contribute towards nation building in true sense.

With these words, while thanking you, I would like to request the hon'ble Minister to consider my suggestions seriously and make provision accordingly in the bill so that the intent of the bill could be fulfilled and it could be implemented uniformly across the country.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Those hon. Members who want to lay their speeches can do so now.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the outset, I would like to thank Mr. Kirti Azad who initiated this debate in this House and all hon. Members who have participated in the discussion on a Bill which, I think, is going to set the course of quality education to serve the future cause of India.

Some hon. Members mentioned that we are in a tearing hurry and some more thought should be given to various provisions of the Bill as if this is something that we moved overnight. As I mentioned in my opening statement, it is in 1993 that the Supreme Court rendered a decision declaring that children of our country between the age of 6 to 14 have a fundamental right to free and compulsory education.

[Translation]

In the year 1937, Gandhiji was the First person who talked about universal elementary education. Since 1937 till 2009, we have been trying to bring a legislation by which we could educate our children and the country could progress. It is unfortunate that even after lapse of such a long time, hon'ble members are saying that the UPA Government is making a hurry in this regard. I fear that hon'ble members should be of the view that such a task should have been done about 16 years ago. Some hon'ble members have said so. It is not that we have not considered the bill thoroughly. In the year 2005, the then Minister Shri Arjun Singh ji constituted a CAB committee. I was the Chairman of this Committee and the bill was drafted under my Chairmanship. Four years have lapsed after that. Meanwhile a number of drafts were prepared in this regard. Azad Sahab had raised a point that all the burden has been shifted on to the State Governments. At that time also a suggestion had been made that the onus of universalisation of elementary education should be put upon the states. But the states did not agree to this suggestion and we had to revert to the draft of 2005. What I mean to say is that after independence, elementary education was a state subject.

[English]

It is only in 1976 through the 42nd Constitution Amendment which came into force on the 3rd of January, 1977 that it was brought in the Concurrent List. But there was no forward movement on universalisation of elementary education right from 1947 to 1977. Even after that, the movement was exceptionally slow and even when it was brought in the Concurrent List, the primary objective of bringing it in the Concurrent List was to ensure standards, to ensure quality and not to interfere in the processes of the State Governments to provide elementary education to the children of India. That is why, in my opening address, I did not raise any contentious issues because

[Translation]

We are not here to accuse the states of inaction. This is not our intention. We have not said this and neither do we wish to say this. I said at the beginning that this is a partnership and we have to move forward with this partnership. There should be no politics in this matter. Only the future of the country should be our concern and nothing else.

Secondly, I wish to say that this is not an easy thing. If you say that this can be done in a day then it is not correct. If I say that everything will be fine because the Bill has been passed then it is not correct. We need your support because the basic duty of providing education is of the locality where the child lives. Hence, when you talk of neighbourhood schools and say that the concept has not been defined, I think that it is good that it has not been confined within the scope of a definition. Because, this is within the ambit of the states, the localities, the panchayats and the local authorities to decide where schools should be or where neighbourhood schools should be.....

[English]

If we start imposing a definition on State Governments, the State Governments will be first to tell us what do you know about the circumstances in our locality; how can you decide upon as to where the school should be located. So, advisedly we are leaving it to the State Governments to set out rules, to formulate rules and to decide on the areas where these neighbourhood schools should be located.

Now remember, there are four kinds of schools in this country. One, are schools owned by the Government; two, are schools which are aided by the Government; three, are schools that are specialised schools, like Kendriya Vidyalayas, Navodaya Vidyalayas, Sainik Schools, etc.; and four, are schools which are private schools, but unaided.

This Bill seeks to have a uniform standard of education in all these categories. That is what we are trying to do.

[Translation]

Many hon. Members have said that we have not talked about the quality of education or the content in the Bill.

[English]

But this Act does not deal with content. It is not meant to deal with content.

What is this Bill about? It talks about the right of children to free and compulsory education. Free for the children and compulsory for the State. This Bill only provides the circumstances and the right of the child in which he or she is going to get free education and the obligations of the State to provide free education to the child. This Bill does not go beyond that, nor is it meant to go beyond that.

The content of education is to be decided in terms of section relating to an academic authority. I will just read you the provisions of Section 7. It says and I am reading Section 7, sub-clause 6:

"The Central Government shall–

(a) develop a framework of national curriculum with the help of academic authority specified under section 29;

(b) develop and enforce standards for training of teachers;

(c) provide technical support and resources to the State Government for promoting innovation, researches, planning and capacity building."

This Bill is not talking about what you are going to teach because that is going to be decided in terms of the national curriculum framework so that we bring about a uniformity of quality of education in this country.

[Translation]

The hon. Members who have said that the matter cannot have forward till uniformility is introduced to them I would like to say that,

[English

This is precisely what we are trying to do. An hon. Member mentioned as to what are the objects of the kind of education that they are going to provide.

Those objects are also mentioned in Clause 29 (2). The academic authority I referred to in Clause 7. Clause 29 (2) states:

"The academic authority, while laying"down the curriculum and the evaluation procedure under sub-section *(1)*, shall take into consideration the following, namely:—

(a) conformity with the values enshrined in the Constitution;

(b) all round development of the child;

(c) building up child's knowledge, potentiality and talent;

(d) development of physical and mental abilities to the fullest extent;

(e) learning through activities, discovery and exploration in a child friendly and child-centered manner;

(f) medium of instructions shall, as far as practicable, be in child's mother tongue;

(g) making the child free of fear, trauma and anxiety and helping the child to express views freely; "

Clause 30 says that no child shall be required to pass any Board examination till completion of elementary education.

[Translation]

The fear of sitting for board examinations in class Vth and VIIIth

[English]

this is not good for the child.

[Translation]

[Translation]

All these things will be decided by the academic authority. The Bill is not concerned with these matters. This pertains to the content of education regarding which the Bill has no provisions. The Bill only says that providing free education to children is our duty and the fundamental right of children and making this education compulsory is the duty of the government. There are ten points in this Bill, which are historic, which have never occurred in the 62-year-old history of the country. I would like to mention those ten things. The first point which I have already mentioned is free education. Secondly, I have mentioned compulsory education. Third is the nature of curriculum, which I have talked of in section-29. Fourth point is quality education. How is quality education to be provided?

[English]

We have, for the first time, in this Bill, set out minimum physical infrastructure requirements in the Schedule of this Bill. If there is a private school in this country that does not meet those requirements, then in the course of the next three years, that private school, wherever it is located in India, must meet those requirements. If it does not, it shall not be able to carry on education in any part of the country.

To bring about uniformity of standards, that is absolutely necessary. We have provided for pupil, teacher ratios which have never been provided for earlier. We have provided for that in the Schedule itself. The nature of the facilities that must be provided to the child like playgrounds, teaching-learning equipment, library facilities, minimum number of working hours per week for teacher, all that is provided for. Every school in India, wherever it is located, must conform to these standards in the next three years. We have requested the State Governments to set up a Recognition Authority immediately once the Bill is passed which will recognise those schools. If in three years, those schools do not conform to the minimum standards given here, they will be de-recognised. This is the first time that a leap forward is being taken to bring about an element of uniformity and quality in the school education system of this country. That was the fourth point....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him answer.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: I will answer each question that the hon. Members have raised.

The fifth point is quality teachers. We find that we have schools where there are no teachers; or where there are teachers, they are not qualified. Since you raised the issue, West Bengal is a wonderful example. Recruitment of teachers takes place to teach children who have passed only class 10th.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Not at all. It is not a fact. What you are saying is not based on facts....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Anyway, if it is not so, it is fine. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: The point that I am making is we must ensure that those who teach our children must have minimum qualifications. What does this law provide? It says that, all right, if teachers do not have the minimum qualifications, we will give them five years. If in five years, they do not obtain those qualifications, they will not be entitled to teach.

We have also provided that any new appointment that is to take place, must meet the minimum requirements that have to be set by the Academic Committee. So, what are we trying to do? We are trying to bring about uniformity in the quality of teaching in this country, which has never been done in the history of this country.

The point number six is in the context of social responsibility. That is where I come to the issue of reservation. What is the social responsibility of civil

society? It is the Government's responsibility to ensure universalisation of elementary education. But the fact of the matter is that — no matter what we do, no matter how much of finance we have – it is very difficult to implement that on the ground. We need to take the support of all stakeholders in the system including the private sector. But the private sector cannot run amok; nor we will allow it run amok. The private sector must understand that imparting education is an enterprise, which must conform to the values, we wish to inculcate in our children. Therefore, we have provided in this legislation that every private school in this country must reserve 25 per cent of the seats for the disadvantaged. Now, it is for the State Government to decide which that disadvantaged group is. Mr. Owaisi talked about it. There are several groups in several communities, who are disadvantaged; who never get access to education; and we are leaving it to the State Governments to define those disadvantaged groups because we do not want to do it for the State Governments. It is the primary responsibility of the State Governments.

