

**60**

**COMMITTEE ON  
GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES  
(2016-2017)**

**SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA**

**SIXTIETH REPORT**

REQUESTS FOR DROPPING OF  
ASSURANCES  
(NOT ACCEDED TO)

*(Presented to Lok Sabha on 10 August, 2017)*



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI**

***July, 2017/Shravana, 1939 (Saka)***

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**CGA No. 310**

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COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES\*  
(2016-2017)

Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal "Nishank" — *Chairperson*

MEMBERS

2. Shri Rajendra Agrawal
3. Shri P.K. Kunhalikutty\*\*
4. Shri Anto Antony
5. Shri Tariq Anwar
6. Prof. (Dr.) Sugata Bose
7. Shri Naranbhai Bhikhabhai Kachhadiya
8. Shri Bahadur Singh Koli
9. Shri Prahlad Singh Patel
10. Shri A.T. Nana Patil
11. Shri C.R. Patil
12. Shri Sunil Kumar Singh
13. Shri Taslimuddin
14. Shri K.C. Venugopal
15. Shri S.R. Vijay Kumar

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri U.B.S. Negi — *Joint Secretary*
2. Shri P.C. Tripathy — *Director*
3. Shri S.L. Singh — *Deputy Secretary*

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\* The Committee has been re-constituted *w.e.f.* 01 September, 2016 *Vide* Para No. 4075 of Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II, dated 05 September, 2016.

\*\* Nominated to the Committee *vide* Para No. 5328 of Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II, dated 30 May, 2017 *vice* Shri E. Ahamed expired on 01 February, 2017.

## INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson of the Committee on Government Assurances (2016-2017), having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Sixtieth Report (16th Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Government Assurances.

2. The Committee at their sitting held on 05 January, 2017 considered Memoranda Nos. 27 to 51 containing requests received from the various Ministries/Departments for dropping of pending Assurances and decided to pursue 20 Assurances.

3. At their sitting held on 31 July, 2017, the Committee considered and adopted their Sixtieth Report.

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

NEW DELHI;  
31 July, 2017  
09 Shravana, 1939 (Saka)

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

## REPORT

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

2. The Committee on Government Assurances (2016-2017) considered the following requests received from various Ministries/Departments for dropping of Assurances at their sitting held on 05 January, 2017:—

Sl. No.	SQ/USQ No. & date	Ministry/Department	Subject
1	2	3	4
1.	USQ No. 1723 dated 03.12.2014	Atomic Energy	Production of Electricity (Appendix-I)
2.	USQ No. 413 dated 14.03.2012	Civil Aviation	CBI Enquiry on Airbus and Indian Airlines Deals (Appendix-II)
3.	USQ No. 1325 dated 01.12.2014	Civil Aviation	Setting up of an Aviation Ombudsman (Appendix-III)
4.	SQ No. 188 (Supplementary by Shri Faggan Singh Kulaste, M.P.) dated 03.08.2015	Civil Aviation	Purchase of Aircraft by Air India (Appendix-IV)
5.	USQ No. 3036 dated 17.12.2015	Civil Aviation	Financial Irregularities in Purchase of Aircrafts (Appendix-V)
6.	SQ No. 271 dated 16.03.2015	Civil Aviation	Purchase of Aircraft by Air India (Appendix-VI)
7.	USQ No. 54 dated 30.11.2015	Commerce and Industry (Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion)	Tyre Industry (Appendix-VII)
8.	USQ No. 1927 dated 10.12.2015	Drinking Water and Sanitation	World Bank Assistance (Appendix-VIII)



1	2	3	4
9.	USQ No. 2420 dated 25.07.2014	Finance (Department of Revenue)	Collection of Investor Details (Appendix-IX)
10.	USQ No. 2204 dated 11.12.2015	Finance (Department of Disinvestment)	Irregularities in Disinvestment (Appendix-X)
11.	USQ No. 3268 dated 18.12.2015	Defence (Department of Defence)	Sainik School in Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Appendix-XI)
12.	USQ No. 3931 dated 20.03.2015	Finance (Department of Economic Affairs)	Bitcoin Exchange and Trading (Appendix-XII)
13.	USQ No. 4367 dated 08.08.2014	Health and Family Welfare (Department of Health and Family Welfare)	Setting up of Hospital in Delhi (Appendix-XIII)
14.	USQ No. 1948 dated 17.12.2013	Home Affairs	Conviction of Italian Marines (Appendix-XIV)
15.	USQ No. 2897 dated 27.08.2013	Home Affairs	Working of NIA (Appendix-XV)
16.	USQ No. 4492 dated 21.12.2011	Human Resource Development (Department of Higher Education)	New Education Policy (Appendix-XVI)
17.	USQ No. 809 dated 16.07.2014	Information and Broadcasting	Recruitment in Prasar Bharati (Appendix-XVII)
18.	USQ No. 942 dated 16.07.2014	Information and Broadcasting	Surrogate Advertising (Appendix-XVIII)
19.	SQ No. 214 dated 07.08.2006	Information and Broadcasting	Obscenity and Vulgarity in Newspapers (Appendix-XIX)
20.	USQ No. 3992 dated 06.08.2014	Information and Broadcasting	Committee on Prasar Bharati (Appendix-XX)

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

4. The Minutes of the sitting of the Committee dated 05 January, 2017 are given in Appendix XXI.

5. After having considered the requests of the Ministries/Departments, the Committee are not convinced with the reasons furnished for dropping the Assurances.

The Committee desire that the Government should take note of the Observations of the Committee, as contained in Annexure II to Appendix XXI and take appropriate action, for the implementation of the Assurances expeditiously.

NEW DELHI  
31 July, 2017  
09 Shravana, 1939 (Saka)

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

## APPENDIX I

### MEMORANDUM NO. 27

**Subject:** Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 1723 dated 03.12.2014, regarding "Production of Electricity".

On 03 December, 2014, Shrimati Darshana Vikram Jardosh, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 1723 to the Department of Atomic Energy. The text of the Question alongwith the reply of the Minister is as given in the Annexure.

2. The reply to the Question was treated as an Assurance by the Committee and required to be implemented by the Department of Atomic Energy within three months from the date of the reply but the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Department of Atomic Energy *vide* O.M. No. 13/2/55/2014-Power dated 19.08.2016, have requested to drop the Assurance on the following grounds:—

"That with the establishment of NITI Aayog, the concept of five year plans has lost relevance and as there would not be Thirteenth Five Year Plan, fixing target for nuclear power generation during the next five year plan, even in future, does not arise. Thus, the Department would not be in a position to fulfill the Assurance. Further, in similar circumstances, with the approval of MoS, PMO has written to Committee on Government Assurances, Lok Sabha to delete the Assurance from the list of Assurances, given while answering Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 51 on 27.04.2016."

4. In view of the above, the Department of Atomic Energy, with the approval of the Minister of State (PMO) have requested to drop the above Assurance.

The Committee may consider.

New Delhi:

Dated: 03.01.2017

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ATOMIC ENERGY  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1723  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3.12.2014

**Production of Electricity**

1723. SHRIMATI DARSHANA VIKRAM JARDOSH:

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of targets of electricity production set by the Department of Atomic Energy from nuclear resources during the next five years;
- (b) whether the country has sufficient nuclear fuel reserves/supply chain to optimally utilise existing/proposed plants in next five years and if not, the efforts made by the Government to fill up the gap;
- (c) the number, capacity and current status of installation of new nuclear power stations during the next five years, Location-wise; and
- (d) whether the Department is in touch with State Governments to sort out issues relating to land etc. for early installation of new plants and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES and PENSIONS AND PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH):

(a) The targets of electricity production are set Five Year Plan wise. The target of electricity generation from nuclear power in the XII Five Year Plan period (2012-17) is 241748 Million Units. The target of electricity generation beyond the XII Five Year Plan period is yet to be finalised.

(b) At present, out of the total capacity of 4780 MW, a capacity 1940 MW is under International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Safeguards and entitled to use imported fuel. Of this, 100 MW Capacity (RAPS unit-1) is under extended shutdown for techno-economic assessment for continued operation. In addition, Kudankulam-1 (1000 MW), which was connected to the grid in October 2013 also uses imported uranium.

The fuel supply for reactors under IAEA safeguards and using imported fuel is sufficient to operate them at their rated capacity. The remaining capacity of 2840 MW fuelled by indigenous uranium operates at lower than rated power due to inadequate supply of indigenous uranium. The government has made efforts to augment indigenous uranium supply by opening of new mines and processing facilities.

In respect of the nuclear power reactors to be set up with international cooperation, in the commercial contracts will include necessary provisions to ensure fuel supply for the entire lifetime of the reactors.

In respect of indigenous reactors planned to be set up, the fuel supply will be ensured from indigenous and imported sources. Decisions on use of indigenous/ imported fuel in respect of new indigenous reactors will be taken by the government at an appropriate time.

