

**The Journal
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NO. 2

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LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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EDITORIAL NOTE

President's Address to the members of Parliament is a significant Parliamentary event. Article 87 (1) of the Constitution provides for President's Address to the members of both the Houses of Parliament assembled together at the commencement of the first session after each General Election to the Lok Sabha and at the commencement of the first session of each year. President's Address is a review of the performance of the Government and its policies. As such, the scope of its discussion is wide as it includes all sorts of national and international issues. Several amendments are moved during the discussion, highlighting different issues and making suggestions for Government action. The discussion for the "Motion of Thanks" is one of the liveliest discussions where members are not only at their best of oratorical skills but also present their highest intellectual level. This year, the President of India, Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil addressed members of both Houses of the Parliament in the Central Hall, at the commencement of the first session of the year, on 22 February 2010. We include the text of the Address in this issue of the *Journal*.

Every year, the North-East Region Branch of Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) organizes a Regional Conference. This year 12th Conference of the North-East Region CPA was held in January 2010 at Shillong, Meghalaya. Inaugurating the Conference on 29 January 2010, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar drew attention on the role of the CPA towards democratic consolidation for promoting the spirit of mutual cooperation and understanding among the member-countries. The Speaker, Lok Sabha lauded the efforts and contribution of the North-East Region CPA in furthering the aims and objectives of the Commonwealth by bringing together the members of the region in regular Conferences and meetings. She observed that such deliberations will help the people of the region in fostering democratic values and mutual understanding so very essential for addressing issues of common interest. We include in this issue the text of the Inaugural Addresses delivered by the Speaker, Lok Sabha at the said Conference.

We also carry in this issue the other regular features, viz. Parliamentary Events and Activities, Procedural Matters, Parliamentary and Constitutional Developments, Documents of Constitutional and Parliamentary Interest,

Sessional Review, Recent Literature of Parliamentary Interest and Appendices.

In our constant pursuit of making the *Journal* more enriching and useful, we always invite and welcome suggestions for its further improvement. We also welcome practice and problem-oriented, non-partisan articles in the field of parliamentary procedures and institutions from members of Parliament and State Legislatures, scholars and all others interested in the field of parliamentary political science.

P.D.T. Achary

—*Editor*

ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT TO PARLIAMENT

The provision for an Address by the Head of State to the Parliament goes back to the year 1921 when the Central Legislature was set up for the first time under the Government of India Act, 1919. Under article 86(1) of the Constitution, the President may address either House of Parliament or both the Houses assembled together, and for that purpose require attendance of members. Article 87(1) provides that at the commencement of the first Session after each General Election to the House of the People and at the commencement of the first Session of each year, the President shall address both the Houses of Parliament assembled together and inform the Parliament of the causes of its summons.

The Address by the President is a statement of policy of the Government. It contains a review of the activities and achievements of the Government during the previous year and sets out the policies which it wishes to pursue with regard to important national and international issues. It also indicates the main items of legislative business which are proposed to be brought before Parliament during the sessions to be held that year.

The President of India, Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil, addressed members of both the Houses of Parliament assembled together in the Central Hall of Parliament House on 22 February 2010.

We reproduce below the text of the Address.

—Editor

Honourable members,

My greetings to you as you assemble here today for the *First Session* of both Houses of Parliament in the new decade. I am confident that all members would dedicate themselves to making this decade a glorious period in our country's march to prosperity and to its rightful place in the comity of nations. A heavy legislative agenda awaits you, which merits your careful attention.

I wish to convey my heartfelt condolences to the families of those who have lost their lives in the recent terrorist act in Pune. Left wing extremists continue to indulge in senseless violence, as in their recent attacks in West Bengal, where a large number of innocent lives have been lost. These cowardly acts strengthen our resolve to meet with added vigour the challenge posed by such violence. My Government has also given a call to left wing extremists to abjure violence and

come for talks. Our plan to strengthen civil administration and bring the fruits of inclusive development to all would continue with determination.

My Government was voted to office with a clear cut mandate to protect and deepen the values of pluralism and secularism, and to ensure rapid growth with justice and fairness for all. Since assuming office in May 2009, my Government has worked single-mindedly to build on the achievements of its earlier term to deliver the promise of faster and more inclusive growth. The *aam aadmi* was and is at the core of this promise; the *aam aadmi* had to be protected against the ravages of the worst ever global economic crisis since the Great Depression and against the failure of the monsoon in large parts of the country in mid-2009.

My Government has combined a caring and sensitive approach in dealing with the immediate economic and social problems, has taken measures to strengthen the nation's security, has proceeded with a desire to accommodate disparate political and regional voices, has sincerely worked towards deepening our federal polity, has vigorously pursued our enlightened national interests in pro-actively engaging with the global community, and has introduced sensitivity in the partnership between the institutions of governance and civil society.

The global economic slowdown was met by strong policies of administering a domestic stimulus to the economy which has yielded handsome results. Economic growth which had slowed to 6.7% in 2008-09 is likely to improve to around 7.5% in 2009-10. At a time when industrialised countries have experienced negative growth, India has continued to grow at an impressive rate.

The unexpected and severe drought posed special challenges in managing the economy in 2009. My Government joined hands with the States to help the farmers in minimizing the impact of this massive adversity. A sum of more than Rs. 4000 crore has so far been allocated from the National Calamity Contingency Fund and the Calamity Relief Fund to the drought affected States. A Diesel Subsidy Scheme was introduced. Funds under Centrally Sponsored Schemes such as the *Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana*, and the National Food Security Mission were permitted to be used to create agricultural infrastructure for facilitating crop specific strategies, to minimize loss in production due to drought. An amendment in the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme was made to allow water conservation works in the fields of small and marginal farmers as well. It was due to these efforts that the fall in food production could be contained to a large extent. Special efforts were made to ensure that *rabi* production was not affected.

While we were able to avert any threat to our food security, there



The President, Smt. Pratibha Devi Singh Patil arriving in procession to address
Members of Parliament on 22nd February 2010

has been an unhappy pressure on the prices of food grains and food products. Higher prices were inevitable given the shortfall in domestic production and prevailing high prices of rice, cereals and edible oils globally. They are also to some extent a reflection of the implementation of our schemes of inclusive growth involving payment of higher procurement prices to our farmers and the impact of higher public spending on programmes of rural development, which have successfully raised incomes in rural areas.

My Government continues to accord the highest importance to ensuring relief to the *aam aadmi* on food prices. Despite a significant increase in the procurement prices of food grains, central issue prices for purposes of public distribution have been kept constant since 2002. The import regime for essential commodities has been liberalized. Government has decided to release 30 lakh tonnes of wheat and rice in the open market over the next two months, and release 5 lakh tonnes of wheat and 2 lakh tonnes of rice through the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation and the National Cooperative Consumers' Federation and their affiliated cooperatives, to benefit consumers at the retail level. Government has also released an additional allocation of 36 lakh tonnes of wheat and rice for distribution to card holders over the months of January and February 2010. This will be available to card holders over and above their normal allocations under the public distribution system. The scheme for subsidy on edible oils and pulses has been continued. State Governments have been advised to ensure effective action at the state level through de-hoarding, and appropriate use of State agencies such as Civil Supplies Corporations for the procurement of non-PDS food articles in bulk. The imports of wheat and refined sugar have been further liberalised. Steps have been taken to strictly check the smuggling of sugar. Government recently convened a meeting of the Chief Ministers and State Ministers of Food and Civil Supplies to discuss issues related to the rise in the prices of food articles and evolve a coordinated strategy. A Core Group consisting of senior Ministers of the Union Government and some Chief Ministers has been constituted to examine a wide range of related policy issues.

Honourable members,

In the longer term, our food security can be ensured only through sustained efforts at increasing agricultural productivity combined with a comprehensive reform of the public distribution system and open market intervention. My Government is committed to bringing forth a legislation to ensure food security.

We now look forward confidently to further improvement in our growth performance in 2010-11. My Government will aim at a growth

rate above 8% in 2010-11 and seek to achieve 9% growth in 2011-12. We will concentrate on infrastructure development, agriculture and rural development, education and health and ensure that the growth process is adequately sensitive to the concerns and well being of the weaker sections of society. We will work to create an environment which encourages investments, including in Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises.

My Government has taken several new measures to strengthen the security apparatus of the country to equip it to meet the grave challenge posed by terrorism. These include strengthening of the State and district police machinery and Central Para-Military Forces, operationalization of the National Investigation Agency, establishment of four National Security Guard hubs to ensure quick and effective response to any possible terror attack, augmentation of the strength of the Intelligence Bureau, strengthening of the Multi-Agency Centre in the intelligence Bureau to enable it to function on a round-the-clock basis, and strengthening of coastal security.

Government remains vigilant against all forms of challenges posed by terrorism. Zero tolerance of terrorist activities is our principled policy. We have to keep constant watch and innovate against global terrorist groups.

The overall internal security, law and order and the communal situation remained largely under control during 2009. Infiltration of terrorists from across the line of control in Jammu and Kashmir has gone up. Even then, the security situation has improved significantly in Jammu and Kashmir as well as in the North East, but left wing extremism continues to be a significant cause of concern.

The Nation is proud of our armed forces. They have distinguished themselves in preserving the country's unity and territorial integrity and in defending our borders. Government is fully committed to the modernization of the armed forces. We will accord the highest priority to modernisation programmes to equip our armed forces with the required weaponry, equipment and platforms. The successful launch of the *Agni-III* missile is a shining example of the capabilities of our scientists and engineers who deserve full praise. Efforts to enhance our technological self-reliance received a new impetus with the commencement of the handing over of the main battle tank, *Arjun*, to the Indian Army.

My Government is committed to the welfare of servicemen and ex-servicemen. An Armed Forces Tribunal has been established for adjudication of complaints and disputes regarding service matters and other appeals. The recommendations regarding substantial improvements in the pensionary benefits of personnel below officers rank and commissioned officers have been accepted.

Honourable members,

My Government firmly believes that the time has come to focus on ensuring that the processes of governance are sensitized, administrative instruments sharpened, and that the benefits of welfare programmes reach the *aam aadmi*. This commitment to canons of good governance must guide the massive slew of rural and urban reconstruction initiatives under *Bharat Nirman*, and other schemes for ensuring inclusive growth and social protection.

The pace of implementation of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act has picked up considerably. During 2009-10, so far, 4.33 crore households have been provided employment and 203 crore person-days were generated. This scheme has benefited the marginalised sections, with the participation rate of Scheduled Castes and Tribes being about 52%. Participation of women has also been encouraging at around 49%. The scheme has also resulted in an upward revision of rural wages.

My Government remains committed to completing the remaining tasks of *Bharat Nirman* in its second phase.

Under the rural housing component, during 2009-10, upto last December, 14 lakh houses have been constructed. Under the rural roads component, up to November 2009, connectivity has been provided to nearly 34 thousand villages through the construction of 96 thousand kilometers of roads. Under the rural water supply component, of the remaining 627 uncovered habitations, 586 have been taken up in 2009-10. Of the 1.79 lakh quality-affected habitations, about 35 thousand have been taken up in 2009-10. Under the irrigation component, which began in 2005-06, creation of irrigation potential of one crore hectares is targeted by 2011-12. As on 31 December 2009, coverage of more than 70 lakh hectares has been achieved.

The *Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana* has resulted in the electrification of more than 67 thousand villages. Free electricity connections have been provided to nearly 84 lakh below poverty line households. Steps have been initiated to achieve rural tele-density of 40% by 2014.

The urban sector of our country poses a challenge and presents an opportunity too. The Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission was launched in 2005 to address this challenge and harness the opportunity. Under the mission, projects worth over Rs. One lakh crore have been approved for urban development and welfare of the urban poor.

Urban housing and slums continue to demand our attention. Government is working on the ambitious *Rajiv Awas Yojana* to assist States that

are willing to assign property rights to people living in slums. This programme will strive to create a formal space for slum dwellers within our cities and transform and redevelop these cities to make them slum-free.

The Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) sector is vital for sustained and inclusive growth. Government will take necessary steps to expeditiously implement the recommendations of the Task Force on MSMEs. These include improved credit access, development of infrastructure, strengthening of the District Industries Centres, improved raw material supply, facilitating of product marketing, and institutional reforms.

Honourable members,

My Government subscribes to the idea of a balanced approach to national development, with special attention to our border States.

The Prime Minister's reconstruction plan for Jammu and Kashmir has been working well. Roads, colleges, Industrial Training Institutes, and *Anganwadi* centres have been taken up on an urgent basis under this initiative. An additional 500 megawatts of power has been provided to the State during the winter months.

My Government remains committed to the rapid development of infrastructure in the North-Eastern States. The Special Accelerated Road Development Programme covering almost 10,000 kilometers is in progress. This project will provide minimum two-lane national highway link to all the State capitals, and to each district in these States. This includes over 1600 kilometers long Trans-Arunachal Highway. A special programme to provide home lighting systems to all the border villages of Arunachal Pradesh is at an advanced stage of implementation.

Honourable members,

It is imperative that as our economy grows apace, the disadvantaged sections of society be made part of the Indian success story.

Under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, nearly seven lakh titles have been distributed so far. Further efforts will be made, in conjunction with State Governments, to ensure early disposal of the remaining claims.

Government has developed a comprehensive roadmap for the development of minority communities. Credit flows to the minority communities have risen to Rs. 82000 crore in 2008-09, which exceeds 12% of the total priority sector lending. Recruitment of minorities to posts under the Central Government has gone up steadily. In fresh recruitments, minority representation has increased from 7% in 2006-07 to more than 9% in 2008-09.

The Multi-sectoral Development Programme for minority concentration districts has started off well. The three scholarship schemes started in 2007-08 have received an overwhelming response. The number of scholarships awarded has gone up to nearly 15 lakh. Girls constitute a very significant proportion of the awardees.

My Government will bring a proposal to amend the *Waqf Act* during this Session of Parliament.

Our unity and social harmony is the best answer to the terrorists and their divisive designs. Hence, Government is committed deeply to protecting our social fabric and to that end, it proposes to move for the early passage of the Communal Violence (Prevention, Control and Rehabilitation of Victims) Bill, 2005, in this Session of Parliament.

My Government is committed to ensuring early passage of the Women's Reservation Bill which was introduced in the Rajya Sabha in May 2008. Honourable members, I would urge you to accord special attention to this critical proposal.

Two bills for constitutional amendment to provide 50% reservation for women in *Panchayats* and urban local bodies have already been introduced and it is hoped that these can be passed during this session.

The National Youth Corps Scheme has been introduced to enable young men and women between the age group of 25 to 35 years, to serve two years in nation-building activities. In the first phase 20 thousand volunteers would be deployed and they would be utilized in several creative social activities like cleaning the Dal lake in Jammu and Kashmir.

Honourable members,

Investment in education is critical for accelerated inclusive growth. Government has made substantial investments in primary education through the *Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan* and the Midday Meal Programme, and is moving towards universalization of education at the secondary level with the new *Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan*. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 has been notified to be effective from 1 April 2010. A scheme to assist State Governments in setting up 373 model colleges in educationally backward districts has been approved. A National Mission for Education through Information and Communication Technology has been launched to provide broadband internet connectivity to around 18,000 colleges and 400 universities in the country. A scheme to provide interest subsidy on educational loans taken by students from economically weak families has also been launched. A new campaign called "*Sakshar Bharat*", with special focus on female literacy, has been started.

Honourable members,

My Government is committed to bringing about a paradigm shift in our education infrastructure based on the three pillars of expansion, inclusion and excellence. A National Council for Higher Education and Research will soon be established as an overarching body to regulate higher education and research in India. Government is endeavouring to bring forward an appropriate legislation for facilitating the participation of globally renowned and quality academic institutions in our higher education sector, and for bringing in foreign education providers for vocational training and skill development.

For providing the common man an opportunity to share in the growth of the central public sector enterprises, Government has decided to list profitable companies on the stock exchanges through a public offer of at least 10% of the equity.

My Government has taken several steps to meet the challenge of climate change. The National Action Plan on Climate Change is being operationalised. The Jawahar Lal Nehru National Solar Mission has been launched with an ambitious target of 20 thousand megawatts of solar power by 2022.

A mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency has been approved, and it is expected to work towards saving of 10 thousand megawatts of electricity by the end of the Eleventh Plan.

To ensure expeditious and effective disposal of civil cases relating to environmental protection and conservation of forests, a National Green Tribunal Bill, 2009 has been introduced.

The economy remains critically dependent on oil and gas. After the near stagnation in production for about a decade, the year 2009-10 is set to register a major increase, with 20 new oil discoveries.

My Government is committed to give the *aam aadmi* maximum access to gas and petroleum products. A new scheme of rural LPG distribution namely, '*Rajiv Gandhi Gramin LPG Vitarak Yojana*' has been launched.

With a view to meeting the objective of 'Power to All' by 2012, as stated in the National Electricity Policy, a special effort has been made to encourage expansion in electricity generation capacity. As a result, during the Eleventh Five Year Plan we expect to add more than three times the capacity that was added in the Tenth Plan.

My Government has announced a quantum jump in the pace of developing National Highways to reach 20 kilometers a day. Several policy initiatives have been taken to create an enabling environment. There is a fresh momentum in the development of National Highways.

The Civil Aviation sector could not remain unaffected by the global slowdown. Our national carrier, Air India, was particularly badly hit. Steps are being taken for its early rehabilitation under the careful guidance of a Group of Ministers.

The expansion and modernization of airports, especially the four metro airports, are progressing well. The Delhi airport project would be fully operational by July, 2010, well in time for the Commonwealth Games. The Airports Economic Regulatory Authority has been established to discharge regulatory functions in the airport sector.

My Government has been implementing the National Maritime Development Programme which envisages an investment of over Rupees one lakh crore, including private investment, on identified projects in the port and shipping sectors. The Indian Maritime University has now become fully functional with campuses in Chennai, Mumbai, Kolkata, Visakhapatnam and Kochi.

The Indian Railways knit this vast country together. My Government is committed to fulfilling a substantial expansion in capacity and modernisation of railway technology and to increasing the speed of both passenger and freight trains, while improving safety.

Train services have commenced in the entire Kashmir Valley, from Qazigund to Baramulla, demonstrating the commitment of my Government to the development of all corners of our country. A special North East Rail Development Fund has been created, to provide assured financing for nine major national projects in the North Eastern region.

The Indian Railways have also commenced work on the ambitious Dedicated Freight Corridors on the Eastern and Western trunk routes. This project would help drive India's growth.

Government, in partnership with the Government of Japan, has moved ahead on implementing the ambitious Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor project. This challenging initiative, embracing six States, will provide impetus to industrial development in an environmentally sustainable manner, by providing quality infrastructure, efficient transportation, reliable energy supplies and efficient logistics.

My Government is committed to the goal of extending the benefits of modern communication facilities to rural areas. Financial support is provided from Universal Service Obligation Fund to provide infrastructure for rural connectivity. My Government has already initiated action to set up 10 thousand towers in 2010-11 for connecting remote areas across the country. As against the target of 60 crore telephone connections by 2012, the achievement already exceeds 57 crore, with an unprecedented addition of nearly 2 crore connections in the month of December 2009 itself.

Mission Clean Ganga, under the aegis of the National Ganga River Basin Authority is expected to ensure that by the year 2020, no untreated municipal sewage and industrial effluents flow into the Ganga. This task, to ensure both *nirmal dhara* and *aviral dhara*, would involve collective and coordinated efforts of the Centre and the States concerned.

Honourable members,

In the inclusive society that we aspire for, people must have confidence and access to a fair system of justice. Government has decided to set up a National Mission for the Delivery of Justice and Legal Reforms aimed at transforming the Government into a responsible and cautious litigant, introducing judicial management, leveraging information and communication technology to improve court administration and case management and reducing pendency of arrears.

Our quest for good health for all remains a national challenge. The National Rural Health Mission has stimulated creation of public healthcare infrastructure. To correspondingly augment the availability of human resources, many measures like establishment of more medical, nursing and para-medical institutions in under-served areas, creation of additional seats for specialists and super-specialists, and incentivising service by doctors in rural areas, have been initiated. Early indications reflect the positive impact of this mission.

My Government responded with alacrity to the Influenza A H1N1 pandemic. More than one crore inbound passengers were screened at international airports. New H1N1 testing laboratories were set-up, two crore doses of drugs were distributed to States free of cost, and 15 lakh doses of vaccines have been imported for health workers. For the first time in our country an indigenous Influenza A H1N1 vaccine is being developed which will be available this year.

My Government has undertaken a number of steps to unearth unaccounted money parked outside India. These include amendment of the Income-tax Act, 1961 to enable the Central Government to enter into tax agreements with non-sovereign jurisdictions. Steps have already been initiated for negotiations for entering into Agreements for the Exchange of Information with major jurisdictions. Renegotiation of the Tax Treaty with Switzerland is in process. India is an active part of the global efforts to facilitate exchange of tax information, and to take action against tax evasion.

Access to news and entertainment must be made affordable and Universal. To this end, in addition to notifying guidelines for providing Headend in the Sky services, the digitalization of both All India Radio and *Doordarshan* is on the anvil. The Commonwealth Games 2010 will

be covered in High Definition format by *Doordarshan* for the first time. We also take pride that Indian films and music compositions have got international acclaim and recognition for our artists.

The Unique Identification Authority of India has been established with a mandate to issue unique identity numbers based on biometrics to all residents of India. This mammoth and unprecedented exercise will serve as a great enabler to improve targeting and delivery of major government welfare programmes and public services, especially to those who are poor and marginalized. The first set of unique identity numbers is expected to be issued in the early part of 2011.

A Delivery Monitoring Unit (DMU) has been established in the Prime Minister's Office to review a select number of flagship programmes and other initiatives. The nodal ministries concerned have begun publishing DMU reports on their websites on a quarterly basis, to keep the nation informed of their progress.

Government is committed to creating an innovation strategy for the Government, industry, entrepreneurs, technologists and academicians with a focus on inclusive growth and appropriate eco-system necessary to bring about generational change in our approach to development.

The country is hosting the prestigious 19th Commonwealth Games in October 2010. Preparations for the event are at an advanced stage. Every effort will be made to ensure a befitting and successful conduct of the Games.

Honourable members,

We have played our role in global affairs with responsibility and in the pursuit of peace, stability and progress in our region and beyond. Government will continue its active engagement with the world based upon the principles laid down by our founding fathers, and with the objective of furthering our goals of rapid and inclusive economic development and poverty alleviation in an increasingly interdependent world.

The visits to India by the King of Bhutan and the Prime Minister of Bhutan, the Prime Minister of Bangladesh, the President of Maldives, and the President and the Prime Minister of Nepal have given new content to our traditional ties of friendship with neighbouring countries. Following the elections in Sri Lanka, we will continue to work with the Government to enhance our partnership. India will contribute to the humanitarian and rehabilitation efforts for the Tamil minority and long term re-construction in conflict-affected areas. India's assistance to the reconstruction efforts in Afghanistan witnessed important milestones and we will continue to partner Afghanistan in its development efforts. India is ready to explore a meaningful relationship with Pakistan if

Pakistan seriously addresses the threat of terrorism and takes effective steps to prevent terrorist activities against India.

Our relations with the major powers have been further consolidated. The Prime Minister's visit to the USA laid the framework for the further expansion of the India-US partnership at the bilateral, regional and global level. My visit to Russia and the visit by the Prime Minister have renewed our time-tested friendship and opened new areas of cooperation. The 10th India-European Union Summit held in New Delhi was a milestone in our widening partnership with Europe. Our Strategic and Cooperative Partnership with China progressively acquired greater regional and global content. The visit of the Prime Minister of Japan underlined our mutual desire to accelerate our cooperation in all areas. The Prime Minister attended the first ever stand-alone summit of the Brazil, Russia, India and China (BRIC) countries.

My Government pursued its 'Look East' policy with vigour. The President of the Republic of Korea was our honoured Chief Guest at the Republic Day celebrations. Government hosted the President of Mongolia, and the Prime Ministers of Australia and Malaysia. The signing of the India-ASEAN Free Trade Agreement and the launching of several new initiatives within the India-ASEAN framework and the East Asia Summit process will further integrate India into the Asia-Pacific region.

My visit to Tajikistan, and the Prime Minister's presence for the first time at the Summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation were a reflection of Government's policy to strengthen the bridges of friendship and understanding with Central Asia. Relations with Turkey were strengthened following the visit of the President of Turkey.

The Prime Minister's participation in the Non-aligned Summit in Egypt further consolidated our relations with the developing world. We will continue to accord special attention to the countries of the Gulf and West Asia. India's steadfast support to the Palestinian cause was reiterated during the visit of the President of the Palestinian National Authority. The visit of the President of Namibia, and the visit by our Vice President to Botswana, Malawi, and Zambia carried forward our deepening engagement with the continent of Africa. We will build upon our steadily expanding cooperation with Latin America.

India's views on global challenges such as terrorism, energy and food security, climate change and the international financial and economic crisis were unambiguously articulated at the appropriate fora. The issue of reform of institutions of global governance was brought to the fore of the international agenda. India's voice was heard with respect in the G-20 process, the G-8 plus G-5 Summit, and the Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen.

We can take justifiable pride in the contributions made by the overseas Indian community in all walks of life across the globe which have earned them high respect. The first meeting of the Prime Minister's Global Advisory Council of Overseas Indians was held this year. Government will work towards giving Indian citizens living abroad the opportunity to vote by the time of the next regular general elections. We are committed to the security and welfare of the Indian diaspora. An Indian Community Welfare Fund has been established.

As part of the ambitious expansion of the country's nuclear energy programme, approval was accorded for the construction of additional Pressurised Heavy Water Reactor and sites for setting up Light Water Reactors. Following the availability of imported fuel as a result of the opening of international civil nuclear cooperation, commercial production has commenced in two units of the Rajasthan Atomic Power Project, and one more unit is expected to begin commercial production soon. New agreements for cooperation in the field of civil nuclear energy were concluded with Russia, Mongolia, Namibia, Argentina and the United Kingdom, while others are under negotiation.

