

# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## (English Version)

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



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# LOK SABHA DEBATES

**Lok Sabha**

**11.01 hrs.**

**ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

*Friday, August 7, 2009/Sravana 16, 1931 (Saka)*

*[Translation]*

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock*

*(MADAM SPEAKER in the Chair)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Mainpuri): Madam, Speaker, we want smooth functioning of this House. ...*(Interruptions)* we have a very important question. ...*(Interruptions)* I would like to raise the issue of sixteen poor castes.

SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY (Andaman & Nicobar Islands): Madam, Speaker, I want to raise a very important question. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please sit down. Whatever issue you want to raise, you can do so during zero hours.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: I have told you to raise your issue during zero hour. Mulayam Singh Ji please sit down and let the question hour proceed. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Whatever you want to say mention it during zero hour. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Madam Speaker, please keep smiling not be harsh with us. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: I am not angry. Let the question hour proceed. We will talk about it during zero hour.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Madam, Speaker, we want smooth functioning of the House ...*(Interruptions)* that is why we want your cooperation and protection. We want to raise the issue of poor people here. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please raise this issue during zero hour.

...*(Interruptions)*

Madam Speaker Q.No. 481, Shri Dinesh Chandra Yadav

**Credit Flow through RRBS**

\*481. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the reasons for the losses incurred by the Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) in certain States in the recent years have been looked into;

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

(c) whether factors like shortage of manpower at managerial levels have hampered smooth flow of credit to rural areas, particularly in States like Bihar;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government to overcome such problems and ensure seamless flow of rural credit through RRBs?

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement**

(a) and (b) Review of performance of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) is being done at regular intervals by the respective sponsor banks, National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and Government of India wherein losses incurred by RRBs are also looked into. The prime reasons for the loss making RRBs are low recovery rate and higher level of Non-performing Assets (NPA) resulting in higher provisioning and higher losses.

(c) and (d) Credit flow from RRBs has increased steadily over the past few years in the country as also in Bihar. The status of credit disbursed and credit outstanding in Bihar and all India for the last four years is detailed below:

(Amount Rs. in Crore)

	2005-06		2006-07		2007-08		2008-09*	
	Total Loans Outstanding	Total Loans disbursed	Total Loans Outstanding	Total Loans disbursed	Total Loans Outstanding	Total Loans disbursed	Total Loans Outstanding	Total Loans disbursed
RRBs in Bihar	2225	739	2904	1370	3678	1580	3855	2029
All India	39713	25427	48493	33043	58984	38582	69030	41273

\*Data provisional

Source: NABARD

The data in the above table indicates that there has been a significant increase in credit flow from RRBs in Bihar. The credit disbursed by RRBs in Bihar has increased approximately three fold in 2008-09 as compared to 2005-06.

(e) The Government of India, RBI and NABARD have taken several steps over the years to strengthen the financial health of RRBs especially the weaker/loss making RRBs. These measures have facilitated the RRBs to become more competitive and competent in purveying credit to rural masses. These efforts to make the RRBs more efficient are a part of an ongoing process.

The major steps taken by the Government to improve the functioning of RRBs include:

- Recapitalization of the weaker RRBs
- Amalgamation of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) for business consolidation and taking advantage of economies of scale
- Business diversification and development in both loan based and non-loan based products
- Extension of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act (SARFAESI) to RRBs with a view to improve their recoveries
- Permitting RRBs to accept Foreign Currency Non-Resident (FCNR) Deposits
- Allowing consortium lending to RRBs
- Enhanced coverage by including additional districts and expansion of branch network—coverage of

districts increased from 534 in 2006-07 to 593 as on date and branch network increased from 14,520 in 2006-07 to over 15,200 as on 31 March 2009.

Opening of 'No-Frill' accounts with low and minimum balance

[Translation]

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV: Madam Speaker, the Government started rural banks for strengthening farmers by providing them more and more loans. During Fourteenth Lok Sabha while replying to question no. 4728, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance had stated that we would provide better facilities by computerizing the system, by providing better infrastructure and by appointing experienced persons in all banks. In part 'C' of my question I had asked the hon. Minister about shortage of staff without which banks are not functioning properly. I would like to talk about Bihar where 40 percent rural banks in Saharsa, Khagira, Madubani and Durbhanga districts of northern Bihar have no Bank Managers. In scale two banks where four employees are required, only one or two employees are working. Hon. Minister has not given any reply of the question as to what action would be taken to meet the shortage of employees.

Madam, Speaker, few years ago the Government had constituted regional rural banks to strengthen them and make them viable which has resulted increase in numbers of banks. But due to lack of improvement in its functioning and lack of supremacy of sponsored banks on its subordinate to banks, these banks could not be strengthened and made viable as per targets. I would like to ask the hon. Minister of Finance, through you, that what

was the objective of reconstitution of these banks and when banks were reconstituted and what was the number of these banks before reconstitution? Besides that what is the present number of such banks after reconstitution state-wise and in both the situation respectively.  
...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: You are asking many question.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV: What is the state-wise position of loss and the difference therein?  
...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Member, you have asked many questions. You can ask only one question.

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV: Madam, Speaker, its O.K. Hon. Minister has given several suggestions in this regard. I would like to ask him when these suggestions will be implemented?

[English]

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Madam Speaker, let me answer the number of questions put by the hon. Member. It is quite natural that the hon. Members have interest in the Regional Rural Banks. All the Annual Reports of the RRBs and commercial banks have been placed on the Table of the House as per the requirement. But as the hon. Member has raised the question, let me respond to it.

The process of amalgamation as per the recommendations of the Vaish Committee was taken up by the Government and the process of amalgamation started from 2005-08 including the establishment of one Regional Rural Bank.

Today, the total number of amalgamated bank branches is 46. The basic principle was, in one State, with one sponsor bank, one Regional Rural Bank would be established. If there are three or four sponsor banks, then three or four Regional Rural Banks will be established. For instance, in Bihar there were four sponsor banks, so four Regional Rural Banks were established.

In Bihar we have, Bihar KGB, Madhya Bihar Gramin Bank, Samastipur KGB, and Uttar Bihar Gramin Bank. There are four Gramin Banks. The Bihar KGB is covering 80 districts; it has 148 total number of branches, with total staff strength of 667. The Madhya Bihar Gramin Bank, for which the sponsor bank is the PNB, covers 11 districts; has totally 407 number of branches; with total staff strength of 1,782. The Samastipur KGB, for which the sponsor bank is the SBI, covers one district; has totally 66 branches; with total staff strength of 291. The Uttar Bihar Gramin Bank, for which the sponsor bank is the Central Bank of India, covers 18 districts; has totally 858 branches, with total staff strength of 3,229.

It is true that there has been shortfall in the staff. Therefore, a Committee was appointed under Shri Thorat. As per the Thorat Committee's recommendations, it was found that in three Banks - the status of staff strength in Samastipur Kshetriya Gramin Bank was not assessed - the staff deficiency was 544. Thorat Committee's recommendations are in the process of being implemented. We are going to fill up these posts. At the managerial level also, there has been some shortfall and that too will be filled up.

If the hon. Member looks at the text of the reply, there, he will find that within these three years, the total annual lending has increased from Rs. 700 and odd crore to more than Rs. 2,029 crore, which is almost three-fold enhancement in the lending. That is there in the text of the reply itself.

[Translation]

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV: Madam Speaker, the rural banks and other public sector banks in Bihar do not provide loan as per credit deposit ratio. The Deputy Chief Minister of Bihar who is also the Minister of Finance of the State convene meetings with the bank officials regarding this and in every sitting they discuss about providing sufficient loans but it is not being done due to which people are suffering. In this regard I would like to ask the Minister of Finance about the position of rural banks and other public sector banks in Bihar regarding providing loans in comparison to other states on the basis of credit deposit ratio. Some officers of Banks of Bihar do

not cooperate in development works, they create obstructions in achieving the target fixed for providing loans, whether hon. Minister of Finance will get this matter investigated and take action against such officers to facilitate the state government in achieving the targets fixed for the development of people of the state. Whether any action will be taken against such officers?

[English]

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Every official of the Bank, including the Chiefs, are expected to cooperate with the State Governments, because that is the basic principle which we are having since the days of nationalisation. At various levels consultative mechanisms have been established. What the hon. Member has referred to is actually correct. I myself was briefed by the Deputy Chief Minister of Bihar, Shri Modi, who was our colleague here.

I have accepted his suggestion and I myself have decided to revive the practice. This practice was in vogue earlier that apart from at the officials' level, one meeting used to be held per year with the Ministers in the presence of the Chief Ministers. As there are 28 States, it may not be possible to have all 28 State-level meetings, but clubbing three or four States together, it is possible to have this type of exercise at the level of the Finance Minister, Chief Ministers and the Finance Ministers with the presence of the Chairman and all the senior officers of the bank. All these issues are to be addressed after the Session. During the inter-session period, I myself will make this programme. Bihar is very much in our attention and I am aware of the problems that the credit deposit is not at par with the national level, not only in respect of RRBs but also in respect of the commercial banks. We are aware of these problems.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: Madam Speaker, Hon. Minister has accepted in his reply just now that 76 banks have been amalgamated. But All India Rural Banks Association has been demanding continuously that an organization of rural banks working in various States, of the country should be constituted. Would the Central Government consider it? Secondly, the salaries of the

employees working in these rural banks have not been revised by implementing the recommendations of Sixty Pay Commission. I would like to ask the Hon. Minister as to when the recommendations of the Sixth Pay Commission will be implemented there. Besides that the task force does not convene regular meetings regarding CD ratio. Who will be held responsible for this?

[English]

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Madam, so far as the first question in respect of demand of the associations of the Regional Rural Bank (RRB) is concerned, we have already taken the decisions of amalgamations and to establish another bank.

Madam, if you permit me, I would like to explain in detail the history of the evolution of the Regional Rural Banks because from the very beginning I myself was associated with it in 1975 when it was found as a result of an important Committee set up by the Reserve Bank that nearly 70 per cent of the rural population are not covered by the institutional credit mechanism. Despite the nationalization of the banks six years before, this report was made available in 1975. Despite the expansions of the rural branches of the commercial banks, it was found that a large chunk of the rural population was not covered by the institutional credit mechanism. That led to the establishment of the Regional Rural Bank with the passage of an Act 'the Regional Rural Bank Act in 1976. The number of Regional Rural Banks was increased from 196 to 296 all over the country. Some of these banks covered one district and some of these banks covered more than one district. At present, 593 districts are covered by the Regional Rural Banks. But the concept was somehow or other torpedoed and I do not want to look into the history of it. At one point of time, the establishment of a bank was considered as an emergency excess. Therefore, the operation was suspended. Thereafter, an eminent economist, Prof. Lakdawala who was appointed to look into this aspect, came out with his recommendations and suggested that this is a beautiful institution to institutionalise the rural credit. The idea was to have the flexibility of the cooperative societies and the efficiency of the commercial banks putting together and reducing the overhead cost. That was the concept of the Regional Rural Bank. But if

it is to be treated just as the commercial branches of the commercial bank, then the very essence of the low-cost banking, villagers-banking concept goes, but that is history. Now, as per the recommendations of the Vyas Committee, the decision has been taken for the amalgamation, and as I mentioned, it is going on for the last three years.

The process is still completed. Out of the 84 banks, 46 are amalgamated banks; 38 are stand-alone Regional Rural Banks and one bank has been established recently in Puducherry. That is one of the latest additions.

So far as the wages are concerned, even today, as the hon. Member is aware, the strike is going on. Today, I hope the strike would be settled as I am told that the management representatives of the IBA and the employees union are sitting together.

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri Umashankar Singh, please ask question from your seat. Please mind this in future.

SHRI UMASHANKAR SINGH: Madam, I will return to my seat while voting, it is vacant now.

MADAM SEPAKER: From now onward, you will ask question from your seat only.

SHRI UMASHANKAR SINGH: Madam, through you I would like to know from hon. Minister that at one time when rural banks were controlled at district level and they used to provide loans to people, its recovery was easier. In Bihar, North Bihar Rural Bank has been set up. A Chairman has been selected from the representatives of seven to eight districts. Earlier, each district had a Regional Rural Bank and that was more convenient in providing loans to the common people and recovery thereof including overall control of the same. On one hand, you are constituting small states and small districts on the other hand you are amalgamating the banks of eight districts which were set up in each district whether the Government have any scheme to reintroduce Regional Rural Banks, in every district.

[English]

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: This was the

beginning. We have this concept. That is why, a large number of Regional Rural Banks were established. Quite a few of them had only one district as per the unit. But it did not yield results. From 1975 till 2005, these 30 years' experiences were there. They wanted to be treated as the branches of the Commercial Banks. My distinguished predecessor Shri Yashwant Sinha is aware of it. His experience was also the same that they did not want to recognise the special objectives for which the Regional Rural Banks were established. If you want to establish the rural branches of the commercial banks, then, why do you require another separate institution? Keeping all these aspects in mind in its establishment, various Committees were appointed. On the recommendations of the Vyas Committee, this amalgamation decision has been taken.

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYA NATH: Madam, Speaker, through you, I would like to know from hon. Minister whether Regional Rural Banks provide loans to the educated unemployed youths and farmers in rural areas easily. Moreover, the rural banks dillydally in opening the accounts of those cardholders who have been provided the facility of opening an account in Regional Rural Banks under NREGA and when complaints are lodged with district administration in rural areas, the banks do not take any action despite directions are issued by the district administration. I want to know from hon. Minister through you, whether necessary instructions are likely to be issued by the Government to provide loans to educated employed youths and farmers on easy terms and to open account in banks for job card holders under NREGA.

[English]

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : All these are the objectives of the banks— the nationalised commercial banks including the rural banks. There are institutional arrangements to look into whether they are discharging their functions properly or not. The NABARD has been placed to look into these aspects. During the current programme of the debt relief and debt waiver, the RRBs also played their very useful role.

#### Social Audit of NREGS

+

482. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY :

SHRI UDAY SINGH :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:



(a) whether the Union Government has urged the State Governments to make advance preparations for the implementation of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) on a large scale;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the States have also been requested to strengthen the process of social audit of projects through Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) under the scheme;

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

(e) whether the Government has proposed to reward some Panchayats and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) to encourage their participation in effective implementation of the scheme at various levels; and

(f) if so, the details of such awards, provided during the last one year and the current year, State-wise?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (DR. C.P. JOSHI): (a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Statement**

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Rural Development has, from time to time, issued instructions to the States for taking advance action for implementation of NREGS. These include awareness generation about NREGA through intensive IEC activities, preparation of annual work plan and shelf of projects, deployment of adequate staff at all levels and operationalization of Management Information System (MIS).

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Section 17 of NREG Act, 2005 provides for Social Audit of NREGA works. The relevant provisions are as under:

"17(2) The Gram Sabha shall conduct regular social audits of all the projects under the Scheme taken up within the Gram Panchayat.

(3) The Gram Panchayat shall make available all relevant documents including the muster rolls, vouchers, measurement books, copies of sanction orders and other

connected books of account and papers to Gram Sabha for the purpose of conducting the social audit."

In addition, para 13 of Schedule-I of NREGA has been amended to incorporate the detailed procedure to be followed for conducting social audit. Instructions have also been issued to the States for conducting social audit as per the provisions of the Act in a time bound manner. The States have also been instructed to put up their district wise Social Audit calendar on the NREGA website. So far, 267 districts have put up their Social Audit calendar on the official website of NREGA. The process of Social Audit has started in 63986 Gram Panchayats. The findings of social audit are required to be put on the NREGA website [www.nrega.ninc.in](http://www.nrega.ninc.in).

(e) and (f) During 2008, the Government introduced Rozgar Jagrookta Puraskar to recognize the outstanding contribution by Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) for promoting effective implementation of NREG Act in different States of the country. 5 NGOs namely, Ashagram Trust of Madhya Pradesh; Rozgar Evam Suchna Adhikar of Rajasthan; Rupayaan of Orissa; Unnati of Gujarat and Aasha Trust of Uttar Pradesh were awarded the Rozgar Jagrookta Puraskar for the year 2008-09 in NREGA Sammelan held on 2.2.2009. Awardees of Rozgar Jagrookta Puraskar for the current year have so far not been selected.

SHRI UDAY SINGH: Madam, this is a serious question and a serious problem as well. The answer of the question which I have received reflects that the Central Government is throwing the ball in the court of States and the same is being done by the State Government. All the Members of Parliament and hon. Minister himself know that our objective to provide benefit of NREGA to unemployed is not being achieved. The benefits of such an important and ambitious programme are not reaching the targeted people. Mediators are making money and State and Central Governments are alleging each other.

I would like to know from hon. Minister whether the Government are taking any steps to strengthen the administrative backbone to run such a big scheme? For example, each district has two hundred fifty to two hundred and seventy five Panchayats. Presently, the Collector has

been assigned the prime responsibility of running this scheme but the said official has several works to do. This is why the benefits of NREGA are not reaching to the targeted people. Until the Central Government deploys senior officers there and sets up a complete administrative structure over there, it would be difficult to run the scheme properly. My first question to hon. Minister is whether the Government propose to do the same. Hon. Minister I want to tell you that as per existing provision, any person interested to work under the scheme, has to give it in writing to Gram Panchayats.

Hon. Minister, you are also from rural area, they are not educated enough to ask for their rights from Panchayat in writing. The provisions of the scheme need to be reviewed thoroughly. As long as we do not simplify them, correct them and make the administration is backbone efficient, the objectives of the scheme will not be achieved as per our aspirations.

DR. C.P. JOSHI: Madam Speaker, I agree with the hon. Member. It is our duty to provide the benefits of this scheme to the poor. Through you, I want to request the Leaders of all political parties that they should select a representative and we will discuss with them in last days of August and seek their advice to implement this scheme effectively and follow the same. The concern expressed by you is shared by all of us and we should collectively implement the scheme in effective manner and you should come forward to help us so that the Government can take decision using your feedback.

SHRI UDAY SINGH: Madam Speaker, I welcome what hon. Minister has said we will fully support because our goals are same in this regard.

Madam, my second point is this that employees of the banks have become brokers to some extent due to negligence of the banks and eligible person are not getting money but the mediator are making money. Those who work or need to get work are not getting money. It may be a chance or I am fortunate as hon. Minister of Finance is present in the House, I want to suggest that there is no need to wait for UID, if bio-metric cards are provided to the person working under NREGA in our rural areas, they can easily draw their amount and there will be

no scope of its misuse. I want to tell you that it is a fact that mediators sit right outside the banks and as soon as the labourers come out the bank after withdrawing the amount, money is taken from them. It is the factual position. If bio-metric cards or any types of ATM cards are given to them, they can withdraw the money as per their convenience. Our objective is that the poor people should get some money and this can be achieved only this way.

I want to know from hon. Minister whether the Government is paying attention towards this and some action is proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard.

DR. C.P. JOSHI: Madam Speaker. I agreed with the hon. Member. Bio-metric cards could be a way of ensuring that the money reaches the right person. Be it bio-metric or another system of business correspondent, you give suggestion by discussing all there things and as I have said you give suggestions and we will improve the system and will try to ensure that the poor get their dues. We will set on these suggestions.

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER : Shri M. Sreenivasulu Reddy - Not present.

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY : Madam, my question to the hon. Minister is whether the State Governments remain answerable to the Government of India if any State fails to achieve its target that was fixed up for implementation. In addition, what is the status and rank of Government of West Bengal so far as its target is fixed up in regard to the question of implementation of NREGS?

DR. C.P. JOSHI : Madam, the hon. Member may kindly remember that there is no question of targets in NREGA. It is a demand driven scheme. There is no target aspect here. But as I have told you, we are seized of the problem. I invite the hon. Member to come in the meeting and give his suggestions. We want to implement it effectively in the rural areas because we want that the benefit goes to the poorest of the poor.

I repeat it that I am inviting all the leaders to send one delegate in the meeting. We will discuss with them and see to it that scheme is implemented in the right spirit.

[Translation]

SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Madam Speaker, it has been observed in the report of Comptroller and Auditor General dated 21st March, 2008, that NAREGA has not been properly implemented in Uttar Pradesh. It has also been pointed out in the report that poor families were not given guaranteed employment, payments have been made only on paper and in some cases wages were paid with inordinate delay. Apart from this, the scheme was approved with a delay of 6 to 11 months, muster roll has names of those people, and were paid wages, who did not belong to that village. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister through you whether the Government propose to probe into the investigations observed in the implementation of NREGA in Uttar Pradesh in the light of CAG's report, if not, the reasons therefore?

DR. C.P. JOSHI: Madam Speaker, I said that the complaints have been received regarding newly launched scheme and as per the provisions of the Act, the complaints have to be addressed by the State Government. This is the prerequisite of the federal structure but as I said wherever. ... (Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Let him reply first. Let him complete the reply. Please sit down, please be quiet. ... (Interruptions)

DR. C.P. JOSHI: Madam Speaker, in the federal structure the State Government has certain functions and some are those of the Central Government, Panchayati Raj is a subject of State. Panchayati Raj is a State subject and employment is in Central List. Something has to be done as per the provisions of the constitutional set up. This is alright that the Government of India is providing money, but implementation has to be done by the State Government. As I said, we will make improvements in consultation with all the concerned. We are moving ahead keeping in mind the present situation, whenever we are required to register FIR, we are doing so and we are taking action as per law, we are addressing the grievances

at all places be it Uttar Pradesh or any other State. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI GORAKHNATH: Madam Speaker, through you, I would like to bring a very important issue before the hon. Minister. The benefits of few schemes are not reaching the labourers in rural areas as intended. As the hon. Members who spoke before me said the scheme is marred by all sorts of corrupt practices. I associate myself with him and as the hon. Minister said that a committee would be set up in this regard or an MP should be appointed as a representative. I would like to know through you, whether he plans to constitute a committee in which MPs will representatives who would keep an eye on the implementation of the schemes to check corruption and ensure that labourers who are not being paid, get their payment and NREGA is implemented in the right spirit so that the unemployed rural people whose livelihood depends on NREGA and who ought to be benefited from it may get the benefits of NREGA as intended by the Government. Would he constitute such a Committee?

DR. C.P. JOSHI: Madam Speaker, we are taking action to appoint hon. Member as Chairman to monitor all the schemes of rural development. Soon, we are going to issue orders in this regard so that they could do justice to their role effectively.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Madam Speaker, NREGA schemes is a total failure in Maharashtra. The main reasons behind it is that the guidelines laid down for the implementation of this scheme need some modifications. As in Maharashtra, the State Government have sent circular suggesting that 80 percent proposals should be with regard to water conservation. I belong to the hilly area of Konkan. If any scheme of water conservation is chalked out under NREGA only, it is a complete failure because this is a hilly area, if a hole is dug there it can not hold water and all the funds are going waste. That is why, no proposals are being sent from this region. This scheme is an absolute failure in Maharashtra. Another reason for this is that two components have been considered while formulating this scheme – one is 60% labour and the other is 40% material. There is no provision of machinery in it. I would like to submit it before the House and hon. Minister through you that suppose, we

construct a road under this scheme, we can not run the roller on that road, if we do not use roller, the road would be washed away in rain. That is why guidelines need to be modified with a provision of 40% for labour, 40% for material and 20% for machinery. Suppose, a well to be dug, it is dug till there are no stones, once the stones are seen, the digging is left mid way because we cannot dig tunnel there. This way, all our money is going waste, the scheme is turning into a failure, the guidelines of this scheme need to be changed. Through you, I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether the hon. Minister propose to reconsider the guidelines by convening meetings with rural development ministers and all the members of Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha from each state separately?

DR. C.P. JOSHI: Madam Speaker, as I said earlier that we would discuss it with all the political parties separately. I would like to make it clear that the schemes is meant for manual work. If we want to implement it with supplement development, then dovetailing money of different schemes is permitted. If machinery is required, it could be managed by dove-tailing with the other schemes. Machinery is not utilized under this scheme no are we thinking about it because it is meant to help the poor. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Machinery is being used in our area. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please sit down. Listen the reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: The work is not being done properly. ...*(Interruptions)* This needs to be reconsidered. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please sit down. Please give the complete reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. C.P. JOSHI: Madam Speaker, funds would not be provided for machinery under this scheme. If the Government propose to dovetail the money, it can dovetail money for machinery. We have no objection. The scheme is meant to help the poor people by offering them

manual work. We have done widened the scope of the schemes and marginal and small farmers are also associated with it now so that they could also be benefitted from the schemes. We have done it but without making provision of use of machinery.

*[English]*

DR. K.S. RAO : Madam Speaker, the entire House is unanimous that NREGA is one of the best schemes, but the alarm from all the Members is only as to how it is being implemented. I am also of the opinion that allocations are made to each district in a large amount. The hon. Minister has added the roads, the water bodies, agriculture etc. in it which is good thing, and also at least 40 per cent of the material component is being permitted in it apart from the labour. I would just like to bring it to the knowledge of the hon. Minister that Vigilance Committee is existing there now under the chairmanship of the local Minister of the Parliament.

I wish to know from the hon. Minister whether a large responsibility will be put on the Member of Parliament so that the allocation is utilized properly instead of leaving it once again to the State authorities, the local Deputy Chairman, etc. by which a clear responsibility is not forthcoming.

Secondly I would like to know from the hon. Minister - this is a request-whether he will permit the operations only during the lean period. During the farm season, there is acute shortage of labour in some of the wet land areas; during that time they will get wage more than Rs.100/- and so, they will not be interested. At all, during that season, there is an expenditure shown under NREGA, it is all bogus expenditure. So, I wish to know from the hon. Minister whether he will give a guideline that this NREGA programme should be implemented only during the lean farm season and preferably in dry land areas.

DR. C. P. JOSHI: Madam Speaker, it is the choice of the individual; at what time he wants to use this opportunity. I would like to tell that it is his choice. You cannot ask him to work only during the lean season. But I can assure you that that person is well aware about this; at what time he wants to use it; and he can use any 100 days out of 365 days. So, we cannot impose this condition on the individual.

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Madam, in my constituency, as in most constituencies in Uttar Pradesh, NREGA has been used simply to dig the *gaddas*, then fill the *gaddas*, then dig the *gaddas* and fill the *gaddas*. Many other Members of Parliament have also asked this question. Is it possible to have a monthly meeting with the Member of Parliament heading it in each constituency so that we can actually see what is happening? Otherwise, since your scheme is simply, according to you, to put money into the hands of the poor, why not let them sit at home and just give them the same amount of money instead of digging the *gaddas* all over the place, which has no meaning at all. The Member of Parliament and Members of the Legislature, whoever they are, can sit at a meeting monthly with the local bureaucrats to see what is important for that constituency and arrive at a consensus, and see that it is done like that. In that way, money is also spent and work is also done.

[Translation]

Only kachchi roads are being constructed or uneven roads are there.

[English]

There is no third thing in Uttar Pradesh.

[Translation]

DR. C.P. JOSHI: Hon. Madam Speaker, two things in the Act are very simple and we have identified jobs on priority basis in 1st schedule, I think the government are not getting works done on priority basis because the scheduled works have not been given due priority.

[English]

It says: "Water conservation and water harvesting are the first priority. Then, drought proofing is the second priority. Irrigation canal including micro and minor irrigation is the third priority. Provision of irrigation facility to land owned by household belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes is the fourth priority. Renovation of traditional water."

These are the guidelines given to the State Government. This is the function of the State Government. They should adhere to it. If, unfortunately, they are not doing, we will have to discuss it and we will have to evolve a system. I can only do this much.

[Translation]

#### Credit Growth Rate

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483. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE:

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the growth in the credit rate recorded during January 2008 to June 2009 in the public sector banks, bank-wise and monthwise;

(b) whether the credit growth rate of banks has declined during the period from October 2008 to June 2009 as compared to the period from January 2008-September 2008;

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

(d) the sector-wise flow of credit during the same period?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) Bank category-wise & month-wise growth of credit of Scheduled Commercial Banks including Public Sector Banks (PSBs) is given in the enclosed Annexure-I.

(b) There was deceleration in credit growth of PSBs from 20 per cent between January 2008 & September 2008 to 9 per cent between October 2008 and June 2009. However, this deceleration was much lower than that recorded by private sector banks & foreign banks.

(c) The main reason for deceleration of credit growth was sharp slowdown in growth of the economy during the latter half of 2008-09 with both industry & export sector recording negative growth for several months. The global meltdown & volatility in financial markets resulted in rising uncertainties & dampened business sentiments thereby further contributing to slow down in demand for credit.

(d) Sector-wise flow of credit for PSBs is given in the enclosed Annexure-II.

**Annexure - I****Bank-category-wise & Month-wise growth in Outstanding Bank Credit**

Fortnight ended	(Rs Crore)			
	Public Sector Banks	Private Sector Banks	Foreign Banks	All SCBs (incl. RRBs)
18-Jan-08	1510328	449039	151878	2165563
29-Feb-08	1579947	460100	159361	2254760
28-Mar-08	1670150	471479	162868	2361914
25-Apr-08	1633526	469407	164111	2325134
23-May-08	1655982	480017	167045	2361207
20-Jun-08	1681633	483313	169556	2393239
18-Jul-08	1698636	485949	170312	2407308
29-Aug-08	1739246	489621	178258	2460754
26-Sep-08	1813005	495614	184327	2551026
24-Oct-08	1867339	503139	186856	2615981
21-Nov-08	1884394	506737	182102	2633180
19-Dec-08	1905277	502046	175571	2643734
30-Jan-09	1914649	489243	171527	2637780
27-Feb-09	1944729	490091	169707	2667928
27-Mar-09	2018711	523492	169335	2775549
24-Apr-09	2013709	504500	161802	2744490
22-May-09	2014640	500277	156700	2736452
19-Jun-09	2040466	504883	157515	2702865
Growth Rate in September 08 over Jan. 08	20.04	10.37	21.37	17.80
Growth Rate in June 09 over Oct. 08	9.27	0.35	-15.70	3.32
Growth Rate in June 09 over June '08 (Y-o-Y) Variation	21.34	4.46	-7.10	12.94
Growth Rate (June'08- June'07) -Y-o-Y variation	27.32	21.84	31.48	26.30

Source: RBI

Based on returns from 49 SCBs

**Annexure-II****Sector-wise Outstanding Credit: Public Sector Banks**

(Amount in Rs. crore)

Month	Agriculture & Allied Activities	Industry (Small, Medium & Large)	Services	Personal Loans	Total Non- Food Gross Bank Credit	Priority Sector
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Jan-08	209981	625025	347809	297835	1480650	542428
Feb-08	214247	647454	368205	305590	1535496	552620
Mar-08	226884	689636	420269	304094	1640884	577431
Apr-08	220970	680484	395099	304754	1601305	611955
May-08	221056	690068	390318	310715	1612157	579273
Jun-08	221614	702223	402380	316854	1642819	585753
Jul-08	215834	716701	407309	319145	1658989	577555
Aug-08	223138	744899	416732	326376	1711145	587342
Sep-08	239766	787631	430404	330063	1787864	630229
Oct-08	244709	807250	448826	338093	1836445	634509
Nov-08	244803	810771	447931	337341	1840846	630752
Dec-08	250571	821890	444452	344687	1861600	637799
Jan-09	253586	826673	453495	340692	1874446	654321
Feb-09	255453	848079	457892	341174	1902598	666518
Mar-09	272158	864065	492714	351178	1980115	702938
Apr-09	273460	859102	487651	353075	1973290	721769
May-09	273146	855115	483497	353700	1965458	717614
Growth rate in September, 08 over January, 08	14.18	26.02	23.75	10.82	20.75	16.19
Growth rate in May, 09 over October, 08	11.62	5.93	7.72	4.62	7.03	13.10

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Growth rate in May, 09 over May, 08 (Y-o-Y) variation	23.60	23.90	23.90	13.80	21.90	23.90
Growth rate in May, 08 over May, 07 (Y-o-Y) variation	18.20	28.60	37.00	15.10	26.10	16.80

Source: RBI

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE: Hon. Madam Speaker, the Government have admitted that the amount of loan of public sector banks has decreased from 20% during January, 2008 and September, 2008 to 9% during October, 2008 to June, 2009. As per my knowledge, a provision of more than Rs.3,80,000 crore has been made for banking sector by evolving a mechanism in CRR so that the production in the country may be increased. I would like to ask hon. Minister whether there is any growth in credit after you made provision for banking sector through CRR. If so, the sector-wise growth with regard to agriculture, industry and training.

[English]

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Madam, the fact is that when the industrial crisis engulfed the developed countries and the financial meltdown became a major financial crisis all over the world, it had its adverse impact. Credit is required for investment, for carrying business and for using it for productive purpose. Those activities are reduced during the period which the hon. Member referred to. Yes, it is correct that we felt the impact of the world financial crisis from September onwards. During the period between October, 2008 and January, 2009, this impact continued. It continued even up to June, 2009. Still, it is continuing in certain sectors. Naturally, the credit requirement of those sectors have come down.

The hon. Member would notice that along with the text of the written answer, I have given two important statements in Annexure I and Annexure II, which indicate the growth in outstanding bank credit in regard to Public

Sector Banks, Private Sector Banks, Foreign Banks and all Scheduled Commercial Banks (including Regional Rural Banks). In Annexure I, we have given the month-wise credit movement from 18th January, 2008 to 19th June, 2009. In the consolidation, which we have made at the bottom of the statement, you would find that these periods have been segmented where the worst impact on economy was there.

In respect of the sector-wise requirement, which the hon. Member asked for, I have given the data in Annexure II. Five major sectors have been identified there where we have given the figures and statistics in regard to Agriculture and Allied Activities, Industry (Small, Medium and Large), Service sectors, Personal sectors, Total Non-Food Gross Bank Credit and Priority Sector credit. These figures have been given in Annexure II. There too, if you go into the consolidation, you would find that in the relevant period, the growth has been substantially lowered. The growth rate in regard to Agriculture and Allied Activities, was 11.62 per cent in May, 09 over October, 08; in regard to Industry, it was 5.93 per cent; and in regard to Service sector, it was 7.72 per cent in May, 09 over October, 08. But if you come to the growth figures between May, 07 and May, 08, you would find some improvement. About the growth rate figures in May, 09 over May, 08 (Year on Year basis), you would find that 23.60 per cent was the growth rate in regard to Agriculture and Allied Activities. Similarly, in regard to Industry, the growth rate in May, 09 over May, 08 was 23.90 per cent; in regard to Service sector, it was 23.90 per cent; and in regard to Personal Loans, it was 13.80 per cent. But the period from May, 09 over October, 09 was the worst period. During this period, in Agriculture and Allied Activities, Industry and Service sectors, there has been an adverse impact.



[Translation]

SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE: Madam, I have asked this question because credit growth rate did not go up despite large amount provided by CRR, where has the amount gone? The mechanism we put in place through CRR, what is the impact of it? I would like to know about it. The Minister has admitted that credit growth rate has not increased despite this.

My second question is that 80 percent of the farmers are small and marginal farmers in our country and the number of small industrialists are in plenty in industry sector. The instructions given by the banks for the growth of small farmers and the small industries sector.

If so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor. As hon. Minister has told earlier that despite making provision by CRR. ... (Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: You have asked question, now listen the reply.

SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE: If there is no growth, the reasons thereof.

[English]

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Madam, the hon. Member is missing the main point which I tried to point out that it is not that there has not been any increase. You look at the entire economic scenario vis-a-vis credit. In the first half of the previous year, 2008-09, we had a situation where the rate of inflation was very high. It was double digit. Naturally, we had to resort to tightening the credit policy. As a consequence to that, the liquidity was not made available. The impact of the world financial crisis started from the month of September, and thereafter two stimulus measures were taken where the fiscal concessions were there. But I am not coming to that. Those things were discussed in detail during the Budget.

But the Reserve Bank of India, through the Monetary Policy, by adjusting the CRR and SLR made liquidity available to the banking sector so that the banking sector can meet the credit requirements of the non-food credit sector as per the priority given for agriculture. Priority is given to small and medium industries. Priority is given to other sectors, including housing. But there must be takers. Initially, there was an uncertainty.

As a consequence to that, practically for a period of

almost nine months, for instance, even today, the export is coming down. Manufacturing sector has started coming up only in the months of May and June. Therefore, prior to that period, from September, 2008, there must be a slow down of the credit, and the entire liquidity available to the banking sector could not be utilized fully. Therefore, the economy has started moving slightly. But still I am not quite sure because the other problem may come from the adverse impact of scanty rainfalls. My colleague, the Agriculture Minister is making the assessment. We are also making the assessment but this is a problem and this problem is a reality. We are trying to handle it. But we cannot explain. Movement of the economy is not just like, 'switch off or switch on'. Even if we take action today by adjusting the credit policy, it will take some more time to get its full impact on the overall economy

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Madam Speaker, I had raised this question during budget session. I have seen that the substantial deposits of Government and private banks lies in Government papers.

[English]

Huge borrowing programme of the Government in 2008-09 increased by Rs. 2,00,000 crore and in 2009-10, it is bound to increase by Rs. 3,50,000 crore or Rs. 4,00,000 crore. Now when you borrow heavily, then the liquidity goes to you. Therefore, the interest rate becomes higher.

[Translation]

The interest rate of loan to be given to the people of medium and small industries has not become cheaper. I have with me the statement of the Governor of the Reserve Bank of India which says that the interest rates, lending rates of the banks should be lower particularly for these people. Because if money goes on deposited in Government papers, it would be eight to nine folds. I observed this year, at the end of June

[English]

deposit in the Government papers has gone up to eight to nine folds.

[Translation]

It would not remove the fatigue of the industries. On the one hand, you want to pump money there and set up

industry there but on the other hand, money is deposited in government papers. And there is one more thing that profit of banks has increased. The profit of private sector banks has increased 21 percent in 2008-09 as compared to 2007-08 while the profit of foreign banks has increased 35 percent. The inflow from foreign banks has reduced.

[English]

The inflow from foreigners has reduced

[Translation]

so how would you balance in such a condition?

[English]

The roadmap appears to be awry.

[Translation]

It does not appear to go smoothly.

[English]

It is because you have money with you; banks are giving to you and the industry is suffering. So, with the onslaught of monsoon and everything which you find, how are you going to manage all these things?

So, I may ask you what your roadmap now is for giving a stimulus to the manufacturing sector, to the small-scale and the medium sector, which is the backbone of the economy under the domestic market.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Madam, these are broad policy matters and definitely, these issues were raised during the discussion on the Budget. Hon. Member had initiated the discussion on Budget and many of these issues were also referred to. I also responded to them.

I have never claimed that it will not raise certain critical issues, but the option was also very limited. The option was just to have and settle with the slow growth rate or to make an attempt by expanding and creating the fiscal space by larger borrowings to give momentum to the growth. This has paid divided to some extent, as you have noticed. If you look at, I can share with the hon. Member, the growth scenario which has been projected. Our growth scenario for the year 2008-09 was projected to be 5.4 per cent, but we have settled with 6.7 per cent. How could we achieve it? We could achieve it because of the stimulus which we provided, but that did not mean that all the problems of the industry were taken care of by one go.

The movement was very slow and the hon. Member is absolutely correct that at the initial stage when the banks were flushed with liquidity, they thought that it would be better for them to earn some interest on the Government securities as industry, the manufacturing sector was feeling shy of drawing credit, as exports sector was feeling shy of drawing credit. Therefore, they just transferred that money to the Government securities. There is no doubt about it. That is why, the Government borrowings also increased last year, 2008-09, by nearly Rs. 2 lakh crore additional from Rs. 1.23 lakh crore. This year, I have already projected in the Budget that it may be around Rs. 3.5 lakh crore to Rs. 4 lakh crore. But the question is whether it will be elbowing out the genuine credit requirement of the private sector including the small and medium sector. My respectful submission is that that is the balancing act which the Government will be doing in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India, and the borrowing programme will be adjusted in such a manner that the private sectors are not elbowed out of the market.

SHRI A. SAMPATH : Madam, I would like to get a point cleared from the hon. Finance Minister. We all know that the credit-deposit ratio is coming down. From some States, millions of people have gone abroad for earning their livelihood and they are sending back the precious foreign exchange. States like Kerala are getting more than seven times the total budgetary allocation the Union Government makes to the State.

Quite recently, we have given directions to the various banks to give adequate educational loans to the students. It is a new phenomenon and it must be encouraged also. But through you, Madam, I would like to get a point cleared from the hon. Finance Minister. In some States, there are differences in the fees for the same course itself. For example, there are self-financing colleges. The Government fees will be very much lower while at the same time, in respect of seats which the management offers, the fees will be much higher. Quite recently, it has come to the knowledge of our hon. Members also ....

MADAM SPEAKER: Please ask the question.

SHRI A. SAMPATH: I am coming to the question.

It has been put to our knowledge also that the banks are now hesitant to give educational loans as per the demand of the students. So, if it has come to the notice of the hon. Finance Minister also, I would like to know what measures can be taken to help the students, who are

studying in the professional colleges especially the self-financing colleges, to give loans to satisfy their needs regarding their studies, to remit fees etc. That is my question.

**SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE :** This particular Question is related to the growth of credit and the variation of credit in various sectors of the banks. But as the hon. Member has raised the issue and I know about the subject, so I will respond to it.

As far as the educational loan facilities to the students are concerned, the scheme has been picked up, and the figure, which I got for the last financial year, is that more than 15 lakh students availed of the opportunities. I can give you a macro figure, and I cannot give you the bank-wise, college-wise micro figures as it is not possible for me. Nearly, 15 lakh students availed of the Rs. 26,000 crore, and during this Budget also I have extended the facilities not only for higher degrees, but even for vocational training and courses the students will be entitled to have the loan facilities from the banks. If there is any aberration or if some complaints come to the notices of the hon. Members, then there is always a set grievance redressal mechanism in the banks, in the States, in the district-level, and the help of those mechanisms can be resorted to.

#### **Power Generation from Renewable Energy Sources**

\*484. **SHRI NITYANANDA PRADHAN:** Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set any targets to generate power from the new and renewable energy sources in the next ten years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has prepared or proposes to prepare a vision document in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the precise steps proposed to be taken for increasing power generation through new and renewable energy in the future?

**THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH) :** (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Statement**

(a) and (b) A capacity addition of 15,000 MW (14,000 MW grid-interactive and 1,000 MW off-grid / distributed) has been proposed from renewable sources during the 11th Plan. Thus, by the end of the 11th Plan grid-interactive renewable power installed capacity is likely to cross 24,000 MW or about 12 per cent of the then likely total installed capacity. A capacity addition of around 15,000 MW each is envisaged for the 12th and 13th Plans. Renewable power capacity by the end of the 13th plan period is likely to reach 54,000 MW, comprising 40,000 MW wind power, 6,500 MW small hydro power 7,500 MW bio-power and 50 MW solar power, which would correspond to a share of about 5% in the electricity-mix.

(c) and (d) The above targets are part of the 11th Plan proposals of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy already approved by the National Development Council. An Integrated Energy Policy covering all sources of energy including renewable energy has also been formulated and approved in December 2008. More recently, a draft National Solar Mission document proposing a target of 20,000 MW for solar power by 2020 has received in-principle approval of the PM's Council on Climate Change in its meeting held on 3 August 2009.

(e) The steps and measures taken by the Government to promote renewable power generation in the country include the following:

- Fiscal and financial incentives, such as, capital/ interest subsidy, accelerated depreciation, nil/ concessional excise and customs duties;
- Generation based incentives for Solar Power and Wind Power;
- Preferential tariff for grid interactive renewable power in most potential States;
- Benefit under Section 80-1A of Income Tax Act 1961 to undertakings setup for the generation or generation and distribution of renewable power;

Directives under Electricity Act 2003 to all States for fixing a minimum percentage for purchase of power from renewable energy sources.

SHRI NITYANANDA PRADHAN: Madam Speaker, the hon. Minister has projected his figures for the all-India level, but I want to specifically know from the hon. Minister about the renewable energy. Is it actually working in the rural areas? I am asking this because I have seen that the mechanism fails in many of the rural areas – where this system has been introduced – within a few months itself. Thereby, the people are deprived of getting electricity.

On the other hand, the Government is losing money, and the Government is simply satisfied with the figures that they have constructed so much of generating units. Therefore, I want to know this from the hon. Minister. Is there any follow-up action with regard to the renewable energy institutions? Can the target, which he has fixed up, be met? I am asking this because I have seen in many of the villages in my State of Orissa that the targets have not been fulfilled. It is evident from the *Economic Survey* of the Government of India also. Therefore, I want to know this from the hon. Minister. Will he take necessary steps for follow-up action? By what time will he be able to complete or finish the projected figures under the Village Electrification Programme?

DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH : Madam Speaker, the studies covered 99,908 home lighting systems power supplied by SPV power plants; 615 street lights; 91 solar lanterns; 8 SPV pumps in various villages and hamlets in Assam, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Manipur, Meghalaya, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, and West Bengal under the Ministry's Remote Village Electrification (RVE) Programme. The function varied from 70 per cent of street lighting system to 100 per cent SPV pumps.

A study of 250 solar cookers in Gujarat, Haryana, Rajasthan, and Uttarakhand has revealed that 85 per cent beneficiaries were using solar cooker regularly for cooking their meals. The Integrated Research and Action for Development (IRADE), New Delhi; the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), New Delhi; and the National Productivity Council (NPC), New Delhi carried out these studies in 2007-2008 and 2008-2009.

The point is that our Ministry is trying its best to see that we are able to approve the projects sent to us by the State Governments. Thereafter, it is for the State Governments to carry them out. The reports that we get is that they are all functioning up to 85 per cent, and somewhere they are functioning up to 96 per cent.

But I hear from the Member of Parliament here that in his State of Orissa, the functioning is not that good. I would be very grateful if the hon. Member of Parliament could write to me and tell me of the areas where he finds they are not functioning, I will have that looked into. Since I am going to these Governments and seeing the Chief Ministers personally, I would like to put it before them that here is a situation where the Members of Parliament have reported that what we have put into your States are not functioning. Therefore, we have to have bilateral action between you and the Ministry if you want that this system should get on.

One of the things which I would like to put before this House is that the Solar Mission that has just been approved by the Prime Minister's Council on climate change will be one that will really transform our country, as far as this energy is concerned. As soon as the things that were brought up in the meeting of the Prime Minister's Council on climate change are incorporated into the Solar Mission Document, I am sure that will be brought before this House, and you all Members will know of the activity that this Ministry is going to do. Solar Mission is one of the most important sectors of our Government.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

### Solar Energy Projects

\*485. SHRI RAJU SHETTI : Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether several Centrally sponsored/financed solar energy projects in the country particularly in rural areas are not functioning properly;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH) : (a) and (b) The solar energy systems installed in the country including rural areas under the Ministry's programmes have been found to be functioning satisfactorily in general. Field monitoring and evaluation studies undertaken by independent agencies i.e. the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), New Delhi, National Productivity Council (NPC), New Delhi and the Integrated Research & Action for Development (IRADe), New Delhi for the solar energy systems installed in the country including rural areas have indicated satisfactory performance for 70-100 percent systems. The systems include solar home lighting systems, solar street lights, solar lanterns, solar pumps, solar cookers and solar power plants.

(c) For improving the functionality of the systems, the Government has taken several steps such as (i) for better implementation and maintenance of the systems, recently the Ministry has decided to implement the programmes in project mode (ii) prescribing specifications of systems and their type testing by authorized centres (iii) provision of warranty for a minimum period of two years for the complete solar photovoltaic (SPV) systems, including the batteries and minimum ten years for PV modules (iv) provision of comprehensive/annual maintenance contracts for the systems for 5 years, including warranty period (v) additional facilities of after sales service/maintenance through the Akshya Urja Shops, service networks of the manufacturers and local level offices of the state renewable energy development agencies.

#### **Guidelines Regarding Recovery Agents**

\*486. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN:

SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether recovery agents of the private sector banks and financial organisations have been harassing the defaulters over a period of time despite RBI / Supreme Court guidelines;

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

(c) whether the Reserve Bank of India has issued any guidelines for appointment of recovery agents;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any mechanism has been evolved to enforce these guidelines; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (f) To regulate the conduct of recovery agents engaged by banks and to protect the rights of the banks' customers, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), on 24th April, 2008, issued guidelines on 'recovery agents engaged by banks'. These guidelines cover various operational issues concerning engagement of recovery agents by the banks, including the methods to be followed by them for recovery of dues, training for the recovery agents, procedure for taking possession of property mortgaged / hypothecated to the banks, etc. The banks have also been advised to strictly abide by the codes pertaining to collection of dues.

The bank customers aggrieved by the conduct of recovery agents can seek redressal of their grievances under the Banking Ombudsman Scheme, 2006. The Banking Ombudsman is empowered to pass an 'award' compensating the customer upto Rs. 1 lakh on account of harassment and mental anguish suffered by him.

#### **Distribution of Power**

\*487. SHRI KUNVARJIBHAI MOHANBHAI BAVALIA :  
Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the revenue earnings of the Power Utilities underwent any significant change in the aftermath of private sector participation in the distribution of power, under Power Sector Reforms, over a period of time;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government also proposes to bring improvement in the technology used in the power sector along with the work of distribution of power assigned to the private sector; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE) : (a) to (c) Power Distribution has been privatized in the States i.e. Delhi and Orissa. The revenue earned from the sale of power in the states has increased, Year-wise details as indicated in the "Report on the Performance of the State Power Utilities" of PFC are as follows:

*Revenue Earning from sale of Power in Respect of Private Distribution Utilities*

(Figures in Rs. Crore)

State	Name of Discoms	Financial Year					
		2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
Delhi	NDPL		863	1268	1577	1734	1916
	BSES Rajdhani		1120	1693	2156	2388	2647
	BSES Yamuna		511	894	1092	1233	1370
Total			2494	3855	4825	5355	5933
Orissa	CESCO	654	675	694	719	707	827
	NESCO	317	385	399	488	611	762
	SESCO	262	279	274	273	295	308
	WESCO	503	624	667	758	818	941
Total		1736	1963	2034	2238	2431	2838

(d) and (e) The private utilities have themselves adopted new technologies and IT applications in distribution sector to bring improvements in the power sector. The main steps initiated by the private utilities to improve the commercial viability in the sector are as follows:

- Improvement in the system Metering (Feeder and Distribution Transformer) and consumer metering;
- Energy Accounting and Auditing;
- GIS mapping of Distribution network;
- SCADA with energy management & distribution management system; and
- Monitoring and Control of Distribution Network.

**Alleged Irregularities through  
Derivative Contracts**

488. SHRI MANISH TEWARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that speculative wagering contracts involving crores of rupees were aggressively marketed by some banks to unsuspecting Small and Medium Enterprises, packaged as Foreign Exchange Derivative Contracts, to hedge foreign exchange risks in violation of the provisions of the Indian Contract Act, 1872 and the guidelines of the Reserve Bank of India on Derivatives and the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (FEMA);

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

(c) whether the Government is aware that action has been taken against erring banks on similar kind in some foreign countries;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for not taking action against erring banks; and

(e) the action taken or likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (e) On receiving information regarding wide-spread losses on account of derivative transactions by the Users, including exporters, RBI carried out special scrutiny of a few banks and specifically focused on the derivatives portfolio during its Annual Financial Inspections (AFIs) of the banks. RBI also collected data from 22 banks on their derivatives portfolio, their exposure to Small & Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and the disputes, if any, with regard to their contracts in derivative segment. The analysis, inter-alia, revealed that —

- (i) Very few banks have derivative exposure to SMEs.
- (ii) Most SMEs have not been allowed exotic products by the banks based on their customer appropriateness policies.
- (iii) As on 31st December, 2008, the total Market-to-Market (MTM) derivative exposure of the banks to the SMEs was only Rs.196 crore, which accounts for less than 1 per cent of their total MTM exposure in derivatives.
- (iv) There were very few disputes with SME customers on account of derivative transactions.

Based on the above analysis, the following measures have been taken —

- (i) RBI has impressed upon the banks to bear in mind the sensitivities involved in the matter and adopt a pragmatic approach in resolving the grievances of the customers.
- (ii) To ease the difficulties of the SMEs, RBI revisited the regulatory framework regarding asset classification and restructuring of derivative contracts and provided

that any receivable on account of MTM derivative exposure, even if overdue for a period of 90 days or more, will not require classification of other funded facilities of the client as Non Performing Asset (NPA).

#### **Preparation of BPL List**

\*489. DR. SANJEEV GANESH NAIK:  
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments have requested the Union Government for inclusion of more number of families in the list of people living Below Poverty Line (BPL) and removal of limit on the total number of BPL families to be identified in the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Union Government thereon;

(c) whether the Government proposes to conduct a new BPL census on the basis of suitable methodology to prepare a more realistic list of BPL people; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (DR. C.P. JOSHI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The proportion and number of people living Below the Poverty Line (BPL) at the national and State level is estimated by the Planning Commission from the large sample survey of Consumer Expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) after an interval of five years approximately. The Ministry of Rural Development in association with the State Governments and the Union Territory (UT) administrations conducts the BPL Census to identify the rural households living Below the Poverty Line (BPL) who could be assisted under its various programmes. The total number of rural BPL households identified in the last BPL Census conducted in 2002 was based on the Planning Commission poverty estimates of 1999-2000. Subsequently, to address the concerns raised by some States, the States and UTs were given the option to identify the total number of BPL households equal to the poverty

estimates for 1999-2000 or the Adjusted Share worked out by the Planning Commission, whichever is higher. The States were also given the flexibility of another 10% to account for the transient poor. This position continues.

(c) Yes, Madam

(d) The Ministry of Rural Development in August 2008 has constituted an Expert Group to advise the Ministry of Rural Development on the methodology for conducting the BPL census for the Eleventh Five Year Plan. The Terms of Reference of the Expert Group include recommending a suitable methodology for conducting the next BPL Census to identify the BPL households in the rural areas. The Expert Group has not submitted its final report.

[Translation]

#### Accidents in DMRC Projects

\*490. SHRIMATI MEENA SINGH:

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made any investigations into the frequent accidents taking place in the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of persons killed and injured including workers and labourers of DMRC during each of the last three years and the current year alongwith the reasons for such accidents;

(c) whether any compensation has been paid to the families of the deceased and injured;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SAUGATA ROY): (a) Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) Ltd. has reported that after every accident in its projects involving loss of life or

serious injury, the Safety Team of DMRC along with the Safety expert of the General Consultants, who is an expatriate, conducts a detailed investigation and submits a report to the Management. All the accidents have taken place during the construction phase only. The Union Government enquires from DMRC about the details of the major accidents and remedial measures taken.

(b) The number of persons killed and injured during the last 3 years and current year are as under:-

<i>Death Cases</i>		
2006	—	04
2007	—	11
2008	—	17
2009	—	15
Total	—	47

<i>Major and Minor injuries since 2006</i>		
2006	—	09
2007	—	08
2008	—	16
2009	—	22
Total	—	55

The details furnished by DMRC are given in the enclosed Statement – I.

(c) and (d) The compensation is reported to have been paid/ deposited with Workman Compensation Commissioner in most of the cases involving fatalities as well as injuries as per details enclosed at Statement – II.

(e) There is three tier safety enforcement system in Delhi Metro, firstly a safety team employed by the contractor himself, at second level DMRC's safety audit team headed by an experienced expatriate and thirdly DMRC's own engineers exercising due checks. Recently, the safety team under General Consultants has been strengthened to enforce safety.



The Union Government after obtaining all details about the accident on 19.0.2008 at DMRC's construction site at Laxmi Nagar has informed all the Metro Authorities in the country currently engaged in construction work and

the concerned Chief Secretaries about the cause of the accident and the need to ensure that adequate safety measures are put in place to prevent such recurrence.

**Statement – I**

*Year wise details of Accidents with Fatality and Injury details*

Year	No. of accidents	No. of fatalities	No. of persons injured	Cause of Accident
1	2	3	4	5
2006	10	4	9	Fall from height – 04 Hit the Run over by Vehicle – 02 Electrocution – 01 Lightening – Nil Crane Toppling/Failure – Nil Buried under excavation collapse – Nil Hit/Crushed by falling object/Material – 03 Injuries by sharp object – Nil Fall injuries – Nil
Year	No. of accidents	No. of fatalities	No. of persons injured	Cause of Accident
2007	14	11	9	Fall from height -02 Hit the Run over by Vehicle – 04 Electrocution – Nil Lightening – 01 Crane Toppling/ Failure – 02 Buried under excavation collapse – Nil Hit/Crushed by falling object/Material – 05 Injuries by sharp object – Nil Fall injuries – Nil
Year	No. of accidents	No. of fatalities	No. of persons injured	Cause of Accident
2008	19	7	16	Fall from height – 04 Hit the Run over by Vehicle – 02

1	2	3	4	5
				Electrocution – Nil
				Lightening – Nil
				Crane Toppling/ Failure – 02
				Buried under excavation collapse – 01
				Hit/ Crushed by falling object/ Material – 08
				Injuries by sharp object – Nil
				Fall Injuries – 02
Year	No. of accidents	No. of fatalities	No. of persons injured	Cause of Accident
2009	12	15	22	Fall from height – Nil
Till date				Hit the Run over by Vehicle – 03
				Electrocution – 01
				Lightening – Nil
				Crane Toppling/Failure – 01
				Buried under excavation collapse – Nil
				Hit/ Crushed by falling object/Material – 04
				Injuries by sharp object – 03
				Fall injuries – Nil

**Statement – II**

*Summary of total Death Cases and DMRC details of compensation and Labour Welfare Fund (LWF) payment made (inclusive of road accidents/natural deaths)*

1. Total Death Cases under Phase-I and Phase-II	-	102 (3 outsiders)
Cases of Phase-I	-	55 (2 outsiders)
Cases of Phase-II	-	47 (1 outsider)
2. Cases eligible for Workman compensation payment	-	99 (102-3 outsiders)
3. Workman compensation payment made	-	72 cases
4. Workman compensation pending for want of family details / addresses/ bank accounts/ Court Case	-	27 cases
Total	-	99
5. Total major and minor injuries since 2006	:	55 (7 outsiders)

-In all cases full wages & medical expenses was borne by contractor during their treatment.

-Compensation has been paid in 11 cases and ex-gratia by DMRC in 17 cases.

-In remaining cases no compensation was admissible.

[English]

**Illegal Occupation/Subletting of  
Government Accommodation**

\*491. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints received by the Government of illegal occupation/subletting of Government accommodation and premises during the last three years, State/UT-wise;

(b) the action taken by the Government thereon alongwith the number of such cases disposed of and lying pending during the said period, State/UT-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SAUGATA ROY) : (a) The number of complaints received in the Directorate of Estates regarding subletting of Government quarters in Delhi & other regional Stations under the Directorate of Estates during the last three years is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) The following penalties are imposed on the allottee if the quarter is found to be sublet by the deciding authority:-

- (i) Allotment of the quarter in the name of allottee is cancelled.
- (ii) The allottee is declared ineligible for allotment of general pool residential accommodation for remaining period of his/her service.
- (iii) Damages from such allottee are charged from the date of cancellation of allotment till the date of vacation of the quarter.
- (iv) The concerned department of the allottee is intimated to initiate disciplinary proceedings against such allottee.

The number of cases disposed off and lying pending during the last three years in Delhi & other regional Stations under the Directorate of Estates is given in the enclosed Statement.