(c) The XII Five Year Plan proposals envisage start of work of nineteen (19) new nuclear power reactors with a total capacity of 17400 MW. This includes two Fast Breeder Reactors of capacity 2 x 500 MW located at Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu and one Advanced Heavy Water Reactor (AHWR) of capacity 300 MW. The details are as under:

Project	Location	Capacity (MW)	Status
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
GHAVP 1 & 2 delivery Site Start Concrete)	Gorakhpur, Haryana	2 x 700	Project was accorded financial clearance sanction for Rs. 20594 crore Environmental clearance obtained Procurement of Long delivery critical equipment initiated. Site infrastructure works in progress. Start of construction (First Four Concrete) Scheduled in 2015.
Chutka, Madhya Pradesh Atomic Power Project (CMAPP 1&2)	Chutka, Madhya Pradesh	2 x 700	Pre-project activities (Land acquisition site obtaining statutory clearances, investigations) in progress. Public Hearing completed.
Mahibanswara 1&2 site for EIA approved	Mahibanswara, Rajasthan	2 x 700	Pre-project activities (land acquisition, obtaining statutory clearances, investigations) in progress. Tour studies for Env. Clearance
Kaiga 5 & 6 activities	Kaiga, Karnataka	2 x 700	Land available, other pre-project initiated.
KKNPP 3&4 sanction for clearance obtained Agreement Russia Units completion	Kudankulam, Tamil Nadu	2 x 1000	Project was accorded financial Rs. 39,849 crore, statutory Site made ready. General Framework signed with Atomstroy export of expected for launch in 2016 after of various steps specified in GFA.
JNPP 1 & 2	Jaitapur, Maharashtra	2 x 1650	Land acquired, Environmental and CRZ clearance obtained, Site

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
			infrastructure and investigation works in progress. Discussions with M/s Areva, France to arrive at project proposal in progress.
Kovvada, 1 & 2 acquisition, site	Kovvada, Andhra	2 × 1500	Pre-project activities (Land obtaining statutory clearances, investigations) in progress.
Discussions with arrive at Chhaya Mithi project activities	Chhaya Mithi Viridi, Gujarat	2 × 1100	GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy (GEH) to project proposal are in progress. Public Hearing completed. Pre-(Land acquisition, obtaining site investigations) in progress.
Viridi 1 & 2 statutory clearances, Preliminary details signed (WEC), proposal are			contract for sharing technology with Westinghouse Electric Company discussions to arrive at project in progress.
FBR 1 & 2	Kalapakkam	2 × 500	Detailed Project Report under preparation.
AHWR	Yet to be decided	1 × 300	The detailed engineering of major structures/systems/components (SSCs) of AHWR is being carried out which includes preparation of technical documents and specifications for design, 3D CAD modeling, 2D layout drawings and stress & seismic analysis of SSCs. Standing Site Selection Committee is examining the issue associated with siting of AHWR at candidate site.

(d) Yes Sir. Regular interactions are held with the respective State Governments at various levels in respect of land acquisition, Resettlement and Rehabilitation (R&R) packages and their implementation and other related areas for faster implementation of the projects.

## APPENDIX II

### MEMORANDUM NO. 28

**Subject:** Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 413 dated 14 March, 2012 regarding "CBI Enquiry on Airbus and Indian Airlines Deals".

On 14 March, 2012, Shri Bhoopendra Singh, MP, addressed an Unstarred Question No. 413 to the Minister of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions. The text of the Question along with the reply of the Minister is as given in the Annexure.

2. The reply to the Question was treated as an Assurance by the Committee and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Civil Aviation within three months from the date of the reply. But the Assurance is yet to be implemented.3.

3. The Ministry of Civil Aviation *vide* O.M. No. H-110016/10/2012-AI dated 09 June, 2016 have requested to drop the Assurance on the following grounds:—

"That the matter is still under investigation by CBI an independent investigating Agency of the Government. The investigation process is a time consuming process and many a times it takes years to come to a final conclusion. Besides, suitable action would in the case will follow in accordance with the outcome of the CBI investigation. In view of above, this Ministry is of the view that no meaningful purpose will be served by keeping the Assurance pending for an indefinite period. Hence, Lok Sabha Secretariat is requested to consider dropping of the aforementioned Assurances from the pending list."

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

The Committee may consider.

New Delhi:

Dated: 03.01.2017

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 413  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.03.2012  
**CBI enquiry on Airbus and Indian Airlines Deals**

413. SHRI BHUPENDRA SINGH:

Will the Minister of PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CBI has completed its initial enquiry regarding the deal between Airbus and Indian Airlines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the levels and number of officers of Ministry of Civil Aviation under investigation in this deal;

(d) whether the CBI has started the procedure of taking permission from the Government to register FIR against the officers;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether permission from the Government has been obtained in this regard; and

(g) if so, the time by which FIR is likely to be registered?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) The CBI had registered PE-DAI-2010-A-001 on 14/01/2010 against unknown persons of the Ministry of Civil Aviation and the initial enquiry has been completed.

(b) The Preliminary Enquiry was registered in connection with alleged irregularities and illegalities in purchase of 43 aircrafts from M/s. Airbus Industries. The enquiry has revealed that the crucial concessions regarding investment of US Dollar 175 Million as worked out during negotiations by Empowered Group of Ministers with M/s. Airbus Industries were deliberately not made part of the purchase agreement signed between Indian Airlines and M/s. Airbus Industries.



(c) (i) One officer of the level of Additional Secretary (Served as Director then),

(ii) Two officers of the level of Director,

(iii) One officer of the level of Deputy Managing Director,

(iv) One officer of the level of the General Manager and

(v) Two officers of the level of Dy. General Managers

[Persons mentioned at Sl. No. (ii), (iii) and (iv) have since retired]

Involvement of others, if any, can be investigated upon disclosure of evidence to that effect during the proposed investigation.

(d), (e), (f) & (g) Yes Madam. As per the law, the CBI has sought permission of the Government for taking up investigation against the officers of the rank of the Joint Secretary and above and the same is under consideration.

### APPENDIX III

#### MEMORANDUM NO. 29

**Subject:** Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 1325 dated 01 December, 2014 regarding "Setting up of an Aviation Ombudsman".

On 01 December, 2014, Shri Dharmendra Yadav, Shri Anandrao Adsul and Shri Adhalrao Patil Shivajirao, MPs, addressed an Unstarred Question No. 1325 to the Minister of Civil Aviation. The text of the Question along with the reply of the Minister is as given in the Annexure.

2. The reply to the Question was treated as an Assurance by the Committee and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Civil Aviation within three months from the date of the reply. But the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Civil Aviation *vide* O.M. No. H-11012/29/2015-CNW dated 23 June, 2015 and 12 May, 2016 had requested to drop the Assurance on the following grounds:—

"That a Working Group was constituted to examine feasibility of setting up of Ombudsman for Civil Aviation sector. They have submitted the report to the Ministry. Based on their report, a draft consultation paper on Ombudsman for Civil Aviation was circulated for comments/views of stakeholders in February, 2014. During the stakeholder consultations' it emerged that there are already separate grievance redressal mechanisms with each airline as well as with DGCA to address the grievances. The Ministry has requested Committee of Government Assurance for dropping said Assurance."

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

The Committee may consider.

New Delhi:

Dated 03.01.2017

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1325  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.12.2014

**Setting up of an Aviation Ombudsman**

1325. SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV:

SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI RAO:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of public grievances/disputes relating to aviation sector are pending with the Government for redressal/disposal;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the number of such grievances/disputes reported during each of the last three years and the current year and the action taken thereon;

(c) whether the Government proposes to set up an aviation ombudsman for redressal/resolution of public grievances/disputes;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard and the time by which the said aviation ombudsman is likely to be set up?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) & (b) Details of the public grievances/disputes relating to aviation sector received by the Government are as follows:

Year	B/F	Grievances	Disposed	Pending
Received of				
2011-12	426	574	666	334
2012-13	334	1448	391	1391
2013-14	1391	1139	1993	537
As on				
27.11.2014	537	882	870	549

Further, it is informed that most of the grievances pertain to Airports Authority of India (AAI), Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) & Air India. The grievances are disposed of by the concerned organisation and status report is furnished to this Ministry. Based on the status reported by these organisation after

obtaining inputs from their Regional Offices, status is updated, which results in delay in reporting.

(c) to (e) A Working Group was constituted to examine feasibility of setting up Ombudsman for Civil Aviation Sector. They have submitted the report to the Ministry. However, as of now, no decision has been taken for setting up of an Ombudsman for the Civil Aviation Sector.

#### APPENDIX IV

##### MEMORANDUM NO. 30

**Subject:** Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Supplementary to Starred Question No. 188 dated 03 August, 2015 by Shri Faggan Singh Kulaste, MP regarding "Purchase of Aircraft by Air India".

On 03 August, 2015, Shri Faggan Singh Kulaste and Shri Om Birla, M.Ps, addressed a Starred Question No. 188 to the Minister of Civil Aviation. The text of the Question along with the reply of the Minister is given in the Annexure.

2. During the Discussion, Shri Faggan Singh Kulaste, M.P., raised the following Supplementary Question to the Minister of Civil Aviation:—

"The Hon'ble member *inter-alia* stated that you are showing losses on one hand and CBI is investigating the malpractices in aeroplanes on the other hand. I would just like to know efforts being made by Air-India to make up this loss and the time by which the ongoing investigation is likely to be completed."

3. In reply, the Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Ashok Gajapathi Raju) stated as follows:—

"The Minister *inter-alia* replied as under:— There was an enquiry going on; the CBI is doing that and their report is awaited."

