

THIRTY FIRST REPORT

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
(2012-2013)

(FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA)

REQUESTS FOR DROPPING OF ASSURANCES

Presented to Lok Sabha on 29 August, 2013



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

August, 2013/Bhadrapada, 1935 (Saka)

CGA No. 242

Price: ₹ 38.00

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Published under Rule 382 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha (Fourteenth Edition) and Printed by the General Manager, Government of India Press, Minto Road, New Delhi-110 002.

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COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES*
(2012-2013)

Shrimati Maneka Sanjay Gandhi — *Chairperson*

MEMBERS

2. Shri Anandrao Adsul
3. Shri Rajendra Agrawal
4. Shri Hansraj G. Ahir
5. Dr. Rattan Singh Ajnala
6. Shri Kantilal Bhuria
7. Shri Jayant Chaudhary
8. Shri Gurudas Das Gupta
9. Shri Bijoy Handique
10. Shri Badri Ram Jakhar
11. Sardar Sukhdev Singh Libra
12. Shri Anjan Kumar M. Yadav
13. Shri Nama Nageswara Rao
14. Rajkumari Ratna Singh
15. Dr. M. Thambidurai**

SECRETARIAT

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. Shri P. Sreedharan | — | <i>Additional Secretary</i> |
| 2. Shri U.B.S. Negi | — | <i>Director</i> |
| 3. Shri T.S. Rangarajan | — | <i>Additional Director</i> |
| 4. Shri Kulvinder Singh | — | <i>Committee Officer</i> |

* The Committee was constituted w.e.f. 23 September, 2012 vide Para No. 4552 of Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II dated 18 October, 2012.

** Nominated to the Committee vide Para No. 4625 of Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II dated 16 November, 2012.

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 Thirty First Report of the Committee on Government Assurances.

2. The Committee (2012-2013) at their sitting held on 03 June, 2013 considered Memoranda Nos. 42 to 66 containing requests received from the Ministries/Departments for dropping of pending assurances and decided to drop 8 assurances.

3. At their sitting held on 26 August, 2013 the Committee (2012-2013) considered and adopted their Thirty First Report.

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

5. For facility of reference and convenience, the observations and recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold letters in the Report.

NEW DELHI;
26 August, 2013
4 Bhadrapada, 1935 (Saka)

MANEKA SANJAY 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 is 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 to implement the assurances on one ground or the other, they are required to request the Committee on Government Assurances to drop the assurances and such requests are considered by the Committee on merits and decisions taken to drop an assurance or otherwise.

2. The Committee on Government Assurances (2012-13) *inter-alia* considered the following requests received from Ministries/Departments for dropping of assurances at their sitting held on 03 June, 2013:—

SQ/USQ No. & Date	Ministry	Subject in Brief
SQ No. 121 dated 09.08.2011	Agriculture	Small Scale Farming (Appendix-I)
USQ No. 1966 dated 11.08.2011	Railways	Multi Functional Complexes (Appendix-II)
USQ No. 2459 dated 16.08.2011	Agriculture	Committee on Endosulfan (Appendix-III)
USQ No. 2885 dated 18.08.2011	Railways	Unhygienic bedrolls/linen in trains (Appendix-IV)
USQ No. 2977 dated 18.08.2011	Railways	Punalur-Sengottai Gauge Conversion (Appendix-V)
SQ No. 262 dated 19.08.2011	Finance	Disinvestment of PSEs (Appendix-VI)
USQ No. 4408 dated 30.08.2011	Culture	National Commission on Libraries (Appendix-VII)
USQ No. 750 dated 25.11.2011	New and Renewable Energy	Biomass Cookstove (Appendix-VIII)

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 to VIII.

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 sitting of the Committee, whereunder the decision to drop the assurances were taken, are given in Appendix-IX.

NEW DELHI;
26 August, 2013
4 Bhadrapada, 1935 (Saka)

MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI
Chairperson,
Committee on Government Assurances.

APPENDIX I
(*Vide* Para 3 of the Report)

[i] Small Scale Farming

On 9 August, 2011 S/Shri Ponnamm Prabhakar and Dinesh Chandra Yadav, M.Ps., addressed a Starred Question No. 121 to the Minister of Agriculture. The text of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in the Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance by the Committee and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture within three months from the date of the reply. The assurance is yet to be implemented. The Ministry have not sought any extension of time to fulfil the assurance.

3. The Ministry of Agriculture *vide* O.M. No. CPS. 6-23/2011-NFSM dated 20 October, 2011 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

“That this Ministry has not given any assurance in reply with regard to Sl. Nos. (i), (ii), (iv), (vi) & (vii) of parts (d) to (e) of the above question. However, the intention of this Ministry was to say that the activities indicated in replies to above serial numbers are already done and not that activities are yet to be done.”