- (c) Inspections and inquiries into complaints have been intensified and deterrent penalties are levied and enforced wherever cases of subletting are established.

**Statement**

*States/UTs-wise Number of Complaints regarding  
Illegal Occupations/Subletting*

Year	Complaint received	Cases disposed off	Cases Pending
1	2	3	4
<b>Delhi</b>			
2006-07	1325	668	657
2007-08	1654	731	923
2008-09	903	593	310
<b>Mumbai (Maharashtra)</b>			
2006-07	79	76	00
2007-08	36	36	00
2008-09	52	44	08
<b>Nagpur (Maharashtra)</b>			
2006-07	13	11	00
2007-08	43	40	00
2008-09	07	00	06
<b>Chennai (Tamil Nadu)</b>			
2006-07	04	02	00
2007-08	05	03	00
2008-09	14	22	00
<b>Shimla (Himachal Pradesh)</b>			
2006-07	01	01	00
2007-08	01	01	00
2008-09	Nil	00	00

1	2	3	4
<b>Ghaziabad (Uttar Pradesh )</b>			
2006-07	Nil	00	00
2007-08	04	04	00
2008-09	09	07	00
<b>Faridabad (Haryana)</b>			
2006-07	05	05	00
2007-08	14	14	00
2008-09	19	19	00
<b>Kolkata (West Bengal)</b>			
2006-07	37	19	00
2007-08	10	08	00
2008-09	19	15	00
<b>Chandigarh (UT)</b>			
2006-07	24	24	00
2007-08	18	18	00
2008-09	07	07	00

**Shortage of Coal in NTPC  
Power Plants**

\*492. SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the coal stocks of several power plants of the National Thermal Power Corporation Limited (NTPC) have been dwindling continuously for the last few months affecting the power generation;

(b) if so, the details of the requirement of coal and its supply to these power plants during the year 2008-2009 and the current year and the utilised power generation capacity during the said period;

(c) the reasons for the shortage of coal supply; and

(d) the steps taken or being taken to improve the supply of coal to these power plants?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE) : (a) Yes, Madam. Coal stock at some of the NTPC's power stations, namely Farakka, Kahalgaon, Talcher (Kaniha) and Sipat has gone down.

(b) The details of coal requirement and supply as well as capacity utilization (Plant Load Factor) of Farakka, Kahalgaon, Talcher (Kaniha) and Sipat during the year 2008-09 & 2009-10 (upto June, 2009) are given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) Main reason for shortage of coal is inadequate availability of indigenous coal. For the year 2009-10, against the total requirement of 404 Million Tonne (MT), availability of coal from Coal India Limited (CIL) was indicated as 313 MT. Taking into account 30 MT from Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. (SCCL) and 20 MT from Captive mines, total indigenous coal availability was worked out to 363 MT, leaving a gap of 41 MT. In order to bridge the gap between demand and indigenous supply of coal for the current year 2009-10, power utilities have been advised to import 28.7 MT coal.

(d) Following steps are being taken to augment coal supply for NTPC stations:

\* Import of coal to bridge the gap between demand and indigenous supply of coal. NTPC have already imported approximately 3.6 MT coal upto 30th June 2009 against the annual target of 12.5 MT for the year 2009-10.

\* The monitoring of coal supply to thermal power stations by Central Electricity Authority (CEA), Ministry of Power as well as an Inter-Ministerial Committee comprising representatives from Ministry of Coal, Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Power and CEA to optimize coal supply to the plants having stock upto 7 days.

\* Review of the coal production and supply to thermal power stations by the Infrastructure Constraints

Review Committee, headed by Secretary (Co-ordination) in the Cabinet Secretariat.

Review of the status of supply of fuel to power stations in the country by the Fuel infrastructure Committee, under the chairmanship of Member (Power), Planning Commission.

NTPC has entered into captive coal mining and is in the process of developing six coal blocks allocated

to it for ensuring long term fuel security. NTPC is also exploring the possibility of acquiring stakes in the coal mines from abroad for sourcing coal supply for its power plants.

International Coal Venture Pvt. Ltd. (ICVL), a joint venture company amongst NTPC, RINL, SAIL, NMDC and CIL has been formed for securing metallurgical and thermal coal assets from overseas.

### Statement

#### Coal Requirement vis-a-vis Supply (Domestic) and Power Generation (During 2008-09 and 2009-10 (upto June, 2009))

Station	Coal Requirement (ACQ) (Lakh MT) As agreed by CIL					Coal supply (Lakh MT)						Plant Load Factor (%)			
	2008-09		2009-10			2008-09		2009-10				2008-09		2009-10	
	April	May	June	Total		April	May	June	Total	% Materialisation		April	May	June	
Farakka	97.4	7.50	7.50	7.50	22.50	77.2	4.82	5.16	5.51	15.49	68.8	76.76	68.3	85.8	100.7
Kahalgaon-I (840 MW)	87.4	5.00	5.00	5.00	15.00	69.7	7.38	7.66	7.17	22.21	69.0	80.04	69.8	74.1	78.3
Kahalgaon-II (3x500 MW)*		5.72	5.72	5.72	17.16*										
Talcher (Kaniha)	190.1	14.42	14.42	14.42	43.26	165.6	11.72	11.93	14.40	38.05	88.0	85.83	98.6	95.6	89.3
Sipat	34.8	4.83	4.83	4.83	14.49	30	3.78	4.36	4.03	12.17	84.0	94.63	68.7	70.4	90.0

\*Considered at 90% PLF in view of Annual Contracted Quantity (ACQ) being under discussion.

### NBCC

\*493. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH :

DR. MAHENDRASINH P. CHAUHAN :

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Building Construction Corporation (NBCC) proposes to build affordable houses in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of flats to be constructed under the projects, category and location-wise;

(c) the prices at which these flats are likely to be sold; and

(d) the time by which the said projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SAUGATA ROY) : (a) to (d) National Buildings Construction Corporation Limited (NBCC) is making endeavour to build houses at a reasonable price in different parts of the country. At present, NBCC has taken up a project in the New Township at Rajarhat in Kolkata (West Bengal) for construction of flats as per the details indicated as under:-

One Bed-room houses	-	224 nos.
Two Bed-room houses	-	224 nos.
Three Bed-room houses	-	126 nos.
Four Bed-room houses	-	14 nos

These houses have been sold at the rate of Rs. 1,500-2,300 per sq.ft.

The above project would be completed by March, 2010.

[Translation]

### Assistance to State

\*494. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the debt burden of various States as on 31st March, 2009;

(b) the proposal submitted by various States including Rajasthan for financial assistance to reduce the debt;

(c) the aid and assistance proposed to be extended to each State during 2009-10 to reduce the debt burden; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) A statement – I indicating outstanding liabilities of state governments as at end March 2009 (BE) is enclosed.

(b) In the conference of the State Finance Ministers with the Union Finance Minister on 11 June 2009, representatives of State Governments, inter-alia, requested for debt relief including relaxation of fiscal deficit targets without losing benefits under the Debt Consolidation and Relief Facility (DCRF), consolidation and rescheduling of loans given by financial institutions to state governments, review of Fiscal Responsibility and Management Acts etc.

(c) and (d) The Twelfth Finance Commission (TFC) recommended DCRF over the period of its award, i.e. 2005-10. The DCRF Scheme has two components – (i) consolidation of Central loans contracted till 31.3.2004 and outstanding as on 31.3.2005, and (ii) grant of interest relief and debt waiver to States based on their fiscal performance. For the year 2009-10, based on the existing DCRF guidelines and the information provided by the states in their budget documents, debt waiver to the extent of Rs. 2192.06 crore has been provided to 8 states, till date, as per details in the enclosed Statement – II. In the recent Union Budget the fiscal deficit ceiling has been liberalized to 4% of the Gross State Domestic Product, to enable the States to pursue their developmental programmes without the losing the benefits of DCRF.

### Statement – I

#### Outstanding liabilities of State Governments (As at end-March)

		(Rs. Crore)
		2008-09 (BE)
1	Andhra Pradesh	126,996
2	Arunachal Pradesh	3,331
3	Assam	21,532
4	Bihar	53,277
5	Chhattisgarh	16,317
6	Goa	7,118
7	Gujarat	103,674
8	Haryana	32,062
9	Himachal Pradesh	21,283
10	Jammu and Kashmir	24,800
11	Jharkhand	26,407
12	Karnataka	64,992
13	Kerala	64,801

14	Madhya Pradesh	61,370
15	Maharashtra	176,730
16	Manipur	4,806
17	Meghalaya	3,278
18	Mizoram	3,634
19	Nagaland	3,836
20	Orissa	44,666
21	Punjab	60,081
22	Rajasthan	83,051
23	Sikkim	2,036
24	Tamil Nadu	84,825
25	Tripura	5,647
26	Uttar Pradesh	188,197
27	Uttaranchal	15,713
28	West Bengal	146,563
Total		1,451,026

Source: RBI

**Statement- II***Debt waiver awarded to States*

(Rs. in crore)

States	Loan Waiver For 2009-10
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	703.08
Bihar	384.93
Chhattisgarh	93.26
Jharkhand	104.96
Karnataka	49.66

1	2
Madhya Pradesh	363.06
Maharashtra	339.97
Tamil Nadu	153.14
Total	2192.06

**Note:**

1. The figures of Debt waiver to States are subject to change on receipt of Finance Accounts and Budget documents from States.
2. Decision taken based on the existing fiscal deficit to GSDP ceiling of 3.5%.

**Credit to MSM Enterprises/Industries**

\*495. SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI:

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the targets set and achieved for providing credit to the Micro, Small and Medium (MSM) enterprises/industries by the public/ private and foreign banks during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the Government has issued any guidelines to the public/private and foreign banks to improve lending to the MSM enterprises/industries which are reeling under the impact of global meltdown;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government has been monitoring the role of the public/private/foreign banks for lending to the MSM enterprises/industries; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (e) Government of India announced a policy package for stepping up credit to Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) on 10th August 2005, with the objective that Public Sector Banks (PSBs) fix their own targets for funding SMEs in order to achieve a minimum 20% year-on-year growth in credit to SME sector to double the flow of credit within a period of 5 years. The flow of credit from Scheduled Commercial Banks to the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) has increased over a period of time as given below:

(Rs. in crore)

Year as on 31 March	Public Sector Banks	Private Sector Banks	Foreign Banks	All Scheduled Commercial Banks
2006	82434**	10421	8430	101285
2007	102550 (24.4%)	13136	11637	127323
2008	151137 (47.4%)	46912	15489	213538
2009*	190968 (26.4%)	47916	18188	257072

\*March 2009 data is provisional.

\*\* Figures in bracket indicate y-o-y growth in percentage.

RBI has issued a consolidated Master Circular on 1.7.2009 to all Scheduled Commercial Banks regarding lending to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) Sector which has been placed by RBI on their website [www.rbi.org.in](http://www.rbi.org.in).

In order to monitor the credit flow to MSME Sector, Empowered Committees on MSMEs have been constituted under the Chairmanship of the Regional Directors of RBI at the Regional Offices of Reserve Bank of India, with the representatives of SLBC Convenor, senior level officers from two banks having predominant share in MSME financing in the State, representatives of SIDBI Regional Office, the Director of Industries of the State Government, one or two senior level representatives from the MSME/SSI Associations in the State, and a senior level officer from SFC/SIDC as members. The Committee is to meet periodically and review the progress in MSME financing as also rehabilitation of sick Micro, Small and Medium units. It will also coordinate with other banks/financial institutions and the State Government in removing bottlenecks, if any, to ensure smooth flow of credit to the sector. The Committee may decide the need to have similar committees at cluster/district levels.

Further, Government has also been monitoring the credit flow to various sectors including MSME sector on quarterly basis at the highest level.

[English]

### Rural Electrification

\*496. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:

SHRI JAGDANAND SINGH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has reviewed the working of Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY);

(b) if so, the number of villages electrified in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(c) whether the targets set for electrification of villages were achieved during the above period;

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

(e) whether higher allocation of funds is proposed to be made for implementing the scheme in the States in the Eleventh Five Year Plan; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE) : (a) Yes, Madam. Government has reviewed the working of Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana.

(b) The achievement of electrification of un/de-electrified villages for the sanctioned projects under RGGVY for the last three years & current year are given in the enclosed Statement both State-wise and year-wise.



(c) and (d) The targets set for electrification of villages could not be achieved during this period. The electrification of villages got delayed due to the following reasons:-

- Delay in forest clearance for execution of the Projects in some states.
- Land acquisition for 33/11 KV sub-stations was unduly delayed by the States.
- Limited number of qualified agencies available for execution of turnkey contracts.
- Shortage of material and high prices.
- The road permit and issue of way bills by few states caused late execution of projects.
- Very poor upstream rural electricity infrastructure in some states.
- Delay in finalization of BPL lists by some states.
- Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) from some states were received late.
- Difficult terrain in some states.
- Law & order problem including Maoist Violence in some states.

(e) and (f) The Government has accorded approval for capital subsidy of Rs.28000 crore for execution of Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana during Phase-I of 11th Plan in addition to Rs.5000 crore approved for execution of Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana during 10th Plan period.

#### Statement

*State-wise & Year-wise achievement of electrification of un/de-electrified villages for the sanctioned projects under RGGVY*

Sr. No.	States	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (As on 15.07.2009)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	0	0	0	0
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	54

1	2	3	4	5	6
3	Assam	0	84	651	90
4	Bihar	8415	3347	3098	610
5	Chhattisgarh	0	0	50	4
6	Gujarat		0	0	0
7	Haryana	0	0	0	0
8	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0
9	Jharkhand	0	1259	4933	1567
10	J&K	0	0	46	4
11	Karnataka	0	0	11	0
12	Kerala	0	0	0	0
13	Madhya Pradesh	0	15	69	0
14	Maharashtra	0	0	0	0
15	Manipur	0	36	57	0
16	Meghalaya	0	0	90	19
17	Mizoram	0	0	0	0
18	Nagaland	0	0	0	0
19	Orissa	0	0	1427	517
20	Punjab	0	0	0	0
21	Rajasthan	765	633	158	147
22	Sikkim	0	0	0	0
23	Tripura	0	0	0	0
24	Tamil Nadu	0	0	0	0
25	Uttar Pradesh	16620	2862	695	0
26	Uttarakhand	798	341	175	32
27	West Bengal	2108	724	596	121
Total		28706	9301	12056	3165

*[Translation]***Women Sarpanches**

\*497. SHRI BALKRISHNA K. SHUKLA:

SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is reservation for women to be elected as Sarpanches in the Panchayati Raj System in the Country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of women Sarpanches in the country, State-wise;

(c) the number of panchayats where the provision has not been implemented; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (DR. C.P. JOSHI): (a) to (d) Article 243D (4) of the Constitution of India provides that not less than one third of the total number of posts of Chairperson in Panchayats at each level shall be reserved for women. The actual number of offices reserved is determined by the provisions in the Panchayati Raj Act of

each State. Thus, not less than 1/3rd seats of Sarpanches are reserved for women. Data on the number of women Sarpanches is not maintained at the Central level.

**Investment by Companies Abroad**\*498. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH *alias* LALAN SINGH:

SHRI JAGDISH SHARMA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the country – wise break-up of the amounts invested by the Indian companies abroad in the years 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09;

(b) the quantum of profit earned during the above period as a result thereof; and

(c) the amount of profit brought to the country therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The data regarding investment made in Joint Ventures / Wholly Owned Subsidiaries (JV / WOS) abroad for the period 2006-07 to 2008-09 is as under. The country wise details are available in the system generated reports of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), a consolidated summary of which is given in the enclosed Statement.

All figures in US \$ Million @

Year (April to March)	Equity	Loan	Guarantee Invoked	Total
2006-2007	12,497.52	1,266.04	0	13,763.56
2007-2008	15,150.92	2,954.15	0	18,105.07
2008-2009	13,184.26	2,891.55	0	16,075.81

@ Figures provisional and are updated on receipt of form ODI.

(b) The system of Reserve Bank of India does not capture the profit figures earned by the companies abroad.

(c) The data regarding inflows for the period

2006-07 to 2008-09, as available in the system generated reports of the RBI, is as under: (inflows comprise dividends, others (royalty, technical fees etc.) and NEEX (Non – Equity Exports).

Year (April-March)	Dividend (US \$ million)	Others (US \$ million)	Total (US \$ million)	NEEX (Rs. – million)
2006-2007	26.87	696.95	723.82	3451.70
2007-2008	83.55	2253.77	2337.32	2094.79
2008-2009	33.72	2190.35	2224.07	978.92

Figures provisional and are updated on receipt of form ODI.

**Statement**

*Outflow summary: Country wise from April 01,  
2006 to March 31, 2009*

All amounts are USD/mn

S.No.	Name of the Country	Year of outflow		
		2006- 07	2007- 08	2008- 09
1	2	3	4	5
1	Afghanistan	-	1.75	-
2	Algeria	0.315	-	-
3	Australia	51.614	62.632	119.320
4	Austria	5.662	1.400	6.351
5	Argentina	-	-	0.218
6	Bangladesh	1.874	45.929	21.065
7	Bahamas	0.100	-	-
8	Bahrain	1.146	4.560	8.002
9	Bhutan	1.236	3.129	12.353
10	Belgium	127.394	21.587	66.520
11	Belize	0.157	-	-
12	Bermuda	-	0.050	129.900
13	Bolivia	-	0.127	5.020
14	Botswana	-	4.843	7.480
15	Brazil	32.367	8.838	11.655
16	Bulgaria	0.498	-	-
17	British Virgin Island	49.281	805.523	230.483
18	Canada	412.035	63.621	38.330
19	Cayman Island	43.200	28.109	119.753
20	Channel Island	6110.50	0.287	44.004

1	2	3	4	5
21	China	136.466	34.849	246.037
22	Colombia	-	-	0.059
23	Congo	-	-	3.750
24	Cuba	23.1712	1.3825	31.369
25	Cyprus	172.111	514.080	2255.640
26	Czech Republic	38.760	31.891	12.210
27	Democratic Republic of Timor Leste	0.725	-	-
28	Denmark	6.8649	1.746	5.101
29	Dominican Republic	-	0.004	-
30	Egypt	6.982	223.686	9.466
31	Ethiopia	1.292	1.837	2.951
32	Finland	0.023	23.039	-
33	France	57.963	19.964	131.678
34	Gabon	12.700	0.358	4.602
35	Gambia	-	-	1.500
36	Germany	58.045	122.654	37.707
37	Georgia	.493	0.135	0.045
38	Ghana	1.539	4.050	8.507
39	Hong Kong	81.902	58.696	187.538
40	Hungary	-	2.080	2.530
41	Indonesia	28.292	19.511	22.492
42	Iran	40.940	8.13	17.048
43	Isle of Man	63.382	124.972	334.708
44	Israel	-	3.525	7.700
45	Ireland	1.598	0.024	35.042

1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
46	Italy	23.910	21.480	85.734	72	Nepal	.681	11.780	4.596
47	Ivory Coast	.470	80.170	0.500	73	Netherlands	442.068	1935.49	2776.008
48	Jordan	-	-	13.229	74	New Zealand	1.817	1.415	0.502
49	Japan	1.058	42.088	29.023	75	Niger	-	-	0.140
50	Kazakhstan	-	-	0.006	76	Nigeria	18.850	18.086	1.265
51	Kenya	0.200	133.744	0.641	77	Namibia	-	-	0.100
52	Kuwait	-	0.212	0.019	78	Norway	.383	-	-
53	Kyrgyz Republic	-	-	0.827	79	Oman	13.441	7.979	8.437
54	South Korea	0.939	-	-	80	Panama	.148	25.707	23.914
55	Laos	2.000	-	2.029	81	Peru	0.490	0.235	0.425
56	Luxembourg	.008	6.298	0.063	82	Philippines	1.609	19.550	6.103
57	Libya	3.537	11.822	23.111	83	Poland	0.529	35.974	1.589
58	Liberia	.001	18.377	6.000	84	Portugal	-	0.064	0.004
59	Malta	21.080	0.006	-	85	Qatar	2.603	75.694	23.876
60	Malawi	-	0.180	0.810	86	Romania	0.298	-	0.910
61	Marshall Island	-	-	0.100	87	Russia	509.449	365.731	676.078
62	Mauritania	-	-	1.625	88	Rwanda	-	17.55	1.420
63	Mauritius	909.745	1467.18	1804.921	89	Saudi Arabia	8.261	91.285	5.191
64	Myanmar	42.459	35.379	34.922	90	Senegal	-	0.031	-
65	Maldives	2.900	-	1.875	91	Seychelles	-	-	0.0001
66	Moldova	1.250	-	-	92	Sierra Leone	0.010	-	-
67	Malaysia	44.864	132.477	6.059	93	Singapore	1020.416	8352.190	3680.737
68	Madagascar	-	-	0.645	94	Slovakia	-	-	0.014
69	Morocco	-	1.860	1.406	95	South Africa	27.914	58.671	3.122
70	Mozambique	-	3.305	4.662	96	Sri Lanka	7.472	14.619	50.053
71	Mexico	9.210	9.116	6.914	97	Spain	10.952	7.620	82.098

1	2	3	4	5
98	Sudan	1039.236	62.127	63.476
99	Sweden	4.366	0.037	1.628
100	Switzerland	168.557	58.623	246.866
101	Syrian Arab Republic	2.639	6.734	3.379
102	Tadikistan	0.680	-	1.600
103	Taiwan	0.226	-	-
104	Tanzania	-	10.385	-
105	Thailand	13.756	18.588	123.622
106	Tunisia	5.092	-	-
107	Turkey	0.406	6.490	5.770
108	UAE	196.812	783.771	791.785
109	Uganda	10.709	-	-
110	U.K.	912.695	685.550	353.322
111	USA	695.413	1095.914	873.586
112	Uruguay	7.200	96.100	12.540
113	Uzbekistan	0.115	0.252	0.365
114	Yemen	-	-	2.550
115	Vietnam	3.964	28.083	48.748
116	Zambia	-	0.010	0.100

[English]

#### Blacklisted NGOs

\*499. SHRI PRATAPRAO GANPATRAO JADHAO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) blacklisted by the Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART) so far and the progress made in the cases registered against them, State/UT-wise;

(b) whether funds have been released to such NGOs even after blacklisting them;

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

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (DR. C. P. JOSHI) : (a) The number of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) blacklisted by CAPART as on 03.08.2009 is 830. A list indicating number of such NGOs is given in the enclosed Statement-I. FIRs have been lodged against 129 blacklisted NGOs, as indicated in the enclosed Statement-II. Ten cases have been referred to Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) for investigation.

(b) to (d) Funds were released to five NGOs after they were blacklisted. The details of these NGOs are given in the enclosed Statement-III. The reason for releasing funds to blacklisted NGOs relate to negligence on the part of the officials dealing with the cases. The details of action taken against these officials are indicated in the enclosed Statement-IV.

#### Statement-I

*State and UT-wise Number of NGOs Blacklisted by CAPART, as on 3rd August, 2009*

S.No.	State	No. of Blacklisted NGOs
1	2	3
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Nil
2.	Andhra Pradesh	193
3.	Assam	1
4.	Arunachal Pradesh	1
5.	Bihar	124
6.	Chandigarh	Nil
7.	Chhattisgarh	1
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Nil
9.	Daman and Diu	Nil
10.	Delhi	23

1	2	3
11.	Goa	Nil
12.	Gujarat	13
13.	Haryana	20
14.	Himachal Pradesh	5
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	3
16.	Jharkhand	8
17.	Karnataka	75
18.	Kerala	35
19.	Lakshadweep	Nil
20.	Madhya Pradesh	15
21.	Maharashtra	24
22.	Manipur	16
23.	Meghalaya	1
24.	Mizoram	5
25.	Nagaland	10
26.	Orissa	34
27.	Pondicherry	2
28.	Punjab	Nil
29.	Rajasthan	42
30.	Sikkim	Nil
31.	Tamil Nadu	82
32.	Tripura	Nil
33.	Uttar Pradesh	72
34.	Uttaranchal	1
35.	West Bengal	24
Total		830

**Statement-II**

*Blacklisted cases in which FIRs have  
been lodged, as on 03.08.2009*

S. No.	State	No. of Blacklisted NGOs against whom Firs have been lodged
1	2	3
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Nil
2.	Andhra Pradesh	17

1	2	3
3.	Assam	1
4.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil
5.	Bihar	43
6.	Chandigarh	Nil
7.	Chhattisgarh	Nil
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Nil
9.	Daman and Diu	Nil
10.	Delhi	7
11.	Goa	Nil
12.	Gujarat	Nil
13.	Haryana	9
14.	Himachal Pradesh	Nil
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	Nil
16.	Jharkhand	Nil
17.	Karnataka	12
18.	Kerala	3
19.	Lakshadweep	Nil
20.	Madhya Pradesh	3
21.	Maharashtra	4
22.	Manipur	4
23.	Meghalaya	Nil
24.	Mizoram	Nil
25.	Nagaland	6
26.	Orissa	3
27.	Pondicherry	Nil
28.	Punjab	Nil
29.	Rajasthan	7
30.	Sikkim	Nil
31.	Tamil Nadu	Nil
32.	Tripura	Nil
33.	Uttar Pradesh	5
34.	Uttaranchal	Nil
35.	West Bengal	5
Total		129

*State/UT-wise details of blacklisted NGOs against whom FIRs have been lodged, as on 03.08.2009*

**Name of State: Andhra Pradesh**

S.No. Name of the NGO & Address

1	2
1.	Artisans (India) International Foundation, Hyderabad
2.	Collective Rural Operation of the Poor (CROP), Ranga Reddy
3.	Rural People Development Society, Nalgonda
4.	Sri Lakshmi Harijana Mahila Mandali, West Godawari
5.	Society for Natural Studies, Khammam
6.	Ambedkar Yuva Jan Sangham, West Godawari
7.	Sri Lakshmi Harijana Mahila Mandali, East Godawari
8.	Joint Effort of Suppressed Upliftment Services (JESUS), East Godawari
9.	Paschima Godawari Zilla Adi Andhra Christian Association, East Godawari
10.	Arya Chandra Handicrafts Artisans and Social Welfare Association, West Godawari
11.	The Downtrodden Development Society, Cuddapah
12.	Social Service Society, Cuddapah
13.	Cuddapah District Harijana Christava and Venkabadina, Jathula Vimochana Samithi, Cuddapah
14.	Multipurpose Social Development Society, Gundlapalli (V), Dugganagaripalli (tg), Pulivendala, Cuddapah Dist, A.P.
15.	Talararla Integrated Rural Development & Social Education Society, Talararla, Sathyasai Taluk, Anantpur Dist. A.P.
16.	Cuddapah District Gram Seva Samithi, 13/310, Hazi Rahamathulla Street, Cuddapah, Cuddapah Dist., A.P.
17.	Velenkane Social & Educational Society, West Godawari

**Name of State: Assam**

1	Sward Kanaklata Shilpa Kala Kendra, Sonitpur
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1	2
<b>Name of State: Bihar</b>	
1.	Pariwartan Samajik Vikas Sansthan, Farsi Muhalla, Mokama, Dist-Patna
2.	Bihar Samaj Kalyan Vikas Parishad, At +PO- Mokama, Dist-Patna
3.	Guru Nanak Mahila Silp Kala Kendra, Harminder Gali, Dist-Patna
4.	All India Society For Research in Rural Area. North Krishna Puri, 10 Lal Bahadur Sastri Marg, Dist-Patna
5.	Kasturba Pratisthan Mahila Silai Centre, Vill- Neura, Bihta, Dist- Patna
6.	Kamla Nehru Samaj Kalyan Kendra
7.	Jan Vikas Samiti / Jan Vikas Parishad, Phulwari Sarif, Dist-Patna
8.	Ambar Samajik Vikas Sansthan, Haze Ganj, Patna City, Dist-Patna
9.	Bhartiya Gramin Kalyan Parishad, Farsi Muhalla, Mokama Dist- Patna
10.	Sevanjali, Main Road Madhepura
11.	Pragati, Munger, Vill-Madhopur, PO- Basudeopur, Dist- Munger
12.	Bihar Nagrik Seva Parishad, Chamdoria, Patna City, Dist- Patna
13.	Samagra Vikas Sansthan, At-Barbigha, Munger
14.	Bihar Pragatisheel Mahila Uthan Seva Kendra, Daribabad, Badaru Road, Serma, Patna City, Dist - Patna
15.	Narayani Mahila Silai Katai Prashikshan Kendra, Purva Gali, Patna City, Dist- Patna
16.	Guru Govind Singh Mahila Vikas Parishad, Hari Mandir Gali, Dist-Patna
17.	Dr. Ambedkar Samaj Kalyankari Yojna Samiti, Gosala Road, PO- Mokama, Dist - Patna
18.	Akhil Bhartiya Samajik Arthik Avam Sahkshik Vikas Sansthan, 209, Asian Tower, Exhibition Road, Serma, Patna City, Dist - Patna
19.	Bihar Pragatisheel Mahila Uthan Seva Kendra, Daribabad, Badaru Road, Serma, Patna City, Dist-Patna

1	2
20.	Jai Prabha Gramin Chetna Vikas Samiti, Chaoriya, Patna City, Dist- Patna
21.	Patliputra Gramin Seva Vikas Prathisthan, Haji Gunj, Patna City, Dist- Patna
22.	Veer Kunwar Singh Samajik Jagriti Parishad, Chamoriya, Patna City, Dist-Patna
23.	Hind Seva Sadan, Chamdoriya, Kachi Ghat Patna, Dist- Patna
24.	Akhil Bhartiya Samajik Parivartan Parisad, Kila Road, Dist- Patna
25.	Lok Nayak Jai Prakas Ashram Seva Parishad, Kila Road, Dist- Patna
26.	Mata Jan Kalyan Pragatisheel Vikas Parishad, Bela Moni, Hathi Dah, Dist- Patna
27.	Gramin Vikas Evam Anusandhan Kendra, At-Bajitpur, PO - R.S. Barh, Dist-Patna
28.	Kanta Gramin Vikas Sansthan, R.S. Barh, Dist-Patna
29.	Nav Chetna Samiti, At+PO- Barhna Road, Barh, Dist- Patna
30.	Shri Rajendra Samaj Seva Sansthan, Khajpura, PO- Bihar Vetnary College, Dist Patna
31.	RACHNA, Boring Road, Chauraha, Dist - Patna
32.	Indira Antodaya Gramabhimukh Prashikshan Kendra, Dakbunglow Road, Mokama, Dist- Patna
33.	Akhil Bhartiya Gramin Vikas Seva Parishad, Gosala Road, PO -Mokama , Dist -Patna
34.	Lohia Sewa Parishad, Dr. Toli, PS Mokama, Patna
35.	SAMARPIT, Distt. Kishanganj
36.	Bharat Mahila Vikas Sansthan, Darbhanga
37.	Pidit Shoshit Harijan Evam Adivasi Kalyan Sansthan, B-31, Vijay Nagar, (Hanuman Nagar), Dist- Patna
38.	Janabhimukh Vikas Sansthan, Vill- Chattipur, PO- Khusharu Pur, Dist- Patna

1	2
39.	All India Rural Research Center, Baba Road, Patna
40.	Sonali Gramothan Samiti, At- Bajaspura, PO- Teghra, Begusarai
41.	Rashmi Rati Nav Chetna Samiti, New Jakkanpur, Patna
42.	Rashtriya Swaniyojan Kalyan Kendra, Bhojpur Bhawan, Mithapur, Patna
43.	Nai Roshni, Patna, Bihar

**Name of State: Delhi**

1. Bharat Sewa Samiti, Delhi
2. All India Association for Social Welfare of Down, Delhi
3. Gram Bharti Sewa Ashram, Delhi
4. Children & Widow Women Welfare Society, Delhi
5. North India Welfare Society, Delhi
6. Summer Field Education Society, Delhi
7. Lalit Koshi Sewa Ashram, Delhi

**Name of State: Haryana**

1. Anil Gramodyog Mandal, Karnal
2. Rashtriya Khadi Gram Udyog Mandal, Karnal
3. Karan Khadi Gram Udyog Mandal, Karnal
4. Kaushik Khadi Gramodyog Mandal, Karnal
5. Khadi Sewa Niketan, Karnal
6. Anjum Gramadyog Mandal, Karnal
7. Pawan Gramodyog Mandal, Karnal
8. Khadi Sadan, Karnal
9. Saraswati Gramodyog Samiti, Karnal

**Name of State: Karnataka**

1. Khadi Gramodyog Vikas Mandal, Malagur,
2. Mysore Social Education Center, Bangalore



1	2
3.	Sacred Rural Development Society, Kolar
4.	Janardan Khadi Gramodyog Industries Association, Kolar
5.	Chintalu Education & Rural Development Society, Kolar
6.	Nalanda Education & Economic Development Society, Kolar
7.	Bhagyajyoti Education Trust, Kolar
8.	Shri Murti Gramodyog Shang, Kolar
9.	Shri Venkateshwara Silk Khadi Gramodyog Sangha, Kolar
10.	Adarsha Rural Development Society, Kolar
11.	Mamatha Religious Association, Kolar
12.	Kumar Gramodyog Sangha, Kolar

**Name of State: Kerala**

1. PKP Memorial Mahila Samajam, Idukki
2. Bapuji Sevak Samaj, Kollam
3. Trikkadavoor Fish Culture Society, Kollam

**Name of State: Madhya Pradesh**

1. Self Employed Women Association, Bhopal
2. Manav Vikas Samiti, Morena
3. Chambal Siksha Prasara Samiti, Morena

**Name of State: Maharashtra**

1. Shri. Yogananda Sikshan Prasarak Mandal, Jalna
2. Social & Economic Assistance For Rural And City, Pune
3. Madhuban Kushta Rog Nirmulan, Chandrapur
4. Gyatri Education Society, Nagpur

**Name of State: Manipur**

1. Women Community Welfare Association, Imphal

1	2
2.	Sapemania Women Society, Senapati
3.	Maam Khonou Women Society, Senapati
4.	Binghriglon Cristian Society, Imphal
<b>Name of State: Nagaland</b>	
1.	Children Welfare Society, Kohima
2.	Tening Youth Association, Kohima
3.	Western United Club, Kohima
4.	Center Of Rural Upliftment, Kohima
5.	Wishmen's Fellowship Enterprises, Kohima
6.	Study and Action for Comprehensive Development, Dimapur

**Name of State: Orissa**

1. Abaj Adivasi Harijan Seva Sangha, Dhenkanal
2. Rajib Gandhi Youth Club, Dhenkanal
3. Shri Aurbindo Pathagar, Dhenkanal

**Name of State: Rajasthan**

1. Gramin Mewat Sewa Samiti, Bharatpur
2. Narottam Vidya Mandir, Bharatpur
3. Nehru Vidya Mandir Samiti, Bharatpur
4. Kishori Sikshan & Prakashan Udyogik Sansthan, Bharatpur
5. Priya Samajik Kalyan Sewa Samiti, Bharatpur
6. Chetna Public School Sewa Samiti, Bharatpur
7. Shri Tilak Balika Modern Siksha Samiti, Bharatpur

**Name of State: Uttar Pradesh**

1. Jai Maa Patmavati Kalyan Samiti, Firozabad
2. Jan Udyog Gramin Vikas Kalyan Samiti, Firozabad

1	2	1	2
3.	Adarsh Gramodyog Vikas Sansthan, Rampura	2.	Matangini Seva Sangha, 24 Prgs.(S)
4.	Bhartiya Gramin Vikas Samiti, Rampura	3.	Rural Poor People Welfare Association, Burdwan
5.	Indrani Gramin Vikas Samiti, Rampura	4.	Unemployed Young Workers Society, Burdwan
<b>Name of State: West Bengal</b>		5.	Sebak Samiti, Midnapore
1.	Kaliganj Block Garmin Khurda and Kutir Silpa Jana Kalyan Samiti, Nadia		

**Statement-III**

*List of blacklisted NGOs to whom funds have been released after blacklisting*

Sl. No.	Name of the NGO & Address	State	Year of blacklisting	Year of sanction	Year of funding	Funds released after blacklisting (Amount in Rs.)
1.	Nirmala Weaker Section Mahila Mandali, Guntur	Andhra Pradesh	1992	1991-92	1993	2,34,875
2.	Sarvodaya Ashram, Nalanda	Bihar	1989	1994-95	1994	5,18,704
3.	Magadh Social Development Society, Patna	Bihar	1992	1992-93	1993	1,01,200
4.	Pazhakulam Social Service Society (PASS)	Kerala	1992	1995-96	1995	37,02,788
5.	Vijay Warangal Trust	Maharashtra	1994	1993-94	1994	1,25,575

**Statement-IV**

*List of CAPART Officials against whom disciplinary proceedings initiated for sanctioning funds to the blacklisted organizations till date.*

Sl.No.	Name of Charged Officer	Nature of Charges and Amount	Findings of Departmental Inquiry	Decision in the proceedings
1	2	3	4	5
1	Sh. C. Minz, Director	Release of funds to blacklisted NGOs (Rs.5,18,704)	Charges against Shri C Minz were not substantiated by the IO. The report of the IO was accepted and he was exonerated in January 1999.	Exonerated from the charge on 11-1-1999

1	2	3	4	5
2	Sh. Surendra Singh, Director	Release of funds to blacklisted NGOs (Rs.2,34,875)	Charge stands proved. The competent Authority awarded punishment.	Major penalty of reduction of pay by two stages in the time scale of pay for a period of two years with further direction that he will not earn the increment during the reduction of pay and on the expiry of this period. This reduction will have the effect of postponing future increment of pay on 10.3.2000.
3	Sh. Om Prakash, Assistant Director	Release of funds to blacklisted NGOs (Rs.5,18,704)	Charges were not substantiated by the IO. The report of the IO was accepted and he was exonerated in January 1999.	Exonerated from the charge on 11-1-1999
4	Sh. S.D.Singh, Assistant Director	Amount sanctioned and released to blacklisted NGOs (Rs.36.00 Lakhs)	Charge stands proved. The competent Authority awarded punishment.	Major penalty of one increment reduced for a period of one year with cumulative effects has been imposed on 5.8.2004
5	Sh.Y. Bhakta, Research Officer	Amount released to blacklisted NGOs (Rs.1,01,200)	Charge stands proved. The competent Authority awarded punishment.	Imposition of minor penalty withholding one increment on 27.8.2001
6	Sh. A.R.R. Pillai, Research Officer	Amount sanctioned and released to blacklisted NGOs (Rs.36.00 Lakhs)	Charge stands proved. The competent Authority awarded punishment.	Major penalty of reduction of pay to lower stage in the time scale of pay by three incre- ments for a period of three years with cumulative effect imposed on 5.8.2004.
7	Sh. P.K. Gupta Research Officer	A sum of Rs. 1,25,575 was released to the NGO as 2nd installment when the NGO was under blacklisted category of CAPART. (Rs.1,25,575)	Accepted the findings of Inquiry Officer and he was exonerated from the charges under Rule 14 of CCS (CCA) Rules 1965 on 22.11.2005.	Charges dropped on 22-11-2005
8	Sh. M.P. Singh, Research Officer	Amount released to blacklisted NGOs (Rs.1,01,200)	Charge stands proved The competent Authority awarded punishment	Minor penalty imposed on the CO. Order issued on 28.3.2002. Case completed and closed.

1	2	3	4	5
9	Sh. S.K. Das, Research Officer	Amount released to blacklisted NGOs (Rs.1,02,788)	Charge was not proved and competent authority not agreed on the findings of IO and awarded punishment.	Major penalty imposed. Reduction to a lower stage of one increment in the scale of pay for a period of 2 years on 23.9.2002. The Appellate Authority reduced the penalty to censure on 26-3-2004.

### Total Sanitation Campaign

\*500. SHRI PRASANTA KUMAR MAJUMDAR:  
SHRI HARIBHAU JAWALE:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be  
pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has assessed  
the performance of various States under the Total  
Sanitation Campaign (TSC);

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

(c) whether any deficiency has been noticed in  
implementing the scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the corrective  
measures taken or proposed to be taken by the  
Government in this regard;

(e) whether Nirmal Gram Puraskar (NGP) has  
been awarded and distributed to the Panchayats which  
have performed well in executing the projects under the  
scheme; and

(f) if so, the details thereof during the last three  
years and the current year, State/UT-wise?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND  
MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (DR. C.P. JOSHI) : (a)  
Yes, Sir.

(b) The State/UT wise details of performance  
reported is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) and (d) Deficiencies noted in implementing the  
scheme are the slow pace of progress and the discrepancy  
between reported figures of individual toilet construction  
under TSC and actual usage of toilets. The following  
corrective measures have been taken by Government:

- Launching of the incentive scheme of Nirmal Gram Puraskar to encourage Panchayati Raj Institutions to take up sanitation promotion to achieve open defecation free status.
- The unit cost of the construction of individual household latrines has been increased to Rs.2500 (Rs.3000 for hilly and difficult areas) from the earlier Rs.1500.
- Community contributions for construction of school and Anganwadi toilets have been removed and the Central & State sharing pattern changed to 70:30.
- The component of Solid & Liquid Waste Management was included in TSC projects in 2006 for providing up to 10% of the district's project cost under the scheme for this purpose.
- In order to promote sanitation among APL households who do not get incentives under TSC, a revolving fund of Rs. 50 lakh subject to a ceiling of 5% of total project cost to each district has been earmarked for giving loan to APL members of self-help groups/ cooperative societies for construction of toilets.
- Intensive IEC campaign launched to change traditional sanitation behaviours and promote usage of toilets
- States have been asked to enter the names and other details of BPL beneficiaries who have been provided with individual household latrines, in the online monitoring system of the TSC.

(e) Yes, Madam.

(f) The detail of Nirmal Gram Puraskar awarded during the last three years to Gram Panchayats are given in the enclosed Statement - II and to Block and Zilla Panchayats given in the enclosed Statement-III. No award has been given during the current year till now.

## Statement-I

Sr. State		Project Objectives					Project Performance					
		IHHL BPL*	IHHL APL**	IHHL Total	School Toilets	Toilets for Bal***	IHHL BPL	IHHL APL	IHHL Total	School Toilets	Toilets for Bal	% Achievement of IHHLs
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1	Andhra Pradesh	6521091	3629688	10150779	113861	15040	3989343	2080422	6069765	97560	5342	59.80
2	Arunachal Pradesh	115560	18301	133861	3944	1866	19889	2306	22195	3447	1198	16.58
3	Assam	2220017	1161020	3381037	34772	16819	391986	81136	473122	13128	2000	13.99
4	Bihar	6195779	4975535	11171314	76581	6595	1377143	478212	1855355	40255	921	16.61
5	Chhattisgarh	1553540	1811886	3365426	48549	10167	646549	565636	1212185	43689	7414	36.02
6	D & N Haveli	2480	0	2480	0	0	37	0	37	0	0	1.49
7	Goa	17935	27388	45323	731	547	16231	17522	33753	436	58	74.47
S	Gujarat	2070056	2041521	4111577	22425	22505	1512035	1634285	3146320	23684	19835	76.52
9	Haryana	550500	1234597	1785097	7309	6820	519085	1169666	1688751	7140	5739	94.60
10	Himachal Pradesh	216421	630065	846486	17723	10406	163175	550981	714156	5673	2336	84.37
11	Jammu & Kashmir	598614	702110	1300724	23108	940	227760	47602	275362	10463	64	21.17
12	Jharkhand	2327306	1402189	3729495	42687	11472	894419	120483	1014902	31468	2164	27.21
13	Karnataka	2507923	3050138	5558061	35698	24086	988661	1101197	2089858	35467	23761	37.60
14	Kerala	961831	111911	1073742	3600	4957	930516	142689	1073205	3245	3187	99.95
15	Madhya Pradesh	3636365	4289857	7926222	85568	14320	1747871	2224326	3972197	74110	16961	50.11

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
16	Maharashtra	3505909	6307374	9813283	87436	55850	1908383	3392487	5300870	80294	53381	54.02
N	Manipur	194587	68367	263254	3919	1201	9181	6414	15595	1298	157	5.92
18	Meghalaya	202722	66414	269136	8859	1580	30586	29711	60297	1835	165	22.40
19	Mizoram	.59679	16861	76540	3219	912	56890	14152	71042	3219	912	92.82
20	Nagaland	167193	31176	198369	2672	1238	37049	1830	38879	917	149	19.60
21	Orissa	4485050	2571598	7056648	70663	25160	1851699	325281	2176980	55588	15474	30.85
22	Puducherry	18000	0	18000	26	16	2191	0	2191	0	16	12.17
23	Punjab	623198	532768	1155966	7464	3274	111904	383336	495240	6742	776	42.84
24	Rajasthan	1960903	5023430	6984333	68134	21198	514511	1750446	2264957	48853	8369	32.43
25	Sikkim	51302	35712	87014	1604	340	58104	36496	94600	1606	416	108.72
26	Tamil Nadu	4214089	4030794	8244883	40828	25470	3147074	2453350	5600424	37642	23878	67.93
27	Tripura	434316	124747	559063	4939	6024	410120	112773	522893	4079	4349	93.53
28	Uttar Pradesh	8217302	12276854	20494156	241424	96967	4982800	5102266	10085066	201745	64050	49.21
29	Uttarakhand	441631	444670	886301	3925	1601	192872	167789	360661	2113	294	40.69
30	West Bengal	5029415	4104101	9133516	134981	50630	4427033	1943455	6370488	56202	13437	69.75
Grand Total		59101014	60721072	119822086	1196649	438001	31165097	25936249	57101346	891898	276803	47.66

\*Individual Household Latrine -Below Poverty Line Households

\*\* Individual Household Latrine - Above Poverty Line Households

\*\*\* Balwadi

**Statement-II****Number of Gram Panchayats Awarded NGP**

S.No.	State Name	No.of Awarded GPs in 2005	No.of Awarded GPs in 2006	No.of Awarded GPs in 2007	No.of Awarded GPs in 2008	Total No. of Awarded GPs
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Andhra Pradesh	0	10	143	662	815
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	2	4	6
3	Assam	0	1	3	14	18
4	Bihar	0	4	39	155	198
5	Chhattisgarh	0	12	90	300	402
6	Gujarat	1	4	576	739	1320
7	Haryana	0	0	60	798	858
8	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	22	245	267
9	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0	12	12
10	Jharkhand	0	0	12	142	154
11	Karnataka	0	0	121	479	600
12	Kerala	1	6	220	600	827
13	Madhya Pradesh	0	1	190	682	873
14	Maharashtra	13	380	1974	4301	6668
15	Manipur	0	0	0	1	1
16	Meghalaya	0	0	0	11	11
17	Mizoram	0	0	3	8	11
18	Nagaland	0	0	0	8	8
19	Orissa	0	8	33	94	135
20	Punjab	0	0	0	22	22
21	Rajasthan	0	0	23	141	164

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
22	Sikkim	0	0	27	137	164
23	Tamil Nadu	12	119	296	1474	1901
24	Tripura	1	36	46	30	113
25	Uttar Pradesh	0	40	488	729	1257
26	Uttarakhand	0	13	109	160	282
27	West Bengal	10	126	468	328	932
Total		38	760	4945	12276	18019

**Statement-III***No. of Block Panchayats Awarded NGP*

S.No.	State Name	No.of Awarded BPs in 2005	No.of Awarded BPs in 2006	No.of Awarded BPs in 2007	No.of Awarded BPs in 2008	Total No. of Awarded BPs
1	Andhra Pradesh	0	0	0	1	1
2	Bihar	0	0	1	0	1
3	Haryana	0	0	0	1	1
4	Karnataka	0	0	0	1	1
5	Kerala	0	0	6	81	87
6	Maharashtra	0	1	0	2	3
7	Tamil Nadu	1	0	0	5	6
8	West Bengal	1	8	7	14	30
Total		2	9	14	105	130

*No. of Zila Panchayats Awarded NGP*

S.No.	State Name	No.of Awarded ZPs in 2005	No.of Awarded ZPs in 2006	No.of Awarded ZPs in 2007	No.of Awarded ZPs in 2008	Total No. of Awarded ZPs
1	Kerala	0	0	0	4	4
2	Sikkim	0	0	0	4	4
Total		0	0	0	8	8



### Proposal of Gujarat for State Highways

4667. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received a proposal from the Gujarat Government regarding posing the Project of State Highways to World Bank for Financial Assistance;

(b) if so, the present status of the proposal;

(c) whether the aforesaid proposal has also been recommended by the Planning Commission after detailed examination;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) It has been recommended to the World Bank for its loan assistance.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) The Proposal of the Government of Gujarat has been recommended to the World Bank on 3.10.2008 for loan assistance.

### Merger of Banks

4668. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering merging of banks wherein the holding of the Government would be 51%; and

(b) if so, the details of banks that the Government is considering for merger?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Government of India has shareholding in 21 public sector banks consisting of State Bank of India (SBI), 19 nationalised banks and IDBI Bank Ltd. The statutory and

other provisions require that Government shall not hold, at any time, less than 55% of the equity capital of SBI and 51% of that of nationalised banks and IDBI Bank Ltd. Government has not given direction to any specific bank to consider proposal for merger/amalgamation with a particular bank. The initiatives for consolidation emanate from the management of the banks themselves with Government playing a supportive role as the common shareholder. While supporting any merger proposal, Government keeps in view the interests of the stakeholders and employees of merging banks.

[Translation]

### Gender Budgeting

4669. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the steps taken or being taken by the Government to set up Gender Based Budget Cell in each Ministry and to make it popular?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): Ministry of Finance has issued instructions to all Ministries/ Departments to set up a Gender Budget Cell. Presently, 56 Ministries/Departments have set up Gender Budgeting Cells (GBCs).

As per the Charter of Gender Budget Cells issued by Ministry of Finance, the Gender Budget Cells are to review the performance of programmes of their respective Ministries/Departments that have an impact on women.

The Ministry of Women & Child Development (WCD) is the nodal Ministry to promote gender based budgeting and mainstreaming across all sectors. The Ministry organizes training programmes and workshops with officials of different Ministries/Departments to enable the GBCs to take up Gender Budgeting.

The Ministry of WCD is also organizing training programmes for State Governments and other Bodies like State Commissions for Women, Public Sector Units and Civil society organizations, developing resource materials for Gender Budgeting including Gender Budget Handbook and Manual, and developing a team of Master Trainers at the National level and State level.

[English]

### Government purchases

4670. SHRI RAGHUVIR SINGH MEENA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to give preference to SC/ST traders and suppliers in Government purchases; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### Funding of Bridges by World Bank

4671. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has offered financial assistance to India for construction of bridges;

(b) if so, the details of the same;

(c) the terms and conditions of the financial assistance; and

(d) the State-wise details of bridges likely to be constructed with this assistance, particularly in respect of Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) No Madam. The World Bank has not offered financial assistance specifically for construction of bridges.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

### Bank Committees to promote Export

4672. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up State Level Bank Committees to promote exports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Commercial banks have been advised by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to set up a separate Sub-Committee under State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC) to discuss exporters' problems in relation to export finance and other bank related issues at the state level. The members of the sub committee include local exporters, Associations, SBI and two/three leading banks handling sizeable export business, Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), Customs, State Government (Deptt. of Commerce & Industry and Department of Finance), EXIM Bank, Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India Ltd. (ECGC), Foreign Exchange Dealers Association of India (FEDAI), besides RBI at regional level. All the SLBC Convenor banks have been advised to set up the Sub-Committee, if not done already.

The Sub-Committee is expected to meet at half-yearly intervals, or earlier, if considered necessary. The Convenor bank of the SLBC is the Convenor of the Sub-Committee in the respective states.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

### National Commission for Women

4673. SHRI N.CHELUVARAYA SWAMY: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission for Women (NCW) has given any suggestions to the Government for taking precautionary measures in the criminal procedure for women;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the NCW has visited the jails to oversee the conditions of women prisoners in the country;

(d) if so, the number of prisoners visited by the NCW during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(e) whether the NCW has found any irregularities in this regard;

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the suggestions made by the NCW; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH) : (a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) to (g) Does not arise.

#### **Funds for Rural Electrification Programmes**

4674. DR. K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of finances provided by banks to fund rural electrification programmes and construction of hydro power projects;

(b) whether the Government proposes to take steps to ensure favourable lending by banks to rural electrification; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI) : (a) to (c) The Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Decrease in Revenue**

4675. SHRI P. BALRAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government revenue is being decreased as per the economic survey;

(b) if so, the details thereof compared to last three years, State-wise and scheme-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken to increase the income of the Government for the current Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Economic Survey 2008-09 detailing the fiscal developments in Chapter 3 (Para 3.36) had indicated that while revenue from Union excise duty, customs and non-tax sources declined by 12.0 per cent, 4.1 per cent and 5.3 per cent respectively in 2008-09 (over 2007-08), there was an increase of 0.5 per cent in Union Government revenue receipts. Besides, the Economic Survey 2008-09 had also given the Budget Estimates of 28 states, which also indicated an increase in revenue receipts.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

#### **Revenue Loss Due to Tax Deduction**

4676. SHRI PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government plans to allow 100 per cent tax deduction in the very first year on capital expenditure incurred on setting up and operating Natural Gas or Crude Oil network;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of the companies both private/ PSUs likely to be benefited therefrom ;

(d) the quantum of revenue-loss likely to be suffered by Government; and

(e) the manner in which the Government proposes to bridge the revenue loss?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Yes Madam.

(b) The Finance (No.2) Bill 2009 proposes to insert a new section 35 AD in the Income-tax Act, 1961 to provide for an investment linked tax incentive in respect of the specified business of laying and operating a cross-country natural gas or crude or petroleum oil pipeline network for distribution. including storage facilities being an integral part of such network. Subject to the conditions laid down in section 35AD, a hundred per cent deduction would be allowed in respect of the whole of any expenditure of capital nature (other than expenditure on

land or goodwill or financial instruments) incurred, wholly and exclusively, for the purposes of the specified business during the previous year in which such expenditure is incurred.

(c) Any undertaking engaged in carrying on the 'specified business' referred to in section 35AD of the Income-tax Act is eligible for the tax benefit thereunder subject to the conditions specified therein. Therefore, it is not possible to provide the names of any public or private company likely to benefit from the provisions of section 35 AD.

(d) It is not possible to estimate the revenue loss at this stage.

(e) Does not arise.

#### **Common Underground Duct**

4677. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) as part of beautification of the National Capital Territory of Delhi before Commonwealth Games 2010, whether his Ministry has asked providers of Cable network, Broadband Internet and Telephone Services to remove the jumble of overhanging cables from electric or lighting Poles and suggested that the wires be routed through a common underground duct throughout the city;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reactions of the service providers thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI) : (a) No, Madam, Ministry of Power has not issued any direction in this regard.

(b) and (c) Question do not arise.

#### **Assistance for Electrical Equipment Project**

4678. SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to provide any financial assistance for the electrical equipment project in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps being taken to assist the project during the Eleventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI) : (a) No, Madam, Ministry of Power does not provide financial assistance to set up any electrical equipment project.

(b) to (c) Do not arise.

#### **Setting up of Holding Company by Banks**

4679. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ICICI Bank and State Bank of India (SBI) propose to set up a holding company, which in turn can set up banks or other financial services companies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has received proposals from State Bank of India (SBI) and ICICI Bank Ltd. for setting up holding companies. As the issue of allowing banks to set up holding companies has wide ranging implications, a discussion paper on holding companies in Banking Groups has been placed on 27th August, 2007 on the website of RBI for public comments. A Committee was formed to examine these responses from legal and prudential perspectives. The Committee has since submitted its Report. However, no policy decision has been taken by RBI in the matter.

[Translation]

#### **Action against companies by SEBI**

4680. SHRI ANJANKUMAR M. YADAV:

SHRI YASHBANT LAGURI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has taken any action against the companies which have not paid dividend to their shareholders;

- (b) if so, the number of these companies;
- (c) whether Reliance Group has also been penalized in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and action taken by the Government against the said company so far; and
- (e) the outcome of action taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (e) SEBI has initiated action against companies for non-redressal of investor complaints, including non-payment of dividend within the stipulated time period after declaration of dividends such as (a) prosecution against 44 companies and its Directors, (b) adjudication proceedings against 38 companies under Section 15C of SEBI Act, 1992 against 29 companies and its Directors. SEBI has informed that there is no company by the name 'Reliance Group' that is listed in the Stock Exchanges. SEBI has not penalized any company with the name 'Reliance' for non-payment of dividend within the stipulated time period, after declaring dividend.

[English]

#### **Loss making SBI Subsidiaries**

4681. SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the subsidiaries of SBI have incurred loss recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to improve the performance of loss making subsidiaries of SBI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) During the last three years, two of the subsidiaries of the State Bank of India (SBI) viz. SBI Life Insurance Company Ltd. (SBI Life) and SBI Cards & Payment Services Pvt. Ltd. (SBI Cards) have incurred losses. Though, both these subsidiaries had reported profits for the year 2006-07, SBI

Cards incurred pre-tax losses of Rs.230 crore and Rs.185.10 crore for the years 2007-08 and 2008-09 respectively, and SBI Life incurred pre-tax loss of Rs.26.31 crore for the year 2008-09.

(c) (i) SBI Life was the first insurance company amongst the private insurers to declare profits and has posted profits continuously for a period of three years (i.e. 2005-06 to 2007-08). The loss suffered by SBI Life in the financial year 2008-09 is mainly on account of depressed market conditions. The business model of the company continues to be profitable and has generated profits from insurance operations during the first quarter of the year 2009-10.

(ii) SBI Cards has effected certain changes in its business model to improve the quality of assets, reduce the cost of operation and, thereby, improve its financials and generate profits.

[Translation]

#### **Tax cases**

4682. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the duty-wise break-up of amount held up due to tax cases pending in various courts or tribunals;
- (b) whether official negligence has resulted in increasing number of such cases;
- (c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (d) the corrective measures taken in this regard and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Multi Level Marketing**

4683. SHRI CHANDU LAL SAHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has issued any guidelines for Multi-Level Marketing (MLM);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the State-wise details of each such company in India working on MLM;

(d) whether complaints against number of companies have been received by Economic Offences Wing; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) No, Madam. The Government has not issued any Guidelines for Multi-Level Marketing.

(c) The data in the desired manner is not being maintained.

(d) and (e) During 2006, Department of Consumer Affairs had received requests from Indian Direct Selling Association and other persons for enacting a separate legislation to cover Direct selling/Direct/Net work/ Multi Level Marketing. In consultation with the Ministry of Law, Department of Consumer Affairs had issued a letter to all the Chief Secretaries of States and Union Territories clarifying that if the Direct/Network/Multi Level Marketing companies do their activities lawfully, then their activities would not attract any of the provisions of The Prize, Chits and Money Circulation Schemes (Banning) Act, 1978. The Central Economic Intelligence Bureau, the investigating agency dealing with economic offences, had drawn attention of the Department of Consumer Affairs to the fact that companies using pyramid schemes to sell their products were taking shelter under this letter to protect themselves from possible legal action. In further response, Department of Consumer Affairs clarified to all the States and Union Territories that the instructions issued earlier did not cover pyramid structure marketing scheme.

Reserve Bank of India has also separately clarified that it is for the State Governments to seek the advice of their Law Officers/Public Prosecutor to decide whether

any given scheme attracts the provisions of the Prize, Chits and Money Circulation Schemes (Banning) Act, 1978.