4. The above reply was treated as an Assurance by the Committee and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Civil Aviation within three months from the date of the reply but the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

5. The Ministry of Civil Aviation *vide* O.M. No. H-11016/1009/2015-AI dated 19 August, 2016 have requested to drop the Assurance on the following grounds:—

"That the matter is still under investigation by CBI an independent investigating Agency of the Government. The investigation process is a time consuming process and many a times it takes years to come to a final conclusion. Besides, suitable action in the matter will follow in accordance with the outcome of the CBI investigation. In view of above, this Ministry is of the view that no meaningful purpose will be served by keeping the Assurance pending for an indefinite period. Hence, Lok Sabha Secretariat is requested to consider dropping of the aforementioned Assurance from the pending list."

6. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of the Minister of Civil Aviation have requested to drop the above Assurance.

The Committee may consider.

New Delhi:

Dated: 03.01.2017

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 188  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.08.2015

**Purchase of Aircraft by Air India**

\*188. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE:  
SHRI OM BIRLA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Air India has purchased aircrafts on a large-scale in the recent past;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of aircrafts purchased during the last three years and the current year along with the reasons therefor and the expenditure incurred on purchase of these aircrafts;
- (c) whether the Government has suffered losses on account of purchase of these aircrafts and if so, the details of the losses incurred by them;
- (d) whether the Government has ordered a probe into this large-scale purchase of aircrafts by the Air India; and
- (e) if so, the details and the findings thereof along with the action taken by the Government on the basis of the findings of the probe?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GAJAPATHI RAJU PUSAPATI): (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (A), (B), (C) (D) AND (E) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 188 ANSWERED ON 03.08.2015 REGARDING PURCHASE OF AIRCRAFTS BY AIR INDIA

(a) & (b) No purchase order for aircraft has been placed by Air India in the last three years and current year. However, in 2005-06, with the approval of Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, the erstwhile Air India, Indian Airlines (now merged into Air India Ltd.) and Air India Express had placed an order for a total of 111 aircraft. The details of aircraft and their induction till date are as follows:

Aircraft Type	Number of Aircraft	Status of Induction
B777-200LR	8	8
B777-300ER	15	12
B787-800	27	21
B737-800	18	18
A320-200	4	4
A319-200	19	19
A321-200	20	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>102</b>

The delivery of three B777-300 ER aircraft has been postponed. Out of 27 B-787 aircraft, 21 have already been inducted. The induction of the balance 6 units will be completed by 2016.

(c), (d) & (e) Government has not ordered any probe into the matter. However, the CBI, on the issue of creation of MRO facilities and a Training Center in the agreement signed between Indian Airlines and Airbus Industry, on the basis of a preliminary enquiry PE-DAI-2010-A-90001 dated 14.1.2010 has filed an FIR No. RC-DAI-2013-A-2009 dated 27.2.2013 and the matter is under investigation with CBI.

## APPENDIX V

### MEMORANDUM NO. 31

**Subject:** Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 3036 dated 17 December, 2015 regarding "Financial Irregularities in Purchase of Aircrafts".

On 17 December, 2015, Shri Nana Patole, MP, addressed an Unstarred Question No. 3036 to the Minister of Civil Aviation. The text of the Question along with the reply of the Minister is as given in the Annexure.

2. The reply to the Question was treated as an Assurance by the Committee and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Civil Aviation within three months from the date of the reply. But the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Civil Aviation *vide* O.M. No.H-11016/1228/2015-AI dated 09 June, 2016 have requested to drop the Assurance on the following grounds:—

"That the above issues are still under investigation by CBI an independent investigating Agency of the Government. The investigation process is a time consuming process and many a times it takes years to come to a final conclusion. Besides, suitable action in the matter will follow in accordance with the outcome of the CBI investigation. In view of above, this Ministry is of the view that no meaningful purpose will be served by keeping the Assurance pending for an indefinite period. Hence, Lok Sabha Secretariat is requested to consid dropping of the aforementioned Assurances from the pending list."

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

The Committee may consider.

New Delhi:

Dated: 03.01.2017



*ANNEXURE*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3036  
ANSWERED ON 17.12.2015

**Financial Irregularities in Purchase of Aircrafts**

3036. SHRI NANABHAU FALGUNRAO PATOLE:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any request from the people's representatives for conducting an investigation by the Special investigation Team (SIT) on the purchase of aircrafts and other items by the Ministry during last five years;

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

(c) whether the Government has constituted any SIT in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the time by which the SIT is likely to start investigation in this regard?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) to (d) Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) in its report No. 18 has made observations on acquisition of aircraft by Air India Ltd. and the same is under examination by the Public Accounts Committee. The CBI, on the issue of creation of MRO facilities and a Training Center in the agreement signed between erstwhile Indian Airlines and Airbus Industrie, on the basis of a preliminary enquiry PE-DAI-2010-A-90001 dated 14.01.2010 has filed an FIR No. RC-DAI-2013-A-2009 dated 27.02.2013.

## APPENDIX VI

### MEMORANDUM NO. 32

**Subject:** Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Starred Question No. 271 dated 16 March, 2015 regarding "Purchase of Aircraft by Air India".

On 16 March, 2015 Shri R.K. Singh, MP, addressed a Starred Question No. 271 to the Minister of Civil Aviation. The text of the Question along with the reply of the Minister is as given in the Annexure.

2. The reply to the Question was treated as an Assurance by the Committee and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Civil Aviation within three months from the date of the reply. But the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Civil Aviation *vide* O.M. No. H-11016/277/2015-AI dated 09 June, 2016 have requested to drop the Assurance on the following grounds:—

"That the matter is still under investigation by CBI an independent investigation Agency of the Government. The investigation process is a time consuming process and many a times it takes years to come to a final conclusion. Besides, suitable action in the matter will follow in accordance with the outcome of the CBI investigation. In view of above, this Ministry is of the view that no meaningful purpose will be served by keeping the Assurance pending for an indefinite period. Hence, Lok Sabha Secretariat is requested to consider dropping of the aforementioned Assurances from the pending list."

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

The Committee may consider.

New Delhi:

Dated: 03.01.2017

*ANNEXURE*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 271  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.03.2015

**Purchase of Aircraft by Air India**

\*271. SHRI RAJ KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any irregularities in the purchase of aircraft by Air India have come to the notice of the Government and if so, the details thereof indicating the number of aircraft required and actually purchased by Air India;

(b) whether objections were raised over this massive purchase of aircraft by Air India and if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether Air India suffered heavy losses due to purchase of these aircraft and if so, the details thereof along with the losses incurred by Air India as a result thereof;

(d) whether the Government has ordered a probe into this large-scale purchase of aircraft by Air India; and

(e) if so, the details and the findings thereof along with the action taken by the Government on the basis of the findings of the probe?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GAJAPATHI RAJU PUSAPATI): (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a), (b), (c), (d) AND (e)  
01=LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION No. 271 TO BE ANSWERED ON  
16.03.2015 REGARDING PURCHASE OF AIRCRAFT BY AIR INDIA BY  
SHRI R.K. SINGH, M.P.

(a) No, Madam. In 2005/06, with the approval of CCEA, the erstwhile Air

India, Indian Airlines (now merged into Air India Ltd.) and Air India Express had placed an order for a total of 111 aircraft. The details of aircraft and their induction are as follows:

Aircraft Type	Number of aircraft	Status of induction
B777-200LR	8	8
B777-3QGER	15	12
B787-800	27	19
B737-800	18	18
A320-200	4	4
A319-200	19	19
A321-200	20	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>100</b>

The delivery of three B777-300 ER aircraft has been postponed.

Out of 27 B-787 aircraft, 19 have already been inducted. The induction of the balance 8 units will be completed by 2016.

(b) Comptroller and Auditor General's (CAG) Report No. 18 of 2011-12 regarding Performance of Audit of Civil Aviation in India was laid in the Parliament on 8.9.2011. The issue of acquisition of aircraft by erstwhile Air India forms part of the report. C&AG report raised issues like undue time taken for acquisition, change in aircraft to be purchased, flawed assumptions, underlying revised project report and post-bid seat configuration. Subsequently, the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) has taken up the report of C&AG for further examination. PAC had sought an action taken report on their observations made in the 93rd Report (15th Lok Sabha) on Performance of Civil Aviation in India. Action taken report on the observations has been forwarded to Lok Sabha Secretariat (PAC) on 8.1.2015. The matter is still under consideration of the PAC.

(c) For the purchase of the new Boeing aircraft, Air India had raised loans Guaranteed by US Exim Bank Counter Guaranteed by Government of India. Since these loans were backed by Guarantees they were raised at the most competitive rates of approximately of 2.5% to 3% for a period of 12 years. As in any Capital Intensive industry, due to induction of new fleet AI had to incur high financing cost during the fleet induction resulting in strain on its cash flow/profitability.

With the induction of B787 aircraft which is more fuel efficient and more suitable for long routes, it was decided to withdraw the B777-200 which proved less fuel efficient, from such routes and sell this aircraft after exploring other operations like leasing, re-configuration of the aircraft and deployment of the same on short haul routes were found unviable. Accordingly 5 out of 8 B777-200 have been sold.

(d) and (e) Government has not ordered any probe into the matter. However, the CBI, finding anomalies relating to creation of MRO facilities and a Training Center in the agreement signed between Indian Airlines and Airbus Industrie, on the basis of a preliminary enquiry PE-DAI-2010-A-90001 dated 14.1.2010 has filed an FIR No. RC-DAI-2013-A-2009 dated 27.2.2013 and the matter is under investigation with CBI.

## APPENDIX VII

### MEMORANDUM NO. 33

**Subject:** Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 54 dated 30.11.2015, regarding "Tyre Industry".

On 30 November, 2015 Shrimati Vanaroja R. M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 54 to the Minister of Commerce and Industry. The text of the Question alongwith the reply of the Ministry is as given in the Annexure.