Therefore, if you look at the definition of disadvantaged groups, this is what we say: "'Child belonging to disadvantaged group" means a child belonging to the Scheduled Caste, the Scheduled Tribe, the socially and educationally backward class or such other groups having disadvantage owing to social, cultural, economical, geographical, linguistic, gender or such other factor, as may be specified by the appropriate Government, by notification." I am reading Clause 2(e), which says: "'Child belonging to weaker section" means a child belonging to such parent or guardian, whose annual income is lower than the minimum limit specified by"the appropriate Government, by notification." The appropriate Government here means the State Government.

So, the State Government is given a free hand because the State Government knows best the needs of the locality where the school is located, knows best the needs of the neighbourhood where the school is located and which are the disadvantaged groups around that neighbourhood, which require inclusive education to be embraced.

18.48 hrs.

[Shri P.C. Chacko *in the Chair*]

So, many of those categories will be included, which will help social integration and will help the cause of national integration as well. This is, indeed, a historic step. I just want to mention one other fact, if you do not mind. I want to mention one other fact...*(Interruptions)* In defining the child belonging to a disadvantaged group, when we frame model rules, we will ensure that all children suffering from whatever disabilities – and we will set it out in the model rules – must be part of the disadvantaged groups.

The States must realize that within the State, there will be several children who are differently able, and because they are differently able, they are disadvantaged. Therefore, they must be included, and the model rules will provide for that. That is a compulsion on the State Governments; they must do it because such children are also entitled to education as a right. All differently able groups are entitled to education as of right. It is the obligation of the State to provide them. I just wanted to make that clear so that the States know that all kinds of disadvantaged people must be included as per The Right Of Children To Free And Compulsory Education Bill, 2009...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA (Rampur): Sir, have would the disabled children be able to get admission in normal schools? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: I am telling you about that its.

[English]

Since you raised that issue, the next point I wanted to deal with is that this is the first time in the history of this country that we are integrating disabled children into the school system.

I will refer to you the provision of the Bill which talks of that. It is the proviso to Section 3(2). Section 3(2) says, "For the purpose of sub-section (l), no child shall be liable to pay any kind of fee or charges or expenses which may prevent him or her from pursuing and completing the elementary education:

Provided that a child suffering from disability, as defined in clause 2 (i) of section 2 of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection and Full Participation) Act, 1996, shall have the right to pursue free and compulsory elementary education in accordance with the provisions of Chapter V of the Act."

Now Chapter V of the Act talks of what you just raised. Chapter V of the Act says, what are the obligations of the Government under this Act, which is now a right. These are "(a) Ensure that every child with a disability has access to free education in an appropriate environment till he attains the age of 18." This Bill gives him the right till the age of 14. "(b) Endeavour to promote integration of students with disabilities in normal school." These are all normal schools. They will be integrated. "(c) Promote setting up of special schools in Government." This is what you were talking about. "Promote setting up of special schools in Government and private sector for those in need of special education in such a manner that children with disabilities living in any part of the country have access to such schools." This is an obligation under this Act, and we will make sure that obligation is discharged by the State Government and by us.

And last, "Endeavour to equip the special schools for children with disabilities with vocational training facilities as well." Chapter V is incorporated in the proviso to Section (c).

The next point I wanted to state was that law has taken care of differently abled children and integrated them in the school system. I want to add one other fact that Disabilities Act is in the process of being amended. The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection and Full Participation) Act, 1996 is in the process of being amended. There are some disabilities which do not find mention in this Bill which ought to find mention. For example, autism. So, the moment this Act is amended, automatically under 2(i) all those persons, differently abled suffering from disabilities, will get the benefit of Section 3 (2) proviso. So, we intend, as a Government because we are committed, to provide for the disabled, facilities to ensure that they too have a right to lead a full life to the extent that it is possible. That is the commitment of this Government to the nation.

The next point I wanted to make is that we have tried to de-bureaucratize the school system.

[Translation]

Earlier what happened was that on getting a transfer, one want to the headmaster and asked him to issue a school leaving certificate but the master refused to do so? Then admission to any other school became impossible without that certificate. I have finished that system. Now a school cannot refuse admission on the basis of non-production of that certificate. The child has to be given admission. I have also tried to de-bureaucratize the system through this Bill. I have removed the obstacles in transferring children from one school to the other. That is why this is a historic step. The eighth main provision in this Bill is.

[English]

the recognition of the fact that there is an issue of child labour, and several hon. Members have raised that issue. It is true. A lot of our children from Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and some other parts of the country are taken by exploiting businessmen to several parts of the country and are exploiting them.

So, we need to deal with that issue. A lot of those children are out of the school system. How do we deal with that issue? Now, because of this Act, and there is a reference to the issue of child labour, the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights – this is under Section 31 – will deal with this issue. If somebody goes with a petition there to the National Commission – and where there are no State Commissions, the State Commissions will be set up – saying this is what the children are being put to, it is then the obligation of the Commission to find ways and means to bring them into the school system.

Now, we need your help. We need the help of the State Governments; we need the help of NGOs; and we need the help of civil society to make this happen. This is not something that can be done by the Central Government alone. But what we are trying to do is take a positive step forward to ensure that those children who are subjected to chid labour also get into the school system.

There was a report by Prof. Amartya Sen and Prof. Jean Dreze which talked about child labour and education. They said most of the children who are child labour are there because they do not have a school to go to. Most of them want to go to school. A lot of the poor want their children to go to school. But there are no schools. Where there are schools, they are so overcrowded, they are in one room. Some of these private schools do not have any facilities. So, parents get frustrated and say – okay, if you cannot even go to school and learn anything, you might as well–earn something. What we need to do is to improve the quality of the schools, give them that hope, give them access, allow them to be integrated into the system. Therefore,

I am sure that with the help of civil society and the State Governments and the NGOs we will be able to bring some of these children back into the school system.

Then the tenth issue is the participation of civil society and this is an aspect of school administration. For the first time again, we have empowered the School Management Committee which is going to actually formulate the development plan for the school. That development plan will be sent to the State Government and then to us as to how you want to develop the school for the future. Fifty per cent of the people in that Management Committee will be women and no development plan can move forward unless the Management Committee approves it. So, we are ensuring that civil society is part of the management of the school system in this country – again not something that has ever been tried before.

These are revolutionary steps. These steps have been taken not overnight but through thought processes, through interactions with stakeholders and society to ensure that at least we make a beginning in partnership, with States as our partners and to move forward in that direction so that we increase the gross enrolment ratio. It is something that I started with. Out of every 100 children that go to school, only 12 reach graduation. A nation cannot move forward with those kind of numbers. In Sub-Saharan Africa it is at six, in Europe it is between 50 and 70. The global average is 27. We need to increase this gross enrolment ratio and the only way to increase it is to ensure universalisation of elementary education. We hope to have this raise to 15 by 2012 and I hope that by the time we reach the year 2020 this ratio will go up to anywhere between 30 and 35. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY (Kokrajhar): What is your plan for Bodoland? *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: The point that I am making is this. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: The point that I am making is that this is a national enterprise. Please do not perceive this as just a piece of legislation. This is a national enterprise of which all of us sitting here, all State Governments, all stakeholders in civil society are an integral part. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY: What would be the government's appropriate policy approach towards Bodo medium education? *...(Interruptions)* What about Bodo medium students? *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: As far as the medium of education is concerned, there is a provision in this Bill that in elementary schools, as far as possible, children shall be taught in their mother tongue. *...(Interruptions)* It is there.

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY: It is true. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Please do not interfere.

19.00 hrs.

Now, Sir, I come to the issue of finance. As far as finance is concerned, I just want to mention that NUEPA, which is a national university, is already on the job of preparing updated estimates of funds required for implementing the provisions of the Bill. Once the Bill is enacted, we will make a demand for additional resources in RE 2009-10. We have already presented our fund requirements before the 13th Finance Commission calculated on the basis of PTR norms of the Right to Education Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Minister, please take your seat for a minute.

Hon. Members, the House is to be extended as we have to pass this Bill and also take few matters of urgent public importance. So, if the Members agree, we may extend the House till these things are over.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, clause 7 of the Bill says that these estimates are now being made. Once the estimates are made, then what we will do is that we will decide upon the share between the Central Government and the State Government. As you know, under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, the share is 65:35. Now we will decide upon the share of the Central Government and convey those decisions to various State Governments. If we feel that a State Government is not

in a position to meet this expenditure, there is a provision in the Bill. If you look at the balance-sheets of the State Governments today, they are fairly flushed with funds. But if we feel that any State Government would find it difficult to meet the expenditure, then we have a provision in this very Bill to refer that matter to the Finance Commission. Once the matter is referred to the Finance Commission, it will take a decision. The Finance Commission whose term extends till November – we want to do this very quickly— will give its decision before that. So, whichever States are not in a position to raise those finances, they will be having an avenue possible for a solution through the Finance Commission. This is all set out in clause 7 itself. So, finance is not a problem.