[English]

### **Tourism Projects of Andhra Pradesh**

4684. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to sanction new projects and to enhance fund allocation for tourism development in various States, including Andhra Pradesh during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) to (c) Development of tourism is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. Ministry of Tourism, however, provides financial assistance for tourism projects on the basis of proposals received from them subject to availability of funds and inter-se priority.

State/Union Territory-wise details of projects sanctioned in various States including Andhra Pradesh during the first two years of the Eleventh Five Year Plan are given in the enclosed Statement.

### **Statement**

#### ***The Projects Sanctioned and Amount Sanctioned by Ministry of Tourism during First Two Years of Eleventh Five Year Plan***

(Rs. in Lakh)			
S.No.	State/UT	No. of Projects Sanctioned	Amount Sanctioned
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	16	12610.06
2	Assam	9	3379.51

1	2	3	4
3	Arunachal Pradesh	23	6477.32
4	Bihar	12	2993.20
5	Chhattisgarh	5	2407.91
6	Goa	2	4314.91
7	Gujarat	12	2710.24
8	Haryana	18	4755.76
9	Himachal Pradesh	21	5263.88
10	Jammu and Kashmir	61	10678.72
11	Jharkhand	7	1130.47
12	Karnataka	9	6277.92
13	Kerala	22	7393.83
14	Madhya Pradesh	27	7093.77
15	Maharashtra	8	5389.49
16	Manipur	14	4054.61
17	Meghalaya	8	1912.94
18	Mizoram	9	2011.32
19	Nagaland	32	4786.01
20	Orissa	18	6491.68
21	Punjab	4	2365.99
22	Rajasthan	10	5744.02
23	Sikkim	50	13112.86
24	Tamil Nadu	28	6427.52
25	Tripura	17	1471.70
26	Uttarakhand	8	6549.76
27	Uttar Pradesh	13	6672.67
28	West Bengal	21	6562.50

1	2	3	4
29	Andaman and Nicobar	0	0.00
30	Chandigarh	7	819.11
31	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	3	24.88
32	Delhi	8	764.08
33	Daman and Diu	1	12.50
34	Lakshadweep	1	782.73
35	Puducherry	10	1863.68
Total		514	155307.55

**Awareness about Renewable  
Energy Sources**

4685. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken/being taken by the Government for generating awareness about use of power from renewable energy sources;

(b) whether Government is funding some quiz programmes in various languages for spreading awareness about Renewable Energy sources; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of firms/companies which have been selected for organizing such programmes?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH) : (a) Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has been taking steps for mass awareness about the need, benefits and uses of renewable energy mainly through a pragmatic use of the existing Government channels viz. State Nodal Agencies (SNAs), Directorate of Advertising & Visual Publicity (DAVP), Doordarshan, All India Radio (AIR) and Department of Posts, etc. Variety of media like electronic, print and outdoor publicity through exhibitions, hoardings, kiosks and other outdoor media activities are also used for popularization of renewable energy systems and devices. District level and State level energy parks have been set

up for generating awareness. A new scheme for demonstration of renewable energy systems at places of national and international importance has recently been introduced.

(b) and (c) Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has been organizing All India Renewable Energy Quiz in Hindi and English languages as well as regional quiz in vernacular languages during the last three years. M/s ZEE Telefilms Ltd., New Delhi, M/s Irish Publications Ltd., New Delhi and M/s SAB TV Network, have organized the Quiz Programme on behalf of the Ministry.

[Translation]

#### **Water Quality Testing Laboratories**

4686. SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is providing financial and technical assistance to the State Government including Maharashtra for testing the quality of drinking water being provided in the rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to establish

Drinking Water Quality Testing Laboratories in every district of the country;

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

(e) the number of such Laboratories existing in the country as on date, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI AGATHA SANGMA): (a) to (e) Yes Madam. The Government of India has been providing assistance to the States/ Union Territories (UTs) to set up district Water quality testing laboratories in all such districts, where such a facility is not available. So far, the Department of Drinking water Supply has sanctioned 464 district water quality testing laboratories throughout the country including 3 such laboratories in Maharashtra. Another 164 quality water testing laboratories have been set up by the respective State Governments/ UT Administrations. In Maharashtra, 27 district level water quality testing laboratories have been set up by the State Government. In addition, 15 water quality testing laboratories have been established in different States with the support of other agencies. As reported, State/ UT wise details of water quality testing laboratories sanctioned and established, are given in the enclosed Statement.

#### **Statement**

##### *Status of district level water quality testing laboratories*

S.No.	Name of the State/UT	No. of districts	Number of water testing laboratories				
			By Government of India		By State	Established by others	Total established
			Sanctioned	Established	Established		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	23	14	14	37	0	51
2	Arunachal Pradesh	16	16	16	0	0	16
3	Assam	23	21	21	2	0	23
4	Bihar	38	35	35	2	0	37
5	Chandigarh	1	0	0	0	0	0



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
6	Chhattisgarh	16	16	16	0	0	16
7	Goa	2	1	1	1	0	2
8	Gujarat	25	21	21	4	0	25
9	Haryana	19	18	18	1	0	19
10	Himachal Pradesh	12	10	10	5	0	15
11	Jammu and Kashmir	14	9	6	2	0	8
12	Jharkhand	24	7	7	16	1	24
13	Karnataka	29	23	23	6	0	29
14	Kerala	14	4	4	10	0	14
15	Madhya Pradesh	48	48	48	14	0	62
16	Maharashtra	35	3	3	27	0	30
17	Manipur	9	8	1	1	0	2
18	Meghalaya	7	7	7	0	0	7
19	Mizoram	8	8	8	0	0	8
20	Nagaland	8	6	2	0	0	2
21	Orissa	30	30	29	0	0	29
22	Punjab	17	12	12	0	0	12
23	Rajasthan	32	23	23	10	0	33
24	Sikkim	4	3	2	0	0	2
25	Tamil Nadu	30	24	24	4	0	28
26	Tripura	4	3	3	3	0	6
27	Uttar Pradesh	70	55	55	1	14	70
28	Uttarakhand	13	13	0	3	0	3
29	West Bengal	18	18	18	0	0	18
30	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2	1	1	0	0	1
31	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1	1	1	0	0	1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
32	Daman and Diu	2	2	2	0	0	2
33	Delhi	9	0	0	6	0	6
34	Lakshadweep	1	2	2	7	0	9
35	Puducherry	4	2	2	2	0	4
Total		608	464	435	164	15	614

[English]

#### **Sal and Siali Leaf Plates**

4687. SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY : Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tribal Co-operative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited (TRIFED) has been taking appropriate steps to improve the production and sale of sal and siali leaf plates;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the measures being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (DR. TUSHAR CHAUDHARY) : (a) and b) Yes, Madam. TRIFED has been organizing training programmes for Scheduled Tribe artisans and Minor Forest Produce (MFP) gatherers for improving the production and sale of sal and siali plates. This activity includes imparting technical training, providing bio-fuel run moulding and stitching machines to the tribal self help groups free of cost. TRIFED also provides assistance for construction of temporary work sheds.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Import Duty on Edible Oils**

4688. SHRI M.B. RAJESH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any reduction of import duty on edible oil over the last three years; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Import duty on edible oil has been progressively reduced in order to augment the availability of this essential commodity at reasonable prices to the domestic consumer. Basic Customs duty on edible oils ranged from 45% to 100% in August, 2006. Currently crude edible oils are fully exempt from basic customs duty while refined edible oils attract a uniform basic customs duty of 7.5%.

#### **Credit Card Customers**

4689. SHRI NILESH NARAYAN RANE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the credit card customers are being overcharged by the banks/service providers through hidden charges; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that a few complaints in regard to hidden charges levied by banks on the credit card customers have been received by them.

In order to streamline the credit card area, RBI has issued a comprehensive Master circular on Credit Card operations by Banks on July 23, 2008 covering areas like issue of cards, interests rates & other charges, use of

Direct Selling Agent (DSA)/Direct Marketing Agent (DMA) and other agents, wrongful billings, protection of customer rights, redressal of grievances, fraud control, right to impose penalties, etc. This circular was revised recently and an updated master circular was issued on July 1, 2009. RBI circular dated May 7, 2007 on excessive interest rates on loans and advances was also made applicable to credit card dues. Banks have been advised to include above provisions in Most Important Terms & Conditions (MITCS) to be issued to Customers while issuing credit cards.

Credit card complaints received by the 15 Banking Ombudsman offices are dealt with under the provisions of Banking Ombudsman Scheme, 2006. Under the Scheme Banking Ombudsman are empowered to award compensation not exceeding Rs.1 lakh to the complainant for harassment and mental agony suffered by the complainant in case of complaints arising out of credit cards operations in addition to the actual pecuniary losses suffered in transactions.

#### **Transmission and Distribution Losses**

4690. SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any international standards for Transmission and Distribution (T&D) losses;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the average T&D losses in the country at present is in consonance with the international standards;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether after restructuring of State Electricity Boards (SEBs) by some of the States as a measure of power sector reforms, the T&D losses has been increased; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI) : (a) to (d) There are no international standards for Transmission and Distribution (T&D) losses.

A report prepared by the Power Finance Corporation (PFC) indicates that the Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) Loss of the State Power Utilities at the national level for 2006-07 was 33.07%. As per the guidelines issued by Central Electricity Authority (CEA) for reduction of Transmission and Distribution (T&D) losses, the unavoidable technical loss in Indian conditions is about 10-15%. T&D losses in some of the neighbouring countries (which are available for the year 2003) are given below:

Sl. No.	Name of the Country	T&D losses (%)
1.	Pakistan	25
2.	Bangladesh	12
3.	China	06
4.	Nepal	19
5.	Sri Lanka	18

(Source: World Bank Publication, World Development Indicators, upto 2006)

The reasons for losses include technical reasons like overloading of existing lines and substation equipments, old and outdated network, low HT:LT ratio, poor repair and Maintenance of equipments, non installation of sufficient capacitors, substandard, inefficient & poor quality distribution equipment, poor power factor of consumer end devices etc. and commercial reasons like defective meters, theft & pilferage, tampering of meters, low accountability of employees, poor metering efficiency, poor billing efficiency, non-realization of dues etc.

(e) and (f) T&D losses of State Electricity Boards (SEBs) have not increased in general after restructuring.

#### **Deposits in Banks**

4691. SHRI UDAYANRAJE BHONSLE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total deposits in the banks of Rural and Semi-Urban Areas; and

(b) the average interest rate of such deposits during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Total deposits of Scheduled Commercial Banks in Rural and Semi-Urban Areas is given below:

Population Group	Amount in Rupees Lakh		
	As on 31 March		
	2006	2007	2008
Rural	22606118	25301369	30342304
Semi-Urban	30221281	35739514	43027971

Source: RBI

(b) The average interest rates on term deposits of Scheduled Commercial Banks during the last three years is given below:

Population Group	(Per Cent)		
	As on 31 March		
	2006	2007	2008
Rural	6.47	7.30	8.17
Semi-Urban	6.29	7.35	8.20

Source: RBI

#### Installation cost for Solar Devices

4692. SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any installation cost has been fixed for solar energy devices and setting up of bio-gas plants under the National Bio-gas and Manure Management Programme as well as subsidy given to the people below poverty line;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any special price list for the North Eastern Region and Hilly States of India like Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Jammu and Kashmir; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH) : (a) to (d) No, Sir. The Ministry of New & Renewable Energy has not fixed any installation cost for solar energy devices and setting up of bio-gas plants under the National Biogas and Manure Management Programme, as such systems are also site-specific. Under the Solar Photovoltaic Programme solar lanterns are being provided free of cost to one girl child (studying in classes IX to XII) per below poverty line family residing in un-electrified villages and hamlets of North Eastern Region, Sikkim and Hilly States of India like Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Jammu and Kashmir.

There is no special price list for the North Eastern Region and Hilly States of India. However, higher levels of central financial assistance/ subsidy are provided for solar energy systems/devices and family type biogas plants for their installation in this Region and Hilly States. Details of the same are given in the enclosed Statement.

#### Statement

#### I. Solar Photovoltaic Systems/ Devices

S.No	Name of Solar Photovoltaic System/ Device	Central Financial Assistance/ Subsidy (In Rs.)
1	2	3
1.	Solar Photovoltaic Home-lighting systems for North Eastern Region and Special Category States	4500(18 Wp) 8660 (37-74 Wp)
2.	Solar Photovoltaic Lighting systems for North Eastern Region and Special Category States	17300 (74 Wp)

1	2	3
3.	Stand-alone Solar Photovoltaic Power plants for North Eastern Region and Special Category States:	
	(i) more than 1kWp (with capacity less than 1 kWp on case to case basis.)	225 per Wp
	(ii) more than 10 kWp with distribution line	270 per Wp
4.	Solar lantern in rural areas for beneficiaries in un-electrified villages and un-electrified hamlets of electrified villages in Special Category States and UT islands	2400/- per solar lantern

## II. Solar Water Heaters

Special Demonstration Programme on solar water heaters is implemented in North-Eastern Region, Islands, Jammu & Kashmir, where special rates of capital subsidy are provided for installations at places of high visibility. The

rate of capital subsidy for North-Eastern States is Rs. 6000/- per square meter of collector area subject to a maximum of 50% of the cost of the system. This rate for Jammu & Kashmir and Islands is Rs.4000/- per square meter.

## III. Family type Biogas Plants

Sl. No.	Category	Central Financial Assistance for different of Family Size Biogas Plants (Rs)	
		1 cubic meter	2-6 cubic meter
1.	North Eastern Region States and Sikkim (except plain areas of Assam).	11,700/-	11,700/-
2.	Plain areas of Assam.	9,000/-	9,000/-
3.	Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal (excluding terai region), Nilgiris of Tamil Nadu; Sadar Lursoong and Kalimpong sub-divisions of the Darjeeling district (WB), Sunderbans, Andaman and Nicobar Islands.	3,500/-	4,500/-
4.	Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe, desert districts, small and marginal farmers, landless labourers, terai region of Uttaranchal, Western Ghats and other notified hilly areas.	2,800/-	3,500/-

[Translation]

### Inclusion of religious places in Tourist Map

4693. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to include the religious places of the country, including the holy Shrine of Madar Saheb and Neemsar of Makanpur (Uttar Pradesh) in its tourist map;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to develop religious places of the country?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (d) Development and promotion of Tourism in the country is primarily undertaken by the

State Government / Union Territory Administrations, including Uttar Pradesh. However, Ministry of Tourism provides funds to them under the following schemes:-

1. Product/Infrastructure Development for Destinations and Circuits.
2. Assistance for Large Revenue Generating Projects.
3. Computerization and Information Technology.
4. Fairs, Festivals and Events.
5. Rural Tourism- Infrastructure and Capacity Building for service providers.

Project proposals received from the State Government / Union Territories Administrations are examined as per the guidelines and sanctioned subject to availability of funds and inter-se priority.

The details of funds sanctioned and amounts sanctioned to the State Governments / Union Territory Administrations during the first two years of the 11th Five Year Plan, for development of tourism in the country including religious tourism is given in the enclosed Statement.

#### **Statement**

*The projects sanctioned and amounts sanctioned by Ministry of Tourism during first two years of Eleventh Five Year Plan*

(Rs. in Lakh)

S.No.	State/UT	No. of Projects Sanctioned	Amount Sanctioned
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	16	12610.06
2	Assam	9	3379.51
3	Arunachal Pradesh	23	6477.32
4	Bihar	12	2993.20
5	Chhattisgarh	5	2407.91

1	2	3	4
6	Goa	2	4314.91
7	Gujarat	12	2710.24
8	Haryana	18	4755.76
9	Himachal Pradesh	21	5263.88
10	Jammu and Kashmir	61	10678.72
11	Jharkhand	7	1130.47
12	Karnataka	9	6277.92
13	Kerala	22	7393.83
14	Madhya Pradesh	27	7093.77
15	Maharashtra	8	5389.49
16	Manipur	14	4054.61
17	Meghalaya	8	1912.94
18	Mizoram	9	2011.32
19	Nagaland	32	4786.01
20	Orissa	18	6491.68
21	Punjab	4	2365.99
22	Rajasthan	10	5744.02
23	Sikkim	50	13112.86
24	Tamil Nadu	28	6427.52
25	Tripura	17	1471.70
26	Uttarakhand	8	6549.76
27	Uttar Pradesh	13	6672.67
28	West Bengal	21	6562.50
29	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0.00
30	Chandigarh	7	819.11

1	2	3	4
31	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	3	24.88
32	Delhi	8	764.08
33	Daman and Diu	1	12.50
34	Lakshadweep	1	782.73
35	Puducherry	10	1863.68
Total		514	155307.55

[English]

#### LIC Holdings In Mutual Funds

4694. SHRI T. R. BAALU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) proposes to reduce its holding in LIC Mutual Fund below 50% and lose the management control in favour of a Japanese financial services company; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has reported that presently its holding in LIC Mutual Fund is 49.50%. The proposal is to divest a minority stake of 35% in LIC Mutual Fund in favour of M/s. Nomura Asset Management Co. Ltd. This divestment will be done by LIC Housing Finance Ltd. and LIC Housing Finance Ltd. in favour of M/s. Nomura Asset Management Co. Ltd. After divestment, LIC group's (LIC & LIC Housing Finance Ltd.) holding will be 65% in LIC Mutual Fund and the management control will remain with LIC.

#### Bureau of Energy Efficiency

4695. SHRI P.T. THOMAS: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the objectives of establishing the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE);

(b) whether the said bureau provides technical and consultancy services to institutions and individuals;

(c) if so, whether the bureau is engaged in any activity in Kerala;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the bureau facilitates the providing of technical services for the institutions and individuals who want to construct green buildings; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) The Government of India set up Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) on 1st March 2002 under the provisions of the Energy Conservation Act, 2001 to assist in developing policies and strategies with a thrust on self-regulation and market principles, within the overall framework of the Energy Conservation Act, 2001 with the primary objective of reducing energy intensity of the Indian economy.

(b) The Bureau is providing technical support to State Designated Agencies, Municipalities, Small & Medium Enterprises, Government Offices for buildings and Electricity Distribution Companies for the preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) and plans for implementing energy efficiency measures. The Bureau is not providing any support to individuals.

(c) Yes, Madam.

(d) In Kerala, Energy Management Centre (EMC) is the state nodal agency to implement the energy conservation activities in the state of Kerala. The Bureau has supported EMC for creation of IT infrastructure, creation of database for Energy Managers/Energy Auditors and Designated Consumers, organizing workshops/training programmes, creating awareness through electronic media/print media etc.

(e) and (f) The Bureau is providing technical support to Government agencies empanelled in preparing building designs that are compliant to Energy Conservation Building Code. The support is in form of providing services of expert architects by BEE. The Bureau is not providing any support to individuals.

### **Investors of Mutual Fund**

4696. SHRI BALIRAM JADHAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether investors of Mutual Funds schemes have been adversely affected during the last two years; and

(b) if so, the Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Mutual fund investments are subject to market risks and there is no certainty attached to returns. In tune with overall market conditions there has been some decrease in average returns on some equity based mutual funds leading to notional losses. The disclosures made by mutual funds as per extant SEBI regulations help investors take informed decisions. The Government has put in place systems and practices to promote a safe, transparent and efficient market and to protect market integrity.

[Translation]

### **Bokaro Thermal Power Plant**

4697. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new power unit is being constructed for capacity addition in Bokaro Thermal Power Plant;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding the irregularities in the construction of the plant;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam, a new unit of 500 MW capacity is being constructed at Bokaro Thermal Power Station (BTPS) 'A'. Under this

project, order has been placed with M/s. Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. (BHEL) on Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) contract basis for its main plant. Target Date of Commissioning (COD) is December, 2011.

(c) to (e) The Vigilance Wing of the Ministry has reported that complaints have been received regarding award of works in BTPS "A". The matter is under examination.

[English]

### **Property Prices in India**

4698. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the property prices in most of the countries are showing a downward trend in view of the slump in the global realty market;

(b) if so, whether this trend has any impact on the property prices in India also;

(c) if so, the extent of fall in the property prices noticed during the last one year;

(d) whether the Government proposes to take some effective steps to curb the exorbitant increase in the prices of residential flats, particularly built under the co-operative group housing scheme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SAUGATA ROY): (a) to (c) Yes, Madam. A downward trend has been witnessed in the property prices in the global realty markets. As per the National Housing Banks, Residential Housing Price Index (NHB RESIDEX), a fall in the property prices has been observed in some of the cities covered under the Index. Out of the 15 cities covered, the index has shown marginal decline in prices of residential properties in nine cities, viz., Hyderabad, Patna, Ahmedabad, Chennai, Jaipur, Lucknow, Pune, Surat and Kochi.

(d) and (e) The Union Government formulated the National Urban Housing & Habitat Policy, 2007 with the



aim of providing 'Affordable Housing for All' with particular emphasis in meeting the housing needs of the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) and Low Income Group (LIG). This policy seek to promote sustainable development of the urban habitat with a view to ensuring equitable supply of land, shelter and services at affordable prices to all sections of society.

In 2005, Government launched the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), to make provision, inter-alia, of housing and basic services for the urban poor by a holistic and integrated development of slums in 65 specified cities under the Sub Mission Basic Services to the Urban Poor (BSUP) and in other cities and towns under the Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP). A total of 461 projects under basic Services to the Urban Poor (BSUP) and 839 projects under Integrated Housing & Slum Development Programme (IHSDP) have been approved all over the country so far envisaging construction/upgradation of 9,93,523 and 4,61,887 dwelling units respectively.

In December 2008, Government started a new scheme-Interest Subsidy Scheme for Housing for the Urban Poor (IHSP) for providing interest subsidy to make housing loans affordable and within the repayment capacity of Economically Weaker Sections (EWS)/Low Income Group (LIG). The scheme makes available loans upto Rs. 1 lakh through Commercial banks/Housing Finance Companies for the purposes of construction/acquisition of houses with an interest subsidy of 5%.

With a view to encourage allotment of land for EWS housing, another scheme for 'Affordable Housing in partnership', was started under which Central Government assistance is available for infrastructure connectivities for housing projects which provide houses upto 80 Sq. mt. carpet area of which at least 25% are for EWS/LIG.

In June, 2009, Government announced the intention to comprehensively address the issue of slums and to provide a Rajiv Awas Yojana (RAY) for housing in urban areas wherever states are willing to assign property rights to people living in slum areas.

*[Translation]*

#### **Jipsa Hydro Power Project**

4699. SHRI VIRENDER KASHYAP: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Himachal Pradesh and Central Water Commission have requested for a sum of Rs.35 crore for preparing Detailed Project Report (DPR) of Jipsa Hydroelectric Power Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(d) the reasons for the delay in the commissioning of this power project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (d) In a meeting between officials of the Central and State Governments, a decision was taken that Central Water Commission (CWC) and Government of Himachal Pradesh would work out the details of investigation and preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) of Jipsa (Gyspa) hydroelectric storage project and the funding would, however, be made by CWC. CWC made a suggestion to the State Government of Himachal Pradesh to the above effect and further indicated that joint working would be cost effective and within the funds sanctioned to the CWC for investigation and preparation of DPR. Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board (HPSEB) has, however, conveyed its view to engage some reputed international consultants/firms to prepare the DPR of the project. HPSEB has further indicated that the total estimated amount (Rs. 32.50 crore) for preparation of DPR would not be required in single installment but would be phased out and submitted to CWC. However, the requisite source for such funding of preparation DPR is not available with CWC. The project has since been included as a National Project, due to which funding for irrigation & drinking water components is to be made by the CWC.

*[English]*

#### **Power Agreement with Neighbouring Countries**

4700. SK. SAIDUL HAQUE:

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has signed any agreement with the neighbouring countries for power generation during the last three years and the current year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI) : (a) and (b) In July, 2006, India and Bhutan signed an agreement on Cooperation in Hydropower wherein it was agreed that India would develop 5,000 MW of hydropower in Bhutan for export to India by 2020. This target was formally revised to 10,000 MW by signing a Protocol to the aforesaid agreement in March, 2009, which also provides for undertaking mutually agreed projects through JVs. In July, 2007, India and Bhutan signed an agreement to implement the 1200 MW Punatsangchhu-I Hydroelectric Project under the Inter-governmental Authority Model.

Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam Limited (SJVN) participated as an IPP against International Competitive Bidding invited by Government of Nepal for development of Arun-III Hydro Power Project and was allotted the project. MoU for the execution of Arun-III Hydro Power Project (402 MW) in Nepal was signed between Government of Nepal represented by Ministry of Water Resources and SJVN on 2nd March, 2008.

#### **Development of "Ambaji"**

4701. SHRI MUKESH BHAIKAVDANJI GADHVI : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the Government of Gujarat for development of "Ambaji" in Gujarat; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The project proposal for destination Development of "Ambaji" in Gujarat has been sanctioned with Central Financial Assistance of Rs.353.94 lakh during the year 2008-09.

#### **Armed Guards of PSBs**

4702. SHRIMATI BOTCHA JHANSI LAKSHMI:

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the PSBs/branches do not have sufficient armed guards;

(b) if so, the details of such PSBs/branches and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government proposes to review the security of bank branches which are categorized as low risk and have no armed guards posted; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that out of 26379 bank branches which are considered vulnerable, 19450 have been provided with armed guards, 2012 have been provided with unarmed guards. No guards have been provided at the remaining 4916 branches. Around 81% branches which are considered vulnerable have been provided with guards.

(c) and (d) Security arrangements at bank branches are primarily the responsibility of each bank. The strength of security personnel at each branch is dependent on security threat perception depending on the prevailing law and order situation, area specific issues, vulnerability of the branch etc. RBI stipulates deployment of armed police guards in so far as currency chest branches are concerned. At other branches, ATMs etc., the banks can devise their own arrangement with the approval of their respective Boards. However, measures initiated by RBI and Indian Banks' Association (IBA) to strengthen security arrangements of bank branches are as under:

(i) RBI issues circulars to banks on security arrangements from time to time advising them to be more vigilant, tighten up security arrangements and take preventive action against robberies/decoities in their branches.

(ii) Indian Banks' Association had circulated guidelines on security arrangements in banks in July 2004 for protection of banks' properties.

- (iii) Security measures implemented by public sector banks are reviewed in the State Level Security Committee meetings held periodically by the Regional Directors of RBI in all the states. The meetings are attended by bankers and State Government officials including senior Police officials. The Committee takes stock of the security environment in the State, discusses steps needed to be taken to strengthen security in banks and advise issue of requisite guidelines/instructions to banks.
- (iv) RBI has advised all the Regional Directors heading the RBI Offices, in February 2007 that they should assess the current position regarding providing Closed Circuit TVs in all the branches of banks and also look into the issue of improving security arrangements by introducing affordable modern technology.

#### **Weak Recovery of Economy**

4703. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:  
SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian economy is likely to face weak recovery next year from a sharp contraction this year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) As per the Economic Survey 2008-09, the real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at factor cost is expected to grow at around  $7.0 \pm 0.75$  per cent in the fiscal 2009-10, assuming a normal monsoon. A 'U' shaped revival of growth path is expected with two not so good quarters followed by two good quarters.

(c) The steps initiated by the Government for sustaining growth momentum include short term measures of fiscal stimulus packages by enhancing expenditure levels and duty reductions. The Budget 2009-10 has inter-

alia indicated the relevance of measures such as, stimulating investment in infrastructure, development of agriculture and providing assistance to exporters to help overcome short term disadvantages etc. The Central Government has increased the Budgetary allocation for 2009-10 for plan and non-plan expenditure by 34 per cent and 37 per cent over the budget estimates of 2008-09.

[Translation]

#### **Villages visited by World Bank Team**

4704. SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM WAKCHAURE:  
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the World Bank team has visited the sites of projects undertaken in India during the recent time; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and their reaction thereon, project-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Currently, the World Bank has 63 on-going projects in India. These projects are being implemented in the Central and State Sectors and are at different stages of implementation.

The World Bank project teams undertake implementation support missions to all on-going projects in every 6 months to review the progress of the project implementation. These missions, undertaken with the approval of the Government of India, involve meetings with the relevant project officers at both the Central state and district levels, visits to the project sites to meet with officials of the implementing agencies and project beneficiaries. On completion of the missions' visit detailed reports on the outcomes of these meetings and discussions are submitted to Government.

On receipt of these reports from the World Bank, the Government takes necessary actions on the basis of the issues, if any, flagged by the World Bank.

*[English]*

**Lending by Banks to Renewable  
Energy Projects**

4705. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken steps for obtaining priority sector status for lending by banks to renewable energy projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH) : (a) to (c) Yes, Madam. However, priority sector, which presently consists of 40% of the adjusted net bank credit, is already crowded with agriculture occupying around 45% of the space and the balance 55% shared by housing, micro, small & medium enterprises (MSME), retail and other sectors. In view of this position and the fact that renewable power projects are generally capital intensive, little room is left for priority lending to such projects.

**Development of Bird Sanctuary**

4706. DR. RATTAN SINGH AJNALA : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken/proposed to take any steps for developing Bird Sanctuaries of the country including Hari Key Bird Sanctuary as tourist spot; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) and (b) Development and promotion of tourism is primarily the responsibility of State Governments/Union Territory Administrations concerned. Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for development of infrastructure at tourist destinations/circuits

including bird sanctuaries under the Product/Infrastructure Development for Destinations and Circuits Scheme of the Ministry, on the basis of proposals received from them, subject to availability of funds and inter-se priority. No such project proposal for development of Hari Key Bird Sanctuary as tourist spot has been received from the State Government of Punjab. The list of projects sanctioned during the first two years of 11th Five Year Plan i.e. 2007-08 and 2008-09 is given in the enclosed Statement.

**Statement**

*State-wise number of tourism projects sanctioned  
during 11th Five Year Plan (first two years)*

(Rs. in lakh)

S.No.	State/UT	No. of Projects Sanctioned	Amount Sanctioned
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	16	12610.06
2.	Assam	9	3379.51
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	23	6477.32
4.	Bihar	12	2993.20
5.	Chhattisgarh	5	2407.91
6.	Goa	2	4314.91
7.	Gujarat	12	2710.24
8.	Haryana	18	4755.76
9.	Himachal Pradesh	21	5263.88
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	61	10678.72
11.	Jharkhand	7	1130.47
12.	Karnataka	9	6277.92
13.	Kerala	22	7393.83
14.	Madhya Pradesh	27	7093.77
15.	Maharashtra	8	5389.49

1	2	3	4
16.	Manipur	14	4054.61
17.	Meghalaya	8	1912.94
18.	Mizoram	9	2011.32
19.	Nagaland	32	4786.01
20.	Orissa	18	6491.68
21.	Punjab	4	2365.99
22.	Rajasthan	10	5744.02
23.	Sikkim	50	13112.86
24.	Tamil Nadu	28	6427.52
25.	Tripura	17	1471.70
26.	Uttarakhand	8	6549.76
27.	Uttar Pradesh	13	6672.67
28.	West Bengal	21	6562.50
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0.00
30.	Chandigarh	7	819.11
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	3	24.88
32.	Delhi	8	764.08
33.	Daman and Diu	1	12.50
34.	Lakshadweep	1	782.73
35.	Puducherry	10	1863.68
Total		514	155307.55

#### Verification of Investment in Portfolio

4707. SHRI K. J. S. P. REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to allow investors to verify their investments in a portfolio management scheme; and

(b) if so, the details worked out so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Amendments to Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) (Portfolio Managers) Regulations has stipulated that by May 2009 securities of clients are to be held in separate demat accounts. Accordingly, securities of the clients are held in separate demat accounts and the clients can verify their holdings and their investments in a portfolio.

#### Renewable Energy Projects

4708. SHRI FRANCISCO COSME SARDINHA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of proposals from the State Governments including Goa for setting up of renewable energy projects are pending approval with the Union Government;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH) : (a) to (c) The setting up of renewable energy projects falls within the competence of State Governments to approve and does not require prior techno-economic clearance/approval of the Union Government. Proposals are received for grant of central financial assistance under the Ministry's schemes/programmes on an ongoing basis through State Governments/designated State Nodal Agencies. At times, these proposals are found to be incomplete or not in line with the provisions of the schemes/programmes. Complete proposals in line with the provisions of schemes/programmes are considered and approved immediately, subject to the budget provisions.

#### Tribal Sub-Plan

4709. SHRI R. DHROUVANARAYANA :  
SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to State:

(a) the details of funds allocated and utilized under Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes in the country including Orissa during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(b) whether the Union Government has directed the State Governments to allocate funds properly under TSP;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the extent to which communication system has been established in the tribal areas in the country;

(e) whether the Government has received complaints about the implementation of TSP;

(f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(g) the details of States that have performed best in the implementation of TSP, merit-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

TRIBAL AFFAIRS (DR. TUSHAR CHAUDHARY) : (a) As per information received from Planning Commission, State-wise details of the funds allocated under Tribal Sub-Plan for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes in the country including Orissa during last three years 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 are given in the Statement enclosed. Details of funds allocated during current year and utilization under TSP are not available.

(b) to (d) The Planning Commission has issued guidelines to the State Governments and UT Administrations for formulation, implementation and monitoring of Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) and the Ministry also pursues with the State Governments in this regard.

(e) Government has not received complaints against the implementation of Tribal Sub Plan.

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

(g) Does not arise in view of reply given to (a) above.

### Statement

#### Approved Outlay under TSP during Annual Plan 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09

Sl No.	State/UT	% of ST Population (2001 Census)	Annual Plan 2006-07			Annual Plan 2007-08			Annual Plan 2008-09		
			Total	Allocation made		Total	Allocation made		Total	Allocation made	
			Agreed Outlay			Agreed Outlay			Agreed Outlay		
				TSP	%		TSP	%		TSP	%
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6.60	20000.00	1168.00	5.84	30500.00	2454.83	8.05	44000.00	3331.96	7.57
2.	Assam	12.40	3798.00	31.61	0.83	3800.00	33.58	0.88	5011.51	621.33	12.40
3.	Bihar	0.90	8250.00	74.34	0.90	10200.00	93.94	0.92	13000.00	117.00	0.90
4.	Chhattisgarh	32.40	5378.00	2084.56	38.76	7431.72	870.99	11.72	9600.00	3052.80	31.80
5.	Goa	12.10	1200.00	89.50	7.46	1430.00	0.00	0.00	1737.65	212.00	12.20
6.	Gujarat	14.80	12503.50	1850.26	14.80	16000.00	2361.60	14.76	21000.00	255.00	1.21
7.	Himachal Pradesh	5.60	1800.00	159.84	8.88	2100.00	189.00	9.00	2400.00	96.00	4.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	10.90	4347.67	381.50	8.77	4850.00	11.97	0.25	4500.00	20.00	0.44
9.	Jharkhand	26.30	6500.00	3811.29	58.64	6676.00	729.96	10.93	8015.00	4082.39	50.93
10.	Karnataka	6.60	16166.00	482.17	2.98	17782.58	11.61	0.07	26188.83	1263.90	4.83
11.	Kerala	1.10	6210.00	120.05	1.93	6950.00	139.00	2.00	7700.00	84.70	1.10
12.	Madhya Pradesh	20.30	9020.00	1857.74	20.60	12011.00	1832.60	15.26	14182.61	2879.00	20.30
13.	Maharashtra	8.90	14829.00	1389.00	9.37	20200.00	1798.00	8.90	21577.86	1920.43	8.90
14.	Manipur	34.20	1160.00	489.87	42.23	1374.31	592.61	43.12	1660.00	567.72	34.20
15.	Orissa	22.10	3500.00	1000.00	28.57	5105.00	1257.00	24.62	7500.00	1699.73	22.66
16.	Rajasthan	12.60	8501.42	1066.33	12.54	11638.86	1431.17	12.30	13879.00	1748.75	12.60
17.	Sikkim	20.60	550.00	64.88	11.80	691.14	135.16	19.56	852.00	83.62	9.81
18.	Tamil Nadu	1.00	12500.00	27.52	0.22	14000.00	3185.05	22.75	16000.00	160.00	1.00
19.	Tripura	31.10	950.00	346.98	36.52	1220.00	408.05	33.48	1450.00	501.34	34.58
20.	Uttar Pradesh	3.00	19000.00	120.00	0.63	25000.00	NA	-	35000.00	-	-
21.	Uttarakhand	0.10	4000.00	43.00	1.08	4378.63	134.09	3.06	4775.00	143.25	3.00
22.	West Bengal	5.50	8024.36	595.32	7.42	9150.00	721.07	7.88	11602.38	638.13	5.50
23.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	8.30	1119.07	64.08	5.73	1154.83	86.34	7.48	829.19	2.68	0.32
24.	Daman and Diu								155.00	2.54	1.64
	All India		149307.02	17317.84	11.60	213644.07	18478.07	8.65	272616.03	23484.27	8.61

*[Translation]***Funds for Power Generation**

4710. SHRI ARJUN MUNDA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Jharkhand has demanded Rs.18,100 crore through Thirteenth Finance Commission from the Union Government for augmenting the power generation in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to sanction the required funds for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) In the Memorandum submitted to the Thirteenth Finance Commission, the Government of Jharkhand has projected the requirement of Rs.18,700 crore to meet the future demand of power in the state.

(b) Break-up of requirement of funds projected by

Government of Jharkhand before the Thirteenth Finance Commission for development of energy sector in the State is as follows:

Particulars	MW	Government Funding (Rupees in Crores)
Generation	5000	7200 (30% of the cost)
	1000	
Nuclear	500	3000
Hydel	500	
Transmission	-	-
Distribution + IT	-	7500
Non Conventional Energy		500
Conservation Fund		500
Total		18700

(c) and (d) The Thirteenth Finance Commission would take a decision on this proposal along with the proposals from other State Governments to be reflected in its report covering the five year period from 01.04.2010 to 31.03.2015.

#### **Sangam Development Authority**

4711. SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to include the 'Prayagraj Sangam' into National Tourist map;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government proposes to set up a Sangam Development Authority to make Sangam a beautiful and attractive tourist place; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (d) Development and promotion of tourism is primarily the responsibility of State

Governments/UT Administrations. However, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India extends Central Financial Assistance for tourism projects based on the proposals received from them complete in all respects as per the scheme guidelines, inter-se priority and subject to availability of funds.

[English]

#### **Tipaimukh Hydro-Electric Project**

4712. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI:

SHRI LALIT MOHAN SUKLABAIYA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tipaimukh Multipurpose Hydro-electric Project in Manipur is facing problems in its implementation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a delegation from Bangladesh visited India in this connection;

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

(e) the present status and the projected date of completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI) : (a) and (b) No, Madam. However, Government of Bangladesh has shown concern regarding construction of Tipaimukh Dam Project (1500 MW) in Manipur and have requested for information on the Tipaimukh Dam. There have also been misinformed protests in Bangladesh regarding construction of the Project on Barak River. Government of India has shared information on the Project with the Government of Bangladesh and has also invited Bangladesh.

(c) and (d) A Parliamentary Delegation from Bangladesh led by Mr. Md. Abdur Razzak, Chairman of the Standing Committee for the Ministry of Water Resources and former Minister for Water Resources of Bangladesh, consisting of MPs, experts and officials visited India on the invitation of the Government of India from July 29, 2009 to August 1, 2009. During the visit at New Delhi, a



Presentation was organized for the Delegation to clarify issues related to the Tipaimukh Dam Project, highlight the mutual benefits of the Project which would accrue to both India and Bangladesh and to share details of the Project.

(e) The Tipaimukh HE Project is yet to be taken up for construction. Techno Economic Clearance (TEC) has been granted by Central Electricity Authority (CEA) and environmental clearance has also been accorded. The project is proposed to be implemented now by a Joint Venture among NHPC Ltd., Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam Ltd. (SJVN Ltd.) and Government of Manipur. The details of Joint Venture are yet to be completed. The project is scheduled to be completed in 87 months from the date of investment approval.

### **Foreign Exchange Derivatives**

4713. SHRI SHARAD YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has declared in April 2007 that guidelines in respect of foreign exchange derivatives would be issued separately;

(b) if so, the date on which such guidelines were issued by RBI;

(c) whether the time gap between the declaration and issue of such guidelines has any connection with the foreign exchange scam that took place about the same time;

(d) if so, the reason for allowing the long gap of time to lapse before issue of guidelines; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has informed that it has issued "Comprehensive Guidelines on Derivatives" vide circular DBOD.No.BP.BC86/21.04.157/2006-07 dated April 20, 2007 where it was indicated that guidelines in respect of foreign exchange derivatives would be issued separately.

(b) to (d) RBI has informed that the guidelines in respect of foreign exchange derivative contracts are in

existence since May 2000. The various facilities and instruments available to residents to hedge their foreign currency exposures and the rules and regulations governing foreign exchange derivatives are covered in Notification No. FEMA 25/RB-2000 dated May 3, 2000 viz. Foreign Exchange Management (Foreign Exchange Derivative Contracts) Regulations, 2000. These guidelines are updated yearly and circulated as Master Circular on 'Risk Management and Inter Bank Dealings' issued on the first working day of July every year, consolidating all the instructions issued under Notification FEMA 25/RB-2000 dated May 3, 2000 and subsequent amendments thereto. The Master Circular detailing the guidelines were issued in July 2007 and are issued each year. The latest guidelines in respect of derivative products are detailed in the Master Circular on Risk Management and Inter Bank Dealings dated July 1, 2009.

(e) The Government and RBI take measures as and when required for efficient functioning of the foreign exchange derivatives market in India.

### **Children's Homes in Delhi**

4714. SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA : Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Children's Homes in Delhi are running in a very bad manner;

(b) if so, whether the Delhi High Court has issued directions to the concerned authorities in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the cases of exploitation of domestic helps by placement agencies have been rising in Delhi;

(e) if so, whether the Delhi High Court has asked the Delhi Commission for Women to formulate some guidelines in this regard;

(f) if so the details thereof; and

(g) the action taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH) : (a) to (g) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Abuse against Children**

4715. SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI:

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

(a) whether the violence and abuse against the children in schools have been on the rise for the last six months;

(b) if so, the State-wise details thereof and the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government has started twenty four hours online counseling service for children by child psychiatrist; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

**Scheduled Tribes Certificate**

4716. SHRI SAJJAN VERMA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has prescribed a uniform procedure for issuance of Schedule Tribe (ST) certificate in the country;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of procedures being adopted in this regard, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to make a uniform procedure in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (DR. TUSHAR CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) Yes, Madam. From time to time, guidelines have been

issued by Government of India uniformly to all the State Governments/Union Territories with whom the issuance/verification of Scheduled Tribe certificate rests, regarding procedure to be adopted for issuance of Scheduled Tribe certificate. Following the decision of the Apex court in the case of Kumari Madhuri Patil & others Vs. State of Maharashtra & others, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs has again circulated in June, 2004, the instructions of the Supreme Court to streamline the procedure for the issuance of social status certificates, their scrutiny and their approval to all State Governments/UT Administrations.

**Scams in Banks**

4717. SHRI HUKMADEO NARAYAN YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has noticed the scams in certain banks;

(b) if so, the number of such cases, amount involved and the names of those banks involved in them during the last three years and as on date;

(c) whether any investigation has been conducted by the Government in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the corrective measures taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that they have not noticed any scam in commercial banks during the last three years.

(c) to (f) Do not arise.

[English]

**Sustainable Agriculture Projects**

4718. SHRI MOHAN JENA:

SHRI VIRENDER KASHYAP:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is assisting any Community Managed Sustainable Agriculture Projects in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the achievement made under such projects; and

(c) the steps taken to assist such projects throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN) : (a) to (c) No Community Managed Sustainable Agriculture project in Andhra Pradesh is being assisted by Ministry of Rural Development. Swarnjayanti Gram Swarajgar Yojana (SGSY) which is a credit-cum-subsidy programme for sustainable livelihood of rural Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, aims bringing the assisted poor families (Swarojgaries) above the Poverty Line by ensuring appreciable sustained level of income over a period of time by organising the rural poor into Self Help Groups (SHGs) through the process of social mobilization, their training and capacity building and provision of income generating assets for taking up micro-enterprises in any sector including agriculture sector. SGSY also has provision for setting apart 15% of allocation for taking up special projects to try out new initiatives which are of pioneering nature to ensure a time bound programme for bringing specific number of BPL families above the poverty line.

#### **National Action Plan on Climate Change**

4719. SHRI GAJANAN D. BABAR: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Action Plan on Climate Change stresses that India's per capita green house gas emissions should at no point exceed that of developed countries; and

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

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH) : (a) and (b) National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) states that the

principle of equity must underline global approach to addressing climate change and should allow each inhabitants of the earth and equal entitlement to the global atmospheric resource. Against this back ground the NAPCC stresses that India's per capita green house gas emissions will at no point exceed that of developed countries even as we pursue our development objectives. India's current per capita Carbon dioxide emissions are much lower compared to the developed countries. India follows of policy of sustainable development in order to keep its emissions consistent with development goals.

#### **Promotion of Co-Generation Projects**

4720. SHRI K. SUGUMAR : Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Tamil Nadu has sought Central assistance for establishing seventeen Co-generation plants in Co-operative and Public Sector Sugar mills with a capacity of 234 MW and modernization of the mills at a cost of Rs. 1500 crores;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH) : (a) and (b) Tamil Nadu Electricity Board (TNEB) has sent a letter seeking financial assistance for establishing 17 co-generation plants in cooperative and public sector sugar mills with an aggregate installed capacity of 234 MW on Built-Own Operate and Transfer (BOOT) basis.

(c) The Ministry promotes promotion of bagasse co-generation projects in sugar mills including cooperative and public sector sugar mills providing central financial assistance. However, presently the scheme does not have provision to provide assistance for such projects set up on BOOT basis.

#### **Poverty Alleviation**

4721. SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rate of poverty reduction in the country is slower than other regions of the world during the last ten years;

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

(c) the steps taken/being taken to speed up the rate of poverty alleviation in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SAUGATA ROY) : (a) and (b) Planning Commission has reported that from the information available in the document titled "Global Economic Prospects for 2009" by the World Bank, it is observed that the poverty reduction in India is lower than some of the regions and higher than other regions of the world between the years 1990 and 2005.

The approach paper for the 11th Five Year Plan of the Planning Commission "Towards faster and More Inclusive Growth" has observed by using comparable data on poverty reduction in India that the rate of reduction in poverty is only 0.8 percentage points per year which is at best a modest rate of decline. One reason for this could be that the growth rate in agriculture, the sector employing the largest number of poor people, has just about kept pace with the population growth rate during the last decade. Although growth of non-agricultural Gross Domestic Products (GDP) has been much higher, its benefits do not compensate for a deceleration in agricultural growth. In fact, much of the poverty reduction during 1999-2005 is because food prices hardly increased. The outcomes would therefore have been much better, had agricultural growth been more rapid.

In the urban areas, an employment oriented urban Poverty Alleviation scheme named Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), is being implemented, with effect from 1.12.1997. The scheme strives to provide gainful employment to the urban unemployed and underemployed poor through encouraging the setting up of self-employment ventures and by providing wage employment by utilizing their labour for construction of socially and economically useful public assets. The scheme of SJSRY has been comprehensively revamped with effect from 2009-2010.

The revised SJSRY has following five major components:-

- (i) Urban Self Employment Programme (USEP)- Targeting individual urban poor for setting up of micro-enterprises.
- (ii) Urban Women Self-help Programme (UWSP)-Targeting urban poor women self-help groups for setting up of group-enterprises and providing them assistance for their thrift & credit activities.
- (iii) Skill Training for Employment Promotion amongst Urban Poor (STEP-UP) - Targeting urban poor for imparting quality training so as to training so as to enhance their employability for self-employment or better salaried employment.
- (iv) Urban Wage Employment Programme (UWEP)- Assisting urban poor by utilizing their labour for construction of socially and economically useful public assets, in towns having population less than 5 lakhs.
- (v) Urban Community Development Network (UCDN)- Assisting the urban poor in organizing themselves in self-managed community structures so as to gain collective strength to address the issues of poverty facing them and participate in the effective implementation of urban poverty alleviation programmes.

Further in the rural areas poverty alleviation schemes such as Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) and National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) are being implemented in the country.

#### **Conversion of Agriculture Land**

4722. SHRI MAHABAL MISHRA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to

(a) the details of proposals received by the office of Chief Town Planners of various States included in NCR for conversion of Agriculture land to Non-agriculture Land, State-wise;

(b) whether a number of such proposals have been rejected/are pending with the Chief Town Planners (CTP) particularly in Rajasthan; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SAUGATA ROY) : (a) to (c) The National Capital Region (NCR) consists of 8 districts of Haryana, 5 districts of Uttar Pradesh and 1 district of Rajasthan apart from National Capital Territory of Delhi. Information received from Government of Rajasthan, Government of Haryana, Government of Uttar Pradesh and from Delhi Development Authority (DDA) in respect of NCT of Delhi is as under:-

#### **Rajasthan:**

The Chief Town Planner (NCR), Government of Rajasthan has informed that a total of 194 proposals have been received for conversion of Agricultural Land to Non-Agricultural Land from 1st April, 2008 to 31st July, 2009. All proposals received upto 15th July, 2009 have been considered. A total of 17 proposals have been rejected. The reasons for rejection are (i) proposed activity is not permissible at the proposed location as per Regional Plan-2021 (RP-2021) (ii) proposed activity is not permissible in agricultural zone within controlled/regulated area (iii) proposed sites falls in green buffer as per RP-2021 (iv) proposed land use is not as per Master Plan in force and (v) requirement of building regulations is not fulfilled.

#### **Haryana:**

Government of Haryana has informed that as per record in the Office of Director, Town and Country Planning, Haryana, from the year 1999 to till date a total of 3900 proposals/applications received under the provisions of the Punjab Scheduled Roads and Controlled Areas Restrictions of unregulated Development Act, 1963, out of which permissions have been granted in 1281 cases. A total of 2619 proposals for change of land use permissions are pending/rejected. A total of 1887 proposals/applications have been received under the provisions of the Haryana Development and Regulation of Urban Areas Act, 1975 and out of which permission has been granted to 650 cases. Total number of applications/proposals rejected/withdrawn/ returned/ pending are 1237. The pendency is due to (i) lack of clarity regarding ownership of the applied

land (ii) non-rectification of observations conveyed to the applicants; and (iii) the matter being sub-judice in various courts etc.

#### **NCT of Delhi:**

As per information received from DDA, they have not received any proposals for conversion of agricultural land to non-agricultural land.

#### **Uttar Pradesh:**

Government of Uttar Pradesh has informed that 7.243 hectares of agricultural land have been converted into non-agricultural land in Ghaziabad District in the year for construction a Dental College and an Engineering College. 0.2262 hectares of agricultural land have been converted into non-agricultural land in Meerut District in the year 2002 for development of community facilities.

*[Translation]*

#### **Refund to Exporters**

4723. SHRI ARJUN SETHI:

SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK:

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in more than 90% cases the exporters do not get refund in regard to the service tax paid by them on use of the services for exports;

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

(c) whether the Government proposes to allow direct exemption instead of a refund;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) No, Madam.

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

(c) to (e) Two taxable services, namely, 'Transport of goods by road' and 'Commission paid to foreign agents'

have been exempted from the levy of service tax, if the exporter is liable to pay service tax on reverse charge basis under Notification No. 18/2009-ST dated 7.7.2009.

In respect of other taxable services, a new revamped and trust – based refund scheme has already been notified by the Government vide Notification No. 17/2009-ST dated 7.7.2009.

### **National Desert Park**

4724. SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the desert area of Rajasthan has been declared as National Desert Park;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken to develop the park?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) Ministry of Tourism does not declare any area as National Park, including Desert Park. However, the area of 3162 sq. kms. falling under Jaiselmer and Barmer districts has been declared as National Desert Park by the State Government of Rajasthan.

- (c) The Park has been protected to conserve the bio-diversity of the desert in the condition in which it exists at present.

[English]

### **Physical Examination Test**

4725. SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:  
SHRI BHASKARRAO BAPURAO PATIL  
KHATGAONKAR :  
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD :

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

- (a) whether some girls were forced to undergo physical examination test who participated in a wedding ceremony organised by the Government of Madhya Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;

- (c) the reaction of the National Commission for Women and the Government thereto; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH) : (a) and (b) There were allegations that virginity test were conducted on some women on the occasion of mass marriages ceremony organized in Shahdol district by the Government of Madhya Pradesh.

- (c) The National Commission for Women (NCW) constituted a three member committee to investigate into the matter. After investigation, the Committee found that pre-abortion test were conducted to know the pregnancy status of the women who participated in the mass marriages ceremony.

- (d) The Government proposes to advise the NCW to forward their report to the Government of Madhya Pradesh as an advisory.

### **Shareholding in Listed Companies**

4726. SHRI KHILADI LAL BAIRWA:  
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:  
SHRI NITYANANDA PRADHAN:  
SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes minimum public shareholding in listed companies;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether promoters' stake in listed companies is being brought down to a certain level;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether stake of foreign portfolio investors, institutional investors and mutual funds will be taken into account for calculating promoters' stake; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) to (f) In order to have a deep and vibrant secondary market, the share of public holding needs to be at a substantial level and accordingly a concept paper has been floated in the website of Ministry of Finance suggesting increase in the level of public shareholding to twenty five percent.

Non promoter holding is treated as public shareholding which would also include foreign portfolio investors, institutional investors and mutual funds.

### **SJSRY**

4727. SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA : Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to give special package to various States for providing employment opportunities in metro cities under the Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which this special package is likely to be given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SAUGATA ROY) : (a) to (c) The scheme of Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) has been comprehensively revamped with effect from 1st April 2009.

The revised SJSRY has following five major components:-

- (i) Urban Self Employment Programme (USEP) Targeting individual urban poor for setting up of micro-enterprises.
- (ii) Urban Women Self-help Programme (UWSP) - Targeting urban poor women self-help groups for setting up of group-enterprises and providing them assistance for their thrift & credit activities.
- (iii) Skill Training for Employment. Promotion amongst Urban Poor (STEP-UP) - Targeting urban poor for imparting quality training so as to enhance their

employability for self-employment or better salaried employment.

- (iv) Urban Wage Employment Programme (UWEP) - Assisting urban poor by utilizing their labour for construction of socially and economically useful public assets, in towns having population less than 5 lakhs.
- (v) Urban Community Development Network (UCDN) - Assisting the urban poor in organizing themselves in self-managed community structures so as to gain collective strength to address the issues of poverty facing them and participate in the effective implementation of urban poverty alleviation programmes.

[Translation]

### **Functioning of Panchayati Raj Institutions**

4728. SHRI JAYWANT GANGARAM AWALE: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is satisfied with the working of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), if so, the details thereof;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the deficiencies noticed in the working of PRIs and corrective measures taken in this regard;

(d) whether any survey conducted regarding functioning of PRIs; and

(e) if so, the details and the results thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (DR. C.P. JOSHI): (a) and (b) Article 243G of the Constitution provides for "devolution," this is, the empowerment of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) to function as "institutions of self government" for the twin purposes of (i) making plans for economic development and social justice and (ii) implementing programmes of economic development and social justice in their respective areas, for the subjects devolved to the PRIs, including those listed in the Eleventh Schedule, and subject to such conditions as the State

may, by law, specify. Devolution through State legislation needs to be translated into the actual transfer of activities relating to devolved functions to Panchayats at different levels through executive orders, instructions and administrative arrangements. Such transfer of powers and responsibilities will need to be matched by the corresponding transfer of funds and functionaries so that Panchayats can perform their role as institutions of self-government in the spirit of the Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act 1992. Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in the country are in a process of evolution. While elections to Panchayats have been held regularly in all the States and UTs, to which Part IX of the Constitution applies, (except in Jharkhand, where the matter is sub-judice) the situation varies from State to State on the devolution of funds, functions and functionaries to the Panchayats.

(c) The Panchayats' ability of function as institutions of local self-government is constrained by the lack of clear functional jurisdiction, lack of adequate resources, lack of staff including adequate support for maintenance of accounts as well as lack of capacity building of elected Panchayats representatives and officials working with the Panchayats. The Panchayats mostly receive funds under Centrally Sponsored, Central Sector and State Sector Schemes limiting them to the agency and implementation role. They have little role in planning. The existence of parallel bodies to implement and monitor many of development programmes further impacts the working of PRIs.

Since Panchayati Raj is essentially a State subject, the Ministry has worked closely with States to develop and operationalise a national consensus on the measures to be taken to strengthen Panchayati Raj and ensure that Panchayats function as institutions of self-government as envisaged in Part IX of the Constitution. Such a consensus, arrived at through detailed consultations with States through Seven Round Tables of State Ministers of Panchayati Raj held between July and December, 2004, touches upon the effective devolution of functions, finances and functionaries, planning, empowerment of Gram Sabhas, issues relating to reservation for SCs/STs, and women, elections, maintenance of accounts and audit, capacity building and training of elected representatives

and other related matters. Progress on these matters is reviewed through consultations, review meetings and tours to States and Panchayats.

In the spirit of Article 243H, State Governments have been regularly pursued to provide united grants to the Panchayats from the Consolidated Fund of the States and to open a Panchayat sector window in their State budgets to supplement the resources of the Panchayati Raj Institutions. The Ministry of Panchayati Raj supplements the efforts of the State Governments in the capacity building of the Panchayats through the Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Yojana and the capacity building component under the Backward Regions Grants Fund. The Backward Regions Grants Fund programme provides substantially united grant to the Panchayats for meeting critical developmental gaps. The Panchayat Empowerment and Accountability Incentive Scheme (PEAIS) encourages States in empowering PRIs by incentivizing devolution of functions, funds and functionaries to PRIs and cash awards are given to better performing States.

(d) and (e) In 2006-07, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj undertook a mid term review and appraisal of the State of Panchayats based on information sourced from State Governments / UTs Administrations. This report was tabled in Parliament in November, 2006 and discussed in the Lok Sabha during December, 2006. In financial year 2007-08, the Ministry entrusted Institute of Rural Management, Anand (IRMA) with the task of carrying out an independent assessment of the State of Panchayati Raj in the States and UTs. The Report concluded that the Panchayats must have clear functional domain, with sufficient human and financial resources to act as self governance bodies. Volume II of this Report has chapters detailing the position of each State/UT having elected Panchayats on the aspects of Elections to Panchayats, Devolution of Functions to Panchayats, Devolution of Functionaries, Panchayati Raj Jurisprudence, Panchayat Finances, Audit, Capacity building and Training, IT enabled e governance, Gram Sabha and Social audit, Reservation for women, Reservation for SCs & STs, implementation of the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996, (PESA), where applicable, Planning and implementation by each level of Panchayat, Constitution of District



Planning Committees, parallel bodies and Annual Reports of panchayats. This Report was released by Hon'ble Prime Minister on 24th April, 2008 at the National Convention of Chairpersons of District and Intermediate Panchayats held at New Delhi. The Report is available on the Ministry's website [www.panchayat.gov.in](http://www.panchayat.gov.in).

[English]

### **Interest Payment by Nationalised Banks**

4729. SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has asked the nationalised banks to move to a system of paying interest on a daily basis; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India has, vide its circular dated 24.04.2009, advised that payment of interest on savings bank accounts by scheduled commercial banks would be calculated on a daily product basis with effect from 1st April, 2010.