2. The reply to the Question was treated as an Assurance by the Committee and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry within three months from the date of the reply but the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion) *vide* O.M. No. 1(21)/2015-LR dated 12 August, 2016 have requested to drop the Assurance on the following grounds:—

“That Directorate General of Anti Dumping and Allied Duties (DGAD) had rejected the earlier petition filed by Automotive Tyre Manufacturers Association (ATMA). ATMA has filed revised petition for imposition of Anti-Dumping to DGAD on 02.03.2016 which is under examination. DGAD is a quasi-judicial organization and time limit for investigation process is one year from the date of initiation of the investigation. The above period may be extended by the Central Government by six months. It is not clear whether Anti-dumping will be imposed on tyres by DGAD or not in the final judgement/decision, Director General, Safeguards had rejected the earlier case and advised ATMA to refile the case as and when data supports the case. At present no case is pending with Director General, Safeguards, so this aspect stands closed. Director General, Competition Commission of India (CCI) has submitted its investigation report in respect of case No. 8 of 2013 to the Commission and presently the matter is under consideration of the Commission. CCI is a quasi-judicial organization. It is not know when the decision comes and whether penalty will be imposed on tyre companies for cartelization or not.”

4. In view of the above, the Ministry with the approval of Minister of State (I/C) in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion), have requested to drop the above Assurance.

The Committee may consider.

New Delhi:

Dated: 03.01.2017

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 54  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.11.2015

**Tyre Industry**

54. SHRIMATI R. VANAROJA:

Will the Minister COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that dumped tyre from China has peaked to 30 per cent of the replacement market in India and it is hurting both rubber farmers and the Indian tyre industry and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has received any representation from the tyre industry in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) No, Madam. As per information provided by Automotive Tyre Manufacturers' Association (ATMA) sale of only one category of Chinese tyres *i.e.* Truck/Bus Radial Tyres has peaked to 30% of the replacement market.

(b) Yes. Automotive Tyre Manufacturers Association (ATMA) has requested to put import of Truck/Bus Radial Tyres in the restricted list, commence investigation on dumping of tyres from China and for increasing customs duty on tyres.

(c) As per trade data, (Annexure) the volume of import of tyres had actually come down during 2014-15 from a high of 2013-14/2012-13 and has increased only in May 2015-16. It will be too early to place an immediate restriction on the basis of the trend noticed in May-June 2015. Investigation on dumping of tyres from China has been referred to Directorate General of Anti-Dumping and Allied Duties (DGAD) and Director General, Safeguards respectively for examination and appropriate action. Further, the Competition Commission of India is investigating a case against certain tyre companies for alleged contravention of the provisions of Section 3 (Anti-competitive agreements) of the Competition Act, 2002. Moreover increasing the customs duty on tyres beyond 10% would not be desirable since the customs duty as per Foreign Trade Agreements (FTAs) are lower.

## APPENDIX VIII

### MEMORANDUM NO. 36

**Subject:** Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 1927 dated 10 December, 2015 regarding "World Bank Assistance".

On 10 December, 2015 Shrimati Supriya Sule, Dr. Heena Vijaykumar Gavit, Shri Mohite Patil Vijaysinh Shankarrao, Shri Satav Rajeev, Shri Dhananjay Mahadik, Shri T. Radhakrishnan and Dr. J Jayavardhan, MPs, addressed an Unstarred Question No. 1927 to the Minister of Drinking Water & Sanitation. The Text of the Question along with the reply of the Minister is as given in the Annexure.

2. The reply to the Question was treated as an Assurance by the Committee and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation within three months from the date of the reply. But the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation *vide* O.M. No. H-11016/196/2015-SBM dated 12 April, 2016 have requested to drop the Assurance on the following grounds:—

"That in para (e) of the said reply, steps taken/ being taken by the Government to achieve the target of building toilets in rural areas and free the country from open defecation have been indicated. One of the steps is constitution of an expert committee under Dr. R.A. Mashelkar to examine new innovations. This Committee has enlisted various innovative technologies on Solid Liquid Waste Management (SLWM) and a compendium consisting of such technologies has been published and uploaded in the website of the Ministry for the benefit of various states. A Source Book on Solid Liquid Waste Management (SLWM) in Rural Areas has also been published by Ministry. Examination of new technologies is a continuous process. Whenever new technologies are received, they are examined to ascertain the viability of the technology and States and other stakeholders intimated accordingly for their utilization as per their requirement.

In view of the above, it is clear that the constitution of Expert Committee is a measure that has already been undertaken and does not appear to constitute an Assurance. Committee on Government Assurances Lok Sabha may therefore, kindly be requested that the portion of this Ministry's Reply "The technology aspect is also being focused and an expert committee under Dr. R.A. Mashelkar has been constituted to examine new innovations and exhibitions are organized to spread these technologies amongst the States and other stakeholders" may not be treated as an Assurance and may be deleted from the list."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry with the approval of the Minister of Drinking Water & Sanitation, have requested to drop the above Assurance.

The Committee may consider.

New Delhi:

Dated: 03.01.2017



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1927  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.12.2015

**World Bank Assistance**

1927. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:  
DR. HEENA VIJAYKUMAR GAVIT:  
SHRI MOHITE PATIL VIJAYSINH SHANKARRAO:  
SHRI SATAV RAJEEV:  
SHRI DHANANJAY MAHADIK:  
SHRI T. RADHAKRISHNAN:  
DR. J. JAYAVARDHAN:

Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has committed to support rural leg of the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) that intends to make the country open defecation free by 2019;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the funds are likely to be released/reviewed from the amount committed by World Bank;

(d) the number of toilets proposed to be built in rural areas with the help of fund assistance from World Bank, State/UT wise; and

(e) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government to achieve the target of building toilets in rural areas and free the country from open defecation?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER & SANITATION (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV): (a) to (d) A World Bank project to support the ongoing sanitation programme Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) (SBM)(G) is under consideration for the entire country with a financial envelope of US\$1.5 billion (Rs. 9000 crore) over five years.

(e) Under Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin), incentive for individual latrine has been increased by Rs. 2000 from Rs. 10000 to Rs. 12000 for all the Below Poverty Line (BPL) households and identified Above Poverty Line (APL) households (SC/ST, Small and Marginal Farmers, Landless Labourers with Homestead, Physically Handicapped, Women-headed households) to provide

for water availability, including for storing, hand-washing and cleaning of toilets.

The focus on capacity building has been increased, since there is a need to improve skills, especially those pertaining to community processes and triggering for collective behaviour change. In order to expand these skills and train the key stakeholders, State level workshops involving all the key stakeholders such as Collectors, CEO, Zilla Panchayats, Chairmen Zilla Panchayats, etc. are being held in different States. Regional Workshops to cross-share learning amongst different States are also being held. The Government of India has also undertaken direct training of Collectors and more than 200 district Collectors from across India have been trained so far. The Centre-State coordination has been increased through increased visits to States, coordination meetings and reviews. There is also renewed focus on IEC and a 360 degree media campaign is being envisaged to further boost it. The social media—twitter (@swachbharat), Facebook (Swachh Bharat Mission) and Whats App/HIKE—are being extensively used for sharing innovative ideas and cross learning. A National Rapid Action and Learning Unit has been constituted to institutionalise learning from the field and provide quick feedback. The technology aspect is also being focussed and an expert committee under Dr. R.A. Mashelkar has been constituted to examine new innovations; and exhibitions are organised to spread these technologies amongst the States and other stakeholders.

## APPENDIX IX

### MEMORANDUM NO. 37

**Subject:** Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 2420 dated 25 July, 2014 regarding "Collection of Investors Details".

On 25 July, 2014 Shri E.T. Mohammed Basheer, MP, addressed an Unstarred Question No. 2420 to the Minister of Finance. The text of the Question along with the reply of the Minister is as given in the Annexure.

2. The reply to the Question was treated as an Assurance by the Committee and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Finance within three months from the date of the reply. But the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Finance *vide* O.M. No. 281/02/2014-IT (Inv.-V)/217 dated 08 September, 2015 and O.M. No. 281/02/2014-IT (Inv.-V)/128 dated 07 June, 2016 had requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That collection and verification of information is one of the major work areas of the Income Tax Department (ITD). The Income Tax Act, 1961 provides the ITD with a number of tools to collect information, section 133(6) being one of them.

Section 133(6) of I.T. Act, 1961 reads as under:

"133. The Assessing Officer, the Deputy Commissioner (Appeals), the Joint Commissioner or the Commissioner (Appeals) may, for the purpose of this Act,—

(6) require any person, including a banking company or any officer thereof, to furnish information in relation to such points or matters, or to furnish statements of accounts and affairs verified in the manner specified by the Assessing Officer, the Deputy Commissioner (Appeals), the Joint Commissioner or the Commissioner (Appeals), giving information in relation to such points or matters as, in the opinion of the Assessing Officer, the Deputy Commissioner (Appeals), the Joint Commissioner or the Commissioner (Appeals), will be useful for, or relevant to any enquiry or proceeding under this Act."

The Directorate of Intelligence & Criminal Investigation (DI&CI) is the nodal agency of Income Tax Department for strengthening tax data base. Its key function areas include *inter alia* widening of tax base through identification of stop filers and non-filers and deepening of tax base by providing information for proper selection of cases for scrutiny assessments.

