

COMMITTEE
ON
GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
(2010-2011)

(FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA)

TWELFTH REPORT

**REQUESTS FOR DROPPING OF
ASSURANCES**

Presented to Lok Sabha on 22 March, 2011



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

March, 2011/Phalguna, 1933 (Saka)

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COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES*
(2010 - 2011)

Shrimati Maneka Gandhi

- **Chairperson**

MEMBERS

2. Shri Anandrao Adsul
3. Shri Avtar Singh Bhadana
4. Shri Dara Singh Chauhan
5. Dr. Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar
6. Shri Mohan Jena
7. Shri Raghuvir Singh Meena
8. Shri Bishnu Pada Ray
9. Shri K.J.S.P. Reddy
10. Shri M. Rajamohan Reddy
11. Shri Takam Sanjoy
12. Rajkumari Ratna Singh
13. Dr. M. Thambidurai
14. Shri Manohar Tirkey
15. Shri Hukumdeo Narayan Yadav

SECRETARIAT

- | | | | |
|----|--------------------|---|----------------------|
| 1. | Shri P. Sreedharan | - | Additional Secretary |
| 2. | Shri R.S. Kambo | - | Director |
| 3. | Shri D.S. Malha | - | Additional Director |
| 4. | Smt. Veena Kumari | - | Deputy Secretary |

* The Committee was constituted on 23 September, 2010 vide Para No. 1948 of Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II dated 22 September, 2010.

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson of the Committee on Government Assurances, having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Twelfth Report of the Committee on Government Assurances.

2. The Committee (2010-2011) at their sittings held on 19 October, 2010 and 12 January, 2011 considered Memoranda Nos. 2 to 13 & 14 to 46 respectively containing requests received from the Ministries/Departments for dropping of pending assurances.

3. At their sitting held on 03 February, 2011, the Committee (2010-2011) considered and adopted their Twelfth Report.

4. The Minutes of the aforesaid sittings of the Committee form part of this report.

NEW DELHI;
03 February; 2011

Phalguna , 1932 (Saka)

MANEKA GANDHI
CHAIRPERSON
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

REPORT

While replying to Questions in the House or during discussions on Bills, Resolutions, Motions, etc., Ministers sometimes give assurances, undertakings or promises either to consider a matter, take action or furnish information to the House at some later date. An assurance is required to be implemented by the Ministry concerned within a period of three months. Where a Ministry are unable to implement the assurances within the prescribed period of three months, they are required to seek extension of time. In case, the Ministry finds it difficult in implementing the assurances on one ground or the other, they are required to approach the Committee on Government Assurances requesting to drop the assurances. Such requests are considered by the Committee on merits and decisions taken to drop an assurance or otherwise.

2. The Committee on Government Assurances (2010-11) considered the following requests received from Ministries/Departments for dropping of assurances at their sittings held on 19 October, 2010 and 12 January, 2011:-

SQ/USQ No. & Date	Ministry	Subject in Brief
(i) USQ No. 1111 dt. 4.3.1999 (ii) USQ No. 1060 dt. 2.8.2006	External Affairs	Reopening of Stillwell Road

USQ No. 3552 dt. 17.4.2008	Civil Aviation	Seaplane services for Islands
USQ No. 349 dt. 7.7.2009	Home Affairs	Modernisation of Police Stations
General Discussion dated 08 July, 2009	Finance	Leakage of Jharkhand Budget to Media.
USQ No. 1806 dt. 17.7.2009	Finance	Setting up of Health Council
<p>The following questions on New Civil Aviation Policy :-</p> <p>(i) Unstarred Question No. 307 dated 28 May, 1998 regarding "New Policy on Civil Aviation",</p> <p>(ii) Unstarred Question No. 3422 dated 9 July, 1998 regarding "Request of Jet Airways ",</p> <p>(iii) Unstarred Question No. 681 dated 2 December, 1999 regarding "New Civil Aviation Policy",</p> <p>(iv) Unstarred Question No. 195 dated 24 February, 2000 regarding "New Civil Aviation Policy",</p> <p>(v) Starred Question No. 402 dated 22 April, 2002 regarding "Civil Aviation Policy",</p>	Civil Aviation	New Civil Aviation Policy.

<p>(vi) Unstarred Question No. 215 dated 18 November, 2002 regarding "New Civil Aviation Policy",</p> <p>(vii) Starred Question No. 84 dated 8 December, 2003 regarding "Privatisation of Airports",</p> <p>(viii) Starred Question No. 184 dated 15 December, 2003 regarding "Foreign Airlines in Domestic Sector",</p> <p>(ix) Unstarred Question No. 2391 dated 23 July, 2004 regarding "Naresh Chandra Committee",</p> <p>(x) Unstarred Question No. 1569 dated 9 December, 2004 regarding "Overall Growth of Civil Aviation Sector",</p> <p>(xi) Starred Question No. 139 dated 9 December, 2004 regarding "Recommendations of Naresh Chandra Committee",</p> <p>(xii) Unstarred Question No. 507 dated 3 March, 2005 regarding "Recommendations of Naresh Chandra Committee",</p>		
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<p>(xiii) Starred Question No. 37 dated 24 November, 2005 regarding "New National Civil Aviation Policy",</p> <p>(xiv) Unstarred Question No. 1285 dated 1 December, 2005 regarding "Recommendations of Naresh Chandra Committee",</p> <p>(xv) Unstarred Question No. 2096 dated 9 March, 2006 regarding "Review of Route Dispersal Guidelines",</p> <p>(xvi) Unstarred Question No. 2097 dated 9 March, 2006 regarding "New Civil Aviation Policy",</p> <p>(xvii) Unstarred Question No. 3052 dated 11 May, 2006 regarding "Non-Economical Air Routes",</p> <p>(xviii) Unstarred Question No. 3086 dated 11 May, 2006 regarding "New Aviation Policy",</p> <p>(xix) Unstarred Question No. 1885 dated 10 August, 2006 regarding "Package for Airline Operators",</p> <p>(xx) Unstarred Question No. 1931 dated 10 August, 2006 regarding "Operation of Small</p>		
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<p>Aircraft on Regional Routes”,</p> <p>(xxi) Unstarred Question No. 2319 dated 17 August, 2006 regarding “Subsidy for Non-Economical Air Routes”,</p> <p>(xxii) Unstarred Question No. 399 dated 23 November, 2006 regarding “New Civil Aviation Policy”,</p> <p>(xxiii) Unstarred Question No. 576 dated 16 August, 2007 regarding “Civil Aviation Guidelines”,</p> <p>(xxiv) Unstarred Question No. 642 dated 16 August, 2007 regarding “Civil Aviation Policy”,</p> <p>(xxv) Unstarred Question No. 664 dated 16 August, 2007 regarding “Recommendations of GoM on Civil Aviation Sector”,</p> <p>(xxvi) Unstarred Question No. 3201 dated 6 September, 2007 regarding “Norms and Incentives for Regional Airlines”,</p> <p>(xxvii) Unstarred Question No. 894 dated 22 November, 2007 regarding “New Civil Aviation Policy”,</p>		
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<p>(xxviii) Unstarred Question No. 2119 dated 13 March, 2008 regarding "New Civil Aviation Policy" and</p> <p>(xxix) Unstarred Question No. 3680 dated 17 April, 2008 regarding "Domestic Carriers".</p>		
USQ 232 dated 3.12.2003	Shipping	Sagar Mala Programme.
USQ 4527 Dated 25.8.2005	Information and Broadcasting	Recovery of Outstanding dues by Doordarshan.
<p>(i) USQ 728 dated 28.7.2006</p> <p>(ii) SQ 185 dated 24.8.2007</p>	Finance	<p>Misuse of PAN Cards.</p> <p>Biometric PAN Cards.</p>
USQ 1512 dated 10.3.2008	Textiles	General Health Insurance Scheme.
USQ 946 dated 23.10.2008	Civil Aviation	Setting up of Airport in Kurnool District.
USQ 1482 dated 29.10.2008	Road Transport & Highways	Creation of Database.
USQ 884 dated 9.7.2009	Law & Justice	Indian Judicial Service.
USQ 3080 dated 27.7.2009	Human Resource Development	Construction of Girls Hostels.
USQ 3225 dated 28.7.2009	Road Transport & Highways	Expansion of NH-2.
USQ 206 dated 19.11.2009	Civil Aviation	Air accidents.
USQ 390 dated 20.11.2009	Finance	Implementation of TINXSYS.
USQ 1012 dated 3.3.2010	Human Resource Development	Lack of Interest in Science.

USQ 2681 dated 12.3.2010	Finance	Implications of Introduction of GST.
USQ 3584 dated 16.8.2010	Shipping	Corporatisation of Major Ports.
USQ 4747 dated 25.8.2010	External Affairs	Special Envoy's visit to Nepal.

3. The details of the assurances arising out of the replies and the reason(s) advanced for dropping of assurances are given in Appendix-I.

4. After having considered the grounds cited by the Ministries/Departments, the Committee were convinced and decided to drop the aforesaid assurances.

5. The Minutes of the sittings of the Committee, whereunder the decision to drop the assurances were taken, are given in Appendix-II & IIA.

NEW DELHI;
03 February; 2011

Phalguna , 1932 (Saka)

MANEKA GANDHI
CHAIRPERSON
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

[i] REOPENING OF STILLWELL ROAD

On 4 March, 1999 S/Shri Sushil Kumar Shinde & Madhavrao Scindia, M.Ps., and on 2 August, 2006 Dr. Arun Kumar Sarma, M.P., addressed Unstarred Question Nos. 1111 and 1060 to the Minister of External Affairs. The contents of the Questions alongwith their replies are as given in Annexure I and II.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of External Affairs within three months of the date of reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of External Affairs vide O.M. Nos. I/ii/125/11/08 and I/ii/125/22/2006 both dated 02 August, 2010 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

“That since it has been decided not to reopen the Stilwell Road, no action is pending from this Ministry.”

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of External Affairs, have requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1111
ANSWERED ON 04.3.1999
RE-OPENING OF STILWELL ROAD

1111. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government of Assam has proposed to re-open the Stillwell Road linking Assam with Myanmar China, which has been lying unused since World Warr II; and

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon, indicating the regulations to be enforced with opering of the Road to check illegal trade and exodus of infiltrants through this route?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER OF
DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS
(SHRI JASWANT SINGH)

(a) and (b) : Information is being collected from the Government of Assam.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1060
ANSWERED ON 02.8.2010
RE-OPENING OF STILWELL ROAD

1060. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Union Government has taken up the matter of re-opening of Stilwell road for commercial use with Myanmar and China;
- (b) if so, the progress made in this regard;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the details of study made, if any, on the feasibility and prospects of opening this route?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI E. AHAMED)

- (a) No, Sir.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) &(d) Government is considering the commissioning of a pre-feasibility study on the matter of reopening of the Stilwell Road.

[ii] SEAPLANE SERVICES FOR ISLANDS

On 17 April, 2008 Shri Milind Deora, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 3552 to the Minister of Civil Aviation. The contents of the question along with the reply of the Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Civil Aviation are as given in Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Civil Aviation within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Civil Aviation vide O.M. No. H.11016/029/2008-DT(DT) dated 21 July, 2010 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

“That Pawan Hans Helicopters Ltd (PHHL) had submitted a feasibility study report in December, 2008 for the operations of Seaplane services in Lakshadweep Islands. PHHL has been consistently pursuing with Lakshadweep Administration to get a response. Despite several reminders, Lakshadweep Administration has not yet responded to PHHL. It appears that Lakshadweep Administration is not interested in this project. Therefore, it may not be possible to fulfill the above assurance.”

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of State for Civil Aviation (I/C), have requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3552
ANSWERED ON 17.4.2008
SEAPLANE SERVICES FOR ISLANDS

3552. SHRI MILIND DEORA

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government is planning to introduce special Seaplane services for Lakshadweep islands on the line of the Maldives Air Taxi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes same facility for the people of Andaman and Nicobar Islands;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the facility proposed to be introduced among the Islands?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a): Pawan Hans Helicopters Ltd (PHHL) is examining the option to operate seaplane services in Lakshadweep Islands.

(b) Modalities are being examined in consultation with Lakshadweep Administration. Government has also relaxed the Foreign Direct Investment norms recently for Seaplane services to 100% in order to encourage investment in this sector.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) And (e) : Do not arise.