[Translation]

### **PPP Projects**

4730. SHRI RAKESH SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of implementation of the public-private partnership projects in various sectors during each of the last three years, sector-wise;

(b) whether the projects undertaken have been monitored;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the details of projects proposals under consideration for implementation and the time by when such projects will start; and

(e) the steps taken by the Union Government to ensure perfect execution of the work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The details of implementation of the Public-private partnership projects in various sectors is available in Ministry of Finance website [www.pppindiadatabase.com](http://www.pppindiadatabase.com).

(b) and (c) Public Private Partnership (PPP) projects are monitored as per the various provisions of the Contract/Concession Agreement executed between the Government agency and private entity on award of the project.

(d) Projects with Ministry of Finance for approval by Public Private Partnership Appraisal Committee (PPPAC) Empowered Institution are given in the Statement enclosed. For these proposals, Request for Qualification (RfQ) has been issued and the bidding has started. After approval is given to a project, it normally takes 12-18 months for the bidding process to be completed.

(e) Government has taken the following steps to ensure perfect execution of the works:

- i. PPPAC has been set up under the chairmanship of Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) for approval of PPP Projects where the capital cost or underlying value of the assts is more than Rs.250 Crore (Rs. 500 Crore for NHDP).
- ii. The Model Request for Qualification (RfQ) for pre-qualification of bidders of PPP projects and the Model Request for Proposal (RfP) for inviting financial bids from the bidders for PPP projects have been notified by Ministry of Finance to ensure transparent and equitable process of selection of private sector entity which is capable of delivery of quality works/ services.
- iii. The PPP projects which are awarded are regulated by contract on the basis of Concession Agreements/ contractual arrangements. The Model Concession Agreements (MCA) developed by the Ministries concerned/Planning Commission to ensure proper allocation of risk and provision for force majeure and termination. Precise policy and regulatory framework has been specified through the MCA.
- iv. The performance parameters are clearly prescribed in the contract/concession agreement with adequate oversight, penalty and termination provisions to ensure delivery of quality works and services.

- v. Manual of Specifications & Standards (MSS) for 2/4 laning of highways have been issued by Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.

**Statement**

*List of proposals for Approval by  
PPPAC/Empowered Institution*

**PPPAC clearance under Guidelines for Formulation, Appraisal and Approval of Central Sector Public Private Partnership Projects**

1. Four laning of Qazigund to Banihal section of NH 1A on BOT (Annuity) in the State of Jammu and Kashmir.
2. Four laning of Ramban to Banihal section of NH 1A on BOT (Annuity) basis in the State of Jammu and Kashmir.
3. Four laning of Udampur to Ramban section of NH 1A on BOT (Annuity) basis in the state of Jammu and Kashmir.
4. Four laning of Chennai to Nashri section of NH 1A on BOT (Annuity) basis in the State of Jammu and Kashmir.
5. Rehabilitation, strengthening of 4 laning of Jammu-Udampur section of NH 1A, on BOT (Annuity) basis in the State of Jammu and Kashmir.
6. Six laning of NH 4 from Tumkur to Chitradurga in Karnataka on BOT (Toll).
7. Srinagar to Banihal section of NH 1A on BOT (Annuity) in the State of Jammu and Kashmir.
8. Development of Standalone container handling facility with a quay length of 300 m towards North at Jawahar Lal Nehru Port Trust.

**Scheme for Financial Support to Public Private Partnerships in Infrastructure (Viability Gap Funding)**

9. Four laning of Nanded-Narsi Road and two lane improvement of Narsi-Deglor to State Border road (MSH6).

10. Two laning of Shirur Tajband-Mukhed-Narsi road and 2 laning with paved shoulder Narsi-Biloli to State Boarder Road (SH 225).
11. Four laning of Akola-Washim-Hingoli-Warangaphata SH 204 km 4/600 (including Malegaon & Hingoli bypass).
12. Four laning of Tembhurni-Kurduwadi-Barshi-Yedshi road SH 77 km 70/200 to km 159/300.

**Stock Exchange for Small and Medium Enterprises**

4731. SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has not approved the setting up of separate stock exchange for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) recognises and regulates Stock Exchanges. SEBI has decided to facilitate the setting up of separate stock exchanges or a platform in the existing stock exchanges dedicated to the Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs). The objective is to make available equity capital at lower cost for small and medium scale industries. SEBI has already put in public domain the framework for recognition and supervision of stock exchanges/ platforms of stock exchanges for small and medium enterprises. Pursuant to this, applications have been received by SEBI.

*[English]*

**Rajiv Gandhi Awas Yojana**

4732. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM:  
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:

Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of houses to be constructed under Rajiv Awas Yojana (RAY) in urban areas in the country including Mumbai;

(b) the fund allocated for the scheme; and

(c) the time by which the Yojana is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) to (c) The number of houses to be constructed under Rajiv Awas Yojana (RAY) and the time by which it will be implemented in urban areas in the country including Mumbai will depend upon enactment of State legislation for assignment of property rights and the parameters of the Scheme. A token allocation of Rs. 150 crores has been made in the current year's plan allocation.

#### **Pension and P.F. Benefits**

4733. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court in its judgment has stated that "Pension benefit" may be construed as "deferred salary";

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Supreme Court has also directed the Government to extend parity of salary structure to the Regional Rural Bank staff as per industry-wise settlement without any reference to "capacity to pay"; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (d) The Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Issue of IPO**

4734. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether companies raised huge amount of money through issue of Initial Public Offers (IPOs) and paid commission to stock broking firms for marketing IPOs;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether those stock broking firms are paying service tax;

(d) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, year-wise

(e) if not, action taken to recover service tax from them; and

(f) the quantum of service tax due against each such stock broking firms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The year-wise details of the number of IPOs opened and the amount raised are as follows:

Year-wise (January 01 to December 31)	No. of IPOs opened	Amount (Rs. in crore)
2006	74	24720.53
2007	101	33951.48
2008	37	18392.78

The issuer companies pay a Consolidated sum to the Merchant Bankers to the issue, who in turn pay brokerage to the Syndicate Members.

(c) to (f) Stock broking is a taxable service and the year wise details of total service tax collected from Stock Brokerage Commission for the last three years is as follows:

Year	Service tax (in Rs. Crore)
2006-07	1029
2007-08	1555
2008-09	795

#### **Land Erosion**

4735. SHRI BADRUDDIN AJMAL :

SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM WAKCHAURE:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has conducted any study on the loss of land due to land erosion in various States including the North-Eastern States;

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

(c) whether some State Governments have requested the Union Government for providing assistance for rehabilitation of families affected due to land erosion;

(d) if so, the action taken/being taken by the Union Government in this regard and the central responsibility involved in the matter;

(e) whether the Union Government also proposes to prepare any policy regarding optimum utilization of land in the country especially in backward and rural areas; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT ( SHRI SISIR ADHIKARI): (a) to (f) Yes, Sir. As per the study conducted (2005) by the 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. 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. The State-wise and category-wise extent of degraded land including soil erosion caused by flood water and its percentage with respect to State's geographical area are given in the Statement enclosed.

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 per 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.

With a view to prevent soil erosion and land degradation, the Government of India is administering various Watershed Development Programmes viz. the Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP), the National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPA), the Soil Conservation for Enhancing the Productivity of Degraded Lands in the Catchments of River Valley Project and Flood Prone River (RVP&FPR), the Reclamation and Development of Alkali & Acid Soils (RADAS) and the Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSCA) in the country. Funds are released to the States/UTs under these programmes as per the Guidelines for implementation of the Programmes.

Union Government is not administering any scheme for providing assistance to the States for rehabilitation of families affected due to land erosion. However, a National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy, 2007 has been formulated by the Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development. The policy was published in the Gazette of India on 31st October, 2007 and covers all cases of involuntary displacement of a permanent nature. The State Governments and Union Territory Administrations have been requested for implementation of the Policy.

Land and its management falls within the legislative and administrative jurisdiction of the State Governments as provided under Seventh Schedule to the Constitution. The role of the Central Government in this field is only of an advisory and coordinating nature. Presently, there is no proposal to prepare a policy regarding optimum utilization of land in the country.

### Statement

*State-wise extent of various kinds of Land Degradation in India*

*(As per NBSS&LUP-ICAR-2005 on the Scale of 1:250100)*

(Area in thousand hectares)

S.N.	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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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
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	288	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	
Grand 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

[Translation]

**New India Insurance Company**

4736. SHRI MITHILESH KUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether New India Insurance Company has paid the sum insured under crop insurance scheme to the flood affected farmers during 2008-09 including the farmers of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) The New India Assurance Company Ltd. does not provide any coverage for Crop Insurance. However, Agriculture Insurance Company Ltd. (AICL) is implementing the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) and under this scheme, an amount of Rs. 597.97 lakh has already been disbursed in 14 flood affected districts of Uttar Pradesh for Kharif – 08 season during 2008-09.

**Kisan Credit Cards**

4737. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any problems or legal difficulties are being faced by banks while issuing Kisan Credit Cards to farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) No specific report has been received by the Government from the banks about any problem or legal difficulty in issuing Kisan Credit Card (KCC) to farmers. In fact till 31st May, 2009, a total of 8,32,28,058 KCCs have been issued with the sanctioned amount of Rs. 3,56,803 crore.

**Lignite based Power Projects**

4738. SHRI MAHESH JOSHI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of lignite based power projects set up and their capacity during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(b) whether there is huge potential for power generation from lignite in the country including Rajasthan;

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

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to exploit the full potential?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Only one lignite based project i.e. Giral TPP St.I U-I/RRVUNL (125 MW) in Rajasthan, synchronized on 28.2.2007, was set up during the last three years and up to July, 2009 in the current year.

(b) and (c) As per the report of the Working Group on "Coal and Lignite for the 11th Five Year Plan of Ministry of Coal", the total geological reserves of lignite in the country are about 38274 Million tonnes as on 1.4.2006, including about 4235 Million tonnes in the state of Rajasthan. The state-wise lignite reserves as on 1.4.2006 are given in the table below.

(In Million Tonnes)				
State	Proved	Indicated	Inferred	Total
Tamil Nadu	2831.00	16953.54	11137.98	30922.52
Rajasthan	560.91	2620.60	1053.64	4235.35
Gujarat	785.27	259.40	1618.08	2662.75
Pondicherry	0	405.61	11.00	416.61
Kerala	0	0	9.65	9.65
Jammu and Kashmir	0	20.25	7.30	27.55
Total	4177.18	20259.40	13837.85	38274.43

(d) Government of India has been encouraging setting up of lignite based power projects to exploit the potential. Details of lignite based power projects under

construction during 11th Five Year Plan and programmed to be set up in the 12th Five Year Plan are as given in the table below:

Sl. No.	Name of Project/Orgn./Sector	State	Capacity (MW)	Date of Commissioning
<b>11th Plan</b>				
1	Neyveli TPS II Expn U-1&2, NLC	Tamil Nadu	2x250	U-1-05/10 U-2-07/10
2	Barsingsar Lignite TPP U-1&2/ NLC/Central	Rajasthan	2x125	U-1:10/09 U-2:01/10
3	Giral TPP St-II U-2/RRVUNL/State	Rajasthan	125	08/09
4	Jalippa Kapurdi TPP U-1 to 8/Raj, West Power Ltd./Private	Rajasthan	8x135	U-1:08/09 U-2:09/09 U-3:11/09 U-4:12/09 U-5:02/10 U-6-04/10 U-7-05/10 U-8-08/10
5	Kutch Lignite TPP Extn.U-1 / GSECL/State	Gujarat	75	08/09
6	Surat Lignite TPP Exp. Ph-II U-3&4 / GIPCL/State	Gujarat	2x125	U-3:12/09 U-4:03/10

#### 12th Plan

S.No	Plant Name	State	Agency	Ultimate Capacity (MW)
1.	Neyveli New TPS	Tamil Nadu	NLC	1000
2.	Barsingsar Extn.	Rajasthan	NLC	250
3.	Bithnok TPP	Rajasthan	NLC	250
4.	Neyveli TPS-III Expn.	Tamil Nadu	NLC	1000
				2500

[English]

### PMGSY

4739. SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR :

SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the provisions regarding thickness and width of roads being constructed in rural areas and the parameters on which funds are allocated to the States under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY);

(b) whether the Government proposes to bring any changes in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Union Government has received any complaints regarding detailed project reports submitted by the State Governments under the scheme;

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

(f) the corrective steps taken/being taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN) : (a) The thickness and width of roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) are controlled by Indian Roads Congress (IRC) Codes of Practice. IRC SP 72 gives the guidelines for design of width and thickness of the roads for the Flexible Pavements (Black Topped Roads) and IRC SP 62 provides guidance in the design of Rigid Pavements (Cement Concrete Roads). The thickness of the pavements depends upon the expected traffic projected for next 10 years and the strength of the soil used for preparing the Subgrade. Generally, the width of the carriageway is 3.00 m, if expected Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) is less than 100 motorized vehicles. For roads with AADT of 100 or more vehicles the width of the carriageway is 3.75 m.

Funds to the States are released by the Ministry based on the budgetary provisions available, absorption capacity and performance of the States under the scheme.

(b) No Madam.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No Madam.

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

### IT Amendment Relating to Builders

4740. SHRI K. SUDHAKARAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the reason for amending the Section of Income Tax Act, 1961 relating to developing and building housing projects;

(b) whether the Government have identified the builders/developers likely to be benefited as a result of amendment of section;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any loss or gain in revenue is anticipated by the Government therefrom; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and action taken or proposed to be taken therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE: (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Sub-section (10) of section 80 IB of the Income Tax Act, 1961 relating to developing and building housing projects has been amended by the Finance (No.2) Bill 2009 so as to provide further stimulus to the housing sector.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) It is not possible to estimate the loss in revenue at this stage.

(e) Does not arise.

### Beach Tourism

4741. SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:



(a) whether any world-wide ranking order of beaches in the world has been reported upon and the beaches in the country were top ranked among them;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has taken/proposes to take steps to develop the beaches of the country including Andaman & Nicobar Islands for Beach Tourism;

(d) if so, the details thereof, alongwith the beaches so far developed and identified for the purpose, the funds allocated and utilized, State-wise and beach-wise;

(e) the progress made in completion of already sanctioned projects; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELAJA) : (a) and (b) Ministry of Tourism has not carried out any study regarding the ranking of the beaches.

(c) to (f) Development and promotion of tourism is primarily the responsibility of State Governments/Union Territory Administrations concerned. Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for development of tourist destinations/circuits including Beaches under the Product/Infrastructure Development for Destinations and Circuits Scheme of the Ministry, on the basis of proposals received from them, subject to availability of funds and inter-se priority. The State-wise number of tourism projects sanctioned during first two years of 11th Five Year Plan is given in the Statement enclosed.

The implementation of the projects is the responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. However, Ministry of Tourism monitors the implementation of projects through site visits and review meetings.

### Statement

*State-wise number of tourism projects sanctioned during 11th Five Year Plan (first two years)*

(Rs. in Lakh)

SL. No.	State/UT	No. of Projects Sanctioned	Amount Sanctioned
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	16	12610.06
2.	Assam	9	3379.51
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	23	6477.32
4.	Bihar	12	2993.20
5.	Chhattisgarh	5	2407.91
6.	Goa	2	4314.91
7.	Gujarat	12	2710.24
8.	Haryana	18	4755.76
9.	Himachal Pradesh	21	5263.88
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	61	10678.72
11.	Jharkhand	7	1130.47
12.	Karnataka	9	6277.92
13.	Kerala	22	7393.83
14.	Madhya Pradesh	27	7093.77
15.	Maharashtra	8	5389.49
16.	Manipur	14	4054.61
17.	Meghalaya	8	1912.94
18.	Mizoram	9	2011.32
19.	Nagaland	32	4786.01
20.	Orissa	18	6491.68

1	2	3	4
21.	Punjab	4	2365.99
22.	Rajasthan	10	5744.02
23.	Sikkim	50	13112.86
24.	Tamil Nadu	28	6427.52
25.	Tripura	17	1471.70
26.	Uttarakhand	8	6549.76
27.	Uttar Pradesh	13	6672.67
28.	West Bengal	21	6562.50
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0.00
30.	Chandigarh	7	819.11
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	3	24.88
32.	Delhi	8	764.08
33.	Daman and Diu	1	12.50
34.	Lakshadweep	1	782.73
35.	Puducherry	10	1863.68
Total		514	155307.55

**RGGVY**

4742. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments including Haryana have suggested any modifications in the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. State Government of Haryana has suggested following modifications in the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY).

"In the schemes which have been sanctioned in Haryana, there is no component of electrification of Un-electrified villages since none of the un-electrified habitations fall within the definition of RGGVY. Given the fact that there are large no. of cluster of houses (Dhanis) located in the fields which are still un-electrified in many districts of Haryana, it is proposed that we may request the Government of India for reducing the limit of population to 25 persons per habitation. We request that RGGVY guidelines be modified accordingly and we may be allowed to revise our DPRs."

(c) State has requested for inclusion of small dhanis with population below 100 and upto 25 under the eligibility criteria of RGGVY for electrification under RGGVY.

Under the present provisions of RGGVY dhanis with population above 100 are eligible for electrification. During 10th Plan, this provision was for dhanis above 300 population and considering the requests from various States, the limit was reduced to 100 under 11th Plan RGGVY.

Small dhanis are generally on the fringe of the village/bigger dhanis. The State Government should also come forward and extend the existing RGGVY infrastructure upto the smaller dhanis to provide access to electricity for these dhanis, as u/s 6 of The Electricity Act, 2003, it is also the responsibility of State Government to supply electricity to all areas including villages and hamlets.

Under Remote village Electrification, Ministry of New Renewable Energy has been entrusted with responsibility of providing electricity to habitations below 100 population.

Government of India is providing major infrastructure upto revenue villages and dhanis upto 100 population.

**Foreign Exchange Reserve**

4743. SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI :

SHRI BHISMA SHANKER ALIAS KUSHAL  
TIWARI:

SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any fluctuation in the level of foreign exchange reserves during the last six months;

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

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to bring the country's foreign exchange reserves to a comfortable level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) The position of foreign exchange reserves since January 2009 to July 2009 in the country is indicated below:

Sl.	End of Month	Foreign exchange reserves (US \$ billion)
1	January 2009	248.61
2	February 2009	249.28
3	March 2009	251.74
4	April 2009	251.70
5	May 2009	262.31
6	June 2009	265.14
7	July 2009 (as on July 24, 2009)	267.71

The foreign exchange reserves have shown an increasing trend since January 2009. The level of foreign exchange reserves is largely the outcome of the Reserve Bank of India's intervention in the foreign exchange market to smoothen exchange rate volatility and valuation changes due to inter se movement of US dollar against other international currencies in the reserve basket.

#### **Accounting System**

4744. SHRI SARVEY SATYANARAYANA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has undertaken pilot project' to examine the feasibility of transition to Accrual System of Accounting;

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

(c) whether the Government has called for any meeting with States in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details discussed and decisions arrived at so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Yes Madam.

(b) Government has undertaken pilot projects in Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and four divisions of Central Public Work Department in the Ministry of Urban Development to examine the feasibility of transition to accrual accounting. The pilot studies were undertaken with Institute of Chartered Accountants of India as the consultant for the project.

While the consultants were able to prepare the required accrual accounting statements, further replication in other Governmental Departments would not be feasible without changes to rules, budgetary procedures, legislation, recruitment and personnel policies, existing information technology systems, training pedagogy etc. Besides, the cost of transition would be high and benefits were not conclusively established.

(c) No Madam.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Contamination of Ground Water**

4745. SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether contaminated ground water has affected many States in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any study has been conducted by the Government in this regard;

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

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SAUGATA ROY) : (a)

and (b) Yes, Madam. The details of States affected by ground water quality problems due to contaminants such as Salinity, Fluoride, Chloride, Iron, Nitrate, etc. are given in the Statement-I enclosed-I

(c) to (e) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) with the help of other institutions had initiated a study for Metro cities. List of Metro cities for which Ground Water quality problems have been reported in the CPCB Study is given in the Statement-II enclosed.

CPCB Study has suggested various measures for improvement in the quality of ground water. Key recommendations of the Study are given in the Statement-III enclosed.

#### **Statement-I**

##### *The details of States affected by Ground Water Quality Problems*

S. No.	Name of the States
1	2
1.	Andhra Pradesh
2.	Assam
3.	Bihar
4.	Chhattisgarh
5.	Delhi
6.	Goa
7.	Gujarat
8.	Haryana
9.	Himachal Pradesh
10.	Jammu and Kashmir
11.	Jharkhand
12.	Karnataka
13.	Kerala

1	2
14.	Madhya Pradesh
15.	Maharashtra
16.	Manipur
17.	Meghataya
18.	Orissa
19.	Punjab
20.	Rajasthan
21.	Tamil Nadu
22.	Tripura
23.	Uttarakhand
24.	Uttar Pradesh
25.	West Bengal

#### **Statement-II**

##### *List of Metro Cities for which Ground Water quality problems have been reported in the Central Pollution Control Board Study (Published in Feb'07 and April '08)*

1.	Agra
2.	Ahmedabad
3.	Amritsar
4.	Asansol
5.	Bangalore
6.	Bhopal
7.	Chennai
8.	Coimbatore
9.	Delhi
10.	Dhanbad

- 
11. Faridabad
  12. Hyderabad
  13. Indore
  14. Jabalpur
  15. Jaipur
  16. Jamshedpur
  17. Kanpur
  18. Kochi
  19. Kolkata
  20. Lucknow
  21. Ludhiana
  22. Madurai
  23. Meerut
  24. Nagpur
  25. Nashik
  26. Patna
  27. Pune
  28. Rajkot
  29. Surat
  30. Vadodara
  31. Vijayawada
  32. Visakhapatnam
- 

**Statement-III*****Key Recommendations of the Central  
Pollution Control Board Study***

1. In order to minimize over-abstraction and deterioration of ground water quality all the ground water extraction structures should be registered and regulated,

2. The water obtained from all the ground water structures should be tested before use to ensure suitability of the quality for human consumption. The ground water abstraction sources and their surroundings should be properly maintained to ensure hygienic conditions and no sewage or polluted water should be allowed to percolate directly to ground water aquifer.
3. Possibilities of construction of artificial recharge structures should be explored to augment the ground water recharge.
4. The hand pumps, which have been identified as having suspected water quality should be painted red to indicate and warn the public that the water drawn from the source is not fit for human consumption.
5. The de-fluoridation treatment (domestic level) should be undertaken if the water is having high fluoride. Treatment option for nitrate should be undertaken in ground water drawn from sources exceeding the permissible limit.
6. The ground water drawn from hand pumps should be properly chlorinated to eradicate the presence of bacterial contamination.
7. The untreated sewage and sewerage flowing in various open drains are one of the causes of ground water quality deterioration. Proper underground sewerage system must be laid in all inhabited areas and the untreated sewage and industrial wastes should not be allowed to flow in open drains.
8. A regular monitoring of Groundwater quality should be done in the areas where water was found contaminated in metropolitan cities. Proper collection & treatment of wastewater and proper collection & disposal of municipal solid waste should be done. Industrial activities specially, polluting industry should be prohibited in residential areas. No stagnation of wastewater should be allowed to avoid percolation of contaminants in groundwater.

### **Saving in Energy Consumption**

4746. DR. G. VIVEKANAND:

DR. K. S. RAO:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the methodology worked out to ascertain savings in energy consumption by industrial units in different sectors of the economy;

(b) the steps taken to ensure energy security in domestic market to effect reduction in greenhouse gas emissions;

(c) whether the Government proposes to set mandatory targets for the large industrial units with the mechanism to reward the units achieving the set targets and trading the savings in the market under the rules prepared for the same by the approved agency after auditing the actual energy consumption; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI) : (a) The details of the methodology worked out to ascertain the savings in energy consumption by industrial units in different sectors are as follows:

- The savings are ascertained on the basis of the National Energy Conservation Awards scheme of the Ministry of Power and implemented by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency.
- Similar Energy Conservation awards schemes are also being implemented by various states in the country.
- The industrial units in different sectors are invited annually to participate in the scheme on a voluntary basis and are required to fill up an Award questionnaire.
- The industrial units report their annual energy consumption and production for the previous three consecutive years.
- The industrial units in each sector also report any reduction in the energy consumption and are

awarded on the basis of the percentage reduction achieved during the previous years.

The award winning industrial units are then visited by energy auditors appointed by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency to verify the values of energy consumption, and the reduction achieved.

(b) Government has taken various steps to ensure energy security in the domestic market which will also result in reduction in green house gas emissions. The integrated Energy Policy (IEP) lays emphasis on energy conservation and efficiency, particularly through Demand Side Measures (DSM) and estimates 15% saving of energy is possible by such interventions. The Conference of Chief Ministers chaired by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 28th May, 2007, recognized the significant potential of saving electricity through its efficient use by DSM Interventions to provide immediate results for saving electricity. Interventions include bulk procurement and distribution of CFLs, adoption of Energy Conservation Building Code (ECBC), promoting and mandating the use of energy efficient pumps and other energy efficient appliances.

Government of India through Bureau of Energy Efficiency is implementing the following schemes with a target of reducing the avoided capacity by 10,000 MW in the 11th Five Year Plan which would also lead to reduction in green house gases emissions:

- Bachat Lamp Yojana
- Standards and Labelling programme for appliances
- Energy Conservation in Buildings
- Demand Side Management in Agriculture Pump Sets
- Demand Side Management in Municipal water pumping and street lights
- Energy Conservation in Small and Medium Industries and Designated Consumers.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. Government proposes a scheme under the National Mission on Enhanced Energy Efficiency (NMEEE) of the National Action Plan on Climate Change to set mandatory targets for the large industrial

units with the mechanism to reward the units achieving the set targets and trading the savings in the market under the rules prepared for the same by the approved agency after an energy audit of the actual energy consumption. The details are as follows:

Section 14 (e) and 14 (g) of the Energy Conservation Act, 2001 empower the Central Government, on the recommendations of BEE, to prescribe energy consumption norms and standards for Designated Consumers. The Government has, in March, 2007, notified, units consuming more than specified minimum amounts of energy in 9 industrial sectors, namely Aluminium, Cement, Chlor-Alkali, Pulp & Paper, Fertilizers, Power Generation Plant, Steel, Textiles and Railways, as Designated Consumers (DCs). These Designated Consumers, have to appoint an energy manager, file energy consumption returns every year and conduct mandatory energy audit and also have to adhere to the energy consumption norms specified by the Government.

In order to capture the maximum possible energy savings, the Perform Achieve and Trade (PAT) mechanism under the NMEEE is proposed as a market based mechanism to enhance cost effectiveness of improvements in energy efficiency in energy-intensive large industrial units and facilities, through certification of energy savings that could be traded. The main features of the PAT mechanism are as under:

- Methodology for setting Specific Energy Consumption (SEC) norm for each designated consumer in the baseline year and in the target year.
- Verification process for SEC of each designated consumer in the baseline year and in the target year by an accredited verification agency.
- Issuance process for Energy Savings Certificates (ESCerts) to those designated consumers who exceed their target SEC reduction.
- Trading Process for ESCerts
- Compliance and reconciliation process for ESCerts.
- Cross sectoral use of ESCerts and their synergy with Renewable Energy Certificates.

### **Disbursement of Agriculture Loan**

4747. SHRI C. SIVASAMI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to take any action against the erring officials of nationalized banks for adopting corrupt practices in disbursing agricultural loan or not achieving the target fixed for disbursement of agricultural loan;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported to have received, in the past, a few complaints alleging that the employees of banks were not discharging their responsibilities properly while sanctioning/rescheduling/ writing off of advances. If the complainants give specific details of the allegations, they are looked into by Regional Offices of RBI during the Annual Financial Inspection (AFI) of the bank or through special scrutinies. Further, Reserve Bank of India as a part of its supervisory responsibility has been advising banks from time to time about the common corruption/fraud prone areas and the precautionary measures to be taken by them to prevent/reduce the incidence of corruption/fraud in banks.

### **Foreign Participation in New Power Projects**

4748. SHRI BHISMA SHANKER ALIAS KUSHAL TIWARI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has identified the areas for foreign participation in setting up of new power projects in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has issued any guidelines in respect to power tariff and counter guarantee in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

(a) THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI) : (a) and (b) 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is permissible on the automatic route for the projects of power generation, transmission and distribution (except Atomic Energy).

(c) and (d) In order to ensure that the tariff for sale of electricity is determined competitively, the tariff policy was notified by the Government in January 2006, which provides that all future requirement of power should be procured competitively by distribution licensees except in case of expansion of existing projects or where there is a state controlled/owned company as an identified developer and where regulators will need to resort to tariff determination based on norms provided that expansion of generating capacity by private developers for this purpose would be restricted to one time addition of not more than 50% of the existing capacity.

Even for the public sector projects, tariff of all new generation and transmission projects should be decided on the basis of competitive bidding after a period of five years or when the regulatory commission is satisfied that the situation is ripe to introduce such competition.

However, a developer, of a hydroelectric project, not being a State controlled/owned company, would have the option of getting the tariff determined by the appropriate Electricity Regulatory Commission on the basis of performance based cost of service regulations subject to fulfilment of certain conditions.

Government's counter guarantee scheme was developed as a transitory measure to boost private investment and in 1994 it was decided to extend counter-guarantee to 8 fast track power projects. However,

Government has later decided not to give counter guarantee to any other private power projects.

#### IT Assessment related to Satyam Scam

4749. SHRI M. I. SHANAVAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Income Tax authorities have re-opened the income Tax Assessment in respect of Shri Ramalinga Raju and all the companies in which he was associated including Satyam Computers Limited;

(b) if so, the amount of tax that has been levied consequent to reopening of such cases;

(c) the total income tax dues recoverable from Shri Ramalinga Raju and his relatives and from Satyam Computers Limited and its subsidiaries and associated companies;

(d) whether the Government proposes to conduct special audit of all group companies of Satyam Computers Limited;

(e) if so, the detail thereof; and

(f) the date by which the special audit is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANISWAMY) : (a) Yes, the Income tax Department has re-opened the assessments for the AY 2002-03 u/s 148 of the IT Act in respect of Sri B. Ramalinga Raju and other associated companies. Further regular scrutiny proceedings u/s 143 (3) of the IT Act for Asst. Year 2007-08 are pending in various cases. The details of the assessments re-opened u/s 148 and the regular assessment u/s 143 (3) are as under :

Category	Regular assessment u/s 143(3) for AY 2007-08	Re-opened assessment u/s 148 for AY 2002-03
Satyam & Associated Companies	102	79
Individual	14	24
HUF	3	-
Wealth Tax (for all above)	57	12
Total	176	115



(b) All the cases in which assessments have been re-opened u/s 148 of the IT Act are pending to be finalised by 31.12.2009. The Department is in the process of gathering necessary information for finalizing the pending assessments. The position regarding the amount of tax leviable in such cases can be quantified only on the completion of assessments which would be finalised by 31.12.2009.

(c) As of now, the outstanding demand pending for recovery in the entire group is Rs. 541,45,74,090/-. The break up is as under:

M/s Satyam Computers Services Ltd.	Rs. 532,91,38,160/-
M/s Maytas Group	Rs. 2,86,35,747/-
Shri Ramalinga Raju and relatives	Rs. 29,92,996/-
Other Group companies of Satyam Group	Rs. 5,38,07,187/-
<b>Total</b>	<b>Rs. 541,45,74,090/-</b>

(d) As the assessment are still open, the decision to conduct special audit will be taken, if required, on the basis of examination of information in these pending cases.

(e) and (f) Not applicable.

[Translation]

#### **Relief from Tax Burden**

4750. SHRI UMASHANKAR SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the justification for increasing the salary of Government employees and then imposing tax on it;

(b) whether the Government proposes to increase the savings limit of Rs. One lakh;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the details of the proposal with the Government to provide relief to the common man, especially the Government employees from tax burden?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Income-tax is an ad-valorem tax levied on the principle of 'ability to pay', which is measured by the level of income. Since increase in salary results in increase in the person's ability to pay, it is logical to levy tax on such increase.

(b) No Madam.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Given the average rate of savings by households, the present limit is adequate. Any increase in the saving limit of rupees one lakh allowed under section 80-C of the Income-tax Act, 1961 will essentially benefit taxpayers in the higher income slabs only.

(e) The proposal providing relief to the common man are reflected in the Finance (No.2) Bill 2009 as introduced in the Lok Sabha on 06.07.2009 and as amended thereafter. The tax relief has been granted by the Finance (No.2) Bill 2009 by way of an increase in basic income-tax exemption by Rs. 10000/- in case of individuals and women below the age of sixty-five years and by Rs. 15000/- in case of senior citizens i.e. individuals above the age of sixty-five years. Further, the surcharge on Personal Income-tax (PIT) has also been removed.

[English]

#### **Bhaiyathan Thermal Power Project**

4751. SHRI MURARI LAL SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the Bhaiyathan Thermal Power Project in Chhattisgarh; and

(b) the time by which it is likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI) : (a) and (b) The present status of Bhaiyathan Thermal Power Project (2x660 MW), in Surguja District of Chhattisgarh State, is as follows:

- Detailed Project Report received on 28.08.2008.
- 268.713 Ha of private land for Power House has been awarded.

- 14.50 Ha of revenue land has been awarded to CSEB.
- 50 MCM of water has been allotted.
- Paturia and Gidhmuri captive coal block already allotted to CSEB by Ministry of Coal.
- The project has been awarded to M/s. India Bulls through tariff based competitive bidding.
- Power Purchase agreement signed on 13.10.2008.
- Regarding transfer of Ministry of Environment and Forest (MoEF) Clearance to M/s. India Bulls, application submitted to MoEF, New Delhi on 08.05.2009.
- The project is scheduled to be commissioned in the 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan.

#### **IT Welfare Fund**

4752. SHRI KAMAL KISHOR 'COMMANDO' : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Income Tax welfare fund for the welfare of employees of the department has started functioning;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefore and the time for functioning of the same;

(d) whether incentive fund under Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act awarded to Income Tax Department in the financial year 2007-08 has been credited to the fund; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the manner in which the incentive fund will be utilized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) No, Madam.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) The Fund has not yet become functional due to objections raised by the Comptroller & Auditor General

of India against creation of the Fund and on various other grounds. Efforts are on to settle the objections through negotiation.

(d) No, Madam. The incentive fund is separate from the Welfare Fund

(e) An amount of Rs. 469 crores, being 1% incentive of the additional revenue collected during Financial Year 2007-08, has already been approved by the Government. Specific details of various schemes to utilize the amount are being prepared by the Central Board of Direct Taxes for further consideration and approval.

#### **Monitoring Cells**

4753. SHRIMATI J. HELEN DAVIDSON: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set-up various monitoring cells under different schemes for the welfare of women and children being implemented through Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) in the country including Tamil Nadu;

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

(c) whether the Government has evaluated the performance of NGOs engaged in these schemes;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken against NGOs performing poorly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH) : (a) and (b) No Madam. However, there is an inbuilt mechanism in the schemes for monitoring various schemes of the Ministry of Women & Child Development being implemented through NGOs in the States/Union Territories including Tamil Nadu. These schemes include inter-alia Swadhar, Short Stay Homes, Support to Training and Employment for Women (STEP), Working Women Hostel, Integrated Programme for Street Children, Scheme for Welfare of Working Children in

Need of Care & Protection, Scheme of Assistance to Homes for Children (Shishu Grehs) to promote in-country adoption, Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme for the children working mothers. Details about these schemes is available on the Ministry's website [www.wcd.nic.in](http://www.wcd.nic.in)

(c) to (e) The performance of NGOs is evaluated through periodical reports, review meetings and field visits by concerned State Government officials and Area Officers. Further grant under any scheme is released only to those NGOs whose performance is found satisfactory.

#### **Certification of Crane**

4754. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up a statutory body for certification of crane used in construction of buildings, flyovers in urban areas including Metro Rail Projects in Delhi; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SAUGATA ROY) : (a) and (b) There is no such proposal. Bureau of Indian Standards have informed that they have issued certain standards on cranes.

#### **Child Welfare Committees**

4755. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the District Child Welfare Committees have been set up all over the country for the protection of children;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH) : (a) to (c) The Child Welfare Committees are set up by the State Governments/UT Administrations

under Section 29 of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 as amended in 2006, for children in need of care and protection. The number of Child Welfare Committees set up in the Country, State-wise, as per the information in the Ministry of Women and Child Development received from the State Governments/UT Administrations, is given in the Statement enclosed.

#### **Statement**

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Number of Child Welfare Committees (CWCs) set up
1	2	3
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1
2.	Andhra Pradesh	23
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	16
4.	Assam	NA(*)
5.	Bihar	11
6.	Chhattisgarh	7
7.	Chandigarh	1
8.	Daman and Diu	NA
9.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1
10.	Deihi	4
11.	Goa	1
12.	Gujarat	24
13.	Haryana	20
14.	Himachal Pradesh	NA
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	NA
16.	Jharkhand	11
17.	Karnataka	26
18.	Kerala	7

1	2	3
19.	Lakshadweep	1
20.	Madhya Pradesh	48
21.	Maharashtra	NA
22.	Manipur	NA
23.	Meghalaya	7
24.	Mizoram	8
25.	Nagaland	7
26.	Orissa	30
27.	Punjab	5
28.	Puducherry	1
29.	Rajasthan	9
30.	Sikkim	4
31.	Tamil Nadu	NA
32.	Tripura	4
33.	Uttar Pradesh	10
34.	Uttarakhand	NA
35.	West Bengal	19

\* Not available

#### **Environmental Clearance of Projects**

4756. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Higher Power Finance Ministry panel has recommended that infrastructure projects should be subjected to much simpler environmental clearance rules;

(b) if so, the other recommendations of the panel; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) The major simplifications, suggested by the Expert Group constituted in the Ministry of Finance, in the existing procedure of environmental clearances, are given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) A High Power Committee (HPC) has been constituted under the chair of Secretary, Planning Commission to examine the recommendation of the Expert Group on statutory clearance.

#### **Statement**

*Simplifications suggested in the existing system of environment clearances by the Expert Group.*

- i. The State level Environment Impact Assessment Authorities (SEIAAs) should be constituted expeditiously for the remaining States (19 out of 28 States and 4 out of 7 UTs have constituted the authorities so far) so that the appraisal process in respect of Category 'B' projects is de-centralized and completed at the States' level.
- ii. Standardized Terms of Reference (ToRs) should be evolved for activities which are of repetitive nature.
- iii. It should be endeavoured to hold meetings of the sectoral Expert Appraisal Committees [EACs] (in MoEF) and State EACs (in SEIAAs) at regular intervals and at least once every month.
- iv. Certain categories of projects - of simple and repetitive nature - should be exempted from public hearing.
- v. The environment protection guidelines/processes for clearance should be re-drafted/re-engineered in line with the general recommendations of the report: application formats and proformas to be objective and clearly defined; data requirements to be clearly identified; public hearings to be conducted in a transparent manner, with well defined questionnaires for eliciting information from project affected persons (PAPs); the entire process of according clearances - by all major Central and State authorities - to be web enabled; timelines to be defined in respect of all

major clearances; and, a 'deemed' system of clearances to be put in place, where the application is taken as approved if no other intimation is provided till the date of expiry of the prescribed timeline.

### **Helpless Children**

4757. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM : Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any scheme for education and job-oriented training to helpless children;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of funds released to Non-Government Organisation (NGOs) and utilised by them under the scheme during each of the last three years State-wise;

(d) whether the Union Government has found any irregularities in the utilisation of the funds; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps being taken by the Union Government for proper and purposeful utilisation of said funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing schemes namely (i) An Integrated Programme for Street Children; and (ii) Scheme for the Welfare of Working Children in Need of Care and Protection for the welfare and rehabilitation of street children and working children respectively. The programme components of the Integrated Programme for Street Children, among others, include enrolment of street children in schools and full support for subsistence, education, nutrition, recreation and their wholesome development and programmes providing facilities for training in meaningful vocations, trades and skills to earning capacity. Similarly, the programme components of the scheme for Welfare Working Children include facilitating introduction to/return to the mainstream education system and provide vocational training.

The Ministry has also recently introduced a centrally sponsored scheme namely 'Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS)' for implementation during the remaining XI Plan Period through State Governments/Union Territories Administrations. Under this scheme, one of the components is for setting up of 'Open Shelters' for children in need of care and protection in urban and semi-urban areas. The programmes and activities of these Open Shelters inter alia include age-appropriate education, access to vocational training, recreation, bridge education, linkages to the National Open School Programme (NOSP), health care, counseling etc. In order to provide useful vocational training to children, every Open Shelter is to tie up with NGOs and ITIs to either provide vocational training facilities by sending the children to such NGOs or ITIs or provide such facilities within the Open Shelter itself. From the current financial year, 2009-10 the scheme namely 'An Integrated Programme for Street Children' has been merged with the scheme 'Integrated Children Protection Scheme'.

The ICPS also provides for setting up and maintenance of Institutional Services like Shelter Homes, Children's Homes and Observation Homes, Special Homes for children in need of care and protection and children in conflict with law. Provisions have been made for providing education according to their age and ability either within the institution or outside through a formal high quality education system. Provision has also been made to provide vocational training to juveniles/children when they complete their schooling or drop out of school.

(c) The details of funds released during the last three years under the scheme 'An Integrated Programme for Street Children' and 'Scheme for the Welfare of Working Children in Need of Care and Protection' are available in the Ministry' website [www.wcd.nic.in](http://www.wcd.nic.in). The funds are released to the organisations under the aforesaid schemes only on receipt of the Utilisation Certificates duly audited by Chartered Accountant. The unspent balance, if any, is adjusted from the subsequent years grant to the organisation.

Since the Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) is implemented from the current financial year 2009-10, no fund has been released under the scheme, so far.

(d) In regard to the above mentioned schemes no such proven irregularity has come to the notice of this Ministry.

(e) Does not arise.

#### **Nationalisation of RRBs**

4758. SHRI N. CHELUVARAYA SWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal from employees of Regional Rural Bank (RRB) to nationalize regional rural bank;

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

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to improve the rural banking in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) No, Madam. Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) are jointly owned by the Government of India, the concerned State Government and Sponsor Banks and the share capital is in the ratio of 50:15:35 respectively. Thus the question of nationalization of RRBs does not arise.

(c) The Government of India has taken the following major steps to improve the functioning of Regional Rural Banks:-

- (1) Amalgamation of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) sponsor bank-wise at State level. The amalgamated RRBs will provide better customer service due to better infrastructure, computerization of branches, pooling of experienced work force, common publicity and marketing efforts etc. They will also reap benefits of a large area of operation and enhanced credit exposure limits.
- (2) Recapitalization of all RRBs having a negative networth as on 31.3.2007.
- (3) Branch expansion of RRBs with a view to provide banking services in the uncovered areas.
- (4) Expansion of non-fund based business activities

such as sale of insurance policies, disbursement of pension, salaries etc. and handling of government business to increase income generation.

(5) Opening of 'no-frill' accounts with low or minimum balance.

(6) Permitting RRBs to accept Foreign Currency Non-Residents (FCNR) Deposits.

(7) Allowing consortium lending to RRBs

[Translation]

#### **Safeguard Duty**

4759. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Will the Minister for FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to levy safeguard duty on the import of paper; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) The Government has received the recommendations of the Director General (Safeguard) for imposition of safeguard duty on import of coated paper, paper board, uncoated paper and copy paper, classifiable under Customs tariff Chapter 48, at the rate of 20% *ad valorem*. These recommendations for imposition of safeguard duty were considered by the Standing Board on Safeguards in its meeting held on 11th May, 2009 which directed the Director General (Safeguard) to re-examine the matter and submit report after consulting all stakeholders as per law.

[English]

#### **Tribal Film Festivals**

4760. SHRI P. BALRAM : Will be Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has organised Tribal film festivals in the country including Andhra Pradesh.

(b) if so, the number of festivals organized during each of the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the aims and objectives of such film festivals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (DR. TUSHAR CHAUDHARY) : (a) No Madam,

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

#### **Reduction in Sales Tax**

4761. SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has advised the States to reduce the sales tax on the petroleum products;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by when such sales tax is likely to be reduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) to (c) The sales tax on petroleum products is levied by the State Governments by virtue of Entry 54 of List II of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution. However, with the objective of containing the adverse effects of the global oil price rise, the Central Government had requested the Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers in June, 2008 to consider reducing the sales tax on petroleum products. Since the decision on the sales tax rates on petroleum products falls under the purview of the State Governments, no time frame can be given by the Central Government in this regard.

[Translation]

#### **Premium over Face Value**

4762. SHRI ANJANKUMAR M. YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a provision for paying premium over the face value of shares;

(b) if so, the authority which decides the said premium;

(c) whether the interests of share holders are safeguarded in this matter;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The issuer company in consultation with the merchant banker(s) decides the issue price.

(c) to (e) SEBI (Disclosures and Investor Protection) Guidelines, 2000 give freedom to a company making an issue of capital to price its securities subject to certain disclosures including disclosing the basis for issue price in the prospectus with the help of relevant qualitative and quantitative factors. These disclosures help investors to make informed decisions.

[English]

#### **Funding Pattern Under SJSRY**

4763. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to amend the funding pattern under the Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY);

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the percentage of the expenditure to be borne by the Centre and the State; and

(c) the time by which this new funding pattern is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) Under the revamped Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) the funding pattern for 11 Special Category States viz. Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand has been revised to be shared in the proportion of 90:10 between the Centre and States. For the rest of the States/Union Territories, funding is to be shared between the Centre and the States in the ratio of

75:25. However, for the Union Territories of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli, the entire funding (100%) is met by the Centre.

(c) The revised guidelines of SJSRY have come into effect from 1st April, 2009.

*[Translation]*

### **Introduction of GST**

4764. SHRI PRAHLAD JOSHI:

SHRI LALJI TANDON:

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce Goods and Services Tax (GST) from April, 2010 onwards all over the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether certain States have expressed their inability to introduce it from the year 2010;

(d) if so, the names of these States; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to remove the obstacles coming in the way of its implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The budget speech of 2006-07 contained a proposal to introduce Goods and Services Tax (GST) with effect from April 01, 2010. It has been reiterated in the Budget speech of 2009-10, that the process of smooth introduction of GST with effect from April 01, 2010 would be accelerated.

(c) and (d) Government of Tamil Nadu have communicated to the Central Government certain concerns related to the implementation of the proposed GST in the country from the next year. Their main concerns are for having a GST design that is not regressive, is aligned to federal principles of our Constitution, protects revenue interests of the States and the Centre, and does not

impose additional compliance burden on small and medium enterprises. They have also advised adoption of an implementation schedule for GST that permits requisite capacity building.

(e) Empowered Committee of State Finance Minister meets regularly to evolve consensus among States on the various issues involved.

*[English]*

### **Bachat Awas Yojana**

4765. SHRI MAHENDRASINH P. CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Housing Bank has launched 'Bachat Awas Yojana'; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The National Housing Bank has formulated a savings linked housing loan scheme titled NHB Bachat Awas Yojana (NHB-BAY). However, the Scheme is yet to be launched.

(b) NHB-BAY is a savings linked housing loan scheme, which will initially be aimed at employees at lower levels of organizations in the Government, the Public and the Private sector. The objective of the Scheme is to encourage savings among the lower income segments, which could be dovetailed with housing. The savings amount is expected to act as equity of the borrower to facilitate getting a housing loan.

### **General Insurance Venture of SBI**

4766. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) has given first stage approval to State Bank of India for its General Insurance Venture;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether SBI has tied up with the Insurance group abroad for the said purpose ; and



- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority has reported that they have issued the R2 application form for registration to SBI General Insurance Company Ltd. after the first stage approval.

(c) and (d) State Bank of India has reported that it has tied up with Insurance Australia Group, Australia for carrying out general insurance business in India.

[Translation]

### **Power from Renewable Energy Sources**

4767. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether his Ministry has decided to close down its regional offices in various States;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any assessments has been made about the likely impact thereof on performance of power generation through non-conventional energy sources; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Regional Offices were established when the State Nodal Agencies were in their nascent stage of functioning. However, now, with the State Nodal Agencies (SNAs) becoming fully functional in the States and Union Territories, the need of regional offices has diminished substantially.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) Does not arise.

### **Self Employment**

4768. SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any financial provision has been made under any scheme for creating self employment for women so as to make them self-reliant in the Budget 2009-10;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof and the norms laid down in this regard;

(c) whether steps have been taken to implement the said scheme at district level so that urban/rural women can earn their income; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Two major schemes for creating self employment for women are 'Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women'(STEP) being implemented by the Ministry of Women and Child Development and 'Swaran-jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana' (SGSY) implemented by the Ministry of Rural Development.

The scheme of 'Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women' (STEP), aims at creating interalia, self-employment for asset-less and marginalized women with special focus on SC/ST households and families below the poverty line. Under this programme, upto 90 percent of the project cost is given by the Government of India. The remaining 10 percent has to be borne by the implementing agency from its own sources or through sources other than Government of India.

Ministry of Rural Development is implementing the scheme of 'Swaranjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana' (SGSY), with the aim of bringing the assisted rural poor families above the poverty line by providing them income generating assets through a mix of bank credit and government subsidy. The scheme involves organization of the poor into Self Help Groups (SHGs) and building their capacities and creation of infrastructure, marketing, and technological support etc. Special safeguard has been provided by way of reserving 40% benefits for women.

(c) and (d) A number of STEP projects are being implemented at district/block/village levels across the country through Public Sector Organizations, District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs), Federations, Co-operatives and Voluntary organizations. The scheme of 'Swaranjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana' (SGSY) is implemented through DRDAs with active involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions, banks, line Departments of the State Governments and Non Governments Organizations.

In addition, there are other schemes like 'Scheme for Leadership Development of Minority Women' implemented by the Ministry of Minority Affairs with similar objectives.

*[English]***Promotion of Tourism in Orissa**

4769. SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the inflow of tourists both domestic and foreign has drastically reduced due to fall in number of Tigers and other animals in the country including Orissa;

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

(c) the remedial steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) and (b) The number of foreign tourist arrivals (FTAs) in India during 2008 increased by 5.6% as compared to 2007. However, the number of FTAs during January-June 2009 declined by 9.3% over the corresponding period of 2008. The decline in FTAs in recent months may be due to various reasons including global financial melt-down and terrorist activities. Ministry of Tourism does not compile State-level estimates of FTAs.

The number of domestic tourist visits to all States/UTs in India, including Orissa, increased by 6.9% during 2008 as compared to 2007. The figures of domestic tourist visits for 2009 are not available.

(c) Development and promotion of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. However, the Ministry of Tourism extends Central Financial Assistance (CFA) to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for tourism projects.

To increase the number of FTAs, Ministry of Tourism, through its Indiatourism offices overseas is undertaking a series of promotional activities. These activities include, advertising, participation in travel fairs, exhibitions, road shows, India evenings, seminars & workshops, Indian food and cultural festivals, publication of brochures, inviting media personalities, tour operators and opinion makers to visit the country under the Hospitality Programme of the Ministry.

In addition, a "Visit India 2009" Scheme has been announced by the Ministry of Tourism, in collaboration with all stakeholders including airlines, hotels, tour operators, State Governments for incentivising travel to India during the current year.

The Marketing Development Assistance (MDA) Scheme of the Ministry of Tourism has been expanded so as to provide financial assistance to service providers for the promotion of Medical, Convention & Conference and Domestic Tourism in the country.

**Cost of Solar Power**

4770. SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of reduction in the capital cost of solar power (Rs. kw) over the last three years and the current year globally and in the country; and

(b) the projections for it during the next five years?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH) : (a) and (b) The cost of solar photovoltaic (PV) modules has reduced during the last five years. As per some of the estimates the reduction is from average cost of US \$ 4,200 per kW to US \$ 2,700 per kW. During the same period, in India the average cost has reduced from about Rs. 1,80,000 per kW to Rs. 1,45,000 per kW. The present trend indicates that the cost will continue to decline due to global R&D efforts, expanded utilization of solar PV modules for various applications and volume production. Some of the international reports have projected that in the next five years, the cost of PV modules could come down to US \$ 1,000 - 1,500 per kW. Indian cost of PV modules is also expected to reduce on the same line to Rs. 60,000 - 80,000 per kW by that time.

**DDA Hotel Flats**

4771. SHRI MILIND DEORA : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has unveiled sample "Hotel" flat for the Commonwealth Games, 2010 recently; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SAUGATA ROY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. To augment the availability of accommodation for visitors coming to Delhi during Commonwealth Games-2010, DDA has identified 3179 flats in South Delhi. These flats will have facilities equivalent to 3 star hotels while the furniture and furnishings will be provided by India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC). A sample of "Hotel" flat was unveiled on 24.07.2009 at Vasant Kunj and that the specifications of certain items have been upgraded as per recommendations of ITDC.

[Translation]

#### **Privatisation of Power Distribution**

4772. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of qualitative improvement noticed as a result of privatization of power distribution in the country;

(b) whether any proposal regarding reorganization of power distribution companies and encouraging competition between the existing power distribution companies is under consideration of the Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) The distribution business has been privatized in Orissa and Delhi. Improvement has been noticed in terms of parameters like reduction of transmission and distribution losses etc. in these States. Despite various constraints and limitations, the quality of supply and standard of performance has generally improved.

(b) and (c) 14 States have reorganized their Electricity Boards & 7 States are yet to organize their boards. The Electricity Act, 2003 provides for multiple licensees in the same area of supply. The Act also provides for re-organization of the State Electricity Boards with a view to

encouraging competition in various segments of generation, transmission and distribution. The National Electricity Policy further reinforces the vision of the Act and reiterates that private sector participation in distribution needs to be encouraged for achieving the requisite reduction in transmission and distribution losses and improving the quality of service to the consumers. It further provides that the State Governments have full flexibility in carving out distribution zones while restructuring the government utilities subject to the condition that for grant of second and subsequent distribution licence, a revenue district, a municipal council for a smaller urban area or a Municipal Corporation for a larger urban area may be considered as the minimum area.

#### **Rehabilitation of Displaced Persons**

4773. SHRI MANSUKH BHAI D. VASAVA:

SHRI YASHBANT LAGURI:

SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the mechanism established by the Union Government to ensure the fulfillment of the provisions relating to rehabilitation and resettlement of displaced people in various States;

(b) whether the Union Government has received any complaints regarding non-fulfillment of such provisions in various States;

(c) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the current year, State wise; and

(d) the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SISIR ADHIKARI): (a) to (d) The Department of Land Resources in the Ministry of Rural Development has formulated the National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy, 2007 (NRRP-2007) to replace the National Policy on Resettlement and Rehabilitation for Project Affected Families, 2003. The

NRRP-2007 was published in the Gazette of India on 31st October, 2007. To give a legal backing to the NRRP-2007, the Rehabilitation and Resettlement Bill, 2007, and the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Bill, 2007, to align the L.A. Act provisions with the policy, were introduced in Lok Sabha in December, 2007. The Bills were referred for examination to the Standing Committee on Rural Development. The Bills were examined and reports on them were submitted by the Standing Committee on Rural Development. The official amendments to these Bills were developed by this Department in consultation with the Ministry of Law. The Bills were considered and passed by Lok Sabha in its sitting held on 25th February, 2009 and referred to Rajya Sabha for consideration. However, due to dissolution of the 14th Lok Sabha, the Bills have lapsed. The matter relating to introduction of the Bills in the Parliament is under active consideration of the Government.

The NRRP-2007 provides constitution of a National Monitoring Committee comprising Secretaries of 17 Ministries/Departments of the Government of India, to be chaired by the Secretary, Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development, for reviewing and monitoring the progress of implementation of rehabilitation and resettlement schemes or plans relating to all cases to which the policy applies. The National Monitoring Committee is to be serviced by a National Monitoring Cell to be constituted by the Central Govt. While the National Monitoring Committee has been constituted, the process for constituting the National Monitoring Cell has been initiated, following which the monitoring mechanism will be made functional. However, at the present stage the provisions of the NRRP-2007 are in the form of guidelines only and not enforceable as Laws.

[English]

### **Ultra Mega Power Projects**

4774. DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to put a

ceiling on awarding the number of Ultra Mega Power Projects (UMPPs) to one company;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI) : (a) to (c) No, Madam. There is no such proposal under consideration at present.

### **Review of Works under 20-Point Programme**

4775. SHRI VIRENDER KASHYAP:

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has reviewed or proposed to review the works executed under their purview under 20-Point Programme during the last one year and the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the performance of the States in the regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Rural Development have evolved a comprehensive system of monitoring the execution of the Rural Development Programmes, including those covered under 20-Point Programme, through periodical Progress Reports received from the States/UTs, Performance Review Committee meetings, Field Visits and discussions with State Secretaries and with Project Directors of the District Rural Development Agencies/Chief Executive Officers of Zila Parishads.

(c) State-wise performance during 2008-09 of major rural development programmes covered under 20-Point Programme is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement					1	2	3	4	5
<i>Physical Achievements under SGSY during 2008-09</i>					15	Maharashtra	30975	11259	29241
S.No.	State/ UT	No. of SHGs formed	No. of SHGs taken up Economic Activities	No. of Individual Swaroz-garis assisted					
1	2	3	4	5					
1	Andhra Pradesh	142356	10480	34267	16	Manipur	476	382	42
2	Arunachal Pr.	56	34	568	17	Meghalaya	527	152	894
3	Assam	20481	12468	6550	18	Mizoram	236	123	288
4	Bihar	20344	9094	9114	19	Nagaland	282	103	368
5	Chhattisgarh	4945	3001	14421	20	Orissa	11875	8066	9575
6	Goa	81	187	33	21	Punjab	754	615	7353
7	Gujarat	4824	961	31423	22	Rajasthan	165641	3014	22869
8	Haryana	4506	1732	2279	23	Sikkim	287	116	525
9	Himachal Pr.	1399	964	2187	24	Tamil Nadu	15373	5125	37268
10	J&K	433	236	4019	25	Tripura	4942	2202	260
11	Jharkhand	6894	3231	22529	26	Uttar Pradesh	36219	18867	99715
12	Karnataka	7301	2503	15834	27	Uttaranchal	1320	1684	4653
13	Kerala	1808	2333	15336	28	West Bengal	32746	4447	12
14	Madhya Pradesh	46234	7991	20145	29	A & N Island	39	0	51
					30	Daman & Diu			0
					31	D & N Haveli	0	0	24
					32	Lakshadweep			0
					33	Pondicherry	176	102	0
					Total		563530	114452	391843

*NREGA Implementation Status Report for the Financial Year 2008-09*

S.No.	States	Cumulative No. of HH issued jobcards (Since Inception) (In Nos)	Persondays generated (In Lakhs)	Expenditure on Wages (Rs.in Lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	11347815	2735.45	225796.50
2	Arunachal Pradesh	82591	25.7	1492.64
3	Assam	2970522	751.07	57932.88

1	2	3	4	5
4	Bihar	10284009	991.75	84379.94
5	Chhattisgarh	3354795	1243.18	91005.61
6	Gujarat	2877792	213.07	14446.09
7	Haryana	377568	69.11	8454.39
8	Himachal Pradesh	849993	205.28	20337.81
9	Jammu and Kashmir	497175	78.80	5321.82
10	Jharkhand	3375992	749.97	67843.60
11	Karnataka	3420945	287.64	23295.85
12	Kerala	1897713	153.75	18459.60
13	Madhya Pradesh	11229547	2946.97	215621.25
14	Maharashtra	4814593	419.85	31074.71
15	Manipur	385836	285.62	20741.36
16	Meghalaya	298755	86.31	6051.24
17	Mizoram	172775	125.82	13712.28
18	Nagaland	296738	202.70	16372.28
19	Orissa	6125819	403.75	35977.57
20	Punjab	524928	39.89	4440.35
23	Rajasthan	8468740	4829.55	426531.88
22	Sikkim	77112	26.34	2446.38
23	Tamil Nadu	5512827	1203.59	95899.82
24	Tripura	600615	351.12	30057.75
25	Uttar Pradesh	10652018	2278.39	226977.39
26	Uttaranchal	817753	104.33	8830.23
27	West Bengal	9556067	786.61	61522.41
28	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	23313	1.00	123.91
29	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	8100	0.48	0.52
30	Daman and Diu	0	0.00	0.00
31	Goa	10244	0.00	97.10

1	2	3	4	5
32	Lakshadweep	3313	1.82	145.33
33	Pondicherry	15547	1.64	130.00
34	Chandigarh	0	0.00	0.00
Total		100931550	21600.57	1815520.49

*State-wise Houses constructed  
under Indira Awaas Yojana during 2008-09*

Unit ( in Nos.)