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

ANNEXURE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 121
ANSWERED ON 09.08.2011

Small Scale Farming

*121. SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR:
SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of small scale farming in the country;
- (b) whether the Government has taken note of the United Nations latest World Economic and Social Survey report, which has advocated small scale farming for tackling food security issues;
- (c) if so, the details thereof including the observations and suggestions/ recommendations made in the Report;
- (d) the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (e) the steps being taken by the Government to promote small scale farming in the country?

ANSWERS

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Small and marginal farm holdings account for nearly 82% of total landholdings in India. There are 7.54 crore marginal land holdings (less than 1 hectare) and 2.27 crore small (1-2 hectares) farm holdings that constitute 63% and 19% respectively of 12 crore total land holdings (Agricultural Statistics at a Glance 2010). They also account for nearly 44% of operated area and contribute to 51% of total output produced in the country (Report of National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganized Sector, 2008).

(b) & (c) Yes, UN World Economics and Social Survey Report 2011 has emphasized the need for focusing on small scale farming as the potential area for realizing food security. Broadly the strategy suggested relates to development and promotion of site specific sustainable agriculture technologies coupled with efforts to build institutions that group the small farmers. Major recommendations of the report are given below:

- (i) Promotion of green technologies leading to low use of chemical fertilizers, efficient use of natural resources, new high yielding varieties, low tillage, crop rotation, intercropping, integrated pest management, and adoption of resource conservation practices such as SRI (System of Rice Intensification).

- (ii) Provisioning support services such as adequate rural infrastructure, irrigation, grain storage, marketing, education and training facilities.
- (iii) Creation of dynamic Sustainable Agricultural Innovation System (SAIS) linking universities, research institutions, firms, farmers, civil society organizations and private foundations for dissemination of technologies and innovative practices.
- (iv) Increased investment on agriculture research and development.
- (v) New mechanisms for expanding Payments for Environmental Services (PES) to small farm holders for the protection of natural resources, to conserve biodiversity and to increase carbon sequestration in agriculture.

(d) & (e) Government of India has been taking active steps to make small scale farming viable. Many of the recommendations of the report are included in the initiatives of Government of India as mentioned below:

- (i) Technologies relating to improved seeds, conservation of natural resources, improved water use efficiency, integrated nutrient and pest management are being promoted under various agriculture development programmes for sustainable agriculture.
- (ii) District Agriculture Development Plans are being prepared as per the agro climatic situations to meet the local needs.
- (iii) Cluster approach has been adopted under various crop development programmes for better reach of technologies and services to the small and marginal farmers.
- (iv) Farmers are being organized into groups for availing quality inputs and better market access.
- (v) Venture Capital assistance to small farm enterprises through Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium is ensured.
- (vi) Risk Management among others through strengthening of agricultural insurance mechanisms development and promotion of climate resilient technologies are being promoted.
- (vii) Storage infrastructure is being developed along with modernization of market facilities.
- (viii) Several Rural development schemes are focusing on development of infrastructure and irrigation facilities in the rural areas benefiting small and marginal farmers.
- (ix) Partnership for research, development and policies with Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) and other International organizations to address issues relating to global food security are being adopted.
- (x) Innovations and knowledge management is being taken up to priority to evolve better technologies and approaches while addressing constraints of small scale farming.

APPENDIX II

(Vide Para 3 of the Report)

[ii] Multi-Functional Complexes

On 11 August, 2011 S/Shri Sanjay Dina Patil, S. Alagiri and Ijyaraj Singh M.Ps., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 1966 to the Minister of Railways. The text of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in the Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance by the Committee and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Railways within three months from the date of the reply. The assurance is yet to be implemented. The Ministry have sought extension of time upto 30 June, 2012 to fulfil the assurance.

3. The Ministry of Railways *vide* O.M. No. 2011/LML/8/26 dated 27 April, 2012 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

“That the referred part of the reply is regarding the status of consultancy works for the stations on Indian Railways identified for development as world class station on Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode. Developing railway stations on PPP mode is a long process and as such no assurance has been made in the reply.”

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

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1966
ANSWERED ON 11.08.2011

Multi-Functional Complexes

1966. SHRI SANJAY DINA PATIL:
SHRI S. ALAGIRI:
SHRI IJYARAJ SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways propose to set up Multi functional Complexes (MFC)/ World Class Stations in the country through private investment/participation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the locations identified for this purpose across the country, State-wise, including Maharashtra; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken in this regard?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1966 BY SHRI SANJAY DINA PATIL, SHRI S. ALAGIRI AND SHRI IJYARAJ SINGH TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 11.08.2011 REGARDING MULTI-FUNCTIONAL COMPLEXES:

(a) to (c) Development of Multi-Functional Complexes (MFCs) at 120 stations is planned through private investment/participation. Accordingly, contracts for development of Multi-Functional Complexes at three stations have been awarded and for other stations, preliminary work has been undertaken. 50 stations have been identified for development as world class stations in Public-Private Partnership (PPP) mode by leveraging the real estate potential of the land around and the air space above the stations. Bidding process for world class stations in PPP mode can be initiated only after Master Plan and Feasibility Report is prepared and in-principle approval of the local agencies obtained. Consultancy works for preparation of Master Plan and Feasibility Report had been taken up for New Delhi, CST Mumbai and Patna. Action has also been initiated for Consultants for Secunderabad, Porbandar, Surat, Ahmedabad, Sealdah, Chandigarh and Chennai Central. For other stations, preliminary activities are being taken up by the Zonal Railways. Due to high cost of these projects, not much headway could be made. In this regard, a review of policy of engagement of Consultants has been undertaken. State-wise list of stations identified for development of Multi Functional Complexes and world class stations is appended.