[iii] MODERNISATION OF POLICE STATIONS

On 7 July, 2009 S/Shri Eknath M. Gaikwad, Madhu Goud Yaskhi & Gadhvi Mukesh Bheravadanji, M.Ps., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 349 to the Minister of Home Affairs. The contents of the question along with the reply of the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs are as given in Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Home Affairs within three months of the date of reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Home Affairs vide O.M. No. 16012/5/2009-SR dated 17 September, 2010 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

"That the Crime and Criminal Tracking Network & Systems (CCTNS) is a Mission Mode Project that aims at creating a comprehensive and integrated system for enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of policing at police station level through adoption of principles of e-Governance by creation of a nationwide networked infrastructure. This Ministry is of the view that the CCTNS Project has been launched and its implementation is an ongoing process."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of State (M) in the Ministry of Home Affairs, have requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 349
ANSWERED ON 07.07.2009
MODERNISATION OF POLICE STATIONS

349. SHRI EKNATH M. GAIKWAD
SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI
SHRI GADHVI MUKESH BHERAVADANJI

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government has taken a decision to link 14,000 Police Stations/Police Chowky in the country with modern equipment like Telephone, Fax, Computer and Cyber network to improve the connectivity and increase their crime fighting capabilities;
- (b) if so, the details alongwith the total funds that are likely to be incurred thereon; and
- (c) the time by which all the Police Stations/Police Chowky of the Country are likely to be connected with modern technology and equipment?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The Crime and Criminal Tracking Network & Systems (CCTNS) Project, which is proposed to be implemented as a Mission Mode Project, aims at creating a comprehensive and integrated system for enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of policing at police station level through adoption of principles of e-Governance by creation of a nationwide networked infrastructure for evolution of IT-enabled state-of-the-art tracking system around "investigation of crime and detection of criminals" in the real time. Under the Project about 14000 Police Stations and 6000 other police offices at various levels would be connected through this computer network. Telephones or Faxes are not part of this Project. The total estimated cost of this Project is Rs 2000 Crore during the 11th Five Year Plan.

(c) : The Police Stations are likely to be connected by the end of 2010-2011.

[iv] DISCUSSION ON JHARKHAND BUDGET

On 8 July, 2009 Shri Yashwant Sinha, M.P., during General Discussion on 'Leakage of Jharkhand Budget to Media' raised the following point:-

"That the Jharkhand Budget was leaked in the newspapers at Ranchi before it was presented to the Lok Sabha. Hon'ble Speaker, through you I would like to request Finance Minister to assure the House that this matter will be investigated as to how ,That is what I request through you."

2. In reply the Minister of Finance (Shri Pranab Mukherjee) inter-alia stated as follows:-

"I am taking this matter seriously. Surely I will look into it and I will keep the House informed."

3. The above reply was treated as assurance and was required to be fulfilled by the Ministry of Finance within three months from the date of reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

4. The Minister of Finance vide his D.O. letter No. 8(1)B(S)/2010 dated 24/26 August, 2010 have requested for dropping the above assurance on the following grounds:-

"That the assurances devised by the Indian Parliament have traditionally kept the Budget General discussions out of its ambit on account of the fundamental principle that final authority on budget rests with the legislature itself. Therefore, Lok Sabha Secretariat is requested to delete this assurance against this Ministry. However, Finance Minister will make a Statement on the floor of House on 27th August, 2010 in the matter."

5. On 27 August, 2010 the Finance Minister made the following statement under Rule 372 of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha:-

"By virtue of the Proclamation dated the 19th January 2009, issued under Article 356 of the Constitution, the powers of the Legislature of the State of Jharkhand were exercisable by or under the authority of Parliament. Since references to the Governor and Legislature of the State in Articles 202 to 207 of the Constitution, which govern the procedure in regard to financial matter, were to be construed as references to the President and Parliament, the State budget for the year 2009-10 had been presented in Parliament on 8th July, 2009.

At the time of General Discussion on Jharkhand Budget on 8th July 2009, Shri Yashwant Sinha, Hon'ble Member of Parliament alleged that the Jharkhand Budget was leaked in the newspapers at Ranchi before it was presented to the Lok Sabha. I had stated in the House that the matter will be looked into and I shall keep the House informed.

The Government of Jharkhand was requested to examine the issue of leakage of Jharkhand General Budget 2009-10 before presentation in the Lok Sabha. The State Government has informed that Dainik Jagran, Ranchi edition dated 6th July, 2009 had published a news on the Jharkhand General Budget 2009-10 showing Revenue and Capital expenditures under Plan and Non-Plan Head along with corresponding figures of 2008-09 (RE) and 2009-10 (Vote on Account). The State Government has examined the matter and referred it to Special Branch of Jharkhand Police for investigation. It has also been informed that appropriate action will be taken by the State Government immediately on receipt of the report from Special Branch of Jharkhand Police."

6. In view of the position explained above, the Minister of Finance have requested that the assurance may kindly be dropped from the list of assurances.

[v] SETTING UP OF HEALTH COUNCIL

On 17 July, 2009 Shrimati Supriya Sule, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 1806 to the Minister of Finance. The contents of the question along with its reply are as given in Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Finance within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Finance vide O.M. No. H-12016/12/2009-Ins.IV dated 6 July, 2010 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

“That Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) has observed that the insurers are increasingly using their in-house departments for rendering health services, because the cashless facility through the Third Party Administrator (TPA) is under litigation before High Courts as the Income-Tax Department has directed the TPAs to deduct TDS on the cashless service and this is causing cost implications to the TPAs.

The outcome of the decision of the various High Courts are still awaited. IRDA has not yet finally established the said health council. Since the matter is sub-judice in various High Courts and will take considerable time, the Committee on Government Assurances, Lok Sabha is requested to drop the assurance.”

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of MOS (E&FS) have requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1806
ANSWERED ON 17.7.2009
SETTING UP OF HEALTH COUNCIL

1806. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Committee set up by Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) to look into the functions of third party administrators has recommended setting up of a Health Council; and

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

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE(SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) : Yes, Sir. The Committee on Evaluation of performance of Third Party Administrators (TPAs) set up by the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) has recommended the setting up of a common industry body, tentatively termed as Health Insurance Development Council.

(b) : The common industry body, as recommended by the Committee, should have representatives from the insurance industry, TPAs, hospitals and consumers. This body will support the industry's initiatives for standardization across stakeholders, and for updating and mainlining such standard documents and standard `masters`. Also, by acting uniformly against fraudulent entities, the body would create deterrents against misuse or fraud in the system. The report of the Committee is being hosted on the website of IRDA for the comments of all stakeholders. IRDA will examine the recommendations after receiving comments from the various stakeholders.

[vi] NEW CIVIL AVIATION POLICY

The under mentioned Starred/Unstarred Questions were addressed to the Minister of Civil Aviation by various Members of Parliament. The contents of the Questions alongwith their replies are as given in Annexure I to XXIX.

2. The replies to the questions were treated as an assurances and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Civil Aviation within three months of the date of replies but the assurances are yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Civil Aviation vide O.M. No. AV.13011/03/2007-DT dated 13 August, 2010 have requested to drop the assurances on the following grounds:-

"That a draft Civil Aviation Policy was prepared in consultation with various Ministries/Departments and circulated to concerned Ministries/Departments on 29.3.2006. On the basis of comments received, the draft Civil Aviation Policy had been revised and submitted for the approval of the Cabinet. The Cabinet referred it to Group of Ministers (GoM) on 15.6.2007. The first meeting of GoM was held on 14 August, 2007 and second meeting was held on 3 January, 2008. Action has been taken on the decisions taken in the meetings. After the formation of new Government, Cabinet Secretariat has sought the Competent Authority's directions regarding reconstitution of the GoM. The Cabinet Secretariat has been informed that since most of the issues proposed in the draft National Civil Aviation Policy have already been implemented there would not be a need to constitute a GoM for this purpose.

The matter has been further reviewed by the Ministry and it has been decided that in view of the fact that nearly all the components of the proposed policy have been implemented, the Ministry would not like to press the policy any further."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Civil Aviation, have requested to drop the above assurances.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 307
ANSWERED ON 28.5.1998
NEW POLICY ON CIVIL AVIATION

307. SHRI NARESH KUMAR CHUNNALAL PUGLIA
SHRI S.B. THORAT
SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO
SHRI K.S. RAO

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government have a proposal to bring out a new policy on civil aviation;
- (b) if so, the salient features of the proposed new policy;
- (c) whether the aspects of involvement of the private sector and the foreign investors have also been considered for the development of the airport infrastructure; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR)

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The draft national policy on civil aviation is awaiting the approval of the Government.

(d) and (d): Yes, Sir. In the Policy on Airport Infrastructure which was approved in November, 1997 increased commercial exploitation of airport infrastructure and adjacent land is one of the areas identified for attracting private investment. Both for reasons of bridging the gap in resources as also to bring in greater efficiency in management of airports, the participation of private parties (including foreign ones) would be encouraged.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3422
ANSWERED ON 9.7.1998
REQUEST OF JET AIRWAYS

3422. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the licensee Jet Airways has urged the Government to formulate a comprehensive, consistent and coherent civil aviation policy and implement it in a transparent manner;
- (b) if so, whether the Government propose to set up an independent regulatory aviation authority; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR)

- (a) , (b) and (c): After inviting suggestions/views of aviation experts and the various airline operators, a comprehensive draft National Policy on Civil Aviation is under formulation by the Government.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 681
ANSWERED ON 2.12.1999
NEW CIVIL AVIATION POLICY

681. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH
SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government are seriously considering to evolve a comprehensive Civil Aviation Policy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government propose to allow private foreign companies in domestic field; and
- (e) if so, the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV)

- (a) to (d): A new draft of the National Policy on Civil Aviation is under formulation.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 195
ANSWERED ON 24.2.2000
NEW CIVIL AVIATION POLICY

195. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government propose to bring out New Civil Aviation Policy;
- (b) if so, the salient features thereof;
- (c) the time by which the new Policy will be made operational;
- (d) whether the Government propose to allow private domestic carriers to operate on International Routes; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION
(SHRI SHARAD YADAV)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e): The policy is under consideration of the Government and will be made operational once it is finalised.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 402
ANSWERED ON 22.4.2002
CIVIL AVIATION POLICY

402. SHRI A.F. GOLAM OSMANI
SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government have decided to redraft the Civil Aviation Policy in view of September 11, 2001 incident in United States;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) when the new civil aviation policy is likely to be implemented?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) :- The draft Civil Aviation Policy is being finalised in consultation with various Ministries and Departments etc. and will be put up for the consideration of the Cabinet in the near future.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 215
ANSWERED ON 18.11.2002
NEW CIVIL AVIATION POLICY

215. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Union Government have finalised a new aviation policy;
- (b) if so, the main features of the policy; and
- (c) the time by which it is likely to be announced?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK)

(a),(b) and (c) : The draft Civil Aviation Policy is being finalised in consultation with various Ministries and Departments.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 84
ANSWERED ON 8.12.2003
PRIVATISATION OF AIRPORTS

84. SHRI A.P. JITENDHER REDDY
SHRI ANANT NAYAK

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether a final decision regarding restructuring of Delhi and Mumbai Airports through private participation has been taken by the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the nature and extent of equity participation of private partners;
- (d) the names of the firms which have come forward in this regard;
- (e) the details of terms and conditions fixed with the firms;
- (f) the implication of privatisation on management;
- (g) whether some other airports would also be developed in similar fashion; and
- (h) if so, by when the decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g) and (h):- A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO THE PARTS (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g) & (h) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 84 FOR ANSWER ON 08.12.2003 REGARDING PRIVATISATION OF AIRPORTS

(a) & (b) : The proposal of restructuring of airports at New Delhi and Mumbai of Airports Authority of India (AAI) through Joint Venture (JV) route was approved on 11th September 2003 to upgrade them to world class international airports. An Empowered Group of Ministers (EGOM) has been constituted to decide the detailed modalities including the design parameters, bid evaluation criteria etc. based on which joint venture partner will be selected.