As one of the several initiatives, a special project was launched by DI&CI to bring the Cooperative sector within the ambit of collection of information.

It was noticed that Cooperative Banks (CBs) are not deducting TDS on interest payment u/s 194A(3) of the Income Tax Act, 1961. However, such interest income accruing to members/depositors of UCBs/CCs is taxable. It was suspected that many members/depositors do not disclose the interest earned in the Returns of Income filed. Further, due to laxity in adherence to KYC/AML guidelines for reporting Cash Transaction Reports (CTRs) and Suspicious Transaction Reports (STRs), Cooperative Banks were thought to be a easier conduit for facilitating substantial amount of unaccounted cash entering the banking system.

To counter these loopholes details were called for, for three FYs 2010-11 to 2012-13, under section 133(6) from the Cooperative Banks on an all India basis. Under the Project, information on cash deposited on saving bank accounts with Cooperative Banks and Cooperative Credit Societies as well as the amount of interest paid by them to their depositors/members was collected.

From the above, it is clear that collection of information under section 133(6) of the Act is a regular ongoing process. Since, the data under the special project is being collected under section 133(6) of the Act which is a regular process under the I.T. Act, 1961, no reasonable timeline can be fixed for the completion of the proceedings and final results thereof. In the instant case, the results of the project have led to proposal for inclusion of Cooperative Banks as FIIs that would be mandated to furnish specified transaction reports on an annual basis under the Annual Information Report Mechanism (Section 285BA of the Act). Alongside, the Finance Act, 2015 extended TDS provisions to the cooperative banks in an effort to plug this loophole.

Given that these efforts are part of regular proceedings under the Income Tax Act which are always ongoing, the undersigned is directed to request that the Hon'ble Committee on Government Assurances, Lok Sabha, may kindly delete the assurance from the list of assurances."

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

The Committee may consider.

New Delhi:

Dated: 03.01.2017

*ANNEXURE*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2420  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.07.2014

**Collection of Investor Details**

2420. SHRI E.T. MOHAMMED BASHEER:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Income Tax Department is collecting the details of investors in cooperative banks;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the possible impact of such move on the existence of cooperative banks had been studied and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) Yes Madam.

(b) Information is being collected by the Income Tax Department from Cooperative Banks and Cooperative Credit Societies about deposits exceeding Rs. 2,00,000/- made in cash and payment of interest exceeding Rs. 10,000/-. The information in these categories is being called for three financial years 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13 to start with. The threshold of cash deposit of Rs. 2,00,000/- was increased to Rs. 5,00,000/- in August 2013 in deference to requests made by the Cooperative Banks.

As regards deposits in cash, number of pieces of information collected for the three years is 50,23,894 amounting to Rs. 83,877 crores. Details of interest of Rs. 12,187 crores paid to 12,50,958 persons was also collected.

The Cooperative banks do not deduct tax at source on interest paid by them. As a result, it was suspected that substantial portion of such interest income is not being offered to tax. Similarly, though details of cash deposits in other Banks are collected by the Income Tax Department, since such details of cash deposits were hitherto not being collected regularly from Cooperative Banks, it is suspected that unaccounted cash may be getting deposited in these Banks.

(c) This is a verification undertaken by Central Information Branch of the Income Tax Department as a normal revenue augmentation measure. The Income Tax Department has not done any study on the possible impact of such move on existence of the Cooperative Banks.

(d) Not applicable.

## APPENDIX X

### MEMORANDUM NO. 38

**Subject:** Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 2204 dated 11 December, 2015 regarding "Irregularities in Disinvestment".

On 11 December, 2015 Shri Chandrakant Khaire and Shrimati Sakuntala Laguri, MPs, addressed an Unstarred Question No. 2204 to the Minister of Finance. The text of the Question along with the reply of the Minister is as given in the Annexure.

2. The reply to the Question was treated as an Assurance by the Committee and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Finance within three months from the date of the reply. But the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Finance *vide* O.M. No. 4/36/2015-Policy dated 09 May, 2016 have requested to drop the Assurance on the following grounds:—

"That CBI investigation is procedural matter and the issue for taking action in the matter will depend on the findings of the investigation, upon its completion. In view of above, it is requested that the reply of Part (c) may not be treated as Assurance and may be dropped from the list of Assurances."

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

The Committee may consider.

New Delhi:

Dated: 03.01.2017

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2204  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.12.2015

**Irregularities in Disinvestment**

2204. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:  
SHRIMATI SAKUNTALA LAGURI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of alleged irregularities in the process of privatization/disinvestment in Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs);
- (b) if so, the details of such irregularities detected during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government thereon; and
- (d) the measures taken by the Government to streamline and make the disinvestment process more transparent?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) & (b) The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has registered a Preliminary Enquiry (PE) dated 06.11.2013 on the issues relating to disinvestment and transfer of management control of Hindustan Zinc Limited (HZL) in April, 2002 in favour of M/s Sterlite Opportunities Venture Limited (SOVL). They have also registered a PE on 10.04.2014 in the matter of Disinvestment of Laxmi Vilas Palace Hotel, Udaipur, a unit of India Tourism Development Corporation, an undertaking under the Ministry of Tourism. Regular case under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 has been registered on 13.08.2014.

(c) Further action in the matter will be taken depending on the outcome of the CBI investigation.

(d) Broadly, the methods used for disinvestment of minority shareholdings of PSU are Initial Public Offerings (IPO), Follow-on Public Offerings (FPO), and Offer for Sale of shares by Promoters through Stock Exchange Mechanism (OFS). The process of Disinvestment involves all the concerned Ministries/Departments and the transactions are done in a transparent manner, in accordance with the extant disinvestment policy of the Government and as per extant Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) guidelines.



## APPENDIX XI

### MEMORANDUM NO. 39

**Subject:** Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 3268 dated 18 December, 2015 regarding "Sainik School in Andaman and Nicobar Islands".

On 18 December, 2015, Shri Bishnu Pada Ray, MP, addressed an Unstarred Question No. 3268 to the Minister of Defence. The text of the Question along with the reply of the Minister is as given in the Annexure.

2. The reply to the Question was treated as an Assurance by the Committee and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Defence within three months from the date of the reply. But the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Finance *vide* O.M. No.23(3)/2016/D(SSC) dated 27 June, 2016 have requested to drop the Assurance on the following grounds:—

"That the proposal of Andaman & Nicobar Administration for setting up of a Sainik School is at a very nascent stage. They have been directed to send their proposal to Ministry of Defence through Ministry of Home Affairs for financial commitments.

In the view of above, Lok Sabha Sectt. (Committee on Govt. Assurances) is requested to drop/delete the Assurance as there is no action pending on part of this Ministry."

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

The Committee may consider.

New Delhi:

Dated: 03.01.2017

*ANNEXURE*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3268  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.12.2015

**Sainik School in Andaman and Nicobar Islands**

3268. SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Andaman and Nicobar administration has submitted a proposal to his Ministry for establishment of a Sainik School in Andaman and Nicobar Islands;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by the Ministry in this regard?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR):  
(a) to (c) The Andaman and Nicobar (A&N) Administration has expressed their intention *vide* their letter dated 2nd February, 2015 for establishment of a Sainik School in A&N Islands. They have been advised *vide* Ministry of Defence's letter dated 3rd March, 2015 to submit a formal proposal as per the extant guidelines.

## APPENDIX XII

### MEMORANDUM NO. 41

**Subject:** Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 3931 dated 20 March, 2015 regarding "Bitcoin Exchange and Trading".

On 20 March, 2015, Shrimati Meenakashi Lekhi, MP, addressed an Unstarred Question No. 3931 to the Minister of Finance. The text of the Question along with the reply of the Minister is as given in the Annexure.

2. The reply to the Question was treated as an Assurance by the Committee and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Finance within three months from the date of the reply. But the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Finance *vide* O.M. No. 2/5/2015-Cy.II dated 14 August, 2015 had requested to drop the Assurance on the following grounds:—

"That the issue related to exchange and trading of bitcoin is being examined in consultation with Reserve Bank of India (RBI). RBI informed that the very nature of digital currencies, which are typically online and therefore not limited to national jurisdictions, regulation would benefit from a coordinated global approach so as to be fully effective. The RBI is monitoring the developments in other jurisdictions with respect to virtual currencies and as such has adopted a policy of "wait and watch" for the present. Regulatory action, if required, would be considered in light of the global developments in this regard. Since, there is no position to take any concrete step to introduce regulatory mechanism at the moment and the action would depend on global developments, which are beyond the scope of this Department, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs may be requested to drop the Assurance."

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

The Committee may consider.

New Delhi:

Dated: 03.01.2017

*ANNEXURE*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3931  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.03.2015

**Bitcoin Exchange and Trading**

3931. SHRIMATI MEENAKASHI LEKHI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that bitcoin currency base in the country has been on the rise;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has been introducing regulatory mechanism for bitcoin exchange and trading;

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

(e) whether the Government has studied any other crypto-currency forms;  
and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
(SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) & (b) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has informed that they have no information on the rise of bitcoin currency base in the country.

(c) & (d) RBI is presently examining the issues associated with the usage, holding and trading of virtual currencies, including bitcoins, under the extant legal and regulatory framework of the country, including foreign exchange and payment systems, laws and regulations.

(e) & (f) No, Madam.