As I said, this is a national enterprise. We are not going to be bogged down because of lack of finances. This is despite the fact that the primary responsibility for the elementary education is of the State Government. But yet, this is a national enterprise and this has nothing to do with the State Government or the Central Government. We, as a nation, cannot afford our children not to go to school. It is as simple as that. Now, I come to the issue of minorities. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.K. BIJU (Alathur): The estimates are there in the case of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan also. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not interrupt. Please take your seat. I will allow some questions after the reply is over. So, please do not interrupt.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, with your permission, I would like to submit that there have been several calculations made on the basis of different parameters. Supposing you were to build each school on the basis of a Kendriya Vidyalaya, the estimates are different. So, there are several estimates in that regard. The latest estimate is on the basis of the physical infrastructure, as set out in the Schedule. Those estimates are already being prepared and they will be placed before the Commission. We will then decide how much the State should give and what the Central Government will contribute. So, do not quote estimates which have been made since 2005 because several estimates have been made on different parameters and I do not want to go into that.

The question is that this nation cannot say 'no' to school children for going to school because there is insufficient money. That is the question. Therefore, the State should, in fact, tell us that they will cooperate with us fully. What I am hearing is 'where are we going to get money from?' Every time in this debate, the question has been put to me 'what will you do?'. You have never asked the question 'what will we do?' You have never asked that question. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: No interruption please. Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let the Minister complete his reply. Please take your seat. You can ask questions later.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: This will not go on record. Please take your seat. Nothing will go on record except what the Minister says.

*(Interruptions)...**

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, children in this country wherever they are, whether in the North-East, Punjab or Kerala, are entitled to education. Do not talk in terms of 'you' and me'. It is 'us'.

Therefore, what you should be telling me is how we should cooperate together, which is what I started with. This is what I said in my opening statement. This is not something that involves politics.

Now, the last issue is with regard to the issue of minorities. *...(Interruptions)*

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME (Bolpur): His own responsibility vests on *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Dome, will you please sit down?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY: What about tribal education and particularly Bodo medium education? *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL As far as minority educational institutions are concerned, I might just mention this. The Delhi Government passed a Bill in terms of which 15 per cent reservation was provided in private schools, and all minority institutions are complying with that. The

*Not recorded.

constitutionality of that was challenged in the Delhi High Court, and the Delhi High Court has upheld the law of the Delhi Government. Now, under the law laid down by the Supreme Court, 50 per cent of every minority institution *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI (Hyderabad): No, the Inamdar judgement is very clear. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: One second, let me answer. The minority institutions are entitled to induct up to 50 per cent of children of their own community. But I am sure the minority institutions also want to serve the disadvantaged sections of the community. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: We are the most disadvantaged. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Yes, therefore, serve yourself. *...(Interruptions)* Amongst you, the disadvantaged, please serve them. Please serve your disadvantaged people. Who stops you? *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (Kasargod): Sir, I fully agree with you. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: No interruptions, please.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: I am not saying that you are dis-entitled. *...(Interruptions)* Please serve your disadvantaged people. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Karunakaran, please do not interrupt the hon. Minister. You can ask clarificatory questions after the hon. Minister's speech. Please do not interrupt him.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Please serve your disadvantaged people. *...(Interruptions)* We will welcome it. In fact, we, in the Central Government, are setting out schemes for the minority community, wherein we are setting up special schools for backward communities and areas where there are substantial members of minority communities. *...(Interruptions)* This is yet another scheme. We have Kendriya Vidyalayas; we have Navodaya Vidyalayas; we have adult education; *...(Interruptions)* we have special schools; we have model schools; and we have Kasturba Gandhi Vidyalayas. What are all these for? It is for integrating every community in the school system, so that every community gets quality education in this country. Minorities are as important to us as the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes, and the backward community. They are all important to us, and we want to *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY: You are answerable to the Bodo medium education. *...(Interruptions)* Sir, it is an important question. *...(Interruptions)* The Bodo medium education is now dying. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Bwiswmuthiary, you have made your point. Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY: Sir, it is the life and death a question of the entire Bodo people. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, you are not allowed.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: What you are saying is not going on record. Please take your seat.

*(Interruptions)...**

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister may please address the Chair.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, as this is a historic Bill and this is a historic opportunity, I want to set out here as to what are the obligations of the Central Government in this Bill so that it remains on the record of this House, and what are the obligations of the State Governments so that nobody has any doubt as to what all of 'us' are required to do. *...(Interruptions)*

Our obligations include: to prepare estimates of capital and recurring expenditure, our obligation; determine the percentage of expenditure to be provided to States, our obligation; Finance Commission to examine the need for additional resources, our obligation; notify the 86th Constitutional Amendment in the gazette, our obligation; *...(Interruptions)* and harmonize SSA norms with the Right to Education Bill, our obligation. *...(Interruptions)*

*Not recorded.

Now, as regards the obligations of the States, which includes to initiating action under delegated legislation; review existing State legislations on compulsory education and legislations on organizing and management of private schools; ensure access to all children in neighbourhood as prescribed.

The obligation of the States:

- Notify plan for automatic progression from primary to upper primary designate schools and feeder schools;
- Ensure all schools conform to norms and standards prescribed in the Schedule;
- Review content and curriculum in line with Section 29;
- Undertake redeployment of teachers to ensure prescribed PTR (Pupil-Teacher Ratio) is maintained in all schools;
- Ensure untrained teachers are not appointed in future;
- Existing untrained teachers to receive training;
- Notify that teacher shall not be deployed for non-academic work as provided in the Right to Education.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: What is the time period?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Five years. The other obligations of the States are:

- Notify that teacher shall not give private tuitions;
- Notify 'No Detention' policy. We do not want any child to be detained. It is high right to be educated;
- Notify no Board exams till completion of elementary education. That you have to do;
- No Board five, no Board eight;
- Notify 'No Expulsion' policy. We do not want any child to be expelled from school because it is his right to be educated;
- Ban on corporal punishment. This is all you have to do;
- Set up SMCs;
- Enforce management and supervision of schools with community support;
- Notify all panchayats, municipalities as local authorities;
- Constitute authority to perform functions under clause 31 (1);
- Ascertain which schools are under obligation to provide free seats for land;
- Prescribes manner in which per child expenditure would be reimbursed to other schools; and
- Prescribe mechanism for private schools to obtain certificate of recognition.

These are our respective obligations, and we need to discharge them. Sir, I am reminded of the words of Chaglaji, who was once the Education Minister of our country. He said:

> "Our Constitution fathers did not intend that we just set up hubbles, put students there, give untrained teachers, give them back text-books, no playground, and say we have complied with our obligations. They meant that real education should be given to our children between the age of six and 14."

This is a historic step. I thank Soniaji, I thank the Prime Minister; they have been the inspiration for this historic step. They have been the source of strength for the Congress Party for this historic step. They will be remembered when the history of this country will be written 50 years later as harbingers of a new era where all children of our country will be proud, will stand up, march forward with their heads held high to meet the challenges of the Twenty-first Century. Thank you very much.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will allow a few questions; one Member from one party can seek a clarificatory question and should not make any statement.

SHRI KIRTI AZAD (Darbhanga): With your permission, I would like to say that there were quite a few points that I had mentioned when I had made my speech on Friday, and a lot of those points have not been really clarified. Obviously, the hon. Minister is a great lawyer.

[Translation]

He is matchless in playing with words and has cornered almost all and I am no expection to it.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please put the question; please come to the question.

[Translation]

SHRI KIRTI AZAD: Sir, I am asking a question. Whatever doubt I had in my mind that has turned into a kind of suspense.

[English]

The doubt has turned into a kind of suspense. Neighbourhood schools, I do understand that education is very important.

[Translation]

I had

I had said on the other day that education was essential. You and I have passed out from St. Stephens College. You want to provide education to the people. You have referred to neighbourhood schools. I would like to submit with due respect that your constituency is a city, but in case of those constituencies consisting of villages and rural areas all of us, be from the ruling side or from the opposition ride, know that our politics is driven by local issues. As now-a-days we see that the Mukhiyas are influenced by local concerns III implementation of the schemes like Indira Awas Yojana in panchayats. In such a scenario if you give all the responsibilities to the State Government and local authority for setting up the schools, it will not be fair.

Sir, I regret to say that even today our society has caste-based differences. In such cases one will try to set up schools at such locations, which will be politically important, and others will remain deprived of education. At the same time I had asked for a clarification whether we have not made anyone accountable. You have given responsibilities to the state government and the local authority.

[English]

You have said that the local authorities and the State Government concerned are responsible to see that the children go to school. But approximately 68 per cent of the parents earn only Rs. 20 a day.

[Translation]

In such a scenario, instead of sending their children to school such parents have no option but to send them to work. Now if any of the parents, do not send their children to school, who will be responsible for it? If any person smokes at a public place, he is fined. If anyone crosses the red light, he is fined. In such case if the parents migrate to another place for work and state government or the local authority do not ensure that the children go to school, who will be accountable? There is no provision for the orphans, rag pickers or beggars in this Bill. What will be their fate? Those parents who do not send their children to schools ...*(Interruptions).* I am asking a question ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: How many questions are you asking? Why do you not make it one question? Otherwise, you will not get the answers.

SHRI KIRTI AZAD: It is only one question with five to six parts. I very much want this. These are certain doubts in the minds, which obviously after your lovely speech, has turned into a kind of a big suspense.