(c): The successful bidder will form Joint Venture Company with Airports Authority of India (AAI) through a Shareholders' Agreement. After completion of mandated modalities, Delhi and Mumbai airports will be handed over to the Joint Venture Companies for operation and management / maintenance. Airports Authority of India (AAI) and other Government of India / Public Sector entities would together hold 26 % equity; and the remaining 74% equity will be contributed by private sector partner(s).

(d) & (e) : The names of the firms will be known after selection of Joint Venture Partners through Global tendering process and terms and conditions are yet to be finalised for incorporation in the Concession Agreement.

(f): On completion of restructuring process of Delhi and Mumbai airports, the JV company will manage these airports with international standards. However, functions relating to Air Traffic Services and Civil Aviation Security shall continue to be performed by AAI.

(g): There is no proposal at present to restructure other airports through Joint Venture route.

(h): Does not arise.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 184
ANSWERED ON 15.12.2003
FOREIGN AIRLINES IN DOMESTIC SECTOR

184. SHRI GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Union Government has taken any final decision for allowing foreign airlines in the domestic sector;
- (b) if so, whether this requires changes in the Foreign Direct Investment ceilings in the sector;
- (c) if so, whether the Naresh Chandra Committee Report regarding foreign investment in civil aviation has been received by the Union Government;
- (d) if so, by when a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken;
- (e) whether the Government's proposal permitting foreign airlines to pick up 26% equity in Indian domestic carrier has been finalised; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

- (a) No, Sir.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) The Naresh Chandra Committee has submitted its report to the Government on 8.12.2003.
- (d) The report is under examination.
- (e) No, Sir.
- (f) Does not arise.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2391
ANSWERED ON 23.7.2004
NARESH CHANDRA COMMITTEE

2391. PROF. M RAMADASS

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether Naresh Chandra Committee on Civil Aviation has submitted its complete report to the Government;
- (b) if so, the main recommendations of the Committee; and
- (c) the status of implementation of these recommendations?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a): The Naresh Chandra Committee has submitted Part-I of its report. Part-II of the report is awaited.

(b) and (c):- Main recommendations and status of implementation is given at Annexure.

Annexure

Main Recommendations and status of implementation of Naresh Chandra Committee Report

1. The main recommendations of the committee are as follows:

- (i) Lowering system costs by introducing liberal fiscal regime, allowing airlines to source ATF from supplier of choice and improving coordination with other ministries.
- (ii) Encourage private participation and competition in air transport services with a view to lowering fares.

- (iii) Establishment of an Essential Air Services Fund (EASF) to provide subsidy for uneconomic services to do away with Route Dispersal Guidelines.
- (iv) Reduce airport charges
- (v) In addition to DGCA, BCAS, Establish Aviation Economic Regulatory Authority(AERA) to deal with monopoly situation,
- (vi) Allow domestic private airlines to operate international services and third party ground handling services.
- (vii) Restructuring of IA/AI/PHHL
- (viii) Lower entry barriers for airlines
- (ix) Raise FDI limit in domestic scheduled airlines from 40 to 49%.
- (x) Allow foreign airlines FDI
- (xi) Liberalise international air transport segment
- (xii) Liberalise international air charters
- (xiii) Encourage regional air services
- (xiv) Expedite privatisation of Mumbai and Delhi airports.
- (xv) Privatised other airports as well
- (xvi) Separation of ATC from AAI and vesting ATC functions to government owned corporation.

2. The first part of the report is being examined by the Government. The second part of the report is awaited.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1569
ANSWERED ON 09.12.2004
OVERALL GROWTH OF CIVIL AVIATION SECTOR

1569. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Civil Aviation Sector is poised for overall growth over the next three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Airports Authority of India had decided to upgrade about 30 Airports upto global standards by year 2007-2008;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government is considering to bring in a new comprehensive Civil Aviation Policy in view of the Naresh Chandra Committee report; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE(INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a)&(b):- Yes Sir. However, the overall growth of civil aviation sector over the next three years will depend upon various factors like GDP growth, trade and tourism potential etc.

(c)&(d):- Airports Authority of India (AAI) has decided to modernise twenty five non-metro airports to world class standards in phases with focus on airside and city side development and enhancement of non-aeronautical revenues. In the first phase, approximately ten airports would be taken up and the remaining in the second phase. The selection of airports will be made keeping in view their commercial and traffic growth potential. AAI is in the process of appointing Indian Financial Consultant (IFC) and Global Technical Advisor (GTA) who will assist AAI in conducting techno-economic feasibility study of identified airport to evolve an appropriate model based on viability of the project.

(e)&(f):- The recommendations of the Naresh Chandra Committee are being examined so as to formulate a comprehensive National Civil Aviation Policy.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 139
ANSWERED ON 9.12.2004
RECOMMENDATIONS OF NARESH CHANDRA COMMITTEE

139. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Naresh Chandra Committee has submitted its report to the Government;
- (b) if so, the main recommendations of the report;
- (c) whether the Government has accepted all the recommendations of the report; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE(INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a), (b), (c) & (d):- A statement is laid down on the table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a), (b), (c) and (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.139 FOR ANSWER ON 09.12.2004 REGARDING RECOMMENDATIONS OF NARESH CHANDRA COMMITTEE.

(a) The Government had constituted a Committee, in July, 2003 under the chairmanship of Shri Naresh Chandra, former Cabinet Secretary to prepare a roadmap for the civil aviation sector. The Committee has submitted its report in two parts. The first part was submitted on 08.12.2003, whereas the second part of the report has been submitted very recently i.e. on 02.11.2004.

(b) The main recommendations of the Naresh Chandra Committee are as per Annexure.

(c) and (d) These recommendations are under consideration of the Government.

Annexure

Main Recommendations of the Naresh Chandra Committee Report, Part-I

- Lowering systems costs by introducing liberal fiscal regime-rationalisation of taxes on ATF and AVGAS.
- Allow airlines to source ATF from supplier of their choice and improving coordination with other ministries.
- Provide common hydrant infrastructure at airports for supply of ATF.
- Reduce airport charges to international level.
- Liberalise international air transport segment.
- Join regional/multilateral groups for better international connectivity.
- Allow domestic private airlines to operate international services.
- Liberalise international air charters.
- Restructuring of Indian Airlines/Air India/Pawan Hans Helicopters Ltd. by disinvestments etc.
- Lower entry barriers for domestic airlines.
- Raise FDI limits in domestic airlines from 40 to 49% and permit foreign airlines to hold equity.
- Encourage regional air services.
- Establishment of Essential Air Services Fund (EASF) to maintain essential but uneconomical air services/airports.
- Maintain essential air services by minimum subsidy bidding and abolish route dispersal guidelines.
- Encourage helicopter operations and announce specific policy and procedures for helicopter operations.
- Encourage general aviation by suitable incentives.
- Unbundle Airports Authority of India (AAI).
- Expedite privatisation of Mumbai and Delhi airports and privatise other airports as well.
- Ensure choice in ground handling services .
- Upgrade computer systems and provide more space at international airports for immigration and other services.
- Separate ATC services from AAI and vest them with a government owned ATC Corporation under the purview of DGCA.
- Establish a separate economic regulator for aviation sector i.e. Aviation Economic Regulatory Authority (AERA).
- Set up mechanism for effective coordination among various agencies.
- BCAS should remain the nodal agency for aviation security.

Report, Part-II

- Take suitable measures for strengthening the infrastructure for training of Pilots, Engineers and other technical personnel, including commercialisation of IGRUA.
- Legislation of Civil Aviation Security Act.
- Improve Immigration and Customs procedures.
- Restructure of DGCA and split up accident investigation from DGCA to a separate authority.
- Amend the Aircraft Act 1934, Aircraft Rules 1937 and the Regulations for effective regulation of all aspects of aviation.
- Enhancement of Air Space Capacity.
- Airport capacity enhancement.
- Enhancement of Communication, Navigation & Surveillance Capability.
- Development of Helipads and Heliports.
- Take measures to promote export of indigenous Aeronautical Products.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 507
ANSWERED ON 03.03.2005
RECOMMENDATIONS OF NARESH CHANDRA COMMITTEE

507. SHRI SAMBASIVA RAYAPATI RAO

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:-

(a) whether First and Second Reports of the Naresh Chandra Committee have been examined by the Government;

(b) if so, the number of recommendations made in these reports and the number of recommendations out of them have been accepted by the Government; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to implement them?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE(INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a), (b) and (c):- Yes, Sir. The recommendations of the committee have been examined in consultation with various stakeholders and a comprehensive national civil aviation policy is being drafted.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 37
ANSWERED ON 24.11.2005
NEW NATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION POLICY

37. SMT. KIRAN MAHESHWARI

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:-

- (a): Whether the Government is contemplating formulation of a new national civil aviation policy;
- (b): if so, the details alongwith the salient features thereof; and
- (c): the time by which it is likely to be formulated and approved?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a),(b) and (c):- A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN REPLY TO STARRED QUESTION NO. 37 DATED 24.11.2005 REGARDING NEW NATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION POLICY.

(a),(b) and (c):- Yes, Sir. A draft of the Civil Aviation Policy is under consideration of Government in consultation with concerned Ministries.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1285
ANSWERED ON 01.12.2005
RECOMMENDATIONS OF NARESH CHANDRA COMMITTEE

1285. SMT. JAYABEN B. THAKKAR

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:-

- (a) the details of recommendations made by the Naresh Chandra Committee;
- (b) the details of recommendations which have been adopted by the Government; and
- (c) the reasons for not accepting the remaining recommendations?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
(SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a):- The details of the main recommendations made by the Naresh Chandra Committee are as under:-

\$ Lowering systems costs by introducing liberal fiscal regime- rationalisation of taxes on ATF and AVGAS.

\$ Allow airlines to source ATF from supplier of their choice and improving coordination with other ministries.

\$ Provide common hydrant infrastructure at airports for supply of ATF.

\$ Reduce airport charges to international level.

\$ Liberalise international air transport segment.

\$ Join regional/multilateral groups for better international connectivity.

- \$ Allow domestic private airlines to operate international services.
- \$ Liberalise international air charters.
- \$ Restructuring of Indian Airlines/Air India/Pawan Hans Helicopters Ltd. by disinvestments etc.
- \$ Lower entry barriers for domestic airlines.
- \$ Raise FDI limits in domestic airlines from 40 to 49% and permit foreign airlines to hold equity.
- \$ Encourage regional air services.
- \$ Establishment of Essential Air Services Fund (EASF) to maintain essential but uneconomical air services/airports.
- \$ Maintain essential air services by minimum subsidy bidding and abolish route dispersal guidelines.
- \$ Encourage helicopter operations and announce specific policy and procedures for helicopter operations.
- \$ Encourage general aviation by suitable incentives.
- \$ Unbundled Airports Authority of India (AAI).
- \$ Expedite privatisation of Mumbai and Delhi airports and privatise other airports as well.
- \$ Ensure choice in ground handling services .
- \$ Upgrade computer systems and provide more space at international airports for immigration and other services.
- \$ Separate ATC services from AAI and vest them with a government owned ATC Corporation under the purview of DGCA.
- \$ Establish a separate economic regulator for aviation sector i.e. Aviation Economic Regulatory Authority (AERA).
- \$ Set up mechanism for effective coordination among various agencies.
- \$ BCAS should remain the nodal agency for aviation security.

\$ Take suitable measures for strengthening the infrastructure for training of Pilots, Engineers and other technical personnel, including commercialisation of IGRUA.

\$ Legislation of Civil Aviation Security Act.

\$ Improve Immigration and Customs procedures.

\$ Restructure of DGCA and split up accident investigation from DGCA to a separate authority.

\$ Amend the Aircraft Act 1934, Aircraft Rules 1937 and the Regulations for effective regulation of all aspects of aviation.

\$ Enhancement of Air Space Capacity.

\$ Airport capacity enhancement.

\$ Enhancement of Communication, Navigation & Surveillance Capability.

\$ Development of Helipads and Heliports.

\$ Take measure to promote Export of indigenous Aeronautical Products.