Appendix Referred to in reply to parts (a) to (c) of Unstarred Question No. 1966 by Shri Sanjay Dina Patil, Shri S. Alagiri and Shri Ijyaraj Singh to be Answered in Lok Sabha on 11.08.2011 regarding Multi-functional Complexes

Sl. No.	State	Multi-functional Complexes	World Class Stations
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Dharmavaram, Karimnagar, Kurnool Town, Nellore, Nizamabad, Secunderabad, Srikakulam Road (Amudalavalsa), Vijayawada, Vizianagaram, Zahirabad	Secunderabad, Tirupati
2.	Assam	Dibrugarh Town	Guwahati
3.	Bihar	Bhagalpur, Gaya, Hajipur, Jamalpur, Katihar, Patna Sahib Jn., Raxaul Jn., Sasaram	Gaya, Patna
4.	Chhattisgarh	Bhilai	
5.	Delhi		Anand Vihar, Bijwasan, New Delhi
6.	Goa		Goa
7.	Gujarat	Anand, Bhavnagar Terminus, Bhuj, Junagadh, Nadiad, Somnath	Ahmedabad, Porbander, Surat
8.	Haryana	Hisar, Panipat, Rohtak, Sonipat	Ambala Cantt
9.	Jammu & Kashmir.	Katra, Srinagar, Udhampur	Jammu
10.	Jharkhand	Deoghar (Baidyanathdham), Dhanbad Jn., Tata Nagar	
11.	Karnataka	Arsikere, Bangarapet, Bellary, Davangere, Gulbarga, Shimoga Town, Tumkur, Yesvantpur	Baiyapanahali, Bangalore City, Mangalore
12.	Kerala	Kasargod, Mavelikara, Thiruvananthapuram	Ernakulam, Kozhikode (Calicut), Thiruvananthapuram
13.	Madhya Pradesh	Chhindwara, Neemuch, Ratlam, Rewa, Sanchi, Ujjain	Bhopal, Habibganj
14.	Maharashtra	Hazur Sahib Nanded, Lokmanya Tilak Terminus (Kurla), Miraj, Nasik Road, Shegaon, Vasai Road, Wardha	CST Mumbai, Nagpur, Pune, Thane

1	2	3	4
15.	Nagaland	Dimapur	
16.	Odisha	Bhubaneswar, Balasore, Brahmapur, Cuttack, Jharsuguda, Rayagada, Sambalpur	Bhubaneswar, Puri
17.	Punjab	Amritsar, Bathinda, Ludhiana, Patiala	Amritsar, Ludhiana
18.	Rajasthan	Abu Road, Ajmer, Bharatpur, Sawai Madhopur, Sikar	Ajmer Jn., Jaipur, Kota
19.	Tamil Nadu	Erode, Nagercoil Jn., Salem, Tiruchi Fort, Tiruttani	Chennai Central
20.	Tripura	Agartala	
21.	Uttar Pradesh	Amethi, Azamgarh, Bareilly, Gorakhpur Jn., Jhansi, Jhusi, Orai, Raja-ki-Mandi, Varanasi	Agra Cantt., Allahabad, Gorakhpur, Jhansi, Kanpur Central, Lucknow, Mathura, Varanasi
22.	Uttarakhand	Dehradun, Ramnagar	
23.	West Bengal	Anara, Asansol, Balurghat, Bankura, Barrackpore, Bolpur, Dhakuria, Diamond Harbour, Durgapur, Jhargram, Kalyani, Kanchrapara, Krishnanagar City, Madarihat, Majherhat, Malda Town, Midnapore, Murshidabad, Nabadwipdham, Naihati, New Farakka, New Mal Jn., Purulia, Siuri, Thakurnagar	Bolpur, Kolkata, Howrah, Kharagpur, Majerhat, New Jalpaiguri, Sealdah
24.	Union Territory	Chandigarh.	Chandigarh

APPENDIX III

(Vide Para 3 of the Report)

[iii] Committee on Endosulfan

On 16 August, 2011 Shri Ramashanker Rajbhar, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 2459 to the Minister of Agriculture. The text of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in the Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance by the Committee and was required to be implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture within three months from the date of the reply. The assurance is yet to be implemented. The Ministry has not sought any extension of time to fulfil the assurance.