[Translation]

I had talked about vocational studies. Whether you lay down the curriculum or not but it would have been better if you had paid something on this issue to enlighter is in this regard. Now-a-days there are so many problems relating to etiquette, like civic awareness, environment ...*(Interruptions)* Whether such education will be provided to them. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are converting it into a discussion. I have permitted you for a clarificatory question. If you want to put a question, you put a question; otherwise, I will call the next Member.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KIRTI AZAD: If the hon. Minister is not going to answer it, I will sit down. If you want to pass it just like a blank cheque in the Parliament, then kindly do it. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is not the point. You please understand the rules of the House.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KIRTI AZAD: It is basically the future of the children. That is what I am talking about. *...(Interruptions)* Whatever questions I am asking, it is in their interest. I am not against the Government on this. But when there are certain clarifications that I want to ask and you do not want me to ask, then thank you very much. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is exactly what I wanted you to do.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRTI AZAD: Thank you very much.

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY (Dhenkanal): When I talked, I said that conceptually this was a weak Bill. My point was, what happens till the age of six, till the pre-school stage? Supposing, they are taken up under this Bill in class eight, then what happens? We talk about this 25 per cent reservation. Then what do we do? Do we drop those children into abyss? Do we drop them into total darkness? Or, is there any scope where they can get into the mainstream? Who will take them into the mainstream? They have been educated as free students.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please put the question.

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: I am not giving any lecture. I am just asking a very pointed question. The question is, what happens up to age six? What is the system for pre-school? And after 14 years or let us assume after class 8, what happens? Do we drop the kids into abyss, into complete darkness? Or is there some way by which they can progress ahead in life? If you take the 25 per cent reservation, if you take them as free students, they will be treated differently by the teachers and by their co-students. Those students, who are paying to be educated in those schools, will treat these students differently. There will be a psychological difference. How do you propose to handle that? This will be a genuine problem.

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: He has said about the age group of 6 to 14 years in this Bill. My point is about the private schools where the partnership agreement is going to happen. There is always a difference in the category between the private school and the Government school. In the private school, a child will be admitted around the age of three and he will learn everything from that time onwards. In the Government school, a child will join at the age of six. There is already a backlog of education.

Provision for shifting of 25 per cent of students to better schools has been made. When a student moves to a private school from a Government school, how will he be able to cope up with the pressure of education in those schools given the difference in standards of education? I say this because nowadays private schools start teaching children computers and English from the Class V onwards. I would like the hon. Minister to clarify this point.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Sir, when the hon. Minister was the Minister of Science and Technology in the Fourteenth Lok Sabha, a Bill was brought to the august House exempting minorities from unaided professional colleges. Why was that done? He is contradicting his own Government's stand here. He is aiming to target the Christian missionary schools, which is fine. But this is a fundamental right. For God's sake do not dilute it! The Inamdar judgment is very clear.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That point is made already.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: I want to seek a clarification. Is the hon. Minister contradicting the hon. Supreme Court's Inamdar judgment?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do not go into that. The point is made.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Let me complete, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have already made the point, Owaisi.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: If you allow me to complete, I will. If not, I will sit down.

Is he going to have better coordination with ICDS? The main issue here is on the ICDS, the early girl child thing, there has to be coordination between his Ministry and the other Ministry so that this target of 'from 6 years to 14 years' can continue.

SHRI M.B. RAJESH (Palakkad): The Minister is promising that there will be sufficient funds to implement this legislation. But our experience has been that even after 41 years, the target of spending six per cent of GDP on education has not been achieved. During the term of the first UPA Government, it was only 2.84 per cent of GDP that was spent on education. The Minister has not come out with a concrete answer as to what the financial burden will be and how it will be shared between the Centre and the States.

[Translation]

SHRI DATTA MEGHE (Wardha): I would like to ask, through you, whether high standard private schools are also ready to cooperate. Whether those schools are likely to have any problem due to this Bill?

[English]

SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH (Hamirpur): The hon. Minister defines elementary education in Clause 2(f). Then he states in Clause 3 that every child of the age of six to fourteen years shall have a right to free education. Nowadays, even in the villages, education starts from the age of four years with nursery and pre-nursery. I would like to associate myself with the point made by Jayapradaji here. If 25 per cent of the children are transferred to a better school, how will they be compatible to the other children? A child who starts his education at six years from Class I, might suffer from inferiority complex when he is put together with a child who starts his education at four years of age from nursery or pre-nursery.

The Minister defines in Clause 10 that it shall be the duty of every parent or guardian to admit their child into the elementary school. The duty is defined. But, what will happen if the children are not sent to schools? There should be some consequences. Please look into this.

[Translation]

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY: Sir, I would like to tell hon. Minister of Human Resource Development that at least two thousand Bodo medium Primary, Upper primary and High schools have not been provincialised by the State Government in Assam. Twenty years have passed. All the teachers working in those schools do not get a single rupee as salary. Today Bodo medium education is dying. Bodo language has been listen in the Eighth Schedule in the year 2003. Assam Government has not provincialised those schools for want of funds. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are repeating what you have said earlier. Please take your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY: I would like to know about the Central Government's policy in this regard?

[English]

What is the political medicine of the Government of India for the 'moribund' Bodo medium education?

DR. SANJAY JAISWAL (Paschim Champaran): Hon. Minister is really sincere in his efforts. He should link the Central finances with the *per capita* income of the States. What has the Finance Minister done now? He has given special help to Maharashtra. The poor State of Maharashtra has got special help from the Budget! So, I suggest that the amount of finance given by the Centre should be linked with the per capita income of the State.

[Translation]

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the first point is that some hon. members have asked as to what will be the consequences in case the children do not go to schools and their parents also do not send them to school. It has been discussed for the last several years. Should we punish those parents? If the parents are poor and they do not send their children to school, should we put those parents in jail? We cannot make such provision so as to make the children orphan by punishing and putting their parents in jail. I think that after a lot of discussion it was decided that any legislation to punish the parents should not be brought.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the second point is related to neighbourhood schools. I think that it would not be proper for the Central Government to decide those locations where schools are to be set up in the states. It has been decided by every State Government in coordination with the concerned local authority. I do not think there is any need to make any such interfering provision in regard to neighbourhood schools so far as elementary education is concerned.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, some hon. Members have asked as to where the children aged upto 3 years or 3 to 6 years would get education. There are two provisions in this regard. Section-II of this Act says:

[English]

> "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."

It is already there. Why have we put it there? It is because this particular law is in the context of article 21 (A) of the Constitution. The 86th Constitution Amendment said that we must bring in a law to provide free and compulsory education for children between the age of 6-14. Naturally, the law that is to be enacted should be with reference to the age of 6.14. But where the State Governments want that pre-school education should be given, they should provide for it. We have set it out in section 11.

As far as the other issue about what will happen if there are private schools and providing education there itself, is concerned, then the proviso to section 12 covers that. It says:

> "Provided further that where a school specified in clause (n) of section 2 – which is the private schools – imparts pre-school education, the provisions of clauses (a) to (c) shall apply for admission to such pre-school education."

[Translation]

This is also very clear in the bill. As far as the issue of minority institutions is concerned,

[English]

and once the law is declared by the Supreme Court, nobody can change it. We are not changing the law. I want to make it clear in the House. *...(Interruptions)* We are not changing the law. We believe that this particular Bill is consistent with article 30 of the Constitution. That is our position. *...(Interruptions)* This is what I believe it is. I hope I have tried to allay all the fears of the hon. Members. *...(Interruptions)* Bodoland issue is *sui generis;* I can never – even if I try – please him.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

> "That the Bill to provide for free and compulsory education to all children of the age of six to fourteen years, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

Clause 2

Definitions

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : I beg to move:

Page 2, line 35,—

a*fter* 'recognized school"

insert "including primary and upper-primary school" (2)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I put the amendment no.2, moved by Shri Basu Deb Acharia to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri P. T. Thomas, are you moving your amendment?

SHRI P.T. THOMAS (Idukki): No, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 3

Right of child to free and compulsory education

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I beg to move:

Page 3, line 10,-

for "six to fourteen years"

substitute "five plus to thirteen plus years". (3)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put amendment No. 3 moved by Shri Basu Deb Acharia to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 3 was added to the Bill.

Clause 4

Special provisions for children not admitted to, or who have not completed elementary education

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I beg to move:

Page 3, line 19,-

for "six years of age"

substitute "five plus years of age". (4)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put amendment No.4 moved by Shri Basu Deb Acharia to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 4 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 4 was added to the Bill.

Clause 5 was added to the Bill.

Clause 6

Duty of appropriate Government and local authority to establish schools

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): I beg to move:

Page 3, line 46,-

after "where it is not so established"

insert "in accordance with the criteria laid down in sub- clause (i) and (ii) of clause (n) of section 2". (5)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put amendment No.6 moved by Shri Basu Deb Acharia to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 6 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 6 was added to the Bill.

Clause 7

Sharing of financial and other responsibilities

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I beg to move:

Page 4, *after* line 7,-

insert "Provided that the annual contribution of the State Government after the commencement of this Act shall not be less than its highest expenditure on elementary education in the last five years.". (6)

Page 4, *omit* lines 8 to 16. (7)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put amendment Nos.6 and 7 moved by Shri Basu Deb Acharia to the vote of the House.