(b) and (c):- These recommendations have been examined & a comprehensive `National Civil Aviation Policy` has been drafted in consultation with the stakeholders in the aviation sector. A draft of the Civil Aviation Policy is under consideration of Government in consultation with concerned Ministries.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2096
ANSWERED ON 09.03.2006
REVIEW OF ROUTE DISPERSAL GUIDELINES

2096. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government has constituted a committee to review the Route Dispersal Guidelines;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Committee has submitted its report to the Government;
- (d) if so, the salient features thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken or being taken to implement the recommendation of the said committee?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) and (b):- The Government had constituted a committee to review the Route Dispersal Guidelines. The Terms of Reference of the Committee were:

- (a) Review of routes/locations specified in Category I and II.
- (b) Review of percentages fixed for different Categories.
- (c) Examine feasibility of voluntary transfer of obligations by one airlines to another.
- (d) Periodicity of monitoring of the category-wise obligation by DGCA.
- (e) Other suggestions for overall improvement in implementation of the Route Dispersal Guidelines.

(c),(d) and (e):- The committee has since submitted its report which is under consideration.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2097
ANSWERED ON 09.03.2006
NEW CIVIL AVIATION POLICY

2097. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO
SHRI TUKARAM GANPATRAO RENG PATIL

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government has finalised the New Civil Aviation Policy;
- (b) if so, the salient features thereof; and
- (c) the time by which it is likely to be announced and implemented?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a),(b) and (c):- A draft of the Civil Aviation Policy is under consideration of Government in consultation with concerned Ministries.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3052
ANSWERED ON 11.05.2006
NON-ECONOMICAL AIR ROUTES

3052. SHRI PRALHAD VENKATESH JOSHI

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to provide subsidy to the Air operators for operating flights on non-economical routes; and

(b) if so, the details along with terms and conditions thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) and (b):- The matter is under consideration of the Government.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3086
ANSWERED ON 11.05.2006
NEW AVIATION POLICY

3086. S/SHRI SHIVAJI ADHALRAO PATIL,
ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL
KAILASH MEGHWAL
RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA
KIRAN MAHESHWARI
K.S. MANOJ
SAI PRATHAP ANNAYYAGARI
MEKAPATI RAJAMOHAN REDDY

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:-

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned `New Aviation Policy ready for take off` appearing in the `HT Business` dated April 11,2006;

(b) if so, whether the Government has received views/suggestions from the various Ministries on the New Civil Policy;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be finalised and announced?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a):- Yes, Sir.

(b), (c) and (d):- Interministerial consultation are presently under way on the revised draft Civil Aviation Policy.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1885
ANSWERED ON 10.08.2006
PACKAGE FOR AIRLINE OPERATORS

1885. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government is planning to give five year incentive package to airline operators that link metros with regional centres; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a)and (b):- The issue of giving incentives to the airlines for enhancing regional connectivity is under consideration of the Government as part of the proposed Civil Aviation Policy.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1931
ANSWERED ON 10.08.2006
OPERATION OF SMALL AIRCRAFT ON REGIONAL ROUTES

1931. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government has formulated any plan to encourage small airlines which are operating only small aircraft that too on regional routes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the airlines operating at present on regional routes with small aircraft;
- (d) the norms applicable at present on these airlines;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to change the existing norms;
- (f) if so, whether the changed norms will be applicable on helicopter services too; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a),(b),(d)and (e) :- At present there are no separate norms for airlines operating only small aircraft that too on regional routes. However, proposal to incentivise operations on regional routes/by regional airlines with small aircraft is under consideration of the Government.

(c):- At present , Air Deccan is providing scheduled air services on regional routes with ATR type of aircraft connecting small towns/cities, in addition to operating on trunk routes. Paramount Airways is also operating on regional routes in Southern India. Alliance Air has taken on lease four ATR42 aircraft and commenced scheduled operations in the North-East region w.e.f. 2.1.2003. These aircraft were deployed exclusively in North-East region under the terms of an MOU with the North-East Council.

(f) and (g):- At present Helicopters are not used for scheduled services. Hence, does not arise.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2319
ANSWERED ON 17.08.2006
SUBSIDY FOR NON ECONOMICAL AIR ROUTES

2319. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:-

(a) whether there is any proposal to develop non-economical airports and to provide subsidy to airlines which will operate on non-economic routes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
(SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. On the request of airline operators and State Government to develop non-economical airports, the airports at Cooch Behar, Mysore, Surat, Dehradun and Pantnagar are being developed by Airports Authority of India (AAI). The issue of providing incentive to airlines to operate on non-economic routes is under Government's consideration as part of the proposed Civil Aviation Policy.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 399
ANSWERED ON 23.11.2006
NEW CIVIL AVIATION POLICY

399. SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIYA

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:-

- (a) Whether the Government proposes to chalk out a new civil aviation policy;
- (b) If so, the details alongwith the salient features thereof; and
- (c) The time by which it is likely to be announced and implemented ?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
(SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a),(b) and (c):- The matter is under consideration of the Government.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 576
ANSWERED ON 16.8.2007

CIVIL AVIATION GUIDELINES

576. SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI
KARUNA SHUKLA

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the new aviation guidelines listed in the policy `Vision 2020` have been approved by the Government;
- (b) if so, the main aims and objectives of the new civil aviation policy;
- (c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented;
- (d) whether the Ministry of Defence has raised some objections on the said new policy; and
- (e) if so, the details alongwith the reaction of the Government thereto?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) to (e):- The National Civil Aviation Policy alongwith `Vision 2020` is presently under consideration of a Group of Ministers (GoM).

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 642
ANSWERED ON 16.8.2007
CIVIL AVIATION POLICY

642. SHRI KAVURU SAMBA SIVA RAO

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:-

- (a) the projected growth in air traffic and requirement of acquisition of additional aircraft and development of infrastructure at the airports and expenditure involved;
- (b) the problems being faced by Indian aviation sector while competing with international airlines;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to formulate new growth oriented Civil Aviation Policy to encourage public-private-partnership in the sector, restructure Airports Authority of India, improve air connectivity and have liberal foreign direct investment norms to meet its huge demand of financial resources; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
(SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a):- Currently, the domestic civil aviation sector is growing at a rate of about 37% and international sector at a rate of about 16%.

The total passenger traffic during 11th and 12th Five Year Plan is projected to grow at the rate of 21.6% and 17.8% respectively.

Airports authority of India (AAI) has projected to incur Rs. 12434/- crores during 11th Plan for infrastructure development of airports.

The growth of civil aviation sector depends upon economic growth, bussiness and toursit traffic, foreign tourist arrivals, affordability etc. Induction of aircraft is expected to be commensurate with the growth in passenger traffic in the coming years.

(b):- Traffic rights with foreign countries are exchanged on the principle of reciprocity. However, utilization of traffic rights by the Indian national carriers vis-a-vis foreign carriers was less due to fleet and other infrastructure constraints.

(c) and (d):- The National Civil Aviation Policy is presently under consideration of a Group of Ministers (GoM).

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 664
ANSWERED ON 16.8.2007
RECOMMENDATIONS OF GoM ON CIVIL AVIATION SECTOR

664. Dr. M. JAGANNATH
SHRI PUSHPDAN SHAMBHUDAN GADHAVI
SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether a Group of Ministers (GoM) have been assigned the task of looking into various aspects in civil aviation sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is going ahead for setting up of a Flying Institute at Gondia and Cargo Hub at Nagpur in Maharashtra;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether recommendations of GoM are needed for setting up Flying Institutes; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
(SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) & (b):- The National Civil Aviation Policy is presently under consideration of a Group of Ministers (GoM).

(c) & (d):- A new flying training institute at Gondia is proposed as a Joint Venture under the aegies of Airports Authority of India (AAI).

An MOU has been signed on 18.12.2006 between Government of Maharashtra/Maharashtra Airport Development Company Ltd. and Ministry of Civil Aviation/Airports Authority of India to hand over Nagpur airport to Joint Venture Company for establishing multi modal international passengers and cargo hub.

(e):- No, Sir.

(f) :- Does not arise.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3201
ANSWERED ON 6.9.2007
NORMS AND INCENTIVES FOR REGIONAL AIRLINES

3201. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD
SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA
SHRI PUSHPDAN SHAMBHUDAN GADHAVI
SHRI NIVEDITA MANE
SHRI ANANTA NAYAK
SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD
SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID
SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government has notified separate norms and incentives for regional airlines aimed at providing better air connectivity in the remote areas and small towns;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) whether any regional airlines has shown interest on this move of the Government;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the cities where the air services are likely to be provided by these regional airlines;
- (e) whether the Group of Ministers (GoM) has been constituted for considering several issues pertaining to aviation sector;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the issues considered and decision taken so far by the GoM?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
(SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) and (b):- Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has issued Civil Aviation Requirement, Section 3- Air Transport Series `C` Part VIII dated 23.8.2007 stipulating minimum requirements for grant of permit to operate scheduled regional air transport service.

The scheduled regional airlines will primarily operate in a designated region and will not be permitted to operate on the trunk routes indicated in the Route Dispersal Guidelines issued by the Government.

(c) and (d):- Three application have been received for commencement of regional services in the southern region.

(e)to(g):- Draft National Civil Aviation Policy (NCAP) is presently under consideration of a Group of Ministers (GoM).

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 894
ANSWERED ON 22.11.2007
NEW CIVIL AVIATION POLICY

894. SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA
SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIYA

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the notification of the new civil aviation policy is on anvil;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the proposal to set up `atropoqis` is also included in the policy;
- (d) if so, the names of the cities proposed to be covered under the above mentioned scheme; and
- (e) the time by which the policy is likely to be finalised and implemented?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
(SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a),(b),(c),(d) and (e):- The New Civil Aviation Policy is presently under consideration of a Group of Ministers (GoM).

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2119
ANSWERED ON 13.3.2008
NEW CIVIL AVIATION POLICY

2119. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government has formulated any Civil Aviation Policy to address all the issues relating to the boom in passenger and cargo traffic;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken to strengthen the security at the airports keeping in view the increase in number of passengers and air traffic?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
(SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) and (b):- The New Civil Aviation Policy is presently under consideration of a Group of Ministers (GoM).

(c):- Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) by way of formulating procedures and measures on aviation security in compliance with the National Aviation Security Programme approved by the Government, has taken adequate and effective steps to regulate aviation security. The following plans have been formulated to provide adequate security at airport to meet the increase in number of passengers and air traffic :-

(i) Contingency Plan to deal with unlawful interference with airports in the country for keeping up their preparedness against any unlawful interference at all time;

(ii) Counter Terrorist Plan has been prepared to effectively deal with any contingencies;

(iii) BCAS prepares National Aviation Security Quality Control Plan every year for aviation security Audit, Inspections, tests etc to ensure compliance of aviation security standards and procedures by all agencies.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3680
ANSWERED ON 17.4.2008
DOMESTIC CARRIERS

3680. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether relaxing the five-year norm for domestic carriers to fly overseas has been formulated in the new policy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which the new policy is proposed to be announced in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
(SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a)to (c) :- The New Civil Aviation Policy is presently under consideration of a Group of Ministers (GoM).

[vii] SAGAR MALA PROGRAMME

On 3 December, 2003 Shrimati Prabha Rau and Shri Vilas Muttemwar, M.Ps., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 232 to the Minister of Shipping. The contents of the question along with the reply of the then Minister of State in the Ministry of Shipping are as given in Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Shipping within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Shipping vide O.M. No. H.11016/18/2003-US(I) dated 23 June, 2010 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

“That on date Sagar Mala Programme is not in existence and instead the National Maritime Development Programme has been taken up by the Ministry of Shipping. Since a new programme has been taken up, this Ministry is not in a position to fulfill the assurance given to the Lok Sabha pertaining to Sagar Mala Programme.”

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of Shipping, have requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SHIPPING
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 232
ANSWERED ON 03.12.2003
SAGAR MALA PROGRAMME

232. SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR

Will the Minister of Shipping be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government have finalised the guidelines for the implementation of Rs.100,000 crore Sagar Mala programme;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to involve both the public and the private sector in the implementation of this programme; and

(c) the details of the shipping policy so formulated by the Government?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI)

(a) The outline of the 'Sagarmala' scheme is being finalised. After finalisation, the scheme will be placed before the Competent Authority for approval.

(b) The 'Sagarmala' scheme envisages involvement of both public and private sectors.

(c) As indicated in reply to part (a) of the question, the outline of the scheme, which would also include policy interventions, are being finalised.