The space programme continued to provide societal services to the Nation in the areas of tele-medicine, tele-education and village resource centres. The Oceansat-2 satellite was successfully launched on board the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle. The flight test of the GSLV-D3 launch vehicle with indigenous cryogenic stage, and the launch of the Cartosat-2B, INSAT -3D and Resourcesat-2 satellites are planned in the near future. The GSLV-Mark III launch vehicle will be further developed and activities towards the *Chandrayaan-2* Mission will be initiated.

Honourable members,

Our country stands at a historic turning point. Never before were we so close as we are today to realizing our national aspirations as envisioned by our founding fathers and spelt out by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in this very hall on the midnight of 14th August 1947:

"The service of India means the service of the millions who suffer. It means ending poverty and ignorance and disease and inequality of opportunity."

We have taken decisive strides towards reaching these goals. Still, much remains to be done. The road is long, but our journey is in progress. Let us march together with confidence to a new, bright future.

Jai Hind

**INAUGURAL ADDRESS AT THE TWELFTH
NORTH-EAST REGION COMMONWEALTH
PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION (NERCPA)
CONFERENCE, SHILLONG, 28-31 JANUARY 2010**

On 29 January 2010, Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar delivered the inaugural Address at the Twelfth North-East Region Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (NERCPA) Conference in Shillong, Meghalaya.

We reproduce the text of the Address delivered by the Honourable Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar.

—Editor

Honourable Chief Minister, Meghalaya; Honourable Speaker of Meghalaya and Honourable Speaker of the other Legislative Assemblies of the Region, Honourable Ministers; Honourable Members of the Assembly; Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am delighted to be here with you today (29 January 2010) and to have the opportunity to associate myself with the 12th Conference of the North-East Region Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA). I extend my congratulations to the CPA North-East Region Branch for organizing this important Conference every year. It is all the more significant that Meghalaya, one of the most beautiful States of our country, is hosting the Conference this year since my illustrious predecessor in the Office of the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri P.A. Sangma who is a distinguished son of this State, had initiated the discussions for the establishment of Regional Commonwealth Parliamentary Association for the North Eastern States in 1996 at a Conference of Presiding Officers at Dispur.

Over the years, the CPA has emerged as a custodian of parliamentary democracy, making remarkable contributions towards democratic consolidation through its member-parliaments. Its endeavours for promoting the spirit of mutual cooperation and understanding among member-countries, for setting benchmarks for good governance and for building peace and bridges of understanding among people and parliamentarians of the Commonwealth, belonging to diverse racial, religious, ethnic, linguistic and cultural groups, are indeed commendable. I am happy that the North-East Region CPA has been contributing



Honourable Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar delivering the Inaugural Address at the Twelfth North-East Region Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (NERCPA) Conference, Meghalaya, 28-31 January 2010

greatly in furthering the aims and objectives of the Association by bringing together the members of the region in regular Conferences and meetings. Such deliberations, no doubt, will help the people of the region in fostering democratic values and mutual understanding so very essential for addressing issues of common interest.

Friends, this region occupies a unique and distinctive position in the socio-cultural and geo-political landscape of the country. Wide ethnic, religious and cultural diversities exist in the North-East region which are reflected in the fact that over 200 tribes inhabit this region and speak approximately a hundred different languages and dialects. It is the existence of such wide variety and distinctiveness that adds colour to our national panorama. Yet cutting across these diversities is the strong undercurrent of unity that binds India. Surrounded by five countries, the region is extremely important to the territorial integrity of our nation. It is in recognition of this strategic significance and the special characteristics of its people and their cultures that the framers of our Constitution thought it fit to incorporate special provisions in the Constitution to take care of the specific requirements of the people of this region.

Endowed as it is with natural resources ranging from mineral wealth to water resources to forests and favourable agro-climatic conditions, the North-East Region holds tremendous prospects for socio-economic development. It has great potential for the development of tourism. In spite of many obstacles and problems, the region has registered impressive performance in certain socio-economic indices such as higher literacy rates and a greater women's work participation rate than the all-India average. The high social status accorded to women is yet another distinctive feature of the region and this is quite reassuring in contrast to the position given to women in many other parts of our country.

However, despite the existence of rich natural resources and enormous potential for growth, it is a stark reality that the Northeast is grappling with multifarious problems of underdevelopment, unemployment, backwardness and insurgency. Throughout its post-Independence history, most States in the region have been badly affected by the problem of insurgency in one way or the other—the adverse impact on the overall development of the region varying only in degrees between States in the area.

The per capita gross State domestic product of the region is significantly less than the rest of the country. Similarly, the region's share of road and rail networks as well as energy consumption is also below the national average. While literacy rate is higher than the national average, this has not transformed into a high rate of employment due to lack of economic development and industrial activities in the

region. There are various factors responsible for this, it is the responsibility of the States in the region as well as the nation as a whole to address these developmental challenges. It is crystal clear that the region needs peace before it can realize its full potential and catch up with the rest of the country. We must be able to guarantee security of life and property to the people and create an environment that is conducive to investment, both public and private.

The Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs, in their 36th report, focusing on the problem of insurgency in the North-East, presented to Parliament on 26 February 1997, had emphasized the need for a two-pronged strategy for the region, dealing with insurgency on one hand and working for development on the other. The Committee recognized that the problem of insurgency in the region is a national problem and as such needs to be tackled accordingly, demonstrating the willingness to make the necessary sacrifices by the entire country.

Lack of proper air, rail and road network, which has made most places in the region inaccessible, has distanced the people of the region from the national mainstream. Only through concerted developmental efforts can this situation be addressed effectively. This has been duly recognized by the different governments at the national level in recent years. Today, special emphasis is laid in national planning on the overall development of the region. Various laudable schemes are in place already. Everyone involved needs to demonstrate a high degree of commitment to realise the objectives of those schemes at the earliest. The Standing Committee, in its Report on the Demand for Grants for the Ministry of Development of the North-East Region for the year 2008-09, had drawn our attention to the fact that as many as 233 projects are lagging behind the schedule due to the delays in the utilization of funds and the limited working seasons. The projects for the region should be pursued within a stricter time-frame.

We need to take initiatives to bring back those influenced by the cult of violence, into the mainstream of our society. Everyone involved has to realize that violence and democracy cannot co-exist. Movements which are instrumental in depriving ordinary citizens of their fundamental right to life and liberty and undermining development cannot claim any place in a democratic society. What this region needs today, more than anything else, is the right atmosphere for development. Unless everyone discards violence as a means for achieving political objectives, no developmental initiatives will produce the desired results.

Durable peace and prosperity can be brought about in the region only when people actively participate in the decision-making process. We, therefore, need to create conditions for the increased participation of the people in the developmental process. There is a need to

empower and energize the various institutions of local self-government like the village *panchayats*, village councils and the village development boards so as to promote peace and achieve equitable and inclusive growth. The people's representatives at all levels have to ensure that conditions conducive for accountable, transparent, responsible and responsive governance, eliminating any scope for corruption and mismanagement are created across the region.

As many of you are aware, the Central Government has been committing large amount of resources by way of special economic and developmental packages for the region. It is for the States of the region to keep an unremitting vigil over various programmes and to ensure that the available funds are spent prudently and in the best interest of the people. We sincerely hope that the time is not far when we will see a rejuvenated and confident North-East ready to play its legitimate role in national affairs. This is necessary for democratic consolidation in the region, for national integration and for peace and prosperity of the people.

With these words, I have great pleasure in inaugurating the 12th Conference of the North-East Region Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. I am sure that the Conference will have very fruitful deliberations and help in further strengthening parliamentary democracy.

Thank you.

PARLIAMENTARY EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA

The 20th Conference of Speakers and Presiding Officers of Commonwealth (CSPOC), New Delhi: The Parliament of India hosted the 20th Conference of Speakers and Presiding Officers of Commonwealth (CSPOC) in New Delhi from 4 to 8 January, 2010. Smt. Meira Kumar, Speaker, Lok Sabha was the *Ex Officio* Chairperson of the Conference.

Dr. Manmohan Singh, Prime Minister of India inaugurated the Conference on 5 January 2010 at the Plenary Hall, Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. A Commemorative stamp was released on this occasion by the Prime Minister. Shri A. Raja, Minister of Communications and Information Technology, Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Leader of the Opposition, Lok Sabha, and Shri L.K. Advani, MP were also present at the inaugural ceremony.

The Conference was attended by approximately 250 dignitaries including Speakers, Presiding Officers, members of Parliament and spouses, accompanying persons, etc. from the various Commonwealth countries, including the State Legislatures of the Republic of India.

The following topics were discussed at Workshops during the Conference:

- The Speaker's Role as a Mediator;
- The Use of Technology in the Parliamentary Context;
- The Role of Speaker in the Administration of Parliament.

A Post-Conference Tour to the historic city of Agra, Uttar Pradesh was organised for the Delegates and other guests on 7 January 2010.

The CPA Regional Workshop on 'Benchmarks for Democratic Parliaments for the Asia, India and South East Asia Regions', Dhaka, Bangladesh: The CPA Regional Workshop on 'Benchmarks for Democratic Parliaments for the Asia, India and South-East Asia Regions' was held at Dhaka, Bangladesh from 25 to 29 January 2010. The Indian Delegation was represented by Shri Omprakash Yadav, and Dr. Prabhaben Kishore Taviad, both members of Parliament from Lok Sabha.



Group photograph of the dignitaries attending the 20th Conference of the Speakers and Presiding Officers of the Commonwealth. Also seen in the photograph are Prime Minister of India, Dr. Manmohan Singh; Lok Sabha Speaker Smt. Meira Kumar; Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha Shri K. Rahman Khan; and the Secretaries-General of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha



Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar addressing the delegates at the Inaugural Ceremony of the 20th Conference of Speakers and Presiding Officers of the Commonwealth. Also present on the dais are Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh; Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K. Rahman Khan; and Minister of Communications and Information Technology, Shri A. Raja



Lok Sabha Speaker Smt. Meira Kumar inaugurating the 74th Conference of Presiding Officers of Legislative Bodies in India, held at Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh on 3rd February 2010

The following topics were discussed at the Workshop:

- General Elections, Candidate Eligibility, Incompatibility of Office, Immunity, Remuneration and Benefits, Resignation and Infrastructure;
- Procedure and Sessions and Committees;
- Political Parties, Party Groups and Cross Party Groups;
- Parliamentary Staff;
- Conclusions and Adoption of Asia Regional Benchmarks for Democratic Parliaments' Legislative, Oversight and Representational Function;
- Accessibility and Ethical Governance;
- Recommendations.

The 12th Annual Conference of North-East Region Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (NERCPA), Shillong, Meghalaya: The Twelfth Annual Conference of North-East Region, Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) was held at Shillong, Meghalaya from 28 to 31 January 2010. Smt. Meira Kumar, Speaker, Lok Sabha inaugurated the said Conference in her capacity as Patron of the NERCPA and Chief Guest of the Conference. Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha also delivered Inaugural Address on the occasion.

The Conference deliberated on the topic, "The Impact of Insurgency activities in the North-East India on Socio-Economic Development and its solution thereof".

A Post Conference tour to Sohra (Cherrapunjee) was organized by the Meghalaya CPA Branch.

International Parliamentary Conference on 'Peace Building: Tackling State Fragility', London: The United Kingdom CPA Branch hosted the International Parliamentary Conference on 'Peace Building: Tackling State Fragility' in London from 31 January to 6 February 2010.

The Indian Delegation was represented by Shri Raj Babbar, member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) and Shri Alexio Reginaldo Lourenco, member of Goa Legislative Assembly.

The following topics were discussed:

- Peace-building Strategies Across Borders;
- Revitalising Economies and Human Security;

- Improving Access To Justice;
- Rebuilding Citizen-State Relations.

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) Regional Secretaries Meeting, London: A meeting of the Regional Secretaries of Commonwealth Parliamentary Association was held on 5 March 2010 in London.

The 59th Westminster Seminar on Practice and Procedure, London: The United Kingdom Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) Branch hosted the above mentioned Seminar from 7 to 9 March 2010 at House of Parliament, London.

Shri Jagdish Narain Rai, Minister of Textile and Sericulture Industry, Government of Uttar Pradesh; Shri Devi Singh Bhati, MLA, Rajasthan Vidhan Sabha; and Shri Pradeep Kumar Dubey, Principal Secretary, Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly attended the Seminar.

The 122nd Assembly of Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), Bangkok: The meeting of the 122nd Assembly of Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) was held in Bangkok, Thailand from 27 March to 1 April 2010. An Indian Parliamentary Delegation led by Smt. Meira Kumar, Speaker, Lok Sabha attended the meeting. Other members of the Delegation were Shri K. Rahman Khan, Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha; Shri S.S. Ahluwalia, MP (Rajya Sabha); Kunwar Rewati Raman Singh, MP (Lok Sabha); Smt. Yashodhara Raje Scindia, MP (Lok Sabha); Shri Jesudasu Seelam, MP (Rajya Sabha); Shri Mohammed Azharuddin, MP (Lok Sabha); Dr. Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar, MP (Lok Sabha); Shri P.D.T. Achary, Secretary-General, Lok Sabha and Association of Secretaries-General of Parliaments (ASGP) Executive Committee member; Shri V.K. Agnihotri, Secretary-General, Rajya Sabha and member ASGP; and Shri Amitabh Mukhopadhyay, Joint Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat (Secretary to the Delegation). During the Assembly and related meetings, the following subjects were discussed:

- ❖ General debate on the political, economic and social situation in the world with the overall theme of Parliament at the heart of political reconciliation and good governance;
- ❖ Cooperation and shared responsibility in the global fight against organized crime, in particular, drug trafficking, illegal arms sales, human trafficking and cross-border terrorism (First Standing Committee on Peace and International Security);
- ❖ The role of Parliaments in developing South-South and

Triangular Cooperation with a view to accelerating achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (Second Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade);

- ❖ Youth participation in the democratic process (Third Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights);
- ❖ Emergency item on “The role of Parliaments in strengthening the solidarity of the international community towards the people of Haiti and Chile in the wake of devastating major disasters, and urgent actions required in all disaster-prone countries to improve disaster-risk assessment, prevention and mitigation”.

The Assembly approved the following items for the 124th Assembly of Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) to be held in Panama City, Panama from 15 to 20 April 2011:

- First Standing Committee: *Providing a sound legislative framework aimed at preventing electoral violence, improving election monitoring and ensuring the smooth transition of power;*
- Second Standing Committee: *The role of Parliaments in ensuring sustainable development through the management of natural resources, agricultural production and demographic change; and*
- Third Standing Committee: *Transparency and accountability in the funding of political parties and election campaigns.*

The Speaker, Lok Sabha, is the Chairperson of Asia Pacific Geo-Political Group (APG) of IPU. Meetings of the APG were convened by the India Group on 27 March and 1 April 2010.

Shri P.D.T. Achary, Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, attended the Executive Committee meeting of ASGP. He also attended the Meetings of the ASGP held on the sidelines of the Assembly and made a presentation on *Independence of Parliament Secretariat* at the ASGP meeting.

First Contact Group Meeting of the Parliamentarians for Education, New Delhi: The First Contact Group Meeting of the Parliamentarians for Education in the UNESCO New Delhi Cluster countries of India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka was held in New Delhi on 24 and 25 March 2010. Dr. Karan Singh, MP (Rajya Sabha); Shri J.P. Agarwal, MP (Lok Sabha); and Shri Harin Pathak, MP (Lok Sabha) participated in the meeting.

The 74th Conference of Presiding Officers of Legislative Bodies in India, Bhopal: The 74th Conference of Presiding Officers of Legislative Bodies in India was held at the Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha in Bhopal on 3 and 4 February 2010. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar, inaugurated the Conference. The Speaker, Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha, Shri Ishwardas Rohani, delivered the Welcome Address at the inaugural function. The Conference was presided over by Smt. Meira Kumar, Speaker, Lok Sabha and Chairman of the Conference. Shri Ishwardas Rohani, Speaker, Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha was elected as Co-Chairman of the Conference. The Conference was attended by almost all the Presiding Officers of the Legislative Bodies in India.

The following items on agenda were discussed at the Conference:

- Self-assessment by Legislature for enhancing its Relevance;
- Creation of smaller States—A National Perspective;
- The Role of Speaker in the administration of Legislature.

During the Conference, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, inaugurated two Exhibitions *viz. Democracy in India: From Past to Present*, organized by the Parliamentary Museum and Archives (PMA) Division of the Lok Sabha Secretariat in collaboration with the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP); and *Development of the State*, organized by the Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha Secretariat.

Symposium on Urgency in Addressing the Needs of Environment and Conservation of Wild Life: The Conference of Presiding Officers of Legislative Bodies in India was followed by a Symposium on *Urgency in Addressing the Needs of Environment and Conservation of Wild Life*. The Symposium was inaugurated by the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar, presided over the symposium and delivered the Opening Address. Shri Ishwardas Rohani, Speaker, Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha delivered the Welcome Address. The Presiding Officers of Legislative Bodies in India, members of Parliament from Madhya Pradesh and members of the Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha participated in the symposium.

The 52nd Conference of Secretaries: Prior to the Conference of Presiding Officers of Legislative Bodies in India, the 52nd Conference of Secretaries was held on 2 February 2010. Dr. A.K. Payasi, Principal Secretary, Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha delivered the Welcome

Address. The Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, Shri P.D.T. Achary, delivered the Inaugural Address. The Secretary-General, Rajya Sabha, Dr. V.K. Agnihotri, also addressed the Conference. The Principal Secretaries, Secretaries of almost all the State and Union Territory Legislatures attended the Conference.

BIRTH ANNIVERSARIES OF NATIONAL LEADERS

On the birth anniversaries of national leaders whose portraits adorn the Central Hall of Parliament House, functions are organised under the auspices of the Indian Parliamentary Group (IPG) to pay tributes to the leaders. Booklets containing the profiles of these leaders, prepared by the Library and Reference, Research, Documentation and Information Service (LARRDIS) of the Lok Sabha Secretariat, are brought out on the occasion.

The birth anniversaries of the following leaders were celebrated during the period 1 January to 31 March 2010:

Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, a function was held on 23 January 2010 in the Central Hall of Parliament House. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar; the Leader of the House in the Lok Sabha and Union Minister of Finance, Shri Pranab Mukherjee; the Chairman of the BJP Parliamentary Party, Shri L.K. Advani; Union Ministers; members of Parliament and former members of Parliament paid floral tributes to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

Lala Lajpat Rai: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Lala Lajpat Rai, a function was held on 28 January 2010 in the Central Hall of Parliament House. The Leader of the House in the Lok Sabha and Union Minister of Finance, Shri Pranab Mukherjee; the Chairman of the BJP Parliamentary Party, Shri L.K. Advani; Union Ministers; members of Parliament; and former members of Parliament paid floral tributes to Lala Lajpat Rai.

Smt. Sarojini Naidu: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Smt. Sarojini Naidu, a function was held on 13 February 2010 in the Central Hall of Parliament House. The Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Smt. Sushma Swaraj; the Chairman of the BJP Parliamentary Party, Shri L.K. Advani; members of Parliament; former members of Parliament and the Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, Shri P.D.T. Achary, paid floral tributes to Smt. Sarojini Naidu.

Shri Morarji Desai: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Shri Morarji Desai, a function was held on 28 February 2010 in the Central Hall of Parliament House. The Leader of Opposition, Lok Sabha, Smt. Sushma Swaraj; the Chairman of the BJP Parliamentary Party, Shri L.K. Advani; members of Parliament; former members of Parliament and the Secretaries-General of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha paid floral tributes to Shri Morarji Desai.

Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia, a function was held on 23 March 2010 in the Central Hall of Parliament House. The Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh; the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar; the Leader of Opposition, Lok Sabha, Smt. Sushma Swaraj; the Chairman of the BJP Parliamentary Party, Shri L.K. Advani; Union Ministers; members of Parliament; former members of Parliament and the Secretaries-General of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha paid floral tributes to Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia.

EXCHANGE OF PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS

Indian Parliamentary Delegations going abroad

Mauritius: A 12-member Indian Parliamentary Delegation led by the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar, visited Mauritius from 17 to 22 January 2010. The other members of the Delegation were Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, MP; Shri Tiruchi Siva, MP; Smt. Rama Devi, MP; Shri Shivanand Tiwari, MP; Dr. Mahesh Chandra Joshi, MP; and Shri P.D.T. Achary, Secretary-General, Lok Sabha.

Foreign Parliamentary Delegations Visiting India

Uruguay: A 9-member Parliamentary Delegation from Uruguay led by H.E. Mr. Roque Arregui, President of the House of Representative of the Parliament of Uruguay visited India from 10 to 16 January 2010.

On 11 January 2010, the Delegation called on the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar, who hosted a Banquet in honour of the Delegation, later in the evening. On 11 January 2010, the delegation had meetings with the Minister of State for External Affairs, Dr. Shashi Tharoor and the Chief Minister of Delhi, Smt. Sheila Dikshit. Besides Delhi, the Delegation visited Agra.

Vietnam: A 12-member Parliamentary Delegation from Vietnam

led by H.E. Mr. Nguyen Phu Trong, Chairman of the National Assembly of Vietnam, visited India from 23 to 28 February 2010.

On 24 February 2010, the Delegation called on the Vice-President of India and the Chairman of Rajya Sabha, Shri Mohammad Hamid Ansari. Later in the evening, the Delegation called on the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar, who hosted a Banquet in honour of the Delegation. On 25 February 2010, the Delegation called on the President of India, Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil and also had a meeting with the Leader of Opposition, Lok Sabha, Smt. Sushma Swaraj. Besides Delhi, the Delegation visited Bodh Gaya and Bangalore.

Croatia: A 12-member Parliamentary Delegation from Croatia led by H.E. Mr. Luca Bebic, President of the Parliament of Croatia, visited India from 6 to 10 March 2010. On 8 March 2010, the Delegation called on the Vice-President of India and the Chairman of Rajya Sabha, Shri Mohammad Hamid Ansari and had a meeting with the Minister of State for External Affairs, Smt. Preneet Kaur. Later in the evening the Delegation called on the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar, who hosted a Banquet in honour of the Delegation. On 9 March 2010, the Delegation had a meeting with the Chairman, Standing Committee on External Affairs. Besides Delhi, the Delegation visited Agra.

Visit of Foreign Dignitaries to Parliament House Estate

Serbia: H.E. Mr. Jovan Mirilovic, Ambassador of the United States of America called on the Speaker, Lok Sabha on 11 January 2010.

United Kingdom: H.E. Lord Swaraj Paul, MP, UK called on the Speaker, Lok Sabha on 23 February 2010.

Nepal: H.E. Mr. Bijay Gachhadar, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Physical Planning and Works of Nepal called on the Speaker, Lok Sabha, on 10 March 2010. A group of 12 women editors and journalists from various media organizations of Nepal also called on the Speaker, Lok Sabha, on 15 March 2010.

PARLIAMENT MUSEUM

Between 1 January and 31 March 2010, a total of 6,833 visitors visited the Parliament Museum. The number includes 1,968 general visitors, 3,035 students from 43 schools/colleges from all over the country. The visitors also include a number of present and former members of Parliament, members of the State Legislatures and foreign

dignitaries and delegations. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar, visited the Museum on 2 January 2010. Among the foreign dignitaries, 130 delegates to the 20th Conference of Speakers and Presiding Officers of the Commonwealth visited the Museum on 6 January 2010. Besides, delegations from Parliaments of Afghanistan, Croatia, Nigeria, Uruguay, Vietnam, and officials from the Afghan Parliament Secretariat and the National Assembly of Malawi visited the Museum during the period.

BUREAU OF PARLIAMENTARY STUDIES AND TRAINING

Study Visits: Six Study visits were organized between January and March 2010 for: (i) the Secretary-General of the House of Representatives of Uruguay on 12 January 2010; (ii) the six officials from the Secretariat of the Wolesi Jirga of the Afghanistan Parliament from 13 to 20 January 2010; (iii) the five officials of the National Assembly of Malawi from 1 to 5 February 2010; (iv) the eight delegates from the Afghan Parliament from 23 to 25 February 2010; (v) the twenty one Foreign Diplomats attending the 49th Professional Course at the Foreign Service Institute, New Delhi, on 12 March 2010; and an eight-Member Delegation from the National Assembly of Nigeria from 29 to 31 March 2010. Besides, fifteen other Study Visits were conducted for the benefit of the students / trainees / officials of various institutions/ organizations. A total of 661 participants attended these visits.

Appreciation Courses: Appreciation Courses in Parliamentary Processes and Procedures were organized for the following Officers: (i) 21 Probationers of the Indian Railway Service of Electrical Engineering from 11 to 15 January 2010; (ii) 31 Probationers of the Indian Audit and Accounts Service and the Central Accounts and Finance Services from 22 to 26 February 2010; (iii) 135 Probationers of the Indian Revenue Service from 8 to 12 March 2010; and (iv) 72 Probationers of the Indian Railway Service of Signal Engineering and Indian Ordnance and Factory Service from 15 to 19 March 2010.

Training Programmes: A Training Programme on “Committee Web Pages Software” for officials working in the Committees” was organised from 1 to 4 February 2010. Eighty officers and staff members attended the Programme. Another Training Programme for Officers/Assistants of Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and State Legislature Secretariats dealing with Questions and Legislative and Budgetary Processes was organised from 29 March to 1 April 2010. Twenty-six participants attended the Programme.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

LOK SABHA

Observation from the Chair regarding disallowance of Adjournment Motion on the ground that the subject matter of notices namely, the price rise has not arisen suddenly in the manner of an emergency: On 24 February 2010, after a submission made by the members Sarvashri Sharad Yadav, Dara Singh Chauhan, Sudip Bandyopadhyay, Basudeb Acharia, Bhartruhari Mahtab, Anant G. Geete, Nama Nageswara Rao, Lalu Prasad Yadav, Gurudas Dasgupta and Dr. Rattan Singh Ajnala regarding their notices of motion for Adjournment to discuss on rise in prices of essential commodities in the country, the Speaker, Lok Sabha made the following observation:—

“Honourable members, notices of adjournment of the business of the House have been given by Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Sarvashri Gopinath Munde, Ananth Kumar, Smt. Sumitra Mahajan, Dr. Rajan Sushant, Shri Gurudas Dasgupta, Kunwar Rewati Raman Singh, Shri Basudeb Acharia, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, Shri Sharad Yadav, Shri Dara Singh Chauhan, Smt. Harsimrat Kaur Badal and Dr. Rattan Singh Ajnala.

