

SECOND REPORT

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES (2014-2015)

(SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA)

REQUESTS FOR DROPPING OF ASSURANCES (NOT ACCEDED TO)

(Presented to Lok Sabha on 16 December, 2014)



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

December, 2014/Agrahayana, 1936 (Saka)

CGA No. 252

Price: ₹ 109.00

© 2015 BY LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

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

CONTENTS

	PAGE
COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE (2014-2015)	(iii)
INTRODUCTION	(v)
REPORT	1

APPENDICES I TO XXIV

Requests for Dropping of Assurances (Not Acceded to)

I. SQ No. 13 dated 08.08.2012 regarding Survey of BPL in Backward Tribal Areas	4
USQ No. 180 dated 08.08.2012 regarding Poverty Estimate	4
USQ No. 216 dated 08.08.2012 regarding Expert Group to Review Tendulkar's Methodology	4
USQ No. 4031 dated 05.09.2012 regarding Cost of Living of BPL Families	4
USQ No. 4060 dated 05.09.2012 regarding Inflation rate of Poverty Line	4
USQ No. 1841 dated 05.12.2012 regarding New Panel to Review Method of BPL	4
II. USQ No. 577 dated 27.02.2013 regarding Abhijit Sen Committee on BPL	18
III. SQ No. 622 dated 21.05.2012 regarding Restricted Zones around Defence Installations	21
IV. USQ No. 6309 dated 06.05.2013 regarding Offshore Patrol Vessel. .	24
V. USQ No. 6221 dated 06.05.2013 regarding Training Centers of Armed Forces	26
VI. USQ No. 580 dated 26.11.2012 regarding Tatra Trucks Deal	29
VII. USQ No. 2726 dated 29.03.2012 regarding PPP Projects for Supporting Joint R&D	32
VIII. USQ No. 3425 dated 30.08.2013 regarding Pricing of Petroleum Products	34
IX. USQ No. 4945 dated 25.04.2013 regarding Irregularities under RGGVY	37

(ii)

	PAGE
X. USQ No. 2764 dated 14.03.2013 regarding Allocation of Coal Mines.	40
XI. USQ No. 656 dated 15.03.2012 regarding Amendment in RPF Act ..	44
XII. USQ No. 4471 dated 19.05.2006 regarding Pending Commercial Cases	46
XIII. USQ No. 2034 dated 02.12.2011 regarding Irregularities/Scams in Health Related Schemes	49
XIV. USQ No. 5632 dated 16.05.2007 regarding Proposal for Central Legislation in Medical College	53
XV. SQ No. 352 dated 03.12.2010 regarding Unapproved Drugs Vaccines	55
XVI. SQ No. 102 dated 29.11.2011 regarding Circulation of Fake Indian Currency Notes	59
XVII. USQ No. 3783 dated 20.03.2013 regarding National Book Promotion Policy	65
XVIII. USQ No. 5587 dated 07.09.2011 regarding Publishing as Small Scale Sector	68
XIX. USQ No. 4471 dated 07.09.2012 regarding Helicopter Service at Tourist Places	70
XX. USQ No. 3757 dated 17.12.2012 regarding Disputes on Mormugao Port Trust	72
XXI. USQ No. 2292 dated 12.08.2011 regarding Women Reservation in Panchayats	76
XXII. USQ No. 5843 dated 08.09.2011 regarding Investigation of Polyester Companies by CCI	80
XXIII. Minutes of the Sitting of the Committee held on 08 October, 2014.	83
XXIV. Minutes of the Sitting of the Committee held on 11 December, 2014	98

COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES*
(2014-2015)

Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal “Nishank”— *Chairperson*

MEMBERS

2. Shri Rajendra Agrawal
3. Shri E. Ahamed
4. Shri Anto Antony
5. Prof. (Dr.) Sugata Bose
6. Shri Narayanbhai Bhikhabhai Kachhadia
7. Shri Bahadur Singh Koli
8. Shri Prahlad Singh Patel
9. Shri A.T. Nana Patil
10. Shri C.R. Patil
11. Shri Sunil Kumar Singh
12. Shri Tasleem Uddin
13. Shri K.C. Venugopal
14. Shri S.R. VijayaKumar
15. Vacant

SECRETARIAT

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| 1. Shri R.S. Kambo | — | <i>Joint 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. 01 September, 2014 vide Para No. 633 of Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II dated 02 September, 2014.

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 Second Report of the Committee on Government Assurances.

2. The Committee (2014-15) at their sitting held on 08 October, 2014 considered Memoranda Nos. 2 to 41 containing requests received from the various Ministries/Departments for dropping of pending assurances and decided to pursue 22 assurances.

3. At their sitting held on 11 December, 2014 the Committee (2014-15) considered and adopted their Second Report.

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

NEW DELHI;
11 December, 2014

20 Agrahayana, 1936 (Saka)

DR. RAMESH POKHRIYAL "NISHANK"
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 in implementing 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 (2014-15) considered the following requests received from Ministries/Departments for dropping of assurances at their sitting held on 08 October, 2014:—

Sl. No.	SQ/USQ No. & Date	Ministry	Subject
1.	SQ No. 13 dated 08.08.2012	Planning	Survey of BPL in Backward Tribal Areas
	USQ No. 180 dated 08.08.2012		Poverty Estimate
	USQ No. 216 dated 08.08.2012		Expert Group to Review Tendulkar's Methodology
	USQ No. 4031 dated 05.09.2012		Cost of Living of BPL Families
	USQ No. 4060 dated 05.09.2012		Inflation Rate for Poverty Line
	USQ No. 1841 dated 05.12.2012		New Panel to Review Method of BPL (Appendix-I)
2.	USQ No. 577 dated 27.02.2013	Planning	Abhijit Sen Committee on BPL (Appendix-II)
3.	SQ No. 622 dated 21.05.2012		Defence Restricted Zones around Defence Installations (Appendix-III)
4.	USQ No. 6309 dated 06.05.2013	Defence	Offshore Patrol Vessel (Appendix-IV)
5.	USQ No. 6221 dated 06.05.2013	Defence	Training Centers of Armed Forces (Appendix-V)

Sl. No.	SQ/USQ No. & Date	Ministry	Subject
6.	USQ No. 580 dated 26.11.2012	Defence	Tatra Trucks Deal (Appendix-VI)
7.	USQ No. 2726 dated 29.03.2012	Science and Technology	PPP Projects for Supporting Joint R&D (Appendix-VII)
8.	USQ No. 3425 dated 30.08.2013	Petroleum and Natural Gas	Pricing of Petroleum Products (Appendix-VIII)
9.	USQ No. 4945 dated 25.04.2013	Power	Irregularities under RGGVY (Appendix-IX)
10.	USQ No. 2764 dated 14.03.2013	Power	Allocation of Coal Mines (Appendix-X)
11.	USQ No. 656 dated 15.03.2012	Railways	Amendment in RPF Act (Appendix-XI)
12.	USQ No. 4471 dated 19.05.2006	Law and Justice	Pending Commercial Cases (Appendix-XII)
13.	USQ No. 2034 dated 02.12.2011	Health and Family Welfare	Irregularities/Scams in Health Related Schemes (Appendix-XIII)
14.	USQ No. 5632 dated 16.05.2007	Health and Family Welfare	Proposal for Central Legislation in Medical College (Appendix-XIV)
15.	SQ No. 352 dated 03.12.2010	Health and Family Welfare	Unapproved Drugs Vaccines (Appendix-XV)
16.	SQ No. 102 dated 29.11.2011	Home Affairs	Circulation of Fake Indian Currency Notes (Appendix-XVI)
17.	USQ No. 3783 dated 20.03.2013	Human Resource Development	National Book Promotion Policy (Appendix-XVII)
18.	USQ No. 5587 dated 07.09.2011	Human Resource Development	Publishing as Small Scale Sector (Appendix-XVIII)

Sl. No.	SQ/USQ No. & Date	Ministry	Subject
19.	USQ No. 4471 dated 07.09.2012	Civil Aviation	Helicopter Service at Tourist Places (Appendix-XIX)
20.	USQ No. 3757 dated 17.12.2012	Shipping	Disputes on Mormugao Port Trust (Appendix-XX)
21.	USQ No. 2292 dated 12.08.2011	Panchayati Raj	Women Reservation in Panchayats (Appendix-XXI)
22.	USQ No. 5843 dated 08.09.2011	Corporate Affairs	Investigation of Polyester Companies by CCI (Appendix-XXII)

3. The details of the assurances arising out of the replies and the reason (s) advanced by the Ministries/Departments for dropping of the assurances are given in Appendices - I to XXII.

4. The Minutes of the sittings of the Committee, where under the requests for dropping of the assurances, were considered, are given in Appendix-XXIII.

5. After having considered the requests of the Ministries/Departments, the Committee are not convinced with the reasons furnished for dropping the assurances. The Committee desire that the Government should take note of the observations of the Committee, as contained in Appendix-XXIII and take appropriate action, the implementation of the assurances expeditiously.

6. Meanwhile, pending assurances given in reply to (i) SQ. No 13 dated 08.08.2012, (ii) USQ No. 180 dated 08.08.2012, (iii) USQ No. 216 dated 08.08.2012, (iv) USQ No. 4060 dated 05.09.2012, (v) USQ No. 1841 dated 05.12.2012, (vi) USQ No. 577 dated 27.02.2013 have been implemented by the Ministry of Planning and the Implementation Reports to this effect have also been laid by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs on 10.12.2014.

NEW DELHI;
11 December, 2014
20 Agrahayana, 1936 (Saka)

DR. RAMESH POKHRIYAL "NISHANK"
Chairperson,
Committee on Government Assurances.

APPENDIX I

MEMORANDUM NO. 2

Subject: Request for dropping of assurances given in replies to:—

- (i) Starred Question No. 13 dated 08 August, 2012 regarding “Survey of BPL in Backward Tribal Areas”. (Annexure-I).
- (ii) Unstarred Question No. 180 dated 08 August, 2012 regarding "Poverty Estimate". (Annexure-II).
- (iii) Unstarred Question No. 216 dated 08 August, 2012 regarding “Expert Group to Review Tendulkar's Methodology”. (Annexure-III).
- (iv) Unstarred Question No. 4031 dated 05 September, 2012 regarding “Cost of living of BPL families”. (Annexure-IV).
- (v) Unstarred Question No. 4060 dated 05 September, 2012 regarding “Inflation rate for poverty line”. (Annexure-V).
- (vi) Unstarred Question No. 1841 dated 05 December, 2012 regarding “New panel to review method of BPL”. (Annexure-VI).

The above mentioned questions were asked by various MPs to the Minister of Planning. The contents of the questions along with the replies of the Ministers are as given in Annexures (I to VI).

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

3. The Adviser, Planning Commission, Ministry of Planning *vide* D.O. No. H-11016/14/2013-PP dated 08 October, 2013 has requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That these assurances are on Dr. C. Rangarajan Committee Report which is yet to be submitted. As per terms of reference of the initial order of constituting the Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Dr. C. Rangarajan to review the methodology for measurement of poverty, the tenure of the Expert Group was up to 5th June, 2013. Since reviewing of the "Methodology for measurement of Poverty" consists of several exercises which are at different stages of finalization, the Chairman expressed that more time is needed to address all these issues. Keeping this in view, the Planning Commission has extended

the tenure of Expert Group by another one year *i.e.* up to 5th June, 2014. The Planning Commission would not be able to fulfil these assurances till the Expert Group submits the report."

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

The Committee may consider.

Dated 30.9.2014

NEW DELHI

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PLANNING
LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 13
ANSWERED ON 08.08.2012

Survey of BPL in Backward Tribal Areas

*13. SHRI BHUDEO CHOUDHARY:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has commissioned any survey of the backward/tribal areas so as to estimate poverty;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the criteria for determining the poverty level in this regard; and

(d) the details of the schemes to redefine the poverty level in accordance with the galloping inflation along with the ceiling at which poverty level is likely to be fixed?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES (DR. ASHWANI KUMAR) (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 13 REGARDING "SURVEY OF BPL IN BACKWARD TRIBAL AREAS" RAISED BY SHRI BHUDEO CHOUDHARY DUE FOR ANSWER ON 8th August, 2012.

(a) and (b) No, Madam. The Planning Commission estimates poverty on the basis of Large Sample Survey data on household consumer expenditure collected by National Sample Survey Office, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. These surveys are conducted in all the States and Union Territories of the country on a sample basis including backward tribal areas.

(c) The Planning Commission defines poverty line on the basis of Monthly Per Capita Consumption Expenditure (MPCE). The methodology for estimation of poverty has been reviewed from time to time. The Expert Group headed by Prof. Suresh D. Tendulkar that submitted its report in December 2009, computed the poverty lines at all India level as MPCE of Rs. 447 for rural areas and Rs. 579 for urban areas in 2004-2005. Large Sample Surveys on Household Consumer Expenditure are conducted every 5 years. After 2004-05 this survey has been conducted

in 2009-10. Planning Commission has updated the poverty lines for the year 2009-10 as per the recommendations of the Tendulkar Committee using NSS 66th round (2009-10) data of Household Consumer Expenditure Survey and released poverty estimates for 2009-10 on 19th March 2012. According to this, poverty line at all India level is estimated as MPCE of Rs. 673 for rural areas and Rs. 860 for urban areas in 2009-10, which amounts to a monthly consumption Expenditure of Rs. 3,365 in Rural areas and Rs. 4,300 in urban areas for a family of five at 2009-10 prices.