3. The Ministry of Agriculture *vide* O.M. No. 13003/22/2011-PP-I dated 22 December 2011 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

“That a writ petition (civil) No. 213 of 2011 “Democratic Youth Federation of India *vs.* Union of India & Others” was filed in Hon’ble Supreme Court requesting *inter alia* for ban on endosulfan. The Supreme Court passed an *ad-interim* order on 13.05.2011 banning production, sale and use of Endosulfan in the country till further orders. The Court appointed a Joint Committee headed by the Director General of ICMR and the Commissioner (Agriculture) to conduct a scientific study on the question whether the use of Endosulfan would cause any serious health hazard to human beings and would cause environmental pollution. The Court directed the Committee to submit interim report within eight weeks and also suggest alternatives to Endosulfan.

Accordingly, the Central Government issued instructions on 14.05.2011 to all State Governments/Union Territory Administration to implement the interim order of the Court *in toto*, which are binding on all manufacturers. An interim report was submitted by the Joint Committee in the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court permitted export of Endosulfan stock subject to specific conditions.

The Joint Committee appointed by Hon’ble Supreme Court is yet to give its final report. The Court is yet to pronounce final judgement on the matter.

As the matter is *sub judice* and its resolution is subject to final order of the Hon’ble Supreme Court, it is requested that the Committee on Government Assurances may consider dropping the aforesaid assurance.”

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

ANNEXURE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2459
ANSWERED ON 16.8.2011

Committee on Endosulfan

2459. SHRI RAMASHANKER RAJBHAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has appointed a joint committee headed by the Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and the Agriculture Commission to conduct a scientific study on the effect of use of endosulfan on human health;

(b) if so, whether the said Committee has submitted its report;

(c) if so, the findings of the Committee; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) Yes. The Supreme Court has appointed a joint committee headed by the Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and the Agriculture Commissioner to conduct a scientific study on the effect of use of endosulfan on human health.

(b) & (c) The Committee has submitted its interim report in the Supreme Court. Important observations of the Committee are annexed.

(d) Final order of the Supreme Court is awaited.

APPENDIX IV

(Vide Para 3 of the Report)

[iv] Unhygienic Bed Rolls/Linen in Trains

On 18 August, 2011 S/Shri Deoraj Singh Patel and Hamdullah Sayeed, M.Ps., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 2885 to the Minister of Railways. The text of the question alongwith the reply of the Minister are as given in the Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance by the Committee and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Railways within three months from the date of the reply. The assurance is yet to be implemented. The Ministry have sought extension of time upto 18 August, 2012 to fulfil the assurance.

3. The Ministry of Railways *vide* O.M. No. 2011/M(C)/442/37 dated 2 May, 2012 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

“That setting up of mechanized laundries is an ongoing process. It is, therefore, requested that the reply of this Question may be dropped from the list of pending assurances.”

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

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2885
ANSWERED ON 18.08.2011

Unhygienic Bed rolls/Linen in Trains

2885. SHRI DEORAJ SINGH PATEL:

SHRI HAMDULLAH SAYEED:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints regarding unhygienic bed rolls/linens in AC coaches of express trains including Rajdhani/Garib Rath/Duranto trains have been received by the Railways;

(b) if so, the details of such complaints received by the Railways during each of the last two years and the current year, zone-wise; and

(c) the punitive action taken or proposed to be taken against offenders by the Railways in this regard?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) Indian Railways always endeavour to provide good quality linen to the passengers in trains, Bedrolls/linen sets are washed after every use.

However, some complaints and references/suggestions have been received on the Railways regarding quality of washing of bedrolls as under:

2009-10	2010-11	2011-12(till June)
1382	961	207

Such complaints/suggestions, whenever received, are acted upon appropriately and suitable penal action is initiated against the concerned contractor/staff responsible for the lapses on their account. Regular Inspections/checks are carried out at various levels to monitor the quality of linen provided to the passengers. Railways are also in the process to set up mechanized laundries at important locations to further improve upon the quality of washing of linen.

APPENDIX V

(*Vide* Para 3 of the Report)

[v] Punalur-Sengottai Gauge Conversion

On 18 August, 2011 Shri Kodikkunnil Suresh, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 2977 to the Minister of Railways. The text of the question alongwith the reply of the Minister are as given in the Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance by the Committee and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Railways within three months from the date of the reply. The assurance is yet to be implemented. The Ministry have sought extension of time upto 31.03.2015 to fulfil the assurance.

3. The Ministry of Railways *vide* O.M. No. 2011/WI/PQL/SR/34 dated 13 July, 2012 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

“That it is not feasible to complete gauge conversion of Sengottai-Punalur section in near future and thus, it is not advisable to continue the present assurance till March, 2015.”