Honourable members, I have carefully examined them in terms of the Rules of the House as well as precedents in the last two days and have also heard the honourable members in the House. All these notices deal with the price rise which is a very serious issue. The whole country is concerned about it and is looking up to the Parliament to find a solution. I must also add that the Chair is equally concerned about the burning issue of price situation.

I think it is the duty of this House to discuss this issue in all its seriousness. Now, the question is whether the notices of adjournment motion are admissible under the Rules. Rule 56 says that a definite matter of urgent public importance may be discussed by adjourning the business of the House. The term ‘urgent’ in the Rule has been interpreted by my illustrious predecessors in a string of rulings.

As per these rulings, the term ‘urgent matter of public importance’ must have arisen suddenly in the manner of an

emergency. Further, it has also been held that the Chair has to take into consideration the technical meaning of the word 'urgent' used in the Rule relating to adjournment motion.

Rule 58(iii) says that the motion shall be restricted to a specific matter of recent occurrence.

The subject matter of the notices of adjournment motion before me, namely, the price rise has not arisen suddenly in the manner of an emergency. This House had discussed it in the last Session. So it cannot be held that the issue is one of recent occurrences or urgent in the sense in which it is used in the Rule.

The notices can also be tested in terms of another Rule namely Rule 58(vi) the Rule of anticipation. This House is going to discuss shortly the Motion of Thanks to the President's Address and the General Budget. The President's Address contains references to the price situation in the country and it is certainly going to be discussed during these debates. In this context, I would quote a ruling given by Shri G.V. Mavalankar, one of the illustrious Speakers of this House. I quote:

“... The right to move adjournment motions has certain limitations. One of the limitations is that it should not anticipate a debate in the House. The point is that, if honourable members have a fairly good chance of raising the question on a debate, then it will not be permitted as an adjournment motion.”

I am bound by the Rules of this House. I cannot also ignore the rulings of my predecessors. The Rules of the House and the past rulings on the subject do not allow me to admit these notices.

However, as I said in the beginning, the subject matter of these notices is extremely important. It is the duty of this House to discuss it. The honourable members have given notices under Rule 193 also. Here, I must state that the rule of anticipation, which I applied in the case of adjournment motion, applies in respect of discussion under Rule 193 also. However, the rule of anticipation in respect of adjournment motion is mandatory in nature, whereas it is flexible and amenable to liberal interpretation in the case of a notice under Rule 193.

Honourable members want a detailed and focused discussion on price inflation. Though the debates on Motion of Thanks and the General Budget are about to take place in which this

issue can be discussed, considering the seriousness of the price situation and the hardship it causes to the common man, I will allow a discussion on it today itself. The discussion shall be under Rule 193. I can start after the Railway Budget."

Observation from the Chair regarding suspension of Question Hour: On 25 February 2010, the Speaker, Lok Sabha made the following observation:-

"As the honourable members would recall, I had allowed a Short Duration Discussion under rule 193 on price rise yesterday. However, the discussion could not be taken up yesterday. The discussion has now been included in today's List of Business. Keeping in view the sentiments expressed by honourable Leaders of different political parties on this extremely important, serious and burning issue of price rise, I have decided that the discussion may be taken up immediately by dispensing with the Question Hour.

Honourable members, Shri Ramesh Bais, who secured first priority in the ballot for raising the discussion, has requested me to allow Smt. Sushma Swaraj, honourable Leader of the Opposition, to raise the discussion in his place. I have acceded to his request..."

Instances when the Chair allowed members to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House: On 25 February 2010, during discussion under Rule 193 on price rise, the Chair permitted seventeen members (Dr. (Smt.) Botcha Jhansi Lakshmi, Sarvashri Radha Mohan Singh, Ravindra Kumar Pandey, Kaushalendra Kumar, Dr. Kirit Premjibhai Solanki, Sarvashri Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, Virender Kashyap, Premdas Katheria, Shailendra Kumar, Gorakh Nath Pandey, Prem Das Rai, Dr. P.L. Punia, Shri Tufani Saroj, Shri P. Karunakaran, Dr. Baliram, Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal and Shri Sk. Saidul Haque) to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House.

On 4 March 2010, during discussion on Motion of Thanks on President's Address, the Chair permitted nineteen members (Dr. Virendra Kumar, Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, Dr. Mahendrasinh Pruthvisinh Chauhan, Sarvashri Rajbhar Ramashankar, Ninong Ering, Radha Mohan Singh, Jose K. Mani, Dr. Tarun Mandal, Sarvashri Pralhad Venkatesh Joshi, Vijay Bahuguna, Shafiqur Rahman Barq, Dr. (Smt.) Jhansi Botcha Lakshmi, Sarvashri Rajendra Agarwal, Bhausahab Rajaram Wakchaure, Jagdambika Pal, Dr. Arvind Kumar Sharma, Dr. Kirit Premjibhai Solanki, Shri Tufani Saroj and Shri Rakesh Sachan) to lay their written speeches. Two members namely Smt. Jayshreeben Patel and Shri Maulana Badruddin Ajmal were permitted to lay some portions of their speeches on the Table of the House.

On 5 March 2010, during discussion on the Motion of Thanks on President's Address, the Chair permitted five members (Sarvashri Harish Choudhary, J.M. Rasheed Aaroon, Sameer Magan Bhujbal, Prof. Sk. Saidul Haque and Shri Jayant Chaudhary) to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House.

PARLIAMENTARY AND CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

(1 JANUARY TO 31 MARCH 2010)

Events covered in this Feature are based primarily on reports appearing in the daily newspapers and, as such, the Lok Sabha Secretariat does not accept any responsibility for their accuracy, authenticity or veracity.

—Editor

INDIA

DEVELOPMENTS AT THE UNION

Budget Session of Parliament: The First Part of the Fourth Session of Fifteenth Lok Sabha and the Two Hundred and Nineteenth Session of the Rajya Sabha (the Budget Session of Parliament) commenced on 22 February 2010 with the Address by the President, Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil to members of both the Houses assembled together in the Central Hall of Parliament House. The Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha were adjourned on 16 March 2010 till 15 April 2010, to enable the Departmentally-related Parliamentary Standing Committees to examine the Demands for Grants of various Ministries/Departments assigned to them and submit their reports to the House.

Elections to Rajya Sabha: On 1 January 2010, Prof. Anil Kumar Sahani of the Janata Dal (United) [JD(U)] was elected to the Rajya Sabha from Bihar. His term commenced on 4 January 2010 and he took oath/affirmation on 23 February 2010.

On 18 February 2010, Shri Pravin Naik of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) was elected to the Rajya Sabha from Gujarat. His term commenced on 19 February 2010 and he took oath/affirmation on 3 March 2010.

On 18 March 2010, Shri Naresh Chandra Agrawal of the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) was elected to the Rajya Sabha from Uttar Pradesh. His term commenced on 19 March 2010 and he took oath/affirmation on 15 April 2010.

On 19 March 2010, following five persons were nominated to the Rajya Sabha by the President of India Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil: Dr. Ram Dayal Munda (INC), Dr. Bhalchandra Mungekar, Shri Javed Akhtar, Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar (INC), and Smt. B. Jayashree. The term of all these members commenced on 22 March 2010. While Sarvashri Javed Akhtar, Mani Shankar Aiyar, Dr. Ram Dayal Munda, Dr. Bhalchandra Mungekar took oath/affirmation on 15 April 2010, Smt. B. Jayashree took oath/affirmation on 26 April 2010.

Death of Rajya Sabha Member. On 22 January 2010, Shri Janeswar Mishra, Samajwadi Party (SP) member from Uttar Pradesh passed away.

Resignations of Rajya Sabha Members: On 4 January 2010, Shri Hemant Soren—the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) member from Jharkhand and on 21 January 2010, Shri Shivraj Vishwanath Patil, INC member from Maharashtra resigned from their seats.

Expulsion of Party MPs: On 2 February 2010, Samajwadi Party expelled Shri Amar Singh, Rajya Sabha member and Smt. Jayaprada, Lok Sabha member from Rampur (Uttar Pradesh)—from the party for anti-party activities.

AROUND THE STATES

ANDHRA PRADESH

New Governor: On 22 January 2010, Shri E.S.L. Narasimhan was sworn in as the Governor of Andhra Pradesh.

Resignation of 12 MLAs Accepted: On 15 February 2010, Speaker Shri N. Kiran Kumar Reddy accepted the resignations of 12 MLAs—10 from the Telangana Rashtra Samiti (TRS) and one each from the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) and the BJP. Those whose resignations were accepted are: Sarvashri Etala Rajender, T. Harish Rao, K.T. Rama Rao, K. Eshwar, N. Odelu, K. Sammaiah, E. Ravinder Reddy, G. Arvind Reddy, D. Vinay Bhaskar and K. Vidyasagar Rao (all TRS), N. Lakshminarayana (BJP) and Chennamaneni Ramesh (TDP).

BIHAR

Removal of Minister: On 18 February 2010, Chief Minister Shri Nitish Kumar removed Excise Minister Shri Jamshed Ashraf, who had levelled allegations of a scam in Chief Minister's Office.

Death of MLA: On 26 February 2010, Shri Abhay Singh, an MLA of JD(U) died at his residence in Patna.

CHHATTISGARH

New Governor: On 16 January 2010, Shri Shekhar Dutta was appointed as the Governor of Chhattisgarh.

GUJARAT

Assembly By-election Result: Shri Bharat Khorani of the BJP was elected from Chotila constituency, by-elections to which was held on 20 January 2010.

HARYANA

Assembly By-election Result: Shri Abhay Singh Chautala of the Indian National Lok Dal was elected from Ellenabad constituency, by-elections to which was held on 20 January 2010.

Deputy Speaker Sworn in: On 5 March 2010, Shri Akram Khan of the BSP was sworn in as the Deputy Speaker of the State Legislative Assembly.

HIMACHAL PRADESH

New Governor: On 24 January 2010, Smt. Urmila Singh was sworn in as the Governor of Himachal Pradesh.

JHARKHAND

Pro-tem Speaker: On 2 January 2010, Shri Teklal Mahto of the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha was sworn in as *Pro-tem* Speaker of the State Legislative Assembly.

Vote of Confidence: On 7 January 2010, Chief Minister, Shri Shibu Soren, heading a JMM-BJP Coalition Government, won a trust motion in the 81-member State Legislative Assembly by 45 votes in favour and 26 against.

Expansion of Cabinet: On 9 January 2010, Chief Minister, Shri Shibu Soren expanded his Cabinet by inducting nine more Ministers into his Council of Ministers.

The Ministers are: Sarvashri Hemlal Murmu, Hussain Ansari, Mathura Prasad Mahato, Barkuar Gagrai, Nilkanth Singh Munda, Baijnath Ram, Chandraprakash Choudhary, Umakant Rajjak and Smt. Sudha Choudhary.

New Governor: On 22 January 2010, Shri M.O.H. Farook was sworn in as the Governor of Jharkhand.

MAHARASHTRA

Assembly By-election Result: Shri Rupesh Mhatre of the Shiv Sena was elected from Bhiwandi East constituency, by-elections to which was held on 20 January 2010.

New Governor: On 22 January 2010, Shri K. Sankaranarayanan was sworn in as the Governor of Maharashtra.

PUNJAB

New Governor: On 22 January 2010, Shri Shivraj Vishwanath Patil was sworn in as the Governor of Punjab.

RAJASTHAN

New Governor: On 25 January 2010, Smt. Prabha Rau was sworn in as the Governor of Rajasthan.

Resignation of Leader of Opposition: On 22 February 2010, Smt. Vasundhara Raje resigned as the Leader of the Opposition in the State Legislative Assembly.

UTTAR PRADESH

Legislative Council Election Results: The elections to 33 seats of the State Legislative Council were held on 13 January 2010. The BSP secured 31 seats while the INC and SP won one seat each.

WEST BENGAL

Death of Former Chief Minister: On 17 January 2010, former Chief Minister Shri Jyoti Basu passed away.

New Governor: On 24 January 2010, Shri M.K. Narayanan was sworn in as the Governor of West Bengal.

Death of Minister: On 3 February 2010, Minister of Power, Shri Mrinal Banerjee passed away in Kolkata.

EVENTS ABROAD**BOLIVIA**

President Re-elected: On 22 January 2010, President Mr. Evo Morales was sworn in for a second consecutive five-year term in office.

CHILE

Election of President: Mr. Sebastian Pinera of the National Renewal

Party was elected as the President of Chile after winning the second round of voting in presidential elections held on 17 January 2010.

COSTA RICA

New President: Ms. Laura Chinchilla of the National Liberation Party was elected as the President of Costa Rica after winning a comfortable victory in presidential elections held on 7 February 2010.

Legislative Elections: The elections to the 57-seat Legislative Assembly (the unicameral legislature) were held on 7 February 2010. The party position following the elections is as follows: National Liberation Party: 23; Citizens' Action Party: 12; Libertarian Movement: 9; Social Christian Unity Party: 6; Accessibility Without Exclusion: 4; Costa Rican Renewal Party: 1; Broad Front: 1; and National Restoration:1.

CROATIA

New President: Mr. Ivo Josipovic of Social Democratic Party was elected as the President of Croatia in a second round of voting in the presidential elections held on 10 January 2010.

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

New Prime Minister: On 12 January 2010, President Mr. Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo re-appointed Mr. Ignacio Milam Tang as the Prime Minister.

HONDURAS

President Sworn in: On 27 January 2010, Mr. Porfirio "Pepe" Lobo Sosa of National Party of Honduras was sworn in as the President of Honduras.

LIBYA

New Speaker: On 26 January 2010, the General People's Congress (the legislature) elected Mr. Abu-al-Kasim Zway as the Secretary (Speaker).

MOZAMBIQUE

New Prime Minister: On 16 January 2010, President Mr. Armando Emilio Guebuza appointed Mr. Aires Bonifacio Aly as the new Prime Minister.

NETHERLANDS ANTILLES

Legislative Elections: The elections to the 22-member *Staten* (the unicameral legislature) were held on 22 January 2010. The party position following the elections is as follows: Antillean Restructuring Party: 6; List of Change: 5; National Alliance: 3; Sovereign People: 2; Bonaire Patriotic Union: 1; National's People's Party: 1; Bonaire Democratic Party: 1; Democratic Party-St. Eustatius: 1; and Windwards Islands People's Movement: 1.

SRI LANKA

President Re-elected: In the election held for the office of President on 26 January 2010, incumbent President Mr. Mahinda Rajapakse was re-elected for a second five-year term.

TAJIKISTAN

Legislative Elections: The elections to the 63-seat Assembly of Representatives (the Lower Chamber of the Supreme Assembly, the bicameral legislature) were held on 28 February 2010. The party position following the elections is as follows: People's Democratic Party of Tajikistan (PDPT): 45; Independents (allied with PDPT): 9; Islamic Rebirth Party of Tajikistan: 2; Communist Party of Tajikistan: 2; Agrarian Party of Tajikistan: 2; Party of Economic Reforms: 2; and Undecided seats: 1.

UKRAINE

New President: On 7 February 2010, Mr. Viktor Yanukovich was elected as the President of Ukraine.

UZBEKISTAN

New Prime Minister: On 27 January 2010, the 150-seat Legislative Chamber (the lower house of the bicameral legislature) approved the reappointment of Mr. Shavkat Mirziyoev as the Prime Minister.

DOCUMENTS OF CONSTITUTIONAL AND PARLIAMENTARY INTEREST

The Constitution (Ninety-Fifth Amendment) Act, 2009: Article 334 of the Constitution had laid down the provisions of the Constitution relating to the reservation of seats for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes and the representation of the Anglo-Indian community by nomination in the House of the People and the Legislative Assemblies of the States. It had stipulated that the provisions would cease to have effect on the expiration of the period of sixty years from the commencement of the Constitution. Accordingly, these provisions would have ceased to have effect from 25 January 2010, if they had not been extended further.

Although the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes had made considerable progress in the last sixty years, the reasons which weighed with the Constituent Assembly in making provisions with regard to the aforesaid reservation of seats and nomination of members have not ceased to exist. It was therefore, proposed to continue the reservation for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes and the representation of the Anglo-Indian community by nomination for a further period of ten years.

The Constitution (Ninety-Fifth Amendment) Bill, 2009 which sought to achieve the above-mentioned objectives, was passed by the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha on 3 August and 4 August 2009, respectively. The Bill was ratified by the State Legislatures of not less than one-half of the States, as required under the provisions of the Constitution. The President assented to it on 18 January 2010. [The Bill was introduced in the Rajya Sabha as the Constitution (One Hundred and Ninth Amendment) Bill, 2009. The Short Title of the Bill was changed to the Constitution (Ninety-Fifth Amendment) Bill, 2009 by the Rajya Sabha through an amendment to clause 1].

The Salaries and Allowances of Ministers (Amendment) Act, 2009: Under sub-section (1A) of section 6 of the Salaries and Allowances of Ministers Act, 1952, a Minister was entitled (subject to certain provisions of the said Act) to travelling allowance in respect of not more than twelve return journeys performed, during each year, within India, for himself and his family, whether travelling together or separately, subject to the overall entitlement of forty-eight single journeys in each year. Under sub-section (2) of section 5 of the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954, a member of Parliament was entitled (subject to certain provisions of the said Act) to an amount equal to the fare by air for each single journey performed by him either alone or along with spouse or any number of companions or relatives from any place in India to any other place in India during his term of office as such member, subject to a maximum of thirty-four such journeys per year.

From the above-mentioned provisions, it was observed that a member of

Parliament was entitled to travel by air for each single journey performed by him, either alone or along with spouse or any other number of companions or relatives whereas, a Minister could avail this facility either for himself or for his family members only.

In order to remove this discrepancy in the entitlement of Ministers to travel facilities, it was proposed to amend sub-section (1A) of section 6 of the Salaries and Allowances of Ministers Act, 1952 so as to allow the spouse or legitimate or stepchildren residing with or wholly dependent on the Minister to travel on their own or with the Minister but to allow the companions or relatives of the Ministers to travel only with the Minister, subject to a maximum of forty-eight fares only.

The Salaries and Allowances of Ministers (Amendment) Bill, 2009 which sought to achieve the above-mentioned objectives, was passed by the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha on 18 December and 22 December 2009, respectively. The President assented to it on 21 January 2010.

We reproduce here the texts of the above Acts.

—Editor

THE CONSTITUTION (NINETY-FIFTH AMENDMENT) ACT, 2009

An Act further to amend the Constitution of India.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Sixtieth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. Short title and commencement: (1) This Act may be called the Constitution (Ninety-fifty Amendment) Act, 2009.

(2) It shall come into force on the 25th day of January, 2010.

2. Amendment of article 334. In article 334 of the Constitution, for the words “sixty years”, the words “seventy years” shall be substituted.

3. Amendment of section 6 of Act 58 of 1952. In section 6 of the Salaries and Allowances of Ministers Act, 1952, for sub-section (1A), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

(1A) A Minister shall be entitled to an amount equal to the fare for a single journey performed by him, during each year, within India, either alone or along with spouse or legitimate or step children, residing with and wholly dependent on him, or any number of companions or relatives, at the same rates at which travelling allowance is payable to such Minister under clause (b) of sub-section (1) in respect of tours referred to in that clause, subject to a maximum of forty-eight such fares per year:

Provided that the spouse or legitimate or step children residing with and wholly dependent on the Minister, as the case may be, may undertake such journey alone.”.

**THE SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES OF MINISTERS
(AMENDMENT) ACT, 2009**

*An Act further to amend the Salaries and Allowances
of Ministers Act, 1952.*

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Sixtieth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. *Short title and commencement:* (1) This Act may be called the Salaries and Allowances of Ministers (Amendment) Act, 2009.

(2) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

SESSIONAL REVIEW

FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA

FOURTH SESSION

The Fourth Session (part one and part two) of the Fifteenth Lok Sabha commenced on 22 February 2010 and was adjourned *sine die* on 7 May 2010. In all, there were 32 sittings during the Session. The House was prorogued on 11 May 2010.

A resume of some of the important discussions held and other business transacted during the period from 22 February to 16 March 2010 (first part of the Fourth Session) is given below:

A. DISCUSSIONS/STATEMENTS

THE BUDGET (GENERAL)–2010-2011: Presenting the Budget (General) for the year 2010-2011 on 26 February 2010, the Minister of Finance, Shri Pranab Mukherjee said that in 2009, when he presented the interim Budget in February and the regular Budget in July in this august House, the Indian economy was facing grave uncertainties. Growth had started decelerating and the business sentiment was weak. The economy's capacity to sustain high growth was under serious threat from the widespread economic slowdown in the developed world. However, after one year, the Finance Minister said that we have weathered these crises well. Indian economy now is in a far better position than it was a year ago. Shri Mukherjee referred to the three challenges and the medium term perspective that he had outlined in his last Budget Speech. The first challenge was to quickly revert to the high GDP growth path of 9 per cent and then find the means to cross the 'double digit growth barrier'. The second challenge is to harness economic growth to consolidate the recent gains in making development more inclusive. The third challenge relates to the weaknesses in government systems, structures and institutions at different levels of governance. Shri Mukherjee said that with development and economic reforms, the focus of economic activity has shifted towards the non-governmental actors, bringing into sharper focus the role of Government as an enabler.

He further added that managing a complex economy was a difficult task, more so when it was a growing economy in a globalised world.

And yet, choices have to be made and they have to be well-timed. After successfully managing the effects of the global slowdown, there was need to strengthen the domestic macroeconomic environment to help consolidate the rebound in growth and sustain it over the medium term. Besides, it was required to review the stimulus imparted to the economy and move towards the preferred path of fiscal consolidation that facilitated the remarkable growth in the pre-crisis five year period. It was also required to make growth more broad-based and ensure that supply-demand imbalances are better managed, opined the Minister.

While presenting the Budget for 2009-10, the Minister had called for participation in Government's disinvestment programme to share in the wealth and prosperity of the Central Public Sector Undertakings. Since then, ownership has been broad based in Oil India Limited, NHPC, NTPC and Rural Electrification Corporation while the process is on for National Mineral Development Corporation and *Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam*. The Government would raise about Rs.25,000 crore during the current year. Through this process, Shri Mukherjee proposed to raise a higher amount during the year 2010-11. The proceeds would be utilised to meet the capital expenditure requirements of social sector schemes for creating new assets.

Similarly, the effective management of public expenditure by bringing it in line with the Government's objectives was a part of the fiscal consolidation process. This called for proper targeting of subsidies and expenditure adjustment. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows during the year have been steady in spite of the decline in global capital flows. India received FDI equity inflows of US\$ 20.9 billion during April-December, 2009 compared to US\$ 21.1 billion during the same period last year. Government has taken a number of steps to simplify the FDI regime to make it easily comprehensible to foreign investors. For the first time, both ownership and control have been recognised as central to the FDI policy, and methodology for calculation of indirect foreign investment in Indian companies has been clearly defined. Government also intended to make the FDI policy user-friendly by consolidating all prior regulations and guidelines into one comprehensive document. This would enhance clarity and predictability of our FDI policy to foreign investors, said the Minister.

Improvement in corporate governance and regulation is an important part of the overall investment environment in the country. Government has introduced the Companies Bill, 2009 in the Parliament, which would replace the existing Companies Act, 1956. The proposed new bill would address issues related to regulation in corporate sector in

the context of the changing business environment. Government has provided interest subvention of 2 per cent on pre-shipment export credit up to 31 March 2010 for exports in certain sectors. He proposed to extend the interest subvention of 2 per cent for one more year for exports covering handicrafts, carpets, handlooms and small and medium enterprises. The Government is also committed to ensuring continued growth of SEZs to draw investments and boost exports and employment.

The agriculture sector occupies centre-stage in our resolve to promote inclusive growth, enhance rural incomes and sustain food security. To spur the growth in this sector, the Government intends to follow a four-pronged strategy covering (a) agricultural production; (b) reduction in wastage of produce; (c) credit support to farmers; and (d) a thrust to the food processing sector. The Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme for Farmers was a major initiative of the UPA Government. In view of the recent drought in some States and the severe floods in some other parts of the country, he proposed to extend by six months the period for repayment of the loan amount by farmers from 31 December 2009 to 30 June 2010.

Accelerated development of high quality physical infrastructure, such as roads, ports, airports and railways is essential to sustain economic growth. While addressing the policy gaps in this Sector, Shri Mukherjee proposed to maintain the thrust for upgrading infrastructure in both rural and urban areas. In the Budget for 2010-11, Rs.1,73,552 crore has been provided which accounts for over 46 per cent of the total plan allocations, for infrastructure development in the country.

Similarly, the Minister provided Rs.16,752 crore in the Budget for 2010-11 for the Railways. This is about Rs.950 crore more than last year, when a substantial increase was made in the budgetary support for Railways.

The Minister said that he has more than doubled the plan allocation for Power Sector from Rs.2,230 crore in 2009-10 to Rs.5,130 crore in 2010-11. This does not include allocations for Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vikas Yojana (RGGVY), which is a part of the *Bharat Nirman*. Shri Mukherjee proposed to increase the plan outlay for the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy by 61 per cent from Rs.620 crore in 2009-10 to Rs.1,000 crore in 2010-11. He also proposed to establish a National Clean Energy Fund for funding research and innovative projects in clean energy technologies. Similarly, the Minister proposed to double the allocation for the National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA) in 2010-11 to Rs.500 crore.

The Minister proposed to increase the plan allocation for school education from Rs.26,800 crore in 2009-10 to Rs.31,036 crore in 2010-11. In addition, States would have access to Rs.3,675 crore for elementary education under the Thirteenth Finance Commission grants for 2010-11, the Minister added. He proposed to increase the plan allocation for the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, from Rs.19,534 crore to Rs.22,300 crore for 2010-11.