Sl.No.Name of the States / Uts      Number of Houses  
Constructed

1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	266654
2	Arunachal Pradesh	7236
3	Assam	112706
4	Bihar	484197
5	Chhattisgarh	30023
G	Goa	586
7	Gujarat	122412
8	Haryana	13302
9	Himachal Pradesh	4518
10	Jammu and Kashmir	13211
11	Jharkhand	56180
12	Karnataka	87051
13	Kerala	53133
14	Madhya Pradesh	74651
15	Maharashtra	118611
16	Manipur	514
17	Meghalaya	5619
18	Mizoram	5179

1	2	3
19	Nagaland	24717
20	Orissa	62447
21	Punjab	11700
22	Rajasthan	52654
23	Sikkim	1774
24	Tamilnadu	94675
25	Tripura	26389
26	Uttar Pradesh	267543
27	Uttarakhand	11874
28	West Bengal	123910
29	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	124
30	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	41
31	Daman and Diu	0
32	Lakshadweep	190
33	Pondicherry	52
Total		2133873

*Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)*

Physical Performance - 2008-09

S.No.	State	Length (KMs.)
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	1885.00
2	Arunachal Pradesh	317.43

1	2	3
3	Assam	1985.11
4	Bihar (REO)	45.05
5	Bihar (NEA)	2487.15
6	Chhattisgarh	2427.08
7	Goa	0
8	Gujarat	1262.07
9	Haryana	969.87
10	Himachal Pradesh	1360.099
11	Jammu and Kashmir	469.8
12	Jharkhand	214.97
13	Karnataka	2099.13
14	Kerala	240.215
15	Madhya Pradesh	7893.72
16	Maharashtra	4138.65
17	Manipur	78.95
18	Meghalaya	30.80
19	Mizoram	195.18
20	Nagaland	298.53
21	Orissa	2641.00
22	Punjab	751.62
23	Rajasthan	10349.93
24	Sikkim	308.57
25	Tamil Nadu	609.59
26	Tripura	361.27
27	Uttar Pradesh	6461.02
28	Uttarakhand	645.6
29	West Bengal	1877.11
Total		52404.51

*Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme  
(ARWSP) - 2008-09*

Sl.No.	State/UT	Habitation Covered (No.s)
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	17086
2	Arunachal Pradesh	905
3	Assam	23940
4	Bihar	28937
5	Chhattisgarh	11544
6	Goa	4
7	Gujarat	4656
8	Haryana	969
9	Himachal Pradesh	5529
10	Jammu and Kashmir	1899
11	Jharkhand	6832
12	Karnataka	10582
13	Kerala	8936
14	Madhya Pradesh	6244
15	Maharashtra	22636
16	Manipur	115
17	Meghalaya	1117
18	Mizoram	46
19	Nagaland	132
20	Orissa	33279
21	Punjab	1962
22	Rajasthan	28465
23	Sikkim	27
24	Tamil Nadu	11956



1	2	3
25	Tripura	4136
26	Uttar Pradesh	440
27	Uttaranchal	1332
28	West Bengal	59203
29	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	26
30	Dadra and Nagar Haveli*	0
31	Daman and Diu	-
32	Delhi	-
33	Lakshadweep	-
34	Pondicherry	0
35	Chandigarh	-
Total		292935

*Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) - 2008-09*

S.No. State Individual Household Latrines constructed (Nos.)

1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	292697
2	Arunachal Pradesh	3399
3	Assam	206256
4	Bihar	756465
5	Chhattisgarh	305456
6	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0
7	Goa	18753
8	Gujarat	984112
9	Haryana	367097
10	Himachal Pradesh	313872
11	Jammu and Kashmir	139415
12	Jharkhand	362573

1	2	3
13	Karnataka	409816
14	Kerala	81865
15	Madhya Pradesh	1406113
16	Maharashtra	854563
17	Manipur	4590
18	Meghalaya	30004
19	Mizoram	8973
20	Nagaland	5543
21	Orissa	323802
22	Pondicherry	227
23	Punjab	263721
24	Rajasthan	889762
25	Sikkim	3712
26	Tamil Nadu	421967
27	Tripura	62971
28	Uttar Pradesh	2415154
29	Uttarakhand	98884
30	West Bengal	636422
Grand Total		11668184

**Re-organisation of Bhakra-Beas  
Management Board**

4776. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to re-organize Bhakra-Beas Management Board;

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

(c) whether the Government proposes to keep a whole time member from Rajasthan in the reorganized Bhakra-Beas Management Board; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor along with the constituents of the re-organized Board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI) : (a) No, Madam.

(b) to (d) Persistent demand made by Government of Rajasthan at various fora to induct one Member from their side on the Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) in addition to the present two Members, one each from Punjab & Haryana was reviewed regularly at the level of the Cabinet Secretary. After considering various options, a note on the above issue was sent to MHA requesting to have the necessary amendment in the Punjab Re-organization Act, 1966 to accommodate the request of Rajasthan, as administration of the Acts relating to the reorganization of States falls in the work allocation of Ministry of Home Affairs. MHA has considered the proposal in consultation with Government of Punjab and Haryana and a view has been taken that no useful purpose would be served by amending Section 79(2)(a) of the said Act.

[Translation]

#### **Foodgrains to BPL Families**

4777. SHRI BAIDYANATH PRASAD MAHATO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether quantity of foodgrains being provided to Bihar for the people living below poverty line is less in comparison to the requirement of the State;

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

(c) whether any requests have been received by the Union Government for allotment of more foodgrains from Bihar; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) There is no provision of foodgrains under any ongoing programmes of the Ministry of Rural Development.

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

#### **Women in Circus**

4778. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of children and women working in Indian Circus Companies, State-wise;

(b) whether the children and women working in Indian Circus Companies are being exploited in the country;

(c) if so, whether the Government has conducted any survey in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) No data is available about the number of children and women working in Indian circus companies.

(b) The Ministry of Women and Child Development has not received any complaint about exploitation of the children and women working in Indian circus companies.

(c) to (e) Does not arise.

[English]

#### **Merchant/Captive Power Plants**

4779. DR. K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the observations made at the recent inter-ministerial meetings regarding the benefits being extended to Merchant Power Plants (MPPs) and Captive Power Plants (CPPs); and

(b) the number of such power projects built up or proposes to be build up along with the power generation capacity of each MPPs and CPPs during the last three years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI) : (a) According to Section 9 of the Indian Electricity Act, 2003, no sanction/license for setting up of captive power plant is required. The government has taken various legislative, policy and administrative measures to facilitate captive generation and utilization of surplus capacity. The details are given below:

- i) Under the Electricity Act, 2003, captive power plants, including group captive, have been freely permitted. The Act provides that any person may construct, maintain or operate a captive generating plant and dedicated transmission lines. Under the provisions of the Act, every person, who has constructed a captive generating plant and maintains and operates such plant, shall have the right to open access for the purposes of carrying electricity from his captive generating plant to the destination of his use subject to the availability of transmission capacity.
- ii) National Electricity Policy, notified in February, 2005, emphasizes the need for bringing surplus capacity available with captive and standby generating stations in India to the grid continuously or during certain time periods.
- iii) Tariff Policy, notified in January 2006, recognizes that captive generation is an important means to make competitive power available and urges the Electricity Regulatory Commission to create an enabling environment that encourages captive plants to be connected to the grid.
- iv) The Conference of Chief Ministers on Power Sector issues held in May, 2007, has resolved to facilitate captive power plants to provide the spare generating capacity to the grid and strive to do away with restrictive levies, duties and regulations in a time bound manner.
- v) The National Electricity Policy, 2006, allows a part of new generating capacities say 15% to be sold outside long term PPAs to promote market development. Under the Tariff Policy notified in 2006 and amended vide resolution dated 31.03.2008, the

developers of hydro projects are allowed, a special incentive by way of merchant sales of up to a maximum of 40% of the saleable energy.

Ministry of Power has taken the following operational measures to encourage setting up of Merchant Power Plants :-

- (i) Fuel tie-ups are being facilitated for Merchant Power Plants.
- (ii) Open access in transmission has been introduced in the Electricity Act, 2003. In distribution, open access is to be introduced in phases. For consumers with requirement of more than one Mega Watt open access is to be mandatorily introduced by January, 2009.
- (b) Information is being compiled and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Funds for MSMEs**

4780. SHRI L. RAJA GOPAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises has been demanding setting up of Rs.1000 crores fund;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and;
- (c) the action taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) Yes Madam. The Government has decided that SIDBI should earmark Rs.1000 crore exclusively for refinancing micro enterprises out of Rs.4000 crore being made available to it for refinancing micro and small enterprises.

#### **Reforms in Taxation**

4781. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any study has been done to evaluate loss to exchequer due to transactions made through Dual/ Double Taxation Avoidance Treaty in the last five years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is considering to introduce reform in taxation by framing anti-abuse rules; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) and (b) In terms of India-Mauritius Double Taxation Avoidance Convention, taxation of capital gains is based on the principle of 'residence based taxation' whereby capital gains arising to residents of Mauritius on transfer of shares of Indian companies will not be taxable in India. An in-house analysis of estimated revenue loss on account of capital gains tax foregone in respect of transactions made by Mauritius based FIs/sub-accounts in listed securities was done on the basis of certain data and assumptions.

(c) and (d) Yes. In the Double Taxation Avoidance Treaties negotiated since 2004, anti-abuse rules in the form of limitation of benefits provisions were incorporated. As regards India-Mauritius Double Taxation Avoidance Convention, a Joint Working Group (JWG) was constituted in 2006 to put in place adequate safeguards to prevent possible misuse of the treaty. Since then, JWG has had six rounds of meetings.

#### **Children in Entertainment Industry**

4782. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has prescribed any norms for children working in entertainment industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights has formulated/proposes to formulate any guidelines in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of provisions of punishment to employers in case of violation of guidelines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH) : (a) and (b) Children below the age of fourteen years are prohibited for employment in any of the occupations and processes given in part A & B of the Schedule under the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act 1986. The entertainment industry is not among such occupations.

(c) to (e) The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights has constituted a Working Group on children working in Teleserials/Competitive Reality Shows/Advertisements. The Group has not submitted its report so far.

[Translation]

#### **Release of funds**

4783. SHRI SAJJAN VERMA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has provided funds for the programmes being run under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution during the last three years;

(b) if so, the quantum of funds released and utilized by the State Governments, State-wise, year-wise;

(c) whether some State Governments have surrendered the funds; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (DR. TUSHAR CHAUDHARY): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) A statement indicating State-wise grant released and funds utilized under the programme of Grant under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution during the last three years by State Government is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) Does not arise.

**Statement**

(Rs. in lakh)

S.N.	States	2006-07		2007-08		2008-09	
		Amount Released	Fund utilized by the States	Amount Released	Fund utilized by the States	Amount Released	Fund Utilized by the States
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	2830.31	2830.31	2453.03	1923.75	1863.44	**
2	Arunachal Pradesh	322.52	322.52	544.29	544.29	308.68	**
3	Assam	1514.17	1514.17	1192.63	1189.77	1444.88	835.84
4	Bihar	293.00	**	319.20	**	0.00*	**
5	Chhattisgarh	4131.86	4124.17	3090.44	3090.15	3211.43	2579.79
6	Goa	62.00	**	68.45	**	7.00	**
7	Gujarat	3964.38	3964.38	3652.68	3270.18	2372.77	2032.77
8	Himachal Pradesh	330.33	330.33	165.43	165.43	148.32	148.32
9	Jammu and Kashmir	427.00	133.56	286.61	348.232	193.66	175.45
10	Jharkhand	3244.15	3244.15	3060.27	3060.27	1852.43	**
11	Karnataka	1526.87	1526.87	1458.05	1458.05	1496.37	1344.73
12	Kerala	497.19	497.19	101.52	101.52	159.42	**
13	Madhya Pradesh	6052.44	6052.44	5973.00	5973.00	6466.80	6466.80
14	Maharashtra	2508.35	2184.80	3610.31	3264.60	2441.46	**
15	Manipur	411.00	411.00	311.96	311.96	324.44	**
16	Meghalaya	0.00*	**	773.02	642.34	155.33	**
17	Mizoram	384.17	384.17	409.79	409.79	403.57	**
18	Nagaland	812.22	812.22	866.17	866.17	200.00	**
19	Orissa	4029.11	4029.11	4176.84	4176.72	4129.73	4129.73
20	Rajasthan	3160.00	3160.00	3168.91	1495.82	3107.04	7.45

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
21	Sikkim	50.99	50.99	101.50	74.94	65.00	**
22	Tamil Nadu	477.62	477.62	0.00*	**	291.39	**
23	Tripura	570.32	570.32	485.04	485.04	434.88	434.88
24	Uttar Pradesh	0.00*	**	499.12	367.7	391.28	**
25	Uttarakhand	249.00	214.49	107.81	132.28	20.00	**
26	West Bengal	2151.00	2151.00	2151.62	2151.62	2489.09	**
Grand Total		40000.00	38985.81	39027.69	35503.62	33978.41	18155.76

\* Funds could not be released due to non-receipt of project proposal/ utilization certificate/ physical progress from State Govts. In respect of earlier releases.

\*\* State has not furnished Utilisation Certificate

[English]

#### Manufacture of Power Equipments

4784. SHRI KUNVARJIBHAI MOHANBHAI  
BAVALIA :  
SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY:

Will the Minister of POWER to be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Memorandum of Understanding has been signed by Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) and National Thermal Power Corporation Limited (NTPC) to set up power equipments manufacturing units in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI) : (a) National Thermal Power Corporation Ltd. (NTPC) and Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) have started a joint venture Company in the name of NTPC-BHEL Power Projects Private Limited (NBPPL) with 50:50 equity contribution. The Joint Venture agreement was signed on 11.01.2008 and the Company was registered on 28.04.2008.

The main objectives of the Company are to create capacity in the field of Balance of Plant (BoP) and manufacture of power plant equipments for engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) contracts.

(b) The Company is currently in the process of identifying a suitable piece of land to establish manufacturing facilities. NTPC BHEL Power Projects Pvt. Limited (NBPPL) had written to ten States for allocation of land. Out of which, 4 States namely - Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Haryana have responded. A Committee has been appointed to evaluate the 4 offers received by NBPPL.

#### Frozen Demat Account

4785. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Income Tax Department has found crores of rupees lying unaccounted in frozen demat accounts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Department has taken any action to investigate these accounts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S.PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) to (d) Income Tax Department is conducting investigations regarding frozen Demat Accounts which had balances of value in excess of approximately Rs. 10 lakhs as on December 2008. These accounts are 6385 in

number with total approximate value of shares of Rs.6,709.21 crores as in December 2008 and an approximate value of Rs. 16,230 crores when the Demat Accounts were frozen. The details have been forwarded to the respective Investigation Directorates for taking necessary action in accordance with the provisions of Income Tax Act, 1961.

[Translation]

#### **Import of power tillers from China**

4786. SHRI HUKMADEO NARAYAN YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several brands of power tillers are imported from China;

(b) if so, the rates of customs duty levied on the various brands;

(c) the prices at which these tillers are provided to the farmers;

(d) whether there is substantial difference between the import price and the prices at which these power tillers are provided to the farmers; and

(e) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Yes Madam, several brands of power tillers are being imported into the country from China.

(b) The effective rate of Customs Duty on import of power tillers presently is 12.034% *advalorem*.

(c) The Government does not provide power tillers directly to the farmers.

(d) The Government is neither importing nor selling the power tillers. Hence, information on price of individual make and model of power tiller is not maintained. The prices are governed by the market forces and vary from State to State and area to area within a State.

(e) In order to make available the power tillers to

all categories of farmers at affordable prices, the Government is already providing subsidy under different schemes at 25% of the cost of the power tiller limited to Rs. 45,000/-.

#### **Losses due to Tax Rebate**

4787. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH *alias* LALAN SINGH:

SHRI JAGDISH SHARMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has incurred estimated loss of Rs.4,18,096 crores for giving tax rebates and exemption in financial taxes or other kind of assistance to the corporate and non-corporate firms respectively during the financial year 2008-09;

(b) if not, the details thereof;

(c) whether similar concessions were given during the years 2007-08, 2006-07 and 2005-06 also;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the breakup of shortfall registered in revenue collection as a result thereof by the Government during the aforesaid years; and

(e) the assessment of benefits accrued out of the said concessions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Yes, Madam.

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

(c) Yes, Madam.

(d) and (e) The details of the estimates of total revenue foregone for the financial years 2007-08, 2006-07 and 2005-06 are as follows:

Financial Year	Total estimated revenue foregone (in Rs. crore) (including both direct and indirect taxes)
2007-08	2,85,052
2006-07	2,39,712
2005-06	2,06,700

The shortfall in revenue collection as compared to the estimates is on account of several factors such as rate reduction after fixation of estimates, slow, down in economic activity or unusual revenue realization behavior towards the end of a fiscal year, etc. and therefore shortfall in revenue receipt does not exactly correspond to the revenue foregone on account of tax rebates and exemptions.

Further the various exemptions and deductions, are related to infrastructure development, regional development, promotion of exports, promotion of certain industries etc. Deduction and exemptions to individuals are given for savings in specified financial instruments, for maintenance of persons with disabilities, for payment of medical insurance premia, to promote higher education, encourage donations for charitable work etc.

[English]

#### **Registration Charges for DDA Flats**

4788. SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has withheld the Registration Charges of Rs. 1.5 lacs per application of unsuccessful applicants where husband and wife both had applied in DDA Housing Scheme, 2006 and Housing Scheme, 2008;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the cases of forfeiting of registration charges of Housing Scheme, 2006 are still pending with the DDA;

(d) if so, the reasons for announcement of Housing Scheme, 2008 when related cases were already subjudiced; and

(e) the action taken/being taken by DDA to refund the earnest money of applicants of Housing Scheme, 2008 where both husband and wife had applied?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SAUGATA ROY): (a) and (b) DDA has intimated that in the case of the unsuccessful applicants, where husband and wife both had applied as

per Housing Schemes 2006 & 2008, the withheld amount of Rs. 1.5 lakh per application has been released in March, 2009. However, an amount of Rs. 5000/- per application has been deducted on account of penalty and administrative charges under DDA Housing Scheme 2008.

(c) DDA has stated that no such case is pending. Money has already been released to the Banks for payment to the applicants.

(d) The sub-judice cases of DDA Housing Scheme-2006 were in respect of refund of registration money to the ineligible applicants, while DDA Housing Scheme 2008 was launched for allotment of newly constructed and available flats at various locations of different categories. Hence, there is no relation between the cases of DDA Housing Scheme-2006 and DDA Housing Scheme-2008.

(e) No further action is being taken by DDA at present in view of (a) above.

#### **Sale of Under Performing Banks**

4789. SHRI GAJANAN D. BABAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the high level committee set up by the Planning Commission had suggested the sale of small and under performing public sector banks, besides suggesting liberalization of norms for takeovers and mergers;

(b) if so, the names of the small and under performing public sector banks which are proposed for sale or mergers;

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard so far;

(d) the details of the other major recommendations made by the high level committee on small and under performing public sector banks; and

(e) the measures taken by the Union Government to implement these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (d)



The High Level Committee on Financial Sector Reforms set up by the Planning Commission and headed by Shri Raghuram G. Rajan has, in its report titled 'A Hundred Small Steps' inter-alia, opined that-

- (i) Small, regional and unprofitable banks would be a natural candidate for takeover by well managed financial institutions that seek complimentary assets,
- (ii) The screening criteria for identifying weak banks may include parameters like capital adequacy ratio, proportion of non-performing assets (NPAs) in total credit, return on assets, return on equity and net-interest margin,
- (iii) As regards the public sector banks (PSBs), the Report states that takeover of PSBs by other PSBs or public financial institutions should not be discouraged though there is no point in one weak bank taking over another weak bank,
- (iv) Takeover of PSBs should be no different from takeover of private banks, with Boards of the banks playing a key role.

(b), (c) and (e) All the public sector banks are well capitalised, have reasonably lower NPA ratios, reported profits during the last three years and have been performing well on major performance indicators. Further, Government is also of the view that the proposals for merger of banks emanate from the banks themselves with Government playing a supportive role as a common shareholder.

#### **Rehabilitation of Rape Victims**

4790. SHRIMATI BOTCHA JHANSI LAKSHMI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission for Women has suggested the Government to formulate a scheme for the relief and rehabilitation of rape victims;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action so far taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Under the proposed scheme, it is envisaged to provide immediate financial relief to the victims and also rehabilitate them.

(c) The contours of the schemes have been finalised.

[Translation]

#### **Seizure of Drugs**

4791. SHRIMATI MEENA SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of psychotropic substances seized by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence during the month of June, July and August, item-wise; and

(b) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) The year of seizure of psychotropic substances is not specified in the question. However, the details of psychotropic substances seized item-wise by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence during the month of June, July and August, 2009 (separately) and action taken thereon are as below:-

Month	No. of cases	Drug Name	Quantity	Action taken
June, 2009	01	Diazepam	194 Kgs.	3 Persons Arrested.
	01	Alprazolam	27560 Tablets	2 Persons Arrested.
July, 2009	1	Diazepam	300 Kgs.	Nil
Augst, 2009 (till 05-08-2009)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

*[English]*

**National Institute of  
Securities Markets**

4792. SHRI MUKESH BHAIKAVDANJI GADHAVI :  
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from Government of Gujarat for setting up of National Institute of Securities markets by Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) at Gandhinagar; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

**Status of Women**

4793. SHRI UDAY SINGH: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up a Committee to study the status of women in the country;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) No, Madam.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

*[Translation]*

**Raising of fund**

4794. SHRI ANANTKUMAR HEGDE:  
SHRI NITYANANDA PRADHAN:  
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:  
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:  
SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to borrow/raise fund from the market in the financial year 2009-10;

(b) if so, the details of the sources from where the said amount is to be borrowed;

(c) the amount likely to be borrowed from each of the source; and

(d) whether any strategy has been/is being worked out to ensure absence of negative reaction in the market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Madam. As per Budget Estimates 2009-10, the net market borrowings of the Government of India through issuance of dated securities is Rs. 3,97,957 crore for the financial year 2009-10. However, after taking into account the scheduled repayment of dated securities amounting to Rs.53,136 crore, the gross budgeted market borrowings of the Government has been worked out to Rs.4,51,093 crore for the financial year 2009-10.

(b) and (c) The budgeted market borrowing is proposed to be done primarily through issuance of Dated Securities. The dated securities in the auctions are subscribed by the institutional investors such as commercial banks, insurance companies, provident funds, mutual funds, etc., and non-institutional investors such as individuals, HUFs etc. The exact amount from each of these sources would be known only after completion of the auctions.

(d) In order to minimize the negative impact of the market borrowings on the financial markets, it has been decided to raise higher proportion of budgeted borrowings in the first half of the current financial year. As the demand for credit by the commercial sector is expected to gather momentum in the second half of the current financial year with expected revival of the economy, the market borrowings of the Government have been frontloaded to ensure that the borrowing programme is undertaken in a non-disruptive manner. Accordingly, for the first half of the current financial year (April-September, 2009), market borrowing programme for Rs.2,99,000 crore, constituting about 66 percent of the gross borrowings for the financial year 2009-10, have been announced through indicative calendars for marketable dated securities.

Further, the Reserve Bank of India also facilitates non-disruptive borrowings by the Government through its Open Market Operations.

[English]

### **Setting up of Power Projects**

4795. SHRI NITYANANDA PRADHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up new Power Projects during the Twelfth Five Year Plan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to finalize maximum projects with the Public and Private Sector participation;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether relaxation is likely to be given to the developers in this regard; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI) : (a) to (f) Yes, Madam. However, the details of the projects likely to be set up during 12th Five Year Plan, including those in private sector, are not yet finalized. Project developers including those in private sector will get benefits as per existing policy.

### **Disposal of Agricultural Loan Application**

4796. SHRI RAJU SHETTI:

SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether agricultural loans advanced by various banks for kharif and rabi crops are available to farmers on time;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether a large number of farmers are affected because of the delay in disposal of loan applications;

(d) if so, the number of applications pending with various banks, bank-wise at present; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The flow of credit to agriculture has shown a sustained increase from Rs. 86,981 crore in 2003-04 to Rs. 2,87,149 crore (data provisional) in 2008-09. Besides, the target for flow of credit to agriculture has also been revised from Rs. 2,80,000 crore during 2008-09 to Rs. 3,25,000 crore for the year 2009-10. This shows that the Government is committed to ensure the availability of timely and affordable credit to farmers, Besides, as per Master Circular of the Reserve Bank of India on Lending to Priority Sector issued to Scheduled Commercial Banks, all loan applications (including agricultural loan applications) up to a credit limit of Rs. 25,000/- should be disposed of within a fortnight and those for over Rs. 25,000/- within 8 to 9 weeks.

(c) to (e) No specific report has been received by the Government about the farmers being affected because of the delay in disposal of loan applications. The nationalised banks have a robust internal grievance redressal mechanism designed to address all customer complaints including those relating to availing of loans by the farmers, etc. Various instructions have been issued to banks from time to time in this regard.

### **Dissolution of NIF**

4797. SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:

SHRI KHILADI LAL BAIRWA:

SHRIMATI BOTCHA JHANSI LAKSHMI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the time of setting up of the National Investment Fund (NIF);
- (b) whether the fund is being dissolved; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) The Government has constituted the National Investment Fund (NIF) in November, 2005.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Transparency in Securitisation**

4798. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Organisation of Securities Commission (IOSC) has brought out any draft paper emphasising more transparency in securitisation;

(b) if so, the recommendations of the Organisation; and

(c) reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) The Technical Committee of the International Organization of Securities Commission (IOSCO) has set up a Task Force in November 2008 on Unregulated Financial Markets and Products (TFUMP) which published a consultation report on Securitisation and CDS for public comments in the website of IOSCO. The recommendations on securitisation as per this report include: (i) enhancing transparency through disclosure by issuers and retention of a long-term economic exposure to the securitisation by originators and/or the sponsors, (ii) independence of experts used by issuers, (iii) encouraging the development of alternative means to evaluate risk with the support of the 'buy-side', requiring experts to revisit and maintain reports over the life of the product, (iv) mandating improvements in

disclosure including initial and ongoing information about underlying pool performance and the review practices of underwriters, sponsors and/or originators, (v) strengthening investor suitability requirements as well as the definition of sophisticated investor and (vi) assessment of the scope of regulatory reach and consideration of enhancements to regulatory powers needed for promoting international coordination of regulation. The proposals appear reasonable.

[Translation]

#### **Funds provided to Bihar**

4799. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of funds provided to Bihar on the recommendations of the Twelfth Finance Commission and the heads under which it has been provided.

(b) whether the Government has obtained information about the items of works on which the said funds have been spent;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, whether the Government proposes to obtain the said information?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Head-wise details of quantum of funds provided to Bihar as per recommendations of the Twelfth Finance Commission are as under:

(Rs. in crore)

Head	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 as on (05.08.2009)
1	2	3	4	5	6
Forest	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.50
Health	289.30	322.57	179.83	200.51	223.57
Education	443.99	486.17	266.18	582.93	319.16

1	2	3	4	5	6
Road & Bridges		77.34	77.34	77.34	38.67
Public Buildings		89.90	44.95	44.96	44.95
Heritage Conservation		8.97	10.00	6.88	1.19
State Specific Needs		119.47	43.09	22.70	70.00
Local Bodies Grant	176.60	353.20	515.60	339.00	42.60
Calamity Relief Fund	55.85	55.85	233.23	121.86	62.80
National Calamity Contingency Fund				1000.00	
Total	966.74	1514.47	1371.22	2397.18	803.44

(b) to (d) Grants recommended by the Twelfth Finance Commission can be used only for the respective purposes for which they are released. Utilization of these grants is to be monitored by a High Level Committee headed by the Chief Secretary of the State. Grants released are subject to audit.

[English]

#### Expanding Business of LIC

4800. SHRI JAYWANT GANGARAM AWALE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) in the country and abroad;

(b) whether the LIC has revised its strategy for securing and expanding business in India and abroad following the withdrawal of saving incentives by the Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has reported that as on 31.03.2009 it has 3,030 offices in the country and 10 offices abroad (3 branch offices, 6 joint venture companies and one representative office).

(b) and (c) LIC has reported that its strategies for expansion of business are as under :

- (i) Augmenting & regrouping of resources.
- (ii) Consolidation of customer base forging deeper relationship with existing customers through Customer Relation Management (CRM), CRM initiatives like Customer Care Centre (CCC) and Metropolitan Area Service Hub (MASH) etc.
- (iii) Acquiring new customers through new channels like Direct Marketing.
- (iv) Developing new products.

In addition, LIC also plans to open one hundred sixty Satellite Offices during the year 2009-10 along with sixty six Satellite Offices dedicated exclusively to Chief Life Insurance Advisor (CLIA) and Bancassurance Channels.

#### Black Money

4801. SHRI PRATAPRAO GANPATRAO JADHAO:

SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE :

SHRI C. SIVASAMI :

DR. SANJEEV GANESH NAIK:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Vigilance Commissioner has suggested that the Government should consider a three-phased integrated approach to get rid of black money in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The then Central Vigilance Commissioner in a paper, in 2001, suggested a three-phase strategy to tackle black money as follows:-

- (i) **Phase I** - Strengthen the legal framework against black money hoarders.
- (ii) **Phase II** - Give a window of opportunity to black money hoarders to come out in the open after paying appropriate income tax.
- (iii) **Phase III** - Ruthless and widespread application of the legal framework designed in phase -I.

(c) The Government has taken the following steps on these suggestions:

- (i) FM has declared in the Budget Speech 2009-10 that Government proposes to pursue structural changes in Direct Taxes by releasing the new Direct Taxes Code.
- (ii) Initiated simplification of Indirect Tax Laws with reduction of discretion as an objective.
- (iii) The scope of the Authority for Advance Rulings in indirect taxes was enlarged in 2005 to cover wholly owned subsidiary Indian companies having foreign holding companies and also Indian residents who belong to a category of persons notified by the Central Government.
- (iv) The Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 has been brought into force w.e.f 1.7.2005. and investigations/prosecutions under the Act are being vigorously pursued. Further the Prevention of Money Laundering (Amendment) Act 2009 has inter-alia included Customs duty evasion as well as evasion of prohibitions under the Customs Act as a scheduled offences under PMLA.
- (v) The Income Tax Department has taken several punitive and deterrent steps to unearth black money.

These include scrutiny of returns, surveys, search & seizure action, imposition of penalty and launching of prosecution in appropriate cases. Among other efforts to unearth black money, Tax Information Network (TIN) has been set-up as depository of important tax related information which can be assessed by the Department. Information as regards suspicious transactions and large cash transactions, as disseminated by the Financial Intelligence Unit, India (FIU-IND) is also investigated by the Income Tax Department.

However there is no proposal at present for bringing a disclosure scheme for black money.

[Translation]

#### **Master Plan for Development of Urban and Rural Areas**

4802. SHRI RAKESH SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to launch any Master Plan for the development of urban and rural areas across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be launched?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SAUGATA ROY): (a) to (c) No, Madam. The Union Government does not propose to launch any master plan for the development of urban and rural areas across the country. However, the requirement of integrated planning for rural and urban areas is promoted through District Planning Committee which is required to be set up under Article 243ZD of Part IX A of the Constitution. The Government of India has also brought out a "Manual for Integrated District Planning" in the year 2008 to facilitate the process.

#### **Non Payment of Insurance amount on Maturity**

4803. SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of policy holders of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) to whom payment have not been made after the maturity of policy;

(b) the amount of funds lying unclaimed with the LIC for more than three years;

(c) the manner in which such accounts of policy holders are likely to be settled; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to use this unclaimed amount for the welfare and development programmes for the poor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) As on 31.03.2009 claims in respect of 36,18,310 policies were payable out of which 35,82,387 cases claims have been settled and the outstanding claims are 35,923 i.e., 0.99% of maturity claims payable.

(b) Out of the 35,923 outstanding claims, 17 claims are outstanding for more than three years amounting to Rs.4,36,263/-.

(c) Life Insurance Corporation monitors outstanding claims regularly and makes efforts to settle such claims by following up with respective policy holders. This monitoring is a continuous process for which the LIC also enlists the help of its Agents and Development Officers on regular basis.

(d) This unclaimed amount belongs to the policy holders and is a liability on the books of the Corporation which will be settled as and when the requirements for its payment are complied with.

[Translation]

#### **Kota Super Thermal Power Plant**

4804. SHRI KHILADI LAL BAIRWA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the Kota Super Thermal Power Plant;

(b) whether all generating units of the plant have become operational;

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

(d) the time by which the full power generation capacity and commercial production are likely to be started therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (d) Presently, Kota Super Thermal Power Station has an installed capacity of 1045 MW from six units as per the details given below:-

Unit	Capacity (MW)
Unit-1	110
Unit-2	110
Unit-3	210
Unit-4	210
Unit-5	210
Unit-6	195
<b>Total (MW)</b>	<b>1045</b>

All the aforesaid 6 units with the aggregate capacity of 1045 MW are operational.

The Unit-7 of 195 MW capacity has been synchronized with grid on 30.05.2009 and is under commissioning with coal firing. The unit is expected to be put on coal within August, 2009, and the commercial production (COD) is expected by September, 2009, after which the total installed capacity of the Kota Super Thermal Power Station would be 1240 MW.

[English]

#### **Import of Solar Panels**

4805. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shortage of solar panels in the country;

(b) if so, the details, thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to import the solar panels to meet the requirement of the generation of solar energy in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH) : (a) to (d) No Madam. Does not arise.

#### **Tax Relief Under Section 35AD**

4806. SHRI K. SUDHAKARAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Public & Private Sector companies likely to be benefited from Section 35AD introduced in the Income Tax Act, 1961 in the Union Budget 2009-10;

(b) the amount of tax relief to each company and the quantum of loss to be incurred by the Government thereon; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Any undertaking engaged in carrying on the 'specified business' referred to in section 35AD of the Income-tax Act is eligible for the tax benefit thereunder subject to the conditions specified therein. Therefore, it is not possible to provide the names of any public or private company likely to benefit from the provisions of section 35AD.

(b) The amount of tax relief and the quantum of revenue loss would depend on the investment undertaken in the specified businesses for which this tax benefit is available. It would not be possible to make any estimates in this regard at this stage.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Utilization of Funds Under UIDSSMT**

4807. SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI:  
SHRI N.CHELUVARAYA SWAMY:

SHRI KISHNBHAI V.PATEL:

SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of funds allocated by the Union Government and utilised by State Governments for implementation of various Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT) during each of the last three years, State-wise including Gujarat, Karnataka and Orissa;

(b) whether some State Governments have not utilised the allocated funds during the same period;

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

(d) whether the State Governments including Karnataka has sought more assistance in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SAUGATA ROY) : (a) Under Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT), state-wise seven year Mission (2005-2012) allocation has been provided. The details showing state-wise allocation provided, the commitment made and funds released so far year-wise is given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) Yes, Madam. The States of Goa, Nagaland and Union Territories (UTs) of Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep have not utilised the allocated funds so far.

(c) State of Goa and UTs of Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep have not identified the projects so far for financial assistance. Funds to the State of Nagaland have not been released due to non commitment of State share in respect of one project; the remaining projects are not technically cleared.

(d) and (e) State Level Sanctioning Committee (SLSC) of most of the states, including Karnataka, have approved projects requiring funds beyond their seven





1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
7	Gujarat	35182.00	35195.58	2444.18	6002.90	2678.67	12169.74		23295.49
8	Haryana	19559.00	13277.69	0.00	0.00	4189.99	2524.58		6714.57
9	Himachal Pradesh	1744.00	1642.98	000	357.33	392.11	85.59		835.03
10	Jammu and Kashmir	3545.00	28252.70	0.00	10100.02	2724.25	1508.92		14333.19
11	Jharkhand	11452.00	7861.94	0.00	0.00	4003.32	0.00		4003.32
12	Karnataka	44314.00	55116.01	0.00	8216.71	6091.10	14891.23		29199.04
13	Kerala	23282.00	34532.14	0.00	3363.03	5194.27	8783.42		17340.72
14	Madhya Pradesh	43843.00	61232.28	0.00	7554.74	10864.06	12973.89		31392.69
15	Maharashtra	66476.00	216603.57	0.00	11774.69	10174.78	88262.04		110211.51
16	Manipur	1260.00	5670.99	000	0.00	644.49	2200.95		2845.44
17	Meghalaya	719.00	1289.93	0.00	0.00	0.00	644.97		644.97
18	Mizoram	824.00	1399.54	0.00	0.00	0.00	699.77		699.77
19	Nagaland	1028.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
20	Orissa	18179.00	17990.83	0.00	2234.43	2435.04	4410.38		9079.86
21	Punjab	22660.00	31785.23	0.00	0.00	7587.04	8367.20		15954.24
22	Rajasthan	40143.00	49063.07	1383.63	4300.70	3555.95	19181.71		28421.99
23	Sikkim	120.00	3617.25	0.00	0.00	735.08	1085.40		1820.48
24	Tamil Nadu	70597.00	70618.38	0.00	12168.51	10493.41	29231.76		51893.68
25	Tripura	1376.00	7100.13	0.00	0.00	2005.00	1577.38		3582.38
26	Uttar Pradesh	94792.00	94447.49	0.00	20534.14	10340.12	16866.71	1950.12	49691.09
27	Uttarakhand	4670.00	4938.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	2469.30		2469.30
28	West Bengal	31525.00	31199.57	0.00	5267.38	4122.00	11388.40		20777.78
29	Delhi	112.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
30	Pondicherry	557.00	3134.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1567.20	1567.20
31	Andaman and Nicobar	448.00	0.00	000	0.00	0.00	000		0.00
32	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
33	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	193.00	1491.78	0.00	0.00	0.00	26.00		26.00
34	Lakshadweep	104.00	0.00	000	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
35	Daman and Diu	220.00	753.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	31.00		31.00
Total		639997.00	1033665.00	8747.49	124897.06	120400.00	328026.97	3762.37	585833.90

[Translation]

### Development of Holy Cities

4808. SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM WAKCHAURE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government allocates funds for the development of holy cities in the country including Shirdi of Maharashtra, to have access and facilities of international standards;

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

(c) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from Shri Saibaba Trust Management, Shirdi or from the Government of Maharashtra in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the said proposal is likely to be cleared; and

(e) if not, the steps taken / being taken by the Union Government to develop such holy cities including Shirdi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SAUGATA ROY): (a) and (b) Under sub-mission-I of Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), 35 cities with population of over 1 million are included as Mission cities. In addition, 30 cities are included being capital cities as well as cities having religious / historic and touristic importance. Shirdi is not included in the list of Mission cities. The list of cities included is given in the enclosed Statement – I. The original allocation of funds under Urban Infrastructure & Governance (UIG) component of JNNURM for 7 years. Mission period was not made city-wise but State-wise and is given in the enclosed Statement – II. In 2008-09, an additional amount of Rs.100 crore for all Million Plus Cities and State Capitals and Rs.50.00 crore for other cities was allocated under UIG component of JNNURM.

(c) to (e) Yes, Madam. Government of Maharashtra has requested inter-alia to include Shirdi Urban Agglomeration in the list of the Mission cities for support under JNNURM keeping in view the need to prepare

infrastructure for centenary celebrations of Baba's Samadhi and in case, it is not possible to include Shirdi under the JNNURM, it may be considered under the Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT) and Integrated Housing Slum Development Programme (IHSDP) and adequate funds may be allocated for development of Shirdi. The city of Shirdi of Maharashtra has already been covered under UIDSSMT and one sewerage project has been approved for Rs.2426.00 lakh and Additional Central Assistance (ACA) amounting to Rs.1006.79 lakh has been released to the State Government.

### Statement – I

#### List of Cities included in JNNURM

Sl.No.	City/Urban Agglomeration	Name of the State
1	2	3

#### a) Mega Cities

1.	Delhi	Delhi
2.	Greater Mumbai	Maharashtra
3.	Ahmedabad	Gujarat
4.	Bangalore	Karnataka
5.	Chennai	Tamil Nadu
6.	Kolkata	West Bengal
7.	Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh

#### b) Million Plus Cities

1.	Patna	Bihar
2.	Faridabad	Haryana
3.	Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh
4.	Ludhiana	Punjab
5.	Jaipur	Rajasthan
6.	Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh
7.	Madurai	Tamil Nadu

1.	2	3
8.	Nashik	Maharashtra
9.	Pune	Maharashtra
10.	Cochin	Kerala
11.	Varanasi	Uttar Pradesh
12.	Agra	Uttar Pradesh
13.	Amritsar	Punjab
14.	Visakhapatnam	Andhra Pradesh
15.	Vadodara	Gujarat
16.	Surat	Gujarat
17.	Kanpur	Uttar Pradesh
18.	Nagpur	Maharashtra
19.	Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
20.	Meerut	Uttar Pradesh
21.	Jabalpur	Madhya Pradesh
22.	Jamshedpur	Jharkhand
23.	Asansol	West Bengal
24.	Allahabad	Uttar Pradesh
25.	Vijayawada	Andhra Pradesh
26.	Rajkot	Gujarat
27.	Dhanbad	Jharkhand
28.	Indore	Madhya Pradesh

**c) Identified cities / UAs with less than one million population**

1.	Guwahati	Assam
2.	Itanagar	Arunachal Pradesh
3.	Jammu	Jammu & Kashmir
4.	Raipur	Chhattisgarh

1	2	3
5.	Panaji	Goa
6.	Shimla	Himachal Pradesh
7.	Ranchi	Jharkhand
8.	Thiruvananthapuram	Kerala
9.	Imphal	Manipur
10.	Shillong	Meghalaya
11.	Aizawal	Mizoram
12.	Kohima	Nagaland
13.	Bhubaneswar	Orissa
14.	Gangtok	Sikkim
15.	Agartala	Tripura
16.	Dehradun	Uttaranchal
17.	Bodh Gaya	Bihar
18.	Ujjain	Madhya Pradesh
19.	Puri	Orissa
20.	Ajmer-Pushkar	Rajasthan
21.	Nainital	Uttaranchal
22.	Mysore	Karnataka
23.	Pondicherry	Pondicherry
24.	Chandigarh	Punjab & Haryana
25.	Srinagar	Jammu & Kashmir
26.	Mathura	Uttar Pradesh
27.	Haridwar	Uttaranchal
28.	Nanded	Maharashtra
29.	Porbunder	Gujarat
30.	Tirupati	Andhra Pradesh

**Statement – II**

*Indicative allocation of funds by Planning Commission to States /UTs for 2005-12 under Urban Infrastructure & Governance (UIG) component of Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM).*

S.No.	Name of State	Allocation for 7 years (2005-2012) (Rs. in crores)
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1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	1718.45
2	Arunachal Pradesh	7.40
3	Assam	173.20
4	Bihar	442.41
5	Chandigarh	170.87
6	Chhattisgarh	148.03
7	Delhi	2723.18
8	Goa	20.94
9	Gujarat	2078.81
10	Haryana	223.32
11	Himachal Pradesh	30.66
12	Jammu and Kashmir	338.36
13	Jharkhand	641.20
14	Karnataka	1374.59
15	Kerala	474.76
16	Madhya Pradesh	978.50
17	Maharashtra	5055.55
18	Manipur	52.87
19	Meghalaya	56.68
20	Mizoram	48.22

1	2	3
21	Nagaland	16.28
22	Orissa	172.35
23	Punjab	507.75
24	Puducherry	106.80
25	Rajasthan	598.69
26	Sikkim	6.13
27	Tamil Nadu	1950.66
28	Tripura	40.18
29	Uttar Pradesh	2119.41
30	Uttarakhand	205.34
31	West Bengal	3018.40
Total		25500.00

[English]

**Rural Development Schemes**

4809. SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:

SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ:

SHRI GAJANAN D. BABAR:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to integrate rural development schemes and agricultural activities to prevent the global slowdown from hitting the rural economy;

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

(c) whether the Union Government proposes to introduce a new scheme like the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) to increase the purchasing power of farmers and workers in rural areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Rural Development has been implementing various programmes for rural development and poverty alleviation. These schemes include asset generation scheme of self-employment, such as Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), wage employment scheme such as the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA), housing scheme for the rural poor such as Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), the scheme for the construction of all-weather roads in rural areas such as Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY). These schemes are directly or indirectly integrated with agricultural activities. Keeping this in mind, the Union Government provided enhanced allocations for National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA), Rural Housing Programme of Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) and Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) as a part of economic stimulus package designed by the Government to contain the impact of global slow down on the Indian economy during 2008-09.

(c) No, Madam. There is no such proposal at the moment.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **New Regulator**

4810. SHRI SARVEY SATYANARAYANA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up a strict regulator on the lines of US Food and Drug Administration to check the safety of financial innovations for reform of global financial institutions, bailouts, protectionism, governance, financial globalisation and safe havens among others;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by when such regulator is likely to be set up and how it would be useful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) No, Madam.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Tourism Potential of Rajasthan**

4811. SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State of Rajasthan has great potential of tourism;

(b) if so, whether the domestic and foreign tourists are visiting Rajasthan more than other States of the country;

(c) if so, the number of domestic and foreign tourists visited Rajasthan during the last three years, tourist place-wise; and

(d) the specific steps taken/being taken by the Union Government for the development of these tourists places of Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) to (d) The number of foreign and domestic tourist visits in Rajasthan during the last three years (2006 to 2008) as per information provided by Government of Rajasthan is as follows:-

	2006	2007	2008*
Domestic	23483287	25920529	28358918
Foreign	1220164	1401042	1477646

\*tentative

Development and promotion of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. Ministry of Tourism extends Central Financial Assistance for tourism projects based on the proposals received from them complete in all respects as per the scheme guidelines, inter-se priority and subject to availability of funds.

The Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned 10 projects related to tourism infrastructure for an amount of Rs.57.44 crore during the first two years of the 11th Five Year Plan.

#### **Integrated Development of Attari**

##### **Wagha Border**

4812. SHRI BHISMA SHANKAR ALIAS KUSHAL TIWARI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has sanctioned funds for integrated development of Attari Wagha Border as a tourist destination;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the progress made in completion of this project; and

(d) the time by when it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) and (b) Development and promotion of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. However, the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, extends Central Financial Assistance for tourism projects based on the proposals received from them, which are complete in all respects as per the Scheme Guidelines, inter-se priority and subject to availability of funds. Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned a project - Integrated Development of Wagha Border in Punjab at the total amount of Rs.484.58 lakh in the year 2005-06.

(c) and (d) Implementation of Tourism projects is the responsibility of the concerned State Governments. However, Ministry of Tourism monitors the implementation of the projects through review meetings with the State Government officials and site visits and the State Governments are impressed upon to complete these projects on time.

#### Bank Credit to Women

4813. SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for Public Sector Banks to earmark 5% of their net bank credit for lending to women;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the banks have followed the proposal in toto;

(d) if not, the names of the defaulting banks during the last two years ; and

(e) the number of women benefited from the said credit by the banks during the said period in the various States, including Orissa, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had advised all Public Sector Banks (PSBs) to earmark 5% of their Net Bank Credit (NBC) to women entrepreneurs in July 2001.

(c) and (d) As on March, 2008 only four PSBs namely, Allahabad Bank, Dena Bank, State Bank of Patiala and IDBI Bank and as on March, 2009 only two PSBs namely, State Bank of Patiala and IDBI Bank, could not achieve the target of 5%.

(e) Total number of accounts outstanding under credit to women by PSBs as at the end of March, 2008 and 2009 were 92,23,366 and 105,67,238 respectively. RBI has reported that State-wise data on credit to women is not collected. However, bank-wise number of accounts (outstanding), as at the end of March, 2008 and 2009 is given in the Statement enclosed.

#### Statement

*Number of Women given Credit by Public Sector Banks as at the end March, 2008 and 2009*

Name of the Bank	2008 No. of A/cs	2009 No. of A/cs
1	2	3
Allahabad Bank	254490	282007
Andhra Bank	401341	493761
Bank of Baroda	360049	519658
Bank of India	399269	388289
Bank of Maharashtra	167327	167168
Canara Bank	911608	1003411
Central Bank of India	381209	435071
Corporation Bank	129158	134877
Dena Bank	82700	95818
Indian Bank	490140	550750

1	2	3
Indian Overseas Bank	461935	489044
Oriental Bank of Commerce	114014	115027
Punjab National Bank	560377	844356
Punjab & Sind Bank	38537	39845
Syndicate Bank	479643	523467
Union Bank of India	422868	426000
United Bank of India	316820	317526
UCO Bank	274885	264852
Vijaya Bank	155861	156908
State Bank of India	1833470	2240852
State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	127831	136405
State Bank of Hyderabad	311681	373159
State Bank of Indore	82165	98219
State Bank of Mysore	107425	112327
State Bank of Patiala	64594	72284
State Bank of Saurashtra	56301	0
State Bank of Travancore	217231	241752
IDBI Bank	20437	44405
Total	9223366	10567238

[Translation]

#### **Regularization of Unauthorized Colonies**

4814. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH:

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL:

SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unauthorized colonies in Delhi;

(b) whether the Union Government proposes to regularize these unauthorized colonies and to provide civic amenities thereon;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by when these colonies are likely to be regularized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SAUGATA ROY): (a) The Government of National Territory of Delhi (GNCTD) has informed that 1639 applications have been received for regularization.

(b) Yes, Madam.

(c) The GNCTD has informed that it has been providing civic amenities to the unauthorized colonies. A provision of Rs.2,800 crore has been made during the 11th Five Year Plan in GNCTD Budget for undertaking developmental works in unauthorized colonies. The agencies like Municipal Corporation of Delhi, Delhi State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation, Irrigation and Flood Control Department of the GNCTD, Public Works Department Delhi and Power distribution companies (DISCOMS) are involved in carrying out developmental works in unauthorized colonies. As informed by GNCTD, development works of construction of roads and drains is in progress in 949 unauthorised colonies; water pipe lines have been laid in 490 unauthorised colonies and sewer lines have been laid in 26 unauthorised colonies. Electricity has been provided in 1256 unauthorised colonies.

(d) Government of India has issued guidelines for regularization of unauthorized colonies on 5th October 2007. Two notifications have been issued by Delhi Development Authority on 24th March, 2008 and 16th June 2008, whereby regulations for regularization of unauthorized colonies in Delhi have been notified. As provided in the notification dated 16th June 2008, time limit of one year is given for formal regularization of unauthorized colonies after the date of issue of Provisional Regularization Certificates to such unauthorized colonies. GNCTD has further informed that as on 4.10.2008, Provisional Regularization Certificates have been issued to 1218 unauthorised colonies.

[English]

#### **Payment of Arrears of the Deceased**

4815. SHRI M.I. SHANAVAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:



(a) whether Succession Certificate is required for payment of arrears of 6th Pay Commission in case of deceased employees and pensioners;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is a proposal to simplify the payment to legal heirs of deceased pensioners without insisting on Succession Certificate etc.; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) In case of deceased employees, payment of dues exceeding Rs.10000/- is made upon execution of indemnity bond by the claimant. In respect of pensioners, the payment of arrears is made to the nominee, if a valid nomination under the Rules exists. In case no valid nomination exists, payment of arrears is made to heirs of the deceased pensioner. The same procedure will apply in the case of arrears of Sixth Pay Commission.

(c) There is no proposal to change the existing procedure.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Minting of Coins**

4816. SHRI P.T.THOMAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes minting of coins of new denominations and printing currency of new denominations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there are plans to issue stain free and water proof currency notes;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Indian currency notes are printed and coins minted in countries abroad; and

(f) if so, the steps taken to prevent unauthorized printing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No, Madam.

(f) Does not arise.

#### **Impact of Rural Development Programmes**

4817. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ:

SHRI RAKESH SINGH:

SHRI P. BALRAM:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any village based studies have been conducted to assess the collective impact of all the programmes including National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) on family income, food security, infrastructure, empowerment of women workers etc. in rural areas;

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

(c) the extent to which implementation of these rural development and poverty alleviation programmes have raised the standard of living in rural areas of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Rural Development has been conducting the impact assessment studies from time to time to assess the effectiveness and impact of rural development programmes. The micro level impact assessment studies are conducted taking district as a unit and the broad methodology devised for such studies includes the collection of primary sample data at the village level. The findings of these impact assessment studies broadly reveal that although there are variations across the States in terms of impact of rural development programmes but, by and large, the implementation of these programmes have

helped in increasing the income levels and also improving the quality of life of rural people. The creation of physical, economic and social infrastructure such as houses for the rural poor, rural roads, toilet facilities, drinking water supply etc. enabled the rural masses to have a better access to the basic amenities, better health and education facilities, besides, providing connectivity to the markets.

Under National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS), no specific study has been conducted by the Ministry of Rural Development to assess the impact on family income, food security and infrastructure in rural areas etc. However, a study conducted by National Federation of Indian Women on NREGA revealed that the programme has enabled the women for their greater participation in PRIs, Mahila Mandals and other socio-economic groups.

#### **Investigation on Oil for Food Programme**

4818. SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:  
DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI :  
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD :  
SHRI BHASKARRAO BAPURAO PATIL  
KHATGAONKAR :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Enforcement Directorate (ED) has sought the Ministry's nod to approach authorities in Iraq, Lebanon and Jordan relating to alleged involvement of certain individuals/entities in the Iraq Oil-for-Food Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the enquiry has already been started; and

(d) if so, the status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) to (d) The Directorate of Enforcement is conducting investigation in this matter with the authorities concerned in several countries.

#### **Recovery of Farm Loan**

4819. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI:  
SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is planning to defer recovery of farm loans in view of drought like situation in many States; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) In order to provide relief to bank borrowers in times of natural calamities, Reserve Bank of India has issued standing guidelines to banks by way of a Master Circular for the relief measures to be taken for the borrowers, which, inter alia, include the following:

- conversion of the principal amount outstanding in the crop loans and agriculture term loans as well as accrued interest thereon into term loans.
- conversion/rescheduling loans and the interest accrued thereon for periods ranging from 3 to 10 years depending upon the frequency of crop failures/intensity of damage to crops;
- fresh crop loans for affected farmers;
- treatment of converted/rescheduled agri-loans as 'current dues';
- non-compounding of interest in respect of loans converted/rescheduled etc;
- relaxed security and margin norms;
- provision of consumption loans to agriculturists whose crops have been damaged ; and
- moratorium period of at least one year, while restructuring.
- Special provisions for artisans and self-employed persons and small scale and tiny units have been made.

Further, the circular also addresses the issue of Business Continuity Planning by banks, easier access to customers to their bank accounts, efficient currency management, relaxed KYC Norms and continuity in clearing service in the affected areas. Instructions on moratorium, maximum repayment period, additional

collateral for restructured loans and asset classification in respect of fresh finance have been made applicable to all affected restructured borrowal accounts, including accounts of industries and trade, besides agriculture.

### **NABARD**

4820. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development's (NABARD) rising cost of fund is going to affect the programme of financial inclusion of the Government;

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

(c) the ambit of functioning of the proposed Micro-Finance Institution formed by NABARD;

(d) whether NABARD's foray into retail segment like Micro Finance would deflect NABARD from its principal mandate to serve the rural underprivileged; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) In order to facilitate the process of Financial Inclusion in the country, the Government of India (GoI) has constituted two viz. Financial Inclusion Fund (FIF), for meeting the cost of developmental and promotional interventions for ensuring financial inclusion, and Financial Inclusion Technology Fund (FITF) to meet the cost of technology adoption with an overall corpus of Rs:500 crore each. Both the funds are housed in National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD). The initial funding to these funds is to be contributed by the GoI, Reserve Bank of India and NABARD in a ratio of 40:40:20.

(c) NABARD has restructured the existing 'Karnataka Agri Development Finance Company Limited' into NABARD Financial Services Limited (NABFINS). It is a subsidiary of NABARD. It would be providing all kinds of Microfinance services and work within the regulatory

framework of Reserve Bank of India. NABFINS would act as a Model Micro Finance Institutions (MFIs), and would be facilitating setting up of benchmarks and standards for the MFI sector.

(d) and (e) NABARD does not intend to enter the retail segment with objective of making profit. Entry into the retail segment through a subsidiary with the objective of setting up benchmarks and standards for the MFI sector is likely to further strengthen the developmental role of NABARD in the Microfinance Sector. This will further enable NABARD to serve the rural, underprivileged populace.

*[Translation]*

### **National Urbanisation Policy**

4821. SHRI ANJAN KUMAR M. YADAV: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any National Urbanization Policy; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SAUGATA ROY): (a) and (b) The Government has formulated the National Urban Sanitation Policy as well as the National Urban Transport Policy and concerns relating to policy perspective on urbanization are being addressed through the planning process. The Eleventh Five Year Plan outlines the strategy for urban development which includes strengthening of urban local bodies through capacity building and better financial management; increasing efficiency and productivity of cities, promoting use of technology and innovations, addressing needs of the urban poor, creating conducive atmosphere for private sector investments; promoting e-governance and implementation of key urban reforms relating to governance, financial sustainability, land and property management, citizen responsiveness, transparency and inclusive development. Keeping in view the above objectives, the Government is implementing the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission which provides for reform linked central assistance for projects

related to basic infrastructure like water supply, sewerage and solid waste management, storm water drains, urban transport and urban renewal. The mission is to be implemented over the period 2005-2012.

[English]

#### **State Commissions for Women**

4822. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the State Governments have constituted the State Commission for women in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the reasons for not constituting the State Commission by some of the States; and

(c) the time by which these are likely to be constituted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. All States including National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi have constituted the State Commissions for Women in the States.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Interest on IT Refund**

4823. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the IT Department pays crores of rupees as interest on refund every year;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the details of cases in which interest of more than rupees ten lakh has been paid during the said period;

(d) the circumstances leading to payment of huge sums as interest; and

(e) the steps being taken/considered in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The details of interest paid on refunds during the last three years is as under:-

F.Y.	Interest paid (in Rs. crores)
2005-06	4553
2006-07	3693
2007-08	4410
2008-09	Data under compilation

(c) The details of cases in which interest paid of more than rupees ten lakh is not maintained separately.