(d) Planning Commission, in June 2012, has constituted an Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Dr. C. Rangarajan to "Review the Methodology for Measurement of Poverty". This Committee will review the methodology for measurement of poverty and also recommend, *inter-alia*, how the estimates of poverty should be linked to eligibility and entitlements for schemes and programmes under the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PLANNING
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 180
ANSWERED ON 08.08.2012

Poverty Estimate

180. SHRI P.R. NATARAJAN:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is having any poverty estimate in the country as on date;
- (b) if so, the details of norms and methods that have been taken into account to estimate the level of poverty in the country; and
- (c) the details of cost of products and quantity per day for the livelihood in urban and rural areas, product-wise?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES (DR. ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) The Planning Commission estimates poverty from the large sample surveys on Household Consumer Expenditure carried out by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) every 5 years. The latest data of large scale survey on household consumer expenditure has been collected by NSSO in its 66th round conducted during 2009-10. The poverty lines and poverty ratio for 2009-10 have been computed following the extant Tendulkar methodology and these have been released through a Press Note issued on 19th March 2012. According to this Press Note, poverty ratio in the country is estimated as 29.8% in 2009-10.

(b) The Planning Commission defines poverty line on the basis of Monthly Per Capita Consumption Expenditure (MPCE) as the criterion. The methodology for estimation of poverty followed by the Planning Commission has been based on the recommendations made by the experts in the field from time to time. An Expert Group was constituted under the chairmanship of Prof. Suresh D. Tendulkar in 2005 to review the methodology for estimation of poverty. The Tendulkar Committee recommended MPCE of Rs. 447 for rural areas and Rs. 579 for urban areas as the poverty line at 2004-05 prices, which was accepted by the Planning Commission. The Tendulkar Committee, which submitted its Report in 2009, has incorporated adequacy of expenditure from the normative and nutritional viewpoint. It stated: "while moving away from the calorie norms, the proposed poverty lines have been validated by checking the adequacy of actual private expenditure per capita near the poverty lines on food, education and health by comparing them with normative expenditures consistent with nutritional, educational and health outcomes."

The large sample surveys on Household Consumer Expenditure are carried out by the NSSO every 5 year. After 2004-05, this survey has been conducted in 2009-10 the results of which have been used for estimating poverty following Tendulkar methodology. Planning Commission, in June 2012, has constituted an Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Dr. C. Rangarajan to "Review the Methodology for Measurement of Poverty". This Committee will review the methodology for measurement of poverty and also recommend, *inter-alia*, how the estimates of poverty should be linked to eligibility and entitlements for schemes and programmes under the Government of India.

(c) The Planning Commission determines poverty line as a minimum consumption expenditure level for healthy living and active life of the population. It does not estimate separately the cost of products or quantity for the livelihood. The National Sample Survey Office in its household consumer expenditure surveys brings out the level and pattern of consumption of different items on a regular basis. These are available in the form of published reports by the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation and also placed on Ministry's website.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PLANNING
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 216
ANSWERED ON 08.08.2012

Expert Group to Review Tendulkar's Methodology

216. SHRI GAJANAN D. BABAR:
SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:
SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI :
SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV:
SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO:
SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI:
SHRI NRIPENDRA NATH ROY:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has set up an expert technical group to review the Tendulkar Committee methodology in estimating poverty and overhaul the norms in tune with the present day prices;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether the aforesaid expert technical group has submitted its report to the Government;
(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon;
and
(e) if not, the time by when the aforesaid Committee will submit its report?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES (DR. ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) & (b) Yes, Madam. Planning Commission, in June, 2012, has constituted an Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Dr. C. Rangarajan to "Review the Methodology for Measurement of Poverty". The Terms of Reference of the Group are as follows:

- (i) To comprehensively review the existing methodology of estimation of poverty and examine whether the poverty line should be fixed solely in terms of a consumption basket or whether other criteria are also relevant, and if so, whether the two can be effectively combined to evolve a basis for estimation of poverty in rural and urban areas.

- (ii) To examine the issue of divergence between consumption estimates based on the NSSO methodology and those emerging from the National Accounts aggregates; and to suggest a methodology for updating consumption poverty lines using the new consumer price indices launched by the CSO for rural and urban areas state-wise.
 - (iii) To review alternative methods of estimation of poverty which may be in use in other countries, including their procedural aspects; and indicate whether on this basis, a particular method can be evolved for empirical estimation of poverty in India, including procedures for updating it over time and across States.
 - (iv) To recommend how the estimates of poverty, as evolved above, should be linked to eligibility and entitlements for schemes and programmes under the Government of India.
- (c) to (e) The Expert Group will submit its report to the Planning Commission within a year.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PLANNING
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4031

ANSWERED ON 05.09.2012

Cost of Living of BPL Families

4031. SHRI SONAWANE PRATAP NARAYANRAO:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has worked out estimate regarding "cost of living" for declaring the families living Below Poverty Line (BPL) based on present market prices;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has held any meeting/discussion with the State Chief Ministers in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof along with the suggestions of the State Governments for review of this scheme in pursuance of the present market price;

(e) whether the Government has taken any decision in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES (DR. ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) & (b) The Planning Commission estimates percentage and number of poor on the basis of poverty line which is defined in terms of Monthly Per Capita Consumption Expenditure (MPCE). The methodology for estimation of poverty followed by the Planning Commission has been based on the recommendations made by the experts in the field from time to time. An Expert Group was constituted under the chairmanship of Prof. Suresh D. Tendulkar in 2005 to review the methodology for estimation of poverty. The Tendulkar Committee recommended MPCE of Rs. 447 for rural areas and Rs. 579 for urban areas as the poverty line at 2004-05 prices, which was accepted by the Planning Commission. The Tendulkar Committee, which submitted its Report in 2009, has incorporated adequacy of expenditure from the normative and nutritional viewpoint.

The large sample surveys on Household Consumer Expenditure which are the basis for estimation of poverty are carried out by the NSSO every 5 years. After 2004-05, the results are available for the survey conducted in 2009-10. Following

Tendulkar Committee recommendations, Planning Commission has updated the poverty lines for the year 2009-10 using NSS 66th round (2009-10) data of Household Consumer Expenditure Survey. The poverty line at all India level is estimated as MPCE of Rs. 673 for rural areas and Rs. 860 for urban areas at 2009-10 prices.

Planning Commission, in June, 2012, has constituted an Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Dr. C. Rangarajan to "Review the Methodology for Measurement of Poverty". In order to ensure the contemporary relevance of the poverty line and to ensure that suitable weightage is given to different parameters in computing the poverty line consistent with the current ground realities the Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Dr. Rangarajan has been given comprehensive terms of reference for computation of poverty estimates.

(c) to (f): The Planning Commission regularly reviews the methodology for estimation of poverty by setting up Task Force/Expert Groups comprising eminent experts in the field of poverty. The present methodology for estimation of poverty is based on the recommendations of Tendulkar Committee. The issue of poverty estimates was raised by the Chief Ministers of Assam, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh and has been responded to.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PLANNING
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4060
ANSWERED ON 05.09.2012

Inflation Rate for Poverty Line

4060. SHRI RATAN SINGH:
SHRI HARISH CHOUDHARY:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether inflation rate and its effects are considered while fixing the poverty line;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to refix the poverty line on the basis of current rate of inflation; and
- (d) the success achieved in view of the above?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES (DR. ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (d) The Planning Commission defines poverty line on the basis of Monthly Per Capita Consumption Expenditure (MPCE). The methodology for estimation of poverty has been reviewed from time to time. The Expert Group headed by Prof. Suresh D. Tendulkar that submitted its report in December 2009, computed the poverty lines at all India level as MPCE of Rs. 447 for rural areas and Rs. 579 for urban areas in 2004-05. These poverty lines are updated for subsequent years by using inflation indices.

Planning Commission estimates poverty based on data obtained from Large Sample Survey on Household Consumer Expenditure carried out by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO). These Surveys are conducted every 5 years. After 2004-05, the results are available for the survey conducted in 2009-10. Planning Commission has updated the poverty lines for the year 2009-10 as per the recommendations of the Tendulkar Committee using NSS 66th round (2009-10) data of Household Consumer Expenditure Survey. The poverty line at all India level is estimated as Monthly Per-capita Consumption Expenditure of Rs. 673 for rural areas and Rs. 860 for urban areas in 2009-10, which amounts to a monthly consumption expenditure of Rs. 3,365 in rural areas and Rs. 4,300 in urban areas for a family of five at 2009-10 prices.

Planning Commission, in June, 2012, has constituted an Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Dr. C. Rangarajan to "Review the Methodology for Measurement of Poverty". In order to ensure the contemporary relevance of the poverty line and to ensure that suitable weightage is given to different parameters in computing the poverty line consistent with the current ground realities the Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Dr. Rangarajan has been given comprehensive terms of reference for computation of poverty estimates including suggesting a methodology for updating consumption poverty lines using the new consumer price indices launched by the CSO for rural and urban areas state-wise. The committee is yet to submit its report.

ANNEXURE VI

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PLANNING
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1841
ANSWERED ON 05.12.2012

New Panel to Review Method of BPL

1841. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of people in the country are living Below Poverty Line (BPL);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has set up a new panel headed by Dr. C. Rangarajan to review the method of identifying the poor in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which the report of the panel/committee is likely to be submitted?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND PLANNING (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA): (a) & (b) As per the latest estimates of poverty, in 2009-10 the number of persons living below poverty line in the country is estimated as 354.7 million out of total population of 1189.9 million.

(c) & (d) The Planning Commission, in June, 2012, has constituted an Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Dr. C. Rangarajan to "Review the Methodology for Measurement of Poverty". The Terms of Reference of the Group are as follows:

- (i) To comprehensively review the existing methodology of estimation of poverty and examine whether the poverty line should be fixed solely in terms of a consumption basket or whether other criteria are also relevant, and if so, whether the two can be effectively combined to evolve a basis for estimation of poverty in rural and urban areas.
- (ii) To examine the issue of divergence between consumption estimates based on the NSSO methodology and those emerging from the National Accounts aggregates; and to suggest a methodology for updating consumption poverty

lines using the new consumer price indices launched by the CSO for rural and urban areas state-wise.

- (iii) To review alternative methods of estimation of poverty which may be in use in other countries, including their procedural aspects; and indicate whether on this basis, a particular method can be evolved for empirical estimation of poverty in India, including procedures for updating it over time and across states.
- (iv) To recommend how the estimates of poverty, as evolved above, should be linked to eligibility and entitlements for schemes and programmes under the Government of India.

(e) As per Terms of Reference of the Expert Group, the committee has to submit its report in one year.

APPENDIX II

MEMORANDUM NO. 3

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 577 dated 27.02.2013, regarding "Abhijit Sen Committee on BPL".

On 27 February, 2013, Shri Neeraj Shekhar & Shri Yashvir Singh, M.Ps addressed an Unstarred Question No. 577 to the Prime Minister. 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 Planning within three months from the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Planning *vide* D.O. No. H-11016/4/2013-RD. dated 25 April, 2014 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That assurance was made on the statement that as per Terms and Reference, the Expert Group has to submit its report with a year. As per Terms of Reference, the Expert Group constituted under the Chairmanship of Dr. C. Rangarajan to 'Review the methodology for Measurement of Poverty', has to submit its report in one year. The terms of the Expert Group is up to 5th June, 2014. It may be noted that Review of the Methodology for Measurement of Poverty consists of several exercises, which are at different stages of finalization. In the last meeting of the Expert Group, which was held on 26th February, 2014, the Chairman expressed the view that more time is needed to address these issues. Thus, Planning Commission would not be able to fulfill the assurance till the Expert Group submits its report."

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

The Committee may consider.

Dated: 30.9.2014

NEW DELHI

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PLANNING
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 577

ANSWERED ON 27.02.2013

Abhijit Sen Committee on BPL

577. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:
SHRI YASHVIR SINGH:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government appointed a panel under the Chairmanship of Abhijit Sen to rework the methodology for poverty estimation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the panel has submitted its report to Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the salient features of the recommendations thereof; and

(e) if not, the time by which the Committee is likely to submit its report?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS & PLANNING (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA): (a) & (b) The Planning Commission has not appointed a panel under the Chairmanship of Abhijit Sen to rework the methodology for poverty estimation. The Planning Commission, in June 2012, has constituted an Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Dr. C. Rangarajan to "Review the Methodology for Measurement of Poverty". The Terms of Reference for the Expert Group are as follows:—

- (i) To comprehensively review the existing methodology of estimation of poverty and examine whether the poverty line should be fixed solely in terms of a consumption basket or whether other criteria are also relevant and, if so, whether the two can be effectively combined to evolve a basis for estimation of poverty in rural and urban areas.
- (ii) To examine the issue of divergence between consumption estimates based on the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) methodology and those emerging from the National Accounts aggregates; and to suggest a methodology for updating consumption poverty lines using the new consumer price indices launched by the Central Statistical Organization (CSO) for rural and urban areas, State-wise.

- (iii) To review alternative methods of estimation of poverty which may be in use in other countries, including their procedural aspects; and indicate whether on this basis, a particular method can be evolved for empirical estimation of poverty in India, including procedures for updating it over time and across States.
- (iv) To recommend how the estimates of poverty, as evolved above, should be linked to eligibility and entitlements for schemes and programmes under the Government of India.

(c) to (e) As per Terms and Reference, the Expert Group has to submit its report within a year.

APPENDIX III

MEMORANDUM NO. 4

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Starred Question No. 622 dated 21 May, 2012 regarding "Restricted Zones around Defence Installations".