In 2007-08, the Government had set up a Financial Inclusion Fund and a Financial Inclusion Technology Fund in National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), to reach banking services to the unbanked areas. To give momentum to the pace of financial inclusion, he proposed an augmentation of Rs.100 crore for each of these funds, which would be contributed by Government of India, RBI and NABARD. For the year 2010-11, the Minister proposed to allocate an amount of Rs.48,000 crore for *Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme*.

Indira Awas Yojana is a popular rural housing scheme for weaker sections. Taking note of the increase in the cost of construction, Shri Mukherjee proposed to raise the unit cost under this Scheme to Rs.45,000 in the plain areas and to Rs.48,500 in the hilly areas. For the year 2010-11, the allocation for this scheme is being increased to Rs.10,000 crore, informed Shri Mukherjee.

The Minister proposed to enhance the allocation for the Backward Region Grant Fund by 26 per cent from Rs.5,800 crore in 2009-10 to Rs.7,300 crore in 2010-11.

For the year 2010-11, he proposed to increase the allocation for urban development by more than 75 per cent from Rs.3,060 crore to Rs.5,400 crore. In addition, the allocation for the Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation was also being raised from Rs.850 crore to Rs.1,000 crore in 2010-11. He proposed to allocate Rs.1,270 crore for 2010-11 for the *Rajiv Awas Yojana* (RAY). Further Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) was raised from Rs.1,794 crore to Rs.2,400 crore for the year 2010-11. Shri Mukherjee announced to set up a National Social Security Fund for unorganised sector workers with an initial allocation of Rs.1,000 crore.

He also proposed to launch an extensive skill development programme in the Textile and Garment Sector by leveraging the strength of existing institutions and instruments of the Textile Ministry. He proposed to step up the plan outlay for Women and Child Development by almost 50 per cent. To further improve female literacy rate, the

Government has recast the earlier National Literacy Mission as a new programme "Saakshar Bharat". A Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana to meet the specific needs of women farmers is being launched with an allocation of Rs.100 crore. He proposed to enhance the plan outlay of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment to Rs.4,500 crore. The proposed plan allocation for the Ministry of Minority Affairs was raised from Rs.1,740 crore to Rs.2,600 crore for the year 2010-11.

The Government also proposed to set up a Financial Sector Legislative Reforms Commission to rewrite and clean up the financial sector laws to bring them in line with the requirements of the sector. Shri Mukherjee allocated Rs.1,900 crore for the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDA) in 2010-11. A Technology Advisory Group for Unique Projects under the Chairmanship of Shri Nandan Nilekani is also to be set up in the coming year.

Budget Estimates for 2010-11: The Gross Tax Receipts are estimated at Rs.7,46,651 crore. The Non-Tax Revenue Receipts are estimated at Rs.1,48,118 crore. The net tax revenue to the Centre as well as the expenditure provisions in 2010-11 have been estimated with reference to the recommendations of the Thirteenth Finance Commission.

The total expenditure proposed in the Budget Estimates (BE) for 2010-11 is Rs.11,08,749 crore, which is an increase of 8.6 per cent over the total expenditure in BE 2009-10. The Plan and Non Plan expenditures in BE 2010-11 are estimated at Rs.3,73,092 crore and Rs.7,35,657 crore, respectively. While there is a 15 per cent increase in Plan expenditure, the increase in Non-Plan expenditure is only 6 per cent over the BE of previous year.

Shri Mukherjee said that the fiscal deficit of 5.5 per cent of GDP in 2010-11 works out to Rs.3,81,408 crore. Taking into account the various other financing items for fiscal deficit, the actual net market borrowing of the Government in the year 2010-11 would be of the order of Rs.3,45,010 crore, he added.

Tax proposals: *Direct taxes:* The Minister provided relief to individual taxpayers by enhancing the exemption limit for all taxpayers and withdrawing the surcharge on personal income tax. He broadened the current tax slabs which is as follows: Income up to Rs.1.6 lakh—Nil; Income above Rs.1.6 lakh and up to Rs.5 lakh—10 per cent; Income above Rs.5 lakh and up to Rs.8 lakh—20 per cent; Income above Rs.8 lakh—30 per cent.

To promote savings as well as to ensure their utilisation for the thrust area of infrastructure, the Minister proposed to allow a deduction

of an additional amount of Rs.20,000 for investment in long-term infrastructure bonds as notified by the Central Government. He proposed to allow contributions to the Central Government Health Scheme as a deduction under the Income-Tax Act. He also proposed to increase the rate of Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT) from the current rate of 15 per cent to 18 per cent of book profits. He enhanced the weighted deduction on expenditure incurred on in-house R&D from 150 per cent to 200 per cent. He also enhanced the weighted deduction on payments made to National Laboratories, research associations, colleges, universities and other institutions, for scientific research from 125 per cent to 175 per cent. He proposed that payments made to approved associations engaged in research in social sciences or statistical research would be allowed a weighted deduction of 125 per cent. The income of such approved research associations would be exempted from tax. To give a boost to investment in the tourism sector which has high employment potential, he proposed to extend the benefit of investment linked deduction under the Act to new hotels of two-star category and above anywhere in India. To provide one time interim relief to the housing and real estate sector which was impacted by the global recession, he proposed to allow pending projects to be completed within a period of five years instead of four years for claiming a deduction on their profits. Shri Mukherjee announced that the proposal on direct taxes are estimated to result in a revenue loss of Rs. 26,000 crore for the year.

Indirect Tax: Shri Mukherjee proposed to restore the basic duty of 5 per cent on crude petroleum; 7.5 per cent on diesel and petrol and 10 per cent on other refined products. He also proposed to enhance the Central Excise duty on petrol and diesel by Rs.1 per litre each. He announced to make some structural changes in the excise duty on cigarettes, cigars and cigarillos coupled with some increase in rates. He proposed to enhance excise duty on all non-smoking tobacco such as scented tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, etc.

He proposed to provide concessional customs duty of 5 per cent to specified agricultural machinery not manufactured in India.

One of the prerequisites for agricultural productivity being access to good quality and disease-resistant seeds. The proposed to exempt the testing and certification of agricultural seeds from service tax.

The Minister announced that the proposals relating to customs and central excise are estimated to result in a net revenue gain of Rs.43,500 crore for the year.

Service Tax: Shri Mukherjee proposed to retain the rate of tax on services at 10 per cent to pave the way forward for Goods and Services Tax (GST). The Minister was bringing certain services, *hitherto* untaxed, within the purview of the service tax levy which were being notified separately. He also proposed certain legislative changes to plug revenue leakages, to remove distortions and to clarify certain doubts that have arisen over a period of time.

Export of services, especially in the area of Information Technology and Business Process Outsourcing, generates substantial employment and brings in foreign exchange. So, the Minister proposed to ease the process of refund of accumulated credit to exporters of services by making necessary changes in the definition of export of services and procedures.

Shri Mukherjee said that the proposals relating to service tax are estimated to result in a net revenue gain of Rs.3,000 crore for the year. The proposals on Direct Taxes are estimated to result in a revenue loss of Rs.26,000 crore for the year. Proposals relating to Indirect Taxes are estimated to result in a net revenue gain of Rs.46,500 crore for the year. Taking into account the concessions being given in tax proposals and measures taken to mobilise additional resources, the net revenue gain is estimated to be Rs.20,500 crore for the year.

The Finance Minister said that Budget belongs to '*Aam Aadmi*'. It belongs to the farmer, the agriculturist, the entrepreneur and the investor.

Afterwards, he commended the Budget to the House. The General discussion on the Budget (General) for 2010-2011 started on 11 March 2010. Initiating the discussion*, on 11 March 2010,

* Others who participated in the discussion were: Sarvashri K.S. Rao, Brijbhushan Sharan Singh, Dr. Baliram, P. Karunakaran, B. Mahtab, Kabindra Purkayastha, R. Dhruvanaryana, Narayan Singh Amlabe, Datta Meghe, Bhisma Shankar *alias* Kaushal Tiwari, Gorakh Prasad Jaiswal, Anandrao Adsul, J.M. Aaron Rashid, Ghanshyam Anuragi, P. Kumar, Lalji Tandon, C. Sivasami, Gorakhnath Pandey, Dr. Girija Vyas, Mansukhbhai D. Vasara, Mohd. E.T. Basheer, A. Ganeshamurthi, Prasanta Kumar Majumdar, Rakesh Sachan, Nishikant Dubey, Vijay Bahadur Singh, Smt. Darshana Jardosh, Sonawane Pratap Narayanrao, Satpal Maharaj, Dr. Prasanna Kumar Patasani, Dr. Ratna De, Pralhad Joshi, Virendra Kumar, Manish Tewari, Mohendrasinh P. Chauhan, Smt. Harsimrat Kaur Badal, Prabodh Panda, Jose K. Mani, Naranbhai Kachhadia, Virender Kashyap, M. Venugopala Reddy, Smt. Jyoti Dhurve, M.I. Shanavas, Mangani Lal Mandal, Ramsinh Rathwa, Shailendra Kumar, P. Lingam, Haribhau Jawale, Premdas, Smt. Usha Verma, Smt. Sushila Saroj,

Shri Yashwant Sinha (BJP) said that three major challenges have been mentioned in the Budget Speech. The first challenge before us was to quickly revert to the high GDP growth path of nine per cent. Then we go on to achieve the double digit growth. The second one was to make development more inclusive and third one is to remove bottlenecks in our public delivery mechanism. The Government has not mentioned the challenge of price rise among the three challenges mentioned in the Budget speech, Shri Sinha said. He also said that Finance Minister has sidelined the issue of bringing down the revenue deficit to four percent as has been suggested by the 13th Finance Commission which is currently on higher side. He also emphasized on the need to give statutory banking status to Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority.

Participating in the discussion, Shri Narahari Mahato (AIFB) welcomed the enhancement of funds for the rural development, *Bharat Nirman*, setting up a Social Security Fund for unorganized Sector Workers, Women Farmers' Fund, and 13 per cent rise in road development allocations.

Joining in the discussion, Shri T.R. Baalu (DMK) suggested that the beneficiaries of inclusive growth should be identified and the intended benefits should go to the intended beneficiaries. He demanded three percent reservation for the persons who are differently-abled persons.

Taking part in the discussion, Shri Dara Singh Chauhan (BSP) said that the wrong economic policies of the Government have brought the farmers of this country to the brink of ruin, and the Finance Minister has not given any proper attention towards them in this year's Budget, said Shri Chauhan.

Replying to the discussion on 12 March 2010, the Minister of Finance, Shri Pranab Mukherjee said that many members have expressed concerns in respect of certain areas, particularly inflation, agriculture, fuel prices, and wanted to know whether the Budget helps the *Aam aadmi* and addresses the problems of infrastructure.

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Arjun Ram Meghwal, Dr. Sanjeev Ganesh Naik, Tufani Saroj, Smt. Jayshreeben Patel, Dr. G. Vivekanand, K.D. Deshmukh, Hukmadeo Narayan Yadav, Dr. Thokchom Meinya, Dilip Kumar Mansukhlal Gandhi, Mahabal Mishra, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, Kishan Bhai V. Patel, Ganesh Singh, Dr. Mirza Mehboob Beg, Hassan Khan, Vikrambhai Arjanbhai Madam, D. Taun Mandal, Bishnu Pada Ray, Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena, Kamal Kishor Commando, P.H. Punia, P.T. Thomas, Prem Das Rai, S.K. Singh Patel, Dr. Prabha Kishor Taviad, Sarvey Satyanarayana, Smt. Botcha Jhansi Lakshmi, S.S. Ramasubbu, Badruddin Ajmal, Vijay Bahuguna and Jagdish Thakor

Shri Mukherjee said that the present growth is just not merely Government expenditure driven growth, but manufacturing and industrial production is also contributing in the growth. He clarified that he has taken steps to remove the supply bottlenecks, besides keeping the import cap open and reducing the import duties. The Government was also trying to improve the supply of edible oils and pulses to protect the vulnerable sections of society. It has provided the subsidized scheme to have availability in the market. About three million tonnes of wheat and one million tonnes of rice have been made available to the States for the open market sale. The Government has created incentives to boost the growth rate and increase productivity especially in agriculture. As regards the rate of domestic savings, Shri Mukherjee said that it would be possible to reach the target rate of 36 per cent of the domestic savings.

Further, agriculture has not been neglected. A number of measures have been taken to boost agriculture, agricultural productivity, preventing wastage, expanding the credit facilities and also helping the processing industries; series of excise duty concessions and series of customs duty concessions have also been given, said the Finance Minister.

Emphasizing that the Government has done a lot for the *aam aadmi*, Shri Mukherjee said that during the last six years period, it has given the Right to Entitlement; Right to Know; Right to Job; Right to Education and is also going to give the people Right to Food. Moreover, as much money would be required to provide job seekers under the NREGA, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, the Government is obliged to give that money whether it is allocated in the Budget or not, Shri Mukherjee clarified.

Shri Mukherjee said that he has identified 60,000 villages to synchronise with the 60th year of our Republic as pulse and oilseed districts to bridge the gap between the availability and the requirement of edible oils and pulses. He said that it is the duty of the Government to protect good quality agricultural land and not use it for industries and other purposes.

All the Demands for Grants on Account (General) were voted in full.

All the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) were voted in full.

The Bill was passed.

THE BUDGET (RAILWAYS)–2010-2011: Presenting the Railway

Budget for the year 2010-2011 on 24 February 2010, the Minister of Railways, Kumari Mamata Banerjee said that Railways being the lifeline of the Indian economy's connectivity to most parts of the country has to be provided.

Emphasizing on the need for setting the goal, she spelt out the Vision 2020:

“Indian Railways shall provide efficient, affordable, customer-focussed and environmentally sustainable integrated transportation solutions. It shall be a vehicle of inclusive growth, connecting regions, communities, ports and centres of industry, commerce, tourism and pilgrimage across the country. The reach and access of its services will be continuously expanded and improved by its integrated team of committed, empowered and satisfied employees and by use of cutting-edge technology.”

She informed the House that 53,596 route-kilometres of the Railways was there in 1950. After a span of 58 years, we have now reached only 64,015 kms, adding just 10,419 kms, an annual average of only 180 kms. She opined that we needed connectivity for industries, ports, tourist centres, universities, religious places, coal mines and other places, to meet the infrastructure needs of the country. That is why, she wanted to add 25,000 kms of new lines in the next ten years, as outlined in Vision 2020. She called for the business community to come and join hands to build partnerships with the Railways.

Further, the Minister said that of the 120 new trains, extensions and increase in frequencies announced last year, 117 would be flagged off by the end of March 2010. The remaining three would be started on completion of gauge conversion works; As assured, the recruitment policy of the Railway Recruitment Boards (RRBs) had been reviewed and several measures initiated. Besides, waiving of the examination fee for women candidates and those belonging to minority and economically backward classes having annual family income less than Rs 50,000, all question papers would henceforth be set in Hindi, Urdu and English as well as in local State languages and examination for a particular post would be held on the same date simultaneously by all RRBs; the *Izzat* Scheme, concessions to press correspondents and extension of students' concessions to *madrasas* were implemented within three months of announcement; work had been initiated in all the 67 Multi-functional Complexes (MFCs). Development of *Adarsh* Stations has also started in phases; the announcement regarding issue of tickets from post offices could not be taken forward because

of financial reasons but the Railway was compensating that by expanding the scope of *Mushkil Aasaan* mobile vans, informed the Minister.

She laid a major thrust on the development of passenger amenities. Financial powers of field officers have been increased for quick execution of works. Railways is projected to spend a record Rs 1,302 crore in 2010-11 on passenger amenities, the Minister added. The Catering Policy is under revision and would be finalized as early as possible, informed the Minister. She also identified 10 more stations to be converted to World Class Stations. Besides, Kumari Banerjee proposed to take up construction of another 93 Multi-functional Complexes in the coming year.

Air-space at stations in large cities would be leveraged to build multi-level parking complexes through the Public Private Partnership (PPP) route and a few pilot projects would be taken up during the year, announced the Minister. She also charted out the initiatives being taken for improving passenger and customer satisfaction—SMS updates of reservation status and punctuality of trains to passengers; SMS updates on the movement of wagons to freight customers; Double-decker train-sets matching the best in global standards, in two trains each from Delhi and Kolkata as a pilot project. To expand the scope of *Mushkil Aasan*, the Minister proposed to induct e-ticket based mobile vans for issuing reservation tickets in government institutions. To give more facilities to the common people, the Railways also proposed to open ticket centres at district headquarters and village panchayats with infrastructure support from local government/semi-government authorities and private organizations.

To address the security concerns, the railways have established a twin strategy of adopting the highest level of technology and pressing into force well-trained manpower, as emphasized in Vision 2020. To prevent accidents, a new, cutting-edge equipment has been devised. Anti-Collision Device (ACD) and Train Protection Warning System (TPWS) are two such devices. Similarly, a special drive in manning the unmanned level crossings is being undertaken. To mark the Commonwealth Games, Railways proposed to run a Commonwealth Exhibition Train. Two Memorandum of Understandings have also been signed with the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Human Resource Development with whom the Ministry of Railways have recently signed for setting up of hospitals and educational institutions on surplus railway land. In fulfilment of its corporate social responsibility, Kumari Banerjee proposed to extend the *Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana* to all licensed porters, vendors and hawkers.

The Minister informed the House that all the eleven PSUs under the administrative control of the Ministry of Railways have performed well in 2008-09 and achieved a combined turnover of Rs.13,641 crore, earning a net profit of Rs.1,328 crore. These PSUs paid a dividend Rs.286 crore to the Railways. She introduced a modified wagon investment scheme for high capacity general purpose and special purpose wagons which would cover iron ore, coal and cement. She also proposed to introduce at least ten rakes with green toilets and install on diesel locomotives a GPS-based optimised driver guidance system which has shown 8-10 per cent saving in fuel consumption. The Railway would work closely with the Prime Minister's National Action Plan on Climate Change and the Bureau of Energy Efficiency, the Minister added. Railways also proposed to set up Rail Eco-parks to conserve, protect and promote Railways' wetlands and forest areas. Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC), Prime Minister's dream project, the Minister announced, would be revamped within a short span of time to ensure timely implementation of the project.

The Minister said that she had declared DFC as the "Diamond Rail Corridor" project of the Indian Railways. On the lines of DFC, the Railways are planning to go in for Dedicated Passenger Corridor (DPC), which she declared as the "Golden Rail Corridor" of the Indian Railways. Construction of high speed passenger rail corridors is another transformational initiative that Railways would embark upon in the coming years, the Minister informed.

Budget Estimates for 2010-11: The target for freight loading for 2010-11 has been kept at 944 MT, an increase of 54 MT over RE 2009-10. Freight throughput has been projected at 623 billion NTKM. Budget Estimates for freight, passenger, sundry other earnings and other coaching earnings have been kept at Rs.62,489 crore, Rs.26,127 crore, Rs.3,171 crore and Rs.2,778 crore respectively. The Minister intended to initiate special efforts to clear the outstanding dues of the Railways and thus a target of clearance of Rs.200 crore has been kept in the Budget Estimates. Gross Traffic Receipts have thus been projected at Rs.94,765 crore, the Minister said.

Annual Plan 2010-11: The Annual Plan outlay for the year 2010-11 has been proposed at Rs.41,426 crore, which is the highest ever plan investment. The plan would be financed through Gross Budgetary Support of Rs.15,875 crore, Diesel Cess of Rs.877 crore, internal resources of Rs.14,523 crore and EBR of Rs.10,151 crore including market borrowing through Indian Railway Finance Corporation Ltd. (IRFC) of Rs.9,120 crore.

Within the limited resources available, thrust is being given to expansion of the network. To achieve the target of 1,000 kms of new line set for year, the allocation has been increased substantially from Rs.2,848 crore to Rs.4,411 crore. Funding of Metropolitan Transport Projects has been increased by 55 per cent.

Kumari Banerjee proposed to draw up a Master Plan for the development of rail infrastructure in the Northeast region in consultation with the Northeast Development Council and the state authorities concerned. She also proposed to introduce 21 ladies specials on the railway network, called *Matribhoomi* Special in major cities of Kolkata, Chennai, New Delhi and Mumbai in recognition of their role in the Nation's destiny. To support government's effort of promoting tourism in our country, Railways would launch special tourist trains "*Bharat Tirath*" connecting popular tourist places.

The Minister said that this year's budget was a humble yet earnest effort to move in the direction of Vision 2020.

Later, she commended the Railway Budget for 2010-11 to the House. The General discussion on the Budget (Railway) for 2010-2011 started on 8 March 2010. Initiating the discussion*, on 8 March 2010, Shri Syed Shahnawaz Hussain (BJP) said that he would like to thank the Minister of Railways for introducing a *Garib Rath* train in Bhagalpur and renaming the Bhagalpur-Yeshwantpur Express as Ang Express. He emphasized that there was an urgent need to strengthen the railway tracks. He also requested to devise a system wherein if the Parliament is in Session and an MP wishes to attend Parliament, he should have a seat readily available in the trains.

* Others who participated in the discussion were Sarvashri Shailendra Kumar, Gorakhnath Pandey, Dinesh Chandra Yadav, Sudip Bandyopadhyay, Dr. Prasanna Kumar Patasani, Devendra Nagpal, Ramkishun, Virendra Kashyap, Narayan Singh Amlabe, T.K.S. Elangovan, K.D. Deshmukh, P.H. Punie, Kamal Kishor Commando, Dr. Ram Chandra Dome, Dr. Charles Dias, Rudramadhab Ray, Anand Prakash Paranjpe, B. Mahtab, Smt. Supriya Sule, O.S. Manian, Ganesh Singh, Chudhary Lal Singh, Vijay Bahadur Singh, Dharmendra Yadav, Dr. Manda Jagannath, Hansraj G. Ahir, Jayaram Pangi, Prabodh Panda, Inder Singh Namdhari, Sanjay Dhotre, Smt. Paramjit Kaur Gulshan, Ganeshrao Nagorao Dudhgaonkar, Umashankar Singh, Smt. Susmita Bauri, Pullin Bihari Baske, S.S. Ramasubbu, Sohan Potai, Sk. Saidul Haque, Mohd. E.T. Basheer, A.K.S. Vijayan, Prasanta Kumar Majumdar, Rajaram Pal, Nripendra Nath Roy, Satpal Maharaj, Mahendrasinh P. Chauhan, Jagdambika Pal, Raj Babbar, Arjun Ram Meghwal, Tufani Saroj, Adhalrao Patil Shivaji, Ramesh Bais, Kaushalendra Kumar, Mohan Jena and C. Rajendran, Dr. Nirmal Khatri, Smt. Priya Dutt

Taking part in the discussion, Shri Nama Nageswara Rao (TDP) said that the new rail lines proposed in this year's Budget require at least rupees one lakh crore for their completion whereas around Rs.80,000 crore are required for completion of the existing projects. But the railways has allocated only 10-15 per cent funds for these projects. For the completion of existing projects it would take 8-10 years with these funds and the new projects are proposed to be completed under the PPP model. He proposed a proper financing model to be put in place for the completion of the new projects otherwise there might be time and cost overrun in completing these projects.

Joining in the discussion, Shri Raju Shetti (SWP) said that a new railway line connecting Kolhapur to Konkan should be constructed and also demanded for doubling and electrification of Kolhapur-Pune line.

Taking part in the discussion, Shri Dara Singh Chauhan (BSP) said that as the district Mau in east being the most backward in Uttar Pradesh, and having no direct rail link to Metros, a terminal should be built there.

Replying to the debate on 9 March 2010, the Minister of Railways, Kumari Mamata Banerjee complimented all the members for their valuable suggestions. She said that ours is a democratic country and the Government has to work for the poor. Therefore, within six or seven months of the UPA-II, the Government has submitted Vision-2020. She said that in the last two-three years, we are a witness to the economic slowdown. The Government has also to pay the salaries and allowances to the employees, besides undertaking the developmental needs.

She said that she was concerned about the safety and security of the passengers. Law and order being a State subject, she wanted all the State Governments to give full protection to the passengers also because all the passengers belong to the country. She said that she would leave no stone unturned to fulfill the present demands of the Railways. She also said that she has done something for at least two-third of the MPs, and is trying to do whatever can be done. She also wanted to go ahead with the Dedicated Freight Corridor. Terming the unmanned level crossing as an area of concern, Kumari Banerjee said that these would be manned during the next five years.

As far as recruitment policy was concerned, she said that she has already started the process to clear the backlog and accordingly, have already issued employment letters to 29,000 persons. Terming

the *Duronto* as a very successful project, she wanted to congratulate the Railway officials, employees, engineers and the industries for that. She announced that she would go for *Maha Duronto* and High Speed Train also. An expert Committee under the leadership of Amit Mitra and Sam Pitroda was doing its job, said the Minister. With regard to multi-functional world class stations, she said that she has already issued instructions to the Railway Board. Whatever, announcements have been made in the Budget would be fulfilled, the Minister clarified. She announced that she would not go for privatization of Railways but railway lines are to be laid at many places, which would be done through the PPP route. She concluded her reply by saying that Railway was not only the lifeline of the country, it was the lifeline of our integration and also the real Hindustan. Kumari Banerjee requested the House to pass the Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2010-11.

All the cut motions moved were negatived. All the Demands for Grants (Railways) were voted in full.

The Bill was passed.