(d) Refund and Interest thereon is paid to the assessee in accordance with statutory provisions of the Income Tax Act, 1961.

(e) The Department has taken following steps to ensure timely refund to reduce interest paid thereon

- (i) Computerized processing of returns.
- (ii) Guidelines have been issued by the CBDT to process all returns and issue refunds within six months of filing of the return.
- (iii) Introduction of e-filing of TDS returns.
- (iv) Introduction of e-filing of return for speedy processing.
- (v) The Department is in the process of setting up a Centralized Processing Centre at Bangalore. It will provide speedy processing of returns and issuance of refunds for all the tax payers of Karnataka region and for all the returns e-filed throughout the country.

#### **Mega City**

4824. SHRI N. CHELUVARAYA SWAMY : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria fixed for a city to gain the status of a mega city;

(b) whether the Union Government has received proposals from various State Governments including the Government of Karnataka to grant mega city status to some cities in their respective States; and

(c) if so, the city-wise details thereof and the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SAUGATA ROY) : (a) to (c) Matters relating to Local Government fall under the list of State subjects and Government of India has not fixed any general criteria for conferring mega city status to any city. Cities are classified differently under different schemes. Under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), which is the major scheme currently under implementation in the urban sector, cities are classified into four categories –

- (a) Cities/Urban agglomerations with 4 million plus population (as per 2001 Census);
- (b) Cities/Urban agglomerations with million plus but less than 4 million population (as per 2001 Census);
- (c) Cities/towns/Urban agglomerations in North Eastern States and Jammu & Kashmir; and
- (d) Cities/Urban agglomerations other than those mentioned above.

The erstwhile centrally sponsored scheme of Infrastructural Development in Mega Cities covered the cities of Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Hyderabad and Bangalore; however, the scheme stands closed after launching of JNNURM.

#### **Tourist Destinations**

4825. DR. MAHENDRASINH P. CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has identified some tourist places of the country, including Gujarat, and made any ranking according to their tourist attraction;

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

(c) the steps taken to promote and develop such top destinations to world standards?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) to (c) The Ministry has so far identified 29 destinations/circuits in consultation with the State Governments for development through mega projects, out of which 20 mega projects for destinations/circuits including Dwarka in Gujarat have already been sanctioned.

#### **Loan to Fishermen**

4826. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any complaints against Public Sector Banks (PSBs) for not sanctioning loan to fishermen;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) No specific report has been received by the Government from fishermen about refusal of any kind of loans to them. The nationalised banks have a robust internal grievance redressal mechanism designed to address all customer complaints including those relating to availing of loans by the fishermen, etc. Various instructions have been issued to banks from time to time in this regard.

[Translation]

#### **Anti-Dowry Law, 1961**

4827. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN:

SHRI MILIND DEORA:

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

(a) whether the crime against women for dowry is on the rise;

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

(c) whether the National Commission for Women (NCW) proposes to make Anti – Dowry Law, 1961, more stringent;

(d) if so, whether the Government proposes to amend said law; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (b) As per National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data a total of 3204, 4504 & 5423 cases were registered under Dowry Prohibition Act 1961 in the country during 2005, 2006 & 2007 respectively thereby showing a rising trend a crime against women for dowry.

(c) Yes, Madam.

(d) and (e) The Recommendations of the National Commission for Women (NCW) are under consideration of the Government.

[English]

#### Debt of NTPC

4828. SHRI P. BALRAM : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation Limited (NTPC) has tied up Rs. 25,000 crore debt to finance its capital expenditure plan during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI) : (a) NTPC has so far tied up Rs.35,963 crore of debt during the first three years of XI Plan to part finance its 11th Five Year capital expenditure plan.

(b) The details of loans tied up in the 11th Plan are as under:

	Rs. Crore		
Year	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Domestic Borrowings (including Bonds)	5475	13475	15050
External Commercial Borrowings	1963 (approx.)*	-	-

\*The loans tied up were USD 380 million and Euro 68.563 million. The figures has been worked out considering exchange rate of March, 2008.

(c) NTPC, a Navratna company, to meet its loan requirement, does not depend upon gross budgetary support from Government of India. NTPC raises funds from the market for Domestic and External Commercial Borrowings.

[Translation]

#### Circulation of Fake Currency

4829. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether fake currency is being dispensed through ATM machines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued instructions to ensure that no fake currency is dispensed through ATMs; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that a few instances of counterfeit currency being dispensed through ATMs has come to their notice, the details of which are given below:

Year	Denomination	No. of pieces
2005	100	01
	500	20
	1000	NIL
2006	100	NIL
	500	NIL
	1000	NIL
2007	100	NIL
	500	07
	1000	NIL
2008	100	NIL
	500	03
	1000	01
Upto June 2009	100	NIL
	500	04
	1000	NIL

Instructions have been issued to banks to disburse only sorted and genuine notes over their counters and through ATM's and to have adequate checks when the

ATM's are replenished by outside agencies. Further, snap inspection of ATM's is undertaken by RBI randomly or on receipt of complaints, to check whether counterfeit notes are being dispensed through them.

Appropriate regulatory action is initiated by RBI against erring Banks who fail to comply with guidelines / directions issued by them.

[English]

#### Imposition of Customs Duty on Steel

4830. SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the rates of duty on import of steel prevailing in the country during the last three years;

(b) whether any change is being considered in the near future; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The rate of basic customs duty applicable to different categories of steel items during the last three financial years are indicated below:

S.No.	Categories of steel items	Rate of customs duty		
		2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
1.	Steel items i.e. ferro-alloys, flat rolled products (hot rolled & cold rolled), bars, rods, angles, shapes and sections of stainless steel/other alloy steel, and wire of other alloy steel	5%	5%	5%
2.	Tubes & pipes	10%	10%	10%
3.	Seconds and defectives of iron and steel	10%	10%	10%
4.	Melting scrap of iron and steel	5%	Nil	Nil
5.	Melting scrap of Stainless steel	5%	5%	5%

During the year 2008-09, the basic duty on S.No. 1 was reduced to 'Nil' in April to contain inflationary pressures, but was restored to 5% in November.

(b) At present there is no such proposal under consideration.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to (b) above.

*[Translation]***Engineering Institute in Himachal Pradesh**

4831. SHRI VIRENDER KASHYAP: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation Limited (NTPC), National Hydro-electric Power Corporation Limited (NHPC) and Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam Limited (SJVN) propose to establish jointly an engineering institute in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be established?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) It has been announced jointly by the Chief Minister, Government of Himachal Pradesh and the then Union Minister of State for Power on 1.2.2009 that an Engineering Collage is to be set up jointly by the NTPC Limited and the NHPC Limited in Himachal Pradesh, and in addition, the Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam Limited (SJVN) is to set up a Polytechnic College in the State of Himachal Pradesh.

(b) The College is to be set up on the model adopted by Sant Longowal Institute of Engineering & Technology, Longowal (Punjab).

(c) As the proposal is still in the formative stage, an exact time-frame for the establishment of these Institutions can not be firmed up.

*[English]***Impact of Global Economic Crisis**

4832. SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) looks for reversing the expansionary policy pursued in the wake of the Global economic crisis as reported in the 'Indian Express' dated June 21, 2009;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the likely impact on revival plans of the Industry and rising prices of consumer goods; and

(c) the precautionary measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) The First Quarter Review of Monetary Policy 2009-10 by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued on July 28, 2009 is the latest official release by the RBI. Therein, the RBI has stated that on the basis of overall assessment, the stance of monetary policy for the remaining period of 2009-10 will inter alia be to "maintain a monetary and interest rate regime consistent with price stability and financial stability supportive of returning the economy to the high growth path". Further, the RBI has also mentioned that the "Reserve Bank will maintain an accommodative monetary stance until there are definite and robust signs of recovery. This accommodative monetary stance is, however, not the steady state stance. On the way forward, the Reserve Bank will have to reverse the expansionary measures to anchor inflation expectations and subdue inflationary pressures while preserving the growth momentum. The exit strategy will be modulated in accordance with the evolving macroeconomic developments".

*[Translation]***Population in NCT of Delhi**

4833. SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has directed the Government to find out the ways to control population growth in National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi and check immigration from other States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SAUGATA ROY): (a) No, Madam.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of the reply to (a) above.



*[English]***Kali Sindh Power Project**

4834. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up Kali Sindh Power Project;

(b) if so, the estimated cost and the proposed installed power generation capacity of the project;

(c) the expected time of its commercial production;

(d) whether the Government has made any arrangement of rehabilitation of displaced people and payment of compensation; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Madam, Kali Sindh Thermal Power Project (TPP) is under construction by Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited (RRVUNL) in District Jhalawar, Rajasthan. The cost of this project is estimated at Rs. 4,600 crores and the installed power generation capacity of this project under execution is 2 X 600 MW=1200 M W.

(c) The expected dates of commercial operation of Unit-1 & Unit-2 of Kali Sindh TPP are scheduled in January 2012 and March 2012 respectively.

(d) and (e) As per details furnished by RRVUNL, no person has been displaced due to execution of the power project at Kali Sindh.

*[Translation]***Crime against Women and Children**

4835. SHRI JAY PRAKASH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made any assessment in respect of nature of crimes being committed against women and children;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the effective steps taken by the Government to check such crimes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) No, Madam.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

*[English]***Request of A.P. for Relaxation of Borrowing Rule**

4836. SHRI L. RAJA GOPAL :

SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a request has been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh to amend Fiscal Responsibility of Budget Management (FRBM) Act and allow it to borrow money from the market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon;

(d) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has also requested the Union Government to give sanction to get loans of Rs. 5966 crore for the open market; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (e) Yes, Madam. The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has requested that the State Government be permitted to raise an additional sum of Rs. 5966 crore from the market to meet the shortfall in revenues due to the slowdown in the economy, without losing the benefits of debt waiver and interest relief. In view of the economic slowdown, the Finance Minister in his Budget speech on 6th July, 2009 has announced that the State Governments will be permitted additional borrowings by relaxing the Fiscal Deficit targets under FRBM Act for States to 4% of their

GSDP for the year 2009-10. This will allow the State Government of Andhra Pradesh to borrow upto Rs. 14852 crore in the current year.

### **Renewable Energy Sources**

4837. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the projected electricity demand in the country by 2030 and the percentage of its requirement to be met from renewable energy sources; and

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

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH) : (a) As per the projections made in the Report of the Expert Committee on Integrated Energy Policy (2006), the electricity demand in the country in the year 2031-32 @ 8% GDP growth rate will reach 3880 Billion kWh with installed capacity requirement of 7,78,000 MW. Total energy supply in 2031-32 from various sources is estimated under one scenario as 1,536 Mtoe of which the contribution from renewable energy sources is estimated at around 5.6%.

(b) The Government has put in place an attractive package (mix of fiscal and financial incentives) to attract private investment in setting up of renewable power generation projects. The same includes capital/interest subsidies, accelerated depreciation, nil/concessional excise and customs duties. Further benefit under Section 80-1A of Income Tax Act 1961 is available to undertakings setup for the generation or generation and distribution of Renewable power in India. This apart, preferential tariff for grid interactive renewable power is being given in most potential States.

### **Municipal Solid Wastes**

4838. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments have submitted a report on the implementation of Municipal Solid Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SAUGATA ROY) : (a) to (c) The Municipal Solid Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 2000 have been notified by the Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (29 of 1986) in September, 2000.

As per reports received from Ministry of Environment & Forests, the status of implementation of Municipal Solid Waste Management Rules for collection, segregation, storage and transportation of wastes; setting up of landfill facilities for disposal and setting up of waste treatment plants are given in the enclosed Statement I, II & III respectively.

Municipal Solid Waste Management projects are a thrust area under Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) and Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT). Ministry has approved, 40 solid waste management projects for 37 cities at a total cost of Rs. 2186.14 Crore under JNNURM and 65 town-projects at a total cost of Rs. 393.98 Crore under UIDSSMT.

### **Statement-I**

#### *Initiatives for Collections, Segregation, Storage and Transportation of Wastes*

Sl. No.	States/UT	Local bodies taken initiatives for improving collection, Segregation, Storage and Transportation of waste.
1	2	3
1.	Andaman Nicobar	At Port Blair covering 21000 houses.

1	2	3
2.	Andhra Pradesh	House-to-House collection started in all the local bodies.
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar-Naharlagun
4.	Assam	Guwahati, Silchar
5.	Bihar	Yet to be started
6.	Chandigarh	House-to-house collection of waste widely practiced.
7.	Chhattisgarh	Initiated by 58 local bodies.
8.	Daman, Diu & DNH	Yet to be started.
9.	Delhi	On-going in some of the zones and transportation
10.	Goa	Panjim and in other towns.
11.	Gujarat	73 local bodies have taken initiatives(Ahamedbad, Surat, Bejalpur, Gandhinagar, Modasa, Himmatnagar, Nadiad Navasari, Alang, Vasal)
12.	Haryana	
13.	Himachal Pradesh	Initiated at Shimla, Mandi and Hamirpur
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	INR
15.	Jharkhand	INR
16.	Karnataka	Initiated by 60 ULBs
17.	Kerala	Many towns are covered.
18.	Lakshadweep	Kevaratti
19.	Madhya Pradesh	*33 local bodies have taken some initiatives (Bhopal, Indore, Rewa, Gwalior, Shahdol, Amarkantak, Chandi, Ujmariya, etc.)  *House-to-house collection of waste is started in 3139 Wards out of 4493 and segregation of waste is started in 1932 Wards
20.	Maharashtra	Local Bodies at several places have organised collection of MSW by house-to-house collection by using Ghanta Gadies and collection bins. (Pune, Nasik, Nagpur, Mumbai and others.)
21.	Manipur	Yet to be started.

1	2	3
22.	Mizoram	Initiated for Aizwal.
23.	Meghalaya	Initiated in some of the wards at :Shillong, Jowal, Tura, Williamnagar, Baghmore, Resubelpara.
24.	Nagaland	Kohima, Dimapur
25.	Orissa	Yet to be started.
26.	Punjab	Being proposed at Mandi Gobindgarh and Kartarpur
27.	Puducherry	Puducherry, Karaikal
28.	Rajasthan	14 ULBs have taken steps
29.	Sikkim	Gangtok and S-W Districts
30.	Tamil Nadu	Tiruppur, Namakkal, Udumalpet, Ooty and Others
31.	Tripura	Partially done at Agartala
32.	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow, Kanpur (In selected wards)
33.	Uttaranchal	Pithoragarh
34.	West Bengal	*Out of 126 local bodies, 119 have taken some initiatives.  *House-to house collection of waste(>50% coverage) for Barrackpore, Bidhannagar, Dum Dum, Kamarhati, Kacharapara, Khardaha, Madhyamgrams, Naihati, New Barrackpore, North Barrackpore, North Dum Dum,, Rajarhat-Gopalpur, South Dum Dum, Rajpur-Sonarpur, Kulti, Suri, Cooch Behar, Silliguri, Bhadreswar, Rishra, Uttarpara-Kottang, Bally, Howrah, Kolkata, English Bazar, Kharagpur, Kandl, Nalsadwip, Balurghat.

**Statement-II***Setting up of Landfill Facilities for Waste Disposal*

S.No.	States/UTs	Landfill Constructed	Initiatives taken	No. of Sites Identified.
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman Nicobar	Nil	Port Blair	1
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Vizlangaram	Suryapet, Hyderabad, Vijaywada, Vizanagaram	81 (ULBs)

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Arunachal Pradesh.	INR	INR	INR
4.	Bihar	NIL	NIL	NIL
5.	Chandigarh	Site under Construction	-	-
6.	Chhattisgarh	NIL	NIL	66
7.	Daman Diu	NIL	Daman & DNH	01 (Padre)
8.	Delhi	NIL	NIL	NIL
9.	Goa	NIL	NIL	13
10.	Gujarat	Surat, Alang	Common site for 12 ULBs of AUDA	142
13.	Himachal Pradesh	None	Shimla, Chowari, Chamba, Nalagarh Palampur	52
14.	Jharkhand	INR	INR	INR
15.	J&K	INR	INR	INR
16.	Kerala	NIL	Kozhikode	53
17.	Karnataka	Bangalore Mangalore Karwar, Puttur, Ankola	Sirsi, Dandeli Dapur, Udupi and Chickmangalore	Remaining 213 local bodies have been identified the sites.
18.	Lakshadweep	NIL	NIL	NIL
19.	Madhya Pradesh	22	130	305
20.	Maharashtra	Nasik, Sonpath Ambad	Jalna, Navapur Pune, Meurd-Janjira, Pimpri Chinchawad	241
21.	Manipur	NIL	Imphal, Bishupur, One each (6) Jin, Thoubal, Kakching, March	
22.	Mizoram	NIL	NIL	NIL
23.	Meghalaya	NIL	Shilong	04
24.	Nagaland	NIL	Kohima	01
25.	Orissa	NIL	03	51
26.	Punjab	NIL	NIL	NIL
27.	Puducherry	NIL	Puducherry	01
28.	Rajasthan	Jodhpur	Proposed in 14 towns	152

1	2	3	4	5
29.	Sikkim	NIL	South-west District of Sikkim	1
30.	Tamil Nadu	NIL	Namakkal, Tirupur Udumalpet	104
31.	Tripura	NIL	Agartala	8
32.	Uttar Pradesh	INR	INR	INR
33.	Uttarakhand	NIL	NIL	NIL
34.	West Bengal	Under Construction at ND&NB	30	30

**Statement-III***Setting up of Waste Treatments Plants*

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Compost Plants		Vermi Compost	
		Commissioned	Planned/Proposed/ UC	Commissioned	Planned
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andaman Nicobar	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
2	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada, Suryapet, Kadapa, Mandapat, Ramgundam, Adilabad			
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	INR	INR	INR	INR
4.	Assam	Kamroop	Guwahati, Dibrugarh Silchar, Sibsagar	NIL	NIL
5.	Bihar	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
6.	Chandigarh	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
7.	Chhattisgarh	12	12		
8.	Daman Diu	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
9.	Delhi	Delhi (2)	NIL		
10.	Goa	In Vasco, 70 decentralised composting plants in Panjim	15 in Panda	NIL	NIL
11.	Gujarat	Ahamdabad, Rajkot, Valsad Vadodara	96 ULBs+31 New ULBs identified for vermicompost and 34 ULBs for composting		
12.	Haryana	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
13.	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla, Kullu, Bunter, Manali, Solan, Kangra, Nagrota, Nahan, Una & Hamirpur	Dharamsala, Poonta, Palampur, Nalagarh Mandi		
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	INR	INR	INR	INR
15.	Jharkhand	INR	INR	INR	INR

1	2	3	4	5	6
16.	Karnataka	Mangalore, Bangalore	Nirmal Nagar (8 ULBs)	NIL	NIL
17.	Kerala	16	12	7	1
18.	Lakshadweep	25 units	NIL	(25units)1	NIL
19.	Madhya Pradesh	4	67	8	36
20.	Maharashtra	12 Akola, Pune, Pimpri-Chinchawad Kolhapur, Ambad, Nagpur, Sonpath, Muradnavapur, Janjira Mira-Bhayander, Nashik Ahmednagar	Baramati Jalana	Ambernath	Shegaon Pondharpur, Bhandara, Panvel
21.	Manipur	NIL	Imphal	NIL	Bishnupur, Thoubal, Morch, Jin, Kakching
22.	Meghalaya	Shilong	Tura	NIL	Tura
23.	Mizoram	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
24.	Nagaland	NIL	Kohima	NIL	1
25.	Orissa	(2) Puri, Paradeep	14	NIL	1
26.	Puducherry	Puducherry, Outgaret, Karaikal Nodungadu	1+	1 +	NIL
27.	Punjab	NIL	5	NIL	NIL
28.	Sikkim				
29.	Tamil Nadu	Tiruppur, Namakal	Udumalpet	NIL	NIL
30.	Tripura	NIL	Agartala	Beleniga Kumarghat	Amapur, Khowal Dharmanagar Kanalpur Ranibazar Udaipur
31.	Uttarakhand	NIL	Pithoragarh Uttarkashi Nainital	NIL	NIL
32.	Uttar Pradesh				
33.	West Bengal	Kolkata+7ULBs	28	05	NIL

**MoUs with Indian Council of  
Agricultural Research**

4839. SHRI KUNVARJIBHAI MOHANBHAI BAVALIA :  
Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has signed a Memorandum

of Understandings (MoUs) with Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) for ensuring proper planning of works under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any assistance has also been sought from the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of

Environment and Forests for the development of waste lands in various States including Gujarat; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Child Rights Activists**

4840. SHRI GAJANAN D. BABAR : Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the child rights activists have demanded for more privileges for children in every domain;

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

(c) whether the Union Government has directed the State Governments to formulate schemes for children and offered financial assistance for schemes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH) : (a) and (b) No demand has been received by the Ministry of Women and Child Development from child right activists for more privileges for children.

(c) and (d) No, Madam. However, the Government reviews its programmes from time to time for formulation of new schemes/programmes. The Ministry of Women and Child Development has recently launched a new centrally sponsored scheme, namely, Integrated Child Protection Scheme for the care and protection of children. The Scheme is being implemented by the State Government/UT Administrations. Financial assistance is being provided to the State Government/UT Administration on a predefined sharing ratio.

#### **Renovation of Power Plants**

4841. SHRI UDAY SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state the extent to which the renovation and modernization of various power plants in the country are likely to be completed and also the extent of the power generation capacity likely to be enhanced by the loan approved by the World Bank recently?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): The World Bank on 18th June, 2009, has approved a loan of USD 180 million and a Global Environment Facility (GEF) grant equivalent to USD 45.4 million for the rehabilitation of the following Coal Fired Stations in India:

(i) Bandel (Unit-5)/West Bengal,

(ii) Koradi (Unit-6)/Maharashtra,

(iii) Panipat (Unit-3&4)/Haryana.

The expected period for completion of the work and after completion of energy efficient Renovation & Modernization of the units, the expected power generation enhanced would be as under:-

Sl No.	Name of Power Station/Utilities	Name of State	Unit No.	Capacity (MW) before R&M	Expected Capacity (MW) Post R&M	Expected Completion by	Net-enhancement in the capacity (MW)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Bandel TPS, WEPDCL	West Bengal	5	210	215	2013	5
2	Koradi TPS, MSPGCL	Maharashtra	6	210	215	2013	5



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Panipat TPS, HPGCL	Haryana	3	110	115	2014	5
4.	Panipat TPS, HPGCL	Haryana	4	110	115	2014	5
Total				640	660		20

#### **Minimum Alternate Tax**

4842. SHRI NITYANANDA PRADHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the money likely to be generated on account of increase in MAT (Minimum Alternative Tax);

(b) the reasons for increasing MAT for the companies;

(c) whether the Government propose to re-consider and rollback the increase in MAT so as to avoid extra burden on the companies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Rs. 20,000 crore approximately.

(b) The rate of Minimum Alternate Tax has been increased from ten percent of the book profit to fifteen percent of the book profit with a view to progressively reducing the impact of tax exemptions/incentives.

(c) No Madam.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Subsidies to Farmers**

4843. SHRI RAJU SHETTI:

DR. M. JAGANNATH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has prepared a system to enable direct transfer of subsidies to farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which the subsidies are likely to be reached to the farmers directly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) Pursuant to Budget announcement 2006-07, the Government is subsidizing the interest rates for farmers through an Interest Subvention Scheme so that short-term crop loans upto Rs. 3 lakh are available to them at an interest rate of 7% per annum for a period of about 9 months. As per the Scheme, the Government is (i) giving an interest subvention of 2% (3% for 2008-09) to Public Sector Banks, Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) and Cooperative Banks on the amount of loan disbursed out of their own resources and (ii) provide refinance at concessional rates to the RRBs & cooperative banks by subventing the interest differential between the cost of funds and the rate of refinance by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD).

The Scheme was implemented during the years 2007-08, 2008-09 & 2009-10. From the year 2009-10 Government shall also pay an additional subvention of 1 per cent as an incentive to those farmers who repay their short term crop loans on schedule. Thus, the interest rate for these farmers will come down to 6 per cent per annum.

[Translation]

#### **Development of Places Associated with Gandhi**

4844. SHRIMATI MEENA SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the places associated with Mahatma Gandhi in various States have been/are being developed as tourist places;

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

(c) whether various States including Bihar have sought funds/additional funds in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, alongwith the facilities provided/proposed to be provided to the visiting tourists at such places, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (d) Development of tourist places is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. However, Ministry of Tourism provides financial assistance for tourism projects on the basis of proposals received from them subject to availability of funds and inter-se priority. Projects for development of Dandi as a tourist destination and Sound & Light Show at Sabarmati Ashram were sanctioned during the Tenth Plan.

[English]

#### **Retention of Houses by Slum Dwellers**

4845. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has created any mechanism to ensure that slum-dwellers do not sell off their houses allotted to them under various schemes by way of subsidy provided by the Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) and (b) Under Basic Services to the Urban Poor (BSUP) and Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP) -components of Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), security of tenure is an important requirement and provision to the effect that the title of the land be made preferably in the name of the wife or alternatively in

the names of husband and wife. State Governments have devised mechanisms to ensure that beneficiaries are not de-possessed of the houses allotted such as leasehold non-transferable rights for shorter or longer periods or for the duration of any housing loan taken.

#### **Trading of Discretionary Quota of Power**

4846. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to allow trading of its discretionary quota of power;

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

(c) its likely effects on the States which are facing acute shortage of power; and

(d) the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI) : (a) and (b) No, Madam.

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of reply given in respect of (a) & (b) above.

[Translation]

#### **Panchayat elections in Jharkhand**

4847. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to make a special request to the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India for early hearing on the matter of holding the Panchayat elections in Jharkhand;

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

(c) the loss suffered/being suffered by the State for not holding these elections there?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (DR. C.P. JOSHI): (a) and (b) The Union Government made a request to the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India for early hearing of the matter relating to holding of Panchayat elections in Jharkhand. Arguments were concluded on 25th September, 2008.

(c) It has not been possible to release grants of 12th Finance Commission to the State of Jharkhand as Panchayats, as mandated in Articles 243B and 243C of the Constitution, have not been constituted in the State.

#### **Irregularities in Tax Recovery**

4848. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH *alias* LALAN SINGH:

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether assessment about heavy financial losses suffered due to irregularities committed in accounts related to tax recovery has been made by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years and the outcome thereof; and

(c) action taken by the Government against person found guilty in this regard and also to check their recurrence in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) No, Madam. The Government does not anticipate any financial loss or irregularities in relation to tax recovery. Apart from the measures taken for recovery of outstanding tax dues as prescribed under the relevant statutes (including attachment of bank account, attachment and sale of immoveable property, etc), the following special measures are also taken to expedite recovery of tax arrears:

(i) Monitoring of recovery of amount in large cases by a Task Force.

(ii) Identification of cases involving substantial amount pending before appellate authorities and requesting these authorities to dispose off such appeals early so that the amount can be collected during current financial year itself.

(b) and (c) In view of (a) above, do not arise.

#### **Upgradation of Government Flats**

4849. SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL:

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH:

SHRI PURNMASI RAM:

SHRIMATI USHA VERMA:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government superseded its OM No. 28012/1/2003-WI dated 19-2-2004 in which additions/alterations were undertaken on payment by OM No. 11014/1/2008-WI dated 14.3.2008 to upgrade the Government houses without charges in turn;

(b) if so, the reasons for superseding the OM dated 19-2-2004 and putting the clause in turn in the new OM dated 14-3-2008;

(c) the number of quarters which have been upgraded under the OM dated 14-3-2008 and the number of years likely to take to upgrade all the Government houses in turn;

(d) the quantum of funds required to upgrade the houses;

(e) whether there is any proposal to revert back to additions and alterations on part payment and if not, the reasons thereof;

(f) whether the upgradation work has been suspended since October-November 2008 due to shortage of funds; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SAUGATA ROY): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) As per old guidelines, there was a provision for charging of 10 percent and 20 percent contribution from the allottees for providing certain additional facilities in Government quarters, whereas same facilities were provided free of cost in vacant quarters at the time of change of allotment. On receipt of representations in this regard, the policy was reviewed and revised guidelines have been issued vide O.N. No. 11014/1/2008-W3 dated 14.03.2008 to upgrade all the houses without charging any cost from allottees. The clause "in turn" was added with a view to avoid arbitrariness and to bring transparency in the system regarding selection of houses for upgradation.

(c) and (d) 3943 Nos. of houses have been upgraded by CPWD in Delhi so far. It shall take five years to complete the upgradation in the remaining houses in Delhi. Total budget requirement for upgrading the Government houses excluding Type-I, in Delhi is about Rs.770 crore.

(e) There is no such proposal. As mentioned in reply to (b) above, the earlier policy has been reviewed and it has been decided to carry out such upgradation free of cost.

(f) Upgradation work could not be carried out in certain cases due to shortage of funds.

(g) Efforts are being made to provide more funds during the current and subsequent years.

[English]

**Share of Power from Hydel  
Power Projects**

4650. SHRI KHILADI LAL BAIRWA:

SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL:

SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:

SHRI RAGHUVIR SINGH MEENA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement had been signed between the Union Government and the State Govern-

ments of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan regarding the share in power generated from hydel power projects of Punjab;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the share fixed for these States has actually been given to them;

(d) If so, the State-wise details thereof and if not the reasons therefor; and

(e) the efforts being made or proposed to be made by the Government to give their due share from these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI) : (a) to (e) An agreement was reached between the States of Punjab, Haryana & Rajasthan and Government of India on 10.05.1984 wherein it was agreed that in view of the claims raised by Haryana & Rajasthan for sharing of power in Anandpur Sahib Hydel Project, Mukerian Hydel Project, Thein Dam project, UBDC Stage-II and Shahpur Kandi Hydel Scheme, the Government of India shall refer the matter to the Hon'ble Supreme Court for its opinion. The opinion of the Hon'ble Supreme Court was to be sought on whether the States of Rajasthan & Haryana are entitled to a share in the power generated from these hydel schemes and in case they are, what would be the share of each State.

However, subsequently in the discussions held between the Chief Ministers of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan on 29-30 July, 1992 and 6th August, 1992, a consensus was reached not to refer the matter to the Hon'ble Supreme Court. It was also decided that the States would come to a reasonable agreement through mutual consultations. In order to resolve the issue amicably, a number of formal and informal discussions have taken place. However, no consensus has emerged so far due to the divergent views of the stakeholder States. Meanwhile, the State of Punjab has enacted the 'Punjab Termination of Agreements Act 2004', terminating and discharging the

Government of Punjab from its obligations under the agreement between Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan dated 31.12.1981 on reallocation of waters and under all other agreements relating to waters of Ravi-Beas. Government of India has made a Presidential Reference to the Supreme Court inter alia whether the Punjab Termination of Agreements Act, 2004 and the provisions thereof are in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of India.

During the 25th Meeting of the Northern Zonal Council held at Shimla on 25.10.2005, Hon'ble Union Home Minister advised concerned States to sort out this issue amongst themselves.

#### **Securities Transaction Tax**

4851. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Securities Transaction Tax Collected during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the targets set forth in this regard are not achieved in any of the last three years;

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

(d) the steps taken or proposed by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) The details of Securities Transaction Tax (STT) collected during each of the last three years is as under:-

F.Y.	Amount (in Rs crores)
2006-07	4647
2007-08	8577
2008-09	5409

(b) Yes, Madam, only for financial year 2008-09.

(c) It was estimated to collect Rs 5500 crores in financial year 2008-09. There was nominal short fall as the capital markets experienced heightened uncertainties and downturn during 2008 triggered by the international financial crisis, slowdown in the global economic growth.

(d) The government has already taken steps for faster recovery of Capital markets, which has resulted into improvement in the level of indices. It is estimated to collect Rs 6000 crores in financial year 2009-10.

*[Translation]*

#### **Skill Development Training Programme**

4852. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:

SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is supporting demand based skill development training programme for rural youth under special project component of Swarnjayanti Gram Swarajgar Yojana (SGSY);

(b) if so, the project-wise details thereof and the guidelines issued by the Government in this regard; and

(c) the total number of beneficiaries trained out and project-wise funds released for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) to (c) Under the existing guidelines of Swarnjayanti Gram Swarajgar Yojana (SGSY), 15% of allocation every year is set apart for taking up special projects which are of pioneering nature for bringing a specified large number of rural below poverty line (BPL) beneficiaries above poverty line in a time bound manner. Under the special project component of SGSY, Ministry supports demand based skill development training leading to placement of rural poor and projects strengthening marketing linkages at present. Ministry has sanctioned, as on date, 29 such projects. The Project-wise details of the total number of beneficiaries trained out and project-wise funds released for this purpose is given in the enclosed Statement.

**Statement***Details of sanctioned special projects (s) for skill development leading to placement under SGSY*

S.No.	Name of Project	States to be covered	Total cost of Project	No. of beneficiaries to be covered	Fund released by the Central Govt.	No. of beneficiaries		
						trained	under training	placed
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Special Project under SGSY for Skill Development of Rural Youth through Grameen LABS (Pilot Phase)	U.P., Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, J&K, Gujarat, Jharkhand & Bihar	Rs.14.0 crore	35000	Rs. 6.60 crore	23320	—	17572
2	Special Project under SGSY for Skill Development of Rural Youth through Grameen LABS – Zone-1 (North)	J&K, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal	Rs.15.00 crore	13,106	Rs.4.62 crore	7525	897	5343
3	Special Project under SGSY for Skill Development of Rural Youth through Grameen LABS – Zone-2 (East)	Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Nagaland, Mizoram, Sikkim and Tripura	Rs.15.00 crore	4,469	Rs.2.8 crore	2537	276	1408
4	Special Project under SGSY for Skill Development of Rural Youth through Grameen LABS-Zone-3 (West)	Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Goa, Daman & Diu, Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Rs.10.00 crore	7,989	Rs.2.7 crore	3244	157	2331
5	Special Project under SGSY for Skill Development of Rural Youth through Grameen LABS-Zone-4 (South)	Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala	Rs.15.00 crore	12,681	Rs.5.25 crore	7847	219	6664
6	Special Project under SGSY for Skill Development of Rural Youth through Grameen LABS-Zone-5 (Central)	Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa	Rs.7.5 crore	8,882	Rs. 3.0 crore	4835	558	3875
7	Special Project for jobs in growth sectors for rural youth through decentralized demand driven training in backward districts	Orissa, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Bihar and Jharkhand	Rs. 14.86 crore	33,000	Rs. 2.18 crore	1631	1507	1223

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8	Special Project under SGSY for creation of gainful employment opportunities for rural BPL youth for the apparel industry in the country on pilot basis.	Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan	Rs. 27.00 crore	30,000	Rs. 19.32 crore	21530	1449	19789
9	Special Project under SGSY for Creation of jobs in Growth Sectors for Rural People including youth in the State of Chhattisgarh	Chhattisgarh (Durg, Rajnandgaon, Dhamatari, Bilaspur, Raipur, Mahasamund, Raigarh and Korba Districts)	Rs. 14.93 crore	8,200	Rs.3.73 crore	Recently sanctioned project		
10	Special Project under SGSY for tourism and hospitality based skill development of rural youths in AP, Orissa and West Bengal	AP, Orissa and West Bengal	Rs.14.60 crore	17,180	Rs.3.65 crore	2180	460	1647
11	Special Project under SGSY for establishing livelihood resources centers with a view to generate employment and self-employment opportunities for BPL youths in Raisen, Hoshangabad and Narsinghpur Districts of Madhya Pradesh	Madhya Pradesh (Raisen, Hoshangabad and Narsinghpur Districts)	Rs.8.49 crore	13,000	Rs.2.13 crore	Recently sanctioned project		
12	Special Project for job centre, skill development & job guarantee abroad and in the country for youths in Yavatmal district of Maharashtra	Maharashtra (Yavatmal District)	Rs.12.85 crore	15,000	Rs.3.21 crore	2766	—	2316
13	Special Project for Training of 2000 Educated youth in Kurukshetra, Kaithal and Yamunanagar Districts of Haryana	Haryana	Rs.1.70 crore	2,000	Rs.00.32 crore	271		271
14	Special Project under SGSY for Employment oriented computer/life skill & vocational training in Orissa, AP, Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry	Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry	Rs. 7.49 crore	5,000	Rs. 1.40 crore	54	102	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
15	Special Project under SGSY for Skill development programme for BPL youth for employment in Security Sector in 12 States	Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa, West Bengal, Assam, MP, Chhattisgarh, AP, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu	Rs.14.95 crore	21,500	Rs.3.74 crore	3032		2387
16	Special Project under SGSY for Skill training, Upgradation, Testing & Certification of Workers from unorganized sector belonging BPL category	UP, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh	Rs. 14.24 crore	14,990	Rs.3.56 crore	20		20
17	Special Project under SGSY for Skill Programme for Inclusive growth – Placement linked skill development programme for rural BPL youths in Leather Industry – Pilot Project for South India	Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 10.93 crore	11,500	Rs.2.73 crore	Recently sanctioned project		
18	Special Project under SGSY for Skill Programme for Inclusive growth – Placement linked skill development programme for rural BPL youths in Leather Industry – Pilot Project for North India	West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh	Rs. 10.93 crore	11,500	Rs. 2.73 crore	Recently sanctioned project		
19	Special Project for Skill Based Training for Rural BPL Families in Bagalkot & Bijapur District, Karnataka	Karnataka	Rs.4.88 crore	5940	Rs. 1.22 crore	Recently sanctioned project		
20	Special Project under SGSY for Skill Development in 10 States (Assam, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Haryana, Delhi, UP Orissa, AP, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu)	Assam, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Haryana, Delhi, UP Orissa, AP, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu	Rs. 14.93 crore	17600	Rs. 3.73 crore		751	
21	Special Project under SGSY for Skill Upgradation Programme in four States (MP, Maharashtra & Orissa)	Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Orissa	Rs. 05.00 crore	5,000	Rs.0.94 crore	Recently sanctioned project		



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
22	Special Project under SGSY for Skill Development Training Programme	UP & MP	Rs. 0.99 crore	1,625	Rs.0.24 crore	Recently sanctioned project		
23	Special Project for Setting up Kaushal Institutes in 6 Districts (Bharatpur, Karauli, Dholpur, Sawaimadhopur, Dausa & Alwar) of Rajasthan	Rajasthan	Rs.10.12 crore	12,000	Rs.2.53 crore	Recently sanctioned project		
24	Special Project under SGSY for employment creation through training and skill development to rural youth including women, in demand driven employability sector from BPL families in MP, Rajasthan and Orissa	Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan & Orissa	Rs. 8.29 crore	10,000	Rs. 1.55 crore	Recently sanctioned project		
25	Special Project under SGSY for Placement based Skill Development in Maharashtra, Karnataka & Andhra Pradesh	Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh	Rs.7.50 crore	10,000	Rs. 1.41 crore	Recently sanctioned project		
26	Special Project for Skill Development of rural youth in Rajasthan and U.P. on pilot basis by	Rajasthan and U.P.	Rs. 5.44 crore	6400	Rs. 1.02 crore	Recently sanctioned project		
27	Special Project under SGSY for Computer Awareness Programme for the youth residing in the rural areas of MP	Madhya Pradesh	Rs. 6.82 crore	12,280	Rs. 1.28 crore	Recently sanctioned project		
28	Special Project under SGSY for placement based skill development training for rural BPL youth	Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Orissa	Rs. 7.21 crore	10,000	Rs. 1.80 crore	Recently sanctioned project		
29	Special Project under SGSY for Employment of Rural BPL youth through Computer Education Training	Uttarakhand	Rs. 4.08 crore	4,000	Rs. 0.75 crore	Recently sanctioned project		
Total			Rs.304.73 crore	3,59,842 beneficiaries	Rs. 93.70 crore	80792 beneficiaries trained	Rs. 93.70 crore	62846 beneficiaries placed

**Supply of coal to Thermal  
Power Plants**

4853. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Memorandum of understanding has been signed between Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) and Coal India Limited for supplying coal to its thermal power plants including Mejia thermal power plants to meet its demand;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) the details of coal supplied or purchased for power generation in various thermal power plants of DVC during the last three years and the current year; and

(d) the details of cost involved and the expenditure incurred on the transportation/supply of coal to various plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) As informed by Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC), no Memorandum of understanding has been signed between Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) and Coal India Limited. However, an agreement has been executed on 03.07.2009 between Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) and DVC to receive 65000 tonnes (approx.) of grade "A" & "B" coal per month from underground mines of some specific areas of ECL.

As informed by DVC, the coal under the agreement referred to above is considered to be import substitute and best quality thermal coal available in the country. The agreement was firmed up to tide over the coal crisis at DVC power stations to the extent possible.

(c) As informed by DVC, the details of coal supplies or purchased for power generation in various thermal power plants of DVC during the last three years and the current year are mentioned below:

Quantity in MT

Year	Bokaro TPS	Chandrapura TPS	Durgapur TPS	Mejia TPS
2006-07	2579973.94	1418598	1227361.31	4315347
2007-08	3187029.01	1691248	1019751.5	4521871
2008-09	2663979.395	1880117	1291545.52	5207512
Apr'09 – June'09	694955.086	588025	350398	1127523

(d) The details of cost involved and the expenditure incurred on the transportation/supply of coal

to various plants as informed by DVC is given in the enclosed Statement.

**Statement**

Station	Year	Cost of Coal (Rs. Cr.)	Transportation cost of Coal by Road (Rs. Cr)	Transportation cost of Coal by Rail (Rs. Cr)
1	2	3	4	5
Bokaro TPS	2006-07	365.19	9.06	16.96
	2007-08	439.84	11.36	23.78
	2008-09	436.88	8.16	20.38

1	2	3	4	5
	2009-10 (from Apr'09-Jun'09)	134.32	2.067	4.45
Chandrapura TPS	2006-07	142.19	11.39	3.66
	2007-08	168.82	10.45	4.11
	2008-09	218.32	15.73	2.68
	2009-10 (from Apr'09-Jun'09)	77.86	5.26	0.36
Durgapur TPS	2006-07	223.41	3.36	17.17
	2007-08	177.82	1.99	13.39
	2008-09	219.28	2.30	26.69
	2009-10 (from Apr'09-Jun'09)	75.34	0	6.25
Mejia TPS	2006-07	532.99	38.25	50.66
	2007-08	535.91	26.75	53.12
	2008-09	743.03	44.82	67.93
	2009-10 (from Apr'09-Jun'09)	199.62	6.57	8.53

[English]

**SBI Loans for Bharti-MTN and  
Kingfisher Airlines**

4854. SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI:

SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Bank of India (SBI) has been approached by Bharti-MTN and Kingfisher for loan of huge amounts during the recent time;

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

(c) whether SBI has sought the opinion of Security and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and reaction of SEBI / Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Kingfisher Airline had requested the State Bank of India (SBI) for a loan of Rs. 1,000 crore. Bharti Airtel Limited (BAL) has approached the SBI for loans of US \$ 1 billion and Rs. 5,000 crore. Though, the Bank has sanctioned a loan of Rs.500 crore to the Kingfisher Airline on the specified terms and conditions, the details of loans to BAL have not been finalized by the Bank.

(c) and (d) SBI is not required to seek opinion of the Securities and Exchange Board of India for granting loans to such entities. Any regulatory or other clearance is required to be obtained by the borrowers themselves.

*[Translation]***Tourism Policy of States**

4855. SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM WAKCHAURE:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States which have prepared a new tourism policy to develop tourist places to allure foreign tourists particularly in respect of backward and rural regions; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) The status of new tourism policy for development of tourist places, including those in backward and rural regions, in different States/UTs, as per the latest available information, is given in the enclosed Statement.

**Statement**

S.No.	State/UT	Status of New Tourism Policy
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	New Tourism Policy formulated in 2006-07
2	Arunachal Pradesh	Tourism Policy formulated in 2003
3	Assam	Tourism Policy formulated in 2008
4	Bihar	Tourism Policy prepared in July 2009
5	Chhattisgarh	Tourism Policy formulated in 2002
6	Goa	Tourism Policy formulated in 2001
7	Gujarat	Tourism Policy formulated in 2003
8	Haryana	Tourism Policy formulated in 2008

1	2	3
9	Himachal Pradesh	New Tourism Policy formulated in 2005
10	Jammu and Kashmir	No new Tourism policy formulated
11	Jharkhand	Tourism Policy under finalization
12	Karnataka	Tourism Policy for 2009-14 formulated
13	Kerala	Tourism Vision formulated in 2002
14	Madhya Pradesh	New Tourism Policy formulated in 1995
15	Maharashtra	New Tourism Policy formulated in 2006
16	Manipur	Tourism Policy under formulation
17	Meghalaya	Tourism Policy formulated in 2001
18	Mizoram	No Tourism Policy formulated
19	Nagaland	Tourism Policy formulated in 2000
20	Orissa	New Tourism Policy under formulation
21	Punjab	Tourism Policy formulated in 2003
22	Rajasthan	Tourism Policy formulated in 2001
23	Sikkim	Tourism Policy under formulation
24	Tamil Nadu	No comprehensive brought out, but measures to promote lesser known tourist places, heritage tourism, wayside amenities, etc. taken

1	2	3
25	Tripura	No Tourism Policy formulated
26	Uttar Pradesh	New Tourism Policy under formulation
27	Uttarakhand	New Tourism Policy formulated in 2001
28	West Bengal	New Tourism Policy formulated in 2008
29	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	No new Tourism Policy formulated
30	Chandigarh	Tourism Action Plan Formulated
31	Delhi	No old/ existing Tourism Policy
32	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	No separate Tourism Policy formulated
33	Daman and Diu	No Tourism Policy formulated
34	Lakshadweep	New Tourism Policy under formulation
35	Puducherry	No new Tourism Policy prepared

[English]

#### **NAP on Climate Change**

4856. DR. K.S. RAO : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the major recommendations of the National Action Plan on climate change to curb owning and use of private passenger vehicles for urban transport and its impact on climate change;

(b) whether the Government proposes to formulate a new policy to set up a regulatory authority to achieve a judicious mix of privately owned passenger vehicles and public transport to ensure reduction in fuel consumption and fuel emission for protecting the fast deteriorating climate and its affect on human life and health; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SAUGATA ROY) : (a) to (c) Modal shift to public transport has been identified as one of the thrust areas in the National Action Plan for Climate Change. The Plan states that mass transport options including buses, railways and mass rapid transit systems, etc. are the principal options for reducing energy use in the urban transport sector and mitigating associated greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and air pollution. Pricing, taxes and charges are expected to influence travel demand and choice of transportation modes, thereby decreasing fuel demand and GHG emissions. The actions proposed for the transport sector include introducing appropriate pricing measures to influence purchase and use of vehicles in respect of fuel efficiency and fuel choice, tightening of regulatory standards such as enforcing fuel-economy standards for automobile manufacturers and establishing mechanisms to promote investments in development of high capacity public transport systems. However, the National Action Plan does not propose setting up of regulatory authority to enforce any specific mix of privately owned passenger vehicles and public transport.

#### **Encroachment of DDA Parks**

4857. DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether parks maintained by Delhi Development Authority (DDA) in South Delhi including Kailash Hills are encroached upon and littered with waste;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor alongwith action taken or proposed to be taken thereon; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to carry out repairs of Grills, Fountains, Walking Tracks by making use of the services of the regularly-paid employees in such parks including Ornamental Park in Greater Kailash-I?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SAUGATA ROY) : (a)

DDA has informed that there is no encroachment and littered waste in park maintained by it, and that during day to day maintenance operations, the waste is collected and removed from time to time. DDA has further informed that only one park in Mount Kailash is being maintained by it.

(b) Not applicable, in view of (a) above.

(c) DDA has informed that the grills which were missing in park have been provided and walking tracks repaired. Repair of fountain will be carried out jointly by Electrical and Horticulture Wings of the DDA shortly.

#### **Promotion of Tourism**

4858. SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of complimentary packages developed by airlines and hotels and the wellness tourism offered to International tourist; and

(b) the feed-back on online initiative launched in select markets world-over in various countries to attract tourism?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) A "Visit India 2009" Scheme has been announced by the Ministry of Tourism in collaboration with all stakeholders, under which participating airlines and hotels are providing incentives by way of one complimentary air passage for a traveling companion and one night complimentary stay in the hotel booked by the tourist. Wellness packages are also being offered under this scheme by some health / ayurveda resorts. The Ministry of Tourism has created a website <http://visitindia2009incredibleindia.org>, on which the offers from all participating stakeholders have been uploaded, with a view to giving wide publicity to the same in the overseas markets.

(b) The online initiatives as well as other promotional initiatives undertaken by the Ministry have shown positive results. Due to these initiatives, the downward trend in foreign tourist arrivals to the country has shown improvement with the month of June 2009, for the first time

in the last 8 months, registering an increase of 0.2% in foreign tourist arrivals to the country as compared to the corresponding month of the previous year.

#### **Urban Co-operative Banks**

4859. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:

SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has directed the Urban Co-operative Banks to charge two percentage points less interest rate from exporters; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the name of sectors which are eligible for said interest rate under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) In view of the interest subvention facility extended by the Government of India in respect of rupee pre-shipment credit upto 270 days and Post shipment credit upto 180 days to certain specified export sectors, Scheduled Urban Cooperative Banks (UCBs) holding Authorised Dealer Category-I licences, which are extending such rupee export credit, have been advised to charge interest at 2% point below the interest rates charged from exporters in other categories of export sectors for the same period. The subvention is available on the outstanding amount of credit for the period from June 1, 2009 to September 30, 2009. Banks have been advised to ensure that the benefit of 2% interest subvention is passed on completely to the eligible exporters.

The eligible sectors are:

Textiles (including Handloom), Handicrafts, Carpets, Leather, Gems and Jewellery, Marine Products, and Small & Medium Enterprises.

#### **Installation of Air Conditioners in Government Quarters**

4860. SHRI PURNAMASI RAM: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Public Works Department (CPWD) has constituted a committee to examine the issue with reference to present sanctioned load/installation of air-conditioners in Government quarters;

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SAUGATA ROY): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. A Committee chaired by Chief Engineer (Electrical), Central Public Works Department was set up to examine the feasibility of providing additional power points for air-conditioners in Government quarters.

(c) The report of the Committee is under examination.

[Translation]

#### **Accommodation for MPs and Ex-MPs**

4861. SHRI K.D. DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to provide accommodation to the Members of Parliament in a single complex in the National Capital Territory of Delhi;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government also proposes to provide flats to Ex-Members of Parliament at concessional rates in the National Capital Territory of Delhi;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SAUGATA ROY): (a) No, Madam.

- (b) Not applicable in view of (a) above.
- (c) No, Madam.
- (d) and (e) Not applicable in view of (c) above.

#### **Merger of Grameen Banks**

4862. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL:

SHRI RAJAIAH SIRICILLA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the status of implementation of recommendations of Vyas Committee to set up Grameen Banks in the States;

(b) whether the Maharashtra Godavari Grameen Bank and Marathwada Grameen Banks are being merged;

(c) if so, the details thereof and NABCONS Report in this regard; and

(d) the loss to be borne by the Union Government by such merger?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The Vyas Committee recommended the amalgamation of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) – Sponsor Bank wise in a State. The Government initiated the process for structural consolidation of RRBs in September 2005. As a result of the amalgamation, the number of RRBs has been reduced from 196 to 83 and one new RRB, namely the Pudukkottai Bharathiar Grama Bank has been established on 26.3.2008 taking the total RRBs to 84 as on date.

(b) and (c) As per the provisions of RRBs Act, 1976, the sponsor bank, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and the State Government of Maharashtra were consulted in the matter and thereafter the Maharashtra Godavari Grameen Bank and Marathwada Grameen Banks have been amalgamated on July 20, 2009 to form a new entity namely Maharashtra Gramin Bank.

The Bank of Maharashtra had engaged the NABARD Consultancy Services (NABACONS) in 2007 to study and suggest the strategy for revitalization of Marathwada Gramin Bank and on amalgamation of Marathwada Gramin Bank, Aurangabad Jalna Gramin Bank and Thane Gramin Bank (erstwhile RRBs).

(d) No loss was incurred on account of the merger. However, Marathwada Gramin Bank was recapitalized before amalgamation, with a total amount of Rs.94.27 crore, which was borne by its stake holders i.e. Central Government, State Government and Sponsor Bank in the ratio 50:15:35.

*[English]***Rehabilitation by DDA**

4863. SHRIMATI USHA VERMA : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a committee was constituted by Delhi Development Authority (DDA) to examine cases of rehabilitation of persons residing at Ashok Nagar, Faiz Road area of Karol Bagh and Motia Khan in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of persons who were found eligible for benefits under the Gadgil Assurance Scheme;

(d) the time when respective lease deeds/mutations executed in favour of such persons and for how much area; and

(e) the details of persons who have applied for conversion of land allotted to them to freehold, those in whose cases such conversion has not been done and the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SAUGATA ROY) : (a) to (e) The Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

**Forms for Opening of Bank Account**

4864. SHRI S. SEMMALAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the application forms for opening new bank account in Nationalised Banks are issued in regional languages including Tamil;

(b) if so, whether the format of application forms is simplified for the layman to fill up easily; and

(c) if not, the corrective measure taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c)

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) vide their circular dated December 28, 2005 have advised the banks to make available all printed material used by retail customers including account opening forms, pay-in-slips, passbooks etc. in trilingual form i.e. English, Hindi and the concerned Regional Language.

In addition, Banks have front office staff who help customers in filling the forms.

*[Translation]***Hydro Power Projects**

4865. SHRI OM PRAKASH YADAV: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of central sector hydro power projects under construction in the country including Bihar for the last ten years;

(b) the reasons for delay in completion of these hydro power projects; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for the early completion of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) A total number of 29 hydro electric power projects have been taken up in the country, in Central Sector, over the period of last 10 years. Out of these projects, 12 hydro electric power projects have since been commissioned and 17 projects are under construction. There have been various reasons for delay in commencement of the aforesaid 12 projects, such as, funds constraints, flash floods, geological problems, land acquisition, law & order problems, rehabilitation & resettlement problems etc. No Central Sector hydro electric project has been under construction in Bihar for the last 10 years.

(c) The steps taken by the Government for early completion of Hydro Power Projects is as under:

- Detailed investigations are being carried out before the project is taken for execution to minimize geological surprises at the time of actual execution. Steps are being taken to tie up for availability of necessary funds, before, the commencement of the project-execution so that there is no delay in project execution of the project due to fund constraints.



Monitoring mechanism has been strengthened to achieve targets by designating a nodal officer for each project, both at the conception stage as well as during execution. The nodal officers keep track of and facilitate resolution of problems which may delay the project by escalating the issue to appropriate levels for immediate resolution. In addition, regular review meetings of the projects are organized in the Ministry of Power in order to put a check on delays.

Visits are made by officers to the various ongoing projects in order to identify various bottlenecks and also to suggest solutions thereof in consultation with the project authorities. Meetings are held with major equipment supplies and other major contractors, executing the major works of dam, head race tunnel, power house etc. for solving the major constraints which may delay the execution of the projects. Recently, a model contract document has also been formulated in order to minimize the contractual problems so as to avoid delays during project execution.

[English]

### **Assessment of Urban Poor**

4866. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made any assessment to ascertain the number of people living below poverty level in urban areas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of poor people living in mega cities?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) and (b) Planning Commission releases estimates of urban poor from time to time based on the national sample surveys conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO). The National Sample Survey Organisation has conducted the latest large sample surveys on household consumer expenditure (61st Round), covering the period July 2004 to June 2005. From this data, two different consumption distributions for the year 2004-05 have been obtained. The first one is from the consumption data collected using 30-day recall period for all the items. The other distribution is obtained from the consumer expenditure data collected using 365-day recall period for five infrequently purchased non-food items, namely clothing, footwear, durable goods, education and institutional medical expenses and 30-day recall period for the remaining items. These two consumption distributions have been termed as Uniform Recall Period (URP) consumption distribution and Mixed Recall Period (MRP) consumption distribution respectively. The Planning Commission has estimated poverty in 2004-05 using both the distributions. As per these estimates, number and percentage of urban poor both by URP method as well as MRP method, State-wise, are given in the enclosed Statement.

Data on the number of people living below poverty line in mega cities of the country are not available, in these assessments.

### **Statement**

*Number and Percentage of Population below poverty line Urban areas (2004-05)  
(Based on URP and MRP-Consumption)*

Sl.No.	States/UTs	By URP Method		By MRP Method	
		% age of Persons	No. of Persons (Lakhs)	% age of Persons	No. of Persons (Lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	28.00	61.40	20.70	45.50
2	Arunachal Pradesh	3.30	0.09	2.40	0.07

1	2	3	4	5	6
3	Assam	3.30	1.28	2.40	0.93
4	Bihar	34.60	32.42	28.90	27.09
5	Chhattisgarh	41.20	19.47	34.70	16.39
6	Delhi	15.20	22.30	10.80	15.83
7	Goa	21.30	1.64	20.90	1.62
8	Gujarat	13.00	27.19	10.10	21.18
9	Haryana	15.10	10.60	11.30	7.99
10	Himachal Pradesh	3.40	0.22	2.60	0.17
11	Jammu and Kashmir	7.90	2.19	8.50	2.34
12	Jharkhand	20.20	13.20	16.30	10.63
13	Karnataka	32.60	63.83	27.20	53.28
14	Kerala	20.20	17.17	16.40	13.92
15	Madhya Pradesh	42.10	74.03	39.30	68.97
16	Maharashtra	32.20	146.25	29.00	131.40
17	Manipur	3.30	0.20	2.40	0.14
18	Meghalaya	3.30	0.16	2.40	0.12
19	Mizoram	3.30	0.16	2.40	0.11
20	Nagaland	3.30	0.12	2.40	0.09
21	Orissa	44.30	26.74	40.30	24.30
22	Punjab	7.10	6.50	3.80	3.52
23	Rajasthan	32.90	47.51	28.10	40.50
24	Sikkim	3.30	0.02	2.40	0.02
25	Tamil Nadu	22.20	69.13	18.80	58.59
26	Tripura	3.30	0.20	2.40	0.14
27	Uttar Pradesh	30.60	117.03	26.30	100.47
28	Uttarakhand	36.50	8.85	32.00	7.75
29	West Bengal	14.80	35.14	11.20	26.64
30	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	22.20	0.32	18.80	0.27
31	Chandigarh	7.10	0.67	3.80	0.36
32	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	19.10	0.15	19.20	0.16

1	2	3	4	5	6
33	Daman and Diu	21.20	0.14	20.80	0.14
34	Lakshadweep	20.20	0.06	16.40	0.05
35	Pondicherry	22.20	1.59	18.80	1.34
	ALL INDIA	25.70	807.96	21.70	682.02

**Note:**

- 1 Poverty Ratio of Assam is used for Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland and Tripura.
- 2 Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Goa is used to estimate poverty ratio of Goa.
3. Poverty Ratio of Tamil Nadu is used for Pondicherry and A&N Islands.
4. Urban Poverty Ratio of Punjab used for both rural and urban poverty of Chandigarh.
5. Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Dadra & Nagar Haveli is used to estimate poverty ratio of Dadra & Nagar Haveli.
6. Poverty Ratio of Goa is used for Daman & Diu.
7. Poverty Ratio of Kerala is used for Lakshadweep.