## APPENDIX XIII

### MEMORANDUM NO. 43

**Subject:** Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 4367 dated 08 August, 2014 regarding "Setting up of Hospital in Delhi".

On 08 August, 2014, Shri B. Sriramulu, MP, addressed an Unstarred Question No. 4367 to the Minister of Health and Family Welfare. The text of the Question along with the reply of the Minister is as given in the Annexure.

2. The reply to the Question was treated as an Assurance by the Committee and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare within three months from the date of the reply. But the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare *vide* O.M. No .H-11016/31/2014-H-I dated 13 April, 2016 had requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That Health is a State subject. Setting up of the Hospital in Delhi including Hospital at Madipur is the mandate of the Government of NCT of Delhi. The reply was framed on the basis of the information provided by the Government of NCT of Delhi. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has not sanctioned/provided any fund to Government of NCT of Delhi for this purpose. The entire expenditure on account of setting up of the Hospital at Madipur would be met by the Government of NCT of Delhi *vide* their letter No. F(43)/H&FW/PQ/2014/17345 dated 09.02.2016 that as per directions of Hon'ble Health Minister of Government of NCT of Delhi that all projects above Rs. 10 crore may be reviewed by a committee to increase bed strength. Thus, this project is under review of the Review Committee for increasing the bed capacity, which means that no timeframe can be given for setting up of the hospital at Madipur.

In view of the above, it is requested that since that Ministry has absolutely no role to play in setting up of the Hospital at Madipur and the same comes under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Government of NCT of Delhi, the Committee on Government Assurances, Lok Sabha is requested to kindly drop the Assurance given in reply to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4367 on 08.08.2014."

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

The Committee may consider.

New Delhi:

Dated: 03.01.2017

*ANNEXURE*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4367  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.08.2014

**Setting up of Hospital in Delhi**

4367. SHRI B. SRIRAMULU:

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

- (a) whether a foundation stone for 200 beds hospital had been laid at Madipur in West Delhi in the recent past;
- (b) if so, the details and the present status thereof; and
- (c) the time by which construction of the said hospital is likely to be started?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): (a) to (c) Yes. Government of NCT of Delhi has informed that building plans for his hospital have been approved by statutory authorities like Delhi Urban Arts Commission (DUAC), Chief Fire Officer (CFO), Airports Authority of India (AAI), Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD), etc. Health Department, Government of NCT of Delhi is seized of the matter in connection with examination of preliminary estimates of Rs. 180 crore for this hospital project. No timeframe can be given as administrative approval of the project is yet to be accorded.

## APPENDIX XIV

### MEMORANDUM NO. 45

**Subject:** Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 1948 dated 17.12.2013, regarding "Conviction of Italian Marines".

On 17 December, 2013 Dr. P. Venugopal, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 1948 to the Minister of Home Affairs. The text of the Question alongwith the reply of the Minister is as given in the Annexure.

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

3. The Ministry of Home Affairs *vide* O.M. F. No. I-13012/34/2013-IS-IV dated 24 November, 2014 have requested to drop the assurances on the following grounds:—

"That the investigation of the case has been completed by National Investigation Agency (NIA). However, the accused Italian marines filed a Writ Petition (C) 236/2014 in the Supreme Court of India, Challenging, *inter alia*, the jurisdiction of NIA to investigate and prosecute the case. The matter is subjudice. No action can be taken by the NIA towards filing of the charge sheet till the disposal of this Writ Petition."

4. The above request for dropping the Assurance was not acceded to by the Committee at their sitting held on 21 July, 2015. The Committee accordingly presented its Twenty First Report (16th Lok Sabha) on 30 November, 2015 and noted that the Assurance was lying pending with the Ministry of Home Affairs. The Committee, therefore, desired to know the progress made in the case from time to time.

5. However the Ministry of Home Affairs *Vide* O.M. F. No. I-13012/34/2013-IS-IV dated 24 September, 2015 and O.M. 1-13012/34/2013-IS-IV dated 23 February, 2016 have again requested to drop the Assurance on the following grounds:—

"That investigation of the case has been completed by National Investigation Agency (NIA). The accused Italian marines filed a Writ Petition (C) 236/2014 in the Supreme Court of India, challenging, *inter alia*, the jurisdiction of Indian Courts and the investigation agency, NIA to investigate and prosecute the case. Subsequently the Italian Government filed a case before Annexure VII Arbitral Tribunal Challenging the jurisdiction of India to try the above case. They have also filed a case in International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) for making provisional measures till the decision of Annexure VII Tribunal praying that India shall refrain from taking or enforcing any judicial and administrative measure. The ITLOS *vide* its Order dated 24.08.2015 has

directed Italy and India shall both suspend all court proceedings and shall refrain from initiating new ones which might aggravate or extend the dispute submitted to the Annexure VII Arbitral Tribunal or might jeopardize or prejudice the carrying out of any decision which the Arbitral Tribunal may render. The Government of Italy has requested the Annexure VII Tribunal for prescription of provisional measures to which reply of the Government of India is being prepared. In view of the above circumstances, no action can be taken to fulfil this Assurance till the decision of Annexure VII Arbitral Tribunal. The Lok Sabha Secretariat is, therefore, requested to bring the matter to the notice of the Committee on Government Assurances and seek its approval to drop the Assurance."

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

The Committee may re-consider.

New Delhi:

Dated: 03.01.2017



*ANNEXURE*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1948  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.12.2013

**Conviction of Italian Marines**

1948. SHRI P. VENUGOPAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the investigations in the case involving two Italian marines in the alleged killing of two Indian fishermen has been completed;
- (b) if so, whether the NIA court has pronounced any verdict in the said case;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the status of the said case as on date?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS  
(SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) Yes, Madam.

- (b) No, Madam.
- (c) Does not arise.
- (d) The charge sheet is yet to be filed in the competent Court.

## APPENDIX XV

### MEMORANDUM NO. 46

**Subject:** Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 2897 dated 27.08.2013, regarding "Working of NIA".

On 27 August, 2013, Shri Mansukh Bhai D. Vasava and Shri Yashbant N.S. Laguri, M.Ps. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 2897 to the Minister of Home Affairs. The text of the Question alongwith the reply of the Minister is as given in the Annexure.

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

3. The Ministry of Home Affairs *vide* O.M. No. 13012/13/2014/IS-IV dated 23 February, 2016 have requested to drop the Assurance on the following grounds:—

"That the NIA is an Investigation Agency and cases are entrusted to it for investigation on regular and continuous basis. Certain number of cases remain under investigation at any particular time. It is not possible to complete investigation of all cases handed over to the NIA at any particular time. Against 41 cases entrusted to NIA up to the year 2011-12, the cases handed over to the Agency have gone up to 119. In many of the cases charge sheets have been filed by NIA and the cases are under trial at various stages in different NIA Special Courts. The Court has seized of these cases and trial is going on. As the judicial trial is a time consuming exercise, the Government (Ministry of Home Affairs) has hardly any role in this regard. It is also submitted that a similar question *i.e.* Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3946 regarding cases handed over to NIA answered on 18.12.2012 was also treated as an Assurance initially, however, pursuant to requests of this Ministry based on above justifications, the Assurance was deleted/dropped. It is, therefore, requested that approval of the Committee on Government Assurances may be obtained and conveyed for deleting/dropping the Assurances in reply to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2897 answered on 27.08.2013."

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

The Committee may consider.

New Delhi:

Dated: 03.01.2017

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2897  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.08.2013

**Working of NIA**

2897. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:  
SHRI YASHBANT NARAYAN SINGH LAGURI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has reviewed the functioning of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) in the country;
- (b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether the Government has identified/detected any loopholes in the working of NIA during the said period; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) & (b) Superintendence of National Investigation Agency (NIA) vests in the Central Government as per Section 4 of the NIA Act. The Ministry of Home Affairs, the controlling Ministry, reviews the overall functioning of NIA at regular intervals. However, there is no laid down specific mechanism to review NIA's functioning. As of now, the agency has been entrusted with the investigation of 71 cases, out of which, charge sheets have been filed in 35 cases before various NIA Special Courts and 2 cases have already resulted in conviction. Remaining 36 cases are under various stages of investigation. The Government has notified 38 special NIA Courts in various States/Union Territories to ensure expeditious trial of cases. Certain proposed amendment in the NIA Act are also under consideration of MHA to make NIA more effective in discharging its duties.

(c) to (d) No specific loopholes have been identified/detected in the working of the NIA during any of the ongoing reviews.

## APPENDIX XVI

### MEMORANDUM NO. 47

**Subject:** Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 4492 dated 21.12.2011, regarding "New Education Policy".

On 21 December, 2011, Shri Nityananda Pradhan and Shri Baijayant Jay Panda, M.Ps. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 4492 to the Minister of Human Resource Development. The text of the Question along with the reply of the Minister is as given in the Annexure.

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

3. The Ministry of Human Resource Development *vide* O.M. F.No. 6-20/2011-PN. I-PN. II dated 21.03.2016, have requested to drop the Assurance on the following grounds:—

"That it is stated that the Constitution and Terms of reference of proposed education commission were to be finalized by the Government after wide consultations. In this regard two meetings *i.e.* 6th March, 2013 and 5th June, 2013 were held and the Government took a decision to review the existing Education Policy through a Consultative Process for which Bottom-up approach would be adopted instead of setting up a Commission. It was also decided that there is no need to set up an Education Commission for the time being. However, terms of reference could not be finalized.