The amendments were put and negatived.

SHRI M.B. RAJESH (Palakkad): I beg to move:

Page 4, line 3, -

after "The Central Government"

insert "and the State Governments". (24)

Page 4, lines 6 and 7,-

for "such percentage of expenditure referred to in sub-section (2) as it may determine, from time to time, in consultation with the State Governments"

substitute "at least seventy five per cent of the expenditure referred to in sub-section (2)". (25)

Page 4, line 8,-

for "may"

substitute "shall". (26)

Page 4, *omit* lines 13 to 16. (27)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put amendment Nos. 24 to 27 moved by Shri M.B. Rajesh to the vote of the House.

The amendments were put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 7 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 7 was added to the Bill.

Clause 8

Duties of appropriate Government

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, it is a very simple amendment and the Minister can accept this amendment. I beg to move:

Page 4, *for* lines 33 and 34,-

substitute "(i) provide free elementary quality education to every child of the age of five plus to thirteen plus and also supply free text books, copies, learning aids, uniform and mid day meals; and". (8)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put amendment No.8 moved by Shri Basu Deb Acharia to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put and negatived.

SHRI M.B. RAJESH: I beg to move:

Page 4, line 34,-

after "fourteen years"

insert "and also supply free text books, copies, learning aids, uniforms, mid day meal and the like". (28)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put amendment No. 28 moved by Shri M.B. Rajesh to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 8 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 8 was added to the Bill.

Clause 9 was added to the Bill.

Clause 10

Duty of parents and guardian

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I beg to move:

Page 5, line 31,-

for "10."

substitute "10.(1)". (9)

Page 5, *after* line 33,-

insert "(2) It shall also be the duty of the appropriate Government and local bodies to sensitize the parent or guardian to that effect.". (10)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put amendment Nos. 9 and 10 moved by Shri Basu Deb Acharia to the vote of the House.

The amendments were put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 10 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 10 was added to the Bill.

Clause 11

Appropriate Government to provide for pre-school education

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I beg to move:

Page 5, lines 36 and 37,-

for "complete the age of six years, the appropriate government may make necessary arrangement"

substitute "complete the age of five plus, the appropriate government shall make necessary arrangement, including the expansion of anganwadis,". (11)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put amendment No. 11 moved by Shri Basu Deb Acharia to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put and negatived.

SHRI M.B. RAJESH: Sir, I beg to move:

Page 5, line 36,—

for "may"

substitute "shall" (29)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, I shall put amendment No. 29 moved by Shri M.B. Rajesh to the vote.

The amendment was put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 11 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 11 was added to the Bill.

Clause 12

Extent of school's responsibility for free and compulsory education

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, I beg to move:

Page 5, line 48,—

for "twenty-five per cent."

substitute "at least thirty-five per cent *i.e.* more than one third". (12)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put amendment no. 12 moved by Shri Basu Deb Acharia to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put and negatived.

SHRI M.B. RAJESH: Sir, I beg to move:

Page 5, line 48,—

for "twenty-five per cent."

substitute "fifty per cent." (30)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put amendment no. 30 moved by Shri M B Rajesh to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 12 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 12 was added to the Bill.

Clause 13

No capitation fee and screening procedure for admission

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri P.T.Thomas — not moving.

The question is:

"That clause 13 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 13 was added to the Bill.

Clause 14

Proof of age for admission

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, I beg to move:

Page 6, line 30,—

for "on the basis of"

substitute "on the basis of Parent's declaration and recommendation of chief of village Panchayat or Municipal ward or". (13)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put amendment No. 13 moved by Shri Basu Deb Acharia to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 14 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 14 was added to the Bill.

Clause 15 was added to the Bill.

Clause 16

Prohibition of holding back and expulsion

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, I beg to move:

Page 6, line 39,—

for "16."

substitute "16.(1)" (14)

Page 6, *after* line 40,—

insert "(2) Every school shall ensure the completion of learning outcome of the child in such manner as may be prescribed.". (15)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put amendment Nos. 14 and 15 moved by Shri Basu Deb Acharia to the vote of the House.

The amendments were put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 16 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 16 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 17 to 20 were added to the Bill.

Clause 21

School Management Committee

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, I beg to move:

Page 7, lines 33 and 34,—

for "A school, other than a school specified in sub-clause (iv) of clause (n) of section 2".

substitute "All schools specified in clause (n) of section 2". (16)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri P.T.Thomas – not moving.

I shall now put amendment No. 16 moved by Shri Basu Deb Acharia to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 21 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 21 was added to the Bill.

Clause 22 was added to the Bill.

Clause 23

Qualification for appointment and terms and conditions of service of teachers

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, I beg to move:

Page 8, line 6,—

for "Central Government"

substitute "appropriate Government". (17)

Page 8, line 12,—

after "five years"

insert "and the expenses for acquiring such minimum qualification shall be met by the appropriate Government". (18)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put amendment Nos. 17 and 18 moved by Shri Basu Deb Acharia to the vote of the House.

The amendments were put and negatived.

SHRI M.B. RAJESH: Sir, I beg to move:

Page 8, *after* line 3,—

insert "Provided that these minimum qualifications shall also conform to the norms and the guidelines laid down under the National Council for Teacher Education Act, 1993, and the pay scales and service conditions of the teachers shall conform to the Sixth Central Pay Commission Report". (31)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put amendment No. 31 moved by Shri M.B.Rajesh to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 23 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 23 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 24 and 25 were added to the Bill.

Clause 26

Filling up vacancies of teachers

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I beg to move:

"Page 8, lines 41 and 42,—

for "vacancy of teacher in a school under its control shall not exceed ten per cent of the total sanctioned strength"

substitute "all the vacancies of teachers in a school are filled before the commencement of the academic year and if any vacancy arises in the course of the academic year steps shall be initiated to fill it within a period of one month." (19)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put amendment No. 19 moved by Shri Basu Deb Acharia to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 26 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 26 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 27 to 38 were added to the Bill.

The Schedule

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I beg to move:

"Page 12, line 7,—

for "Two"

substitute "At least one teacher per class". (20)

Page 12, line 8,—

for "Three"

substitute "At least one teacher per class". (21)

Page 12, line 10,—

for "Four"

substitute "At least one teacher per class". (22)

Page 12, line 38,—

for "teacher"

substitute "class". (23)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put amendment Nos. 20 to 23 moved by Shri Basu Deb Acharia to the vote of the House.

The amendments were put and negatived.

SHRI M.B. RAJESH: I beg to move:

"Page 12,"*after* line 5,—

insert "There shall be at least one teacher per class.". (32)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put amendment No. 32 moved by Shri Rajesh to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Amendment No. 36, Shri P.T. Thomas.

SHRI P.T. THOMAS: Sir, I am not moving amendment No. 36.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Schedule stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

The Schedule was added to the Bill.

Clause 1

Short title, extent and commencement

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I beg to move:

"Page 1, line 4,—

after "Compulsory"

insert "Quality". (1)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put amendment No. 1 moved by Shri Basu Deb Acharia to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 1 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1 was added to the Bill.

The Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House shall now take up matters of urgent public importance.

Shri Rajesh.

SHRI M.B. RAJESH (Palakkad): Sir, I would like to invite the attention of this Government to a serious situation arising out of increasing incidents of honour killings.

Such acts of violence have become a recurring phenomenon in various parts of the country especially in Haryana. In the latest incident, a married youth was brutally murdered on the orders of Khap panchayat. That incident took place in front of the police men who were sent for his protection and also in front of the court's warrant officer. Such types of incidents have been taking place regularly in various parts of the country especially Haryana. The State Government and the Central Government remain silent spectators to this kind of a situation.

I would like to urge upon the Government to take stringent action to prevent such types of atrocities. It is indeed a shame that youngsters in our country are being denied their constitutional right to self-choice marriages. So, the Government should bring the culprits to justice. Given the serious nature and circumstances of these crimes, the Central Government should formulate a special law to deal with honour killings. Thank you.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (Kasargod): I associate with what Shri Rajesh said just now.

[Translation]

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR (Hamirpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, there was a long discussion on Education Bill but the UPA government had talked about setting up Central university all over the country last year. Himachal Pradesh was also one of them. The Central team also visited Himachal Pradesh and the land in Dharmshala, Palampur, Dehra of Kangra district was surveyed. The government asked for 500 acres of land in Dehra. Himachal Pradesh government promised to provide more than 650 acres of land in Dehra and wrote a letter also in this regard. Today more than one year has passed but the Central government has not taken any decision in this regard. We were ready to let the college building constructed near Jwalaji used for Central University for one or two year. But the Union government did not take any decision during the last one-year.