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

ANNEXURE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2977
ANSWERED ON 18.08.2011

Punalur-Sengottai Gauge Conversion

2977. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of the progress made on gauge conversion work on Punalur-Sengottai line;
- (b) the details of funds allocated and released for the purpose so far;
- (c) whether any change in alignment of the said line has been proposed;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken to complete the said project in a time-bound manner?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2977 BY SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 18.08.2011 REGARDING PUNALUR-SENGOTTAI GAUGE CONVERSION:

- (a) Mega block for gauge conversion of Punalur-Sengottai Ghat section has already been taken and works are in progress.
- (b) Gauge conversion of Punalur-Sengottai section is a part of Quilon-Tirunelveli-Tiruchendur and Tenkasi-Virudhunagar gauge conversion project. On this project, an expenditure of Rs. 653.18 crore has been incurred upto March, 2011 and an outlay of Rs. 75 crore has been provided during 2011-12.
- (c) & (d) At present, no change in alignment is proposed.
- (e) Regular meetings are being held with State Government Authorities to expedite land availability and to sort out other issues for expeditious completion of the project. A dedicated team has also been posted for the project and works have been taken up from both Sengottai-Punalur ends simultaneously. This work is expected to be completed by March, 2015.

APPENDIX VI

(Vide Para 3 of the Report)

[vi] Disinvestment of PSEs

On 19 August, 2011, S/Shri Dhananjay Singh and Kaushalendra Kumar, M.Ps., addressed a Starred Question No. 262 to the Minister of Finance. The text of the question alongwith the reply of the Minister are as given in the Annexure.

2. during discussion Shri Tufani Saroj, M.P. raised the following supplementary question:—

“Madam, as reported in the newspapers that the Government is planning to sell off this company. I would like to know from the Hon’ble Minister that whether there is a planning to sell this Enterprise or you are thinking about its revival?”

3. In reply to the above supplementary question, the Minister of Finance (Shri Pranab Mukherji) stated as follows:—

“Madam, I can inform the Hon’ble member and through you to this House that we are aware of the problems of the Scooters India Limited. It became sick. Thereafter, it was referred to the BYPAC. They have made a recommendation with a revival plan on 28.7.2010. There will be a joint venture. The Central Government’s shareholding currently is 95.38 per cent. The note for the revival of the Scooters India Limited has already obtained the Cabinet’s approval. I do hope that with the implementation of these steps, Scooters India will be brought out of sickness.”

4. The reply to the supplementary question was treated as an assurance by the Committee 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 implanted. The Ministry has sought extension of time upto 18 February, 2013 to fulfil the assurance.

5. The Ministry of Finance (Department of Disinvestment) *vide* O.M. No. 3(5)2012-DoD dated 12 November, 2012 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:

“That as the assurance is specific to revival of Scooter India Limited (SIL), Department of Heavy Industries (DHI) was requested to intimate the present status of revival/joint venture formation in respect of SIL. In response to this, DHI *vide* their letter dated 4 October, 2012 has informed that a revised revival proposal, prepared on the basis of Joint study undertaken by ARAI, Pune and SIL, through financial restructuring and capex infusion has been apprised to PMO for moving ahead. In response PMO informed that DHI may move a proposal for Cabinet approval. Subsequently, a Cabinet Note sponsored by DHI proposing revival of SIL, for which financial restructuring and capex infusion is envisaged, on its own is presently under process for obtaining the approval. On Implementation of the revival scheme, upon Cabinet approval,

revival of SIL on its own is expected to take place and recourse to a strategic sale of the Company (for which Department of Disinvestment would be concerned) would not be necessary.

The process of revival of SIL on its own is already under the consideration of Government of India through the Department of Heavy Industries, the administrative Department. The process will take its own course as it involves obtaining the approval of Government of India and implementation thereafter, which is time consuming.”

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

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 262
ANSWERED ON 19.08.2011

Disinvestment of PSEs

262. SHRI DHANANJAY SINGH:
SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the present disinvestment policy of the Government;
- (b) the details of the Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) disinvested by the Government including the percentage of disinvestment in each enterprise during the last three years;
- (c) the revenue generated as a result of disinvestment and as against the target fixed in this regard;
- (d) whether the Government proposes further disinvestment of its share in CPSEs;
- (e) if so, the details thereof including the names of the enterprises proposed to be disinvested and the percentage share of disinvestment therein; and
- (f) the revenue target set through disinvestment, particularly for 2011-12?