On 21 May, 2012, Shri Inderjit Singh Rao, M.P. addressed a Starred Question No. 622 to the Minister of Defence. 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 Defence within three months from the date of the reply by the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Defence *vide* O.M. No. 14017/10/2012/D(Lands) dated 6 August, 2012 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

“In this regard it is stated that the part (e) of Lok Sabha Starred Question has been adequately replied by the part of reply "there is no plan to reduce the radius or relocated the depot". The next part of reply *viz.*; “However, the matter has been taken up with the State Government authorities for approval for removal of unauthorized construction” is actually additional information to the Parliament. The action for removal of unauthorized construction has to be taken by the concerned State Government authorities, and the Ministry of Defence has no additional information to furnish on this point. Further, no time-frame for resolution of this issue by State Government authorities, can also be fixed. As such, it is stated that the second part of the reply to Question (e) may not be treated as an assurance. The Committee on Government Assurances, Lok Sabha may accordingly consider the matter for dropping of the assurances.

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

The Committee may consider.

Dated: 30.9.2014

NEW DELHI

ANNEXURE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 622
ANSWERED ON 21.05.2012

Restricted Zones Around Defence Installations

622. SHRI INDERJIT SINGH RAO:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the guidelines laid down to fix the radius of restricted/no-construction zones around the various defence installations including the ammunition depots across the country;

(b) whether the Government has undertaken review of the radius range of such zones in view of the increasing population/activities/encroachments in the said zones and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the radius of restricted zones has been reduced from 900 metres to 100 metres around various Air Force installations in the recent past;

(d) if so, whether the revised radius range is applicable for the Gurgaon based Air Force Ammunition Depot; and

(e) if not, whether the Government has taken cognizance of the increasing population/activities/unauthorized constructions in the restricted zone and proposes to reduce the radius of relocate the depot to some other place and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 622 FOR ANSWER ON 21.5.2012

(a) The guidelines issued from time to time are mainly covered under Works of Defence Act, 1903, Defence Service Regulation, 1962 (amended as regulation for Army in 1987); the Manoeuvres, Field Firing and Artillery Practice Act, 1938; Ministry of Defence Letter's No. F. 2(9)65/D(Air-II) dated 4th July, 1966 & Statutory Rules and Orders (SRO) 93 dated 22nd May, 2001, which encompasses Section 9A of the Air Craft Act, 1934 (22 of 1934) and Ministry guidelines issued *vide* 11026/2/2011/D (Lands) dated 18.5.2011.

(b) Yes, Madam. The instructions in this regard are subject to review from time to time.

(c) In 2007, the earlier instructions were revised and, depending on the type of installation, restrictions ranging from 100 mtr. to 900 mtr. were imposed.

(d) Yes, Madam. However, in view of the presence of ammunition stores, even under the revised instructions, the limits are not changed.

(e) There is no plan to reduce the radius or relocate the depot. However, the matter has been taken up with the State Government authorities for removal of unauthorized construction.

APPENDIX IV

MEMORANDUM NO. 5

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 6309 dated 06.05.2013, regarding "Offshore Patrol Vessel".

On 06 May, 2013 Prof. Shri Saugata Roy, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 6309 to the Minister of Defence. 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 Defence within three months from the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Defence *vide* O.M. No. 07/10/2013-US(IC-IV) dated 12 July, 2013 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"The factual position while framing the reply to the above question was that the Government of Mauritius had requested for supply of an Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV). The contract for supply of OPV was signed between Government of Mauritius and GRSE, Kolkata on 4th March, 2011. The construction of ship is likely to be completed in 42 months from the date of signing of contract and likely to be delivered in September, 2014. It is further stated that the supply of defence stores and equipment to friendly foreign countries is undertaken from time to time, based on request from the concerned countries and keeping in view mutual interests of both sides. It is therefore informed that the answer given to Part (a) & (b) of the above question was only the factual position in connection with a defence cooperation activity already agreed to between Government of India and the Government of Mauritius. The item to be supplied is under construction and is expected to be supplied as per the terms of the contract with the foreign Government. Hence, it may not constitute and Assurance given to the House Accordingly, it is requested that in view of the circumstances stated above, the Hon'ble Committee on Government Assurances may be requested that the Assurance in question may be considered for being dropped."

4. The above proposal has the approval of Minister of Defence, have requested to drop the assurance.

The Committee may consider.

Dated: 30.9.2014

NEW DELHI

ANNEXURE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 6309
ANSWERED ON 06.05.2013

Offshore Patrol Vessel

6309. PROF. SAUGATA ROY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to deliver offshore patrol vessel to Mauritius;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any demand/proposal to deliver such vessel to any other countries; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. An offshore patrol vessel is proposed to be supplied to the Government of Mauritius in 2014.

(c) & (d): Supply of defence stores and equipment to friendly foreign countries is undertaken from time to time, based on requests from the concerned countries and keeping in view mutual interests of both sides.

APPENDIX V

MEMORANDUM NO. 6

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 6221 dated 06.05.2013, regarding "Training Centres of Armed Forces".

On 06 May, 2013 Shri N. Peetambara Kurup, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 6221 to the Minister of Defence. 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 Defence within three months from the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Defence *vide* O.M. No. 11(26)/2013/D (Coord.) dated 28 October, 2013 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"that in view of the nature of the questions at part (b) & (c), the reply thereto given by the Hon'ble Minister does not constitute an Assurance. It is, therefore, requested that the same may please not be treated as Assurance."

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

The Committee may consider.

Dated: 30.9.2014

NEW DELHI

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 6221
ANSWERED ON 06.05.2013

Training Centres of Armed Forces

6221. SHRI N. PEETHAMBARA KURUP:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the training centres set up for the personnel of the three Services of the armed forces at present, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government proposes to set up some new training centres; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise including the locations identified in Gujarat?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) A statement is attached.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (c) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 6221 for answer on 06.05.2013:

(a) The details of the training centres set up for the personnel of the three Services of the armed forces at present, State-wise are as under:—

State	Number of Training Centres		
	Army	Navy	Air Force
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	05	03	04
Assam	01	-	-
Bihar	01	-	-
Goa	01	05	-
Gujarat	01	01	-
Himachal Pradesh	02	-	-

1	2	3	4
Jammu & Kashmir	01	-	-
Jharkhand	01	-	-
Karnataka	09	-	11
Kerala	01	16	-
Madhya Pradesh	09	-	-
Maharashtra	16	07	-
Orissa	02	01	-
Rajasthan	02	-	-
Tamil Nadu	02	02	03
Uttarakhand	03	-	-
Uttar Pradesh	09	-	03
	01*	-	-
Total	67	35	21

*Infantry Regimental Centres located in various States.

(b) & (c) There is a proposal to set up one Senior Non Commissioned Officer (SNCO) Academy at Air Force Station Tilpat (Haryana).

APPENDIX VI

MEMORANDUM NO. 7

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 580 dated 26.11.2012, regarding "Tatra Trucks Deal".

On 26 November, 2012 Shri Rudra Madhab Ray, Shri Bhoopendra Singh, Shri Kapil Muni Karwariya, Shri Hansraj G. Ahir, Shri Gopinath Munde, M.Ps. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 580 to the Minister of Defence. 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 Defence within three months from the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Defence *vide* O.M. No. 30019/5/Vig. I/2013/D(Vig)/DDP dated 26 September, 2013 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That the present case is regarding 'Tatra Trucks deal'. The CBI has registered a regular case under No. RC ACI 2012 A0004, in the matter of alleged irregularities in the procurement of Tatra Trucks by BEML. The present status of this case had been obtained from CBI which has informed the following:—
"The case is under investigation and CBI has issued one Letter Rogatory to Czech and is in the process of issuing letter Rogatories to other countries. Investigation will be finalized on receipt of reply from these countries. In this connection, it is submitted that:—

- (i) the said assurance is not pending due to any action to be taken by the Ministry of Defence at this stage.
- (ii) The assurance can be fulfilled only on conclusion of CBI investigation in the case relating to "Tatra Trucks deal". CBI does not work under the Ministry of Defence.
- (iii) Since, CBI has to issue Letter Rogatory to other countries, the CBI investigation will be finalised only after issue of the Letter Rogatories, receipt of replies from other countries and their examination by CBI. Therefore, the finalization of CBI investigation report is likely to take very long time.
- (iv) Till that time, the assurance would continue as pending, without any action being pending in the Ministry of Defence relating to the fulfillment of the assurance."

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

The Committee may consider.

Dated: 30.9.2014

NEW DELHI

ANNEXURE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 580
ANSWERED ON 26.11.2012

Tatra Trucks Deal

580. SHRI RUDRA MADHAB RAY:
SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:
SHRI KAPIL MUNI KARWARIYA:
SHRI GOPINATH MUNDE:
SHRI BHUPENDRA SINGH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some irregularities have been noticed in purchase of Tatra Trucks and its spare parts by the Army during the last few years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has probed this matter;

(d) if so, the progress/result of the said probe thereof;

(e) whether officers from the Army have also been found guilty in the probe;
and

(f) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government against them?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (f) Government has taken cognizance of alleged irregularities in purchase of Tatra Trucks. Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been requested to investigate comprehensively into alleged irregularities in purchase of Tatra Trucks. CBI has registered a case on 30.3.2012 under Section 120B read with 13(2) r/w 13(1) (d) of Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 against one of the owners of the Company and unknown officials of Ministry of Defence, BEML Limited and unknown persons of Tatra Sipox UK Limited.

APPENDIX VII

MEMORANDUM NO. 11

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 2726 dated 29.03.2012, regarding "PPP Projects for Supporting Joint R&D".

On 29 March, 2012 Shri Nityananda Pradhan and Shri Baijayant Jay Panda, M.Ps. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 2726 to the Minister of Science and Technology (Department of Science and Technology). 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 Science and Technology (Department of Science and Technology) within three months from the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Science and Technology *vide* O.Ms. No. 4/1/2012-NEB dated 12.12.2012 and 23.09.2013, have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That a reply to the above question was given in the negative at part (a) of the question as there was no proposal under consideration of the Government to earmark Rs. 5000 crore under Public Private Partnership (PPP) projects for supporting Research and Development (R&D). A mention was made at part (a) of the answer regarding a suggestion made by the Sub-committee of Prime Minister's Council on Trade and Industry in its report for establishment of a PPP fund (of about Rs. 5000 crore). Since the suggestion was made by the Sub-committee on Promoting Public Private Partnership in Research & Development and Clean Energy under the Prime Minister's Council on Trade and Industry, it should not be treated as proposal/commitment of the Government."

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

The Committee may consider.

Dated: 30.9.2014

NEW DELHI

ANNEXURE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2726

ANSWERED ON 29.03.2012

PPP Project For Supporting Joint R&D

2726. SHRI NITYANANDA PRADHAN:
SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is proposed to earmark Rs. 5000 crore under Public Private Partnership (PPP) projects for supporting joint Research and Development (R&D);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether this fund is proposed to be confined to R&D efforts in the field of public education institutions *i.e.* IITs and private industries;
- (d) if so, whether it is also proposed to encourage Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode in other R&D activities; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) No Madam. A Sub-committee of Prime Minister's Council on Trade and Industry on promoting Public Private Partnership in R&D and Clean Energy has suggested the establishment of Rs. 5000 crore PPP fund for R&D and innovations. The Government has not taken a final decision thereon.

- (b) to (e): Does not arise.

APPENDIX VIII

MEMORANDUM NO. 21

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 3425 dated 30.08.2013, regarding "Pricing of Petroleum Products".

On 30 August, 2013 Shri Anant Kumar Hegde & Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh *alias* Lalan Singh, M.Ps. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 3425 to the Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas. 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 Petroleum and Natural Gas within three months from the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas *vide* O.M. No. P-38016/45/2013-PP dated 26.05.2014, have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That in a similar assurance in respect of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No.1983 dated 27.08.2013 regarding "Calculation of under-recoveries of OMCs; Hon'ble Chairman, Committee on Government Assurances (Rajya Sabha), after discussion with Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) and representative of MoP&NG, has decided to drop the said assurance. A copy of the same is enclosed for ready reference. Since both the assurances pertain to the Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Dr. Kirit S. Parikh, whose recommendations are still under consideration in the Ministry, it is, therefore, requested that, on similar lines, the said assurance may also be deleted from the list of pending assurances."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas have requested to drop the above assurance.

The Committee may consider.

Dated: 30.9.2014

NEW DELHI

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3425
ANSWERED ON 30.08.2013

Pricing of Petroleum Products

3425. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN (LALAN) SINGH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are differences between his Ministry and Ministry of Finance regarding the fixing of the sale price of petroleum products in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to fix prices of petroleum products as per their cost of production in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) As per the prevailing pricing policy, the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) pay Trade Parity Price (TPP) for purchase of Diesel and Import Parity Price (IPP) for purchase of PDS Kerosene and Subsidized Domestic LPG from refineries. The IPP/TPP is determined based on the prices prevailing in the international market.

However, in order to insulate the common man from the impact of rise in international oil prices and the domestic inflationary conditions, the Government continues to modulate the RSP of Diesel in retail, PDS Kerosene and Subsidized Domestic LPG and their prices have not been revised in line with changes in the international market. As a result, the OMCs have incurred under-recovery of ₹ 1,61,029 crore during 2012-13 and ₹ 25,579 crore during April-June, 2013.

Based on the current Refinery Gate Price (RGP), the OMCs are incurring under-recovery of ₹ 10.22/litre on Diesel (to retail consumers), ₹ 33.54/litre on PDS Kerosene and ₹ 411.99/Cylinder on Subsidized Domestic LPG (as per RGP effective 16.8.2013 for Diesel and 1.8.2013 for PDS Kerosene and Subsidized Domestic LPG). Except for the above three regulated products, prices of other petroleum products are determined by the Oil Marketing Companies.