[viii] RECOVERY OF OUTSTANDING DUES BY DOORDARSHAN

On 25 August, 2005 Shri G. Karunakara Reddy, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 4527 to the Minister of Information and Broadcasting. The contents of the question along with the reply of the Minister of are as given in Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting vide O.M. No. 3104/50/2006-BC-I dated 26 October, 2010 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

"That an assurance was given while answering a Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4527 on 25.8.2005 regarding recovery of outstanding dues by Doordarshan. Prasar Bharti had telecast advertising campaign "Irada Naye Bharat Ka" at the instance of PMO in February, 2004. Recovery of outstanding payment of Rs. 3.25 crores is due from Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Rural Development and Ministry of Agriculture.

Prasar Bharati and this Ministry have made repeated efforts to recover the amount from the concerned Ministries. Despite best efforts, it is not possible to recover the amount from those Ministries. A Status Note (Annexure) is enclosed for kind consideration."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting, have requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4527
ANSWERED ON 25.8.2005
RECOVERY OF OUTSTANDING DUES BY DOORDARSHAN

4527. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY

Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:-

(a) whether huge amounts of Doordarshan are outstanding against some Ministries/ Departments of the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof, Ministry/Department-wise alongwith the period since when these are outstanding;

(c) the steps being taken by the Doordarshan for recovery of outstanding dues; and

(d) the total commercial revenue earned by Doordarshan during each of the last three years?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY)

(a) & (b) Prasar Bharati have informed that the following amounts are outstanding against the Ministries/Departments of the Union Government since 2003-04:

Ministry	Amount (Rs.in lakhs)
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Railways	100
Agriculture	150
Rural Development	75

(c) Prasar Bharati have informed that the matter is being pursued with the concerned Ministries for recovery of the above amounts.

(d) Prasar Bharati have informed that Doordarshan earned following commercial revenue during the last three years:

Year	Amount (Rs. in crores)
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2002-03	553.81
2003-04	530.23
2004-05	665.27

[ix] MISUSE OF PAN CARDS

On 28 July, 2006 Shri Kirti Vardhan Singh and on 24 August, 2007 S/Shri Adhir Chowdhury and Uday Singh, M.Ps., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 728 and Starred Question No. 185 to the Minister of Finance respectively. The contents of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in Annexure.

2. The replies to the questions were treated as assurances and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Finance within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Finance vide O.M. No. 155/142/2007-TPL dated 21 July, 2010 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

"That in this connection, reference is invited to directions of the Hon'ble Committee on Government Assurances, Lok Sabha which had while examining the Oral Evidence of the representatives of Department of Revenue held on 11.6.2010 directed that Income Tax Department may, after ascertaining, the time limit of completion of UID Scheme, request for dropping the assurance as it has become subsumed in UID No. Scheme.

The Government of India has set up Unique Identification Authority of India to issue Unique Identification Number. First set of Unique Identification Numbers will be launched between August 2010 and February, 2011 and all the PAN Card holders are proposed to be covered in next four years."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of MOS (R), have requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 728
ANSWERED ON 28.7.2006

MISUSE OF PAN CARD

728. SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Union Government has plans to curb misuse of PAN Cards as reported in the `Times of India` dated July 5, 2006;
- (b) if so, the details thereof ;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any survey about the growing number of PAN Card holders;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefore?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S PALANIMANICKAM)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The Income Tax Department is examining the possibility of using biometric features in the PAN system to ensure security of PAN and its uniqueness in relation to a person.

(c) to (e): The Government has not carried out any survey into the growing number of PAN Card holders. The growth in the number of PAN card holders is due to various factors, including compulsory quoting of PAN in all statements and returns filed by all income tax return filers, in all challans for payment of direct taxes, in specified high value transactions and its use as a Common Business Number (CBN) by other government departments such as Customs and Central Excise Service Tax, Directorate General of Foreign Trade. Recently, SEBI has also mandated use of PAN for demat accounts.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 185
ANSWERED ON 24.8.2007

BIOMETRIC PAN CARDS

*185. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY
SHRI UDAY SINGH

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the details of duplicate Permanent Account Number (PAN) cards cancelled by the Government;
- (b) whether the Income-tax Department has examined the option of recording biometric information on the PAN cards to overcome the menace of duplicate PAN cards;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the measures taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(a) The number of persons suspected to have duplicate PANs are estimated to be 13.10,127, The verification exercise as of 10.8.2007. The verification exercise as of 11,43,919 persons in which 10,18,421 PAN cards have been found to be duplicate.

(b), (c)&(d) : A Joint Working Group (JWG) was set up to obtain technical and commercial proposals from leading biometric solution providers, negotiate techno-commercial terms and conditions and to submit a proposal for consideration of the Government. The JWG has submitted its report, which is presently under consideration.

[x] GENERAL HEALTH INSURANCE SCHEME

On 10 March, 2008 Shri Asaduddin Owaisi, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 1512 to the Minister of Textiles. The contents of the question along with the reply of the Minister of Textiles are as given in Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Textiles within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Textiles vide O.M. No. 1/15/2008-DCH/Parl./Proj.1 dated 6 December, 2010 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

"That during the meeting of Committee on Government Assurances held on 06.8.2010 the Chairperson (CGA) had kindly agreed to drop the above assurance. Further, in response to the above assurance the following is submitted:-

- (a) The funds required would be to the tune of Rs. 81/-crore to Rs. 102/-crore. It would not be feasible to provide this extra cost in the outlay allocated for the ongoing Health Insurance Scheme. If the component of critical illness is to be included as a part of existing Health Insurance Scheme, then there will have to be a trade off between the scope of insurance cover and the number of beneficiaries to be covered. It may result in reducing the number of beneficiaries from the present level of about 16 lakh beneficiaries to about 8 lakh beneficiaries only i.e. almost half since Rs. 81/- crore to Rs. 102/- crore (out of total allocation of Rs. 155/- crore for Health Insurance Scheme) will have to be diverted for this addition.

- (b) It is mentioned here that the critical illnesses are already covered in the existing Health Insurance Scheme even though for a limited cover of Rs. 15000/- only i.e. this facility is already available to handloom weavers albeit for a limited value.
- (c) Moreover, the Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) being implemented by the Ministry of Labour for the BPL population of unorganized sector also covers the critical illnesses upto a value of Rs. 30,000. Since BPL handloom weavers are already eligible for availing the benefits of that scheme under RSBY formulation of new scheme for the same type of medical cover would be duplication in so far as BPL weavers are concerned."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of State for Textiles, have requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1512,
ANSWERED ON 10.03.2008

GENERAL HEALTH INSURANCE SCHEME

1512. Shri ASADUDDIN OWAISI

Will the Minister of Textiles be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government is providing general health insurance to textile workers;
- (b) if so, whether critical illness cover to handloom workers has not been covered under the scheme;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to include critical illness under existing general health insurance scheme to these workers;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether the Government proposes to implement a comprehensive health insurance scheme to cover all types of illness among textile workers; and (g) if so, the details thereof alongwith the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN)

(a): During the 11th plan Government of India is providing General Health Insurance for Handloom Weavers and Handicraft artisans through the following schemes :-

(I) Health Insurance scheme as a component of Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme; and

(II) Rajiv Gandhi Shilpi Swasthya Yojana for Handicraft artisans

(b): Under the present Health Insurance Scheme for Handloom Weavers, the following critical illnesses such as Cancer, paralysis, Myocardial Infarction, Bypass surgery, Kidney failure, stroke, TB are not covered.

(c) to (e): The matter regarding covering critical illnesses under the Health Insurance Scheme was taken up during the discussions held for implementing the Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme. However, since inclusion of critical illnesses would enhance the premium under the Health Insurance Scheme, it was felt that the above illnesses can be covered under a new scheme to be launched by the Life Insurance Corporation at a lower premium. This matter was discussed with the LIC for reducing the premium.

(f)& (g): A new product at a lower premium covering the above critical illnesses is under consideration by the LIC.

[xi] SETTING UP OF AIRPORT IN KURNOOL DISTRICT

On 23 October, 2008 Shri K.J.S.P. Reddy, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 946 to the Minister of Civil Aviation. The contents of the question along with its reply are as given in Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Civil Aviation within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Civil Aviation vide their letter dated 22 October, 2009 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

“That on the request of the State Government of Andhra Pradesh, Airports Authority of India conducted feasibility study of two sites in Kurnool district (1- Prudidapadu Village Mandal, 2- Orvakul Mandal) and has submitted its report to the Government in June, 2008. Response of the State Government is awaited. Action need to be taken by the Government of Andhra Pradesh. Since the action is required to be taken by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, no action is required on the part of this Ministry.”

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of State for Civil Aviation (Independent Charge), have requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 946
ANSWERED ON 23.10.2008
SETTING UP OF AIRPORT IN KURNOOL DISTRICT

946. SHRI K.J.S.P. Reddy

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to set up an airport in Kurnool district;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the target set for the construction of the airport; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
(SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a), (b)and(c): On the request of the State Government of Andhra Pradesh, Airports Authority of India conducted feasibility study of two sites in Kurnool District (1 - Prudidapadu Village Mandal, 2 - Orvakul Mandal) and has submitted its report to the Government in June, 2008. Response of the State Government is awaited.

[xii] CREATION OF DATABASE

On 29 October, 2008 Shri S.K. Kharventhan, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 1482 to the Minister of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways. The contents of the question along with the reply of the Minister of are as given in Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways vide O.M. No. RT-11016/12/2008-MVL dated 9 July, 2009 and D.O. No. H-11016/12/2008-MVL dated 15 October, 2010 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

“That 11th Plan period will continue upto 31-3.2012. For each and every scheme normally a time frame for its completion is also decided. After completion of the approved time frame, if required request can be made for further extension. In the given answer this Ministry is neither collecting any information from anyone nor mentioned to submit the same subsequently. Since no information is to be collected / sent, Lok Sabha Secretariat is requested for not treating the above answer as an assurance.”

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of State for Road Transport and Highways, have requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1482

ANSWERED ON 29.10.2008

CREATION OF DATABASE

1482. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN

Will the Minister of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways be pleased to state:-

(a) the current status regarding creation of a database as envisaged by the Expenditure Finance Committee for providing assistance to the States ;

(b) the components likely to be included in the database and

(c) the time by which the database is likely to be completed?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
(SHRI K.H.MUNIYAPPA)

(a) &(b) Expenditure Finance Committee has approved the proposal for creation of State and National Register in respect of Driving Licence(DL) and Registration Certificate (RC) of Motor Vehicles at an estimated cost of Rs.148 crores. This proposal has also been approved by the Hon`ble Minister of Shipping, Road Transport & Highways and Hon`ble Finance Minister.This will facilitate the inter- operability of the data relating to DL & RC throughout the country. National Informatics Centre (NIC) is executing the project.The Ministry has requested all the States AJT`s to firm up their proposal for seeking financial assistance from Central Government for early implementation of the project .

(c) It has been proposed to complete the project during the 11th Plan period.

[xiii] INDIAN JUDICIAL SERVICE

On 9 July, 2009 Shri T.R. Baalu, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 884 to the Minister of Law and Justice. The contents of the question along with its reply are as given in Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Law and Justice within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Law and Justice vide the D.O. No. L-20017/1/2010-Jus dated 7 June, 2010 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

“That the matter involves long procedure formalities including consultation with the State Governments and High Courts in view of Constitutional Amendment involved in it. Therefore, it would take a long time for implementation. The matter requires the support of all the State Governments/High Courts.”

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of Law and Justice, have requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 884
ANSWERED ON 9.7.2009
INDIAN JUDICIAL SERVICE

884. SHRI T.R. BAALU

Will the Minister of Law and Justice be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether all India Judicial Service as contemplated under Act 312 of the Constitution of India has not been created so far;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken to create the service as required by the Constitution of India?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. M. VEERAPPA MOILY)

(a) to (c) : No, Madam. Since the creation of an All India Judicial Service would require cooperation of the State Governments and High Courts, views and comments of the State Governments and High Courts have been sought. So far, 15 State Governments/UTs and 12 High Courts have furnished their views. After receipt of the views from all State Governments/High Courts, the matter will be examined on merit.