We have been talking about the Indian Institute of Information Technology. It was decided to make 100 acres of land available. The Himachal Pradesh Government had offered to provide 170 acres of land in district Una to the Union Government. Almost one year has passed thereafter. Many tall claims have been made today regarding education. Children between the ages of 6 and 14 are proposed to be provided education ...*(Interruptions)* The entire House endorsed this proposal. ...*(Interruptions)* I would like to say that if no decision has been taken on the projects proposed by the UPA government during the last one year, then when would the future projects be finalized? Is anything likely to happen in the next five years? Through you, I would like to say only that a Central University should be opened at the earliest in Dehra. It should be opened on the more than 650 acres of land provided by us. An Indian Institute of Information Technology should be opened in Una because we have provided land. The Union Government has talked of Knowledge Commission, I would also like to say. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no mention of Knowledge Commission in your notice.

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR: It is there. I have mentioned about Indian Institute of Management alongwith the Indian Institute of Information Technology for which the state government will provide land. Himachal Pradesh has earned the top most ranking in the field of primary education so it is logical to talk of providing higher education there ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Anurag Singh Thakur, please do not go into these details. You have made your point. So many Members are waiting to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR: Sir, I want to make a last point. Himachal Pradesh is at the top in the field of primary education and the average enrolment in higher education is double in this state as compared to other states in the country. I request that the Central Universities, Indian Institute of Technology and IIM should be opened in Himachal Pradesh at the earliest so that the entire country is benefited therefrom.

[English]

SHRI S. SEMMALAI (Salem): Respected Chairman, let me thank you for permitting me to raise an important issue of fertilizer subsidy scam indulged in by two unscrupulous firms situated in the Union Territory of Puducherry. I give the names of the Companies. One is Karaikkal Chloride and the other is Vaigai Industry. These two Companies got firm and fair quota allotment of potash at the subsidised rate of Rs. 5,300 per tonne, which was purchased and imported by the Central Government from abroad at the cost of Rs. 36,000 per tonne. These firms did not convert the raw materials as the required fertilizer for crops. Actually what they are doing is interesting to listen. These two Firms clandestinely reprocessed potash into potassium chloride for use as explosive materials and sold the products at higher prices. The net result is denial of required fertilizer component to farmers, illegal diversion of raw materials for non-agriculture purposes, huge profits, tax evasion and above all fertilizer subsidy scam of unimaginable level. These illegal activities are going on for the past ten years unchecked and uncontrolled. Now only it has come to light. On the direction of my Party Leader and former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Dr. J. Jayalalithaa, our Party has conducted a mass agitation on 24.7.2009 in Karaikkal against the anti-social activities of these two companies. Due to peoples' protest, the two firms have recently been sealed and an FIR filed.

Sir, my apprehension is that neither Puducherry Government nor the local police authority will be fair and impartial in their investigation.

Sir, this issue has inter-State ramification because the two companies have managed to get potash illegally from neighbouring States like Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. So, in the interest of bringing out the truth, I would request the Government of India to order for the CBI inquiry into what I call, 'the biggest fertilizer subsidy scam of the decade'.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJARAM PAL (Akbarpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the House and the government towards a very important aspect that even 62 years after independence the scheduled caste and scheduled tribe communities which live in far flung forests an-d hilly areas and 70-75 percent farmers in the country whose future is dependent on farming have not been given ownership right on their lands. Wherever, the Union Government or State Governments want to, they acquire their lands for peanuts. And this land acquired at throwaway prices is granted for free to capitalists.

Through you, drawing the attention of the Government. I would like to urge it to grant ownership rights to the farmers who are the future of the country. Even if it is necessary to acquire land, then, the government should pay market price for the same.

SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK (North Goa): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak in the zero hour. Goa is a small state. There are very few stations under the Konkan railways in the state. Lakhs of tourists visit the state every year. The Madgaon junction is the biggest junction there. Then, there is this junction which is the main station in North Goa. A number of trains do not stop there. For the last five to six years, the people of the state have been I demanding that Matsyagandha Express, Train No. 2619 UP and 2620 Down should be given a stoppage at Thivi which is a large station in Goa. Matsyagandha Express runs from Mumbai to Kerala and Thivi station in North Goa would be able to cater to everyone. Because the train does not have stoppage at Madgaon junction, people have to travel 80 km to reach home. Secondary, many students go to Mumbai, Bangalore, Ooty etc., for studies. Whenever they travel back in this train or when people have to go to hospitals, they have to cross more than 80 km. distance from the railway station. This is the reason for the people demanding stoppage of the train at that station.

Another thing is, that I have records of the fact that second to Madgaon junction passenger footfalls are received at Thivi. I would like to request the Government, through you, to provide stoppage to Matsyagandha Express at Thivi station on popular demand.

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAI (Domariyaganj): Sir, I am obliged to you for giving me the opportunity to speak on a matter of urgent public importance.

The decision in the August House has proved that in the federal structure the Centre and the State governments can neither develop without mutual cooperation nor carry-out their functions while staying true to the democratic values and fulfilling the expectations

and aspirations of the people. As an hon. Member pointed out earlier, the cooperation of the Union Government is essontial for opening Central University or IIT in his state. With regard to funding, it was suggested that 75 percent of funding for free and compulsory education for children is being done by the government but the states should not have to shoulder the burden of the remaining 25 percent too. The cooperation of Union Government is expected in all matters pertaining to fulfillment of demands of democracy by all states. On the other hand, Uttar Pradesh has suffered terribly from the drought situation arising out of the lack of rainfall this year alongwith the rest of the country. Particularly Bundelkhand, which has been facing drought for seven consecutive years. Two lakh people have migrated from the area in search of livelihood. Nearly 2,000 people have committed suicide due to the burden of debt. Article 263 of our Constitution clearly states that under such circumstances when there is a dispute between two states or there is any issue concerning common interests of two states, an inter-state council may be constituted. Initiative in this regard has been taken by the Congress Party by Shri Rahulji for Bundelkhand region which comprises of some districts of Uttar Pradesh and some of Madhya Pradesh where rains have not fallen for the last seven years. Constitution of an Inter-State Development Authority for this region Ro is under consideration. The Samara Committee report had recommended allocation of 38 hundred crores for the development of the Bundelkhand region falling in Uttar Pradesh and four hundred crores for the areas falling in Madhya Pradesh. I am thankful that the constitution of Bundelkhand Development Authority with a package of Rs. 8000 crore is proposed but it is being opposed. When it comes to giving Rs. 3800 crore I think Rs. 4000 crore spent by the U.P. Government on the construction of parks, monuments and statues etc. could have been utilized for this purpose. The Government passed the supplementary budget yesterday and it has been passed at a time when the entire state is in the grip of drought. The State Government has already spent Rs. 4000 crore on parks etc. another 554 crores have been sanctioned for erecting the statue of the election symbol of the party 'elephant'. ...*(Interruptions)* I want to submit a very important point which comes under the purview of the Govelnment of India. Election (Commission is a constitutional body. Today only the Election commission has served a notice to the Bahujan Samaj Party and asked for reply within 10 days as to why the State Government is using public money collected through taxes in erecting the statue of their party's election symbol. Gross misuse of funds is taking place there. Rs. 10 crore have been sanctioned for purchasing helicopter and 69 crores for constructing a helipad. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up now. There is a time-limit. Please take your seat. This is an issue raised in the House and the Parliamentary Affairs Minister replied to it. In spite of that, I have allowed you. You have to conclude now. The other hon. Members are also waiting. Please make it brief.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: Sir, I just want to state that of Inter-State Development Authority can be constituted under the provisions of article-263 of our Constitution, it should definitely be constituted. The attitude of the State Government regarding development of Bundelkhand is against public interest, it is against the development of Uttar Pradesh. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA (Rampur): Sir, I would like to submit that 70% of our population depends upon agriculture for their livelihood. Farmers are considered as the backbone of the country but the same farmer is suffering due to Government's policies. Farmer suffers a lot to feed his children but despite that he produces foodgrains for the rich and the poor alike.

20.00 hrs.

[Translation]

The plight of a farmer is similar whether he belongs to Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh or Vidarbha. If we compare the income of a farmer having 10 or 20 bighas of land with the income of Government employees, it is quite less but the Government does not pay attention to the Minimum Support Price. If the farmer continues in the same plight, he would leave farming, then he would not survive. Today the prices of essential commodities are sky rocketing. Therefore, raising the minimum support price is essential, however, MSP is increased for wheat and paddy only and that too Rs. 10-20 per quintal. On the other hand, the prices of diesel are hiked - o by Rs. 4-5 in one go. It is increased by nearly Rs. 10 in a year. As a result, today the price of diesel has reached about Rs. 40. On the contrary, the MSPs for wheat and paddy have been increased by Rs. 5-7 only during the last 20 years. It has increased maximum by Rs. 10. The farmers who are producing foodgrains for the poor and the rich are being given the benefit of an increase of Rs. 2-3 only in MSP. I would like to request the Government to increase the MSP for wheat and paddy by Rs. 25 to 30. Similarly, MSP should be fixed for milk also. Our leader Shri Mulayam Singhji had also mentioned it. I would like to draw the attention of the Central Government towards it that the Government should increase the minimum support price to save those farmers who are dependant on it.

[English]

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME (Bolpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for allowing me to raise an important issue which is really an issue of national concern.