Now, an Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Dr. Kirit S. Parikh has been constituted by the Government to advice on pricing methodology of petroleum products.

APPENDIX IX

MEMORANDUM NO. 23

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 4945 dated 25.04.2013, regarding "Irregularities under RGGVY".

On 25 April, 2013 S/Shri Ramkishun, P.L.Punia, Syed Shahnawaz Hussain, B.N. Prasad Mahato and Shrimati Rajkumari Ratna Singh, M.Ps. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 4945 to the Minister of Power. 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 Power within three months from the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Power *vide* O.M. No. 40/35/2013-RE dated 26.07.2013, have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That irregularities in implementation of projects of Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana in Jharkhand and J&K are being investigated by CBI and it is not possible to anticipate the likely date of completion of enquiry of CBI."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of Power (Independent charge), have requested to drop the above assurance.

The Committee may consider.

Dated: 30.9.2014

NEW DELHI

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF POWER
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4945
ANSWERED ON 25.04.2013

Irregularities under RGGVY

4945. SHRI RAMKISHUN:
SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN:
RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH:
SHRI P.L. PUNIA:
SHRI B.N. PRASAD MAHATO:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints regarding irregularities under the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) have been received from various States particularly in Bihar, State-wise;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the details of enquiry conducted through any Committee to ascertain as to whether the funds allocated to the various States including Uttar Pradesh and Bihar have been properly utilized, State-wise;

(c) the action taken/being taken against the responsible persons for delay in completion of the projects under the Scheme along with the corrective measures being taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) the details of funds allocated for Barabanki and Pratapgarh areas of Uttar Pradesh and utilized during the last three years under the Scheme along with the status of completion of projects in the said areas and the number of villages in which electricity has been provided;

(e) whether the Government proposes to make amendments in RGGVY; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) to (c) complaints regarding alleged irregularities in the States of Jharkhand and Jammu & Kashmir were received. The matter is under investigation by CBI.

No such enquiry has been conducted by any Committee to ascertain as to whether the funds allocated to the various States including Uttar Pradesh and Bihar have been properly utilized.

In addition, other complaints of various nature that are received in the Ministry of Power from different quarters are promptly sent to the concerned implementing agencies of taking appropriate action/corrective measures.

(d) In the last three years *i.e.* 2010-11 to 2012-13 no fund has been released to Barabanki and Pratapgarh in Uttar Pradesh. Under RGGVY, projects of district Barabanki and Pratapgarh of Uttar Pradesh were sanctioned in the 10th Plan with the project cost of Rs. 7636.60 lakh and Rs. 4950.40 lakh respectively. The electrification works in these districts have been completed.

(e) & (f) The Ministry of Power has proposed for continuation of the RGGVY Scheme to the remaining villages/habitations having population 50 and above against the existing provision of population 100 and above in the 12th plan subject to availability of funds.

APPENDIX X

MEMORANDUM NO. 24

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 2764 dated 14.03.2013, regarding "Allocation of Coal Mines".

On 14 March, 2013 Shri Dilip Singh Ju Dev, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 2764 to the Minister of Power. 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 Power within three months from the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Power *vide* O.M. No. P-13/2013-IPC dated 04 September 2013 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That CBI has informed that investigation/enquiry of all the cases relating to allocation of coal blocks are in progress. An investigation is going on and there is no timeline to submit the report and process will go to the judicial court, the Assurance may be dropped."

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

The Committee may consider.

Dated: 30.9.2014

NEW DELHI

ANNEXURE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF POWER
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2764
ANSWERED ON 14.03.2013

Allocation of Coal Mines

2764. SHRI DILIP SINGH JU DEV:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether many power generation companies have been allocated coal mines on the recommendations of his Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some cases of alleged irregularities while recommending the name of some power companies for allocation of coal blocks have come to the notice of the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the punitive measures taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) & (b) Yes, Madam, Ministry of Power had recommended allocation of coal blocks for Ultra Mega Power Projects as per details at Annex-I. Few coal blocks have been allocated fully/partially by Ministry of Coal based on the recommendation of the Ministry of Power detail of which is at Annex-II.

(c) to (e) As per information received from Ministry of Coal, Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has registered Preliminary Enquiry cases regarding alleged irregularities in allocation of coal blocks relating to allocation of coal blocks to private companies during the period 2006-09 relating to allocation of coal blocks to private companies during the period 1993-2004 and relating to allocation of coal blocks to Government companies. 9 FIRs have been lodged by CBI in respect of 9 companies out of which 4 have been allotted blocks for power projects. Further Ministry of Coal has issued show cause notice on 15.11.2012 to 8 companies against whom FIR has been lodged (in case of one company show cause notice was not issued as the block had already been de-allocated). The reply to show cause notice from 7 companies have been received. A copy each of the replies received has been sent to CBI by Ministry of Coal. *The matter is under investigation.*

ANNEXURE-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) & (B) OF UNSTARRED
QUESTION NO. 2764 TO BE ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 14.03.2013.

S.No.	Name of allocatee	Block allocated
1.	Odisha Integrated Power Ltd.	Meenakshi, Dip Side of Meenakshi & Meenakshi B, Odisha
2.	Sasan Power Ltd.	Moher, Moher-Amlori Extn. & Chhatrasal, Madhya Pradesh
3.	Jharkhand Integrated Power Ltd.	Kerandari B&C Jharkhand
4.	Akaltara Power Ltd.	Pindrakhi & Puta Parogia, Chhattisgarh
5.	Sakhigopal Integrated Power Co. Ltd.	Bankhuri Odisha

ANNEXURE II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) & (B) OF UNSTARRED
QUESTION NO. 2764 TO BE ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 14.03.2013.

Block	Recommended to	Allocated to
Mohan	Essar Power Ltd.	Essar Power Ltd.
Saharpur Jamarpani	DVC	Hindalco Industries Ltd. DVC
Dip side of Manoharpur	OPGC	OPGCL
Naini	GMDC	GMDC/PIPDICL
Chendipada	UPRVUNL	UPRVUNL/CMDC/MSPGCL
Chendipada II	MSPGCL	
Parsa East	RRVUNL	RRVUNL
Kanta Basan	RRVUNL	RRVUNL
Ashok Karkata Central	ESSAR Power Ltd.	Essar Power Ltd.
Ganeshpur	Adhunik Thermal Energy Ltd.	Tata Steel Ltd. Adhunik Thermal Energy Ltd.
Rampia	Sterlite Energy Ltd. Vedanta Alumina Ltd.	Sterlite Energy Ltd. GMR Energy Ltd.
Dip side of Rampia	Monnet Ispat and Energy Ltd. Jindal Photo Ltd. Mittal Steel India Ltd.	Arcelor Mital India Ltd. Lanco Group Ltd. Navbharat Power Pvt. Ltd. Reliance Energy Ltd.
Gaurangdih ABC	Himachal EMTA Power Ltd. JSW Steel Ltd.	Himachal EMTA Power Ltd. JSW Steel Ltd.
Patel East	Jas Infrastructure Capital Pvt. Ltd. Bhushan Power & Steel Ltd.	Bhushan Power & Steel Ltd.
Lohara West and Extension	Adani Power Ltd.	Adani Power Ltd.
Sayang	AES, Chhattisgarh Energy Pvt. Ltd.	AES Chhattisgarh Energy Pvt. Ltd.
Fatehpur East	TRN Energy Pvt. Ltd. R.K.M. Powergen Pvt. Ltd. JLD Yavatmal Energy Ltd. Mahavir Global Coal Ltd.	JLD Yavatmal Energy Ltd. RKM Powergen Pvt. Ltd. Visa Power Ltd. Green Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd. Vandana Vidyut Ltd.
Durgapur-II (Sariya)/ Taraimar	DB Power Ltd.	DB Power Ltd.
Gare Palma III	GIDC	GIDC

APPENDIX XI

MEMORANDUM NO. 25

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 656 dated 15.03.2012, regarding "Amendment in RPF Act".

On 15 March, 2012 S/Shri Adhalrao Patil Shivaji, Kodikunnil Suresh, D.B. Chandre Gowda, Gajanan D. Babar, Dhruva Narayana, Asaduddin Owaisi and Dharmendra Yadav, M.Ps. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 656 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 Minister of Railways within three months from the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented. The Ministry have sought further extension upto 15.05.2014 for the implementation of the assurance.

3. The Ministry of Railways *vide* O.M. No. 2012/Sect.(Spl.)/120/02 dated 21.01.2013 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"It is submitted that the Ministry of Railways has accorded its approval for amendment in the RPF Act. Approval of the Ministries of the Home Affairs and the Law and Justice has also been obtained on the above proposal and on the advice of the Cabinet Secretariat, consultation with the States is under process which will be completed in due course. As the Ministry of Railways has already initiated requisite action in the above matter, it is therefore requested that Committee on Government Assurances may please be approached for closure of above assurance on the issue of amendment in the RPF Act."

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

5. The Committee may consider.

Dated: 30.9.14

NEW DELHI

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 656
ANSWERED ON 15.03.2012

Amendment in RPF Act

656. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHRI SHIVAJI:
SHRI SURESH KODIKUNNIL:
SHRI D.B. CHANDRE GOWDA:
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWASI:
SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV:
SHRI R. DHIRUVANARAYANA:
SHRI BABAR D. GAJANAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways are proposing to withdraw of the Government Railway Police (GRP) from providing security to railway premises;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Railways proposes to amend the Railway Protection Force (RPF) Act to empower the Central Force under Railways with police power to effectively deal with crimes in trains and railway stations;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and whether some State Governments have strongly opposed the aforesaid move; and
- (e) if so, the reaction of the Railways thereto?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (e) A proposal has been moved for amendment in the Railway Protection Force Act, 1957 (RPF Act) to empower the RPF to deal with passenger related crime in passenger areas. The proposal envisages two tier security system over Railways comprising of the RPF and District police in place of presently prevailing three tier system of RPF, GRP and District Police. The proposal to give effect to the above is under consideration, in consultation with all stakeholders including the State Governments.

APPENDIX XII

MEMORANDUM NO. 27

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 4471 dated 19.05.2006, regarding "Pending Commercial Cases".

On 19, May 2006 Shri Nikhil Kumar, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 4471 to the Minister of Law and Justice. 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 Law and Justice within three months from the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The earlier request regarding dropping of the *ibid* assurance was considered by the Committee during its sitting held on 14th January, 2013 and was not acceded to. The Ministry was apprised accordingly.

4. The Ministry of Law and Justice *vide* O.M. No. 16013/11/2006-Jus(M)/(NM) dated 25 July, 2013 and 26 March, 2014 have again requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"The Law Commission, in Chapter IX of its 188th Report, made a proposal for Commercial Divisions in the High Courts to deal with commercial cases of high value *i.e.* of Rs. 1 crore or above as may be determined and ratified by the High Courts and adoption of a fast track procedure in the proposed Commercial Divisions. The Law Commission had recommended that such a Bench may have two High Court Judges and depending upon the need there could be more than one such Bench in High Court. In the said Report, the Law Commission had also proposed adoption of high-tech systems and online filing, etc. as part of the procedure for processing of the cases by the Commercial Divisions. In order to implement the above recommendation of the Law Commission, Government introduced Commercial Division of High Court Bill, 2009 in Lok Sabha on 16th December, 2009. This Bill was passed in the Lok Sabha on 18.12.2009. Therefore, it was referred to the Select Committee of Rajya Sabha. The Select Committee presented its Report on 20.07.2010. The Department of Legal Affairs has forwarded the matter to the newly constituted 20th Law Commission for making fresh study to give its views on the proposed legislation on priority. Information available with this Department on recommendation of Law Commission was furnished in reply to part (a) and (b) of the question. As part (c) and (d) pertained to pendency of High Value Commercial Cases and the extent to which such cases would be disposed in time-bound period after setting up of such division, replies were sought from High Courts. Since the legislation in this regard has not yet been passed by

Parliament, the High Courts have found it difficult to give categorical information with regard to (c) and (d) of the question."

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

The Committee may consider.

Dated: 30.9.2014

NEW DELHI

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE)
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4471

ANSWERED ON 19.5.2006

Pending Commercial Cases

4471. SHRINIKHIL KUMAR:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Law Commission has proposed for setting up of hightech fast track commercial divisions in all High Courts across the country to dispose off high value commercial cases;

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

(c) the number of high value commercial cases pending in each of the High Court as on January 31, 2006; and

(d) the extent to which such cases would be disposed off in a time bound period after setting up of fast track commercial divisions?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The Law Commission, in Chapter IX of its 188th Report made a proposal for Commercial Division in the High Courts to deal with commercial cases of high value *i.e.* of Rs. 1 crore or above as may be determined and ratified by the High Courts, and adoption of a fast track procedure in the proposed Commercial Divisions. The Law Commission had recommended that such a Bench may have two High Court Judges and depending upon the need there could be more than one such Bench in each High Court. In the said Report, the Law Commission had also proposed adoption of hightech systems and on-line filing, etc. as part of the procedure for processing of the cases by the Commercial Divisions.

(c) & (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

APPENDIX XIII

MEMORANDUM NO. 28

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 2034 dated 02 December, 2011 regarding "Irregularities/Scams in health related schemes".

On 02 December, 2011 Shrimati Rama Devi and Shri Anjan Kumar M. Yadav, M.Ps., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 2034 to the Minister of Health and Family Welfare. 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 Health and Family Welfare within three months from the date of the reply. The assurance is yet to be implemented. The Ministry have sought extension to fulfil the assurance.

3. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare *vide* O.M. No. H. 11016/13/2011-IC dated 05.12.2014 had requested to drop the assurance *Inter-alia* on the following grounds:—

"That Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has registered their cases in connection with certain irregularities in the implementation of Food and Drugs Capacity Projects under World Bank Assistance. Out of that, in one case closure report filed by CBI has been accepted by the Court and subsequently the case has been closed with the approval of the disciplinary authority, in one case closure report has been filed by the CBI in the Court and one case is under trial in the Court. In addition, four cases have also been registered by the CBI and their status is as under: In one case closure report filed by the CBI has been accepted by the Court and subsequently, the case has been closed with the approval of the disciplinary authority, one case is under trial in the Court, one case is under investigation by CBI and in respect of the one case concerned with Department of AIDS Control (DoAC), as per the information available upto 01.05.2012, the case was under trial in Court of Law. Updated information has been sought from DoAC. As cases have been registered by the CBI on the basis of the references made by this Ministry or any other department/organization under the Government of India, the referring Department/Organization has no scope/authority to expedite the matter and also further legal action will take its own course. Further, once chargesheet or a closure report is filed in a court of law in respect of any case, it is not within the competence of the Government to accelerate the speed of its disposal."

4. In view of the above, the Minisry, with the approval of the Minister of Health and Family Welfare have requested to drop the above assurance.

The Committee may consider.

Dated: 30.9.2014
NEW DELHI

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE)
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2034
ANSWERED ON 2.12.2011

Irregularities/Scams in the Health related Schemes

2034. SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI:
SHRI ANJAN KUMAR M. YADAV:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any irregularities have been reported in health related schemes running with the assistance of the World Bank;
- (b) if so, the number of such cases detected by the Government during the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (c) the details thereof and the action taken by the Government against those found guilty; and
- (d) the outcome of the action and the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) Following three referral reports in respect of irregularities in projects have been received from department of institutional integrity, World Bank during the last three years:—

- (i) Reproductive & Child Health Project -II
- (ii) Second Tuberculosis Control Project
- (iii) Food & Drugs Capacity Building Project

In the case of Reproductive and Child Health Project-II, two Chinese manufactures had submitted bids in respect of two tenders. In one case, bid guarantee was found to be fraudulent, whereas in the other case the bidder submitted false test report in support of the performance equipment. In one case the supply order as cancelled, whereas in the other case supply order was not placed. As such in both the cases pre-emptive action was taken.

Regarding Food and Drugs Capacity Building Project, Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has initiated investigations against three companies.

APPENDIX XIV

MEMORANDUM NO. 29

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 5632 dated 16.05.2007, regarding "Proposal for Central Legislation in Medical College".

On 16 May, 2007 Shri Tukaram Gangadhar Gadakh M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 5632 to the Minister of Health and Family Welfare. 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 Health and Family Welfare within three months from the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Health and Family Welfare) *vide* O.M. No. H-11016/9/2007-MEP-P dated 11.04.2014, have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That based on the judgement of Hon'ble Supreme Court, few State Governments have already started working on State legislation for regulation admission process and fee structure in private medical institutes. However, this Ministry also drafted a bill to regulate fee and admissions in private medical colleges and sought comments from stakeholders. The comments of most of the States are still awaited. Even as Fee Bill was being considered by the Central Government, a proposal to set up an overarching regulatory body for health *viz.* National Commission for Human Resources for Health (NCHRH) was mooted by the Government. After consulting various expert and other stakeholder, NCHRH Bill was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 22nd December 2011 which referred the Bill to the Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. The mandate of NCHRH *inter alia* covers almost all the aspects of health education. However, the parliamentary Standing Committee has recommended that the Ministry may redraft the Bill on the basis of its recommendations and in consultation with all the stakeholders including the State Governments. In view of the above, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs is requested to drop the assurance."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister for Health and Family Welfare have requested to drop the above assurance.

The Committee may consider.

Dated: 30.9.2014

NEW DELHI

ANNEXURE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5632
ANSWERED ON 16.05.2007

Proposal for Central Legislation in Medical College

5632. SHRI TUKARAM GANGADHAR GADAKH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal from the Maharashtra Government for Central Legislation on admission to Medical Colleges in different States in the light of the Supreme Court Judgement in TMA Pai case;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Yes Sir, In view of the Supreme Court judgement in the TMA Pai case along with judgement in the case of P.A. Inamdar Vs. State of Maharashtra and the requests received from several sources including Government of Maharashtra, the Central Government, after considering the issue in detail, has drafted, "The Private Medical Educational Institutions (Regulation of Admission and Fixation of Fee) Bill 2005" for regulating admission process and fee structure in private medical institute and circulated among the states. The Bill has not yet been finalized.

APPENDIX XV

MEMORANDUM NO. 30

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Starred Question No. 352 dated 03.12.2010, regarding "Unapproved Drugs Vaccines".

On 03 December, 2010 Shri Murari Lal Singh, M.P. addressed a Starred Question No. 352 to the Minister of Health and Family Welfare. 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 Health and Family Welfare within three months from the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare *vide* O.M. No. H-11016/104/2010-DFQC dated 02 January, 2014 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That the issue involved in aforesaid Assurance pertains to 294 Fixed Dosage Combinations related cases pending in the Madras High Court in the matters indicated below:

(i)	W.P. No. 34777 of 2007:	M/s Tristar formulation Vs. Licensing Authority, FDA, Puducherry & Ors.
(ii)	W.P. No. 35354 of 2007:	Federation of South Indian Pharma Merchants Association Vs. DGC (I)
(iii)	W.P. No. 35844 of 2007:	Confederation of Indian Pharma Industry Vs. DGC (I)
(iv)	W.P. No. 36369 of 2007:	Confederation of Indian Pharma Industry Vs. DGC (I)
(v)	W.P. No. 34778 of 2007:	M/s Biomicro Pharmaceuticals Vs. Licensing Authority, FDA Puducherry.
(vi)	W.P. No. 34779 of 2007:	M/s. Indo-Swiss Biotech Vs. Licensing Authority FDA Admn., Puducherry.
(vii)	W.P. No. 34780 of 2007:	M/s Lessac Research Laboratories Pvt. Ltd., Vs. Licensing Authority, FDA Puducherry.
(viii)	W.P. No. 34781 of 2007:	M/s Accent Pharma Vs. Licensing Authority, FDA, Puducherry.

The above matters are effectively being pursued in the Court. However, the same will come to their logical conclusion only on finalization by the Court. Presently, it may not be estimated as to how much time will be taken in finalization of the cases by the Court."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of Health and Family Welfare have requested to drop the above assurance.

The Committee may consider.

Dated: 30.9.2014

NEW DELHI

ANNEXURE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 352

ANSWERED ON 03.12.2010

Unapproved Drugs Vaccines

*352. SHRI MURARILAL SINGH:
SHRI P. KUMAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of unapproved Fixed Dose Combinations and drugs/ vaccines including some anti-obesity drugs banned in Europe and anti-cervical cancer vaccines under examination are reportedly available in the market;

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

(c) the corrective measures taken proposed in this regard indicating the drugs examined and banned in the country during the last three years and the current year;

(d) whether instances of State Drugs Controllers having allegedly exceeded their authority by issuing manufacturing licenses without prior approval of the Drugs Controller General (India) been reported;

(e) if so, the facts in this regard; and

(f) the action taken/proposed to be taken in the matter?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 352 FOR 3rd DECEMBER, 2010. Some State Licensing Authorities (SLAs) have been granting licences in the past for manufacturing of new Fixed Dose Combinations (FDCs) without the required approval from the Drugs Controller General (India) [DCG (I)]. These new FDCs are considered New Drugs under the provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 and the SLAs are required to seek prior approval of the DCG(I) before issuing licences for them. The matter was deliberated and discussed with the SLAs by the DCG(I) on many occasions in different forums. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has also issued statutory directions under Section 33(P) of Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940, to all State Governments on 20.7.2000 and again on 6.5.2004, to advise their SLAs to refrain from issuing such

manufacturing licenses without the mandatory approval from the DCG(I). Further, to introduce more clarity on the requirement of the written approval from Drugs Controller General (I) for all such products falling under the purview of New Drugs, Rule 71 and Rule 75 of the Drugs and Cosmetic Rules, 1945, were also amended in May, 2005.

In the year 2007, the office of DCG (I) prepared a list of 294 such FDCs which was communicated to the State Drugs Controllers on 14.8.2007 asking them to take necessary action with respect to these FDCs. However, some of the manufacturers' associations filed a writ petition in the Hon'ble High Court of Madras and obtained an order of stay dated 14.11.2007 against all further proceedings in the matter. The DCG(I) then issued a statutory direction *vide* his letter dated 28.11.2007 to all the State Drugs Controllers under the provisions of Section 33P of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940, asking them to comply with the decision taken in the meeting dated 26.10.2007 of the Drugs Consultative Committee, a statutory Committee of Central and States' drugs regulators, including suspension of licenses of these FDCs under reference and also not to issue any further licenses for such drugs. However, the Hon'ble High Court of Madras again granted the stay by its order dated 4.12.2007 on the above direction. The matter is subjudice.

There is no report of any of unapproved drug formulation withdrawn/restricted in some foreign countries but available in the country. Similarly, there is no unapproved anti-cervical cancer vaccine reportedly available in the market.

Any drug prohibited under the provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940, is not permitted to be imported, manufactured or sold in the country, which is punishable under the provisions of the said Act.

APPENDIX XVI

MEMORANDUM NO. 31

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Starred Question No. 102 dated 29.11.2011, regarding "Circulation of Fake Indian Currency Notes".

On 29 November, 2011 Shri Mangani Lal Mandal and Syed Shahnawaz Hussain, MPs addressed an Starred Question No. 102 to the Minister of Home Affairs. 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 Home Affairs within three months from the date of reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Home Affairs *vide* O.M. No. 17012/47/2011-CFT dated 23 August, 2012 had requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:

- (i) "That the latest position of these cases were obtained from National Investigation Agency (NIA) who have informed that in one of the cases trial is yet to start and in another case trial is held up due to the transfer of Learned Special Judge. It is observed that one the cases was registered in 2009 and a charge sheet was filed against 07 accused. A supplementary charge sheet was filed in the year 2011. The second case registered in 2011 is under trial in NIA Spl. Court Jammu. Since the trial is likely to take a considerable time to reach its final conclusion with the conviction of the accused, it is suggested that this should not have been a case for treating the reply as an assurance. It may also be pointed out that the fulfilment of the assurance may also take a considerable time."
- (ii) "The latest position of these cases has been obtained recently from NIA, who has informed that in one of the case, the trial is in progress and presently the prosecution witnesses are being examined by the Court. In another case, the case was registered in 2011 and is under trial in NIA Spl. Court Jammu (J&K) and 16 witnesses have been examined so far."

4. The Committee at their sitting held on 03 June, 2013 considered the above request and decided not to drop the assurance. The Committee accordingly presented its 30th Report (15th Lok Sabha) on 29 August, 2013 *inter alia* recommending that two cases on circulation of fake Indian currency are in progress and be brought to their logical conclusion. However, the Ministry of Home Affairs *vide* their O.M. No. 17012/47/2011-CFT dated 03 September, 2013

have again requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That the latest position of these cases has been obtained recently from NIA, who has informed that in one of the case, the trial is in progress and presently the prosecution witnesses are being examined by the court. In another case, the case was registered in 2011 and is under trial in NIA Special Court Jammu (J&K) and 16 witnesses have been examined so far."

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

The Committee may consider.

Dated: 30.9.2014

NEW DELHI

ANNEXURE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 102
ANSWERED ON 29.11.2011

Circulation of Fake Indian Currency Notes

102. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL:
SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the circulation/inflow of fake currency notes have been reported from various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details of such cases reported during the current year, State-wise;

(c) whether the National Investigation Agency (NIA) has probed cases of circulation of fake currency notes and their linkage to terror modules;

(d) if so, the details of such cases and the outcome of the probe; and

(e) the corrective measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check inflow/circulation of such currencies?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH): (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement in reply to parts (a) to (e) Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 102 foR 29.11.2011.

(a) and (b) Yes Madam During the current year *i.e.* from 01.01.2011 upto 31.10.2011 a total of 1946712 numbers of Fake Indian Currency Notes (FICN) with face value of Rs. 96,15,60,797.00 have been reported as seized and recovered. The details of such reported seizure and recovery during the said period State-wise are at Annexure.

(c) and (d) Yes Madam, NIA has probed two such cases. In one case, initially registered in Mumbai, charge sheet was filed on 05.11.2009 and subsequently after further investigation, a supplementary charge sheet was filed on 27.06.2011.

In another case initially registered in J&K, charge sheet was filed on 16.07.2011. In this case further investigation is continuing to identify the source of FICN and other suspects involved in the case.

(e) To address the multi-dimensional aspects of the FICN menace, several agencies such as the RBI, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Home Affairs, Security and Intelligence Agencies of the Centre and States, Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) etc., are working in *tandem* to thwart the illegal activities related to FICNs. The work of these agencies are periodically reviewed by a nodal group set up for this purpose. In this context, at the functional level, the CBI has also been declared as the nodal agency for coordination with the States and, the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence has been nominated as the Lead Intelligence Agency for smuggled FICNs.

Further, one special FICN Coordination Group (FCORD) has been formed in Ministry of Home Affairs to share the intelligence/information amongst the different security agencies of State/Centre to counter the menace of circulation of Fake Currency within the country, with CBI being the nodal agency.