Motion of Thanks on the President's Address: Moving the Motion of Thanks* on 3 March 2010, on the President's Address, Rao Inderjit Singh (INC) said that commotion during the President's speech in the last two Budget Sessions was unfortunate. He thought that the sanctity of the President's office was lost by this action. Referring to the price-rise in the past two-three years, he said that it is a continuous process. Despite the falling of world class institutions, our economy sustained its positive growth. He opined that the Government for the

* Those who participated in the discussion were: Sarvashri Mulayam Singh Yadav, Gorekhnath Pandey, Kalyan Banerjee, Dr. M. Thambidurai, Baijayant Panda, Rajiv Ranjan Singh *alias* Lalan Singh, T.K.S. Elangovan, Basu Deb Acharia, Nama Nageswara Rao, Prabodh Panda, Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, Virendra Kumar, Sher Singh Ghubaya, Arjun Ram Meghwal, Mehendra Singh P. Chauhan, Ramashankar Rajbher, Adhir Chowdhury, Ninong Ering, Ramashankar Rajbher, Yogi Aditya Nath, Radha Mohan Singh, Anant Gangaram Geete, Dr. Baliram, Jose K. Mani, Surenda Adhikai, D. Tarun Mandal, Inder Singh Namdhari, Mohd. Asrawal Haque, Ganesh Singh, S.D. Shariq, Pralhad Joshi, Narahari Mahato, Asaduddin Owaisi, Dr. Thokchom Meinya, Dr. Vijay Bahuguna, Balkrishna Khanderao Shukla, D. Shafiqur Rahman Barq, Smt. Botcha Jhansi Lakshmi, Prasanta Kumar Majumdar, Rajendra Agrawal, Lalu Prasad, Bhausaheb Rajaram Wakchaure, A. Ganeshamurthi, Bishnu Pada Ray, Naveen Jindal, Jagdambika Pal, Kaushalendra Kumar, Joseph Toppo, Dr. Arvind Kumar Sharma, Raju Shetti, Khagen Das, Dr. Bholu Singh, Abu Hasem Khar Choudhury, Mohan Jena, Smt. Jayshreeben Patel, Badruddin Ajmal, Dr. Kirit Premjibhai Solanki, Tufani Saroj, Rakesh Sachan, Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi, Harish Choudhary, J.M. Aaron Rashid, Sameer Bhujbal, Sk. Saidul Haque, Jayant Choudhary.

past six years has been doing a good job for this country. Loans of the farmers to the tune of Rs.70,000 crore was waived. This is an achievement of the UPA Government.

Seconding the Motion of thanks to the President's Address, Kumari Meenakshi Natrajan (INC) said that the poor should be identified and brought in the mainstream of global economy. Under the present global set-up, there is a need to achieve excellence in the field of education. She said that for the first time the rights of *adivasis* living in the forest for centuries have found mention in the President's Address. She also applauded the move of seven lakh land titles being allotted under the Forest Rights Act.

Taking part in the Motion, Shri L.K. Advani (BJP) said that this was the only motion which was moved by the ruling side and did not face any opposition because it was the motion of thanks. The policies of the Government are criticized but the motion is not opposed and is passed unanimously. Sometimes we carry on with certain practices just because we have been following them for long but we need to ponder over the idea to modify them if the need arises. President's Address is prepared by the Cabinet, hence it is expected that it would give credit to the Government for rising above the party politics. He referred to the Presidents' Address which had mentioned and applauded the AGNI-III. However, he added that even now, to a large extent, our defence forces depend upon foreign weapon systems. He urged to take concrete steps to bring about indigenization in our weapon systems.

In the last year, a large number of service personnel had actively campaigned for 'one rank one pension'. Subsequently, hon'ble Prime Minister had announced from the ramparts of the Red Fort that the Government has accepted the recommendations made by the committee headed by the Cabinet Secretary. Not only this, even the Minister of Finance had computed the expenditure on this item and had said that the Government would have to shell out approximately Rs.2,100 crore for their pension. The President's Address has also mentioned that her Government has devised a system with regard to the pension demands of the Ex-servicemen. Shri Advani wanted a categorical statement from the Government so that our *jawans* and officers should not have any grievance. He also demanded for a White Paper on Black Money to be tabled in the House showing all the progress made in bringing back that money from foreign banks to our country. He also referred to rising prices of essential commodities which has generated a lot of agitation and concern among the people of our country. This inflation is not only due to the mismanagement of the

economy, but also due to the scandals relating to export and import, said Shri Advani. He demanded a Joint Parliamentary Committee on this.

Shri Advani also laid importance on the electoral expenses to be borne by the Government. He also wanted elections to Lok Sabha and State Assemblies to be held simultaneously after every five year. For this, he said that we have to introduce an amendment to the Constitution. It would benefit the governance as well as polity of the country and the expenses too would come down, opined Shri Advani.

Replying to the discussion on the Motion on 5 March 2010, the Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh thanked the august House in conveying our sincere thanks to the hon'ble President of India for her enlightening Address.

Dr. Singh said that our economy's performance has to be judged against the twin impacts of the international financial crisis which suddenly erupted in September 2008 and the subsequent failure of the south west monsoon in the year 2009. He termed the Government dealing with the financial crisis praiseworthy. He underlined the fact that under the impact of the global economic crisis, the mighty countries of the world have experienced negative growth rates. In 2008-09, India's growth rate also declined, but we managed to maintain a growth rate of 6.7 per cent. In the current year, Dr. Singh hoped growth rate of minimum of 7.2 per cent, which could go up to 7.5 per cent.

As regards price-rise, Dr. Singh said that the Government would always be sensitive to the concerns of the *aam aadmi*. The Prime Minister informed that the Government was alive to the problem of rising prices and had taken all possible measures to address the issue. In 2009, we had one of the most severe drought in recent history, the worst since 1972. As a result, the production of food grains, pulses and oilseeds had been adversely affected. Production of sugarcane has also gone down. However, Dr. Singh assured that there should be no panic on the food situation front considering the comfortable level of food stocks that are available with the Central Government. Besides, *Rabi* prospects were also very encouraging and post-monsoon rains were good. All this augured well for our ability to stabilize food prices at a reasonable level, said the Prime Minister. As regards sharp increase in sugar prices, the Prime Minister said that it was due to the cyclical nature of production of sugarcane. He wanted to find ways and means to stabilize the sugar economy.

Terming the overall security situation in our country as satisfactory, Dr. Singh said that a number of concrete steps have been taken to strengthen and reorient our security architecture in order to meet the growing threats of terrorism, insurgency and communalism. He also apprised the House about taking firm action to curb naxalite violence.

Responding to the remarks by some members as to the negative growth in agriculture sector, Dr. Singh said that it has been growing at an average rate of four per cent during the period 2005-2008 compared to the growth rate of around two per cent from 1997 to 2002. He also apprised the House about the stepped up investment in agriculture through the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme, the *Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana*, the National Food Security Mission, the National Horticulture Mission and other such schemes. The Prime Minister went on to say that Government was very sensitive to the issue of farmers' suicide. The loans of small and marginal farmers had been waived and for other farmers, a one time settlement had been made. A special package for suicide-prone districts of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala has been implemented, informed the Prime Minister.

Dr. Singh informed the House that his Government has accorded a very high priority to the welfare of minorities. Most of the recommendations of the *Sachar Committee* have been accepted. Under the new 15 Point Programme, at least 15 per cent of benefits in certain schemes flow to minorities, and the schemes for minority welfare are being closely monitored, Dr. Singh added. On the issue of right of tribals over forest land, he said that his Government was making genuine efforts together with the State Governments to ensure early disposal of claims and distribution of titles under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act.

So far as the issue of black-money deposits in foreign countries is concerned, twenty countries have been prioritized for entering into agreements regarding exchange of information and assistance in the collection of tax. The Union Government has also approached Switzerland so as to have access to bank information, informed the Prime Minister. Further, the Prime Minister announced that he had constituted a Committee under the Cabinet Secretary to look into the issue of 'One Rank, One Pension' and other related matters.

As regards the proposed electoral reforms, Dr. Singh urged to have broad based political consensus on this. The recommendations of the Election Commission regarding electoral reforms and other

proposals received by the Government was under the consideration of the Standing Committee of Parliament, Dr. Singh informed.

The Prime Minister also informed that the Women's Reservation Bill was introduced in the Rajya Sabha in May 2008 and hoped that it would be passed in the Parliament in the very session and sought the support the Bill as the strongest affirmation of his Government's commitment to the empowerment of women. On the Government's foreign policy, Dr. Singh said that it has been based on national consensus and full adherence to the principles of objectives laid down by the founding fathers of our Constitution. The situation in our neighbourhood is a matter of high priority for the Government. He reaffirmed that our policy towards Pakistan is consistent, cautious and realistic. Dialogue is the only way forward for civilized countries to resolve their problem. But it is equally true that for any meaningful dialogue to proceed, terrorism has to be controlled by Pakistan even if non-state actors are at work, Dr. Singh emphasized. The Prime Minister sought the cooperation and support of all sections of the House for this.

The Motion was adopted.

*Regarding Price Rise: Initiating the debate**, on 25 February 2010, Smt. Sushma Swaraj (BJP) and the Leader of the Opposition said that during the past five years, this was the ninth occasion when the discussion on the issue of price rise was being taken up under Rule 193. Besides, the issue was also taken up through Calling Attention and Special Mentions. By this, the troubles and travails caused by price rise was being highlighted in Parliament. She said that the basic food consumed by a common man comprises of flour, rice, pulses, mustard oil, tea, sugar, salt, spices and the vegetables which are getting beyond their reach. It was ironic that the poor were being denied the right of having two square meals. She pointed out that the

* Those who participated in the discussion were: Sarvashri Sanjay Nirupam, Mulayam Singh Yadav, Dara Singh Chauhan, Sharad Yadav, Dr. Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar, T.R. Baalu, Basu Deb Acharia, Pranab Mukherjee, B. Mahtab, Anant Gangaram Geete, Dr. M. Thambidurai, Nama Nageswara Rao, Lalu Prasad, Gurudas Dasgupta, Smt. Botcha Jhansi Lakshmi, Radha Mohan Singh, Ravindra Kumar Pandey, Kaushalendra Kumar, Kirit Premjibhai Solanki, Brijbhushan Sharan Singh, Dr. Rattan Singh Ajnala, Narahari Mahato, Virender Kashyap, Prem Das, Prasanta Kumar Majumdar, Shailendra Kumar, Gorakhnath Pandey, Prem Das Rai, Raju Shetti, P.L. Punia, Tufani Saroj, P. Karunakaran, Dr. Baliram, Arjun Ram Meghwal, SK Saidul Haque, and Sharad Yadav

President, in her Address had also referred to the burden of price rise. The four reasons attributed to the price rise by the Government could be stated as shortfall in domestic production, the enhanced prices of rice, pulses and oil in the international market, payment of increased procurement prices to the farmers and increase in the income in the rural areas. She thought that all the four reasons were unfounded and beyond truth, since the Agriculture Minister had himself stated while speaking in the Economic Editors' Conference that the year 2008-09 had been a good year for agriculture with the agriculture production touching 233.38 million tonnes of foodgrains. She said that the Government now wanted to escape from its responsibility under the cover of drought. She went on to debunk the reasons of price-rise put forth by the Government. The first reason for price rise was stated to be shortfall in domestic production which, she said, is not true. The second reason has been attributed to the price rise of pulses, rice and oil in the international market, while in the international market, the price of wheat had come down from Rs.11 in December 2008 to Rs.8.51 in February, 2010. Likewise, the price of rice came down from Rs.14.59 in January 2008 to Rs.14.45 in February 2009. Hence, the prices had fallen in the international market. The third reason was stated to be the enhanced payment of Minimum Support Price (MSP) to the farmers. As per the data available, the MSP was Rs.8.50 per kg. in 2007-08, Rs.10 per kg. in 2008-09 and Rs.10.80 per kg in 2009-10. However, the consumers got the flour at the rate of Rs.15 per kg. It was being sold at the rate of Rs.17 per kg when the MSP was Rs.10. Similarly, it was being sold at the rate of Rs.20 per kg when the MSP was Rs. 10.80. She said that the Government was saying that increase in MSP had led to price rise. This plea could be accepted if the margin between the MSP and the market price has been Rs.1.50 to Rs.2. However, there is no relation between the MSP being paid to the farmers and the retail prices prevailing in the market. So far as the farmers were concerned, Smt. Swaraj said that on one hand they were given relief, on the other hand the same was snatched from them. The fourth reason advanced by the Government for the price rise was stated to be the increased income of the poor, as the Rural Development Programmes were stated to be implemented at an accelerated pace. Of late, the labour was doubly hit by the price rise as well as the corruption. She proceeded to substantiate this by saying that a labour gets Rs.10,000 per annum if he gets the wages of Rs.100 per day for hundred days in a year. This works out to be Rs.850 per month. She alleged that the Government took credit that the income of poor has gone up. She wanted to put the four reasons

of price rise which she termed as wheat scam, the rice scam, the pulse scam and the sugar scam.

She demanded that a Joint Parliamentary Committee should be constituted to enquire such scams. Smt. Swaraj said that there are four pillars to ensure Food Security and the Government was undermining all these four pillars. The first pillar requires the accurate figures about poverty, second relates to production, third is sufficient storage and the fourth one is effective distribution system. She also emphasized that food security cannot be ensured if these pillars are not strengthened.

Participating in the discussion, Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav (SP) said that prices are rising despite the announcements made by the Government to contain them. He said that Samajwadi Party believed in the policy of price ceiling. He wanted to fix the prices and not to allow anyone to earn more than one and half per cent profit on the products manufactured by the factories. He further said that the godowns are full of wheat and sugar and the people die of starvation, which can not be tolerated for long. He alleged that the policies of the Union Government were responsible for the price rise and the Public Distribution System was a total failure. He wanted to know from the Government as to by when and how far the prices would be brought under control.

Participating in the discussion, Shri Dara Singh Chauhan (BSP) said that price rise is the result of wrong economic policies of the Government. He further said that prices have been rising at far greater pace than the rise in the income of the common man. Therefore, he wanted the Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of Finance to find a way out to lessen the impact of price rise.

Taking part in the discussion, Shri T.R. Baalu (DMK) said that the issue of price rise of essential goods is of great concern to everybody, and especially to the middle, low-middle-class and the poor people. But the people should understand that the Central Government is not the only government that is responsible for the price rise. He suggested that the Government of India should come forward and go in for Universal Public Distribution System (PDS) throughout India. Additional allocation of rice and wheat should be made to the PDS at the APL prices, Shri Baalu opined.

Shri Basu Deb Acharia (CPI-M) said that there has been relentless increase in the prices of food grains, edible oils, and pulses and the food inflation has crossed 20 per cent. He was of the view that in order to mitigate the sufferings of the BPL families, they should be

provided with subsidized foodgrains, edible oil and other items. Shri Acharia demanded from the Minister of Agriculture and Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution as to what concrete steps would be taken by the Government to mitigate their sufferings.

Sharing his views on the discussion, the Minister of Finance, Shri Pranab Mukherjee said that the issue of price rise was not only sensitive but also affected the life of every one of us, particularly the more vulnerable sections of the society. When the prices of essential commodities go beyond the reach of the common people, it affects the poor. He wanted to put his observations in this regard. First of all, Shri Mukherjee said that any amount of rhetoric and any amount of accusation cannot alter the laws of the economy—neither the laws of demand and supply nor the laws of too much money chasing too few goods. He felt that if the country did not produce the quantum of pulses it required, there would be shortage. He said that nobody was denying that the prices had risen. He said that the Indian economy has the resilience, has the capacity to overcome that. Our farmers, our workers and our managers have the capacity to overcome this crisis.

As regards increase in the sugar price, export-import was pinpointed as the root cause of the price rise. However, Shri Mukherjee thought it the other way. He said that even if we were in short supply, we should have to import to meet our requirement. If we had excess, we should have to export it. So, Shri Mukherjee said that the answer lied that one should have the system so that there was not a drastic reduction, a drastic mismatch between the supply and demand management. He further added that when the market prices of wheat, rice and paddy went up very high, the sugar-cane farmers also changed because they noticed that in the preceding five years, the enhancement was only Rs.60, an average of Rs.12 for five years. However, he agreed with their observation that long-term, even medium-term solution lies, particularly to ensure our food security, by infusing massive investment in agriculture.

Joining in the discussion, Shri Anant Gangaram Geete (Shiv Sena) said that during the six-year tenure of UPA, this was the ninth time that the House was discussing the price rise. Shri Geete said that the onus for price rise lies on the Government of India. The Government of India can not shy away from its responsibilities by accusing the state Governments, said Shri Geete. He also urged the Government to take concrete measure to contain inflation.

Participating in the discussion, Dr. M. Thambidurai (AIADMK) said that when production goes down, the price increases. He said that the shortage of food production in India was because the farmer was not being given a remunerative price. Input costs of farm production were increasing and the price the farmers are getting is becoming lesser and lesser. Further, he wanted the Central Government to set up some kind of corporation to procure the products from the farmers and send them to the consumers directly through the cooperative system.

Participating in the discussion, Shri Nama Nageswara Rao (TDP) emphasized that the Government should protect the farmers by upwardly revising the MSP and there should also be no middlemen between the farmer and consumer.

Joining in the discussion, Shri Lalu Prasad (RJD) said that the prices of not only sugar but the prices of all the essential commodities have been sky-rocketing. He alleged that the Government departments lacked coordination in tackling price-rise.

Participating in the discussion, Shri Gurudas Dasgupta (CPI-M) said that reckless liberalization is the reason for the food price increase without adequate safeguards, and said that the Government had no political will to curb the price rise.

Joining in the discussion, Dr. Rattan Singh Ajnala (SAD) suggested that the States should be given the right to fix MSP for all items in order to control the price rise.

Taking part in the discussion, Shri Narahari Mahato (AIFB) said that Price rise is a burning problem today and suggested that production should be increased and universal PDS policy should be formulated.

Replying to the debate on 25 February 2010, the Minister of Agriculture and Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Shri Sharad Pawar said that the escalation of food prices witnessed in the last few months was a serious issue which impacted the livelihood of many. Efforts had also been made to supply the surplus commodities from the Government godowns to the states. Shri Pawar informed that the Prime Minister had called a meeting of all the state Chief Ministers on the issue of price rise wherein every Chief Minister shared his experience and views and a committee comprising of Chief Ministers of some states and some Union Ministers had been constituted and its terms of reference had also been fixed. He observed that though the prices of a few essential commodities have gone up, the

declining trend has also started. A special cell under the Ministry of Consumer Affairs collects daily figures of many items and reports to the concerned Ministry, said Shri Pawar.

Shri Pawar observed that whenever there was a mismatch between demand and supply of essential commodities, the Government wanted to improve the availability. Accordingly, Policy decisions were taken to encourage imports and simultaneously discourage exports for the sake of improving availability. The Government of India has also given considerable support to the PDS to ensure that the vulnerable sections of the country are protected, informed the Minister. Since the year 2002, the issue price of wheat and rice has not been changed for AAY, BPL and APL.

The Minister said that about 62 per cent of the population of this country depend on agriculture. Unless and until we improve the overall condition of the sizeable sections of the society, we would not be able to improve the country and its economy. So, it was deliberately decided to improve the purchasing power of this particular section. The prices of all other items were going up and there was a huge difference between the price of produce of farmers and all other commodities. The UPA Government made all efforts to bridge the gap between the prices. To boost production, the minimum support price of wheat, paddy, pulses, oilseeds and cotton has been increased. He further said that the issue price under PDS for all the three categories *i.e.*, AAY, BPL and APL has been kept unchanged. About six years ago, the total burden of the subsidy was Rs.19,000 crore but this year we would cross Rs.72,000 crore.

The Minister said that after meeting the requirement of buffer stock of 118 lakh tonnes rice as per buffer norms, there was a stock of 242 lakh tonnes as on 1 January 2010. Besides, the Government made an effort to contain the prices by selling two million lakh tonnes more in the open market, and ensured 20 lakh tonnes of additional supply of wheat to the flour mills. To the allegation that despite shortage of non-basmati rice in the country, Government had exported it, Shri Pawar said that the Government had not exported any rice during 2008-09 and 2009-10. Only nine lakh fifty thousand tonnes of rice has been exported to our neighbouring countries on the diplomatic ground. To the allegation that this Government had exported wheat also, Shri Pawar said that this information was also not correct. He further clarified that practically, the Government had stopped export of wheat, rice, pulses, all types of edible oils and sugar. Replying to the alleged export of sugar, Shri Pawar said that last year, only one lakh

thirty thousand tonnes of sugar had been exported. It was done because there was an old contract for the same. It was done on the condition that equivalent quantity of sugar had also to be imported. To the question as to why buffer stock of sugar had not been maintained, Shri Pawar said that sugar cannot be stored for one, one and a half years. The price of sugar had come down in the domestic as well as international market and the Government was supposed to protect the interests of farmers under such circumstances. Dues towards cane exceeded Rs.4,000 crore. Under such circumstances, the Government was left with no option but to dismantle the stock and encourage export. That is why financial support in form of export incentive to export sugar was provided from the sugar development fund. The Government stopped export of sugar when it felt that the overall sugarcane production was declining. Shri Pawar said that now the Government has allowed anybody to import sugar. They can import raw sugar and fine sugar. Shri Pawar said that he believed that the farmers would make all efforts to increase production once they get the remunerative price for their produce and all efforts would be made to bridge the gap between the demand and supply.

The discussion was concluded.

Regarding Talks between India and Pakistan: Making a Statement in the House on the above issue on 26 February 2010, the Minister of External Affairs, Shri S.M. Krishna said that India and Pakistan held talks at the level of Foreign Secretaries in New Delhi the day before, i.e., on 25 February 2010. The delegation of Pakistan was led by the Foreign Secretary of Pakistan, Mr. Salman Bashir, informed the Minister. He added that the invitation to the Pakistan Foreign Secretary should be seen in the context of Government's desire to ensure communication between the two countries, to address the core concerns relating to terrorism directed against us from Pakistan, and pending humanitarian issues.

The Minister wished to inform the august House that the two sides held a frank, constructive and useful meeting. The Indian delegation stated clearly and in a forthright manner India's continuing concerns on terrorism. While noting the steps taken so far by Pakistan regarding the Mumbai terrorist attack, it was conveyed that these steps did not go far enough to bring the perpetrators of the Mumbai terrorist attack to book in an expeditious and transparent manner, nor were these steps enough to unveil the full conspiracy behind the attack. Our Foreign Secretary also stressed the need for Pakistan to take effective

action to ban the anti-India activities of organizations such as *Jamaat-ud-Dawa*, which has been proscribed by the *Al-Qaida* and *Taliban* Sanctions Committee established under the UNSC Resolution 1267, and their leaders who had openly and blatantly espoused an agenda of violence and terrorism against India, and also to dismantle the infrastructure of terrorism which continued to exist in the territory under Pakistan's control and used against India. Concerns regarding increased infiltration into India and ceasefire violations by Pakistan across the Line of Control were also conveyed and Pakistan asked to take necessary steps to prevent the same.

The Indian delegation reiterated the need to fulfill the repeated assurances given by the leaders of Pakistan not to allow the use of Pakistani soil for terrorist activities against India. The four rounds of Composite Dialogue between the two countries between 2004 and 2007 had been premised on those assurances, the Minister opined.

The Minister further apprised the House that Pakistan Foreign Secretary expressed the desire and determination of the Government of Pakistan to make all possible efforts for a successful conclusion of the Mumbai attack trial which was underway in Pakistan. He stated that Pakistan was determined not to allow its territory to be used for terrorist activity against any country, and said that the additional information provided by India would be studied. The two delegations also agreed to address some urgent and humanitarian matters relating to the release of fishermen and prisoners in each other's custody.

The Minister went on to add that Pakistan raised certain issues of interest to it, which the Government responded by reiterating our stated position that outstanding issues in the relationship should be resolved through bilateral dialogue in an atmosphere of mutual trust and confidence, free of terror and violence. On Pakistan's view that the Composite Dialogue between the two countries should be restored, the Government responded that the resumption of such a process would have to await the restoration of greater trust and confidence.

The talks between India and Pakistan on 25 February 2010, represent an encouraging step towards restoring dialogue and better communication between the two Governments. The two Foreign Secretaries had agreed to remain in touch and continued this endeavour.

As the hon'ble Prime Minister has said in this august House, we cannot wish away the fact that Pakistan is our neighbour. Government is convinced that we must not shut the door on dialogue with Pakistan,

and that such a dialogue, if it gathers momentum, holds tremendous potential for the progress and well-being of the people of our region, the Minister opined.

India's engagement with Pakistan would be predicated, as it has been since the Mumbai terrorist attack, on the response of Pakistan to our core concerns on terrorism. However, the Minister said that we did not dilute our position, or our resolve to defeat terrorism, as our hon'ble Prime Minister has said, by talking to any country. Communication and engagement represent the best way forward, said the Minister.

Regarding Prime Minister's Visit to Saudi Arabia: Making a Statement on 4 March 2010, the Minister of External Affairs, Shri S.M. Krishna informed the august House about the historic visit of the hon'ble Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from 27 February to 1 March 2010, at the invitation of His Majesty King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz Al-Saud.

The Prime Minister's visit to Saudi Arabia took place 28 years after the last visit by an Indian Prime Minister, that of late Smt. Indira Gandhi in 1982. The Hon'ble Prime Minister's visit provided an opportunity for the two leaders to review the progress in bilateral relations in recent years, and in particular, the implementation of the Delhi Declaration. They also discussed regional and global issues of mutual interest.

Saudi Arabia is an important country and a factor of stability in the region. It is the largest country and economy in the GCC. Economic ties constitute a solid foundation of our relations. Our bilateral trade has seen exponential growth exceeding US\$ 25 billion in 2008-09. Saudi Arabia is a reliable, valuable and major supplier of crude oil to India. We import about 20 per cent of our energy requirements from Saudi Arabia which may be further increased over time to meet our energy and development needs. We have been assured of continued Saudi understanding and support in this regard, said the Minister.

The most important outcome of the visit was the signing of the historic Riyadh Declaration by the Prime Minister and His Majesty King Abdullah, in which India and Saudi Arabia decided to raise our cooperation to a strategic partnership covering security, economic, defence and political areas. In particular, both leaders emphasised the importance of strengthening the strategic energy partnership. It was also agreed that both sides would work towards meeting their vast requirements relating to infrastructure and development by augmenting

the flow of investments into each other's countries, the Minister informed.

The two leaders renewed their condemnation of the phenomena of terrorism, extremism and violence, affirming that it is global and threatens all societies and is not linked to any race, colour or belief. The two sides agreed to enhance cooperation in exchange of information relating to terrorist activities, money laundering, narcotics, arms and human trafficking, and develop joint strategies to combat these threats. In addition, the following Agreements and MoUs were signed: Extradition Treaty; Agreement for Transfer of Sentenced Persons; Memorandum of Understanding between the Indian Space Research Organisation and the King Abdul Aziz City for Science and Technology for cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space; Agreement on scientific and technological cooperation between the Department of Science and Technology and the King Abdul Aziz City for Science and Technology in Saudi Arabia; and an MOU on Cultural Cooperation between the respective Ministries of Culture, informed the Minister. Several other Agreements in the business, trade, research and education, media and information technology sectors were also signed on the sidelines of the visit.