[xiv] CONSTRUCTION OF GIRLS HOSTELS

On 27 July, 2009 Shrimati Jaya Prada, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 3080 to the Minister of Human Resource Development (Department of Higher Education). The contents of the question along with the reply of the Minister of Human Resource Development are as given in Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Human Resource Development within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Human Resource Development vide O.M. No. F.13-25/2010-U.1(A) dated 13 April, 2010 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

"According to the information furnished by University Grants Commission (UGC), 2106 proposals for construction of girls hostels were received during the Tenth Plan of which 1599 eligible proposals have already been sanctioned. During the eleventh Plan so far 633 proposals have been received for financial assistance for construction of girls hostels of which 537 have been sanctioned. The remaining proposals are under examination and will be assisted only subject to eligibility," has been treated as an assurance.

According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), the pending proposals of the X Plan were carried forward to the XI Plan and in the XI Plan, 717 eligible proposals have been sanctioned and 1310 fresh proposals have been received. This is an ongoing process and no date-limit can be set for liquidation of proposals being a continuous process."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of Human Resource Development (Department of Higher Education), have requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3080
ANSWERED ON 27.07.2009
CONSTRUCTION OF GIRLS HOSTELS

3080. Shrimati Jaya Prada

Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state:-

- (a) the number of proposals received by the University Grants Commission (UGC) from the colleges in the country including Uttar Pradesh for construction of girls hostels under Tenth and Eleventh Five Year Plan;
- (b) the number of colleges for which financial assistance has been sanctioned for construction of girls hostels;
- (c) the number of proposals are pending for approval; and
- (d) the time by which assistance is likely to be sanctioned for these proposals ?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SMT.D.PURANDESWARI)

(a) to (d): According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), 2106 proposals for construction of girls hostels were received during the Tenth Plan of which 1599 eligible proposals have already been sanctioned. During the Eleventh Plan so far 633 proposals have been received for financial assistance for construction of girls hostels of which 537 have been sanctioned. The remaining proposals are under examination and will be assisted only subject to eligibility.

[xv] EXPANSION OF NH-2

On 28.7.2009 S/Shri Ramkishun, M.Ps, addressed an Unstarred Question No. 3225 to the Minister of Road Transport and Highways. The contents of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Road and Transport and highway within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways vide O.M. No. H-11016/33/2009-PIC dated 26 October, 2010 have requested to drop the assurance on the following ground:-

"That in the reply even though no specific promise was made, the reply provided was treated as an assurance as it mainly listed the projects that were ongoing at various stages which may not be treated as assurance. It is therefore, requested to take necessary action for dropping the assurance from the list of pending assurances. The question asked by the hon'ble Member sought details of widening projects which were provided in the reply. Even though no specific promise was made, the reply provided was treated as an assurance as it mainly listed the projects, that were ongoing at various stages. Since the Question primarily related to futuristic projects, the reply also detailed the projects to be taken up. Gestation period for highway projects is 4-5 years from inception stage and hence completion will require corresponding time frame. In questions related to highway projects where status of ongoing projects is sought, the reply will necessarily contain only the current status, even where likely completion date is sought, the reply provided is the anticipated completion date at that point of time and hence is a complete reply. Thus, continuing with this assurance till 6 laning of NH-2 is completed appears unnecessary."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of State (Road Transport & Highways, have requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAY
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3225
ANSWERED ON 28.7.2009
EXPANSION OF NH-2

3225 SHRI RAMKISHUN

Will the Minister of Road Transport and highways be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the National Highway No. 2 is being expanded;
- (b) if so, the details of the status, State - wise;
- (c) the time by which the said work is likely to be completed; and
- (d) the estimated cost and the funds spent so far on the said expansion?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
(SHRI R.P.N. SINGH)

(a) to (d) Yes Sir. Out of a total length of 1453 km of National Highway No. 21, 445 km length has already been four-laned and balance length of 8 km is under implementation under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) which is targeted for completion by December, 2009. The total expenditure incurred so far is Rs.8042.26 crore. Further expansion of National Highway No. 2 to six-lane standard is approved by the Government under NHDP Phase-V to be implemented on Design, Build, Finance and Operate (DBFO) mode. The State-wise details of the status are enclosed at Annex. Since projects for six-laning are yet to be awarded, it is too early to indicate the cost and target for its completion.

ANNEX

ANNEX REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3225 FOR ANSWER ON 28TH JULY, 2009 ASKED BY SHRI RAMKISHUN REGARDING EXPANSION OF NH-2

PROJECT-WISE DETAILS OF SIX-LANING TO BE IMPLEMENTED

No	Stretch for Six Laning	Length (in km)	Current status/Remarks
1.	Delhi-Agra	180 (106 km in the state of UP & 74 Km in the state of Haryana)	Bids were invited with due date as 24.12.2008. However, No bids received even after extension of Bid due dates repeatedly. As such Restructuring of the project was carried out and re-bidding is being carried out shortly.
2.	Agra-Etawah Bypass	125 in the state of UP	Feasibility study is in progress.
3.	Etawah-Chakeri (Kanpur)	157 in the state of UP	Bids for feasibility study have been received and consultant is being appointed.
4.	Chakeri(Kanpur)-Allahbad	150 in the state of UP	Bids for feasibility study have been received and consultant is being appointed.
5.	Allahbad Bypass-Varanasi	160 in the state of UP	Feasibility study is in progress.
6.	Varanasi-Aurangabad	190(55 km in the state of UP & 135 km in Bihar)	Bids received are under evaluation.
7.	Aurangabad-Barwadda	220 (71 km in the State of Bihar & 149 km in Jharkhand)	Bids for feasibility study have been received and consultant is being appointed.
8	Barwadda-Panagarh	120 (41 km in the State of Jharkhand & 79 km in West Bengal)	Feasibility study is in progress
9	Panagarh-Dankuni	135 km in the State of West Bengal	Feasibility study is in progress.

[xvi] AIR ACCIDENTS

On 21 November, 2009 Shri Subhash Bapurao Wankhede, M.P., Shri Kodikkunnil Suresh, M.P., and Shri M.K.Raghavan, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 206 to the Minister of Civil Aviation. The contents of the question along with the reply of the Minister of Civil Aviation are as given in Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Civil Aviation within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Civil Aviation vide O.M. No. H.11016/36/2009-DG dated 01 June, 2010 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

"In this connection it is submitted that the reply given to part (f) of the question is general in nature and does not specifically relates to this question as after every accidents/incident safety recommendations emanating from investigation are followed up for implementation with concerned agencies for preventing recurrence of such incidents in future. Thus this reply does not constitute an assurance."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of State for Civil Aviation, have requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 206
ANSWERED ON 19.11.2009
AIR ACCIDENTS

206. SHRI SUBHASH BAPURAO WANKHEDE
SHRI SURESH KODIKUNNIL
SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:-

- (a) the number of air accidents that took place during the last one year till date;
- (b) whether there has been an increase in the number of air accidents in the past few months;
- (c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (d) whether the Government has conducted any inquiry in this regard;
- (e) if so, the outcome thereof; and
- (f) the steps being taken by the Government to stop recurrence of such incidents in future.

ANSWER

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a): Four accidents to Indian Civil Registered aircrafts have been reported in 2009 till date.

(b): No, Sir.

(c): Does not arise.

(d)and (e): All accidents are investigated as per of the Aircraft Rules, 1937 and action is taken based on the recommendation emanating from the investigation reports.

(f): Safety recommendations emanating from investigation of incidents are followed up for implementation with the concerned agencies for preventing recurrence of such incidents in future. To avoid air accidents, various accident prevention programmes have been initiated by Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), which include,safety audits, surveillance inspections, dissemination of safety information, issue of Air Safety Circular/ Civil Aviation Requirements, etc.

[xvii] IMPLEMENTATION OF TINXSYS

On 20 November, 2009 Shri Subhash Bapurao Wankhede, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 390 to the Minister of Finance. The contents of the question along with its reply are as given in Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Finance within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Finance vide O.M. No. 30011/13/2009-SO(ST) dated 19 February, 2010 requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

“That the Lok Sabha secretariat has treated reply to part (d) as an assurance. However, it may be noted that the reply to part (d) of the question provided the updated position regarding implementation of GST. The reply, indicating the position at that point of time was thus given. No assurance was given in the reply and it is not feasible to fulfill this nature of assurance in a short span, as the legislative measures including constitutional amendments are long drawn process.

Since the up-dated position with regard to implementation of GST had been provided at the time of reply to the question, the reply furnished may not be treated as assurance and may be dropped.”

4. The above request of the Ministry was considered and the same was not agreed to by the Committee at their sitting held on 7 April, 2010. Accordingly, the Committee presented its 7th Report to the Lok Sabha on 05 May, 2010. The Ministry of Finance *vide* their O.M. No. S.30011/13/2010-SO(ST) dated 12 November, 2010 have once again requested to drop the above assurance on the following grounds:-

"That the part (d) of this question basically asked about the updated position regarding the implementation of the GST. The reply indicating the position at that point of time was accordingly given, wherein it was *inter-alia* stated that "a Joint Working Group of Officers of Central and State Governments has been constituted to prepare draft Constitutional Amendment Bill and draft Central and State legislations for GST." A request was made not to treat this reply as an assurance and for dropping the matter.

In this regard, it may be kindly noted that the Joint Working Group had thereafter prepared a draft of the Constitutional Amendment Bill which had been sent to the Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers for obtaining the views of the States. On the basis of the feedback received from the Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers, the draft of the Constitutional Amendment Bill has been revised and sent again to the Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers. The Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers is discussing this draft in its meetings. The work of preparing draft Central and State Legislation for GST cannot begin in its right earnest till there is an agreement between the Centre and the States on the draft of the Constitutional Amendment Bill required in connection with the Goods and Service Tax.

Since developing a consensus among States and arriving at an agreement between Centre and the States on draft of the Constitutional Amendment Bill is a time consuming process, it appears appropriate that this updated position regarding implementation of GST is considered as sufficient reply with respect to Unstarred Question No. 390 and the assurance is considered as fulfilled. The matter accordingly may please be placed in the next meeting of the Committee on Government Assurances for getting the assurance dropped."

5. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of State (Revenue), have requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 390
ANSWERED ON 20.11.2009
IMPLEMENTATION OF TINXSYS

390. SHRI SUBHASH BAPURAO WANKHEDE

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government proposes to implement the Tax Information Exchange System (TINXSYS);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this Tax Information Exchange System will facilitate smooth transition to the Goods and Services Tax (GST) regime;

(d) the updated position regarding the implementation of GST; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to implement the Tax Information Exchange System (TINXSYS) speedily?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE(SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM)

(a), (b) Government of India and the States together fund on equal basis, a nation-wide computerization project called `Tax Information Exchange System (TINXSYS)` to enable exchange of critical data on inter-state sale among States. This is implemented by the Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers.

(c) Tax Information Exchange System is already operational. It presently caters for tracking of inter State transactions on which Central Sales Tax (CST) is levied. The CST being an origin based tax is to be abolished before the destination based GST is put in place. The TINXSYS system, therefore, cannot be put to use in its present form in the GST regime.

(d) The Central Government has declared its policy intent to introduce Goods and Services Tax (GST) in the country w.e.f. 1st April,2010.The Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers (EC) has developed a Model and a Roadmap for the introduction of the GST in the country.EC has released First Discussion paper on GST on 10th November,2009 to obtain feedback from stakeholders. The design details indicated in this paper are being studied by Centre at present. A Joint Working Group of officers of State and Central Government has been constituted to prepare draft Constitutional amendment bill and draft Central and State legislations for GST.

(e) TINXSYS is a project that has already been implemented by the Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers.

[xviii] LACK OF INTEREST IN SCIENCE

On 3 March, 2010 S/Shri Suresh Kumar Shetkar and P. Balram Naik, M.Ps., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 1012 to the Minister of Human Resource Development. The contents of the question along with the reply of the Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development are as given in Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Human Resource Development within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Human Resource Development vide O.M. No. H-11014/6/2010-CDN dated 20 September, 2010 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

"That this Ministry had given specific replies to all parts of the question. The Empowered Committee has been constituted in order to implement, monitor and render necessary guidance with regard to the recommendations of the Task Force. As such, there is no assurance involved.