In this connection, the Government initiated the process of formulating a New Education Policy for which a Committee named as 'Committee for Evaluation of the New Education Policy' has been constituted. The Committee consists of Shri T.S.R. Subramaniam, Former Cabinet Secretary as the Chairman and Smt. Shailaja Chandra, former Chief Secretary, NCT of Delhi, Shri Sevaram Sharma, Former Home Secretary, NCT of Delhi, Shri Sudhir Mankad, Former Chief Secretary, Gujarat and Prof. J.S. Rajput, Former Director, NCERT as members. The Committee is mandated to examine the outcome documents, recommendations and suggestions received and formulate a draft National Education Policy as well as a Framework for Action (FFA). In view of the above, it is, therefore, requested to delete the above Assurance from the pending list and intimate the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs as well as this Ministry at the earliest."

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

The Committee may consider.

New Delhi:

Dated: 03.01.2017

*ANNEXURE*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4492  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.12.2011

**New Education Policy**

4492. SHRI NITYANANDA PRADHAN:  
SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to formulate a new education policy covering the entire spectrum of education and learning;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said policy lays emphasis on technical, vocational and job-oriented system;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether it is proposed to grant education funds to certain category of students to pursue education under the new system; and

(f) if so, the extent to which the new education policy will help to control unemployment in the country?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (f) In pursuance of the announcement made by the Prime Minister on 15th August, 2011, Government has decided to set up an Education Commission to make recommendations for improvement at all levels of education. The Constitution and Terms of Reference of the proposed Commission is being finalized by the Government after wide consultations.

## APPENDIX XVII

### MEMORANDUM NO. 48

**Subject :** Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 809 dated 16.07.2014, regarding "Recruitment in Prasar Bharati".

On 16 July, 2014, Shri Thupstan Chhewang and Maj Gen (Retd) B.C. Khanduri, AVSM, M.Ps addressed an Unstarred Question No. 809 to the Minister of Information and Broadcasting. The text of the Question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in the Annexure.

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

3. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting *vide* O.M. No. 11016/48/2014-BA(P) dated 29.09.2015, requested to drop the Assurance on the following grounds:—

"That Assurance was related to two matters *viz.* "establishment of Prasar Bharati Recruitment Board (PBRB)" and "the total number of posts lying vacant in Prasar Bharati *vis-a-vis* sanctioned posts, cadre and State-wise including Jammu & Kashmir and Uttarakhand."

Regarding establishment of PBRB, it is stated that earlier a draft Cabinet Note for establishment of PBRB was circulated for Inter-Ministerial consultation. The comments of various Departments had been obtained and examined in consultation with Prasar Bharati (PB). However, PB has sent a new proposal for drafting a fresh Cabinet Note for establishment of Prasar Bharati Recruitment and Services Board (PBRSB). Since the modifications suggested by PB at this stage, required fresh approvals of Prime Minister's Office (PMO), DoE and DoP&T; PB has been requested on 29.04.2015 to forward a firmed up proposal with the approval of the Prasar Bharati Board. Reply of Prasar Bharati is awaited. At present the proposal for establishment of PBRB is not pending with the Ministry.

Regarding the total number of posts lying vacant in Prasar Bharati, the detailed information about vacancies in Prasar Bharati is enclosed as Annexure-'A' Brief of the vacancy position is as below:—

	Sanctioned Strength	In position	Vacant Posts
DG: Doordarshan	20627	14455	6172
DG: All India Radio	26129	14157	11972
<b>Total</b>	<b>46756</b>	<b>28612</b>	<b>18144</b>

In view that no firmed up proposal from Prasar Bharati about setting up of PBRB is pending in the Ministry; the Committee on Government Assurances is requested to drop/delete the Assurance from the list of pending Assurances."

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

The Committee may consider.

New Delhi:

Dated : 03.01.2017

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 809  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.07.2014

**Recruitment in Prasar Bharati**

809. SHRI THUPSTAN CHHEWANG:

MAJ GEN (RETD) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI AVSM:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a recruitment board for Prasar Bharati has been constituted;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor along with the time by which the same is likely to be constituted;
- (c) the total number of posts lying vacant in the Prasar Bharati *vis-a-vis* sanctioned posts, cadre and State-wise including Jammu & Kashmir and Uttarakhand;
- (d) whether most of the promotions in the Prasar Bharati are made on *ad-hoc* basis and if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to regularise such promotions and to address the issues pertaining to the career prospects of the employees working in the Prasar Bharati?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR):  
(a) & (b) The Prasar Bharati Recruitment Board (PBRB) has not yet been constituted. The draft Rules regarding establishment of PBRB is under finalization. Upon finalization of the Rules, the posts of Chairman and Members of PBRB will be created. The PBRB shall be constituted once these posts are created and filled up.

(c) The information is being collected by Prasar Bharati and will be laid on the table of the House.



(d) *Ad-hoc* promotions to some of the Programme posts in Prasar Bharati were made in order to mitigate stagnation due to non-convening of DPC by UPSC during 1997-2002 and from 2013 onwards and also due to litigations impacting regular promotions.

(e) The Ministry of Information & Broadcasting is in dialogue with UPSC for convening DPCs for regular promotions. The Ministry has also requested Prasar Bharati to forward proposals for cadre review of Indian Broadcasting Programme Service and Indian Broadcasting Engineering Service for approval of the Government.

**Vacancy position of DG: DOORDARSHAN, Cadre-wise and State-wise as on 01.01.2014**

Sl. No.	Name of State	Group-A			Group-B			Group-C			Group-D			Total		
		S.S.	In Position	Vacant	S.S.	In Position	Vacant	S.S.	In Position	Vacant	S.S.	In Position	Vacant	S.S.	In Position	Vacant
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1.	Andhra Pradesh	43	36	7	256	198	58	493	369	124	114	64	50	906	667	230
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	8	1	7	50	17	33	139	54	85	48	25	23	245	97	148
3.	Assam	57	23	34	262	146	116	627	424	203	172	120	52	1118	713	405
4.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	6	2	4	37	22	15	49	27	22	2	2	0	94	53	41
5.	Bihar	21	6	15	149	100	49	366	290	76	138	90	48	674	486	188
6.	Chhattisgarh	7	4	3	90	65	25	93	46	47	2	1	1	192	116	76
7.	Chandigarh	0	5	-5	0	26	-26	0	7	-7	0	0	0	0	38	-38
8.	Delhi	274	147	127	667	529	138	1435	1020	415	273	201	72	2649	1897	752
9.	Goa	4	1	3	16	13	3	59	39	20	15	14	1	94	67	27
10.	Gujarat	38	15	23	433	252	181	465	328	137	72	72	0	1008	667	341
11.	Haryana	2	2	0	39	33	6	52	37	15	12	6	6	105	78	27
12.	Himachal Pradesh	8	7	1	79	61	18	154	93	61	44	16	28	285	177	108

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
13.	Jharkhand	16	6	10	99	75	24	169	133	36	55	44	11	339	258	81
14.	J&K	35	19	16	192	113	79	410	306	104	216	161	55	853	599	254
15.	Karnataka	40	23	17	264	175	89	540	394	146	161	88	73	1005	680	325
16.	Kerala	28	21	7	244	217	27	296	259	37	80	39	41	648	536	112
17.	Maharashtra	87	31	56	510	422	88	713	539	174	273	247	26	1583	1239	344
18.	Manipur	11	2	9	21	10	11	130	94	36	46	33	13	208	139	69
19.	Madhya Pradesh	37	13	24	304	216	88	604	417	187	178	103	75	1123	749	374
20.	Meghalaya	13	3	10	75	25	50	191	123	68	63	54	9	342	205	137
21.	Mizoram	4	2	2	45	26	19	117	94	23	42	32	10	208	154	54
22.	Nagaland	11	3	8	54	33	21	111	72	39	44	25	19	220	133	87
23.	Odisha	34	15	19	323	206	117	503	333	170	120	73	47	980	627	353
24.	Punjab	30	10	20	112	90	22	263	169	94	75	47	28	480	316	164
25.	Rajasthan	33	17	16	278	172	106	595	392	203	149	64	85	1055	645	410
26.	Sikkim	2	2	0	10	8	2	30	28	2	4	0	4	46	38	8
27.	Tamil Nadu	62	34	28	305	268	37	563	473	90	118	67	51	1048	842	206
28.	Tripura	10	1	9	75	46	29	66	37	29	35	23	12	186	107	79
29.	Uttar Pradesh	58	26	32	439	371	68	813	535	278	195	97	98	1505	1029	476
30.	Uttarakhand	9	6	3	55	52	3	109	71	38	31	22	9	204	151	53
31.	West Bengal	88	31	57	448	353	95	382	358	24	141	97	44	1059	839	220
32.	Puducherry	7	3	4	33	25	8	110	73	37	15	12	3	165	113	52
TOTAL		1083	517	566	5964	4365	1599	10647	7634	3013	2933	1939	994	20627	14455	6172