As a special gesture, the Prime Minister was invited to address the *Majlis Al Shoura* in Saudi Arabia. The prestigious Government University, the King Saud University, conferred an honorary Doctorate on the hon'ble Prime Minister.

A high powered CEOs' delegation also accompanied the Prime Minister. They had productive interactions with their Saudi counterparts. There was significant interest in directing Saudi investible surpluses to our infrastructure sector and other mutually beneficial projects. The Prime Minister addressed captains of the Saudi business and industry.

The Prime Minister also interacted with a cross-section of the Indian community in Saudi Arabia, which numbers nearly 1.8 million and is the single largest population of Indian passport holders outside India. The Prime Minister applauded their hard work and assured them that their welfare was of paramount concern to us. The Saudi leadership expressed their deep appreciation for the contribution of the Indian community to the development of the Saudi economy.

The visit of the hon'ble Prime Minister was highly successful and has underscored the mutual desire of both countries to take our bilateral relation to a higher level, opined the Minister.

Regarding Attacks on Indians in Australia: Making a Statement in the House on 25 February 2010, the Minister of External Affairs, Shri S.M. Krishna said that the attacks on Indian students have been coming to our notice for over two years, since 2007 when some students were assaulted in Sydney. In 2008 and 2009 also, there were other sporadic instances of assaults on Indian students, including some working as taxi drivers in Melbourne and in Adelaide. However, it was since May 2009 that there seemed to have been a significant increase in the number and frequency of attacks on Indians in Australia. Each assault was taken up with the Australian authorities, at the state level by the Consulates General and at the state and federal levels by the High Commission of India, said the Minister.

The matter of the growing number of assaults on Indian students was taken up in May-June, 2009 at the highest level by Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh with Prime Minister Kevin Rudd and by the Minister himself with Foreign Minister Stephen Smith. The Minister said that he visited Australia in August 2009 and conveyed India's concerns to Prime Minister Kevin Rudd and Foreign Minister Stephen Smith.

During the visit of Prime Minister Mr. Kevin Rudd to India on 12 November 2009, Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh conveyed the high priority that Government of India attached to the safety, security and well-being of Indian community in Australia. Mr. Rudd reiterated the Australian Government's commitment to taking all possible measures to protect the safety and welfare of all international students including Indian students.

Our High Commission in Australia and the Consulates General in Melbourne and Sydney each have a Community Welfare and Student Liaison Officer (CWSLO) who is on call 24/7, and whose mobile number is on our website as our emergency response number. Any problem involving an Indian student or member of the community is handled by the CWSLO in coordination with the High Commissioner/ Consuls General, said the Minister. In Australia, a Task Force headed by the Australian National Security Advisor was set up in the office of Australian Prime Minister on this issue and liaise with state governments on the action being taken by them. Further, the Minister added that there had been eight Ministerial level visits from Australia to India in 2009. Many of these were focused on addressing our growing concerns about the safety and well-being of Indian students. The Australian federal and state government authorities have taken action in providing relief to Indian students affected due to the sudden closure of certain

colleges, in making them aware of their rights and relocating them in other colleges.

The Australian Government has recently set up a high-level Working Group under overall charge of Foreign Minister Stephen Smith to deal with this issue on an urgent basis, informed the Minister.

The Minister further said that India-Australia relations have been expanding rapidly over the last few years. India attaches importance to its relationship with Australia and we are committed to further strengthening and expanding our relations to cover virtually every area of interaction. People to people contacts are at the heart of any relationship. It is estimated that almost half a million Indians (including 97,000 Indian students) and people of Indian origin live in Australia today. The older, more established Indian community in Australia consists largely of skilled professionals, such as doctors, accountants, engineers and academics. It has traditionally been seen as a model migrant community and lauded for its contribution to the Australian economy, having settled and integrated well, and highly regarded for their industry and skills. The Indian community through its culture and values is contributing in making Australia the vibrant multi-cultural society that it is today. They are a vital bond between our two countries.

The Minister added that he took the incidents of assault on Indian students very seriously. The Minister also wanted to assure the House that the Australian authorities have been fully apprised of the gravity of the situation. As a result, both at the state as well as the federal level, they have taken several measures as outlined above, to improve security and surveillance; the Minister also informed that the Australian authorities are making efforts to meet our concerns. However, as could be seen, the issue consisted of several complex factors, all of which are interlinked and needed to be dealt with in a concerted and coordinated manner.

The Minister also assured the House that the Government would continue to monitor the situation closely and work closely with the Australian authorities to deal with the issues concerned and improve the safety and security of our students in Australia.

Regarding Women Empowerment: Making a Statement in the House on 8 March 2010, the Minister of State of the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Smt. Krishna Tirath said that the 'International Women's Day was being celebrated with the theme 'Equal Rights, Equal Opportunities: Progress for All'. As per 2001 census, women

constitute 48 per cent of the total population. Women as important human resource were recognized by the Constitution of India which not only accorded equality to women but also empowered the state to adopt measures of positive discrimination in their favour.

Poverty is one of the most stubborn of human afflictions and amongst the poor, the women are the worst sufferers. The Ministry of Women and Child Development until recently, *i.e.*, 31 March 2008 was running the '*Swayam Siddha Programme*' which aimed at holistic empowerment of women through the medium of Self Help Groups (SHGs). Under the Scheme, 69,774 SHGs were formed with 10.02 lakh beneficiaries in 650 blocks. On the basis of the result of the evaluation of the programme and the lessons learnt in its implementation, the Ministry proposed to expand the coverage of the Scheme.

As the majority of the women work force is employed in informal sector, there was a felt need for a scheme which would ensure income generation, welfare, support services, training, upgradation of skills etc. In this regard, a Scheme "Support to Training and Employment Programme (STEP)" was launched in Seventh Plan which is being implemented successfully.

The Minister emphasized that the Government was committed to launch a *National Mission on Socio-economic Empowerment of Women* under which various women-centric and women related programmes of the Government would be implemented in a holistic manner. The focus would be on empowerment of women with a view to empowering them socially, economically, and educationally. The Mission would be endeavouring to achieve empowerment of women on all these fronts by securing convergence of schemes/programmes of different Ministries/ Departments. The Government also proposed to appoint a High Level Committee to study socio-economic status of women and the findings of the committee would guide the Government about the interventions required for holistic empowerment of Indian women, the Minister added.

Regarding Issues relating to Copenhagen Accord: Making a Statement in the House on 9 March 2010, the Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Shri Jairam Ramesh said that he had last made a statement on the subject on 3 December 2009. Following this, the 15th Conference of Parties to the UNFCCC took place at Copenhagen, Denmark. On return from Copenhagen, he made a statement in the Rajya Sabha on 22 December 2009, when he briefed the members about the outcomes of the Conference. He had also highlighted the

role played by the BASIC Group of countries—Brazil, South Africa, India and China—in the negotiations relating to the Copenhagen Accord. The Accord itself was negotiated by 29 countries and was taken note of by the CoP on 19 December 2009.

On 23-24 January 2010, the Environment Ministers of the BASIC Group of countries met in New Delhi to review the Copenhagen Conference and subsequent developments. The Ministers agreed to communicate, for information of the UNFCCC Secretariat, the voluntary mitigation actions of its member countries. India did so on 30 January 2010 and communicated that it would endeavour to reduce the emissions intensity of GDP by 20-25 per cent by 2020 in comparison to the 2005 level. While doing so, it was clarified that the proposed domestic actions were voluntary in nature and would not have a legally binding character. Further, these actions would be implemented in accordance with the provisions of the relevant national legislations and policies as well as the principles and relevant provisions of the UNFCCC, said the Minister.

On 3 February 2010, India received a letter from the Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC asking whether India wished to be listed in the Chapeau of the Copenhagen Accord. Listing in Chapeau of the Accord implies that India participated in the negotiations on Copenhagen Accord and also stand by the Accord. After careful consideration, India has agreed to such a listing, the Minister informed. The Minister further informed the House that India has communicated its decision to the UNFCCC Secretariat with three conditions. First, the Accord is a political document and is not legally binding. It is not a template for outcomes. Second, the Copenhagen Accord is not a separate, third track of negotiations outside the UNFCCC. Third, the purpose of the Copenhagen Accord is to bring about a consensus in the existing and on-going, two-track multilateral negotiations process under the UNFCCC. The Accord could have value if the areas of convergence reflected in the Accord were used to help the Parties reach agreed outcomes under the UN multilateral negotiations in the two tracks, said the Minister. He believed that India's decision to be listed reflects the role it played in giving shape to the Copenhagen Accord. This would strengthen our negotiating position on climate change.

B. QUESTION HOUR

Certain provisions governing questions in the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha and Directions by the Speaker,

Lok Sabha were amended. These amendments, inter-alia, provide that not less than fifteen clear days' notice of a questions shall be given by a member, unless the Speaker otherwise directs. These amendments also provide that if a question on being called is not asked or the member in whose name it stands is absent, the Speaker may direct that the answer to it be given. Besides, as per these amendments, a member is allowed to give not more than ten notices of questions both for oral and written answers, in all, for any day. These amendments came into force, with effect from the Fifteenth Session.

The Fourth Session of Fifteenth Lok Sabha commenced on 22 February 2010, and adjourned *sine-die* on 7 May 2010.

In all 44,456 notices of questions were received, out of which 31,728 were Starred, 12,703 Unstarred and 25 Short Notice Questions. The maximum number of notices of Starred and Unstarred Questions included for ballot was 1,071 and 447 for 21 April 2010. The minimum number of notices of Starred and Unstarred Questions included for ballot was 390 and 3 for 6 and 5 May 2010, respectively. The maximum number of Members included for ballot was 344 for 21 April 2010, and the minimum number of Members included for ballot was 175 for 2 March 2010.

All the notices were examined with a view to deciding their admissibility or otherwise. Out of these, 620 notices were included in lists of Starred Questions, 7,029 were included in the lists of Unstarred Questions and none was included in the Short Notice Question List.

Due to interruptions in the House on 23 and 24 February 2010, Starred Questions were not called for oral answers. Replies to Starred Questions listed for those days were treated as Unstarred and their answers, together with the answers to Unstarred Questions, were printed in official report of the day.

Due to interruptions on 15 and 27 April 2010, the House adjourned for the day after the obituary reference, Starred Questions were therefore, not called for oral answer. Replies to Starred Questions listed for those days were treated as Unstarred and their answers together with the answers to Unstarred Questions were printed in the official report of those days.

On 25 February 2010, Question Hour was dispensed with and Starred Questions listed for the day were therefore, treated as unstarred

and their answers together with the answers to unstarred questions were printed in the official report of the day.

Daily Average of Questions in the List of Question: The average number of Starred Questions answered orally in each sitting of the House during the session was two. The maximum number of Starred Questions answered orally on a single day was five on 16 March, 19, 22 and 29 April and 6 May 2010.

The average number of Unstarred Questions appearing in the List came to 213 per day against the prescribed limit of 230, the minimum being 191 Questions on 29 April 2010.

Half-an-Hour Discussion: In all, 19 notices of Half-an-Hour Discussions were received during the Session. Out of them, only eight notices were admitted but none discussed on the floor of the House.

C. OBITUARY REFERENCES

During Session, obituary references were made to the passing away of Sarvashri Arvind Tulsiram Kamble, Nageshwar Dwivedi, Jagpal Singh, Virdhi Chander Jain, Ram Niwas Mirdha, Janeswar Mishra, Brahmananda Panda, Chowkhamoon Gohain, D.N. Reddy, Madhukar Sirpoddar, Khagapati Pradhani, Ashok Singh and Nanaji Deshmukh, all former members.

The House was also apprised of the demise of Shri Jyoti Basu, former Chief Minister of West Bengal having the distinction of being the longest Chief Minister in the country from 1977 to 2000.

Obituary references were also made for the victims of terrorist attacks in Pune; brutal naxal attack in Midnapore (West Bengal), and Jamui (Bihar). Besides, reference was made for the tragic death of 63 people in a stampede in the ashram premises of Pratapgarh, Uttar Pradesh.

The members then stood in silence for a short while, as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.

STATE LEGISLATURES**ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY***

The Twelfth Assam Legislative Assembly, which commenced its Fourteenth Session on 2 March 2010, was adjourned *sine die* on 31 March 2010. There were 19 sittings in all.

Address by the Governor: The Governor, Shri Janaki Ballav Patnaik addressed members of the Assembly on 2 March 2010. A copy of the Governor's address was laid on the Table of the House on the same day. The motion was adopted and passed by the House on 5 March 2010, after debate.

Financial business: On 2 March 2010, the Chief Minister Shri Tarun Gogoi who also holds the Finance portfolio, presented the Supplementary Demands for Grants and Supplementary Appropriation for the year 2009-10 to the House, which was approved by the House on 9 March 2010 after deliberation. The Assam Appropriation (No.I) Bill, 2010 was also introduced, considered and passed by the House on the same day.

The Budget Estimates for the year 2010-2011 were presented on 15 March 2010. After three days of General Discussion and four days on Voting on Demands for Grants, the Budget was approved and passed on 29 March 2010 and the Assam Appropriation (No.II) Bill, 2010 was introduced, considered and passed by the House on the same day.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of 21 leading personalities.

ARUNACHAL PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

The Fifth Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly, which commenced its Third Session on 18 March 2010, was adjourned *sine die* on 23 March 2010. There were 5 sittings in all.

Address by the Governor: The Governor, Gen. (Retd.) J.J. Singh addressed members of the House on 18 March 2010. Shri Pasang Dorjee Sona, MLA, moved the Motion of Thanks on the Governor's

* Material contributed by the Assam Legislative Assembly Secretariat

** Material contributed by the Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly Secretariat

Address and also initiated the discussion on 20 March 2010 in which 17 other members participated. The Motion was adopted by the voice vote following a reply by the Chief Minister, Shri Dorjee Khandu.

Legislative business: During the Session, the following two Bills were introduced, considered and passed by the House: (i) The Arunachal Pradesh Appropriation (No.1) Bill, 2010; and (ii) The Arunachal Pradesh Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 2010.

Financial business: On 20 March 2010, the Minister of Finance, Shri Setong Sena presented the Supplementary Demands for the Grants for the year 2009-2010; Budget Estimates for the year 2010-2011; and the Annual Financial Statement for the year 2010-2011.

On 22 March 2010, the Supplementary Demands for the Grants for the year 2009-2010 were moved by the Minister-in-Charge of the respective Departments.

All the Supplementary Demands Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 47, 48, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70 and 71 were moved and all the Demands were accepted by Voice Vote.

The General discussion on the Budget Estimates for the year 2009-2010 was held on 22 March 2010, in which eight members participated. The Minister of Finance replied to the debate.

The Demands for the Grants for the year 2010-2011 were moved by the Minister-in-Charge of the respective Departments.

All the Demands Nos. 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70 and 71 were moved and all the Demands were accepted by Voice Vote.

DELHI LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

The Fourth Delhi Legislative Assembly, which commenced its Fourth Session (Budget Session) on 15 March 2010 was adjourned *sine die* on 1 April 2010. There were 13 sittings in all.

* Material contributed by the Delhi Legislative Assembly Secretariat

Address by the Lieutenant Governor: This being the First Session of the year, the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi, Shri Tejendra Khanna addressed the House on 15 March 2010.

Legislative business: During the Session, (i) The Indian Stamp (Delhi Amendment) Bill, 2010; (ii) The Delhi Industrial Development Operation and Maintenance Bill, 2010 (iii) The Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board Bill, 2010; (iv) The Delhi Lokayukta and Upalokayukta (Amendment) Bill, 2010; (v) The Delhi Appropriation (No.1) Bill, 2010; and (vi) The Delhi Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2010 were considered and passed by the House.

Financial business: On 22 March 2010, the Finance Minister Shri A.K. Walia presented the Annual Budget for the year 2010-2011.

GOA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

The Sixth Session of the Fifth Goa Legislative Assembly commenced on 22 March 2010 and was adjourned *sine die* on 27 March 2010. There were 5 sittings in all.

Motion of Thanks to the Governor: The Governor Dr. S.S. Sidhu addressed members of the Assembly on 22 March 2010. The Motion of Thanks to the Governor's Address was moved by Shri Chandrakant Kavalekar and seconded by Shri Francis Silveira on the same day. The discussion on the Motion was held on 23, 25, 26, and 27 March 2010. The amendments moved to the motion were defeated and subsequently the Motion was adopted, after discussion and voting in the House on 27 March 2010.

Legislative business: During the Session, the following seven Bills were introduced, considered and passed by the House: (i) The Goa Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2010; (ii) The Goa Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 2010; (iii) The Goa Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 2010; (iv) The Goa Animal Preservation (Amendment) Bill, 2010; (v) The Goa Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2010; (vi) The Goa Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Bill, 2010; and (vii) The Goa Administrative Tribunal (Amendment) Bill, 2010.

Financial business: On 23 March 2010, Chief Minister, Shri Digambar Kamat who also holds the Finance portfolio presented the Supplementary Demands for Grants for the year 2009-10 (Third Batch) which were discussed, voted and passed by the House on same day.

* Material contributed by the Goa Legislative Assembly Secretariat

On 25 March 2010, the Chief Minister introduced the Annual Financial Statement for the year 2010-11 to the House, which was passed by the House on the same day.

The discussion on the Vote on Account for part of the financial year 2010-2011 was taken up, voted and passed on 27 March 2010 and the connected Goa Appropriation (Vote of Accounts) Bill, 2010 was introduced, considered and passed on same day by the House.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of Shri Shantaram Kambli, nominated ex-MLA of the Legislative Assembly; Smt. Urminda Lima Leitao, the first woman MLA of the Legislative Assembly; Sarvashri Vijay Maruti Kamulkar, Mandrem's first MLA in independent Goa's First Assembly; Shriram Kamat, the editor-in-chief of *Vishwacharitrakosh*, the Marathi Encyclopedia of World biography and the editor of Marathi magazine '*Mandovi*'; Prakash Thali, a noted Konkani writer, theatre director, translator and the editor of Konkani magazine '*Kullagar*'; Wilfred Rebimbus, the father of the modern Konkani music, a renowned lyricist-singer and composer popularly known as the Konkani Kogul (nightingale); and Govind Vinayak *alias* Vinda Karandikar, a renowned essayist, '*Dnyanpeeth*' award winner, critic, Marathi translator of Aristotle's poetry, the most experimental and comprehensive among the modern Marathi poets.

KARNATAKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL*

The Hundred and Twelfth Session of the Karnataka Legislative Council, which commenced on 25 February 2010 was adjourned *sine die* on 19 March 2010. There were 14 sittings in all.

Address by the Governor: The Governor of Karnataka, Shri Hans Raj Bhardwaj addressed members of both the Houses assembled together on 25 February 2010. The House unanimously adopted the resolution on Motion of Thanks to the Governor for his Address on 9 March 2010.

Legislative business: During the Session, the Legislative Council consented to the following Bills presented in the Council: (i) The Karnataka Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2010; (ii) The Karnataka Co-operative Societies (Second Amendment) Bill, 2010; and (iii) The Karnataka (Regional Laws) Repeating and Amending Bill, 2009.

* Material contributed by the Karnataka Legislative Council Secretariat

The Council consented to the following Bills for reconsideration as returned by the Governor and as passed by the State Legislative Assembly: (i) The University of Agriculture Sciences Bill, 2009; and (ii) The University of Horticultural Sciences Bill, 2009.

The Council consented to the following Bills as passed by the Legislative Assembly with amendments: (i) The Bangalore Metropolitan Region Development Authority (Amendment) Bill, 2009; (ii) The Karnataka Border Area Development Authority Bill, 2010; (iii) The Karnataka Government Parks (Preservation) (Amendment) Bill, 2009; (iv) The Karnataka Samskrita Vishwavidyalaya Bill, 2009; and (v) The Karnataka Prevention of Slaughter and Prevention of Cattle Bill, 2010.

The Council consented to the following Bills as passed by the State Legislative Assembly: (i) The Code of Criminal Procedure (Karnataka Amendment) Bill, 2009; (ii) The Karnataka State Civil Services (Amendment) Bill, 2009; (iii) The Karnataka Appropriation Bill, 2010; (iv) Azim Premji University Bill, 2010; (v) The Karnataka Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 2010; (vi) The Karnataka Stamp (Amendment) Bill, 2010; (vii) The Karnataka Stamp (Second Amendment) Bill, 2010; (viii) The Karnataka Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2010; (ix) The Karnataka Motor Vehicles Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2010; (x) The Karnataka Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2010; (xi) The Karnataka Excise (Amendment) Bill, 2009; (xii) The Karnataka Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation and Development) (Amendment) Bill, 2009; (xiii) The Karnataka Local Authorities (Anti-defection) (Amendment) Bill, 2010; and (xiv) The Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage and Certain other Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2009.

Financial business: On 5 March 2010, the Budget Estimates for the year 2010-11 were presented before and the discussion held on the said Estimates and subsequently the Government replied on the budget estimates.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of Sarvashri Jyoti Basu, former Chief Minister of West Bengal and Senior Leader of CPI(M); B.P. Kadam, former Deputy Speaker of the State Legislative Assembly and former member of Parliament; Nanaji Deshmukh, former member of Parliament; Shankar Shetty Patil, Shivashekarappagouda Shiraval, Sharanagouda Siddaramaiah Inamdar and B. Guruprasad, all former members of the State Legislative Assembly; K.S. Ashvath, renowned actor of Kannada film industry; B.V. Vaikuntharaju, well known journalist; and Smt. Chindodi Leela, noted Kannada Theatre personality and the recipient of Padmashree award.

KERALA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

The Fourteenth Session of the Twelfth Kerala Legislative Assembly, which commenced on 24 February 2010, was adjourned *sine die* on 31 March 2010. The Governor prorogued the House on the same day. There were 24 sittings in all.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of Sarvashri Jyoti Basu, former Chief Minister of West Bengal; M. Sathyanesan, Jose Thanikal, N. Ganapathy, all former members of the Kerala Legislative Assembly.

MADHYA PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

The Fifth Session of the Thirteenth Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly which commenced on 22 February 2010, was adjourned *sine die* on 26 March 2010. There were 16 sittings in all.

Address by the Governor: The Governor, Shri Rameshwar Thakur addressed members of the Assembly on 22 February 2010. The Motion of Thanks to the Governor's Address was moved by Shri Shankerlal Tiwari and seconded by Shri Kedarnath Shukla. The Motion was discussed and adopted by the House on 24 February 2010.

Legislative business: During the Session, the following two Bills were introduced, considered and passed by the House: (i) Madhya Pradesh Atankwadi avm Uchhedak Gatividhiyan tatha Sangthith Apradh Nyantran Vidheyak, 2010; and (ii) Madhya Pradesh Parisar Kirayedari Vidheyak, 2010.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of Sarvashri S.K. Singh, Governor of Rajasthan; Jyoti Basu—former Chief Minister of West Bengal; former Central Ministers, B. Shankaranand, Janeshwar Mishra and Ramnivas Mirdha; Sobran Singh Mawai, Hari Bhau Joshi, Govind Parmar, Uttam Singh Sonakia, Arjun Singh Dharu, Chaudhary Manishanker Suman, Lal Rajendra Singh Baghel, Chhatrapati Singh and Dr. Sudhanwa Singh Netam, all former MLAs and Nanaji Deshmukh, well known Social Worker.

Financial business: On 17 March 2009, the Minister of Finance, Shri Raghavji presented (i) the Financial Statements for the year 2009-

* Material contributed by the Kerala Legislative Assembly Secretariat

** Material contributed by the Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly Secretariat

2010; (ii) the Budget (Vote on Account) for the April-July 2009 pertaining to the financial year 2009-2010; and (iii) the Third Supplementary Demands for the year 2008-2009, which were discussed and passed by the House on 18 March 2009. The Appropriation Bills (No. 6 & 7) 2009 were introduced and passed by the House on the same day.

MIZORAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

The Sixth Mizoram Legislative Assembly, which commenced its Fifth Session on 17 March 2010, was adjourned *sine die* on 5 April 2010. There were 8 sittings in all.

Address by the Governor: The Governor Lt. Gen. (Retd.) M.M. Lakhera addressed members of the Assembly on 17 March 2010. Shri John Siamkunga moved a Motion of Thanks on the Governor's Address.

Legislative business: During the Session, the following seven Bills were introduced and passed by the House. (i) The Mizoram Appropriation (No. 1) Bill, 2010; (ii) The Mizoram Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 2010; (iii) The Mizoram State Agriculture Produce Marketing (Development and Regulation) (Amendment) Bill, 2010; (iv) The Mizoram Medical Council Bill, 2010; (v) The Mizoram Salaries Allowances and Pension of the Members of the Legislative Assembly (Fourth Amendment) Bill, 2010; (vi) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of the Minister (Fourth Amendment) Bill, 2010; and (vii) The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker (Fourth Amendment) Bill, 2010.

Financial business: The Chief Minister and Finance Minister, Shri Lal Thanhawla presented the (i) Supplementary Demands for Grants for the year 2009-2010; and (ii) Annual Budget for the year 2010-2011. Two days were allotted for General discussion on the Budget for the year 2010-11.

The Demands for Grants in respect of the following Ministers were discussed and voted in full-(i) Sarvashri P.C. Zoram Sangliana, J.H. Rothuama, Nihar Kanti on 24 March 2010; (ii) R. Lalzirlinana, S. Hiato on 25 March 2010; (iii) Lalsawta, Lalrinliana Sailo on 29 March 2010; (iv) H. Liansailova, H. Rohluna, Zodintluanga on 30 March 2010; and (v) P.C. Lalthanliana, Lal Thanhawla, Chief Minister on 31 March 2010.

* Material contributed by the Mizoram Legislative Assembly Secretariat

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of Shri L.N. Tluanga, former member of the Mizoram Legislative Assembly.

NAGALAND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

The Sixth Session of the Eleventh Nagaland Legislative Assembly which commenced on 23 March 2010, was adjourned *sine die* on 29 March 2010. There were 4 sittings in all.