NIA has been empowered by the National Investigation Agency Act to investigate and prosecute such offences. The Government has also constituted a Terror Funding and Fake Currency Cell in National Investigation Agency (NIA) in 2010 to focus on investigation of Terror Funding and Fake Currency Cases. The security features in the High Value currency notes are being constantly upgraded. RBI has also strengthened the mechanism for detection of counterfeit notes by the Banks.

Page 1 of Annexure

LSS Q. No. 102 for 29.11.2011

Statement

(Statistics from 01.01.2011 to 31.10.2011)

Sl. No.	States/UT	Total No. of Notes reported	Total Value (Rs.)	FIR
States :		(R+S)	(R+S)	
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	44354	19934170	98
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	21	11000	2
3.	Assam	911	526850	31
4.	Bihar	9352	3497355	27
5.	Chhattisgarh	409	209970	17
6.	Goa	965	596390	29
7.	Gujarat	21455	11946390	113
8.	Haryana	1408	215960	14
9.	Himachal Pradesh	174	111000	3
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	6562	3706090	36
11.	Jharkhand	10	5000	1
12.	Karnataka	12562	7019920	20
13.	Kerala	6530	3025730	33
14.	Madhya Pradesh	5094	1466190	4
15.	Maharashtra	1616630	810693470	212
16.	Manipur	1	500	1
17.	Meghalaya	0	0	0
18.	Mizoram	0	0	0
19.	Nagaland	211	121400	6
20.	Odisha	4140	1590370	0
21.	Punjab	3705	1283100	5
22.	Rajasthan	12980	5866026	25

1	2	3	4	5
23.	Sikkim	104	61500	3
24.	Tamil Nadu	24418	13214420	0
25.	Tripura	120	57200	5
26.	Uttar Pradesh	41185	15364635	114
27.	Uttarakhand	192	93300	9
28.	West Bengal	39419	20367061	72
Total:		1853012	920984997	880
Union Territories:				
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0
30.	Chandigarh	13319	3669450	0
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0
32.	Daman & Diu	0	0	0
33.	Delhi	80376	36903350	32
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
35.	Puducherry	5	3000	2
Total:		93700	40575800	34
Grant Total:		1946712	961560797	914

R: Recovered by different branches of RBI

Note: S: Seized by Police

Source: National Crime Records Bureau

Figures are provisional and subject to continuous updation.

APPENDIX XVII

MEMORANDUM NO. 33

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 3783 dated 20.03.2013, regarding "National Book Promotion Policy".

On 20 March, 2013 Shri Kishnbhai V. Patel and Shri Pradeep Majhi, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 3783 to the Minister of Human Resource Development. 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 Human Resource Development within three months from the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Human Resource Development *vide* O.M. No. 1-1/2013-BP dated 03.07.2013, have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That a Twelve Member Task Force was constituted by the National Book Promotion Council (NBPC) to draft a comprehensive National Book Promotion Policy (NBPP) in 2010. The draft report of the Task Force was approved by the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) in its 58th meeting held on 7th June, 2011. The NBPC, under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble HRM, considered the recommendations of the Task Force given in the draft NBPP; in its meeting held on 05.01.2012 and directed the Ministry to resolve the key issues pertaining to publishing sector, after holding consultations with the concerned Ministries/ Departments. Accordingly an Inter-Ministerial meeting to discuss the issues of the concerned Ministries/Departments was held on 28.06.2012. The key issues are still under consultations with the concerned Ministries/Departments and being a Policy issue, will take time to be finalized. In view of the above, the Committee on Government Assurances, Lok Sabha, is requested to kindly drop the said Assurance."

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.

The Committee may consider.

Dated: 30.9.2014
NEW DELHI

ANNEXURE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3783

ANSWERED ON 20.03.2013

National Book Promotion Policy

3783. SHRI KISHNBHAI VESTABHAI PATEL:
SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI:

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

- (a) whether the Government has approved the National Book Promotion Policy;
- (b) if so, the details and the salient features of the policy;
- (c) whether the Government has invited suggestions/comments from various sections of the society before finalization of the National Book Promotion Policy;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the extent to which the suggestions/comments received have been incorporated in the said policy; and
- (f) the time by which the National Book Promotion Policy will be implemented?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) to (d) A twelve member Task Force was constituted by the National Book Promotion Council (NBPC) to draft a comprehensive National Book Promotion Policy (NBPP) in 2010. The draft report of the Task Force was approved by the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) in its 58th meeting held on 7th June, 2011. The salient features of the proposed NBPP aim at promoting books for all segments of the society, so that books are available in plenty and they are accessible to people living in different parts, even the remotest corners, of our country. The NBPP is aware of the technological advances and their impact on the world of books. The policy strives at taking full advantage of the new technology while retaining the time-tested strengths of publishing and distribution of books. Subsequently, the NBPC in its meeting held on 5th January, 2012 suggested that the draft policy should be revised. The MHRD has invited suggestions/comments from the concerned Ministries/Departments of Central Government, State Governments as well as the Central Education Institutions including the National Council for Education Research and Training, the Central

Board of Secondary Education and the National Institute of Open Schooling, before finalizing the NBPP. Besides this a draft policy was also placed on the website of the MHRD seeking response from the authors, publishers, civil society organizations, teachers, students, and parents etc.

(e) The Ministry received 38 suggestions/comments from all corners and relevant suggestions have been suitably incorporated in the said policy.

(f) the policy will be finalized after consulting the concerned Ministries on the key issues.

APPENDIX XVIII

MEMORANDUM NO. 34

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 5587 dated 07.09.2011, regarding "Publishing as Small Scale Sector".

On 07 September, 2011 Shri R. Thamaraiselvan, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 5587 to the Minister of Human Resource Development. 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 Human Resource Development within three months from the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Human Resource Development *vide* O.M. No. 1-1/2011-BP dated 11.10.2013, have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That 12 Member Task Force constituted on 5.2.2010, by the National Book Promotion Council (NBPC) to draft a comprehensive National Book Promotion Policy (NBPP) submitted its Draft Report. The NBPC, under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble HRM considered the recommendations of the Task Force given in the Draft NBPP, in its meeting held on 5.1.2012 and directed the Ministry to resolve the key policy issues pertaining to publishing sector, after holding consultations with the concerned Ministries/Departments. It is submitted that the key policy issues pertaining to publishing sector mentioned in the Draft National Book Promotion Policy is under consultation with the concerned Ministries/Departments and being a policy issue, will take a long time to be finalised. In view of this reason, the Committee on Government Assurances, Lok Sabha is requested to kindly drop the said Assurances."

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.

The Committee may consider.

Dated: 30.9.2014

NEW DELHI

ANNEXURE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5587

ANSWERED ON 07.09.2011

Publishing as small scale sector

5587. SHRI R. THAMARAISELVAN:

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

(a) whether the Government is considering to declare publishing as a small scale sector or priority sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a task force, setup by the Government to revive the publishing sector, had submitted its report; and

(d) if so, the details of the recommendations made therein and approved by the Government?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Publishing activity has been categorized as service activity under the provisions of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development (MSMED) Act, 2006 which can further be classified as micro, small or medium based on the investments in equipments. Credit to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) by financial institutions are as per guidelines/instructions issued by the Reserve Bank of India from time to time. As per Reserve Bank of India guidelines, finance to micro and small enterprises sector is categorized under priority sector.

(c) and (d) The Task Force constituted on 5.2.2010 by the National Book Promotion Council (NBPC) to draft comprehensive National Book Promotion Policy (NBPP) has submitted its final draft and it has been approved in the final meeting of the Task Force held on 8th August 2011. The final draft on NBPP will be placed before the NBPC shortly.

APPENDIX XIX

MEMORANDUM NO. 37

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 4471 dated 07.09.2012, regarding "Helicopter Service at Tourist Places".

On 07 September, 2012 Shri Sajjan Verma, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 4471 to the Minister of Civil Aviation. 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 Civil Aviation within three months from the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Civil Aviation *vide* O.M. No. H-11012/01/2013-GA dated 23 January, 2013 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:

"That a feasibility study at Ooty, Rameshwaram, Madurai, Panchmarhi, Munar, Goa, Agra etc. was conducted and the feasibility report was submitted to the respective State Governments. However response from the State Governments is not received. How much time the States would take or whether they would respond at all is not confirmed/assured. Further providing connectivity to tourist places is a commercial decision to be taken by the respective States and airlines based on commercial viability and availability of required infrastructure with respective States. As there is uncertainty with respect to such commercial decisions being finally taken as such, it may not constitute as an assurance. Even if, it is considered as an assurance then it may not be fulfilled for all the places. In view of position explained above, Lok Sabha Secretariat is requested not to consider it as assurance and may kindly drop this question from the list of Assurances.

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.

The Committee may consider.

Dated: 30.9.2014

NEW DELHI

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4471
ANSWERED ON 07.09.2012

Helicopter Services at Tourist Places

4471. SHRI SAJJAN SINGH VERMA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to introduce helicopter service at tourist places;
- (b) if so, the locations identified for the purpose, State-wise including Madhya Pradesh; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) M/s Pawan Hans Helicopters Ltd. is operating helicopter services to tourist destinations including hilly regions. Pawan Hans in co-ordination with the State Govts. has plans to start helicopter and sea plane services to connect places of tourist interest to promote tourism in these States based on commercial viability and availability of required infrastructure.

Discussions are underway in this regard with the respective State Govts. like Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh, Goa, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh etc., to connect important tourist places like Ooty, Rameshwaram, Madurai, Munar, Darjeeling, Panchmarhi, Goa, Vrindavan/Agra etc.

APPENDIX XX

MEMORANDUM NO. 38

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 3757 dated 17.12.2012, regarding "Disputes on Mormugao Port Trust".

On 17 December, 2012 S/Shri Manohar Tirkey and Nripendra Nath Roy, M.Ps. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 3757 to the Minister of Shipping. 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 Shipping within three months from the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Shipping *vide* O.M. No. 9(18)/2012-PD-VII dated 03.09.2013, have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:

"That a committee was set up to resolve the issues between MPT and Government of Goa consisting of representatives of Government of Goa and Mormugao Port Trust. Two meetings were taken on 17.03.2010 and 18.05.2011 by Secretary (Shipping) with the officials of Government of Goa and Mormugao Port Trust to resolve the issues between them. During these two meetings, all the issues of differences between them were discussed and suggested for constitution of Core Committee to look into the issues. The Core Committee constituted under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary, Government of Goa to resolve various issues concerning both Mormugao Port Trust and Government of Goa has met three times so far on 17.01.2011, 08.02.2011 and 14.03.2011. The present position on the two issues are as under:

- (i) An area of 23,553 Sq mts. of land at Adarsh Nagar, Chicalim was acquired for the purpose of rehabilitation of project affected people for the construction of 4 lane port connectivity road and other projects. An amount of Rs. 34,07,291/- was paid by Mormugao Port Trust to State Government of Goa in the year 2001 for the same. However, the subject land has not yet been transferred to Mormugao Port Trust by State Government of Goa. Hence the status remain unchanged.
- (ii) Plot of land admeasuring 20,500 Sq. Mts, at Dabolim was purchased at cost of 2.46 crores from Mormugao Planning and Development Authority (MPDA), Government of Goa in the year 1999 for Port related activities. Subsequently while executing the Sale Deed, they had refused the land to be put for port related activities and had stated that it can be used only for residential purpose. Aggrieved with the decision of the MPDA, the Mormugao Port Trust had filed a petition in the Hon'ble Civil Court. Recently the advocate who appeared in the court on behalf of MPDA

had made a statement in the court that the MPDA does not have any objection in the land being put to use for port related activities. The Hon'ble Court had directed MPDA and MPT to file their Consent Terms to the Court. MPT had furnished the draft consent terms to be executed in the matter to MPDA. However, the advocate for the defendant (MPDA) objected to the word 'Port Development Activities' appearing in Clause 5 of the draft sale deed stating that the land is situated in residential area and requested to delete the words. The matter is pending in the Hon'ble Court. The matter is not partly subjudice as the issue is pending in the Hon'ble Court and the same would be finalized on the basis of the final judgement of the Hon'ble Court. The matter also partly falls within the purview of State Government for taking decisions by the Core Committee under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary, Government of Goa."

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

The Committee may consider.

Dated: 30.9.2014

NEW DELHI

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SHIPPING
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3757
ANSWERED ON 17.12.2012

Disputes on Mormugao Port Trust

3757. SHRI MANOHAR TIRKEY:
SHRI NRIPENDRA NATH ROY:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the disputes between the State Government of Goa and Mormugao Port Trust (MPT) has not yet been sorted out;
- (b) if so, the names and description of the disputed plot or plots of land;
- (c) the stand of the State Government of Goa on each plot or parcel of land and the contention of MPT thereon;
- (d) the number of meetings held between MPT and the State Government of Goa in this matter;
- (e) the present status of the discussion; and
- (f) the time by which the said dispute is likely to be sorted out?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) to (c) The following Land related issues remain unresolved between the State Government of Goa and Mormugao Port Trust:

1. Adarsh Nagar Land at Chicalim, Goa — An area of 23,553 sq. mts. of land at Adarsh Nagar was acquired for the purpose of rehabilitation of Project Affected Persons due to construction of four-lane port connectivity road and other projects. An amount of Rs. 34,07,291/- was paid by Mormugao Port Trust to the State Government on account of acquisition of this land. Though the amount for acquisition for land was paid by Mormugao Port Trust to Government of Goa in the year 2001, land transfer has not yet been made by the State Government so far.