ANSWER

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 262 FOR 19TH AUGUST, 2011 BY SHRI DHANANJAY SINGH AND SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR REGARDING DISINVESTMENT OF PSEs:

- (a) I. The disinvestment policy of the Government is that:
 - (i) already listed profitable Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) not meeting the mandatory public shareholding of 10% are to be made compliant by public offering out of Government shareholding or issue of fresh equity by the CPSEs concerned or a combination of both;
 - (ii) all unlisted CPSUs having positive net worth, no accumulated losses and having earned net profit for three preceding consecutive years, are to be

listed through public offerings out of Government shareholding or issue of fresh equity by the company or a combination of both;

- (iii) further public offering by listed CPSEs taking into consideration their capital investment requirements with GoI simultaneously or independently offering a portion of its shareholding in such CPSEs;
- (iv) all cases of disinvestment are to be decided on a case by case basis as each CPSE has different equity structure, financial strength, fund requirement, sector of operation, etc., factors that will not permit a uniform pattern; and
- (v) Government retains at least 51 per cent equity and management control in all cases of disinvestment through public offerings.

II. Strategic sale in loss making CPSEs, when efforts for their revival fail, is taken up on a case by case basis. Government has approved sale of entire shareholding to a strategic partner in Central Water Transport Corporation Limited, Scooters India Limited and Tyre Corporation of India Limited in the long term interest of enhancing productivity of resources and opportunities for employment.

(b) and (c) Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) disinvested during the last 3 years are as under:—

Sl. No.	Name of CPSE	Revenue Target	Percentage of dis-investment	Percentage of fresh issue of shares by CPSE	Amount of Proceeds collected	
					(₹ in crore)	
					GoI	CPSE
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2008-09						
1.	No targets fixed. There was no disinvestment during the year					
	2009-10	No targets fixed.				
1.	NHPC Limited		5	10	2012.85	4025.70
2.	Oil India Limited		10	11	2247.05	2777.25
3.	National Thermal Power Coporation Limited		5	-	8480.10	-
4.	Rural Electrification Corporation Limited		5	15	882.51	2647.53
5.	NMDC Limited		8.38	-	9930.42	-
				Total	23552.93	9450.48
2010-11		₹ 40,000 crore				
1.	SJVN Limited		10.03	-	1062.74	-
2.	Engineers India Limited		10	-	959.55	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3.	Coal India Limited		10	-	15199.44	-
4.	Power Grid Corporation of India Limited		10	10	3721.17	3721.17
5.	MOIL Limited		10	-	618.76	-
6.	Shipping Corporation of India Limited		10	10	582.45	582.45
				Total	22144.21	4303.61
2011-12		₹ 40,000 crore				
1.	Power Finance Corporation Limited		5	15	1144.55	3433.65
				Total	1144.55	3433.65

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Disinvestment is a continuous exercise. However, Government has already approved the following cases for disinvestment:—

- (i) Disinvestment of 5 per cent paid-up equity capital of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited out of Government of India shareholding.
- (ii) Disinvestment of 5 per cent paid-up equity capital of Steel Authority of India Limited out of Government of India shareholding in conjunction with issue of fresh equity of 5 per cent by the Company.
- (iii) Disinvestment of 10 per cent paid-up equity capital of Hindustan Copper Limited out of Government of India shareholding in conjunction with issue of fresh equity of 10 per cent by the Company.
- (iv) Disinvestment of 10 per cent paid-up equity capital of National Building and Construction Corporation Limited out of Government of India shareholding.

Proposals for disinvestment in respect of the following CPSEs are at various stages before seeking Government approval:

- (i) Disinvestment of 5 per cent paid-up equity capital of Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited out of Government of India shareholding.
- (ii) Disinvestment of 10 per cent paid-up equity capital of National Aluminium Company Limited out of Government of India shareholding.

(f) The Budget Estimates for disinvestment proceeds are Rs. 40,000 crore for the year 2011-12.

APPENDIX VII

(Vide Para 3 of the Report)

[vii] National Commission on Libraries

On 30 August, 2011 Shri Vijay Bahadur Singh, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 4408 to the Minister of Culture. The text of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in the Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance by the Committee and was required to be implemented by the Ministry of Culture within three months from the date of the reply. The assurance is yet to be implemented. The Ministry has sought extension of time till the decision to drop the assurance is taken.

3. The Ministry of Culture *vide* O.M. No. 1-7/2011-Lib. dated 19 December, 2011 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

“That the assurance relates to the details of development of modern libraries across the country which comes under the proposed National Commission on Libraries in the Ministry of Culture as recommended by the National Knowledge Commission.

In connection with setting up of the National Commission on Libraries, it may be mentioned that the Planning Commission had already given “in-principle approval” for the proposal. The document on the proposed Commission was submitted to Committee of Secretaries (CoS) for necessary approval. In the Meeting of CoS, the following decisions have been taken:

- (i) Libraries are required to be developed at all levels and to achieve this, a new Mission may be required; however, constitution of National Commission on Libraries does not appear to be necessary at this stage. Digitization and Networking would enhance public access to the Libraries. It is, therefore, observed that the Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation, Kolkata could function as a coordinating body for promotion of Libraries and further strengthening of the foundation may be necessitated at later stage.
- (ii) A group, consisting of representatives from D/o Higher Education, M/o Panchayati Raj, D/o School Education & Literacy and M/o Culture may prepare an action plan on what can be done in the next couple of years for promotion of libraries at all levels. The proposal for a National Commission on Libraries can be considered at a later stage as part of the deliberations of the 12th Five Year Plan Working Group.”