Address by the Governor: The Governor Shri Nikhil Kumar addressed members of the Assembly on 10 March 2010. The Motion of Thanks to the Governor's Address was moved by Shri Neiba Kronu and seconded by Shri Kipili Sangtam.

The debate on the Governor's Address was initiated by Shri Tokheho Yepthomi. Eighteen other members participated in the discussion on the Motion of Thanks which was replied to by the Chief Minister and later the Motion was adopted.

Legislative business: During the Session, the following four Bills were passed by the House: (i) The Nagaland Appropriation (No. 1) Bill, 2010; (ii) The Nagaland Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 2010; (iii) The Nagaland Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 2010; and (iv) The Nagaland Special Economic Zone Bill, 2009.

Financial business: The Chief Minister and Finance Minister, Shri Neiphiu Rio presented the (i) Supplementary Demands for Grants for Regularization of Excess for the year 1998-99; (ii) Supplementary Demands for Grants for the year 2009-10 (iii) a Statement showing the Vote on Account for the year 2010-11.

The discussion and voting on Supplementary Demands for Grants for Regularization of Excess for the year 1998-99 was taken up.

Demand Nos. 1, 7, 11, 13, 18, 23, 28, 30, 31, 35, 36, 37, 38, 43, 44, 46, 49, 55, 57, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66 and 76 without discussion were passed by voice vote.

The discussion and voting on Supplementary Demands for Grants for the year 2009-10 was taken up. Demand nos. 1 to 80 without discussion were passed by a voice vote.

The discussion and voting on Vote on Accounts for the year 2010-11 was taken up. Demand nos. 1 to 80 without discussion were passed by a voice vote.

* Material contributed by the Nagaland Legislative Assembly Secretariat*

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APPENDIX I
STATEMENT SHOWING THE WORK
TRANSACTIONED DURING THE FOURTH SESSION
OF THE FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA

1. PERIOD OF THE SESSION	22 February to 16 March 2010 15 April to 7 May 2010
2. NUMBER OF SITTINGS HELD	32 sittings
3. TOTAL NUMBER OF SITTING HOURS	137 hours and 51 minutes
4. NUMBER OF DIVISIONS HELD	2 (27 April 2010)
5. GOVERNMENT BILLS	
(i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	14
(ii) Introduced	27
(iii) Laid on the Table as passed by Rajya Sabha	3
(iv) Returned by Rajya Sabha with any amendment/recommendation and laid on the Table	Nil
(v) Referred to Select Committee	Nil
(vi) Referred by Joint Committee	Nil
(vii) Reported by Select Committee	Nil
(viii) Reported by Joint Committee	Nil
(ix) Reported by Standing Committee	5
(x) Referred to Departmentally Related Standing Committee by Speaker, Lok Sabha/Chairman, Rajya Sabha	5
(xi) Discussed	21
(xii) Passed	21
(xiii) Withdrawn	Nil
(xiv) Negatived	Nil
(xv) Part-discussed	Nil
(xvi) Discussion postponed	Nil
(xvii) Returned by Rajya Sabha without any recommendation	13
(xviii) Motion of concurrence to refer the Bill to Joint Committee adopted	Nil
(xix) Pending at the end of the Session	23
6. PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS	
(i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	59

Appendices

231

(ii) Introduced	45
(iii) Motion for leave to introduce negatived	Nil
(iv) Laid on the Table of the House as passed by Rajya Sabha	Nil
(v) Returned by Rajya Sabha with any Amendment	Nil
(vi) Reported by Select Committee	Nil
(vii) Discussed	1
(viii) Passed	Nil
(ix) Withdrawn	Nil
(x) Negatived	Nil
(xi) Circulated for eliciting opinion	Nil
(xii) Part-discussed	1
(xiii) Discussion postponed	Nil
(xiv) Motion for circulating of Bill negatived	Nil
(xv) Referred to Select Committee	Nil
(xvi) Removed from the Register of Pending Bills	Nil
(xvii) Pending at the end of the Session	104
7. NUMBER OF DISCUSSIONS HELD UNDER RULE 184	
(i) Notices received	673
(ii) Admitted	273
(iii) Discussed	Nil
8. NUMBER OF MATTERS RAISED UNDER RULE 377	311
9. NUMBER OF MATTERS ON URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE RAISED DURING ZERO HOUR	213
10. NUMBER OF DISCUSSIONS HELD UNDER RULE 193 (Matters of Urgent Public Importance)	
(i) Notices received	258
(ii) Admitted	4
(iii) Discussions held	3
(iv) Part-discussed	Nil
11. NUMBER OF STATEMENTS MADE UNDER RULE 197 (Calling attention to matters of urgent public importance)	2
12. STATEMENTS MADE BY MINISTERS UNDER RULE 372 & DIRECTION 73A	57
	(Under Rule 372-17; Under Dir. 73A-35; and Hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs-5)
13. MOTION OF NO-CONFIDENCE IN THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS	
(i) Notices received	Nil
(ii) Admitted and discussed	Nil
(iii) Barred	Nil

(iv) Withdrawn	Nil
14. RESOLUTION(S) PLACED BEFORE THE HOUSE BY SPEAKER, LOK SABHA	Nil
15. GOVERNMENT RESOLUTIONS	
(i) Notices received	1
(ii) Admitted	1
(iii) Moved	Nil
16. PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTIONS	
(i) Received	5
(ii) Admitted	5
(iii) Discussed	2
(iv) Adopted	Nil
(v) Withdrawn	1
(vi) Part-discussed	1
(vii) Discussions postponed	Nil
17. MOTIONS REGARDING MODIFICATION OF STATUTORY RULES	
(i) Received	11
(ii) Admitted	3
(iii) Moved	Nil
18. NUMBER OF ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS	
(i) Total Number of Notices received	50
(ii) Brought before the House	38
(iii) Admitted	Nil
(iv) Consent withheld by the Speaker, Lok Sabha, outside the House	12
(v) Consent given by the Speaker, Lok Sabha, but leave not asked for by members concerned	Nil
19. NUMBER OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE(S) CONSTITUTED, IF ANY, DURING THE SESSION	6
20. TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED DURING THE SESSION	24,752
21. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED ON ANY SINGLE DAY AND THE DATE ON WHICH ISSUED	1,228 issued on 16.3.2010
22. TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ADMITTED	
(i) Starred	620
(ii) Starred answered orally	76
(iii) Un-starred	7,029

(iv) Short Notice Questions	Nil
(v) Half-an-Hour discussions	Nil
23. NUMBER OF MEMBERS GRANTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE	10
24. PETITIONS PRESENTED	Nil
25. NUMBER OF NEW MEMBERS SWORN IN	Nil
26. NUMBER OF PRIVILEGE MOTIONS	
(i) Notices received	12
(ii) Brought before the House	1
(iii) Consent withheld by Speaker	Nil
(iv) Observation made by Speaker	1

27. WORKING OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES*

Sl. No.	Name of the Committee	No. of sittings held during the period	No. of Reports presented
1	2	3	4
i)	Business Advisory Committee	—	6
ii)	Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House	—	1
iii)	Committee on Empowerment of women	5	1
iv)	Committee on Estimates	—	—
v)	Committee on Ethics	—	—
vi)	Committee on Government Assurances	5	Nil
vii)	Committee on Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS)	3	1
viii)	Committee on Papers Laid on the Table	—	2
ix)	Committee on Petitions	7	4
x)	Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions	Nil	Nil
xi)	Committee of Privileges	—	—
xii)	Committee on Public Accounts	—	14
xiii)	Committee of Public Undertakings	5	3
xiv)	Committee on Subordinate Legislation	—	5
xv)	Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes	6	3

* During the period from January to March 2010

xvi)	General Purposes Committee	—	—
xvii)	House Committee		
	(a) Accommodation Sub-Committee	—	—
	(b) Sub-Committee on Amenities	—	—
xviii)	Library Committee	—	—
xix)	Railway Convention Committee	—	—
xx)	Rules Committee	—	1

JOINT / SELECT COMMITTEE

i)	Joint Committee on Offices of Profit	—	—
ii)	Joint Committee on Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament	3	Nil

DEPARTMENTALLY-RELATED STANDING COMMITTEES

i)	Committee on Agriculture	—	—
ii)	Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers	—	—
iii)	Committee on Coal & Steel	—	—
iv)	Committee on Defence	—	—
v)	Committee on Energy	—	—
vi)	Committee on External Affairs	—	—
vii)	Committee on Finance	—	—
viii)	Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution	8	Nil
ix)	Committee on Information Technology	—	—
x)	Committee on Labour	—	—
xi)	Committee on Petroleum and Natural Gas	—	—
xii)	Committee on Railways	—	—
xiii)	Committee on Rural Development	—	—
xiv)	Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment	—	—
xv)	Committee on Urban Development	—	—
xvi)	Committee on Water Resources	—	—

28. CELL ON PARLIAMÉNTARY FORUM

Sl. No.	Name of Forum	No. of Meetings held during the period	No. of lectures held
1.	Parliamentary Forum on Children	1	—
2.	Parliamentary Forum on Water Conservation and Management	—	—
3.	Parliamentary Forum on Youth	1	—
4.	Parliamentary Forum on Population and Public Health	—	—
5.	Parliamentary Forum on Global Warming and Climate Change	1	—

APPENDIX II*

**STATEMENT SHOWING THE WORK TRANSACTED
DURING THE TWO HUNDRED AND NINETEENTH
(FIRST PART) SESSION OF THE RAJYA SABHA**

1. WORKING OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

Sl. No.	Name of the Committee	No. of meetings held during the period 1 January to 31 March 2010	No. of Reports presented during the 219 th session
1	2	3	4
(i)	Business Advisory Committee	4	Nil
(ii)	Committee on Subordinate Legislation	4	Nil
(iii)	Committee on Petitions	4	Nil
(iv)	Committee of Privileges	Nil	Nil
(v)	Committee on Rules	1	Nil
(vi)	Committee on Government Assurances	3	Nil
(vii)	Committee on Papers Laid on the Table	5	Nil
(viii)	General Purposes Committee	Nil	Nil
(ix)	House Committee	Nil	Nil
Department-related Standing Committees:			
(x)	Commerce	12	1
(xi)	Home Affairs	6	1
(xii)	Human Resource Development	5	Nil
(xiii)	Industry	8	3
(xiv)	Science and Technology, Environment and Forests	8	Nil
(xv)	Transport, Tourism and Culture	4	3
(xvi)	Health and Family Welfare	2	Nil
(xvii)	Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice	6	1
Other Committees			
(xviii)	Committee on Ethics	1	Nil
(xix)	Committee on Provision of Computers Equipment to Members of Rajya Sabha	Nil	Nil
(xx)	Committee on Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme	Nil	Nil

* The details regarding sessional work will be included in the next issue

APPENDIX III
STATEMENT SHOWING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE LEGISLATURES OF THE STATES AND UNION TERRITORIES DURING THE PERIOD FROM 1 JANUARY TO 31 MARCH 2010

Legislature	Duration	Sittings	Govt. Bills [Introduced (Passed)]	Private Bills [Introduced (Passed)]	Starred Questions [Received (admitted)]	Unstarred Questions [Received (admitted)]	Short Notice Questions [Received (admitted)]
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
STATES							
Andhra Pradesh L.A.	15.2.2010 to 30.3.2010	30	18(12)	—	966(481)	—(101)	194(108)
Andhra Pradesh L.C.	15.2.2010 to 30.3.2010	21	18(12)	—	620(327)	—(12)	106(82)
Arunachal Pradesh L.A.	18.3.2010 to 23.3.2010	5	8(8)	—	48(45)	13(12)	6(5)
Assam L.A.	2.3.2010 to 31.3.2010	19	14(14)	—	788(722)	525(500)	130(123)
Bihar L.A.	22.2.2010 to 31.3.2010	24	21(21)	—	2,214(1,653)	748(448)	146(63)
Bihar L.C.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chhattisgarh L.A.	11.1.2010 to 26.3.2010	25	16(16)	—	1,351(180)	801(508)	—
Goa L.A.	22.3.2010 to 27.3.2010	5	8(7)	—	215(189)	339(330)	—
Gujarat L.A.	24.2.2010 to 30.3.2010	27	10(10)	9(—)	5,275(3,270)	153(121)	7(1)
Haryana L.A.	5.3.2010 to 16.3.2010	8	11(11)	—	228(190)	28(25)	17(—)
Himachal Pradesh L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jammu & Kashmir L.A.	22.2.2010 to 9.4.2010	26	22(16)	4(—)	608(586)	492(460)	1(—)
Jammu & Kashmir L.C.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jharkhand L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Karnataka L.A.	25.2.2010 to 19.3.2010	14	25(24)*	—	135(135)	1,053(1,053)	—
Karnataka L.C.	25.2.2010 to 19.3.2010	14	25(23)	—	493(135)	78(436)	—

Kerala L.A.	24.2.2010 to 31.3.2010	24	14(11)	—	3,264(3,264)	6,604(6,604)	2(-)
Madhya Pradesh L.A.	22.2.2010 to 26.3.2010	16	15(15)	—	2,610(2,040)	1,727(1,823)	—
Maharashtra L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maharashtra L.C.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Manipur L.A.	13.1.2010 to 14.1.2010 and 8.3.2010 to 1.3.2010	6	3(3)	—	21(21)	—	1(1)
Meghalaya L.A.	19.3.2010 to 26.3.2010	6	5(5)	—	20(20)	—	—
Mizoram L.A.	17.3.2010 to 5.4.2010	13	7(7)	—	314(282)	99(92)	—
Nagaland L.A.	23.3.2010 to 29.3.2010	4	3(4)	—	56(55)	36(36)	—
Orissa L.A.	8.3.2010 to 17.3.2010	8	2(1)	—	915(674)	867(1,211)	5(1)
Punjab L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rajasthan L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sikkim L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tripura L.A.	2.3.2010 to 9.3.2010	6	4(4)	—	277(146)	392(257)	1(1)
Uttarakhand L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh L.C.	21.1.2010 to 16.2.2010	12	-(19)	—	367(31)	196(33)	70(55)
West Bengal L.A.	9.3.2010 to 31.3.2010	17	9(14)	—	980(523)	434(152)	—
UNION TERRITORIES							
Delhi L.A.	15.3.2010 to 1.4.2010	13	6(6)	—	247	700(626)	—
Puducherry L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

- * Information received from the State/Union territory Legislatures contained NIL report
- ** Information not received from the State/Union territory Legislatures
- Starred Questions and Short Notices admitted as Unstarred
- # Bill withdrawn (1)

APPENDIX III (Contd.)
COMMITTEES AT WORK / NUMBER OF SITTINGS HELD AND NUMBER OF REPORTS PRESENTED
DURING THE PERIOD FROM 1 JANUARY TO 31 MARCH 2010

	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Business Advisory Committee																
Committee on Government Assurances																
Committee on Petitions																
Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions																
Committee of Privileges					1											
Committee on Public Undertakings																
Committee on Subordinate Legislation																
Committee on the Welfare of SCs and STs																
Committee on Estimates																
General Purposes Committee																
House/Accommodation Committee																
Library Committee																
Public Accounts Committee																
Rules Committee																
Joint/Select Committee																
Other Committees																24
STATES																
Andhra Pradesh L.A.	1(1)															
Andhra Pradesh L.C.	3				1											3 ^(*)

- Minorities-6; Special House Committee-7; and ISKCON House Committee-9
- (i) Committee on the Welfare of Women, Children and Physically Handicapped-7; Committee on Environment-7(1); Committee on Welfare of Backward Class Communities-7(2); Committee on Official Language-5(1); Committee on Papers Laid on the Table-5(1); Committee on Local Fund Accounts-6(3); Agriculture and Integrated Rural Development-4(4); Land Revenue, Forests and Fisheries-3(2); Irrigation and Power-1(2); Industry and Minerals-2(2); Public Works, Transport and Communication-3(2); Social Services-1(1); Food, Housing and Labour-1(2); Economic Affairs-3(2); Local Administration and Co-operation-2(2); and Home Affairs-2(2)
- (j) Committees on Question and Reference-3; Committee on Welfare of Women & Children-1(1); and Committee on Paper Laid on the Table-2(2)
- (k) Hill Areas Committee-2
- (l) Subject Committee I-3; Subject Committee II-2; Subject Committee IV-1; Subject Committee V-1
- (m) Standing Committee I-2; Standing Committee III-3; Standing Committee IV-3; Standing Committee V-5; Standing Committee VI-3; Standing Committee VII-3; Standing Committee VIII-2; Standing Committee IX-3; House Committee on Women and Child Welfare-2; House Committee on Environment-7; House Committee on Railway-1; House Committee on Power Generation-1; House Committee on Submission-5; and Ethics Committee-3
- (n) Committee on Reference & Question-4; Committee on Financial & Administrative Delayed-2; Committee on Parliamentary Study-4; Committee on Enquiry of Hunting Complaints of U.P. Legislative-7; Parliamentary & Social Welfare Committee-4; Committee on Control of Irregularities in Development Authorities, Housing Board, Zila panchayats & Municipal Corporation-5; Committee on Enquiry of Provincial Electricity Arrangement-2; Committee on Regulation Review-1; Committee on Enquiry of Ragging in Colleges/Engineering Institution in Provincial-1; Daivee Aapda Prabhandan Samiti-1; Committee on Commercialization of Education-1; and Committee on Enquiry of Universities/Degree Colleges which is established by Legally in Province-3
- (o) Committee on Bidhayak Elaika unnayan prabalpa-9; Committee on Papers Laid on the Table-11; and Committee on Affairs of Women and Children-8
- (p) Committee on Women & Child Welfare-1

APPENDIX IV
LIST OF BILLS PASSED BY THE HOUSES OF
PARLIAMENT AND ASSENTED TO BY THE
PRESIDENT DURING THE PERIOD
1 JANUARY TO 31 MARCH 2010

Sl. No.	Title of the Bill	Date of Assent by the President
1.	The Legal Metrology Bill, 2009	13.1.2010
2.	*The Constitution (Ninety-Fifth Amendment) Bill, 2009	18.1.2010
3.	The Salaries and Allowances of Ministers (Amendment) Bill, 2009	21.1.2010
4.	The Civil Defence (Amendment) Bill, 2009	21.1.2010
5.	The Rubber (Amendment) Bill, 2009	21.1.2010
6.	The Appropriation (Railways) Vote on Account Bill, 2010	22.3.2010
7.	The Appropriation (Railways) Bill, 2010	22.3.2010
8.	The Appropriation (Railways) No.2 Bill, 2010	22.3.2010
9.	The Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 2010	22.3.2010
10.	The Appropriation Bill, 2010	22.3.2010
11.	The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2010	29.3.2010

* The Bill was introduced in Rajya Sabha as the Constitution (One Hundred and Ninth Amendment) Bill, 2009. The Short Title of the Bill was changed to the Constitution (Ninety-Fifth Amendment) Bill, 2009 by Rajya Sabha through an amendment to clause 1.

APPENDIX V
LIST OF BILLS PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURES
OF THE STATES AND THE UNION TERRITORIES
DURING THE PERIOD
1 JANUARY TO 31 MARCH 2010

ANDHRA PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Industrial Disputes (Andhra Pradesh Amendment) Bill, 2009
2. The National Academy of Legal Studies and Research University (Amendment) Bill, 2010
3. The Andhra Pradesh Excise (Amendment) Bill, 2010
4. The Andhra Pradesh Sports Authorities (Amendment) Bill, 2010
5. The Andhra Pradesh Farmers Management of Irrigation Systems (Amendment) Bill, 2010
6. The Andhra Pradesh Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2010
7. The Andhra Pradesh Tax on Professions, Trades, Callings and Employments (Amendment) Bill, 2010
8. The Andhra Pradesh Excise (Second Amendment) Bill, 2010
9. The Andhra Pradesh Excise (Third Amendment) Bill, 2010
10. The Andhra Pradesh Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (Amendment) Bill, 2010
11. The Andhra Pradesh Appropriation Bill, 2010
12. The Andhra Pradesh Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2010

ARUNACHAL PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Arunachal Pradesh Education Bill, 2010
2. The Indian Stamp Act, 1899 (Act No.2 of 1899) (In application to the State of Arunachal Pradesh (Amendment) Bill, 2010
3. The Arunachal Pradesh Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2010
4. The Arunachal Pradesh Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (Amendment) Bill, 2010
5. The Arunachal Pradesh Colleges and other Institutions of Higher Education (Establishment and Regulations) Bill, 2010
6. The Arunachal Pradesh Appropriation (No.1) Bill, 2010
7. The Arunachal Pradesh Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2010
8. The Arunachal Pradesh Council for Technical Education Bill, 2010

ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Assam Appropriation (No.1) Bill, 2010
2. The Assam Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2010

3. The Assam Taxation (on Specified Lands) (Amendment) Bill, 2010
4. The Assam Muslim Marriages and Divorce Registration (Amendment) Bill, 2010*
5. The Guwahati Water Bodies (Preservation and Conservation) Bill, 2010*
6. The Assam Nagara Raj (Amendment) Bill, 2010*
7. The Guwahati Building Construction (Regulation) Bill, 2010*
8. The Assam Public Health Bill, 2010*
9. The Assam Down Town University Bill, 2010*
10. The Assam College Employees (Provincialisation) (Amendment) Bill, 2010*
11. The Deori Autonomous Council (Amendment) Bill, 2010*
12. The Sonowal Kachari Autonomous Council (Amendment) Bill, 2010*
13. The Thengal Kachari Autonomous Council (Amendment) Bill, 2010*
14. The Assam Public Works (Regulation of Road Development and Road Transport) Bill, 2010*

BIHAR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Bihar Viniyog Vidheyak, 2010
2. The Bihar Viniyog (Sankya-2) Vidheyak, 2010
3. The Bihar Vitta Vidheyak, 2010
4. The Ragestrikaran (Bihar Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2010
5. The Bihar Krishi Viswavidyalaya (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2010
6. The Bihar Sampati Berupan Niwaran (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2010
7. The Bihar Beseh Surakcha Dal (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2010
8. The Bihar Aaksmita Nedhi (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2010
9. The Nyayalaya Fees (Bihar Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2010*
10. The Bihar Bhumi Vivad Nirakaran (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2010
11. The Bihar Krishi Bhoomi (Gair Krishi Prayojanoo kee leye Sampariwarta) Vidheyak, 2010
12. The Bihar Vidyalaya Pariksha Samiti (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2010
13. The Patna Viswavidyalaya (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2010*
14. The Bihar Rajya Viswavidyalaya (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2010
15. The Bihar Coaching Sansthan (Niyantaran Evam Viniyam) Vidheyak, 2010
16. The Bihar Krishi Viswavidyalaya Vidheyak, 2010
17. The Bihar Swavalambi Sahkari Samiti (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2010
18. The Bihar Sahkari Society (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2010
19. The Bihar Panchayti Raj (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2010
20. The Bihar Matsya Jalkar Prabandan (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2010
21. The Digha Arijit Bhoomi Bandobasti (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2010

CHHATTISGARH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Chhattisgarh Appropriation (No.1) Bill, 2010
2. The Indian Stamp (Chhattisgarh Amendment) Bill, 2010
3. The Chhattisgarh University (Amendment) Bill, 2010

4. The Chhattisgarh Private Vyavsayik Sikshan Sanstha (Pravesh Ka Viniyman Avam Shulk Ka Nirdharan) (Amendment) Bill, 2010
5. The Chhattisgarh Private University (Amendment) Bill, 2010
6. The Chhattisgarh Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2010
7. The Kushabhau Thakre Patrakarita Avam jansanchar University (Amendment) Bill, 2010
8. The Pandit Sundar Lal Sharma (Open) University Chhattisgarh (Amendment) Bill, 2010
9. The Chhattisgarh Manoranjan Shulk Avam Vigyapan Kar (Amendment) Bill, 2010
10. The Chhattisgarh Abkari (Amendment) Bill, 2010
11. The Chhattisgarh Chikitsa Sevak Tatha Chikitsa Seva Sansthan (Hinsa Tatha Sampatti Ki Chhati Ya Hani Ki Roktham) Bill, 2010
12. The Chhattisgarh Mantri (Vetan Tatha Bhatta) (Amendment) Bill, 2010
13. The Chhattisgarh Adhayaksha Tatha Upadhayaksha (Vetan Tatha Bhatta) (Amendment) Bill, 2010
14. The Chhattisgarh Vidhanmandal Neta Prtipaksha (Vetan Tatha Bhatta) (Amendment) Bill, 2010
15. The Chhattisgarh Vidhansabha Member Vetan, Bhatta Tatha Pension (Amendment) Bill, 2010
16. The Chhattisgarh Vidhansabha Member Vetan, Bhatta Tatha Pension (Amendment) Bill, 2010

GOA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Goa Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2010
2. The Goa Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 2010
3. The Goa Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 2010*
4. The Goa Animal Preservation (Amendment) Bill, 2010*
5. The Goa Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2010*
6. The Goa Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Bill, 2010*
7. The Goa Administrative Tribunal (Amendment) Bill, 2010*
8. The Goa Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (Amendment) Bill, 2010

GUJARAT LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Gujarat Technological University (Amendment) Bill, 2010
2. The Centre for Environmental Planning and Technology University (Amendment) Bill, 2010
3. The Gujarat Educational Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2010
4. The Indian Institute of Teacher Education, Gujarat Amendment Bill, 2010
5. The Bombay Land Revenue (Gujarat Amendment) Bill, 2010
6. The Gujarat (Supplementary) Appropriation Bill, 2010
7. The Gujarat Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2010
8. The Bombay Motor Vehicles Tax (Gujarat Amendment) Bill, 2010
9. The Bombay Provincial Municipal Corporations (Gujarat Amendment) Bill, 2010*
10. The Gujarat Appropriation Bill, 2010