Accordingly, it is requested that the reply given may not be construed as an assurance and may be dropped from the list of pending assurances of this Ministry."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development, have requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1012
ANSWERED ON 3.3.2010
LACK OF INTEREST IN SCIENCE

1012. SHRI SURESH KUMAR SHETKAR
SHRI P. BALRAM NAIK

Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government is making attempts to reverse the disturbing trend of students declining interest in basic science especially in the rural areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of funds allocated and spent for the purpose in the Eleventh Five Year Plan; and
- (d) the steps being taken to correct the situation in future?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. D PURANDESWARI)

(a) to (d): There is no decline in the interest of students in basic sciences at the Secondary level. Infact the number of students opting for science in Class X has been increasing over the last 3 years. The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has taken various initiatives to promote interest of students in science such as restructuring of syllabus of science; increasing the weightage to practical work; development of supplementary material on activity based learning of science concepts; holding of Regional and National level science exhibition; holding orientation programmes for science teachers etc.

The Central Government had set up a Task Force for Basic Scientific Research in Universities. In order to implement its recommendations, the Task Force was constituted into an Empowered Committee.

The funds provided by UGC for the purpose of implementation of the recommendations of the Task Force in the last three years are as under:

	2007-08 (Rs. crore)	2008-09 (Rs. crore)	2009-10 (Rs. crore)
Allocation for the year by UGC	163	144	123
Funds released by UGC (upto31-12-09)	165.88	143.59	82.63

[xix] IMPLICATIONS OF INTRODUCTION OF GST

On 12 March, 2010 Shri Tathagata Satpathy, Shri Amarnath Pradhan, Shri Bhoopendra Singh, Shri Sarvey Sathyanarayana, Dr. Vinay Kumar Pandey 'Vinnu', Shri Ponnamm Prabhakar, M.Ps, addressed an Unstarred Question No. 2681 to the Minister of Finance. The contents of the question along with its reply are as given in Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) vide their letter No.30011/6/2010-SO(ST) dated 19 May, 2010 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

"That the reply to part (b and (c) of the question was given indicating the position at that point of time. The Central Government has sent its comments on this Discussion Paper to the EC on 1st January, 2010. A Joint Working Group of officers of Central Government, State Governments and Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers has been constituted to prepare draft of the Constitutional amendments, Central GST legislation, model State GST legislation and related rules. Finance Minister in his budget Speech for 2010-11 has indicated that it will be his endeavour to introduce GST from 1st April, 2011. It may please be appreciated that reply to parts (b) and (c) is factual and complete. The finalization of GST involves consultation with States which is a long drawn process. If these replies are considered as assurances, it would be infeasible to fulfill within a short time. It is therefore, requested that this may kindly not be treated as assurance and may be dropped."

4. In this connection it is stated that the Ministry of Finance requested for dropping the above assurance earlier also vide their letter No. 30011/6/2010-SO(ST) dated 19 May, 2010. This request was considered by the Committee at their sitting held on 06 August,

2010 and the Committee were not convinced with the reasons furnished by the Ministry for dropping the assurance. Accordingly, the Committee presented its 10th Report (15th Lok Sabha) regarding requests for dropping of assurances on 27 August, 2010.

5. The Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) vide their letter No. S. 30011/6/2010-SO(ST) dated Nil have once again requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

"That the draft of the Constitutional Amendment Bill required for introduction of GST has been prepared and sent to the Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers. The Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers has discussed this draft. On the basis of feedback received from the Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers, the draft Constitutional Amendment Bill has been revised and sent to the Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers again for obtaining the views of the States. Many critical GST parameters like threshold, rates, exemption list etc., are to be finalized by the Goods and Service Tax Council proposed to be created through this Constitutional amendment.

The effect of GST can be studied only when such basic parameters have been decided. Since the first step namely, the finalization of Constitutional Amendment Bill itself has not been completed, the question of studying the effect of GST does not arise at this juncture. In other words, the Government has not studied the implications of post-GST. It may also be kindly appreciated that developing a consensus among States on the Constitutional Amendment Bill itself is likely to take considerable time. Under these circumstance, this updated reply in the matter may kindly be considered as final and the matter may please be put up to the Committee on Government Assurances for dropping this assurance at the earliest."

6. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of State (Revenue), have requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2681
ANSWERED ON 12.3.2010
IMPLICATIONS OF INTRODUCTION OF GST

2681. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY
SHRI SATHYANARAYANA SARVEY
SHRI VINAY KUMAR ALIAS VINNU
SHRI PRABHAKAR PONNAM
SHRI AMARNATH PRADHAN
SHRI BHUPENDRA SINGH

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:-

- (a) the date by which the Goods and Service Tax (GST) would come into effect;
- (b) whether the Government has studied the implications of post-GST;
- (c) if so, the complete details thereof; and
- (d) the report so far prepared by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S, PALANIMANICKAM)

- (a): It shall be the endeavour of the Government of India to persuade the State Governments and the Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers to reach a consensus to that the GST can be introduced with effect from 01-04-2011.
- (b) & (c): The decision of Goods and Services Tax (GST) is still under finalization. The implications can be assessed only after the basic design is finalized.
- (d): Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers(EC) has prepared and released the First Discussion paper on `Goods and Services Tax in India in November 2009. The Central Government has sent its comments on this Discussion Paper to the EC on 1-01-2010. A Joint Working Group of officers of Central Government, State Governments and Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers has been constituted to prepare draft of the Constitutional amendments, Central GST legislation, model State GST legislation and related rules.

[xx] CORPORATISATION OF MAJOR PORTS

On 16 August, 2010 Shri Sanjay Dina Patil, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 3584 to the Ministry of Shipping. The contents of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Shipping within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Shipping vide O.M. No. H-11016/2/2010-US(L) dated 1 November, 2010 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

"That the above question raised in the Lok Sabha was pertaining to Corporatisation of the Major Ports. Corporatisation of Major Ports is a policy decision of the Government and the Ministry has since taken up action in this direction in respect of JNPT. The issue of corporatization of all the ports may take its own time for consideration and finalization and it may not be proper to treat the reply on consultation with Federations on this issue as an assurance. Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs/Lok Sabha Secretariat is, therefore, requested not to treat this question as an assurance. However, the views of the federations and unions will always be kept in view on such policy matters by this Ministry."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of Shipping, have requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SHIPPING

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3584

ANSWERED ON 16.08.2010

CORPORATISATION OF MAJOR PORTS

3584. SHRI SANJAY DINA PATIL

Will the Minister of Shipping be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the All India Ports and Dock Workers Federation expressed concern over the corporatisation of major ports in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the National Executive meeting of the said Federation was held in Kochi on corporatisation of major ports and protect the interests of workforce engaged in major ports;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the main issues the federation has pointed out to the Government in this regard; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government on issues pointed out by the federation?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K.VASAN)

(a) to (d): The All India Port & Dock Workers Federation vide their letter dated 29.4.2010 intimated that National Executive meeting of the Federation was held at Cochin on 20.4.2010 and forwarded a copy each of the resolution adopted in the meeting. As per resolution No.9, the federation expressed concern over the same and requested Ministry of Shipping to drop the policy of privatization/Corporatisation of the Major Ports as it was alleged as detrimental in the interest of the country as well as labour.

(e): The views of the federations will be considered while taking a decision on corporatisation.

[xxi] SPECIAL ENVOY'S VISIT TO NEPAL

On 25 August, 2010 Shri Asaduddin Owaisi, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 4747 to the Minister of External Affairs. The contents of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of External Affairs within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of External Affairs vide U.O. No. E.II/125/3/2009 dated 19 October, 2010 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

"That the Government of India has expressed its willingness to discuss with the Government of Nepal the review of the 1950 Treaty of Peace and Friendship and other bilateral agreements with a view to further strengthening the bilateral relationship. In the issue of review of a bilateral treaty involving two sovereign state, Government of India cannot put a time frame by which the Government of Nepal would put forth their views on the subject and discussions take place."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of External Affairs, have requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4747
ANSWERED ON 25.08.2010
SPECIAL ENVOY'S VISIT TO NEPAL

4747. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether India's special envoy visited Nepal recently to break the deadlock in order to complete the peace process;
- (b) if so, the details of the successful outcome of the visit;
- (c) the present position of peace treaty between the two countries; and
- (d) the further steps taken by both the countries in this regard?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA)

(a) & (b) Special Envoy, Shri Shyam Saran visited Nepal from 4 - 6 August, 2010 to meet with a cross section of Nepalese political leaders and to express India's genuine desire as a neighbour and time-tested friend of Nepal, to see a successful conclusion of the peace process and the drafting of a new Constitution through the building of a consensus among all parties concerned.

(c) & (d) During the visit of Prime Minister of Nepal to India from 18-22 August 2009, the Prime Ministers of India and Nepal directed the respective Foreign Secretaries to discuss the review of the 1950 Treaty of Peace and Friendship and other bilateral agreements with a view to further strengthening the bilateral relationship. The same was reiterated during the visit of the Minister of External Affairs during his visit to Nepal in January, 2010. The discussions are yet to take place. India has expressed readiness to commence discussions on this subject.

MINUTES SECOND SITTING

Minutes of the sitting of the Committee on Government Assurances (2010-2011) held on 19 October, 2010 in Committee Room 'D', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

The Committee sat from 1500 hours to 1545 hours on Tuesday, 19 October, 2010.

PRESENT

IN THE CHAIR

Dr. M. Thambidurai

Members

2. Shri Anandrao Adsul
3. Dr. Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar
4. Shri Raghuvir Singh Meena
5. Shri Bishnu Pada Ray
6. Shri Manohar Tirkey

Secretariat

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1. | Shri P. Sreedharan | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Shri R.S. Kambo | - | Director |
| 3. | Shri D.S. Malha | - | Additional Director |
| 4. | Shrimati Veena Kumari | - | Deputy Secretary |

At the outset, in terms of Rule 258(3) of Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, Dr. M. Thambidurai was chosen to act as Chairman. The Acting Chairman welcomed the Members and apprised them briefly about the agenda for the sitting.

2. Thereafter, the Committee considered Memoranda containing requests received from various Ministries/Departments for dropping the pending assurances. After in depth deliberations, of all such cases, the Committee were convinced with the reasoning adduced by the Ministry and decided to drop 5 assurances as per details given vide Annexure-I. The Committee also decided to retain 7 assurances, which are to be pursued further, as per details given in Annexure-II.

The Committee then adjourned.

Annexure-I**Details of Assurances Dropped by the Committee on Government Assurances at their sitting held on 19.10.2010.**

Sl. No.	Memo No.	Question No. /Discussion & Date	Ministry/ Department	Brief Subject
1	2	3	4	5
1.	2	(i) USQ No. 1111 dt. 4.3.1999 (ii) USQ No. 1060 dt. 2.8.2006	External Affairs	Reopening of Stillwell Road
2.	3	USQ No. 3552 dt. 17.4.2008	Civil Aviation	Seaplane services for Islands
3.	4	USQ No. 349 dt. 7.7.2009	Home Affairs	Modernisation of Police Stations
4.	5	General Discussion on Jharkhand Budget by Shri Yashwant Sinha, M.P.	Finance	Discussion on Jharkhand Budget
5.	6	USQ No. 1806 dt. 17.7.2009	Finance	Setting up of Health Council

Annexure-II**Details of Assurances to be pursued further by the Committee on Government Assurances at their sitting held on 19.10.2010.**

Sl. No.	Memo No.	Question/ Discussion Reference	Ministry/ Department	Brief Subject	Observations of the Committee
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	7	USQ No. 2653 dt. 23.7.2009	Corporate Affairs	Monitoring Committee for vanishing companies	The Committee noted that 112 FIRs have been filed against promoters/directors of vanishing companies under Indian Penal Code (IPC) and 110 prosecutions have been filed against vanishing companies and its promoters/directors under various provisions of the Companies Act, 1956 and are under various stages of progress. The Committee, therefore, desired that the matter may be brought to its logical conclusion.
2.	8	USQ No. 400 dt. 20.11.2009	Finance	Income Tax Raids	The Committee took note of search and seizure operations conducted by the Enforcement Directorate/Income Tax Authorities, in regard to Hawala transactions and acquisition of properties disproportionate to known income, keeping in view the importance of the subject, the Committee desired that the assurance be implemented at the earliest.