4. In this connection it is submitted that request for dropping of similar assurances given in reply to SQ No. 193 dated 10 March, 2010 regarding Improvement of Public Libraries and USQ No. 2058 dated 10 March, 2010 regarding setting up of Central Library Fund, were considered by the Committee at their sitting held on 21 July, 2011 and were dropped by the Committee as they were convinced with the reasons adduced by the Ministry.

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

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4408
ANSWERED ON 30.08.2011

National Commission on Libraries

4408. SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up a National Commission on Libraries on the recommendations of the National Knowledge Commission (NKC);

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

(c) the current status of implementation of the recommendations of NKC on Libraries including allocation of funds;

(d) whether there is an urgent need for revamping the library services and systems in the country using Information Communication Technology; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. So far as setting up of the National Commission on Libraries is concerned, the matter has been considered in a meeting of the Committee of Secretaries (CoS) and following decisions have been taken:

- (i) Libraries are required to be developed at all levels and to achieve this, a new Mission may be required; however, constitution of National Commission on Libraries does not appear to be necessary at this stage. Digitization and Networking would enhance public access to the Libraries. Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation, Kolkata could function as a coordinating body for promotion of Libraries and further strengthening of the foundation may be necessitated at later stage.
- (ii) A group, consisting of representatives from Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Department of School Education and Literacy and Ministry of Culture may prepare an action plan on what can be done in the next couple of years for promotion of libraries at all levels. The proposal for a National Commission on Libraries can be considered at a later stage as part of the deliberations of the 12th Five Year Plan Working Group.

At present the discussion on the 12th Five Year Plan are going on in working groups and 12th Plan is likely to be finalized during this year by the Planning Commission. Thereafter, the implementation of the recommendations of the National Knowledge Commission can be considered.

(d) & (e) Library is a State subject. Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is now used by most of the National Level Libraries for modernization of their services.

APPENDIX VIII

(Vide Para 3 of the Report)

[viii] Biomass Cookstove

On 25 November, 2011 Shri Varun Gandhi, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 750 to the Minister of New and Renewable Energy. The text of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in the Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance by the Committee and required to be implemented by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy within three months from the date of the reply. The assurance is yet to be implemented. The Ministry have not sought any extension of time to fulfil the assurance.

3. The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy *vide* O.M. No. 4/5/2012-13-R&D (SPCS) dated 28 June, 2012 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

“That following the National Biomass Cookstove Initiative (NBCI), which was launched by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy in December, 2009, the Ministry strengthened the test facilities for carrying out the performance testing of biomass cookstoves so as to maintain the quality of the product. Under the NBCI, it was envisaged to take up the pilot scale projects using several existing commercially available and better cookstoves and different grades of processed biomass fuel to facilitate exploring a range of technology deployment, biomass and delivery models leveraging public private partnerships. The Ministry in consultation with Test Centers perused the standard and test protocols for biomass cookstove that was brought out by BIS in 1992, and prepared a revised draft standard and test protocols applicable to both domestic and community portable cookstoves in the light of newer advanced cookstove models that have come to market in recent years, and the same is under circulation by BIS. Cookstoves which qualify BIS tests are considered for deployment under the pilot scale projects.

The projects referred to in the answer of the said US Question are pilot scale projects taken up for demonstration of improved biomass cookstoves for domestic and community cooking applications and to study the field performance evaluation including the impact of deployment on fuel saving, emissions, reduction, etc. One such project for demonstration of 400 nos. of community cookstoves in Anganwadi, Mid-Day Meal Schemes in schools which was taken up during the year 2010-11 has been completed. Another project on demonstration of family sized portable cookstoves is under implementation. The Ministry has also considered to take up a pilot scale project for demonstration of 5500 nos. of biomass community cookstoves during the year 2011-12 under the National Clean Energy Fund. The feedback is to be utilized for dissemination of large number of biomass cookstoves during the 12th Five Year Plan.

As the activity is related to development and demonstration of efficient improved biomass cookstoves with ultimate goal of development of business model for promotion of cookstoves in the country, the same should not be considered as an assurance.”

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of the Minister of New and Renewable Energy have requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 750
ANSWERED ON 25.11.2011

Biomass Cookstove

750. SHRI VARUN GANDHI:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to make investment for better marketing of the 'green' biomass cookstove across the country; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) & (b) The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy launched the National Biomass Cookstove Initiative (NBCI) on 2nd December, 2009 with the primary aim to enhance the availability of clean and efficient energy for the energy deficient and poorer sections of the country. During the year 2010-11, the Ministry took up a pilot scale project for demonstration of 400 nos. of community cookstoves in Anganwadis, Mid-Day Meal schemes in schools in a few States, namely, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Chhattisgarh and Orissa. Two more scuh projects are under way for implementation.