Sir, HIV/AIDS infection is really a problem in our country. The Government has taken up many programmes particularly under the National Aids Control Programme and now some positive results have been achieved in containing the progress of this disease. But there is another problem and that is related to the social understanding. HIV/AIDS victims and their family members – their sons and daughters – are facing some sort of a social stigma in the society and even social segregation is happening in our country. Even the children of HIV/AIDS victims are not admitted in schools and they are isolated in hospitals. This sort of stigma is there and it is due to lack of proper social understanding and complete and comprehensive awareness of the disease in our country. The Government is contemplating to bring a legislation on this issue. It is a long pending demand of many social activists and other organizations that a law should be there to curb this sort of social stigma and the Government has accepted their suggestion. They have said that a comprehensive legislation would be legislated on this issue. A draft legislation is pending with the Government since 2006.

So, I urge upon the Government, through you, to bring this legislation without any further delay so that a comprehensive legislation on HIV/AIDS victims is legislated in Parliament which will have a positive impact on HIV/AIDS victims and their family members.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Thokchom Meinya. Law and order is a State subject and normally it is not permitted. But please confine to one minute.

DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA (Inner Manipur): Thank you Sir. In many parts of the country where there are Insurgency and naxal activities, the reports of fake encounters do appear many times.

According to the report of the Home Ministry, in 2008-09 the number of cases registered by the National Human Rights Commission stands at 103. Out of this Manipur records 16.

Recently, one such case was reported in a national magazine on 8th August 2009, under the title of 'Murder in Plain Sight'. This has a sequence of 12 photographs showing the entire episode of the alleged fake encounter. The incident relates to the broad day light killings, including one pregnant woman, of Thokchom Onghi, Rabina Devi and Chongkham Sanjit on 23rd July 2009 at Imphal. The life in the State was completely paralysed as 48 hour *bandh* was called from the midnight of 2nd to 4th August 2009.

Manipur has been facing the pains of insurgent activities for the last so many years. I am afraid that if the situation is not brought under control immediately, things might turn from bad to worse. I am fully aware that law and order is a State subject, but even then I respectfully urge upon the Union Government and the Home Ministry in particular to intervene and help the State Government to tackle the situation immediately. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Bwiswmuthiary. This is also a State subject, so take only one minute.

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY (Kokrajhar): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government of India to the grim law and order situation arising out of the unabated violent activities, killings, kidnappings and extortions resorted to by National Democratic Front of Boroland within Bodoland territory.

On the 31st of July, 2009, some of the NDFB extremist elements made an abortive attempt on the life of the Chief of Bodoland Territorial Council as well as the President of our Bodoland People's Front, Mr. Hagrama Mahilary, by planting some powerful bombs on a PWD road at Dadgari and Dewshri in Chirang district. but, fortunately, some SSB personnel could detect and recover those planted powerful bombs before their explosion.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your suggestion? Please conclude.

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY: Sir, through you, I would like to appeal to the Government of India to instruct the State Police Administration to control the law and order situation within my Bodoland Territory. I would also like to urge upon the Government of India to handover the police, law and order as well as the political department to the Bodoland Territory Administration without any further delay so as to help ensure the safety and security of the people living within the Bodoland area.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I thank all the hon. Members. The House stands adjourned to meet on Thursday, the 6th August, 2009 at 11 a.m.

20.09 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, August 6, 2009, Sravana 15, 1931 (Saka).

_____

ANNEXURE I

Member-wise Index to Starred Questions

Sl.No.	Member's Name	Question Number
1.	Shri Ananth Kumar	447
2.	Shri Awale Jaywant Gangaram	452
3.	Shri Bavalia Kunvarjibhai Mohanbhai	459
4.	Shri C. Sivasami	455
5.	Shri Dudhagonkar, Ganeshrao Nagorao	445
6.	Shri Gandhi Varun	457
7.	Shri Hussain Syed Shahnawaz	457
8.	Dr. Jagannath Manda	441
9.	Dr. Joshi, Murli Manohar	446
10.	Shri Madam Vikrambhai Arjanbhai	441
11.	Shri Majumdar, Prasanta Kumar	453
12.	Shri Mandal, Mangani Lal	448
13.	Dr. Naik, Sanjeev Ganesh	460
14.	Shri Panda, Baijayant	443
15.	Shri Panda, Prabodh	444
16.	Shri Pandey Ravindra Kumar	455
17.	Shri Pradhan Nityananda	443
18.	Shri Rao, Sambasiva Rayapati	458
19.	Shri Ray, Rudramadhab	460
20.	Shri Reddy M. Raja Mohan	447
21.	Shri Sharma, Jagdish	449
22.	Shri Sharma, Madan Lal	459
23.	Shri Singh Radha Mohan	450
24.	Shri Singh, Brijbhushan Sharan	458
25.	Shri Singh, Rajiv Ranjan *Alias* Lalan Singh	449
26.	Shri Sugumar, K.	442
27.	Smt. Sule, Supriya	454
28.	Shri Swamy N. Cheluvaraya	456
29.	Dr. Thambidurai, M.	450
30.	Shri Toppo Joseph	444
31.	Dr. Vivekanand	451

Member-wise Index to Unstarred Questions

Sl.No.	Member's Name	Question Number
1	2	3
1.	Shri Prabhakar, Ponnam	4262, 4353, 4428, 4458
2.	Shri Guddu Premchand	4481
3.	Shri Adhalrao Patil Shivaji	4290, 4343, 4431
4.	Shri Adsul Anandrao	4290, 4343, 4421, 4431
5.	Shri Agarwal, Jai Prakash	4339, 4405, 4411
6.	Shri Ahir, Hansraj G.	4260, 4364, 4377, 4430, 4431
7.	Shri Ananth Kumar	4387, 4412
8.	Shri Anant Kumar, Hegde	4377, 4431
9.	Shri Angadi, Suresh	4258
10.	Shri Awale Jaywant Gangaram	4378
11.	Shri Babar Gajanan D.	4334, 4414, 4453
12.	Shri Bavalia Kunvarjibhai Mohanbhai	4338, 4406, 4434, 4437
13.	Dr. Beg. Mirza Mehboob	4310
14.	Smt. Botcha, Jhansi Lakshmi	4319, 4387
15.	Shri Bwismuthiary, Sansuma Khunggur	4337
16.	Shri Sivasami, C.	4370
17.	Shri Chauhan Sanjay Singh	4299, 4380, 4434
18.	Shri Chauhan, Prabhatsinh P.	4266, 4397
19.	Shri Chavan, Harishchandra	4350, 4408
20.	Shri Chitthan N.S.V.	4322, 4434
21.	Shri Chowdhury, Adhir	4336
22.	Shri Deora Milind	4460, 4484
23.	Shri Deshmukh K.D.	4256
24.	Shri Dhanapalan K.P.	4316, 4416

1	2	3
25.	Shri R. Dhruvanarayana	4276
26.	Shri Dhotre Sanjay	4320, 4445
27.	Shri Dubey Nishikant	4314, 4320, 4388, 4440, 4479
28.	Shri Gaddigoudar, P.C.	4338, 4409, 4445
29.	Shri Gadhavi Mukesh Bhairavdanji	4294, 4411, 4417, 4454, 4470
30.	Shri Gaikwad Eknath Mahadeo	4301, 4309, 4329, 4398, 4452
31.	Smt. Gandhi Maneka	4304, 4369, 4468
32.	Shri Gandhi, Dilipkumar Mansukhlal	4286
33.	Shri Jadhao, Prataprao Ganpatrao	4320, 4332, 4400, 4445
34.	Dr. Jagannath Manda	4340, 4371
35.	Shri Jaiswal, Gorakh Prasad	4271, 4356, 4424
36.	Smt. Jat Poonam Veljibhai	4483
37.	Shri Jawale Haribhau	4331, 4399
38.	Smt. Jayaprada	4328, 4419
39.	Shri Jena, Mohan	4327
40.	Shri Jindal, Naveen	4264, 4355, 4423, 4464
41.	Shri Joshi, Kailash	4284
42.	Dr. Joshi, Murli Manohar	4368, 4431
43.	Shri Karunakaran, P.	4301
44.	Shri Karwariya, Kapil Muni	4313
45.	Shri Kashyap Virender	4293
46.	Shri Kaushalendra Kumar	4278, 4361
47.	Shri Khaire Chandrakant	4333, 4402, 4403, 4448, 4469
48.	Shri Khan Hassan	4385
49.	Dr. Khatri, Nirmal	4317
50.	Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena	4312
51.	Shri Koda Madhu	4330
52.	Shri Kumar Mithilesh	4344
53.	Shri Kumar, Shailendra	4300
54.	Shri Laguri Yashbant N.S.	4296, 4356, 4394
55.	Shri Madam Vikrambhai Arjanbhai	4360, 4427, 4459, 4476
56.	Smt. Mahajan, Sumitra	4315
57.	Dr. Mahant, Charan Das	4437, 4482
58.	Shri Maharaj, Satpal	4437
59.	Shri Mahato, Narahari	4277, 4372, 4418, 4441
60.	Shri Majhi Pradeep	4343, 4421
61.	Shri Mani Jose K.	4340
62.	Shri Meghwal Bharat Ram	4283
63.	Shri Mohan P.C.	4347
64.	Shri Munda Arjun	4325, 4437
65.	Shri Muttemwar Vilas	4321, 4388
66.	Shri P. Balram	4287, 4290, 4365, 4366
67.	Dr. Naik, Sanjeev Ganesh	4460, 4473
68.	Shri Nama, Ganeswara Rao	4297, 4407
69.	Shri Naranbhai, Kachhadia	4406
70.	Shri Narayanrao Sonawane Pratap	4272
71.	Shri Nishad Capt. Jai Narain Prasad	4349, 4420
72.	Shri Owaisi Asaduddin	4280, 4395, 4461
73.	Shri Pal, Jagdambika	4303
74.	Shri Panda, Baijayant	4375, 4402, 4447, 4468, 4478