3.	9	USQ No. 2848 dt. 7.12.2009	Commerce & Industry	Made in India Label	Considerable time shall be taken to implement the assurance, since Inter Ministerial consultation are under way, is not a convincing ground for dropping of an assurance.
4.	10	(i) USQ No. 4391 dt. 16.12.2009 & (ii) USQ No. 5307 dt. 28.4.2010	Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions	Irregularities in supply of pump sets and boring sets	The Committee noted that the matter of irregularities in supply of boring sets/pump sets granted for irrigation in Bihar has not been taken up with the State Government. The Committee, therefore, desired that the needful be done at the earliest and the assurance be implemented.
5.	11	USQ No. 1849 dt. 9.3.2010	Road Transport & Highways	Enactment of New Road Transport Act	The Committee desired that the review of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 be expedited and the assurance be implemented.
6.	12	SQ No. 309 dt. 16.4.2010	Finance	Merger & acquisitions	The Committee noted that the Ministry while dropping the assurance has <i>inter-alia</i> stated that there was neither an intention nor any specific submission which may constitute an assurance. The Committee were of the view that it is the exclusive prerogative of the Committee to treat a particular reply as an assurance or otherwise. The Committee has treated it as an assurance and expect the Ministry to implement it at the earliest.

7.	13	USQ No. 3852 dt. 19.4.2010	Commerce & Industry	CECA between India and Indonesia	The Committee took strong note of the Ministry's averment that the answer given by the Department of Commerce may be treated as final & not an assurance. The Committee were of the view that it is the sole prerogative of the Committee to treat a particular reply as an assurance or otherwise. The Committee have treated the reply as an assurance and expect the Ministry to implement it at the earliest.
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MINUTES EIGHTH SITTING

Minutes of the sitting of the Committee on Government Assurances (2010-2011) held on 12 January, 2011 in Committee Room 'B', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

The Committee sat from 1500 hours to 1600 hours on Wednesday, 12 January, 2011.

PRESENT

CHAIRPERSON

Shrimati Maneka Gandhi

Members

2. Shri Anandrao Adsul
3. Shri Bishnu Pada Ray
4. Shri M. Rajamohan Reddy
5. Rajkumari Ratna Singh
6. Dr. M. Thambidurai
7. Shri Manohar Tirkey

Secretariat

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1. | Shri P. Sreedharan | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Shri R.S. Kambo | - | Director |
| 3. | Shri D.S. Malha | - | Additional Director |
| 4. | Shrimati Veena Kumari | - | Deputy Secretary |

At the outset the Chairperson apprised the Members about the agenda of the day. Thereafter, the Committee considered 33 Memoranda containing requests received from various Ministries/Departments for dropping the pending assurances. After in depth deliberations, of all such cases, the Committee were convinced with the reasoning adduced by the Ministry and decided to drop 16 assurances as per details

given vide Annexure-I. The Committee also decided to retain 17 assurances, which are to be pursued further, as per details given in Annexure-II.

The Committee then adjourned.

Annexure-I**Details of Assurances Dropped by the Committee on Government Assurances at their sitting held on 12.01.2011.**

Sl. No.	Memo No.	Question No. /Discussion & Date	Ministry/ Department	Brief Subject
1	2	3	4	5
1.	14	29 SQs/USQs As given in Memorandum No.14	Civil Aviation	New Civil Aviation Policy.
2.	17	USQ 232 dated 3.12.2003	Shipping	Sagar Mala Programme.
3.	19	USQ 4527 Dated 25.8.2005	Information and Broadcasting	Recovery of Outstanding dues by Doordarshan.
4.	22	(i) USQ 728 dated 28.7.2006 (ii) SQ 185 dated 24.8.2007	Finance	Misuse of PAN Cards. Biometric PAN Cards.
5.	25	USQ 1512 dated 10.3.2008	Textiles	General Health Insurance Scheme.
6.	26	USQ 946 dated 23.10.2008	Civil Aviation	Setting up of Airport in Kurnool District.
7.	27	USQ 1482 dated 29.10.2008	Road Transport & Highways	Creation of Database.
8.	29	USQ 884 dated 9.7.2009	Law & Justice	Indian Judicial Service.
9.	31	USQ 3080 dated 27.7.2009	Human Resource Development	Construction of Girls Hostels.
10.	32	USQ 3225 dated 28.7.2009	Road Transport & Highways	Expansion of NH-2.

11.	34	USQ 206 dated 19.11.2009	Civil Aviation	Air accidents.
12.	35	USQ 390 dated 20.11.2009	Finance	Implementation of TINXSYS.
13.	37	USQ 1012 dated 3.3.2010	Human Resource Development	Lack of Interest in Science.
14.	39	USQ 2681 dated 12.3.2010	Finance	Implications of Introduction of GST.
15.	44	USQ 3584 dated 16.8.2010	Shipping	Corporatisation of Major Ports.
16.	46	USQ 4747 dated 25.8.2010	External Affairs	Special Envoy's visit to Nepal.

Annexure-II

Details of Assurances to be pursued further by the Committee on Government Assurances at their sitting held on 12.01.2011.

Sl. No.	Memo No.	Question/ Discussion Reference	Ministry/ Department	Brief Subject	Observations of the Committee
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	15	(i) USQ 236 dated 28.2.1996 (ii) USQ 1445 dated 3.3.2006	Urban Development	Private Builders. Unauthorised Construction.	The Committee took note of absence of any legal and institutional framework for development and management of colonies and promotion of construction, sale, transfer & management of buildings, apartments and similar properties in NCR. The Delhi Real Estate Promotion, Management and Regulation Bill, 2009 is an attempt to check mushrooming of unregulated construction. The Bill is under various stages of consultation. It is an important matter. The matter may be expedited and the assurance fulfilled.
2.	16	(i) USQ 331 dated 16.7.2002 (ii) USQ 9 dated 18.2.2003	Urban Development	Utilisation of Salt Pan Land at Mumbai.	The Committee noted that no decision has been taken by the Government so far regarding utilization and development of Salt Pan Lands, which is owned by Government. The Committee, therefore, desired that the matter may be expedited and brought to its logical conclusion.

3.	18	(i) USQ 3477 dated 16.4.2008 (ii) USQ 753 dated 22.10.2008 (iii) USQ 281 dated 18.2.2009 (iv) SQ 64 dated 8 July, 2009	Health & Family Welfare	Free Health Insurance Scheme for Slum Dwellers National Urban Health Mission National Urban Health Mission Health Care of Urban Poor	The Committee took note of lack of credible primary health services, especially in slum and low-income population. The National Urban Health Mission (NURM) addresses health care delivery system in urban areas. The NURM is being finalized. The Committee, therefore, desired that the proposal be finalized at the earliest and the assurance implemented.
4.	20	USQ 327 dated 26.7.2006	Shipping	Revival of Ailing Hindustan Shipyard Corporation Limited.	The Committee did not agree with the contention of the Ministry that since Hindustan Shipyard Ltd. has already been transferred to Ministry of Defence, no action is pending on behalf of Ministry of Shipping. The Committee are of the view that restructuring of Hindustan Shipyard Ltd. is an important decision having larger ramifications. The Committee desired that Ministry of Shipping should not only take proactive actions including transfer of assurance under consideration but also ensure implementation of the assurance at the earliest.

5.	21	USQ 996 dated 28.11.2006	Tribal Affairs	New Policy for STs.	The Committee were not convinced with the reasons that since finalization of policy is at an advanced stage, the same may be dropped. The Committee are of the view that Tribal Policy is an important policy for the welfare of Tribals and needs to be pursued with all vigour. The Committee desired that consultations be completed within a fixed time frame and the assurance implemented at the earliest.
6.	23	USQ 1921 dated 29.11.2007	Civil Aviation	Security at Airports.	The Committee noted that the case is being investigated by the Delhi Police and therefore, desired that a status report on the subject might first be furnished for their consideration. The Committee, therefore, desired that the investigation be expedited and the assurance implemented.
7.	24	USQ 2248 dated 3.12.2007	Communications and Information Technology	Sale of Vacant Land of VSNL.	The Committee noted that vide their 5th Report (15th Lok Sabha) they recommended that a consultant be appointed and decision regarding surplus land be taken. However, no action has been initiated so far by the Ministry in this regard. The Committee desired that necessary action may be taken and the assurance be implemented at the earliest.

8.	28	USQ 248 Dated 18.2.2009	Health & Family Welfare	AIIMS Type Institute in Uttar Pradesh.	The Committee note that the site for proposed institution is under finalization in consultation with the State Government. The Committee desired that a detailed status note on the issue be furnished in a chronological order in the first instance. It is an important issue and be pursued vigorously.
9.	30	General Discussion dated 20.7.2009	Agriculture	Issuance of Soil Health Cards to Farmers.	The Committee did not find any merit in the contention of the Government that issue of Soil Health Card to farmers, is an ongoing process and the assurance dropped. The Committee were of the view that improving production of the farm is one of the key area engaging the attention of the Government and Soil Health Cards to farmers is an important adjunct for improving farm productivity. The Committee desired that a status note on the 277.35 Lakh soil health cards stated to have been distributed by the State Governments till March, 2009 be furnished. The Committee desired to pursue the matter further.
10.	33	SQ 3 dated 19.11.2009	Textiles	Revival of NTC Mills.	The Committee desired that revival of all the NTC Mills be expedited at the first instance and the assurance implemented.

11.	36	USQ 3449 dated 10.12.2009	Civil Aviation	Helicopter Crash.	The Committee noted that the Ministry is separately considering setting up a separate independent agency of investigation of accidents. The Committee, therefore, desired that the matter may be expedited.
12.	38	USQ 2065 dated 10.3.2010	External Affairs	Indo-Nepal Treaty.	The Committee desired that the matter regarding conclusion of updated Extradition Treaty between India and Nepal be pursued vigorously with the Government of Nepal and the assurance implemented.
13.	40	USQ 5962 dated 3.5.2010	Commerce and Industry	National Institute of Design.	The Committee did not agree with the contention of the Government that since National Institute of Design (NID) is an autonomous organization, the Department did not provide any assurance on behalf of NID. The Committee desired that Government should finalise their stand over grant of status of centre for excellence to NID at the earliest and implement the assurance.
14.	41	USQ 6414 dated 5.5.2010	Personnel, Public Grievances and Pension	Cases registered against IAS Officers.	The Committee noted that investigation against the IAS officers for various alleged irregularities/corruption is under various stages of completion. The Committee, therefore, desired that the investigation be completed at the earliest and the assurance implemented.

15.	42	USQ 6481 dated 5.5.2010	Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions	Probe of Financial Irregularities by Bureaucrats.	The Committee desired that a status indicating the details of complaints received and appropriate action taken during last one year be furnished to the Committee.
16.	43	USQ 3482 dated 16.8.2010	Rural Development	Utilisation of Funds under Wasteland Development Programme.	The Committee noted that the National Institute of Rural Development was studying the impact evaluation including investigation into the pattern of expenditure and remedial measures. The Committee desired to know about the outcome of the said study.
17.	45	USQ 4053 dated 18.8.2010	Water Resources	Sardar Sarovar Dam.	The Committee noted that it is for the State Governments of Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat & Maharashtra to implement the direction for the resettlement and rehabilitation of project affected families and ensure implementation of the Environmental safeguard measures. The Committee, therefore, desired that the matter be pursued with the State Governments.

MINUTES
TENTH SITTING

Minutes of the sitting of the Committee on Government Assurances (2010-2011) held on 03 February, 2011 in Committee Room 'D', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

The Committee sat from 1500 hours to 1700 hours on Thursday, 3 February, 2011.

PRESENT

CHAIRPERSON

Shrimati Maneka Gandhi

Members

2. Shri Anandrao Adsul
3. Dr. Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar
4. Shri Mohan Jena
5. Shri Raghuvir Singh Meena
6. Rajkumari Ratna Singh
7. Shri Manohar Tirkey
8. Shri Hukumdeo Narayan Yadav

Secretariat

1. Shri P. Sreedharan - Joint Secretary
2. Shri R.S. Kambo - Director

3. Shri D.S. Malha - Additional Director
4. Shrimati Veena Kumari - Deputy Secretary

At the outset, the Hon'ble Chairperson welcomed the Members and apprised them briefly about the agenda for the sitting.

2. Thereafter, the Committee considered and adopted draft 12th & 13th reports, regarding requests for dropping of assurances without any amendment.

3. xx xx xx xx xx

The Committee then adjourned.

XX- Relates to other matters.