APPENDIX IX

(Vide Para 5 of the Report)

MINUTES

Tenth Sitting

MINUTES OF THE SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES (2012-2013) HELD ON 03 JUNE, 2013 IN COMMITTEE ROOM 'C', PARLIAMENT HOUSE ANNEXE, NEW DELHI

The Committee sat from 1500 hours to 1545 hours on Monday, 03 June, 2013.

PRESENT

Shri Bijoy Krishna Handique — *In Chair*

MEMBERS

2. Shri Anandrao Adsul
3. Dr. Rattan Singh Ajnala
4. Shri Gurudas Das Gupta
5. Shri Sardar Sukhdev Singh Libra
6. Shri Nama Nageswara Rao

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri U.B.S. Negi — *Director*
2. Shri Kulvinder Singh — *Committee Officer*

In the absence of Smt. Maneka Gandhi, Chairperson, Shri Bijoy Krishna Handique, M.P. was chosen to chair the sitting of the committee under rule 258(3) of the Rules of the Procedure and Conduct of the Business in Lok Sabha. At the outset the Chairman welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee and apprised them regarding the day's agenda. The Committee considered 25 Memoranda containing requests received from various Ministries/Departments for dropping the pending assurances. After in-depth deliberation of the reasons adduced by the Ministries, the Committee decided to drop 08 assurances as per details given in Annexure-I. The Committee further decided that 17 assurances required to be pursued further, as per details given in Annexure-II.*

The Committee then adjourned.

*Not enclosed.

ANNEXURE I

STATEMENT SHOWING ASSURANCES DROPPED BY THE COMMITTEE
ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES AT THEIR SITTING
HELD ON 03.06.2013

Sl. No.	Memo No.	Question No./ Discussion & Date	Ministry/ Department	Brief Subject
1.	47	SQ No. 121 dated 09.08.2011	Agriculture	Small Scale Farming
2.	48	USQ No. 1966 dated 11.08.2011	Railways	Multi-Functional Complexes
3.	50	USQ No. 2459 dated 16.08.2011	Agriculture	Committee on Endosulfan
4.	53	USQ No. 2885 dated 18.08.2011	Railways	Unhygienic bedrolls/ linen in trains
5.	54	USQ No. 2977 dated 18.08.2011	Railways	Punalur-Sengottai Gauge Conversion
6.	55	SQ No. 262 dated 19.08.2011	Finance	Disinvestment of PSEs
7.	57	USQ No. 4408 dated 30.08.2011	Culture	National Commission on Libraries
8.	61	USQ No. 750 dated 25.11.2011	New and Renewable Energy	Biomass Cookstove

APPENDIX X

MINUTES

Sixteenth Sitting

MINUTES OF THE SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT
ASSURANCES (2012-2013) HELD ON 26 AUGUST, 2013 IN
COMMITTEE ROOM 'B', PARLIAMENT HOUSE ANNEXE,
NEW DELHI

The Committee sat from 1500 hours to 1530 hours on Monday, 26 August, 2013.

PRESENT

Shri Hansraj G. Ahir — *in Chair*

MEMBERS

2. Shri Anandrao Adsul
3. Shri Bijoy Handique
4. Shri Badri Ram Jakhar
5. Sardar Sukhdev Singh Libra
6. Rajkumari Ratna Singh
7. Dr. M. Thambidurai

SECRETARIAT

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| 1. Shri U.B.S. Negi | — | <i>Director</i> |
| 2. Shri T. S. Rangarajan | — | <i>Additional Director</i> |
| 3. Shri Kulvinder Singh | — | <i>Committee Officer</i> |

In the absence of Smt. Maneka Gandhi, Chairperson, Shri Hansraj G. Ahir, M.P. was chosen to chair the sitting of the Committee under rule 258(3) of the Rules of the Procedure and Conduct of the Business in Lok Sabha. At the outset, the acting Chairman welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee and apprised them regarding the day's agenda. Thereafter Committee considered and adopted the following draft Seven reports without any amendment and authorized the Chairperson to present them in the House in the present session itself:—

- (i) Draft Twenty Ninth Report regarding review of pending assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises (Department of Heavy Industry);
- (ii) Draft Thirtieth Report regarding requests for dropping of assurances (not acceded to);
- (iii) Draft Thirty First Report regarding requests for dropping of assurances (acceded to);
- (iv) Draft Thirty Second Report regarding requests for dropping of assurances (acceded to);

- (v) Draft Thirty Third Report regarding requests for dropping of assurances (not acceded to);
- (vi) Draft Thirty Fourth Report regarding review of pending assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Mines; and
- (vii) Draft Thirty Fifth Report regarding review of pending assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture and Co-operation).

2. In view of the debate going on in the House on an important matter, the Committee decided to postpone the evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Department of AYUSH) to a subsequent date.

The Committee then adjourned.

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