*[Translation]***Historical Building of Baroda**

4867. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of historical buildings existing in the country including Baroda region;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to declare them as National Heritage and National Estate Memorials;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken for their protection; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (d) India provides a wide variety of attractions for tourists including historical buildings/monuments from bygone eras spread across the country including Baroda region.

The Ministry of Tourism does not have any scheme to declare historical buildings as National Heritage and National Estate Memorials or protection of monuments.

However, the Ministry of Tourism provides funds for refurbishment of monuments under the scheme Product/Infrastructure development for Destinations/Circuits.

*[English]***Reclamation of Salt Pan Lands in Mumbai**

4868. SHRI VARUN GANDHI : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that reclamation plans in Mumbai include reclaiming salt pan lands which are like cups holding sea water;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) its effect on parts of Sewree and Mazagaon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SAUGATA ROY) : (a) to (c) The Government of Maharashtra has informed that there is no plan for reclaiming the Salt Pan Lands and diverting their use and bulk of the Salt Pan Lands lie within CRZ-1 and therefore cannot be diverted to any other use under the CRZ Notification of 1991. Salt Pan Lands measuring approximately 2200 hectares have become unsuitable for Salt manufacture and it was proposed that these lands be transferred to the Ministry of Urban Development for further utilization. Government approved in May 2001 for transfer of 2177 hectares of surplus land from the Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion to the Ministry of Urban Development for sharing between Ministry of Urban Development and the Government of Maharashtra. A Group of Ministers has been constituted to examine issues relating to utilization of the surplus salt lands.

There is no specific scheme/programme for reclamation of salt pan land in the country. As per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India, Land falls under the purview of the State Governments and, therefore, it is for the State Governments to prepare suitable plan for problem lands/salt pan land for reclamation and development under ongoing programmes excluding the lands owned by Central Government.

### **Loan to Self Help Groups**

4869. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number and details of Self Help Groups which have been sanctioned loan by the banks during the last three years and the current year so far, State-wise;

(b) the rate of interest charged against these loans;

(c) whether the Government proposes to lower the interest rates on such loans; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) The details of Self Help Groups (SHGs), which have been sanctioned loans, along with the amount of bank loans disbursed, during the last three years is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) Public Sector Banks, Cooperative Banks and Regional Rural Banks are reportedly charging interest rates in the range of 9.5% to 14% on loans to SHGs, based on their cost of funds, transaction costs, provisioning for NPA and a small margin.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) Does not Arise.

### **Statement**

*Statewise details of SHGs Credit Linked for Three Years (2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09)*

(Rs. in lakh)

Region/State	2006-07 **		2007-08		2008-09***	
	SHGs provided with bank loan	Bank Loan disbursed	SHGs provided with bank loan	Bank Loan disbursed	SHGs provided with bank loan	Bank Loan disbursed during the Year
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>A Northern Region</b>						
1 Himachal Pradesh			4297	4116.59	6366	5415.17
2 Rajasthan			21891	10168.35	4670	2234.2
3 Haryana			2582	2613.89	5787	10537
4 Punjab			2113	1715.01	10906	1511.82
5 Jammu and Kashmir			470	180.26	770	584.43
6 New Delhi			2327	352.47	420	280.99
Sub-Total			33680	19146.56	28919	20563.61

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>B NE Region</b>							
7 Assam				20318	8869.1	25264	61 10.99
8 Meghalaya				2143	1362.96	NA	NA
9 Tripura				2635	1666.05	3892	6451.52
10 Sikkim				668	439.83	84	80.92
11 Manipur				2635	1666.05	904	509.14
12 Nagaland				543	387.76	NA	NA
13 Arunachal Pradesh				1459	1004	213	94.42
14 Mizoram				775	893.93	585	594.57
Sub-Total				29119	14871.14	30942	13841.56
<b>C Eastern Region</b>							
15 Orissa				103544	56704.09	28452	14654.92
16 Bihar				18116	13833.64	33977	22539
17 Jharkhand				11284	5140.04	NA	NA
18 West Bengal				52558	22535.64	19507	6043.6
19 UT of A & N Islands				39435	6370.94	521	242.46
Sub-Total				224937	104584.34	82457	43479.98
<b>D Central Region</b>							
20 Madhya Pradesh				12884	7479.25	6007	7301.33
21 Chhattisgarh				18384	7176	21210	13986.64
22 Uttar Pradesh				23094	16641.63	40476	56800.01
23 Uttaranchal				18386	17499.72	NA	NA
Sub-Total				72747	48796.6	67693	78087.98
<b>E Western Region</b>							
24 Gujarat				41557	19046.13	4124	5667
25 Maharashtra				38432	16448.28	NA	NA
26 Goa				10452	6834.74	NA	NA
Sub-Total				90441	42329.15	4124	5667

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>F</b>	<b>Southern Region</b>						
27	Andhra Pradesh			406386	387976.09	500536	676740
28	Karnataka			112240	93124.66	101202	83977.68
29	Kerala			76584	46612.44	104709	55449.66
30	Tamil Nadu			181637	127485.25	158307	132564
31	UT of Pondicherry					2585	2803
	Sub-Total			776847	655198.44	867339	951534.34
	Grand Total	1,105,749	6570.39	1227770	884926.24	1,081,474	1113174.47

\*\*Disaggregated data Statewise is not available.

\*\*\* Data is provisional. Source : Data collected by NABARD through SLBC Sources.

#### Infrastructure Status for Housing

4870. SHRI NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU:

SHRIMATI USHA VERMA:

Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to accord infrastructure status to housing and construction sector in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SAUGATA ROY): (a) and (b) No decision has been taken that housing construction is accorded infrastructure status.

#### National Urban Poor Fund

4871. SHRI PRABHATSINH P. CHAUHAN :

SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA :

Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to set-up National Urban Poor Fund; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the purpose behind it?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) and (b) In the background of the funds to be established at the State and Urban Local Body levels for provision of Basic Services to the Urban Poor, a basic services to the urban poor fund is contemplated at the national level, seeking support of multilateral and bilateral agencies, The objective of this fund is to provide financial support for basic minimum amenities like water supply and sanitation for the urban poor/slum-dwellers in a time-bound manner.

#### World Bank Loans for Recapitalisation of PSBS

4872. SHRI JOSE K. MANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is presently getting a blend of soft ideal loans and quasi-commercial World Bank (WB) loans;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this package contains a proposed US \$3.2 billion for recapitalizing public sector banks;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government proposes to borrow funds from World Bank to prop up a still flawed banking system rather than raising funds from debt market; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) India is taking loans from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and credit (soft loan) from the International Development Association (IDA). The cumulative commitment of the World Bank (IBRD and IDA) loans to India till June 2009 is US\$73.93 Billion (IBRD-US\$37.68 Billion and IDA US\$36.25 Billion).

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. To enable the public sector banks (PSBs) to meet credit requirements of the economy while maintaining a healthy and comfortable level of regulatory capital to risk-weighted assets ratio, a proposal has been sent to the World Bank.

(e) and (f) No, Madam. The assessment of the Indian financial system during 2007-08 done by the Reserve Bank of India shows that the banking sector in India continues to be healthy, sound and resilient.

#### **Investment in Mega Power Projects**

4873. SHRI TAKAM SANJOY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to raise the institutional (Sectorial) cap imposed at present from various Indian companies particularly in Hydro Power Sectors; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Under the extant Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy of the Government of India, FDI in the power sector is permitted upto 100 per cent under the Automatic Route, subject to the provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003.

2. As per extant guidelines on External Commercial Borrowings (ECB) corporates in the infrastructure sector including power sector are allowed to avail of ECB upto USD 500 million in a financial year under the Automatic Route for permissible end-uses.

3. As regards credit exposure ceiling limits for Banks, the general limit is 15 per cent of capital funds in case of a single borrower and 40 per cent of capital funds in case of a borrower group. The credit exposure may go up by an additional 10 per cent upto 50 per cent if the additional credit exposure is on account of extension of credit to infrastructure projects.

*[Translation]*

#### **Reservation for tribals in Government Service**

4874. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA:

SHRI ARJUN MUNDA:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received proposals from various State Governments / Union Territory Administrations to change the Scheduled Tribes reservation in Government services and educational institutions in the country including Delhi;

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

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

(d) whether the Government proposes to appoint all the youths of primitive tribes as Government employee;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (DR. TUSHAR CHAUDHARY): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

*[English]*

#### **Implementation of USEP**

4875. SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Urban Self Employment Programme (USEP) aims to form thrift and credit societies as part of urban poverty alleviation measures;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of poor people benefited by such societies during the last three years, year-wise, State-wise including Kerala;

(d) whether any assistance is provided by the Union Government to these societies;

(e) if so, details thereof and the allocations made during each of the last three years, State-wise; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SAUGATA ROY): (a) and (b) The formation of Thrift & Credit Societies (T&CS) by urban poor women had been supported as a sub-component under the Urban Self Employment Programme (USEP) component of the Scheme of Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY). However, under the revamped Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) effective from 1st April, 2009, this sub-component is part of the component of Urban Women Self-help Programme (UWSP) of the scheme of Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana. Under this sub-component, when a urban poor women group, comprising a minimum of 10 members (in the revamped Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana this minimum required number has been reduced to 5), set itself up as a Self-help Group (SHG)/Thrift & Credit Society (T&CS), mobilizing savings and credit in addition to its other entrepreneurial activities, the group was supported with a lump sum grant of Rs. 25,000/- as Revolving Fund at the rate of Rs. 1,000/- maximum per member (in the revamped Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana this maximum ceiling per member is Rs. 2,000/- now).

(c) At the Central level details of the number of Thrift & Credit Societies (T&CS) formed under Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana are maintained through the Quarterly Progress reports (QPRs) received from the States/UTs. Accordingly, number of Thrift & Credit Societies (T&CS) formed (each of which comprised at least 10

urban poor women) during the last three years, Year-wise and State-wise, including Kerala, is given in the Statement-I enclosed.

(d) as mentioned earlier assistance in the form of Revolving Fund of maximum Rs. 25,000/- per Group, at the rate of Rs. 1,000/- maximum per member, (in the revamped Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana now this amount is Rs. 2,000/- maximum per member) is provided to Thrift & Credit Societies (T&CS).

(e) and (f) Under Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) Central funds are allocated and released to States/UTs for the scheme as a whole, and not allocated component-wise so that States/UTs could utilize these funds under various components of SJSRY on the basis of demand in that component. Central Funds released under the scheme of Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana, during the last three years. State-wise and year-wise, are given in the Statement-II enclosed.

#### **Statement-I**

*State-wise number of Thrift & Credit Societies (T&CS) Formed during 2006-07, 2007-08 & 2008-09 under Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY)*

S.No.	States/UTs	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	20937	32360	0
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0
3	Assam	0	0	0
4	Bihar	0	0	0
5	Chhattisgarh	1 702	1205	1402
6	Goa	0	0	0
7	Gujarat	22	16	0
8	Haryana	142	208	151
9	Himachal Pradesh	9	1	1
10	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0



1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
11	Jharkhand	0	0	0	23	Sikkim	0	3	0
12	Karnataka	4915	6185	6321	24	Tamil Nadu	5112	2430	1581
13	Kerala	0	2628	201	25	Tripura	65	25	45
14	Madhya Pradesh	1081	915	401	26	Uttarakhand	0	10	0
15	Maharashtra	7947	9609	7018	27	Uttar Pradesh	29	299	250
16	Manipur	0	0	0	28	West Bengal	2138	5305	3943
17	Meghalaya	0	6	0	29	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	1	0
18	Mizoram	0	0	0	30	Chandigarh	0	34	0
19	Nagaland	0	82	79	31	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0
20	Orissa	209	399	422	32	Daman and Diu	0	0	0
21	Punjab	0	0	0	33	Delhi	7	19	6
22	Rajasthan	53	67	72	34	Puducherry	35	29	22
					Total				
					44403 61836 21915				

**Statement-II**

*Statewise Central Fund during 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 under  
Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY)*

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Name of the States/UTS	Central Funds Released during 2006-07	Central Funds Released during 2007-08	Central Funds Released during 2008-09
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	2295.94	2058.41	4327.22
2	Arunachal Pradesh	46.68	148.64	0.00
3	Assam	368.27	1974.81	2947.90
4	Bihar	586.83	1225.54	1980.98
5	Chhattisgarh	698.46	741.48	637.36
6	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	Gujarat	894.65	958.18	1548.80

1	2	3	4	5
8	Haryana	571.67	553.03	1334.27
9	Himachal Pradesh	9.24	7.69	12.43
10	Jammu and Kashmir	349.38	105.86	0.00
11	Jharkhand	0.00	480.90	0.00
12	Karnataka	1416.98	2410.37	4896.14
13	Kerala	639.22	629.74	1017.91
14	Madhya Pradesh	2388.35	3120.18	5043.48
15	Maharashtra	3776.34	5944.50	9608.72
16	Manipur	0.00	297.28	445.71
17	Meghalaya	97.65	254.81	190.74
18	Mizoram	533.40	233.58	350.20
19	Nagaland	145.23	191.11	286.53
20	Orissa	808.97	1099.33	1776.95
21	Punjab	135.71	159.24	120.52
22	Rajasthan	852.93	1832.21	1574.91
23	Sikkim	10.38	115.77	63.67
24	Tamil Nadu	1891.51	2650.59	4284.44
25	Tripura	127.08	297.28	248.84
26	Uttaranchal	93.96	350.61	566.72
27	Uttar Pradesh	4566.49	4545.23	8846.94
28	West Borgal	1063.13	1205.19	1948.07
29	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00
30	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00
31	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00
32	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00
33	Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00
34	Puducherry	0.00	100.00	7.80
Total		24868.45	33691.56	54067.25

### Global Monitoring Report

4876. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the Global Monitoring Report of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) is not likely to achieve most of the targets set in respect of Millennium Development Goals (MDG) by 2015;

(b) if so, the details of the sectors in which targets are not likely to be achieved as per the report and the reasons therefor;

(c) the response of the Government thereto; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to meet the targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (d) The joint IMF and World Bank report titled - "Global Monitoring Report 2009" was released on 24th April 2009, which mentions that the global financial crisis is imperiling attainment of the 2015 Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and creating an emergency for development. According to the report, most of the eight globally agreed goals are unlikely to be met, including those related to hunger, child and maternal mortality, education, and progress in combating HIV/ AIDS, malaria and other major diseases. However, the report does not specifically comment on India's performance on achieving the MDGs. The MDGs are quite similar to the objectives and targets laid down in the Five Year Plans. The Eleventh Five Year Plan aims at faster and inclusive growth by implementing a number of programmes, such as (i) National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme, (ii) Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana, (iii) Indira Awaas Yojana, (iv) Integrated Child Development Services, (v) Mid-day Meal Scheme, (vi) Swarnjayanti Shahri Rozgar Yojana, (vii) Targeted Public Distribution System, (viii) Antodaya Anna Yojana, (ix) National Rural Health Mission, (x) Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan, (xi) Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme, and (xii) Total Sanitation Campaign.

[Translation]

### Performance of NGOS

4877. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has evaluated the performance of NGOs engaged in the implementation of tribal welfare schemes;

(b) if so, whether the Government has found any poorly performing NGOs; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken against such NGOs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (DR. TUSHAR CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) In so far as Ministry of Tribal Affairs is concerned, funds are released only to those NGOs whose projects are found to be satisfactory by the district authorities as reflected in their annual inspection reports and duly recommended by the Multi – Disciplinary State Level Committees constituted in each State.

[English]

### Ownership Rights of Markets to Local Bodies

4878. SHRIMATI USHA VERMA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has decided to grant ownership rights to the allottees of their shops, allotted by the Directorate of Estates;

(b) if so, whether this process has been completed and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether his Ministry has constituted any Committee to monitor the progress of decision of Union Government;

(d) if not, whether his Ministry is planning to constitute any such Committee and whether the Union Government's decision is being implemented by the concerned local bodies as per the envisaged plan; and

(e) if not, the time by which the said decision is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SAUGATA ROY) : (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) and (d) No, Madam.

(e) Question does not arise in view of (c) & (d).

#### **Purchases by CPWD**

4879. SHRI PURNMASI RAM:

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Public Works Department (CPWD) is purchasing electrical and other items at Director General of Supplies and Disposal (DGS&D) rates and also more than the MRP without checking the reasonableness of rates, quality and specifications;

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

(c) the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SAUGATA ROY) : (a) to (c) CPWD is purchasing electrical and other items at DGS&D rate contract and also by calling competitive tenders on its own. For purchases made on DGS&D rate contract, reasonability of rates, quality and specifications is ascertained by DGS&D. For purchases made on CPWD contract system, reasonability of rates, quality and specification are ascertained by CPWD. Procurement are not made on rates higher than the MRP.

#### **IDBI**

4880. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) is retaining its Development Finance Status (DFI) as a Public Sector Bank;

(b) if so, the details of its work in development Banking;

(c) whether IDBI is protecting service conditions of its erstwhile employees;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has proposed to transfer erstwhile IDBI employees from DFI segment to Retail Banking operations; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken to protect the interest of erstwhile IDBI employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. IDBI Bank Ltd. (formerly known as Industrial Development Bank of India Ltd.) continues to perform its development banking functions in addition to its commercial banking activities. More than 80% of the assets of the Bank continue to be in the nature of industrial finance.

(c) to (f) The service conditions of the employees of the IDBI Bank Ltd. and its other human resource matters including transfers and postings are governed by the relevant statutory provisions, service rules and the internal instructions of the Bank.

#### **Repayment of Term Loan and Interest**

4881. SHRI C. SIVASAMI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rupee has fluctuated during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and steps taken by the Government therefrom;

(c) whether the Government would consider to give two years moratorium for repayment of term Loan and Interest;

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

(e) whether due to appreciation of Rupee against Dollar the exporters have incurred heavy losses and the Garment Industry needs crucial support from the banks; and

(f) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) The annual average exchange rate of Rupee per US Dollar during last two years 2007-08 and 2008-09 and its appreciation/depreciation is indicated below:

Sl. No.	Year	Annual average exchange rate of Rupee per US Dollar	Appreciation (+) / Depreciation (-) over the previous year
1	2007-08	40.26	(+) 12.4
2	2008-09	45.99	(-) 12.5

Note: Average of buying and selling indicative market rates of Foreign Exchange Dealer Association of India (FEDAI).

Source: Reserve Bank of India

The exchange rate policy is guided by the broad principles of careful monitoring and management of exchange rates with flexibility, while allowing the underlying demand and supply conditions to determine the exchange rate movements over a period in an orderly manner. Subject to this predominant objective, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) intervention in the foreign exchange market is guided by the objectives of reducing excess volatility, preventing the emergence of destabilizing speculative activities, maintaining adequate level of reserves, and developing an orderly foreign exchange market.

(c) and (d) The Reserve Bank of India has issued necessary guidelines for restructuring loans and offering moratorium to units facing temporary cash flow problems. In view of the continuous problems affecting the textiles and garments sectors, banks are offering one or two years moratorium, on a case to case basis, on the merit of each case, to save such accounts from going bad.

(e) and (f) There has not been a significant change in the value of Rupee vis-a-vis US dollar in recent months, except some volatility. The monthly average exchange rate of Rupee per US dollar during calendar year 2009, month wise, and its appreciation / depreciation is as follows:

Sl	Year/ Month	Annual average exchange rate of Rupee per US Dollar	Appreciation (+) / Depreciation (-) over the previous month
<b>2009</b>			
1	January	48.79	- 0.3
2	February	49.26	-1.0
3	March	51.23	- 3.8
4	April	50.03	+ 2.4
5	May	48.53	+ 3.1
6	June	47.77	+ 1.6
7	July	48.48	-1.5

Note: Average of buying and selling indicative market rates of Foreign Exchange Dealer Association of India (FEDAI).

Source: Reserve Bank of India

However, in order to mitigate the adverse impact of global economic slowdown on the export sector (including textile sector), stimulus packages were announced in 2008-09 which include, inter alia, the following:

- i. Interest subvention of 2 per cent from 1.12.2008 to 30.9.2009 to the labour intensive sectors of exports such as textiles (including handloom), handicrafts, carpets, leather, gems and jewellery, marine products and small and medium enterprises.
- ii. Provision of additional funds of Rs. 1,400 crore for textile sector to clear the backlog claims of Technology Upgradation Fund (TUF).
- iii. An additional allocation for export incentive schemes of Rs. 350 crore.
- iv. Inclusion of handicrafts items in Vishesh Krishi and Gram Udyog Yojana (VKGUY);
- v. Provision of additional Rs. 1,100 crore to ensure full refund of claims of Central Sales Tax (CST)/terminal excise duty/duty drawback on deemed exports.
- vi. Restoration of Duty Entitlement Pass Book (DEPB) rates for all items where they were reduced in November 2008 and increase in duty drawback rates on certain items effective from September 1, 2008.

- vii. Excise duty reduced across the board by 4 per cent for all products except petroleum products and those products where current rate was less than 4 per cent.
- viii. The guarantee cover under credit guarantee scheme for micro and small enterprises on loans doubled to Rs. 1 crore with a guarantee cover of 50 per cent. The guarantee cover extended by credit guarantee fund trust increased to 85 per cent for credit facility up to Rs. 5 lakh. The lock-in period for such collateral free loans was reduced.

In addition, the Union Budget 2009-10 has also announced measures to help the export sector, which include, inter-alia, the following:

- i. Interest subvention of 2 per cent to the labour intensive sectors of exports such as textiles (including handloom), handicrafts, carpets, leather, gems and jewellery, marine products and small and medium enterprises extended to 31.3.2010.
- ii. Enhancement of allocation to Market Development Assistance Scheme by 148%.
- iii. Extension of the adjustment assistance scheme to provide enhanced Export Credit Guarantee Corporation (ECGC) cover at 95% to badly hit sectors upto March 2010.
- iv. Flow of credit at reasonable rates to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).
- v. Mega Handloom clusters in West Bengal and Tamil Nadu and Powerloom cluster in Rajasthan and New Mega clusters for carpets in Srinagar and Mirzapur approved;
- vi. Section 10A and 10B related to Sunset clauses for STPI and EOUs schemes respectively extended for the financial year 2010-II. Anomaly removed in Section 10AA related to taxation benefit of 'unit vis-a-vis assessee';
- vii. Additional items allowed within the existing duty free imports entitlement for the following employment oriented sectors:

- (a) 5 additional items for sports goods sector;
- (b) Additional items for leather garments and footwear and textile items.

viii. Measures related to service tax which include, among others, exemption from service tax on following services linked to exports:

- (a) service related to transport of export goods by road from any CFS or ICD to the port or Airport and on service related to transport of export goods by road directly from their place of removal, to an ICD, a CFS, a port or airport;
- (b) services provided by Foreign Agent Commission service.

*[Translation]*

#### **Dwarka Sub-city**

4882. SHRI MAHABAL MISHRA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the purpose of the project and the plan for the construction of residential sub-city Dwarka in Delhi and number of persons for whom houses have been constructed;
- (b) the arrangement of electricity-water and sewerage system for the residents, proposed and the availability thereof;
- (c) the reasons for inconveniences being caused to the residents of the residential sub-city built by the Government due to water-electricity shortage; and
- (d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for the redressal of these inconveniences and the time by which these basic amenities are likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SAUGATA ROY): (a) The Dwarka Subcity is a part of urban extension envisaged in Master Plan for Delhi-2001. The envisaged population as per approved Zonal Development Plan (ZDP) for Zone-K (Part) Dwarka is 11 lac. The estimated population for planned sectors 1 to 26 of Dwarka is 7.5 lac. The number of flats constructed in Dwarka is 34,353.

(b) DDA has intimated that the water supply in Dwarka Zone depends on the water supply by Delhi Jal Board (DJB). AT present only 3.0 MGD water is being received from DJB against the requirement of 8.0 MGD. By operating 53 numbers of tube-wells in Dwarka, DDA has augmented water supply in Dwarka. As regards sewerage system, it is working properly in Dwarka Subcity. With regard to electricity supply, DDA has intimated that 2 out of 3 Nos. 220 KV Grid substations and 4 out of 15 Nos. 66 KV Grid Substations have been energized and commissioned. The work of peripheral electrification has been taken up by BSES-Rajdhani Power Ltd. (BRPL). A 11 KV overhead feeder is provided in Dwarka Subcity and electric connection is being given on demand to housing societies and other housing/plotted areas through this 11 KV feeder.

(c) The inconvenience of shortage of water supply being faced by the Dwarka residents is due to short-supply of water by DJB. The electricity supply is the responsibility of BRPL and inconvenience, if any, to the residents is due to load-shedding.

(d) To augment water supply, DDA has already handed over 32.5 hectares of land to DJB for construction of 40 MGD water treatment plant. DDA has made full payments for the peripheral electrification of the Dwarka Subcity for which BRPL has provided 11 KV peripheral feeders and street lighting.

[English]

### **Genetically Modified Foods**

4883. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI:

SHRI MOHAN JENA:

SHRI VIRENDER KASHYAP:

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

(a) whether the Government has made any assessment on the Vulnerabilities of genetically modified food on women and children;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) to (c) Indian Council of Agricultural Research is undertaking research to develop genetically modified crops such as rice, rapeseed, mustard, soyabean, potato, brinjal etc. Appropriate risk analysis of these GM crops is being undertaken for necessary approvals of environmental release. Such risk analysis procedure includes aspects of vulnerabilities and hazard measurement of all categories of human beings.

The Ministry of Environment and Forest has set up a mechanism to make biosafety assessment of GM Crops/Foods by following a policy of case to case event based approval by the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC), an apex body to accord approval for large scale use and commercial release of genetically modified organisms.

Introduction of any new GM food/food crop is preceded by a careful analysis of risk and evaluation of long term benefits for which extensive rules and guidelines have been framed by the Government for evaluating environmental and health safety impacts of genetically modified organisms.

Rules for Manufacture, Use, Import, Export and Storage of Hazardous Microorganism/genetically engineered organism or cells 1989 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 have been notified.

The GAEC has so far approved only Bt cotton for commercial cultivation in India.

### **Smuggling through Air Flights**

4884. SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Airlines flights are being misused for smuggling of foreign consumer products into the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of smuggling cases reported and the quantity of smuggled goods seized by the Government during each of the last three years and the current year;

(c) the number of cases where the employees of Airlines were found involved and the punitive action taken against them; and

(d) the corrective/preventive action taken by the Government to curb the menace of smuggling in Airline flights?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) and (b) The details of smuggling cases and value of seized goods at the international airports during each of the last three years and the current year upto July, 2009 are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) The numbers of cases where the employees of airlines were found involved and action taken against them are given in the Statement enclosed.

(d) The staff posted at the international airports are keeping a constant vigil on the international flights

arriving at the airports to thwart any attempt at smuggling of foreign consumer products into the country.

### **Statement**

*Details of Smuggling cases and Value of Seized Goods at International Airports during Each of the Last three years and the current years up to July, 2009*

Year	No.of cases	Value of seized goods (Rs.in crores)
2006-2007	1099	17.38
2007-2008	966	34.62
2008-2009	1248	58.80
2009-2010 (upto July 09)	505	16.54

### *The number of cases where the Employees of Airlines were found Involved and Action taken against them*

Year	No.of cases	Value of seized goods (Rs.in lakhs)	No.of airlines employees involved	Action taken
2006-07	1	2.32	Nil	Nil
2007-08	2	1.97	2	RF Rs.25000/- PP Rs.10000/- Duty Rs.68.141/- Ed Cess Rs. 2344/-
2008-09	02	0.02	02	RF Rs.2800/-PP Rs 10000/-
2009-10 (upto July 09)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

RF - Redemption Fine.

PP - Personal Penalty.

### **NIPCCD**

4885. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD) has conducted an evaluation study entitled 'Three Decades of ICDS';



(b) if so, the details thereof along with any shortcomings found in the implementation of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) scheme; and

(c) the action taken-proposed to be taken by the Government for effectively implementation of ICDS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH) : (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The study covered 150 ICDS Projects from 35 States/UTs covering rural, urban and tribal projects. An executive summary of the study and findings is available at the Ministry's website ([www.wcd.nic.in](http://www.wcd.nic.in)) in Child Development Section.

(c) Several steps have been taken by the Government of India in the recent past to increase the effectiveness of the delivery of services under ICDS. Some of these are:

- (i) Universalization of ICDS scheme through the third phase of expansion of the scheme sanctioning 792 additional Projects, 2.13 lakh additional AWCs and 77102 Mini-AWCs with special focus on coverage of SC/ST and Minority population.
- (ii) Revision in cost norms of existing interventions;
- (iii) Revision in nutritional and feeding norms of supplementary nutrition;
- (iv) Provision of flexi-funds at Anganwadi center level;
- (v) Introduction of new World Health Organization (WHO) Growth Standards etc.

#### **Review of Financial Inclusion Drive**

4886. SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been conducted by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and State Level Bankers Committee (SLBCs) on financial inclusion;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the accounts opened as part of financial inclusion drive are inoperative in the country including Andhra Pradesh;

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

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to achieve hundred percent financial inclusion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (d) Pursuant to the Annual Policy Statement of the Reserve Bank for the year 2007-08, studies were conducted by reputed external agencies in 26 districts in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan and West Bengal to evaluate the progress made in the districts that had reported 100% financial inclusion. The main conclusions that have emerged from the studies were that (i) although the SLBCs have declared several districts as 100% financially included, the actual financial inclusion has not been to that extent and (ii) most of the accounts that have been opened as a part of the financial inclusion drive have remained inoperative due to various reasons.

(e) Steps taken by Reserve Bank to facilitate 100% financial inclusion are given below:

- At the state level, the State Level Bankers Committee (SLBC) has been advised to identify one or more districts for 100 % financial inclusion.
- In November 2005, banks were advised to make available a basic banking 'no-frills' account with low or nil minimum balances.
- The Know Your Customer (KYC) procedure for opening accounts has been simplified for those accounts with balances not exceeding Rs 50,000/- and credits thereto not exceeding Rs. 100,000/- in a year.
- In January 2006, the Reserve Bank permitted banks to utilise the services of non-governmental organizations (NGOs), micro-finance institutions and other civil

society organisations as intermediaries in providing financial and banking services through the use of business facilitator and business correspondent (BC) models.

Banks have been urged to scale up IT initiatives for financial inclusion.

RBI has proposed a scheme to partially reimburse the banks the cost of opening accounts with biometric access at the rate of Rs.50 per account through which payment of social security benefits, NREGA payments, etc would be routed.

[Translation]

### Rural Development Schemes

4887. SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR:  
SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:  
SHRI YASHBANT LAGURI:  
SHRI RAMKISHUN:  
SHRI C. SIVASAMI:  
SHRI UMASHANKAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints have been received by the Government from the elected representatives of the people including the Members of Parliament for not consulting them in taking up new projects under various rural development schemes including Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY).

(b) if so, the details of such complaints received during the last three years and the current year and the action taken by the Government thereon;

(c) whether the Government proposes to assign greater responsibility to these elected representatives in execution of rural development projects;

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

(e) whether any proposal is being considered by the Union Government regarding setting-up of independent monitoring and complaint redressal mechanism at district level under the supervision of respective Members of Parliament; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Rural Development has been implementing a number of rural development and poverty alleviation programmes. The projects under these are formulated as per the programme guidelines. The Ministry has not received complaints from the elected representatives of the people including Members of Parliament specifically for not consulting them in taking up of new projects under rural development schemes including Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY). The suggestions for construction of roads under PMGSY, which are received in the Ministry of Rural Development from the elected representatives of people including Members of Parliament, are sent to the concerned State Governments for examination and taking appropriate action as per the provisions of the programme guidelines.

(c) to (f) The Ministry of Rural Development has put in place a comprehensive system of monitoring of its programmes to achieve the programme objectives. The Monitoring tools are District-wise Data Management, Periodical Progress Reports/Returns, Area Officers Schemes, Utilisation Certificate/Audit Reports, review by Union Ministers, Performance Review Committee (PRC), National Level Monitors (NLM) and Vigilance and Monitoring Committees (V&MCs) at State and District Level. The Ministry constitutes State and District Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees (V&MCs) which provides a crucial role for the elected representatives of the people, Members of Parliament and State Legislature and Panchayati Raj Institutions to monitor the execution of rural development projects. With the constitution of the 15th Lok Sabha, the V&MCs constituted earlier stand dissolved and the process of constituting the new V&MCs has begun.

The Ministry has adopted five pronged strategy comprising (i) creation of awareness about the schemes, (ii) people's partnership, (iii) transparency, (iv) accountability and (v) strict vigilance and monitoring of rural development programmes to implement the schemes effectively.

*[English]***Exemption from Tax**

4888. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has exempted Mukesh Ambani and his corporate world from paying various taxes;

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

(c) whether the Government has received any representations from any quarter in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) No, Madam.

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

(c) No, Madam.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

**NGOs**

4889. SHRIMATI J. HELEN DAVIDSON : Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to give awards to Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) working in the field of betterment of destitute women;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the quantum of amount being allocated to NGOs is sufficient for the implementation of the programmes in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH) : (a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Amounts being sanctioned to the NGOs under Swadhar and Short Stay Home Schemes are as per the norms of the schemes, the details of which are available in the website [www.wcd.nic.in](http://www.wcd.nic.in)

*[Translation]***Environmental Upgradation**

4890. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:

SHRI GORAKH PRASAD JAISWAL:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched any scheme for the environmental upgradation of cities in the country including Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh during the last two years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SAUGATA ROY): (a) and (b) No, Madam. Ministry of Urban Development has not launched any scheme for the specific purpose of environmental upgradation of cities in the country including Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh during the last two years.

*[English]***Foreign Tourists to Andaman & Nicobar Islands**

4891. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state the number of foreign tourists visited the Andaman & Nicobar Islands and the foreign exchange earned during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA): The number of foreign tourist visits to Andaman & Nicobar Islands during 2006, 2007 and 2008 were 9045, 10375 and 12512 respectively. Ministry of Tourism does not compile State-level estimates of foreign exchange earnings (FEE) from tourism. However, the FEE from tourism in India during 2006, 2007 and 2008 were estimated at US\$ 8.63 billion, US\$ 10.73 billion and US\$ 11.75 billion respectively.

### **South Asia Housing Forum**

4892. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Housing Bank (NHB) will host an electronic site for the South Asia housing Forum;

(b) if so, the details worked out so far;

(c) the role of Indian States including Orissa in this regard; and

(d) the countries likely to participate in this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) National Housing Bank (NHB) has developed an electronic site to host the South Asia Housing Finance (SAHF) Forum, in consultation with other countries in the South Asia region and the World Bank. The portal was soft launched by the Governor, Central Bank of Afghanistan on 9.7.2009. The portal has been initially created on NHB's website [www.nhb.org.in](http://www.nhb.org.in) and will in due course migrate to a separate independent domain. The objective of this electronic forum is to provide a platform for exchange of ideas, and experiences of different countries of South Asia so as to facilitate a coordinated approach on housing strategy in this region.

(c) No specific role has been assigned to State Governments in this Forum.

(d) The forum consists of various countries of south asia region including India, Afghanistan. Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Indonesia & Thailand.

### **Implementation of TMHP**

4893. SHRI PURNMA SI RAM: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Two Million Housing Programme (TMHP), launched in 1998-99 has achieved its targets;

(b) if so, the total number of Dwelling Units constructed in urban areas for EWS & LIG categories under TMHF so far and the number of dwelling units reserved for the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribes; and

(c) the efforts made by the Government to meet annual target of TMHP?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SAUGATA ROY): (a) to (c) The Government launched Two Million Housing Programme in 1998-99 to meet the Housing requirement of Economically Weaker Section and Low Income Group categories. This is a loan based scheme which envisages facilitating construction of Twenty lakh additional Dwelling Units (DUs) every year - 13 lakh in Rural areas and 7 lakh in Urban Areas.

Of 7 lakh dwelling units targeted every year in urban area, the Housing & Urban Development Corporation was given the target of 4 lakh DUs/year; Housing Finance Institutions recognized by National Housing Bank and Public Sector Banks were given the target of 2 lakh DUs/year; and the balance 1 lakh DUs/year target was given to Cooperative Sector.

From 1998-99 till 2008-09 the total Number of DUs sanctioned in urban areas for all income groups was reported as 87.43 lakh.

### **Prime Lending Rate**

4894. SHRI C. SIVASAMI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government would consider to announce pre and post shipment credit at 7 per cent interest rate across the board without linking with Prime Lending Rate (PLR); and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.

**Implementation of Scheduled Tribes and Other Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act**

4895. SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has requested the State Government to expedite implementation of the Scheduled Tribes and other Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act and Rules in February, 2008;

(b) if so, the response of the State Governments thereto;

(c) whether the Union Government has also requested the State Governments to initiate the process of execution by organizing meetings of gram sabhas in a time bound manner;

(d) if so, the response of the State Governments thereto, State-wise; and

(e) the steps taken by the Union Government to implement the aforesaid Act and Rules all over the country?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (DR. C.P. JOSHI) : (a) to (d) The Ministry of Panchayati Raj had written to the State/UT Governments on 15-2-2008 reiterating the need for expeditious implementation of the Scheduled Tribes

and Other Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act and to hold meetings of Gram Sabha on 28-2-2008 during which the provisions of the Act & Rules and the roles and responsibilities of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), Gram Sabhas and Forest Right Committees were suggested to be explained. The concerned State/UT Governments have accordingly, initiated the process to implement provisions of the Act. Responses received are given in the Statement enclosed.

(e) The responsibility for implementing the Act rests with the State/UT Governments. However, action taken by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) which is the nodal Ministry in this regard, is as under:

(i) The Act and Rules were notified on 31-12-2007 and 1-1-2008 respectively.

(ii) All State/UT Governments were requested on 11.1.2008 for constituting various Committees under the Act.

(iii) In order to ensure speedy implementation of the Act, the MoTA had conveyed major actionable points along with timelines to the State/UT Governments on 31.1.2008 for follow up.

(iv) A letter has been issued to all State/UT Governments on 15.6.2009 to take urgent steps to accelerate the process of implementation of Act.

Ministry of Tribal Affairs is monitoring the implementation of the Act.

**Statement**

*Responses received from States/UTs on the letter dated 15-2-2008 of Ministry of Panchayati Raj for convening of Gram Sabha Meetings for explaining the provisions of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006.*

Sl.No.	State	Response
1	2	3
1.	Chhattisgarh	Gram Sabhas were convened on scheduled date 28-2-2008.
2.	Madhya Pradesh	Meetings have been held during the period from 26-31st January, 2008.
3.	Kerala	Informal discussions have taken place for convening the Gram Sabha meetings but the details are to be settled.

1	2	3
4.	Tripura	State Elections are scheduled and counting will be completed on 7th March, 2008. Gram Sabha meetings and other work relating to implementation of the Act will commence thereafter.
5.	Andhra Pradesh	Work is underway and by 1st March, 2008 the Gram Sabha meetings will be completed.
6.	Rajasthan	Spadework is going on. Printing of publicity and training material is going on. Since the number of Panchayats is quite large and Assembly will be in session, the Gram Sabha meetings will be spread out but will be completed before end March 2008.
7.	Gujarat	One official from the Panchayati Raj Department is attached with 10 Gram Panchayats. Since proper dissemination of the Act is required, PR Department of the State Government will arrange for special Gram Sabha meetings to discuss the Act. Efforts will also be made for ensuring participation of women in these Gram Sabha meetings. The Govt. of Gujarat will get back with the schedule for holding the Gram Sabha meetings.
8.	Karnataka	Each Gram Panchayat has 3-4 villages attached with it and separate meetings of these Ward Sabhas will probably have to be held. Hence the Gram Sabha meetings will be spread over 3-4 days and the task is expected to be completed by 15th March, 2008.
9.	Orissa	The State level training has been completed. Ten officers from the tribal districts have been trained. Each Panchayat Secretary has 10-12 villages attached with him/her. The process of holding the Gram Sabha meetings will start by 28th February and will be completed over the next month.
10.	Mizoram	Village Councils will be dealing with this matter. The task will be completed by 15th March, 2008.
11.	Maharashtra	Each Panchayat Secretary has charge of 2-3 Panchayats. The Gram Sabha meetings will commence from 28th February, 2008 and will be completed by 10th March, 2008.
12.	Himachal Pradesh	Due to heavy snowfall in the tribal areas and severe cold conditions prevailing, it will only be possible to start this work in March/April, 2008. However, in some places the meetings will be held on 28th February, 2008.
13.	West Bengal	Translation of the Rules under the Act is going on. The Gram Sabha meetings will start on 28th February and the process will be completed within March, 2008.
14.	Assam	The process will be completed between 28th February to 5th March, 2008. Clarification was sought about the 6th Schedule Areas. Here the Gram Sabhas, as per PESA, will be involved with the work.

1	2	3
15.	Bihar	The Assembly session is going on. Also there are a large number of Panchayats and limited staff for convening the Gram Sabha meetings. However, the work will be completed in March, 2008.
16.	Tamil Nadu	State level Committees have been formed. Meetings are being held as per schedule. The Gram Sabhas will meet starting from 28th February and the process would be completed by 10th March, 2008.
17.	Haryana	There are no Scheduled Tribes and Traditional Forest Dwellers living in the forests of Haryana. Therefore, the question of the Forest Rights of such communities of Forest land does not arise. The constitution of various Committees from State level Monitoring Committee to District level and below District level Committees are not required in Haryana.
18	Lakshadweep	The UT of Lakshadweep is a group of coral Islands. The peculiar geographical condition of the islands donot have any area as forest and there are no forest dwellers. As such, there is no relevance for the Scheduled Tribes and Other Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act and Rules as far as this UT is concerned.

[Translation]

**Socio-Economic conditions of STs**

4896. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:

SHRI ARJUN MUNDA:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any survey to collect information regarding socio-economic conditions of the Scheduled Tribes in the country;

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

(c) whether the Government has conducted any survey on declining of population of various tribes during the past few years;

(d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof, State-wise, tribes-wise and year-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (DR. TUSHAR CHAUDHARY): (a) and

(b) In so far as Ministry of Tribal Affairs is concerned, no specific survey has been conducted regarding socio-economic conditions of the Scheduled Tribes in the country. However, National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) of the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation conducts multi-subject integrated sample surveys in the form of successive rounds on country-wide basis relating to social, economic, demographic, industrial and agricultural statistics in respect of all social groups, including Scheduled Tribes (STs).

(c) to (e) No, Madam. No report has been received from any State Government so far regarding declining population of various tribes in the country.

12.00 hrs.

[English]

**PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**

MADAM SPEAKER: Papers to be laid, Dr. C.P. Joshi.

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (DR. C.P. JOSHI): I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of Section 29 of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005:-

- (i) S.O. 2999(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st December, 2008, making certain amendments in the Schedule II of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005.
- (ii) S.O. 513(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th February, 2009, making certain amendments in the Schedule II of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005.
- (iii) S.O. 1387(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st June, 2009, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1 (E) dated the 1st January, 2009.
- (iv) S.O. 1824(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th July, 2009, making certain amendments in the Schedule I of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005.

[Placed in Library **See** No. LT 673/15/09]

- (2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of Section 33 of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005:-

- (i) The National Rural Employment Guarantee (Central Council) Amendment Rules, 2009 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 134(E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th February, 2009.
- (ii) The National Rural Employment Guarantee (Central Council) Amendment Rules, 2009 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 309(E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th May, 2009.

[Placed in Library **See** No. LT 674/15/09]

- (3) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 162(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th March, 2009, nominating the members, mentioned therein, on the Council under clause (c) of sub-section (3) of Section 10 of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 issued under Section 10 of the said Act.

[Placed in Library **See** No. LT 675/15/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH):  
I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Pollution Control Board, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Pollution Control Board, 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 676/15/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY):  
I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National School of Drama, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National School of Drama, 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 677/15/09]



- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the South Zone Cultural Centre, Thanjavur, for the year 2007-2008, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the South Zone Cultural Centre, Thanjavur, for the year 2007-2008.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library **See** No. LT 678/15/09]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Nava Nalanda Mahavihara, Nalanda, for the year 2007-2008.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Nava Nalanda Mahavihara, Nalanda, for the year 2007-2008, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Nava Nalanda Mahavihara, Nalanda, for the year 2007-2008.

- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library **See** No. LT 679/15/09]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Institute of Tibetan Studies, Varanasi, for the year 2007-2008.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Institute of Tibetan Studies, Varanasi, for the year 2007-2008, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Institute of Tibetan Studies, Varanasi, for the year 2007-2008.

- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library **See** No. LT 680/15/09]

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): Madam, on behalf of my colleague, Shrimati D. Purandeswari, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Technology, Silchar, for the year 2007-2008, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Technology, Silchar, 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 681/15/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Central Cottage Industries Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Textiles for the year 2009-2010.

[Placed in Library **See** No. LT 682/15/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Export-Import Bank of India for the year 2008-2009, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Export-Import Bank of India for the year 2008-2009.

[Placed in Library **See** No. LT 683/15/09]

- (2) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 551 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th July, 2009, exempting from service tax, service provided or to be provided in relation to management, maintenance or repair of roads under sub-section (4) of Section 94 of the Finance Act, 1994, together with an explanatory memorandum.

[Placed in Library **See** No. LT 684/15/09]

- (3) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Industrial Development Bank of India, Mumbai, for the year 2007-2008.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Industrial Development Bank of India, Mumbai, for the year 2007-2008, along with Audited Accounts.

[Placed in Library **See** No. LT 685/15/09]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): Madam, on behalf of my colleague, Shrimati Preneet Kaur, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Prevention and Suppression of Terrorism (Implementation of Security Council Resolutions) Amendment Order, 2009 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 1661(E) dated 8th July, 2009 issued under Section 2 of the United Nations (Security Council) Act, 1947.

[Placed in Library **See** No. LT 686/15/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Madam, on behalf of my colleague, Prof. K.V. Thomas, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Organic Agricultural Produce Grading and Marking Rules, 2009 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. 534(E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th July, 2009 under sub-section (3) of Section 3 of the Agricultural Produce Grading and Marking Act, 1937.

[Placed in Library **See** No. LT 687/15/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Bureau of Energy efficiency, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Bureau of Energy efficiency, 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 688/15/09]

- (3) A copy of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Procedure, Terms and Conditions for grant of Transmission Licence and other related matters) Regulations, 2009 (Hindi and English versions) published in the Notification No. L-7/165(180)/2008-CERC in Gazette of India dated the 2nd June, 2009 under Section 179 of the Electricity Act, 2003.

[Placed in Library **See** No. LT 689/15/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Madam, on behalf of my colleague, Shri Dinesh Trivedi, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, 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 690/15/09]

- (3) A copy of the Statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Indian Red Cross Society for the years 2004-2005 to 2007-2008 and Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of five other organisations, mentioned therein, for the year 2007-2008 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the respective accounting years.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 691/15/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SULTAN AHMED): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-
- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Ranchi Ashok Bihar Hotel Corporation Limited for the year 2007-2008.
  - (ii) Annual Report of the Ranchi Ashok Bihar Hotel Corporation Limited for the year 2007-2008, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 692/15/09]

#### STATEMENT BY MINISTERS

12.03 hrs.

- (i) **Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 40th and 41st Reports of the Standing Committee on Railways on "Review of Plan Performance and 11th Five Year Plan Projections" and "Review of Special Railway Safety Fund", respectively, pertaining to the Ministry of Railways.**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): Madam, on behalf of my senior colleague, Kumari Mamata Banerjee, I beg to lay

on the Table a statement on the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 40th and 41st Reports of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Railways in pursuance of directive 73A, of the hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha, issued vide Lok Sabha Bulletin, Part-II, dated 1st September, 2004.

The 40th Report of the Committee on "Review of Plan Performance and 11th Five Year Plan Projections" presented in the Lok Sabha on 21.10.2008 contained 17 recommendations and Action Taken Notes thereon were furnished to the Committee on 23.02.2009 (English version) and on 27.03.2009 (Hindi version). The 41st Report of the Committee on "Review of Special Railway Safety Fund" presented in the Lok Sabha on 23.12.2008 contained 5 recommendations and Action Taken Notes thereon were furnished to the Committee on 13.03.2009 (English version) and on 01.04.2009 (Hindi version).

Statements showing details of all the recommendations contained in the Reports and implementation status thereof are enclosed. Since the statements are voluminous, I request that the same may be taken as read.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 693/15/09]

12.03½ hrs.

- (ii) **Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 198th Report of the Standing Committee on Industry on Action Taken Report on Professionalization of Boards of CPSEs, pertaining to the Department of Public Enterprises, Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises.**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI VILASRAO DESHMUKH): Madam, I beg to lay on the Table of the House a statement regarding status of implementation of the 198th report of the Department related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Industry on Professionalization of Boards of CPSEs pertaining to Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises (Department of Public Enterprises) in pursuance of the direction issued by the hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha, vide Parliamentary Bulletin-Part II, dated 01.09.2004.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 694/15/09]

12.04 hrs.

- (iii) **Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 207th report of the Standing Committee on Human Resource Development on Demands for Grants (2008-09) (Demand No.58), pertaining to the Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development.**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): Madam, in pursuance of rule 389 of the Rules of Procedure and conduct of Business in Lok Sabha issued by the hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha, *vide* Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II dated September 1, 2004, I beg to lay a statement on the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the Two Hundred Seventh Report of the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource on Demand for Grants 2008-09 (Demand No. 58) of the Department of Higher Education (Ministry of Human Resource Development).

The Standing Committee on HRD examined the Demands for Grants 2008-09 (Demand No. 58) of the Department of Higher Education (Ministry of Human Resource Development) and presented their Two Hundred Seventh Report to Lok Sabha on 15th April, 2008.

I beg to lay herewith the status of implementation/Action Taken Note on the recommendations made in the 207th Report on the Table of the House.

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 695/15/09]

12.05 hrs.

**WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION  
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2009\***

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): Madam, on behalf of my colleague Shri Mallikarjun Kharge, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923.

MADAM SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: I introduce the Bill.

12.05½ hrs.

**EMPLOYEES' STATE INSURANCE  
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2009\***

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): Madam, on behalf of my colleague Shri Mallikarjun Kharge, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948.

MADAM SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: I introduce the Bill.

12.06 hrs.

**NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR MINORITY  
EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS (AMENDMENT)  
BILL, 2009\***

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): Madam, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions Act, 2004.

MADAM SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions Act, 2004."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: I introduce the Bill.

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: The House shall now take up Matters of Urgent Public Importance.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): Madam, may I make a submission before that?

MADAM SPEAKER: Just a minute. The Minister has to say something.

... (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : The submission is related to the House.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Madam, today is the last day of the House and we are adjourning sine die today. My request to you and also to all the hon. Members would be that from now onwards up to 1.00 p.m., you may take up the 'Zero Hour' matter and at 2.00 p.m. we may have the reply of the Minister of Agriculture to the debate on Price Rise. After that we may adjourn the House and we dispense with the Private Members' Business.

MADAM SPEAKER: If the House agrees, we may do that.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MADAM SPEAKER: The Half-an-Hour Discussion listed for today stands postponed to the next session of the House. If the House agrees, it may be taken up in the first week of the next session.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Right now, I have not taken anybody's name.

... (Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: How 'Zero Hour' is possible in such a condition?

SHRI RAKESH SINGH (Jabalpur): Madam Speaker, this is a very important issue. ... (Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: All issue are important. Speak turn-wise, please.

SHRI RAKESH SINGH: Madam Speaker, I have given the notice.

... (Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: All right, please keep quiet, I will call everybody.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ (Vidisha): Madam, you refused to call us, that is why, they are standing. ... (Interruptions)

MADAM SEPAKER: Whom I refused to call?

... (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: You made his notice inadmissible. He is trying to give notice for the last two days and his notice is appearing in the ballet on both the days but you made his notices inadmissible that is why, he is standing. ... (Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: All right, let me see why I rejected it?

... (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Madam Speaker, his notice is appearing in the ballet for the last two days, he wants to raise the issue of corruption. Persons occupying higher posts are involved in corruption. For this, he is giving notice for the last two days and his notice has appeared in ballot for both the days but you declared it inadmissible that is why, he is standing. ... (Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: I' ll come to this point.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Mainpuri): Madam Speaker ... (Interruptions), let me speak. ... (Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Only Mulayam Singhji's speech will go on record.

... (Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: You please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: There is a rule to raise the issue, you are raising. If you follow the rule then the issue can be permitted to raise.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER : There is a definite rule for it. You go according to the rule. Now let the hon. Member raise his matter of urgent public importance.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Please let me speak.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: You will be given a chance to speak only when you give a notice as per rules.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Madam Speaker, I would like to raise a very important point about 16 castes which are most backward from social, economic, educational and political point of view not only in Uttar Pradesh but in the entire country. These castes are neglected. That is why we enlisted these 16 castes in Scheduled Castes by enacting a law in Uttar Pradesh on 10th October, 2005. There 16 castes are – Kahar; Kewat, Mallah, Nishad, Kashyap, Dheewar, Dhemmar, Bathum, Turha, Gond, Manjhi, Bind, Bhur, Rajbhar, Kumhar and Prajapati. These are tribals also. All these castes are neglected. You might remember that this issue was raised by Shri Amar Singhji in Rajya Sabha, you were Minister at that time. We gave these castes all the facilities available to Scheduled Castes. We sent a proposal to the Government of India through Legislative Assembly. The Government of India did not approve that proposal. Madam Speaker, you were Minister at that time, while replying to Shri Amar Singhji's question you had stated that the proposal of Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly had been

rejected. So, today I would like to ask the Government through you that for how long all these castes would remain neglected.

Madam, Congress Party's slogan is "Humara haath janta ke sath" and "Hamare haath garibon ke sath". But Congress party is not following its slogan. Congress party talks about poor people but favours the rich. Leaders of Congress Party state in their speeches that they are with the poor people. The party is favouring the rich only, as a result, rich people are becoming richer day by day. Now the Government is bestowing favours on one particular person making him a big industrialist. But Madam, Now I would not talk about it. The proposal of Legislative Assembly is about 16 castes.

I am happy that all the parties in Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly, be it Samajwadi Party, BJP or any other party, have passed the proposal unanimously regarding inclusion of these 16 castes in scheduled castes list. These castes were provided all the facilities available to Scheduled Castes but the present Government of Uttar Pradesh has withdrawn all the facilities including jobs given to them. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN (Ghosi): No, it is not so. ...(Interruptions) Only Parliament has the right to decide about inclusion of castes in Scheduled Castes list. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: It is not like that. This was done very systematically. This was done after consulting eminent barristers, advocates and knowledgeable persons who have wide knowledge of law. We had provided them all these facilities after giving reservation to them on the advice of Advocate General, Law Secretary and other legal experts so the Government should reconsider this proposal and provide facilities to them by enlisting them in Scheduled Castes list. We had done so after conducting survey. We had conducted a survey and all concerned submitted their report which says that these 16 castes should be included in Scheduled Castes list. We had sent that proposal to the Government of India on the basis of this report and after consulting the legal experts. In the end, I would like to know that the poor people, who are most backward in society and have no house or jobs. ...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Your time is over, please conclude now.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Why this proposal was rejected, we request the Government to revive it. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SEPAKER: Shri Dara Singh Chauhan.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please conclude now.

SHRI SHAILENDER KUMAR (KAUSHAMBI): It is a very important question. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: I urge upon the Government to elaborate the reason for not approving this proposal. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri Dara Singhji, its your turn now.

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Only the Parliament is empowered to include the scheduled castes in the list. Only the Parliament can include more castes in the list of scheduled castes. Justice is being done with the scheduled castes in Uttar Pradesh. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: You may proceed.

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Ask them to take their seats, otherwise how I will speak ...*(Interruptions)* how I will speak if these people continue to interrupt.

12.18 hrs.

*(At this stage Shri Bishnu Pada Ray came and stood on the floor near the Table)*

MADAM SPEAKER: You go back to your seat and then speak.

12.18¼ hrs.

*(At this stage Shri Bishnu Pada Ray went back to his seat)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Member of your party is speaking, you please take your seat. Shri Bishnu Pada Ray you may speak. You ask your members to take their seats.

SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY (Andaman and Nicobar Islands): First you make them sit, only then I can speak.

MADAM SPEAKER: You ask your members to take their seats.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Mulayam Singhji, please take your seat. You have already spoken. Shri Bishnu Pada Rayji, now you may proceed.

SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: I got reply from Ministry of Human Resources with regard to the Calling Attention Motion moved by me, but the reply given to me is going against the interest of people of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on records except whatever Shri Bishnu Pada Ray is speaking.

...*(Interruptions)\**

SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: Madam, I would like to quote a line. Former Minister of Human Resources Development Shri Arjun Singh Ji addressed a letter to Hon. Lieutenant Governor on 19th July, 2008, I would like to quote a line from the said letter:

*[English]*

"I would request you to send us a proposal for consideration at the Government of India level, for starting of a new NIT, which may serve the admission requirements of students of Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Puducherry. For starting of a new NIT, you will have to provide free of cost suitable piece of at least 300 acres of land at a place having rail, road and air connectivity as well as good civic infrastructure."

*[Translation]*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: The Government is not replying on points raised by us hence, we boycott the proceeding of the House.

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\* Not recorded

12.20 hrs.

*(At this stage Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav and some other Members left the House.)*

SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: We have no objection if an NIT is set up in Pudducheri. But, I would like to know why the NIT located in Andaman is being closed? I would like to give you an instance.

Population of Pudducheri is 9.71 lakh while, the population of Andaman-Nicobar Islands is only 6 lakh. There are proper road linkages in Pudducheri and Mainland is well connected with roads, on the other hand, you can reach Andaman-Nicobar Islands either by air or by ship which is very expensive. Most of the people of Andaman have never seen the mainland. With regard to economic activities I would like to state that several medium and large industries have been set up in Pudducheri but, there is not such industry in Andaman. Presently there are two national level institutions and eight private colleges in Pudducheri while, there is no national level institute in Andaman. The Ministry of Human Resources Development do not want to set up NIT in Andaman on the pretext of land, Centre is owner of the land of Andaman-Nicobar Islands and the inhabitants of Islands are tenants of Government of India. It is my submission that Government of India should acquire land for setting up NIT there.

Central Government have opened national level institute like I.I.M., I.I.T. and NERIST in north-east. NITs are being opened in Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Manipur and Sikkim during the 11th Plan. Why the Government of India is not opening NIT in Andaman? I demand that Government of India open a national level NIT in Andaman.

... *(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MADAM SPEAKER: Only what Dr. Thambidurai says will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)\**

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\* Not recorded

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI (Karur): Madam Speaker, I thank you for having allowed me to raise this very important matter of urgent public importance regarding "allocation of natural gas" to Southern States, especially to Tamil Nadu... *(Interruptions)* Madam, Tamil Nadu does not have adequate coal to produce thermal power. Tamil Nadu does not have adequate water for drinking and irrigation purposes. So, there is no question of producing hydel power. Hence, we are totally dependent on gas; and gas is the only alternative source of energy...*(Interruptions)*

A few days back, (on the 3rd of August) the hon. Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Shri Murli Deora made a statement in the Lok Sabha regarding "allocation of gas supply" and said that the Government will do everything possible to protect the interests of the Government and the public.