2. Land purchased from Mormugao Planning and Development Authority (MPDA) at Dabolim — In the year 1999 an agreement was signed with Mormugao Planning and Development Authority (MPDA), Government of Goa for purchase of 20,500 sq. mts. of land at Dabolim for port related activities at a total cost of Rs. 2.46 crores and the amount was paid to MPDA. Though the land was acquired for the purpose of port related activities, the registration in the name of Mormugao Port

Trust has not been made by MPDA on the ground that this land should be used for residential purpose and not for port related activities.

(d) to (f) The Core Committee constituted under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary, Government of Goa to resolve various issues concerning Mormugao Port Trust and Government of Goa has met three times so far on 17.01.2011, 08.02.2011 and 14.03.2011. Mormugao Port Trust is engaged in consultation with the State Government of Goa to find an amicable solution to the pending issues at the earliest.

APPENDIX XXI

MEMORANDUM NO. 39

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 2292 dated 12 August, 2011 regarding "Women Reservation in Panchayats".

On 12 August, 2011 Shrimati Jaya Prada and S/Shri Yashvir Singh, R. Thamaraiselvan, Neeraj Shekhar, A.T. Nana Patil, Dr. Kruparani Killi and Shrimati J. Shantha, M.Ps., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 2292 to the Minister of Panchayati Raj. 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 Panchayati Raj within three months from the date of the reply. The assurance is yet to be implemented. The Ministry have sought extension of time upto 30.09.2012 to fulfil the assurance.

3. The Ministry of Panchayati Raj *vide* O.M. No. H-11016/8/2011-DPE/PMEYSA dated 2 May, 2012 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:

"That the Amendment Bill relating to the enhancement of reservation for EWRs in Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) is pending since the Official Amendments to the Original Amendment Bill are yet to be introduced in the Lok Sabha. Notices to the Speaker, Lok Sabha for moving Official Amendments and also for the passage of Bill were sent twice by the Hon'ble Minister of Tribal Affairs and Panchayati Raj, once in the Monsoon Session and second time in the Winter Session during the last year after having the same vetted by the Legislative Department of Ministry of Law and Justice. On both occasions the matter could not be taken up in the House. This time also this Ministry has sent the proposal (to send the Notice to the Speaker, Lok Sabha) to Ministry of Law and Justice for vetting the drafts.

In this connection, it is stated that this assurance relates to a Legislative matter and this Ministry has taken required action on its part to introduce the Official Amendments two times. The matter now concerns the business of the Lok Sabha. Since it is not feasible for this Ministry to fulfil the assurance due to this reason, the Committee on Government Assurances may please be requested for deletion of this assurance."

4. The above request of the Ministry was considered by the Committee at their sitting held on 03 June, 2013 and the Committee decided not to drop the assurance. The Committee accordingly presented its 30th Report in Lok Sabha on 29 August, 2013 *inter alia* recommending that the Government should undertake serious measures to introduce an amendment of the Constitution of India for enhancing reservation of women in Panchayats from the present one-third to fifty percent.

5. However, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj *vide* their O.M. No. H-11016/8/2011-DPE/PMEYSA dated 08 January, 2014 have once again requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"that the Notices have been sent on 12.8.2011, 24.11.2011, 26.02.2013, 25.07.2013 and 30.11.2013 to Secretary- General, Lok Sabha, the last time being on 30.11.2013 from Hon'ble Minister of Tribal Affairs and Panchayati Raj, *inter alia*, for taking in to consideration the Original Amendment Bill and also the official amendments thereto and for the passage of the same. However, this matter was not listed in Business of the Lok Sabha during the Winter Session 2013 also."

6. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of the Minister of Tribal Affairs and Panchayati Raj, have requested to drop the above assurance.

The Committee may re-consider.

Dated: 30.9.2014

NEW DELHI

ANNEXURE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2292
ANSWERED ON 12.08.2011

Women Reservation in Panchayats

2292. SHRIMATI JAYA PRADA:
SHRI YASHVIR SINGH:
SHRI R. THAMARAISELVAN:
SHRI NEERA J SHEKHAR:
SHRIMATI J. SHANTHA:
SHRI A.T. NANA PATIL:
DR. KRUPARANI KILLI:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of reservation available to women in panchayats in different States at present alongwith the number of women sarpanches, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Union Government has approved the proposal for enhancing reservation of women in panchayats from the present 33 per cent to 50 per cent;
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the provisions thereof;
- (d) whether the Union Government proposes to make provision for quota for OBCs and Minority women within the proposed reservation;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the time by which the amendment bill in this regard is likely to be introduced?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA DEO):
(a) As per provisions contained in Article 243D of the Constitution, 1/3rd of the seats of Panchayati Raj Institutions and 1/3rd offices of the Chairperson at all level of Panchayati Raj Institutions covered by Part IX of the Constitution are reserved for women. The following States have made legal provision for 50% reservation for women among members and Sarpanches: Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Kerala, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, Tripura and Uttarakhand. A statement giving the position about the Elected Women Representatives in all States and UTs as per the State of Panchayat Report 2007-08 commissioned by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj is given in Annexure.

(b) and (c) The Government has approved the proposal for enhancing reservation of women in Panchayats from the present one-third to 50%. Accordingly, a bill for amendment of the Constitution of India had been introduced in the Parliament. As per the recommendation of the Parliamentary Standing Committee, the Government has approved that reservation for Schedule Castes and Schedule Tribes shall be on the basis of the percentage of rural population and not total population. An amendment to the pending Bill is proposed to be introduced.

(d) There is at present no proposal for providing quota for OBCs and minority women within the proposed reservation in the Bill.

(e) The reservation in favour of backward class of citizens rests with the State Legislatures under Article 243 (D) (6). Part IX of the Constitution does not have any provision for reservation on the basis of religion. Hence there is no scope to provide for reservation under these categories for women by amendment.

(f) Does not arise.

APPENDIX XXII

MEMORANDUM NO. 40

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 5843 dated 8 September, 2011 regarding "Investigation of Polyester Companies by CCI".

On 8 September, 2011 S/Shri B.B. Patil, Anand Prakash Paranjpe and Eknath M. Gaikwad, M.Ps., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 5843 to the Minister of Corporate Affairs. 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 Corporate Affairs 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 Corporate Affairs *vide* O.M. No. 6/23/2011-CS dated 29 November, 2011 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:

"That the Competition Commission of India (CCI) is a *quasi-judicial* body. It has its own procedure to dispose off/decide the cases as per the provisions of the Competition Act. No time limit is prescribed for CCI for disposal of cases filed under sections 3 & 4 of the Competition Act. The Government also has no role in the matter except to check periodically the position of cases under consideration of the Commission."

4. The above request was not acceded to by the Committee at their sitting held on 03 June 2013. The Committee accordingly presented its 30th Report (15th Lok Sabha) on 29 August, 2013 *inter alia* recommending that they be apprised of the present status of the investigation commenced by Competition Commission of India (CCI).

5. The Ministry of Corporate Affairs *vide* their O.M. No. 6/23/2011-CS dated 25 April 2014 have intimated the present status and have also once again request to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That Competition Commission of India (CCI) has now informed that Delhi High Court in Writ Petition No. 4159/2013, *vide* its order dated 17.12.2013 has directed as under:—

- (a) The Commission shall pass no orders *w.r.t.* DG's Report, as far as the same pertained to violations under Section 4 of the Act;
- (b) The evidence collected by the DG can be treated as information under Section 19 of the Act by the Commission, DG can then be ordered to investigate the same.

The Commission has further informed that a Letters Patent Appeal, (being LPA 137/2014) has been preferred by the Commission against the order referred above. In the initial hearing of the appeal the Learned Solicitor General of India (who appeared on behalf of CCI) will not proceed against respondents under sub-section (8) of Section 26 of the Act on the report of the DG to the effect that the respondent has misused its dominant position as a VSF manufacturer and will also not pass order on the said report in terms of Section 27 of the Act."

6. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of the Minister of State (I/C) in the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, have requested to drop the above assurance.

The Committee may reconsider.

Dated: 30.9.2014

NEW DELHI

ANNEXURE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5843
ANSWERED ON 08.09.2011

Investigation Of Polyester Companies By CCI'

5843. SHRI B.B. PATIL:
SHRI ANAND PRAKASH PARANJPE:
SHRI EKNATH M. GAIKWAD:

Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Competition Commission of India has conducted an investigation on top polyester and viscose fiber companies regarding fixing of cartel prices;
- (b) if so, the companies which have been investigated in this regard;
- (c) the outcome of the said investigation; and
- (d) the action taken/being taken against the guilty companies?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) An information alleging cartelization by Synthetic Fiber Manufacturer Companies has been received by the Competition Commission of India (CCI). The Commission has directed Director General, CCI to conduct investigation in the said matter.

- (b) to (d) The matter is still under investigation by Director General, CCI.

APPENDIX XXIII

MINUTES

SECOND SITTING

MINUTES OF THE SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES (2014-2015) HELD ON 08.10.2014 IN COMMITTEE ROOM 'G-074', PARLIAMENT LIBRARY BUILDING, NEW DELHI.

The Committee sat from 1500 hours to 1740 hours on Wednesday, 08 October, 2014.

PRESENT

Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal "Nishank" — *Chairperson*

MEMBERS

2. Shri Rajendra Agrawal
3. Shri E. Ahamed
4. Shri Naran Bhai Kachhadia
5. Shri Bahadur Singh Koli
6. Shri Prahlad Singh Patel
7. Shri Sunil Kumar Singh

SECRETARIAT

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| 1. Shri R.S. Kambo | — | <i>Joint 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> |

At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee and apprised them regarding the day's agenda. Thereafter, the Committee took up 40 Memoranda (Memo. Nos. 2 to 41) containing requests received from various Ministries/Departments for dropping of the pending assurances. After considering five Memoranda, the Committee authorized the Hon'ble Chairperson to decide the remaining 35 Memoranda. Thereafter, the Hon'ble Chairperson decided to drop 18 assurances as per details given in Annexure-I* and to pursue the remaining 22 assurances as per details given in Annexure-II, for implementation by the Ministry/Department concerned.

*Not enclosed

2. ***

3. ***

4. ***

The Committee then adjourned.

ANNEXURE II

Statement showing Assurances not dropped by the Committee on Government Assurances at their sitting held on 08.10.2014

Sl. No.	Memo No.	Question	Ministry/ Department	Subject	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	2 (i) (ii)	SQ No. 13 dated 08.08.2012 USQ No. 180 dated 08.08.2012	Planning	Survey of BPL in Backward Tribal Areas	The Committee note that the Expert Group constituted under the Chairmanship of Dr. C. Rangarajan to "Review the Methodology for Measurement of Poverty" has reportedly submitted its report in the matter. The Committee would, therefore, like to know the further progress made in the matter.
	(iii)	USQ No. 216 dated 08.08.2012		Poverty Estimate	
	(iv)	USQ No. 4031 dated 05.09.2012		Expert Group to Review	
	(v)	USQ No. 4060 dated 05.09.2012		Tendulkar's Methodology	
	(vi)	USQ No. 1841 dated 05.12.2012		Cost of Living of BPL Families Inflation Rate for Poverty Line New Panel to Review Method of BPL	
2.	3	USQ No. 577 dated 27.02.2013	Planning	Abhijit Sen Committee on BPL	The Committee note that the Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Dr. C Rangarajan to "Review the Methodology for Measurement of Poverty" has reportedly submitted its report. The

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	4	SQ No. 622 dated 21.05.2012	Defence	Restricted Zones around Defence Installations	<p>Committee would, therefore, like to know the further progress made in the matter.</p> <p>The Committee note that in 2007, the earlier instructions regarding restricted or no-construction zones around the various defence installations including the ammunition depots across the country were revised and depending upon the type of installation restrictions ranging from 100 mtr. to 900 mtr. were imposed. The Committee also note that there is no plan to reduce the radius or relocate the depot. However, the Committee were surprised to note with the submission of the Ministry of Defence that the action for removal of unauthorized construction has to be taken by the concerned State Government authorities. The Committee are of the opinion that the land which has been occupied for unauthorized constructions belong to the Defence and therefore, it is for them to initiate action to evict their land from encroachers. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry of Defence should pursue vigorously with all concerned including the State Governments for removal of unauthorized construction from their land. The Committee would like to know the initiatives taken by the Ministry in this regard.</p>

4.	5	USQ No. 6309 dated 06.05.2013	Defence	Offshore Patrol Vessel	The Committee note an offshore patrol vessel was proposed to be delivered to the Government of Mauritius in September, 2014 as per the terms of the contract. Since it is a question of friendship with the neighbouring country which also involves the supreme prestige of India, the Committee hope that the ship might have been constructed and supplied to Government of Mauritius with in a time period as per the terms of contract. The Committee would like to know the position in this regard.
5.	6	USQ No. 6221 dated 06.05.2013	Defence	Training Centres of Armed Forces	The Committee note that there was a proposal to set up one Senior Non-Commissioned Officer (SNCO) Academy at Air Force Station Tilpat (Haryana). According to Ministry the reply given by the Hon'ble Minister does not constitute an Assurance. However, the Committee are not convinced with the contention of the Ministry as it is their prerogative to decide as to what constitutes an assurance. The Committee, therefore, desires that they may be apprised of the progress made in the matter.
6.	7	USQ No. 580 dated 26.11.2012	Defence	Tatra Trucks Deal	The Committee note that the Government has taken cognizance of alleged irregularities in purchase of Tatra trucks and CBI has been requested to investigate comprehensively into alleged irregularities in purchase of Tatra trucks.