HARYANA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The East Punjab War Awards (Haryana Amendment) Bill, 2010
2. The Punjab Scheduled Roads and Controlled Areas Restriction of Unregulated Development (Haryana Amendment) Bill, 2010
3. The Haryana Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (Amendment) Bill, 2010
4. The Haryana Special Economic Zone (Amendment) Bill, 2010
5. The Haryana Appropriation (No.1) Bill, 2010
6. The Haryana Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2010
7. The Haryana Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2010
8. The Haryana Dohlidar, Butimar, Bhoneddar and Muqararidar (Vesting of Proprietary Rights) Bill, 2010
9. The Haryana Private Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2010
10. The Lala Lajpat Rai University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences Hisar Bill, 2010
11. The Haryana Evacuee Properties (Management and Disposal) Amendment Bill, 2010

JAMMU AND KASHMIR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Jammu and Kashmir Civil Services Decentralization and Recruitment Bill, 2009

KARNATAKA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Bangalore Metropolitan Region Development Authority (Amendment) Bill, 2009
2. The Karnataka State Civil Services (Amendment) Bill, 2009
3. The Karnataka Government Parks (Preservation) (Amendment) Bill, 2009
4. The Karnataka Prevention of Cow Slaughter and Cattle Preservation (Amendment) Bill, 2009
5. The Karnataka Samskrita Veda Viswavidyalaya Bill, 2009
6. The Universities of Agricultural Sciences Bill, 2009
7. The Universities of Horticultural Science Bill, 2009
8. The Code of Criminal procedure (Karnataka Amendment) Bill, 2009
9. The Karnataka Excise (Amendment) Bill, 2009
10. The Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage and Certain other Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2009
11. The Karnataka Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation and Development) (Amendment) Bill, 2009
12. The Karnataka Stamp (Amendment) Bill, 2010
13. The Alliance University Bill, 2010
14. The Azim Premji University Bill, 2010
15. The Karnataka Prevention of Slaughter and Preservation Cattle Bill, 2010
16. The Karnataka Border Area Development Authority Bill, 2010
17. The Karnataka Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2010

18. The Karnataka Co-operative Societies (Second Amendment) Bill, 2010
19. The Karnataka Appropriation Bill, 2010
20. The Karnataka Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 2010
21. The Karnataka Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2010
22. The Karnataka Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2010
23. The Karnataka Local Authorities (Prohibition of Defection) (Amendment) Bill, 2010
24. The Karnataka Motor Vehicles Taxation Bill, 2010
25. The Karnataka Stamp (Second Amendment) Bill, 2010

KARNATAKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

1. The Karnataka Repealing and Amending (Regional Laws) Bill, 2009
2. The Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2010*
3. The Cooperative Societies (Second Amendment) Bill, 2010*
4. The Bangalore Metropolitan Region Development Authority (Amendment) Bill, 2009*
5. The Karnataka State Civil Services (Amendment) Bill, 2009*
6. The Universities of Agricultural Services Bill, 2009*
7. The Karnataka Government Parks (Preservation) (Amendment) Bill, 2009*
8. The University of Horticultural Services Bill, 2009*
9. The Karnataka Samskrita Vishvavidyalaya Bill, 2009
10. The Code of Criminal Procedure (Karnataka Amendment) Bill, 2009*
11. The Karnataka Excise (Amendment) Bill, 2009*
12. The Bangalore Water Supply and Sevarage and Certain Other Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2009*
13. The Karnataka Agricultural Produce marketing (Regulation and Development) (Amendment) Bill, 2009*
14. The Karnataka Stamp (Amendment) Bill, 2010*
15. The Allaince University Bill, 2010*
16. The Azim Premji University Bill, 2010
17. The Karnataka Prevention of Slaughter and preservations of Cattle Bill, 2010
18. The Karnataka Border Area Development Authority Bill, 2010*
19. The Karnataka Appropriation Bill, 2010
20. The Karnataka Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 2010
21. The Karnataka Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2010
22. The Karnataka Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2010
23. The Local Authorities (Prohibition of Defection) (Amendment) Bill, 2010*
24. The Karnataka Motor Vehicles Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 2010

KERALA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Kerala Appropriation Bill, 2010
2. The Kerala Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 2010

3. The Kerala Spinners, Alappuzha (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertaking) Bill, 2010
4. The Kerala Recognition of Trade Unions Bill, 2009
5. The Kerala Forest (Amendment) Bill, 2008
6. The Kerala Prisons and Correctional Services (Management) Bill, 2010
7. The Kerala Dairy Farmers' Welfare Fund (Amendment) Bill, 2010
8. The Kerala Sports (Amendment) Bill, 2010
9. The Kerala Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2009
10. The Abkari (Amendment) Bill, 2010
11. The Registration (Kerala Amendment) Bill, 2009

MADHYA PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Madhya Pradesh Viniyog Vidheyak, 2010
2. The Madhya Pradesh Viniyog (Kramanka-2) Vidheyak, 2010
3. The Madhya Pradesh Aatankavadi Evam Uchedak Gatividhiyana tatha Sanghthithith Aaprad Niyantran Vidheyak, 2010*
4. The Mahrishi Panini Sanskrit Viswavidyalaya (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2010
5. Raja Maansingh Tomar Sangeet Evam Kala Viswavidyalaya (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2010
6. The Madhya Pradesh Jan Skisha (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2010
7. The Madhya Pradesh Vriti Kar (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2010
8. The Madhya Pradesh Sthaniya Kshetra Main Maal Kee Pravesh Par kar (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2010
9. The Madhya Pradesh Vat (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2010
10. The Madhya Pradesh Swayat Sahkarita (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2010*
11. The Madhya Pradesh Parisar Kirayedari Vidheyak, 2010
12. The Madhya Pradesh Nargarpalika Vidhi (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2010*
13. The Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha Sadsya Betan, Vatta Tatha Pension (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2010*
14. The Madhya Pradesh Aadyaksha Tatha Upadyaksha Evam Neta Pratipaksha Vetan Tatha Vatta Vidhi Sanshodhan Vidheyak, 2010*
15. The Madhya Pradesh Mantri (Betan Tatha Vatta) Sanshodhan Vidheyak, 2010*

MANIPUR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Manipur Higher Secondary Education (Second Amendment) Bill, 2009
2. The Manipur Appropriation (No.1) Bill, 2010
3. The Manipur Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2010

MEGHALAYA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Meghalaya Appropriation (No.1) Bill, 2010
2. The Meghalaya Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 2010
3. The Meghalaya Legislators' Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 2010
4. The Meghalaya maintenance of Public Order (Autonomous Districts) (Amendment) Bill, 2010

5. The Meghalaya Maintenance of Public Order (Amendment) Bill, 2010

MIZORAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Mizoram State Agricultural Produce Marketing (Recommendation & Regulation) (Amendment) Bill, 2010
16. The Mizoram Medical Council Bill, 2009
17. The Mizoram Salaries, Allowances and pension of Member (Fourth Amendment) Bill, 2010
18. The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Minister (Fourth Amendment) Bill, 2010
19. The Mizoram Salaries and Allowances of Speaker and the Deputy Speaker (Fourth Amendment) Bill, 2010
20. The Mizoram Appropriation (No.1) Bill, 2010
21. The Mizoram Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2010

ORISSA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Orissa Appropriation Bill, 2010

NAGALAND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Nagaland Special Economic Zone Bill, 2009
2. The Nagaland Appropriation (No.1) Bill, 2010
3. The Nagaland Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2010
4. The Nagaland Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2010

TRIPURA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Tripura Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2010
2. The Tripura Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 2010
3. The Tripura Panchayats (Fifth Amendment) Bill, 2010
4. The Tripura Municipal (Fourth Amendment) Bill, 2010

UTTAR PRADESH LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

1. The Uttar Pradesh Gramin Aayurvigyan Evam Anusandan Sansthan, Sayfia (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2009
2. The Sanjay Gandhi Snatakootar Aayurvigyan Sansthan, (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2010
3. The Uttar Pradesh Sahkari Samiti (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2010
4. The Uttar Pradesh Zamindari Vinash Evam Boomi Vyavastha (Vishes Upband) Vidheyak, 2010
5. The Mahaprasasak (Uttar Pradesh Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2010
6. The Uttar Pradesh Pravidhik Viswavidyalaya (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2010
7. The Uttar Pradesh Rajya Viswavidyalaya (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2010
8. The Uttar Pradesh Vinyog (2009-2010 Kaa Dyutya Anupurak) Vidheyak, 2010
9. The Uttar Pradesh Aawas Evam Vikas Parishad (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 2010
10. The Uttar Pradesh Krishi Evam Prodougik Viswavidyalaya (Sanshodhan), Vidheyak, 2010

11. The Uttar Pradesh Rajya Vidhi Aayog Vidheyak, 2010
12. The Rajya Veshes Parikshetra Suraksha Bal Vidheyak, 2010
13. The Uttar Pradesh Viniyog Vidheyak, 2010
14. The Uttar Pradesh Kshekshkik Sansthano Main Ragging Kaa Pratisedh Vidheyak, 2010
15. The Uttar Pradesh Neji Nidhikrit Viswavidyalaya (Sthapana Evam Vniyaman) Vidheyak, 2010
16. The Uttar Pradesh Sarvajank Boo-Griaadi (katipaya Apradikrit Adyasyoun kii Bedakli) Vidheyak, 2010
17. The Uttar Pradesh Apratment (Nirman, Swamitwa Aour Anurakshan Kaa Samvardhan) Vidheyak, 2010
18. The Uttar Pradesh Rajkosyee Uttardayutwa Aour Budget Prabandhan (Sanshodhan) Vidhyaka. 2010
19. The Uttar Pradesh Rajya Vidhan Mandal Sadasya Aour Aadhikari Tatha Mantri Sukh Subidha Vidhi (Sanshodhan) Vidhyaka, 2010

WEST BENGAL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The West Bengal Yoga & Naturopathic System of Medicine Bill, 2009*
2. The West Bengal Motor Transport Workers' Welfare Cess Bill, 2009*
3. The Presidency University Bill, 2009*
4. The Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University Bill, 2009*
5. The Calcutta Unani Medical College & Hospital (Taking Over of Management and Subsequent Acquisition) Bill, 2009*
6. The West Bengal Anti-profiteering (Amendment) Bill, 2010*
7. The Kolkata Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 2010*
8. The New Town Kolkata Development Authority (Amendment) Bill, 2010*
9. The West Bengal Panchayat (Amendment) Bill, 2010
10. The West Bengal Madrasah Service Commission (Amendment) Bill, 2010*
11. The West Bengal School Service Commission (Amendment) Bill, 2010*
12. The West Bengal Appropriation Bill, 2010
13. The West Bengal Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 2010
14. The West Bengal Finance Bill, 2010

* Bills awaiting assent

APPENDIX VI
ORDINANCES PROMULGATED BY THE UNION AND
STATE GOVERNMENTS DURING THE PERIOD

1 JANUARY TO 31 MARCH 2010

Sl. NO.	Title of Ordinance	Date of Promulgation	Date on which laid before the House	Date of Cessation	Remarks
UNION GOVERNMENT					
1.	The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (Amendment and Validation) Ordinance, 2010	23.1.2010	22.2.2010	—	Replaced by an Act of Parliament
ANDHRA PRADESH					
1.	The Andhra Pradesh Farmers Management of Irrigation Systems (Amendment) Ordinance, 2010	30.1.2010	16.2.2010	—	Replaced by Legislation
2.	The Andhra Pradesh Motor Vehicles Taxation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2008	2.2.2010	16.2.2010	—	Replaced by Legislation
3.	The National Academy of Legal Studies and Research University (Amendment) Ordinance, 2010	4.2.2010	16.2.2010	—	Replaced by Legislation
4.	The Andhra Pradesh Excise (Amendment) Ordinance, 2010	5.2.2010	16.2.2010	—	Replaced by Legislation

CHHATTISGARH		Bill Introduced on
1.	The Kushabhau Thakre Patrakarita Avam Jansanchal University (Amendment) Ordinance, 2009	12.1.2010
2.	The Pandit Sundar Lal Sharma (Open) (Amendment) Ordinance, 2009	12.1.2010
KARNATAKA		
1.	The University of Horticultural Sciences	8.3.2010
KERALA		
1.	The Kerala Agricultural Workers (Amendment) Ordinance, 2010	1.3.2010
2.	The Kerala State Housing Board (Amendment) Ordinance, 2010	1.3.2010
3.	The Kerala Advocates' Welfare Fund (Amendment) Ordinance, 2010	1.3.2010
4.	The Kerala Sports (Amendment) Ordinance, 2010	1.3.2010
5.	The Kerala Police (Amendment) Ordinance, 2010	1.3.2010
6.	The Abkari (Amendment) Ordinance, 2010	1.3.2010
7.	The Kerala University of Health and Allied Sciences Ordinance, 2010	1.3.2010

8.	The University Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 2010	22.1.2010	1.3.2010	—	—
9.	The Kerala Spinners, Alappuzha (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertaking) Ordinance, 2010	8.1.2010	1.3.2010	—	—
10.	The Kerala Dairy Farmers' Welfare Fund (Amendment) Ordinance, 2010	28.1.2010	1.3.2010	—	—
11	The Kerala Local Authorities Loans (Amendment) Ordinance, 2010	28.1.2010	1.3.2010	—	—
MADHYA PRADESH					
1.	The Madhya Pradesh Jan Shiksha (Sanshodhan) Aadyadesh, 2010	13.1.2010	23.2.2010	—	—
2	The Raja Maansingh Tomar Sangeet Evam Kala Viswavidyalaya, Aadyadesh, 2010	25.1.2010	23.2.2010	—	Replaced by Legislation
MEGHALAYA					
1.	The Meghalaya maintenance of Public Order (Autonomous District) (Amendment) Ordinance, 2010	24.2.2010	24.3.2010	—	Replaced by Legislation
2	The Meghalaya maintenance of Public Order (Autonomous District) (Amendment) Ordinance, 2010	24.2.2010	24.3.2010	—	Replaced by Legislation

APPENDIX VII
A. PARTY POSITION IN 15TH LOK SABHA (STATE-WISE) (AS ON 24.6.2010)

States	No. of Seats	INC	BJP	SP	BSP	JD (U)	ATC	DMK	CPI (M)	BJD	SHIV SENA	NCP	AIA DMK	TDP	RLD	CPI	SAD	RJD	JKNC	JD (S)	AIFB
Andhra Pradesh	42	33	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arunachal Pradesh	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Assam	14	7	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bihar	40	2	12	—	—	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—
Chhattisgarh	11	1	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Goa	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gujarat	26	11	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Haryana	10	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Himachal Pradesh	4	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jammu & Kashmir	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jharkhand	14	1	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Karnataka	28	6	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kerala	20	13	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
Madhya Pradesh	29	12	16	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maharashtra	48	17	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
Manipur	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meghalaya	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mizoram	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nagaland	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Orissa	21	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Punjab	13	8	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—
Rajasthan	25	20	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sikkim	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu	39	8	—	—	—	—	—	18	1	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tripura	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttarakhand	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh	80	22	10	22	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
West Bengal	42	6	1	—	—	—	19	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
UNION TERRITORIES																					
A & N Islands	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chandigarh	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Daman and Diu	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
The NCT of Delhi	7	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lakshadweep	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puducherry	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	543	206*	116	22	21	20	19	18	18	14	11	9	9	6	5	4	4	4	3	3	2

APPENDIX VII (CONTD.)

States	JMM	MLK SC	RSP	TRS	AIM EIM	AGP	AUDF	BVA	BPF	HJC (BL)	JVM (P)	KC (M)	MD MK	NPF	SDF	SWP	VCK	IND	TOTAL	VACA- NCIES
Andhra Pradesh				2	1														42	
Arunchal Pradesh																			2	
Assam						1	1												14	
Bihar																		1	39*	1
Chhattisgarh																			11	
Goa																			2	
Gujarat																			26	
Haryana										1									10	
Himachal Pradesh																			4	
Jammu & Kashmir																		1	6	
Jharkhand	2									1								2	14	
Karnataka																			28	
Kerala		2										1							20	
Madhya Pradesh																			29	
Maharashtra							1								1				47	
Manipur																			2	
Meghalaya																			2	
Mizoram																			1	
Nagaland														1					1	
Orissa																			21	
Punjab																			13	
Rajasthan																		1	25	
Sikkim															1				1	
Tamil Nadu													1						39	
Tripura																	1		2	
Uttarakhand																			5	
Uttar Pradesh																		1	80	
West Bengal			2															1	42	
UNION TERRITORIES																				
A & N Islands																			1	
Chandigarh																			1	
Dadra & Nagar Haveli																			1	
Daman and Diu																			1	
The NCT of Delhi																			7	
Lakshadweep																			1	
Puduchery																			1	
Total	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8	539

*Excluding Speaker, Lok Sabha

Abbreviations used for Parties :

AGP-Asom Gana Parishad; AIFB-All India Forward Bloc; AIADMK-All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam; AIMEIM-All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen; AITC-All India Trinamool Congress; AUDF-Assam United Democratic Front; BJD-Biju Janata Dal; BJP-Bharatiya Janata Party; BPF-Bodoland Peoples Front; BSP-Bahujan Samaj Party; BVA-Bahujan Vikas Aaghadi; CPI(M)-Communist Party of India (Marxist); CPI-Communist Party of India; DMK-Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam; HJC(BL)-Haryana Janhit Congress(BL); INC-Indian National Congress; IND-Independents; J&KNC-Jammu & Kashmir National Conference; JD(S)-Janata Dal (Secular); JD(U)-Janata Dal (United); JMM-Jharkhand Mukti Morcha; JVM(P)-Jharkhand Vikas Morcha (Prajantrik); KC(M)-Kerala Congress(M); MDMK-Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam; MLKSC-Muslim League Kerala State Committee; NCP-Nationalist Congress Party; NPF-Nagaland Peoples Front; RJD-Rashtriya Janata Dal; RLD-Rashtriya Lok Dal; RSP-Revolutionary Socialist Party; SAD-Shiromani Akali Dal; SDF-Sikkim Democratic Front; SP-Samajwadi Party; SWP-Swabhimani Paksha; SS-Shiv Sena; TDP-Telugu Desam Party; TRS-Telangana Rashtra Samithi; VCK-Viduthalai Chiruthaigal Katchi.

B. PARTY POSITION IN RAJYA SABHA (AS ON 23RD APRIL 2010)

Sl. No.	States/Union Territories	Seats	INC	BJP	SP	CPI (M)	JD (U)	AIA-DMK	BSP	CPI	*Others	IND	Total	Vacancies	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
STATES															
1.	Andhra Pradesh	18	14	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	2 ^(a)	—	18	—	
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	
3 [*]	Assam	7	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3 ^(b)	—	7	—	
4.	Bihar	16	1	3	—	—	7	—	—	—	5 ^(c)	—	16	—	
5.	Chhattisgarh	5	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	
6.	Goa	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	
7.	Gujarat	11	3	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	—	
8.	Haryana	5	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	1	
9.	Himachal Pradesh	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 ^(d)	—	4	—	
11.	Jharkhand	6	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	1	
12.	Karnataka	12	5	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 ^(e)	1	12	—	
13.	Kerala	9	3	—	—	4	—	—	—	2	—	—	9	—	
14.	Madhya Pradesh	11	1	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	2	
15.	Maharashtra	19	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	10 ^(f)	1	18	1	
16.	Manipur	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	
17.	Meghalaya	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 ^(g)	—	1	—	
18.	Mizoram	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 ^(h)	—	1	—	
19.	Nagaland	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 ⁽ⁱ⁾	—	1	—	
20.	Orissa	10	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 ^(j)	—	10	—	
21.	Punjab	7	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3 ^(k)	—	7	—	
22.	Rajasthan	10	4	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	1	
23.	Sikkim	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 ^(l)	—	1	—	

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
24. Tamil Nadu	18	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	7	—	1	5 ^(m)	—	18	—	
25. Tripura	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	
26. Uttarakhnad	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	
27. Uttar Pradesh	31	—	4	11	—	—	—	—	—	13	—	1 ^(m)	2	31	—	
28. West Bengal	16	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	1	4 ^(o)	2	16	—	
UNION TERRITORIES																
29. The NCT of Delhi	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	
30. Puducherry	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	
31. Nominated	12	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9 ^(p)	—	11	1	
TOTAL	245	71	44	11	44	11	16	7	7	13	5	54	8	238	7	

***OTHERS**

(Break-up of Parties/Groups)

- (a) Telegu Desam Party-2
 (b) Asom Gana Parishad-2; and Bodoland People's Front-1
 (c) Rashtriya Janata Dal-4; and Lok Jan Shakti Party-1
 (d) Jammu and Kashmir National Conference-2
 (e) Janata Dal (Secular)-2
 (f) Nationalist Congress Party-5; Shiv Sena-4; and Swatantra Bharat Paksh-1
 (g) Nationalist Congress Party-1
 (h) Mizo National Front-1
 (i) Nagaland Peoples' Front-1
 (j) Biju Janata Dal-4
 (k) Shiromani Akali Dal-3
 (l) Sikkim Democratic Front-1
 (m) Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam-4; and Pattali Makkal Katchi-1
 (n) Rashtriya Lok Dal-1
 (o) All India Trinamool Congress-2; Revolutionary Socialist Party-1; and All India Forward Bloc-1
 (p) Nominated-9

C. PARTY POSITION IN STATE / UNION TERRITORY LEGISLATURES

States/Union territories	Seats	INC	BJP	CPI(M)	CPI	NCP	BSP	Janata Dal (U)	Janata Dal (S)	Other Parties	Ind.	Total	Vacancies
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Andhra Pradesh L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Andhra Pradesh L.C. (31.3.2010)	—	36	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	39 ^(a)	6	90	4
Arunachal Pradesh L.A. (8.4.2010)	—	42	3	—	—	5	—	—	—	9 ^(b)	1	60	—
Assam L.A. (8.4.2010)	—	57	10	2	1	—	—	—	—	45 ^(c)	11	—	—
Bihar L.A. (3.5.2010)	—	10	54	1	3	1	5	83	—	74 ^(a)	11	243	1
Bihar L.C.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chhattisgarh L.A. (8.4.2010)	—	39	49	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	90	—
Goa L.A. (8.4.2010)	—	18	14	—	—	3	—	—	—	3 ^(e)	2	40	—
Gujarat L.A. (8.4.2010)	—	55	121	—	—	3	—	1	—	—	2	182	—
Haryana L.A. (8.4.2010)	—	44	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	33 ^(f)	7	90	—
Himachal Pradesh L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jammu & Kashmir L.A.	—	18	11	1	—	—	—	—	—	55 ^(g)	4	89	—
Jammu & Kashmir L.C.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jharkhand L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Karnataka L.A. (26.4.2010)	—	74	115	—	—	—	—	—	27	1 ^(h)	6	225	1
Karnataka L.C. (4.2.2010)	—	16	35	—	—	—	—	1	15	—	3	75	4
Kerala L.A. (8.4.2010)	—	24	—	60	17	2	—	—	5	27 ⁽ⁱ⁾	5	140	—

Madhya Pradesh L.A.	—	69	143	—	—	—	7	—	—	7 ^(a)	3	231	1
Maharashtra L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maharashtra L.C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Manipur L.A.	—	31	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	11 ^(a)	10	60	—
Meghalaya L.A. (8.4.2010)	—	28	—	—	—	15	—	—	—	12 ^(a)	5	60	—
Mizoram L.A.	—	32	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8 ^(a)	—	40	—
Nagaland L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Orissa L.A.	—	27	6	—	1	4	—	—	—	103 ^(a)	6	147	—
Punjab L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rajasthan L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sikkim L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tripura L.A. (8.4.2010)	—	10	—	—	46	1	—	—	—	3 ^(a)	—	60	—
Uttarakhand L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh L.C.	—	3	10	—	—	—	57	—	—	26 ^(a)	3	100	1
West Bengal L.A. (8.4.2010)	—	18	—	—	178	7	—	—	—	94 ^(a)	3	295	1
UNION TERRITORY													
Delhi L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puducherry L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* Information received from the State/Union territory Legislatures contained NIL report

** Information not received from the State/Union territory Legislatures

⊕ Excluding Speaker/Chairman

(a) Telugu Desam Party-16; All India Majlis Ittehad-ul-Muslimeen-1; Progressive Democratic Front-7; Democratic Peoples Front-3; and Nominated-

- (b) All India Trinmool Congress-5; and People's Party of Arunachal-4
- (c) Assom Gana Parishad-24; Assom United Democratic Front-9; Bodoland People's Front-11; and Autonomous State Demand Committee-1
- (d) Rashtriya Janata Dal-56; Lok Janshakti Party-12; Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist liberation)-5; Akhil Jan Vikas Dal-1
- (e) United Goans Democratic Party-1; and Maharashtravadi Gomantak Party-2
- (f) Indian National Lok Dal-31; Haryana Janhit Congress Party (BL)-1 and Shiromani Akali Dal-1
- (g) National Conference-29; Peoples Democratic Party-21; Jammu and Kashmir Democratic Party Nationalist-1; and Peoples Democratic Front-1
- (h) Nominated-1
- (i) Muslim League-7; Kerala Congress (M)-8; Kerala Congress-4; Revolutionary Socialist Party-3; Congress (Secular)-1; Kerala Congress (Secular)-1; Kerala Congress (B)-1; Janathipathya Samrakshana Samithi-1; Indian National League-1; and Nominated-1
- (j) Bharatiya Jan Shakti-5; Samajwadi Party-1 and Nominated-1
- (k) Manipur Peoples' Party-5; Rashtriya Janata Dal-3; and National Peoples' Party-3
- (l) United Democratic Party-9; Hill State Peoples Democratic Party-2; and Khun Hynniewtrep National Awakening Movement-1
- (m) Mizo National Front-3; Mizoram Peoples' Conference-2; Zoram Nationalist Party-2; and Mara Democratic Front-1
- (n) Biju Janata Dal-103
- (o) Revolutionary Socialist Party-2; and Indigenous Nationalist Party of Tripura-1
- (p) Samajwadi Party-14; Rashtriya Lok Dal-3; and Sikchhak Dal (Non-Political)-9
- (q) All India Forward Bloc-24; Revolutionary Socialist Party-19; West Bengal Socialist Party-4; Marxist Forward Bloc-2; Democratic Socialist Party-1; Rashtriya Janata Dal-1; All India Trinamool Congress-36; Gorkha National Liberation Front-3; Socialist Unity Centre of India-2; Jharkhand Party (Naren)-1; and Nominated-1

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