I would like to remind the House that in 2007, the Reliance Industries secured a clearance from the Government of India, for the production and supply of gas of about 80 metric cubic metre per day from the KG Basin. Accordingly, the Reliance Industries were supposed to lay main gas pipeline from Kakinada to Chennai, and other pipelines from (i) Chennai to Tuticorin, (ii) Chennai to Bangaluru and (iii) Chennai to Cochin.

But I am sorry to say that they have not even dug a single kilometre for laying the pipelines in these places; and deliberately, they are taking gas from Kakinada to Gujarat. They are concentrating only on Mumbai, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh and other Northern states. The gas from Bombay High is already taken to Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. ... *(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MADAM SPEAKER: You please conclude.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI: In the federal set up of our country, all the states have to be accorded equal rights, but here is a situation where the Southern States are suffering at the cost of other States. Southern States,



especially Tamil Nadu, are being ignored and neglected continuously by the Government of India... *(Interruptions)*

When all this injustice is being done, the DMK Party, being a part of the coalition Government is keeping quiet. It gives an impression that it is only interested in remaining in power and it is not bothered about bringing gas to Tamil Nadu....*(Interruptions)*

Hence, I request the Union Government to kindly pay serious attention to this problem and see that pipelines are laid and gas is taken to Southern States in right earnest so that Tamil Nadu also benefits from this. ...*(Interruptions)*

I also urge the Government of India to expedite the exploration of natural gas from the Cauvery Basin; and plead with the Government to take urgent steps to supply natural gas to Tamil Nadu at an early date. ... *(Interruptions)*

DR. RATNA DE (Hooghly): Madam, the forest blocks in my parliamentary Constituency, Hooghly, of West Bengal have been eroded by the river Ganges. The names of the villages affected are Sukuna, Chandra, Khoirmari Char, Bhowripur, Khatrianagar, Gosaipur, Hatikanda, Ramnagar, Gopalpur, Chandrabati I and Chandrabati II of Mogra Block. Around 30 kilometres of land at the bank of river Ganga, stretching from Guptipara of Balagarh (SC constituency) to Chandrabati II Mogra are affected. Two thousand acres of cultivated land has been lost. Thousands of residential homes, school buildings and burning ghats have been swallowed by the river...*(Interruptions)*

The people of the affected areas are mostly displaced persons from erstwhile East Pakistan who came across the border after the Independence. They are farmers, carpenters, and artisans by profession. ... *(Interruptions)* If some measure is not taken immediately those displaced people will have to be displaced again with loss of jobs and profession... *(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MADAM SPEAKER: You please take your seat. Please let him speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

DR. RATNA DE : I would request the relevant Department to take necessary steps to construct concrete guard wall and Embankment to safeguard lives and livelihood of those people... *(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.00 p.m.

12.24 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till  
Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Fourteen of the Clock.*

*(MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair)*

LAND PORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA BILL, 2009\*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Ajay Maken to introduce a Bill.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): Sir, I beg for leave to introduce the Land Ports Authority of India Bill, 2009 to provide for the establishment of the Land Ports Authority of India for the development and management of facilities for cross border movement of passengers and goods at designated points along the international borders of India and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce the Land Ports Authority of India Bill, 2009 to provide for the establishment of the Land Ports Authority of India for the development and management of facilities for cross border movement of passengers and goods at designated points along the international borders of India and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

\*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 7-8-09

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI AJAY MAKEN: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

...(Interruptions)

14.01 hrs.

#### MATTERS UNDER RULE 377\*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Matters under rule 377 are laid on the table of the House.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN (Ghosi): Deputy Speaker Sir, please give me a chance to speak.  
...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Matters under Rule 377 have been laid. We are following the tradition. We are not setting any tradition of our own.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

**(i) Need to take adequate preventive measures to check the spread of H1N1 virus in Pune and other parts of the country**

DR. K.S. RAO (Eluru): I would like to draw the urgent attention of the government towards the crisis that has arisen in Pune and other places following the untimely death of 14 years old girl Reeda in Pune due to H1N1 virus and the consequent panic created among the people. The Central Government should detail the steps to meet the situation in Pune and other parts of the country since the WHO feels that the virus is unstoppable.

**(ii) Need to recover the Government money outstanding against the Industrial Units in the country.**

[Translation]

SHRI HUKAMDEO NARAYAN YADAV (Madhubani): Total amount payable the Government outstanding against

industrial units is Rs.10,54390 crore. No action has been taken by the Government and Banks to recover the said outstanding amount. The manner in which action is taken against farmers and common men under the requisite rules, the same way action against these industrial houses should also be taken. Thousands of farmers in the country have committed suicide due to debt. All citizens of the country have equal rights under the articles of the constitution. Government should make statement on this and should take early action against these industrial houses and they should be prosecuted.

**(iii) Need to augment irrigation facilities and set up an Agricultural Research Centre in Giridih district of Jharkhand**

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY (Giridih): Giridih district of Jharkhand is famous for Mica industries and various industrial activities as well as pilgrimage places for Jains and as a Tourist place, but this district is lagging behind in agriculture sector. There is no adequate irrigation facilities in the district. Posting of agriculture scientists is almost negligible and Agriculture Research Centre has not been set up there till date. Thousands of farmers from Bokaro and Giridih have been denied Kisan Credit Cards. Many irrigation projects are pending in these districts and new projects need to be started. It is high time for the Central Government to expedite action in this regard because there is Presidents rule in the state.

Therefore, Central Government is requested to make early arrangement to open Agricultural Research Centre in Giridih district, to provide Kisan Credit Cards to every farmer to start new irrigation projects and to complete pending irrigation projects within stipulated time period.

**(iv) Need to set up a new unit of Fertilizers Corporation of India Limited in Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh**

YOGI ADITYA NATH (Gorakhpur): Fertilizers Corporation of India has played a very important role in the success of Green Revolution in the country. In order to provide fertilizers to farmers in time, fertilizer plants were set up in various parts of the country after independence. In this direction a unit of Fertilizers

\*Treated as laid on the Table.

Corporations of India was set up in Gorakhpur in 1969. This plant had played a very important role in the success of Green Revolution in eastern U.P. and Bihar. This Fertilizers plant was closed in June, 1990 after a minor accident and since then, this unit had been lying closed. There has been continuous mass movement to revive this unit. Three former Prime Ministers of the country had a visited the unit and assured the people of eastern U.P. to revive it or to set up a new plant but till date that assurance has remained on paper only. The Fertilizers Plant, situated in Gorakhpur has adequate land (1400 acre) which is still in its possession. Setting up of new fertilizer plant there is the only solution at present. It is requested to set up a new plant in place of the closed unit of Fertilizers Corporate of India at Gorakhpur keeping in view the larger public interest.

**(v) Need to construct Over bridges at Gadkhol and Bhulao crossings on Ahmedabad-Mumbai National Highway in Bharuch, Gujarat**

SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASVA (Bharuch): In my Parliamentary constituency, district Bharuch, Gadkhol crossing connects Ankleshwar and Bhulao crossing connects Bharuch. These two crossing are located on Ahmedabad-Mumbai National Railway route. Frequency of traffic to these two places is very high. Industrial traffic bound for these two places passes through these crossings. These two roads are main jammed for hours together due to heavy traffic and people face a lot of inconvenience. Keeping in view the inconvenience being faced by the people, it is very necessary to construct a separate over bridge across these crossings.

I would like to request through the house that he necessary directions should be issued to construct over bridges at Gadkhol and Bhulao crossing under Baruch-Ankleshwar district on Ahmedabad-Mumbai rail route.

**(vi) Need to start flight services from Disa Airport in Banaskantha district, Gujarat**

SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL (Mehsana): I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the need to start flight services from Disa Airport, district Banaskantha built in 1945 in the north region of Gujarat,

75 lac people of Patan, Banaskantha, Mehsana of North Gujarat will be benefited from this. This will promote tourism in Ambaji, Sankheshwar, Patan, Badnagar in North Gujarat. Tourism will also increase in nearby places like Mount Abu, Ranakpur and Udaipur. This is likely to promote dairies and diamond industry of these three districts. Oil mills and grain market are spread over these three districts in a large number. That is why, Indian and foreign industrialists from Israel, USA, Surat, Chennai, Mumbai, Kolkata and Delhi frequently visit these places.

The airport of Ahmedabad is located 150-200 km away from North Gujarat. The people of North Gujarat will be highly benefited by the operationalization of Disa airport.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing except the speech of hon. Minister will go on record.

(Interruptions)\*...

14.03 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

**Rise in prices of essential commodities – Contd.**

[Translation]

\*SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR (Chandrapur): Sir, several members have discussed the rising prices of essential commodities in the House. All the members expressed their concern about rising prices and commented on Government's failure. The Government failed to control rise in prices.

In a country having such a large population, there are more than 30% poorest among the poor BPL families. This large segment of poorest among poor people is distressed. Even middle class is also scared and worried. The Government should actively take stringent measures to control the price-rise. By paying special attention to the

\* Not recorded.

\*\* Speech was laid on the Table.

Public Distribution System, the Government should provide foodgrains to the poor people. The Government should issue directions to all the State Governments to check hoarding and black-marketing. Special squads should be deputed. EC Act should be implemented extensively to check black marketing, hoarding and profiteering.

The constantly increasing problem of Anemia among women and malnutrition among children of rural families living below poverty line due to poverty in the country is a matter of concern, but now, overall mal-nutrition and anemia due to soaring prices should be another matter of concern.

Producers sell several commodities in the market, at prices many fold higher than the production cost, so I would like to suggest that the prices of all the commodities, whether it is soap, toothpaste, biscuits, chocolates, medicines or other eatables, should be based on production cost, but the Government have not made any law for this. The manufactures fix the prices of products manufactured in their factory arbitrarily. This is the reason that prices are going out of control.

I would like to suggest that if MRP is got printed strictly on the products like medicines, cosmetics, cycle, motor vehicles etc. alongwith processed food, rising prices can be controlled. So, I demand for it.

\*SHRI RAMASHANKAR RAJBHAR (Salempur): The entire country is badly affected by excessive floods and drought and prices are sky rocketing. Can the Government not control rising prices at the time of distress of flood and drought? The decision to increase prices of diesel and petrol was definitely not a wise step. At the same time, it is not in the interest of the country if hoarders take advantage of the situation and pose artificial price-hike. The oil prices were increased two months back but the prices of essential commodities have not increased in that proportion, it is five times more. The prices of pulses, gram, green gram, flour, cement, iron, maurang, vegetables, oil are sky-high. The prices of cloth, school bags have also risen. Through you, the Government is requested to answer the question that when oil prices were increased, Which crop was ready that was procured by traders at

comparatively higher prices and now they are selling it at higher rates. With increase in oil prices, where has the stock gone had? The Government have witnessed that the commodities which they had hoarded are now available at higher rates taking advantage of oil price-hike. What wrong farmers have done that when pulses, green gram, gram, vegetables, wheat, rice were in their possession the prices were never high, by the time the commodities reached godowns, on the traders, are selling these commodities at 3-4 times higher prices than the price they paid for these commodities. Whether the Government proposes to provide benefit of price-hike to farmers which was effected by the industrialists in the name of increased cost of transportation of iron, cement, etc.

Sir, whether the Government have received donation from hoarders and industrialists for elections as a result of which it is giving liberty to them to suck the blood of the people. Whether the Government has instructed industrialists, hoarders not to increase prices at the time of disasters like flood and drought or it has tried to ascertain the actual position by raiding hoarders of food items. When the Government is not even able to control rising prices, how it will do Bharat Nirman. If rising prices are not controlled now, the people of the country would never forgive this Government.

Sir, this is no ordinary price rise, this is back-breaking rise in prices. If it is not checked, the people would first teach a befitting lesson to the MP's and then to the Government. It is well-known fact that hike in onion prices cost four State Governments to NDA. Today, prices of all the commodities have gone up. Imagine, how a farmer and a daily wager would manage in today's condition. If one has Rs.1000/- in his pocket, he can afford to spend Rs.200/- on pulses instead of Rs.100/-, it does not make any difference to him.

But according to the economic survey, some persons are earning 37 rupees per day and it is very difficult for them to afford pulses, vegetables, fees, rice, flour, sugar and oil and drought and price rise has compelled the people to die of starvation. So the Government should talk to State Governments and ask them to check hoarding with immediate effect and give subsidy as required and make arrangement of food at Gram Panchyat and sub-section level in villages and if possible save people from price rise.

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

\* SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY (Giridih): Sir, today the entire country is affected by price rise but according to the Government everything is going on well in the country. Government claims that the price rise is the result of global recession. Figures and data are showing progress in every sector.

But it is true that the share of agriculture sector in GDP was more than 50 percent at the time of Independence, but, now it has come down to 1/5th of GDP. Half the number of people engaged in agricultural sector are illiterate and only 5 percent people have completed their education till higher secondary level. Agriculture labourers lack income as well as education. In 1951-52 the growth rate of foodgrain-oilseeds was 4.19 percent, but, it has come down to 1.49 and 1.28 percent respectively during 9th and 10th five year plan. It was 3.52 percent in 2005 to 2007 during the UPA Government. The growth rate of pulses and vegetables is 1.61 percent.

Pulses are 80 rupees per kilogram and price of vegetables are 30 to 40 rupees per kilogram. The income of a labourer is Rs.40 per day on an average. Wheat, rice, vegetables, pulses and sugar are going out of the reach of poor people. Farmers are not getting MSP. Only some rich and clever farmers are getting KCC. Crores of remaining poor and illiterate farmers are deprived of this facility. Today, crores of people in the country have no house. The benefit of subsidy is being drained out due to corrupt Government machinery. The Government has no control over adulteration, hoarding and price rise. States have shortage of laboratories and employees for checking samples of adulteration, but still the country is progressing, because poor people may or may not progress but, adulterators are prospering.

Present price rise is an artificial price rise. The growth rate of pulses and vegetables was 5.95 percent in 2002 to 2005 which came down to 1.61 percent in 2006-07. N.S.O. has given this data and thereafter data has not been updated. Government should have become alert at that point of time when the growth rate of pulses and vegetables was declining. Proper arrangement should

have been made at that time, but the Government did nothing. False claims are being made to solve this problem, but it is an effort to confuse the people of this country.

Farmers of the country are not getting MSP despite the various claims made by the Government. The big companies are selling grains, vegetables, pulses and food items in air conditioned shops and getting huge benefit, but the poor farmers are unable to feed their families properly after selling foodgrains and vegetables grown by him. Government have created this gap. Thousands of farmers and labourers lost their lives for SEZ. Government have given the land of poor farmers to big industrialists and the plight of labourers, unemployed, farmers and common men is worsening day by day. Leaving aside the condition in the country it we talk about Delhi only, there also the contents of ammonia and chloride in water is 600 milligram per liter whereas the permissible limit of chloride contents in water is 250 milligram, as per the norm, laid down by the Central Pollution Control Board. But the Government is not concerned about the health of the people of this country. Among all other inequalities the common man is suffering due to price rise. The price have increased four to five times during the term of UPA Government in comparison to NDA Government. Almost all big companies have decreased the weight, quantity and quality of products and increased their prices. This tricky game is played in the face of the Government.

Today, we have same quantity of foodgrains, pulses, production, population and same consumption capacity of the common man of the India. Then suddenly where all stocks have disappear? Prices of all food times have increased. Whether people of Bangladesh and Pakistan are coming to India and consuming foodgrains.

In 2008-09 the estimated domestic production of pulses was 14.2 million metric tonnes, similar to the production in the year 2006-07 and it was 0.6 million metric tonne less in comparison to 2007-08. In July 2008, the prices has not increased to this extent when the price of crude oil had touched 147 US dollars because of the impending elections. Service class was lured by implementing Pay Commission even in such a period of crisis. Now Government should decide itself who is facing the consequences.

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

Today, the Minister of Labour and the Minister of Industry has admitted in reply to Questions that the law meant for labourers in this country is not as effective as the laws under IPC and Cr.PC and scams involving thousand of crore rupees have occurred through PSVS in the country. When the questions were raised about the appointment of Scientists in the field of Agriculture, then the Minister replied that we have no such proposal. How will you assess the condition and decide the direction for farmers and labourers in such a situation. As per the reports, the country suffered a total loss of Rs. 3337 crores during 2004-05 due to floods, whereas from the calamity relief fund only Rs.1286 crores were provided. The condition of major, medium and small irrigation scheme is deplorable.

Presently, condition of our State Jharkhand is worst. In comparison to all India percentage of SCs, STs and OBCs at 36.8, 47.3 and 26.7 respectively during 2004-05 under BPL population it has been 57.9, 54.2 and 40.2 percent respectively.

This is the present scenario of the country. Unless the Government rise above party lines and political consideration to accept the plight of the country, problem cannot be resolved. The Government need to increase agriculture growth rate, implement the irrigation projects on ground, interlink the rivers, check the activities of black marketers and hoarders and prevent the manufacturing companies from arbitrarily increasing the prices. Only then we can do justice with millions of the poor and workers of the country. For this, big business houses need to cooperate with the Government, leaving the SEZ and if the Government is not able to control hoarding, black marketing and adulteration activities then the Government should appeal the people that we are helpless. But we all are united.

\* SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR (Tikamgarh): Sir, the house is discussing the issue of Price rise. UPA Government had promised to bring down the rate of inflation and provide relief to the common man within 100 days, but after the constitution of 15th Lok Sabha, the prices of essential commodities are increasing day-by-

day. The prices of Petrol and Diesel were reduced before the elections, but their prices were raised again after the elections. Let alone consuming the pulses, common man cannot even dare to purchase the pulses. On the other hand of 2 lakh pulses is rotting at ports. Why the Government is not invoking the Essential Commodities Act. Why action is not being taken against the hoarders to check the prices. Now, it is a common talk among the people that whenever the Congress forms the Government, the prices of everything rise. It is the biggest challenge before us that 77 percent population of the country subsist only on rupees 20 per day. There is an urgent need to streamline the public distribution system and wheat, rice, sugar, pulses and all other essential commodities should be sold at fair price shops.

If we compare the UPA Government with NDA Government, we find that presently prices of all the items have increased. The rural population, poor persons and labourers are the worst affected by the price rise and the people are starving. The Government have made two square meals for the poor more difficult. Nothing could be solved merely by discussion. If the Government sincerely want to bring the prices down, then it need, to take some concrete measures taking all the political parties into confidence, only then the rising prices can be checked and the country be saved from the emerging situation of chaos, otherwise the situation may go out of control in the near future due to the present trend of price rise since, it is affecting each family and entire society. Hence, NDA needs to take positive steps with strong will power to check the prices.

\* SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIA (Amreli): Sir, I would like to express my views on the issue of price rise.

Sir, the current subject of discussion i.e. the price rise is associated with 80 crores people of the country who are not able to get two square meals. The Government is showing the rate of inflation below zero but, whether this negative rate of inflation is visible in the prices of food items of daily consumption? When rate of inflation was at 12 percent, the oil and pulses were being sold at the rate of Rs. 42 and 48 respectively, while presently, the pulses are being sold at more than 90 rupees per k.g. Similarly,

\* Speech was laid on the Table.

\* Speech was laid on the Table.

[Shri Naranbhai Kachhadia]

the prices of essential commodities of daily use like sugar, kerosene, rice and gas etc. are skyrocketing day by day. The Government is misguiding the common man by manipulation of figures and I would like to raise an important issue that during the rule of NDA Government, the 'Arhar' dal was being sold at rupees 28 per k.g. but now the same 'Dal' is being sold at rupees 91 per kg. The sugar which was available at Rs. 12 is being sold at Rs.28 now and its prices are likely to go up to Rs.40 per kg. during the festival seasons. The prices of diesel, which is directly related to the farmers are also skyrocketing day by day and with the increase in the prices of gas, the budget of housewives have got disturbed. The lower and middle class people are not able to provide quality education to their children due to hike in the tuition fees and this thing is going to affect the future development of the country.

The Government is indirectly encouraging price rise thereby, the fundamental right to life of the people mentioned under Article 21 of the Constitution is being infringed upon.

The prices of fertilizers, seeds, pesticides are skyrocketing. Not only this, the farmers are not being provided loans at cheaper rates. The farmers who are trapped in the clutches of moneylenders and also facing the drought condition are compelled to commit suicide. We daily see such reports in news. The Government is directly responsible for this condition. During the rule of NDA Government, the foodgrains were being exported from country but, during the present UPA Government rule, we have to import everything. The UPA Government has completely reversed the scenario for the worst during the last five years. Since, independence successive Congress Governments have claimed to remove poverty. but in stead of coming down, the poverty is increasing day by day. The inflation is eating up the entire country and the Congress Government has become a mute spectator. I would like to urge upon the members of all the parties sitting here that concrete steps should be taken to control the inflation.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : Mr. Deputy-

Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to the hon. Members for having raised many important issues on price rise which are badly affecting a sizeable section of our society. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Kaushambi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, how discussion can be held, when it has been laid. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have just followed the practice, I have done nothing on my own. There is no point in interrupting. Therefore, his speech will not go on record.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: All of you please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please take your seats. Let the Minister reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon'ble Minister you may proceed.

[English]

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : Sir, prices, particularly prices of essential commodities is one of the most important issues that have affected a sizeable section of our society. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

All the sections of society are considering the rising prices a serious problem.

This issue is being discussed in the House for the last two days. I do not want to take those issues politically which have been raised by those Members who have taken part in this debate. This is a serious problem. Today, this kind of situation has emerged in the country. In fact, this situation is not confined to our country, it has also emerged in some parts outside the country which can

affect us to some extent. Ten day ago, I had an opportunity to speak in the House. Unpredictable monsoon has created a grave situation in the country which is affecting several states particularly agriculture and some crops of the farmers. I had tried to apprise the House of this situation on that day. That day, I had also told about decreased farming area of some crops which may affect productivity and production of several crops. We all have to face this situation because people of the country especially poor class of society will have to pay more price due to the shortage in production. Regarding Hon. Members said parched areas had raised the issue of rising prices in the House. We had a detailed discussion on it yesterday but at the same time, it was being discussed in the Rajya Sabha also and I had to reply in that House. Therefore, I could not get an opportunity to listen the views of all the hon. Members in this House. But I got an opportunity to know the views expressed by respective hon. Members after going through the record of the House. I will try to inform the country men through the House about future policy of the Govt. of India and steps likely to be taken in the matter.

I want to make a point before this House from the very beginning that UPA Government has adopted the policy in which it will be seen how agriculture production in the country is increased, how remunerative price are given to the farmers and how success will be achieved in solving the problem of foodgrains in the country. We would pay attention to these points. We will think about the betterment of agriculture and farmers. If it is needed to solve the foodgrain problem of poor class of the society, we will provide subsidy to the people living below the poverty line and protect the interests of the people included in the Antyodaya Yojana. Presently, this is the dual objective of this Government. We wanted to follow this way.

We have seen over the last few years, as I have said earlier, that we are also being affected in some way by the changes occurring in the world. We are facing new forces such as income growth, climate change, high energy prices, globalization and increasing urbanization.

They have an impact on food consumption, production and market. We have been observing this for the last few

years. Second major problem being faced by the country and the world is inflation. We have achieved success in various fields. But a few months back, we have seen that crude oil, petroleum products have posed a big problem in the world, these have badly affected the world's economy and practically developing countries had to pay more price. But India has successfully faced the situation and moved ahead. Today, the issue of price rise is being discussed in newspapers and on television. I do not think that this is wrong. All the people pay more attention to those items which are essential to run a family. It is not that we have not witnessed price rise in the country earlier. We have witnessed price-rise, drought, flood earlier also but at present there are some items which have made common man and poor people of the society restless. First, we will have to discuss about pulses. Efforts are being made to increase the production of pulses in the country over the last several years. We have also achieved success to some extent. On one hand efforts were being made to increase the production but on the other hand, their demand was also increasing. Their domestic production in our country for last two to three years has been 14 or 15 million tonnes and demand of country is around 17 or 18 million tonnes. Thus, the gap between production and demand is 3.5 or 4 million tonnes. Government of India, whether it is UPA or NDA Government have adopted the policy of import to fill this gap. On one hand, efforts were made to increase the production and on the other hand, it resorted to imports to bridge the gap and it was also considered as to how to make more imports properly without taxes and excise duty. During the crop season 2008-09 production of pulses decreased considerably and out of these, production of three items toor, urad and moong decreased significantly. As Laluji has said here that common man does not want much except 'roti' with 'daal' and among pulses they prefer 'toor', 'urad' and 'moong'. Production of these items decreased which has affected the poor man and other sections of the society.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura): I agree with what you are saying but, what about the pulses, which are rotting at ports, as has been mentioned by many of my colleagues?



SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: I will come to that point also. We had an option of import also. As per the scenario of production of pulses in the year 2008-2009, only few countries produce or have surplus stock of pulses, all over the world, like Myanmar, Argentina, some parts of America and Australia. Pulses are imported from these four-five countries to meet the shortage of pulses. This year, the surplus stock of pulses was five million tonnes globally, out of this stock, we imported two and half million tonnes of pulses, through some public sector undertakings of Government of India like PEC, MMTC, NAFED and STC. They purchased around ten lakh tonnes of pulses. These undertakings purchased the pulses on the advice of the Government of India and they did not bring it on the account of Government. They purchased the pulses on the advice of the Government and made efforts to make the pulses available in the market. There has been a gap between the total requirement of pulses and their production in the country. This has badly affected the availability of 'Toor', 'Urad' and 'Moong' pulses and these pulses were available to the people at different prices at different places. In some areas 'Toor' 'Daal' is being sold at Rs. 90 to 100 per kg. We collect details of prices from Ministry of Consumer Affairs in Delhi and yesterday. I was going through the retail prices of pulses and according to information available with us the pulses are being sold in the range of Rs. 75 to Rs. 90 per kg. in different states and cities. These are highly exorbitant price. The common man cannot afford these prices. There is an urgent need to take some steps in this regard, we have two options before us. First one is formulation of a long term policy to solve this problem. This year there is drought like situation in several parts of the country but, despite this, it has been considered as to how the cultivable area of pulses could be increased. I am pleased to inform the House that the sowing area of pulses which has been increased over the last four years is unprecedented. I hope that if there is sufficient rainfall in the pulses producing areas in the coming 10-15 days, the scenario may change soon.

Pulses are produced in several parts of the country. Pulses are produced mostly in Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, some parts of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra and in addition to that pulses are also produced in less quantity in Punjab, some parts of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.

We can supply the surplus to other states of the country. Mostly it is produced in four states, but the production depends there on rainfall. The situation of availability of water at least in some parts of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh is better than Uttar Pradesh and Bihar and if the situation improves further in the coming three-four weeks then we may hope for the change in the scenario.

On the other hand as I have said we have the option of import also and we are exercising that option. With regard to the matter raised in the House about which I have also come to know through T.V. Channels and newspapers that lacks of tonnes of pulses imported by the Government are rotting at ports. Through this House I would like to apprise the countrymen of the fact that the Government have not purchased pulses from anywhere. Government of India permitted four of its undertakings to import the pulses and sell them in Indian markets and the Government is ready to bear a certain part of losses that they will incur in this regard. Government of India had entrusted these undertakings the responsibility of making the pulses available in the country. The four undertakings which imported pulses are PEC, MMTC, NAFED and STC. These four undertakings imported the total contracted quantity of 10,29,140 tonnes. The date of arrival of consignment is 22 July, 2009.

*[English]*

The actual arrival is 9,13,820 tonnes. As I said earlier, we have contracted for the quantity of 10,29,140 tonnes out of that 9,13,820 tonnes reached India. Out of the 9 lakh tonnes of pulses, which reached India a quantity of 7,03,445 tonnes has been disposed of. That has been disposed of in the open market.

*[Translation]*

The demand of certain states has been fulfilled. The stock in our hand as has been mentioned by Sh. Sharad Yadavji was two lakh ten thousand tonnes. On being enquired, all the Public Sector undertaking intimated us in writing that the stock imported by them did not get spoiled and is quite all right. It is evident that NAFED had imported 6 thousand tonnes of pulses and the said consignment

was held up at Kolkata port due to the time taken in giving certain clearances required for food items and the customs did not clear it. Later on NAFED submitted all the required documents, thereafter the customs cleared entire consignment and NAFED transported the goods to the destined place.

This is a false report that imported goods are lying at ports. As regards the written reply given by these four public sector undertaking, we have observed the situation and it is clear that this report is not true. Another thing is the way these four undertakings imported 10 lakh tonnes of goods. Similarly, private traders may also import 15-20 lakh tonnes of goods in the country. I have gone through their statement also. Their Association has given a statement.

[English]

"Pulses Importers Association of India" What have they said?

"Several allegations have been appearing in newspapers that the stocks of pulses are lying in the ports on account of Government or private trade and that, over the months, the quality of the stock has been deteriorating. The Pulses Importers Association wishes to clarify that this is untrue and wish to inform you that the stock position of yellow peas and others at the ports and port cities is as follows and they are in good condition."

[Translation]

Private Sector has also clarified that there is no damage to the goods imported. If there is damage in four or six bags and it is highlighted by newspapers or television at the time when there is big crisis before the country, it may create doubts among the people of the country.  
...(Interruptions)

SHRI LALU PRASAD (Saran): Goods are lying at Mundra port.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: There are no imported goods lying at Mudra Port. Goods have been brought from Kolkata, Mumbai, Tutikorin, Chennai, Vizag, Kakinada etc. ports. Food Department has given this report. It has been reported that goods have not been brought from other places.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Adani Port is the largest port in Gujarat. All goods are lying there but no one is there to lift it. You can conduct an investigation to ascertain whether goods were there or not.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Our all ports fall under the Ministry of Shipping. We have sought the written information from the Ministry of Shipping regarding quantity of pulses and sugar received in each port along with dates. They have told that pulses have been received at Kolkata, Mumbai, Tutikorin, Vizag and Kakinada ports and their details have been provided alongwith four private sector organizations. Private Association and Pulses Association of India have also provided details in this regard. We have come to know through them that such situation has not arisen. As I said earlier, if there is damage of four-five bags in such a large country and it comes before the people through newspapers and television then, for you or me it may be a matter of concern that this is not a good thing. Keeping it in view, this issue might have been raised here. Due attention will be paid to avoid recurrence of such situation. Since there is a need to make efforts to fill the gap between demand and supply by importing pulses in the country, I agree in this regard and there is no doubt about it.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there has been a lot of debate on price-rise and hon'ble Minister of Agriculture is replying with fall preparation. We thank him for it, but whether the hon'ble Minister is ready to accept two things? The products of a factory should not be sold at more than one and a half of the cost price. I would like to give an example. The common injection for T.B. is being sold at the rate of Rs.10/-. If you see the cost of it, it is not more than Rs.3/-. This should be sold at the rate of Rs.4.50. Second thing is that the price of agriculture products should not be increased by more than 20 percent between the period from one crop to another which is called price control policy. We will co-operate with the Government which has courage to implement the price control policy. Whether the hon'ble Minister will implement price control policy?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: What did you say about prices?

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: My question is about price control policy. I have to say that profit on a product coming out of a factory should not be more than one and a half times of the cost of production.

For example, an injection for T.B. which costs Rs.3/- is being sold at Rs. 10 in the market and Rs. 225 at medical stores while the profit should not be more than one and a half times than the cost and the prices of agricultural products should not be increased by more than 20-25 percent between the period from one crop to another. Will the Government implement the price control policy?

[English]

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : I come to Minimum Support Price. That is one of the important issues which I also feel it.

[Translation]

Whatever is the impact, it is directly or indirectly. We cannot ignore it. But first of all, I paid attention to the main item i.e. pulses about which there is resentment among the people and families of common people have to pay more price.

Second important item is sugar. As far as sugar is concerned, I have been observing for many years that it has a cycle. The cycle is of 5 years. Production of sugar is always higher in three years and in the rest of 2 years it production remains lower. When production of sugar remains lower, prices of sugarcane touches the park. Farmers again grow more sugarcane and after two years, production in the country is much more than the requirement. Prices of sugar fall down and farmers do not get fare price and they shift over to other crops. Such situation has been arising in the country for years. This is a cycle in the field of sugar. Members of the House might remember that three years ago, the country had record production of sugar from 260 to 300 lac tonnes and stocks of sugar were laying here and there. The sugar mills, which were responsible to pay the price of sugarcanes to the farmers, were not in a position to pay and Uttar Pradesh has been affected most adversely by this. I remember, Mulayam Singh Yadavji was the Chief Minister of the state and it was considered that the farmers should get appropriate price of sugar-cane. He personally pursued the matter with sugar mill owners at various places where

prices were not given and created the environment to give fair price of sugar and then the farmers got the price. But in succeeding two years, farmers of Uttar Pradesh were not getting fare price of sugar and this situation was prevailed not only in Uttar Pradesh but in other states also because price of sugar had reduced below Rs. 1000 per tonne where as the production and the expenses incurred on the production were more than this. Factories as well as mills faced crisis. Stock was lying but there was no demand. There was no demand in international market also. Therefore, the Government had to take necessary action. In such circumstances, the Government had taken an initiative to provide financial assistance to buffer stock and an amount of Rs. 800 crore had been provided to come out of this situation and assistance was also given to from at exports in order to reduce the surplus stock of sugar. I remember when prices of sugarcane come down drastically three years ago, prices of sugar were around Rs. 12 or Rs. 13 and it was demanded in the House that prices of sugar should be reduced further. I had said at that time that until prices of sugar reach Rs. 20 or 22, farmers would not get fair price and if they do not get appropriate price, after lapse of two years I think people of this country will have to purchase sugar at a price of Rs. 27, Rs. 28 or Rs. 30 per kg. because farmers will shift to other crops.

I had said this in the House which is in the record and the same situation has arisen today.

[English]

Last year, when this Government had announced Rs. 1080 per quintal price for wheat, a sizeable section of farming community, particularly in Uttar Pradesh, shifted from sugarcane to wheat.

[Translation]

Production of foodgrain has reduced. At present, highest sugar producing state is Uttar Pradesh but the cost of sugarcane has become lowest in the state. Production of sugar has reduced in Uttar Pradesh. After this, Maharashtra comes second and production of the state reduced at that particular. When production in two states reduced, resultant availability of sugar in the country

also reduced and today we are paying its price. This problem has not ended here only, three higher sugar producing countries are Australia, Brazil, Thailand and fourth is South Africa. Production of sugar reduced in all these countries except Brazil. In Brazil, the cost of sugarcane has increased because continuous rainfall for the last few days has affected the harvesting and transport operation, which as a result hampered the production of sugar. The price of sugar increased in the world due to this reason and even Indians are also facing the consequences of the same.

Sir, I want to raise one point in the House, when India enters into world market with its produce prices decrease in the world and when India steps in as a buyer in the same market the prices show upward trend. We purchase in bulk and it affects the whole world. Today, whether it is sugar or pulses, this situation has emerged in both the areas due to India. We need to find out some solution for the same. First initiative, which we have taken is that we increased minimum support price from Rs. 81 per quintal to Rs. 109 per quintal. So this increase was there due to this step. Another step has been taken.

[English]

This is statutory minimum price, it is not the final price.

[Translation]

The sugar mill owners have to pay more and they can. If they are in position to pay, they should pay. This will increase the price of sugarcane. In my opinion, rain has created a different kind of situation otherwise sugarcane farming could be done in more area of the country. We had a question of import of sugar from other countries. Let me tell you that we were not in favour of importing sugar from foreign countries. But when consumers in our country got in trouble and such kind of situation arrived, then Government of India took conscious decision to import raw sugar from outside. Few Members asked as to why do we import raw sugar instead of fine sugar? Its reply is that raw sugar is cheaper. We will import raw sugar and process that sugar in our mills, thereby capacity of our sugar mills will be utilised and workers will get

employment, thereafter, we can sell that sugar in market. It is true the fine sugar could be sold to the consumers directly, but in that case we cannot help other people. We took a conscious decision. We have now abolished all the taxes in this regard and have given permission to import unlimited quantity of raw sugar.

[English]

About 29 lakh tonne raw sugar has reached in this country and the process will start from next month when actually the mills will start crushing.

[Translation]

This process will continue to be in effect until mills start working. The instructions have been issued to the importers to release the fine sugar in the market within three months of its import and if they fail to do so, then entire stock will be seized and will be distributed through public distribution shops. We have taken this step. We are hopeful that it will have some positive effect and import of sugar will become easier.

Production of oilseeds has increased in some areas of our country during the last few years. Production of Soyabean is increasing day by day particularly in Madhya Pradesh, some parts of Vidarbha in Maharashtra, Karnataka and some other parts in other states. Production of soyabean and mustard has increased in some areas and the production of cotton, groundnut and other crops was also very good in some areas. Even then, there was a gap between demand and supply and the Government of India whether it was NDA Government or present Government has been pursuing the policy of importing edible oil since last ten years and presently we are importing soya oil and palm oil at large scale from Indonesia, Malaysia and some other countries and try to bridge the gap between demand and supply.

Sir, some positive trends are visible in the international market as the prices of oil seeds and refined oil are coming down since last one month. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad East): It has resulted into price rise of everything.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: No, the prices of oil have come down.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: The price of each and every commodity has gone up.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: It has started affecting the prices of oils also in the country. A delegation of farmers met me four days ago and another delegation of Members from Kerala also met me. They delegations asked me to impose some duties on duty free oils being imported. Members from Kerala may be sitting in the House.

[English]

I hope, some hon. Members from Kerala are now present here. There was a demand from the farmers from Kerala that we should not allow easily the import of these oils, and particularly the import of these oils should be stopped in Kerala. That was the demand from the hon. Members from Kerala because it was affecting the interests of the domestic farmers of Kerala. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (Kasargod): Sir, it is seriously affecting the coconut farmers in Kerala. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: In fact, I am saying the same thing; what you are saying is correct.

[Translation]

Today, we are importing, which is affecting our domestic producers. As the Members from Kerala have lodged a complaint, similar kind of situation is arising in several parts of the country. Import of oilseed and refined oil resulted in reduction of prices of those things in domestic markets and affecting our domestic production, hence, we need to maintain a balance in this regard. We want to protect the interests of consumers. Simultaneously, we need to ensure that the domestic production does not come down and the farmers do not get desperate. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEV ACHARIA (Bankura): You tell us where it is coming down, on the contrary it is increasing. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: You tell us in which country its prices have gone up.

[English]

Please name these countries. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It will be better if you raise the point after conclusion of speech by the Minister, whereas if you continue to interrupt him he will not be able to reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Therefore, let the Minister conclude.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: You tell us what is the way out in this regard? Inflation has not come down. The inflation has gone up during the last six and half years, when it is going to come down. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You please take your seat.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: A common man has nothing to do with all these.

[English]

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Why do you not listen? Please have some patience. ...*(Interruptions)*

Currently, in the international market, the price of the edible oil, as on 30th of July, 2009, is lower as compared to the same date last year. Palm oil price declined by 37.76 percent per tonne, FOB; the price of soyabean has declined by 43.6 percent. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI BASU DEV ACHARIA: The prices are declining in other countries but that is not happening in India.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Let me explain. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let him explain. You please take your seat.

14.44 hrs.

(MADAM SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: You admit that this is happening in other countries. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

In the domestic market also, the wholesale price of the edible oil has declined in the same period; soyabean oil by 31.58 per cent; sun flower oil by 33.33 per cent; and palm oil by 30.77 per cent...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Are you talking about the wholesale price or the consumer price? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : If the wholesale price has come down, there are some repercussions on consumer price too.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : There are no repercussions ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN (Bhagalpur): Whether you are talking about consumer prices or wholesale prices?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: I am telling about both. There is some or the other impact on this also.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: I want to know about the consumer prices. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: I would just like to give information. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: You please take your seat. Kindly listen to him attentively.

[English]

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: I am just reading the statement. This is dated 6th August, retail price of the

selected essential commodities in Delhi. You are referring about oil. On 6th August, 2008, the groundnut oil price in the city of Delhi was Rs. 121 per kilo; and today, it is Rs. 107 per kilo. About mustard oil, it was Rs. 85 per kilo on 6th August, 2008 and today, it is Rs. 65 per kilo. About vanaspati oil, it was Rs. 73 per kilo and today, it is Rs. 55 per kilo. ...*(Interruptions)* These are the official figures of Delhi. ...*(Interruptions)* If you are not willing to understand, what can I do? ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Please take your seats.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Madam Speaker, I am not raising any question. Several hon'ble Members want to speak after the conclusion of hon'ble Minister's speech. Hon'ble Minister may reply the queries later on. If you make such arrangement, then uproar may be avoided.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): Position has become clear from the reply of the Minister. More than required time has been taken for this matter.

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Minister, please continue.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: So, these are the important items.

[Translation]

I made it clear in the beginning itself that I am not giving any such statement that the prices of essential commodities are declining appropriately, which will satisfy the common man. But, I have certainly admitted that the prices of sugar have reached a stage, which is affecting every section of the society. We need to make certain efforts to bring down the prices of sugar. We may have to follow the option of import and subsidy also. Simultaneously, there is need to make efforts to increase production under long term planning. The year, another problem of scanty rainfall has arisen which has affected the production. I have admitted it in the beginning itself. I do not want to overlook this situation. The Government is well aware of the suffering of common man. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Madam Speaker, You have not given any decision on the point raised by me. Bansalji said. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Let the Minister complete his reply.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: What should I do, should I leave?

MADAM SPEAKER: No, why would you leave, you listen the complete reply.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Where will you go?

MADAM SPEAKER: Please listen the reply. Why would you leave?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Where will you go after leaving us?

SHRI LALU PRASAD: I am here only.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: When you are saying that the answer will not be given. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please listen the complete answer. This issue has been discussed. Hon'ble Minister is replying. Mulayam Singhji, please calm down.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Madam Speaker, some hon'ble Members have mentioned about the hike in prices of vegetables. It is true that there has been scanty rainfall during last few years. The situation of water in the country has become grave which is affecting the vegetables also. But there is difference between the rates vegetables and pulses, since circumstances of vegetables in the country do not remain permanent.

I have seen it so many times. Onion is grown on large scale in the area to which I belong. Sometimes price of onion comes down to such a low level, that the farmer is not able to recover even the transportation cost to bring it to the market and he suffers. Sometimes price of onion touches a height, where it makes the consumer to suffer. We have seen it so many times. Today this situation has arisen. Today the drought situation prevailing in the country has more or less affected it and we cannot ignore it.

Whether it is potato or onion, it has affected these commodities. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Madam, medicines have become expensive. I asked the question in this regard. Medicines are so expensive that poor people cannot take treatment. Hundreds of people are dying due to non availability as these are very expensive. ...*(Interruptions)* Whether the Minister of Agriculture will give any statement in this regard.

MADAM SPEAKER: Please be quiet. Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Madam, Mulayam Singhji has mentioned one thing before the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please take your seat. Please be quiet.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MADAM SPEAKER: No, please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Madam I would like to say one thing. Hon'ble Minister, we are senior leaders.

MADAM SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Madam, please listen to me. I may be given one minute. Here the main question is of starvation. There is no mention of rice in the starvation. I am ready to accept that there is shortage of pulses. Wheat is also not going to be produced. What is the arrangement in buffer stock to provide food for two years? ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please take your seat. Please allow the Minister to complete his answer.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Please tell first the quantity of grains stored in the buffer stock to fulfill the minimum requirements? ...*(Interruptions)* Then discuss about the sugar. There are update marketers, hoarders and what is being planned in regard to dehoarding? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Lalu Prasadji, please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: This is a very good question, raised before the House by both Yadavs, whether he is Lalu Yadavji or Mulayam Singhji. Mulayam Singhji has asked for the protection of interests of farmers. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LALU PRASAD: I have competition with Mulayam Singhji. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: I am sorry, both of you and Sharadji are same. Do not ignore him. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Why are you bothered about three yadavs? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Three Yadavs should not interrupt the proceeding of the House altogether, this is in our favour. I am sorry, this is a joke only. Two important issues are there.

*[English]*

Regarding the Minimum Support Price, the Government has taken conscious decision to provide a better price to the Farming Community.

*[Translation]*

I would like to say one thing before the House, as I said earlier, there was low production of wheat. In this House itself, when it was decided to import wheat three years ago, people showed their resentment.

*[Translation]*

It was clear and UPA Government under the leadership of Dr. Manmohan Singh had decided to increase the price of wheat from Rs. 600 to Rs. 1000 per quintal.

Madam, next year it was increased to Rs. 1080. Today, Laluji raised this issue here. We have had record production of wheat since independence. Procurement of wheat was never so high since Independence. Today, we have a stock of 252 lac tonnes of wheat. As Laluji said, for next 13 months. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: You all please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Today, we have achieved success in procuring 252 lac tonnes of wheat. The Government has sufficient stock of wheat to meet the requirement of the country for the next 13 month.

As far as Laluji's second point regarding rice is concerned, that is also equally important. Today, we have achieved record procurement of rice i.e., around 356 lac tonnes. We have buffer stock of 13 months for the requirement of the country.

The only problem which we are facing relates to some areas of Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Orissa and Andhra Pradesh. The rice from these states which is also called 'Usana' as well as par Boil rice, is yet to be purchased. ...*(Interruptions)* This kind of rice is still available with farmers and mills. We are fully prepared to purchase the same. But no other state in the country is ready to purchase Usana rice. We have at least supplied the said rice in the states. Where it is produced for public distribution, they should accept the said rice. Food Corporation of India will purchase entire quantity of rice available with states be it Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh or Orissa and these states will have to supply it for public distribution. We are ready to provide and they will have to accept. Otherwise nobody will accept this rice in the country after the purchase of the same and that will cause losses for the countrymen. I want to put this point before this House.

One point has been raised here about price. As I have said that efforts to give remunerative prices for wheat, rice and paddy have yielded good results. But demand has been made here particularly from Chhattisgarh, to give higher prices than the earlier ones. Yesterday, I received a letter from hon. Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh. He has written and recommended for common grade.



[Shri Sharad Pawar]

[English]

Rs. 1,186 is the price for one quintal of paddy which has been proposed by the hon. Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh. In fact, one should go in detail. What will be the ultimate impact on price of rice?

[Translation]

We get 65 k.g. rice when we purchase one quintal paddy.

[English]

If we pay Rs. 1,186 and add Rs. 148 of local taxes at the rate of 12.5 percent, it will come to Rs. 1,334. Then, there will be *mandi* charges of Rs. 15. Rice recovery will be 67 percent. Therefore, the cost of one quintal of rice will be Rs. 2,024. In addition, there will be cost of Rs. 50 towards gunny bags. So, the total price of one quintal is Rs. 2,074.

[Translation]

You see, if cost of rice has gone to Rs. 2100 per quintal, then at what rate we should provide it to the consumers. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Please keep quite.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Today, we have paid Rs. 2100 per quintal to the farmers and paid for its processing and if it cost Rs. 2100 per quintal to the Government, then the common people will have to pay heavy price. I am of this view that farmers should get good prices. The Government has taken steps to give good prices to the farmers which they had never got. But we cannot ignore the consumers while paying the prices. We have to maintain a balance between the two.

15.00 hrs.

This Government has accepted the approach to maintain balance till date. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

There was an issue ... *(Interruptions)* which has been raised by some hon. Members, namely, that allocation of food grains for State Public Distribution System (PDS) has been reduced for BPL and AAY. I would like to make one position absolutely clear that not for a single State and not

even one grain was reduced by this Government for BPL and AAY. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (Kasargod) : As far as Kerala is concerned, the APL quota was reduced as compared to 2007. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : I said that not a single grain has been reduced for BPL and AAY. Not only that, the price, which has been fixed in 2002, even today we are selling at the price of 2002 to the BPL category, and AAY ... *(Interruptions)* We have not enhanced the price. We have taken substantial burden, and that is the reason that the burden of the subsidy has gone up from Rs. 19,000 crore to Rs. 55,000 crore. Therefore, this type of burden this Government has taken just to protect the interest of vulnerable sections of the society. ... *(Interruptions)*

Secondly, there was a demand ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHAGEN DAS (Tripura West) : What about the APL category? ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : As regards Above Poverty Line (APL), we have taken a decision for supply of uniform minimum 10 kgs. Kerala was one of the States, which was always coming with some proposals, and I always try to accommodate it.

In fact, I saw the statement from one of the Ministers from Kerala day-before yesterday stating that : "We have approached the Government of India, the hon. Prime Minister, and the Agriculture Minister for some support and additional quota for the festival, but it was not accepted by the Government of India." I am sorry to say this. The hon. Chief Minister of Kerala and the hon. Civil Supplies Minister of Kerala Mr. Divakaran and their officials met me personally, and they gave a request that they want 50,000 tonnes additional quota of rice and 25,000 tonnes additional quota of wheat for the festival and that it has to be released as early as possible. I just told him then that we have assessed the stock position, and we said that : "Yes, we are ready to supply this. We can protect the interest of all the people from Kerala for the Onam festival."

The only question was about price. The price, whatever I am paying to the farmers, you will have to pay that money to us. Therefore, that price we are expecting from them. ... *(Interruptions)* We have made allocation to the State for 50,000 tonnes of rice and 25,000 tonnes of wheat. ... *(Interruptions)* Still, I have seen the statement from the Kerala leadership that the Government of India

has not sanctioned a single grain to them. ... *(Interruptions)*  
 I am sorry to say this. ... *(Interruptions)* This Government  
 will never take this type of approach with any State  
 Government irrespective of political party. ... *(Interruptions)*  
 This is our total approach about it. ... *(Interruptions)*

Hon. Shri Basu Deb Acharia ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN : It is for the festival of  
 Onam in Kerala. ... *(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please take your seat. Let the  
 hon. Minister reply.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN : We would request the  
 hon. Minister for this because this is for the Onam festival  
 in Kerala. ... *(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Member, please take your  
 seat. Kindly take your seat.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : Please do not confuse  
 things with it. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN : What about the APL price,  
 and not the BPL price? ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : Whatever price I am paying  
 to the farmers ... *(Interruptions)* Additional quota from any  
 State, they have to accept the price, which has been paid  
 to the farmers. We do not want to take establishment  
 charges and we do not want all the money that we are  
 spending for interest, store charges, transport charges,  
 etc. All the burden will be taken by the Government of  
 India, but the money, which has been paid to the farmers  
 has to be recovered from the respective States for  
 additional quota. This type of decision is taken.  
 ... *(Interruptions)*

As regards action on essential Commodities,

*[Translation]*

Laluji has talked about hoarding. The Government of  
 India has asked all the state Governments to take action  
 regarding stock limit, licencing, stock declaration and  
 hoarding on the basis of Essential Commodities Act.

18 states of the country have accepted it and 13  
 states issued necessary orders in this regard. The steps  
 taken by the state Governments this year quite are  
 insufficient. Four states in the country achieved of total  
 detection, these states have submitted the records to us  
 according to which 126 persons were detained till date,  
 which include big traders or some other people. Hon.  
 Prime Minister has called a meeting of all Chief Secretaries  
 of the country and others tomorrow to review the drought  
 situation. ... *(Interruptions)*

AN HON. MEMBER: Which are those four states?  
 ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Uttar Pradesh is not facing  
 drought like situation. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Earlier also, Hon. Prime  
 Minister had written letter to all Chief Ministers. At that time  
 also, states extended no cooperation. He is not telling the  
 truth, if we want to purchase pulses for one lac rupees, it  
 is available there and price rise is touching a new heigh.  
 ... *(Interruptions)* He will not start drive against black  
 marketers, to check hoarding. ... *(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Lalu Prasadji, let the hon'ble  
 Minister reply.

... *(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : As a first step, tomorrow  
 morning, at 10.30 a.m., a meeting of all the Chief  
 Secretaries has been called to take a review of what exact  
 action the State are taking to control the hoarders, the  
 black-marketeers. We will find out what effective steps  
 have effective steps have been taken by them. There is  
 also a proposal, I am not sure, that probably on the 17th  
 of this month, a meeting of Chief Ministers may also be  
 called just to discuss this. We will try to urge them that  
 each State has to take very deterrent action against  
 hoarders and black-marketeers. That action will be taken.  
 The situation is very serious. The Government of India has  
 taken this entire situation quite seriously. We have decided  
 that whatever is available here, we will try to distribute it  
 properly, and whatever shortfall is there, we will try to

[Shri Sharad Pawar]

import it from anywhere in the world. Our efforts will be to see that there is no question of food shortage in this country, and common man should not be affected because of higher prices, which is beyond his control.

... (Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Please sit down, you cannot be standing up all the time.

... (Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Please sit down. We have had a debate. Please sit down.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : He has not stated anything. We are walking out in protest.

15.07 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Basu Deb Acharia and some other hon. Members left the House.)

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ (Vidisha) : Madam Speaker, Leader of Opposition wants to speak.  
...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri Lal Krishna Advaniji, do you want to speak?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): Madam Speaker, efforts have been made in the House for the last few days to call for discussion on price-rise in the country. The discussion which took place yesterday and today was started by a leader of CPM and I feel that the reply given now, does not satisfy the House because production and procurement have increased, even then there is inflation, why it is so? This Government should never forget that they have won the elections and they have got good mandate. During these elections, they had resolved to do

justice particularly to the common man. If the common man is suffering most from price rise and he is facing difficulties, than, incase of rise in the prices of pulses, the condition of the poor. Hon. Minister has talked about vegetables but the most painful thing is. ... (Interruptions)

Madam Speaker, as the House will be prorogued now, we will definitely participate in national anthem but as a protest we are staging walk out from the House.

15.09 hrs.

(Shri L.K. Advani and some other hon. Members then left the House)

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Please keep quiet. They want to stage a walk out, let them do it peacefully. You please keep quiet.

...(Interruptions)

15.10 hrs.

#### VALEDICTORY REFERENCE

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon'ble Members, the Second Session of the Fifteenth Lok Sabha, which commenced on 2nd July, 2009 is coming to a close today.

During the Session, which is the first Budget Session of the 15th Lok Sabha, we had 26 sittings spread over 162 hours.

The Budget (Railways) and the Budget (General) for the year 2009-2010, were presented on 3rd and 6th July, 2009 respectively.

The House had a structured discussion on the Budget (Railways) for 2009-2010 lasting for 17 hours and 57 minutes in which 197 members participated. As the Departmentally Related Standing Committees have not yet been constituted, the Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2009-2010 were voted after a motion regarding

suspension of rule 331G was adopted and the related Appropriation Bill was passed.

The House also had combined discussion lasting over 17 hours and 12 minutes on the Budget (General) for 2009-2010 and Demands for Excess Grants (General), 2006-2007, before the said Demands were voted and the related Appropriation Bill was passed.

The Demands for Grants for 2009-2010, in respect of the Ministries of Human Resource Development, Agriculture and Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Power, Home Affairs and Women and Child Development were discussed, after adoption of a motion for suspension of Rule 331G, for 31 hours and 18 minutes before being voted in full. All the other outstanding Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget (General) for 2009-2010 of the remaining Ministries were submitted to the vote of the House and voted in full on 23rd July, 2009 and the related Appropriation Bill was passed.

The Budget in respect of State of Jharkhand for the year 2009-2010 was presented to Lok Sabha on 8th July, 2009. A combined discussion on the motion for revocation of President's Rule in Jharkhand and Statutory Resolution for extension of President's Rule in the State along with the Budget in respect of the State of Jharkhand for 2009-2010 and Demands for Grants (Jharkhand) 2009-2010 were taken up. After discussion, the Motion for revocation of President's Rule in Jharkhand was put to vote and negatived and the Statutory Resolution was adopted. The Demands for Grants were voted in full and the related Appropriation Bill was passed.

The House also discussed the Finance Bill, 2009 for about 9 hours and 49 minutes before it was passed to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 2009-2010.

During the Session, 16 Bills were introduced and 8 Bills were passed. Some of the important Bills passed were the Constitution (One Hundred and Ninth Amendment) Bill, 2009 and the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Bill, 2009.

During the Session, 500 starred questions were listed, out of which 87 Questions could be answered

orally. Thus, on an average, about 3.34 Questions could be answered per day. Written replies to the remaining Starred Questions along with 4894 Unstarred questions were laid on the Table.

About 280 matters of urgent public importance were raised by the Members after the Question Hour and by sitting late in the evening. Hon. Members also raised 322 matters under the Rule 377.

The House also had four short duration discussions under rule 193 on subjects of urgent public importance, namely, (i) the situation arising out of rapid spread of swine flu in the country; (ii) the situation arising out of drought and floods in various parts of the country; (iii) the issues arising out of Prime Minister's recent visit to foreign countries and (iv) the rise in prices of essential commodities. While the discussion on swine flu remained inconclusive, the other three discussions were concluded with the reply of the concerned Ministers.

During the Session, three important matters were raised by way of Calling Attention, namely (i) need to check the pollution in rivers and lakes in the country; (ii) situation arising out of large-scale loss of jobs due to retrenchment and closure of industries, including IT sector; and (iii) situation arising due to export of non-Basmati rice to certain countries in violation of Government guidelines. In response to these Calling Attention notices concerned Ministers made statements and replied to the clarifications of the Members. As many as 39 statements were made by the Ministers on various other important subjects, including a statement by the hon. Prime Minister on his foreign visits to Italy, France and Egypt and five statements by the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs on Government Business.

Coming to the Private Members' Bills, 30 Private Members' Bills were introduced during the Session. One Bill, namely the Underdeveloped and Backward Areas and Regions (Special Provisions for Accelerated Development) Bill, 2009 moved by Shri Baijayant Panda remained part discussed.

A Private Members' Resolution regarding constitution of National Board for the Development of Himalayan States moved by Shri Virender Kashyap was discussed

for 4 hours 38 minutes and was thereafter withdrawn with the leave of the House. Another resolution regarding steps to ensure availability of drinking water in the country moved by Shri Satpal Maharaj on 10th July, 2009 remained part discussed.

In this Session, while we lost over 23 hours 34 minutes of time due to interruptions and forced adjournments, I am happy to inform that the House also sat late for 30 hours and 52 minutes to transact important financial and other business for which I thank the Members. This amply demonstrates the commitment of hon. Members to the welfare of our people. This House is the supreme representative body of the people which should properly reflect their aspirations. Debate and discussions alone are the proper methods to focus the attention of the Government and the nation on the problems of the people. If the business of the House is disrupted, it is the people we represent who suffer. I firmly believe that we have no right to do that. I would, therefore, take this opportunity to appeal to the hon. Members to spare no efforts to see that the business of the House is not disrupted for any reason. Enough opportunities are available for orderly discussion of issues concerning the people.

I would like to thank the hon. Deputy Speaker and my colleagues in the Panel of Chairmen for their cooperation in the completion of business of the House. I am extremely grateful to the hon. Prime Minister; the

Leader of the House, the Leader of Opposition, the Chairperson of UPA; the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs; Leaders of various parties and groups as well as the Chief Whips apart from the hon. Members for their cooperation.

I would also like to thank, on behalf of all of you, our friends in the media. I take this opportunity to compliment the Secretary-General for the competent and expert assistance being rendered to me. I thank the officers and staff of the Lok Sabha Secretariat for their dedicated and prompt service to the House. I also thank the allied agencies for their able assistance in the conduct of the proceedings of the House.

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#### NATIONAL SONG

15.20 hrs.

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER : Hon. Members may now stand up as *Vande Mataram* would be played.

*(The National Song was played.)*

15.21 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned sine die.*

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