1	2	3	4	5	6
					<p>In this context, the Ministry has explained that the said assurance is not pending due to any action to be taken by the Ministry of Defence at this stage and that the assurance can be fulfilled only on conclusion of CBI investigation in the case and CBI does not work under the Ministry of Defence. Therefore, the finalization of CBI report is likely to take very long time and till that time the assurance would continue to remain as pending. The Committee are of the strong opinion that it is in the interest of Ministry of Defence that the matter is investigated by CBI quickly and the guilty are given exemplary punishment. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the matter may be pursued vigorously with CBI and all concerned so that the matter be brought to its logical conclusion. The Committee would like to be apprised of the initiatives taken by the Ministry in this regard.</p>
7.	11	USQ No. 2726 dated 29.03.2012	Science and Technology	PPP Projects for Supporting Joint R&D	<p>The Committee note that a Sub-Committee of Minister's Council on Trade and Industry on promoting Public-Private Partnership in R&D and Clean Energy had suggested the establishment of Rs. 5000 crore PPP fund for R&D</p>

and innovations and the Government had not taken a final decision thereon. The Ministry as argued that the same may not be treated as proposal/commitment of the Government as the suggestion was made by the Sub-Committee under the Prime Minister's Council on Trade and Industry. The Committee can not buy the argument of the Ministry on the issue as it is the prerogative of the Committee to decide as to what constitutes an assurance. The Committee, therefore, would like to be apprised of the present status of the suggestion for establishment of a PPP fund.

8.	21	USQ No. 3425 dated 30.08.2013	Petroleum and Natural Gas	Pricing of Petroleum Products
----	----	-------------------------------	---------------------------	-------------------------------

The Committee note that an Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Dr. Kirit S. Parikh was constituted by the Government to advice on pricing methodology of petroleum products. In their submission, the Ministry has stated that a similar assurance in respect of Rajya Sabha USQ No. 1983 dated 27.08.2013 has been dropped by the CGA (Rajya Sabha) and since both the assurances pertain to the aforesaid Expert Group whose recommendations are still under consideration, the Ministry have, therefore, requested that the assurance under reference may be deleted from the list of pending assurances. The Committee are of the strong opinion that issue involved in

⌘

1	2	3	4	5	6
					the assurance is of great public interest and therefore, the same can not be dropped simply on the ground that similar assurance in Rajya Sabha has been dropped by the CGA of Rajya Sabha. The Committee, therefore, would like to know the follow up action taken by the Government on the recommendations of the Expert Group.
9.	23	USQ No. 4945 dated 25.04.2013	Power	Irregularities under RGGVY	The Committee were informed that the complaints regarding alleged irregularities in the implementation of Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana in the States of Jharkhand and Jammu and Kashmir are being investigated by CBI and it is not possible to anticipate the likely date of completion of enquiry of CBI. The Committee are not satisfied with the explanation of Ministry for dropping of the assurance and would like to recommend that the Ministry should pursue vigorously and persistently with CBI to expedite their investigation in the matter till its logical conclusion. The Committee would like to be apprised of the efforts made by the Ministry in the matter.

10.	24	USQ No. 2764 dated 14.03.2013	Power	Allocation of Coal Mines	The Committee were informed that the CBI investigation of all the cases relating to allocation of coal blocks are in progress and as investigation is going on and there is no timeline to submit the report and the process will go to the judicial court, the assurance may be dropped. The Committee are not inclined to accept the argument of the Ministry for dropping the assurance and would like to recommend that the Ministry should pursue vigorously and persistently with CBI to expedite their investigation in the matter till the guilty are punished. The Committee would like to be apprised of the efforts made by the Ministry in the matter.
11.	25	USQ No. 656 dated 15.03.2012	Railways	Amendment in RPF Act	The Committee were informed that the Ministry of Railways have accorded its approval for the amendment in RPF Act. Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Law & Justice have also given their approval on the proposal. However, consultation with the States is under progress which will be completed in due course. The Committee would like the Ministry of Railways to pursue the matter vigorously with the States so that the proposed amendments in RPF Act be given effect without further delay.
12.	27	USQ No. 4471 dated 19.05.2006	Law and Justice	Pending Commercial Cases	The Committee were informed that the Department of Legal Affairs has forwarded the

1	2	3	4	5	6
					<p>matter to the newly constituted 20th Law Commission for making fresh study to give its views on the proposed legislation in the absence of legislation, High Courts have found it difficult to give categorical information with regard to High Value Commercial Cases and the extent to which such cases would be disposed of after setting up of Commercial Division in the High Courts. The Committee would like the Ministry to pursue the matter with High Courts to furnish the requisite information and the assurance be implemented without further delay.</p>
13.	28	USQ No. 2034 dated 02.12.2011	Health and Family Welfare	Irregularities/Scams in Health Related Schemes	<p>The Committee note that CBI has registered their cases in connection with certain irregularities in the implementation of Food and Drugs Capacity Projects under World Bank Assistance. According to the Ministry they have no scope/authority to expedite the matter and also further legal action will take its own course. Further, once charge sheet or a closure report is filed in a court of law in respect of any case, it is not within the competence of the Government to accelerate the speed of its disposal. The Committee are not convinced with the explanation of the Ministry</p>

					and would like them to pursue the matter vigorously with all concerned till its logical conclusion. The Committee would also like to be apprised of the initiatives undertaken by the Ministry to urge CBI to expedite the investigation process.
					May be pursued with CBI vigorously to expedite the investigation in the matter.
14.	29	USQ No. 5632 dated 16.05.2007	Health and Family Welfare	Proposal for Central Legislation in Medical College	<p>The Committee note that a Bill was drafted to regulate fee and admissions in private medical colleges and sought comments from stakeholders. The Bill was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Ministry of Health and Family Welfare which recommended that the Bill may be redrafted on the basis of its recommendations and in consultation with all stakeholders including State Governments. In view of the foregoing, the Committee would like the Ministry to expedite consultation process and redraft the Bill as per the recommendation of the Standing Committee. The Committee would like to be apprised of the progress made in the matter from time to time.</p>
15.	30	SQ No. 352 dated 03.12.2010	Health and Family Welfare	Unapproved Drugs Vaccines	<p>The Committee note that the assurance pertains to 294 Fixed Dosage Combinations related cases pending in the Madras High Court. The Ministry have informed that the matter are effectively being</p>

1	2	3	4	5	6
					pursued in the Court but the same will come to their logical conclusion only on finalisation by the Court. The Committee would like the Ministry to make all efforts to pursue the matter till its logical conclusion.
16.	31	SQ No. 102 dated 29.11.2011	Home Affairs	Circulation of Fake Indian Currency Notes	The Committee note that two cases of Fake Indian Currency Notes were being investigated by NIA. As informed by the Ministry, in one of the case, the trial is in progress and the prosecution witnesses are being examined by the Court and in another case, the case was registered in 2011 and is under trial in NIA Special Court Jammu (J&K). In this context, the Committee would like to reiterate its recommendation that the two cases be brought to their logical conclusion and they may be informed of the progress made in the matter from time to time.
17.	33	USQ No. 3783 dated 20.03.2013	Human Resource Development	National Book Promotion Policy	The Committee note that the draft Report of the Task Force for National Book Promotion Policy was approved by the Central Advisory Board of Education on 7th June 2011. National Book Promotion Council (NBPC) considered the recommendations of the Task Force in the draft Policy on 5.1.2012 and directed the Ministry to

resolve the key issues pertaining to publishing sector after holding consultations with the concerned Ministries/Departments. The key issues are still under consultations with the concerned Ministries/Departments and being a Policy issue will take time to be finalized. The Committee are distressed to note the slow pace of progress in the matter. The Committee, therefore, recommend that concerted and co-ordinated efforts should be made to expedite the process of consultation with all stakeholders and the said Policy be finalized and implemented without any further delay.

The matter may be pursued vigorously and be brought to the logical conclusion.

95

18.	34	USQ No. 5587 dated 07.09.2011	Human Resource Development	Publishing as Small Scale Sector
19.	37	USQ No. 4471 dated 07.09.2012	Civil Aviation	Helicopter Service at Tourist Places

-do-

The Committee note that Pawan Hans in coordination with the State Governments has plans to start helicopter and sea plane services to connect places of tourist interest to promote tourism in these States. The feasibility study at

1	2	3	4	5	6
					Ooty, Rameshwaram, Madurai, Munar, Goa, Agra etc. was conducted and the feasibility report was submitted to the respective State Governments. However, their response is still awaited. The Committee are of the view that the matter is of great public interest. The proposed helicopter and sea plane services will boost the tourism and the economy of the country. The Committee, therefore, would like the Ministry to pursue the matter with State Governments concerned vigorously.
20.	38	USQ No. 3757 dated 17.12.2012	Shipping	Disputes on Mormugao Port Trust	<p>The Committee note that l and related issues remain unresolved between the State Government of Goa and Mormugao Port Trust. A Core Committee under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary, Government of Goa was constituted to resolve the various issues concerning them. The matter is also partly subjudice.</p> <p>The Committee would like that co-ordinated efforts be made by all concerned to resolve the issue expeditiously and amicably.</p>
21.	39	USQ No. 2292 dated 12.08.2011	Panchayati Raj	Women Reservation in Panchayats	The Committee note that the Amendment Bill relating to enhancement of reservation of women in Panchayats from one-third to 50% is pending

and yet to be introduced in Lok Sabha. The Committee consider that the enhancement of women reservation in Panchayats is essential for their empowerment and socio-economic development. The Committee, therefore, reiterate its earlier recommendation given in its 30th Report on 29.08.2013 that the Government should undertake serious measures to introduce pending amendment Bill at the earliest.

The Committee would like to be apprised of the initiatives taken in this regard.

22. 40 USQ No. 5843 dated 08.09.2011 Corporate Investigation of Polyester Affairs Companies by CCI

The Committee note that an information alleging cartelization by Synthetic Fiber Manufacturer Companies was received by the Competition Commission of India (CCI) and the same is under investigation by Director General. In its 30th Report on 29th August, 2013, the Committee recommended that they may be apprised of the present status of the investigation by CCI. As per information furnished by the Ministry, the Commission has preferred Letters Patent Appeal against the order of the High Court that prevents the Commission to proceed against respondents on the report of Director General. The Committee would like to be apprised of the progress in the matter.

APPENDIX XXIV

MINUTES

FIFTH SITTING

MINUTES OF THE SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES (2014-2015) HELD ON 11 DECEMBER, 2014 IN COMMITTEE ROOM 'E', PARLIAMENT HOUSE ANNEXE, NEW DELHI

The Committee sat from 1500 hours to 1600 hours on Thursday, 11 December, 2014.

PRESENT

Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank — *Chairperson*

MEMBERS

2. Shri Naran Bhai Kachhadia
3. Shri Bahadur Singh Koli
4. Shri A. T. Nana Patil
5. Shri C.R. Patil
6. Shri S.R. Vijaya Kumar

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri U.B.S. Negi — *Director*
2. Shri T.S. Rangarajan — *Additional Director*
3. Shri Kulvinder Singh — *Committee Officer*

At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee and apprised them regarding the day's agenda. Thereafter, the Committee considered and adopted the following four draft reports with amendments as given in the Annexure I:—

- (i) Request for dropping of assurances (acceded to).
- (ii) Request for dropping of assurances (not acceded to).
- (iii) Review of pending assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
- (iv) Review of pending assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

2. The Committee then Considered 10 Memoranda (Memo. No. 42 to 52) containing requests received from various Ministries/Departments for dropping of the pending assurances. After in-depth deliberation of the reasons adduced by the

Ministries, the Committee decided to drop 02 assurances as per details given in Annexure-II and to pursue the remaining 08 assurances as per details given in Annexure-III, for implementation by the Ministry/Department concerned.

The Committee then adjourned.

2ND REPORT REGARDING REQUESTS FOR DROPPING OF ASSURANCES (NOT
ACCEDED TO)

i. Para 6 may be added after para 5 on Page 3

"6. Meanwhile, pending assurances given in reply to (i) S.Q. No. 13 dated 08.08.2012, (ii) USQ No. 180 dated 08.08.2012, (iii) USQ No. 216 dated 08.08.2012, (iv) USQ No. 4060 dated 05.09.2012, (v) USQ No. 1841 dated 05.12.2012, (vi) USQ No. 577 dated 27.02.2013 have been implemented by the Ministry of Planning and the Implementation Reports to this effect have also been laid by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs on 10.12.2014."

ii. The following may be added at the end of the Annexure-II "Note: The Implementation Reports of assurances mentioned at Sl. No. 1 Memo No. 2 (except assurance mentioned at (iv) USQ No. 4031 dated 05.09.2012) and assurance mentioned at Sl. No. 2, Memo No. 3 have since been laid on the Table of the House by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs on 10.12.2014".

2. ***	***	***
3. ***	***	***

“All Parliamentary Publications including DRSC Reports are available on sale at the Sales Counter, Reception, Parliament House (Tel. Nos. 23034726, 23034495, 23034496), Agents appointed by Lok Sabha Secretariat and Publications Division, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi (Tel. Nos. 24367260, 24365610) and their outlets. The said information is available on website ‘www.parliamentofindia.nic.in’.

The Souvenir items with logo of Parliament are also available at Sales Counter, Reception, Parliament House, New Delhi. The Souvenir items with Parliament Museum logo are available for sale at Souvenir Shop (Tel. No. 23035323), Parliament Museum, Parliament Library Building, New Delhi. List of these items are available on the website mentioned above.”