1	2	3
75.	Shri Panda, Prabodh	4386, 4438, 4463, 4484
76.	Shri Pandey Ravindra Kumar	4367, 4433, 4461, 4474
77.	Shri Pandey, Gorakhnath	4318, 4418
78.	Dr. Pandey, Vinay Kumar	4366
79.	Dr. Patasani, Prasanna Kumar	4305, 4382, 4432, 4436
80.	Shri Patel Devji M.	4345
81.	Smt. Patel, Jayshreeben	4314, 4384, 4406, 4483
82.	Shri Patel, Kishanbhai V.	4309, 4343, 4421, 4455
83.	Shri Patil Bhaskarrao Bapurao Khatgaonkar	4301, 4309, 4329, 4398, 4452
84.	Shri Pradhan Nityananda	4375, 4402, 4448, 4460
85.	Shri Raghavan M.K.	4284
86.	Shri Rajesh, M.B.	4272, 4290, 4362
87.	Shri Ram Purnmasi	4285, 4405, 4461
88.	Prof. Ram Shankar	4342
89.	Shri Ramkishun	4341, 4387, 4413, 4451
90.	Dr. Rao, K.S.	4263, 4313, 4366, 4439
91.	Shri Rao, Sambasiva Rayapti	4373, 4450
92.	Shri Rathwa Ramsinh	4266
93.	Shri Rawat, Ashok Kumar	4302, 4401, 4446, 4467, 4477
94.	Shri Ray, Rudramadhab	4363, 4382, 4432, 4436
95.	Shri Reddy M. Sreenivasulu	4289, 4391, 4407, 4443, 4466
96.	Shri Reddy, Anantha Venkatarami	4279, 4387, 4405, 4410
97.	Shri Reddy, K.J.S.P.	4273, 4358, 4425, 4456
98.	Shri Ruala, C.L.	4282
99.	Shri S.S. Ramasubbu	4268, 4403
100.	Shri Sampath, A.	4257, 4301
101.	Smt. Saroj, Sushila	4346
102.	Shri Satyanarayana, Sarvey	4270, 4371, 4376, 4404, 4431
103.	Shri Satpathy, Tathagata	4275, 4390, 4442, 4465, 4468
104.	Dr. Sharma, Arvind Kumar	4259
105.	Shri Sharma, Jagdish	4432
106.	Shri Sharma, Madan Lal	4379, 4383, 4437, 4471
107.	Shri Basavaraj, G.S.	4449
108.	Shri Anto Antony	4335
109.	Shri Shukla Balkrishna Khanderao	4308, 4397, 4415
110.	Shri Siddeshwara, G.M.	4267, 4313
111.	Shri Singh Jagdanand	4324
112.	Shri Singh Murari Lal	4291
113.	Shri Singh Radha Mohan	4379
114.	Shri Singh Sushil Kumar	4265, 4405
115.	Shri Singh Uday	4306, 4408, 4449, 4460
116.	Shri Singh, Brijbhshan Sharan	4381, 4435
117.	Shri Singh, Rajiv Ranjan *Alias* Lal Singh	4368, 4377, 4432
118.	Dr. Solanki Kirit Premjibhai	4460
119.	Shri Sudhakaran K.	4311, 4449
120.	Shri Sugumar, K.	4374

1	2	3
121.	Smt. Sule, Supriya	4351, 4429, 4460, 4473
122.	Shri Suresh Kodikkunnil	4274, 4359, 4426, 4457, 4472
123.	Shri Swamy N. Cheluvaraya	4354, 4422, 4462, 4475
124.	Shri Tewari Manish	4307, 4392
125.	Shri Thakur Anurag Singh	4261, 4357
126.	Shri Thamaraiselvan R.	4281
127.	Shri Thomas P.T.	4348
128.	Shri Tiwari, Bhisma Shankar *Alias* Kushal	4269, 4393
129.	Shri Toppo Joseph	4352
130.	Shri Vasava, Mansukhbhai D.	4271, 4424
131.	Shri Venugopal K.C.	4295
132.	Smt. Verma, Usha	4292
133.	Dr. Vyas Girija	4288
134.	Shri Wakchaure, Bhausaheb Rajaram	4326, 4396, 4444, 4480, 4485
135.	Shri Yadav Om Prakash	4323, 4388, 4389
136.	Shri Yadav, Hukmadeo Narayan	4298
137.	Shri Yaskhi Madhu Goud	4460.

ANNEXURE II

Ministry-wise Index to Starred Questions

Agriculture	:	441, 442, 448, 451, 453, 457, 458
Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution	:	444, 447, 456
Home Affairs	:	450, 455
Information and Broadcasting	:	454
Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises	:	443, 452
Mines	:	
Development of North Eastern Region	:	
Road Transport and Highways	:	445, 446, 449, 460
Youth Affairs and Sports	:	459.

Ministry-wise Index to Unstarred Questions

Agriculture	:	4258, 4271, 4272, 4273, 4275, 4277, 4279, 4280, 4282, 4283, 4284, 4286, 4287, 4289, 4290, 4293, 4294, 4295, 4304, 4317, 4318, 4325, 4327, 4333, 4338, 4341, 4343, 4349, 4352, 4358, 4363, 4368, 4369, 4373, 4374, 4376, 4379, 4380, 4381, 4382, 4386, 4391, 4395, 4403, 4404, 4406, 4407, 4409, 4410, 4418, 4422, 4426, 4430, 4431, 4434, 4435, 4436, 4438, 4440, 4441, 4444, 4445, 4447, 4448, 4453, 4456, 4458, 4462, 4468, 4469, 4474, 4476, 4485
Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution	:	4261, 4265, 4267, 4270, 4276, 4278, 4288, 4311, 4313, 4321, 4322, 4323, 4346, 4353, 4354, 4356, 4359, 4362, 4367, 4388, 4399, 4400, 4405, 4425, 4427, 4437, 4442, 4446, 4451, 4461, 4463, 4471, 4472, 4475
Home Affairs	:	4259, 4260, 4269, 4285, 4291, 4292, 4298, 4301, 4306, 4307, 4309, 4310, 4315, 4319, 4334, 4340, 4372, 4377, 4387, 4392, 4393, 4398, 4412, 4420, 4423, 4424, 4432, 4449, 4455, 4460, 4464, 4473, 4478, 4479, 4480
Information and Broadcasting	:	4257, 4266, 4268, 4281, 4296, 4332, 4335, 4336, 4348, 4350, 4355, 4366, 4370, 4383, 4390, 4397, 4401, 4416, 4417, 4454, 4466, 4470
Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises	:	4263, 4297, 4375, 4378, 4408, 4411, 4421, 4459
Mines	:	4300, 4394, 4428, 4439, 4467
Development of North Eastern Region	:	4308
Road Transport and Highways	:	4262, 4274, 4299, 4302, 4305, 4312, 4314, 4316, 4324, 4326, 4328, 4329, 4330, 4331, 4342, 4344, 4345, 4347, 4351, 4357, 4360, 4361, 4384, 4385, 4389, 4402, 4413, 4414, 4419, 4429, 4433, 4452, 4457, 4465, 4477, 4481, 4482, 4483
Youth Affairs and Sports	:	4256, 4264, 4303, 4320, 4339, 4364, 4365, 4371, 4415, 4443, 4450, 4484.

INTERNET

The Original version of Lok Sabha proceedings is available on Parliament of India Website at the following address:

http://www.parliamentofindia.nic.in

LIVE TELECAST OF PROCEEDINGS OF LOK SABHA

Lok Sabha proceedings are being telecast live on Lok Sabha T.V. Channel. Live telecast begins at 11 A.M. everyday the Lok Sabha sits, till the adjournment of the House.

LOK SABHA DEBATES ON SALE

Printed copies of Lok Sabha Debates of Original version, English version, Hindi version and indices thereto, DRSCs reports and other Parliamentary Publications and Souvenir items with logo of Parliament are available for sale at the Sales Counter, Reception, Parliament House, (Tel. Nos. 23034726, 23034495, 23034496) New Delhi-110001. The information about all these publications and items is also available on the website mentioned above.

P.L.S. 40/IV.24/2009
350

© 2009 By Lok Sabha Secretariat

Published under Rules 379 and 382 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha (Twelfth Edition) and printed by M/s. Jainco Art India, New Delhi.