**Vacancy position of DG:AIR, Cadre-wise and State-wise as on July, 2014**

Sl. No.	Name of State	Engineering Cadre			Programme Cadre			Admn. Cadre			New Cadre			CCW Cadre			Total		
		S.S.	In Position	Vacant	S.S.	In Position	Vacant	S.S.	In Position	Vacant	S.S.	In Position	Vacant	S.S.	In Position	Vacant	S.S.	In Position	Vacant
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1.	Andhra Pradesh	144	109	35	183	65	118	264	107	157	3	2	1	16	11	5	610	294	316
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	101	57	44	122	31	91	156	63	93	1	0	1	7	6	1	387	157	230
3.	Assam	220	150	70	256	85	171	400	226	174	7	2	5	131	86	45	1014	549	465
4.	A&Nicobar	27	19	8	37	11	26	61	22	39	2	2	0	0	0	0	127	54	73
5.	Bihar	93	78	15	170	54	116	269	142	127	2	1	1	65	43	22	599	318	281
6.	Chhattisgarh	103	76	27	121	41	80	167	72	95	1	1	0	0	0	0	392	190	202
7.	Delhi	739	459	280	650	246	404	1227	726	501	86	54	32	559	375	184	3261	1860	1401
8.	DG:AIR	180	133	47	66	44	22	723	428	295	0	0	0	0	0	0	969	605	364
9.	Goa	56	46	10	59	22	37	97	42	55	2	2	0	3	2	1	217	114	103
10.	Gujarat	178	114	64	266	108	158	421	179	242	4	3	1	29	16	13	898	420	478
11.	Haryana	39	20	19	79	16	63	87	39	48	1	0	1	6	5	1	212	80	132
12.	Himachal Pradesh	87	48	39	82	14	68	137	55	82	2	1	1	0	0	0	308	118	190
13.	Jharkhand	89	76	13	122	53	69	155	107	48	2	2	0	0	0	0	368	238	130

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
15.	Karnataka	255	197	58	366	191	175	548	291	257	4	2	2	48	31	17	1221	712	509
16.	Kerala	174	159	15	268	126	142	367	186	181	6	4	2	35	19	16	850	494	356
17.	Maharashtra	603	457	146	656	261	395	1197	605	592	10	6	4	152	114	38	2618	1443	1175
18.	Manipur	56	42	14	80	27	53	101	46	55	3	2	1	2	2	0	242	119	123
19.	Madhya Pradesh	348	283	65	487	194	293	702	353	349	5	4	1	24	21	3	1566	855	711
20.	Meghalaya	76	40	36	119	42	77	142	71	71	3	2	1	4	3	1	344	158	186
21.	Mizoram	51	29	22	60	19	41	83	48	35	2	1	1	3	2	1	199	99	100
22.	Nagaland	67	42	25	83	36	47	107	57	50	3	1	2	3	2	1	263	138	125
23.	Odisha	186	151	35	261	100	161	369	226	143	5	2	3	29	22	7	850	501	349
24.	Punjab	95	49	46	132	59	73	189	95	94	2	1	1	49	36	13	467	240	227
25.	Rajasthan	305	177	128	356	142	214	533	298	235	3	2	1	34	27	7	1231	646	585
26.	Sikkim	27	16	11	29	11	18	37	17	20	3	2	1	0	0	0	96	46	50
27.	Tamil Nadu	445	361	84	468	198	270	779	406	373	16	8	8	92	65	27	1800	1038	762
28.	Telangana	124	93	31	172	81	91	292	137	155	3	3	0	24	17	7	615	331	284
29.	Tripura	51	34	17	77	19	58	111	37	74	3	2	1	1	1	0	243	93	150
30.	Uttar Pradesh	361	258	103	446	160	286	671	341	330	5	3	2	37	32	5	1520	794	726
31.	Uttarakhand	66	27	39	38	10	28	60	33	27	1	1	0	0	0	0	165	71	94
32.	West Bengal	327	283	44	306	106	200	655	379	276	7	4	3	105	80	25	1400	852	548
*Total		5974	4258	1716	6896	2657	4239	11558	6076	5482	209	123	86	1492	1043	449	26129	14157	11972

\*The information has been compiled from the information received from various Capital Stations, CCW & Staff Sections of DG:AIR (Hqrs.). The figures of in-position and vacant posts are variable.

## APPENDIX XVIII

### MEMORANDUM NO. 49

**Subject:** Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 942 dated 16.07.2014, regarding "Surrogate Advertising".

On 16 July, 2014, Shri Prathap Simha, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 942 to the Minister of Information and Broadcasting. The text of the Question alongwith the reply of the Minister is as given in the Annexure.

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

3. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting *vide* O.M. No. N-18011/41/2014-BC-II dated 01.03.2016, have requested to drop the Assurance on the following grounds:—

"That in this regard, it is stated that the comments from Department of Legal Affairs and comments from all other Ministries were called for the purpose of placing the same before a Committee of Secretaries (CoS) formed to look into operationalisation of certain provisions of Advertising Code relating to Brand extension by companies manufacturing tobacco & alcohol products. The part shown as Assurance is infact the comment of the Department of Legal Affairs on the matter. The matter has since been examined by the Committee of Secretaries (CoS) and further action is being taken as per their direction. Since the conclusion of this matter may take some more time as the same is a policy matter, involving various differing opinions, the Committee on Government Assurances may be requested that the above referred Assurance may kindly be dropped from the list of pending Assurances."

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

The Committee may consider.

New Delhi:

Dated: 03.01.2017

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 942  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.07.2014

**Surrogate advertising**

942. SHRI PRATHAP SIMHA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has held a meeting with various departments in the recent past for seeking their views on ways and means to curb the practice of surrogate advertising in the country;

(b) if so, the views expressed by various Ministries in this regard;

(c) whether the Government has identified the companies which have been accused of promoting banned brands through advertisements; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the regulatory mechanism to be put in place to check such surrogate advertising so as to protect the interests of the consumers?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR):  
(a) & (b) The issue of defining genuine brand extensions of tobacco and alcohol products, as distinct from the products launched to promote the sale of tobacco and alcohol products, has been under consideration in the Ministry for some time.

A Committee of Secretaries (CoS) was constituted by the Government to examine the issue of TV advertisements on genuine brand extensions (Brands sharing names with tobacco and alcohol products) as distinct from surrogate advertisement (indirect advertisement) of tobacco and alcohol products. A note was circulated to the Department of Consumer Affairs, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Department of Legal Affairs, Department of Health and Family Welfare and the Department of Revenue. A statement containing views of various Ministries/ Departments is at Annexure-I.

The Cos considered the views of various Ministries in its meeting held on 22.01.2013 and made following recommendations:

(i) Ministry of Information & Broadcasting and the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare may jointly review the conditions prescribed in the February 2009

notification within one month and decide on its operationalization and inform the Cabinet Secretariat.

(ii) In case Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and Ministry of Health & Family Welfare are unable to reach an agreement, the issue may be brought before the CoS again for consideration.

(iii) Issues regarding advertisements on genuine brand extension for both tobacco and alcohol products will continue to be dealt with together.

(c) & (d) Telecast of advertisements on private satellite/cable TV channels is regulated as per the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and Rules framed thereunder. Rule 7 (2) (viii) (A) of the Advertising Code provides that no advertisement shall be permitted which promotes directly or indirectly production, sale or consumption of cigarettes, tobacco products, wine, alcohol, liquor or other intoxicants:

Provided that a product that uses a brand name or logo, which is also used for cigarettes, tobacco products, wine, alcohol, liquor or other intoxicants, may be advertised on cable service subject to the following conditions that:—

- (i) the story board or visual of the advertisement must depict only the product being advertised and not the prohibited products in any form or manner;
- (ii) the advertisement must not make any direct or indirect reference to the prohibited products;
- (iii) the advertisement must not contain any nuances or phrases promoting prohibited products;
- (iv) the advertisement must not use particular colours and layout or presentations associated with prohibited products;
- (v) the advertisement must not use situations typical for promotion of prohibited products when advertising the other products:

provided further that:

- (i) the advertiser shall submit an application with a copy of the proposed advertisement along with a certificate by a registered Chartered Accountant that the product carrying the same name as cigarettes, tobacco products, wine, alcohol, liquor or other intoxicants is distributed in reasonable quantity and is available in substantial number of outlets where other products of the same category are available and the proposed expenditure on such advertising thereon shall not be disproportionate to the actual sales turnover of the product.
- (ii) All such advertisements found to be genuine brand extensions by



the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting shall be previewed and certified by the Central Board of Film Certification as suitable for unrestricted public exhibition and are in accordance with the provisions contained in sub-clause (i) to (v) of the first proviso, prior to their telecast or transmission or retransmission.

Details of action taken against TV channels for violation of this provision during last three years is at Annexure II. The Government has set up an Electronic Media Monitoring Center to monitor content aired by private satellite TV channels with a view to bring to notice of this Ministry violations of Programme and Advertising Codes. An Inter-Ministerial Committee has also been set up to consider cases of violations and make appropriate recommendations for action against those satellite TV channels which violate the provisions of the Programme and Advertising Codes. Complaints of violation of Advertising Code by private TV channels are also referred to the Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI), an industry-level Self Regulatory Body of Advertisers and Advertising Agencies, for their Comments and action.

**Views/Comments of concerned Ministries/Departments**

**(I) Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion**

Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion has stated that the trademark, which is a private right, allows a producer to differentiate the goods and services being sold by him from that of another producer. Product differentiation enables improvement in market access. Article 15.2 of the TRIPS Agreement states that "the nature of the goods of services to which a trademark is to be applied shall in no case form an obstacle to registration of the trademark". This is adequately reflected in the Section 9 of the Trade Marks Act, 1999 also. However, registration of a trademark should not be confused with action, which may be required to be taken on account of serious public health concerns. These are two separate matters and should be treated as such.

**(II) Ministry of Health & Family Welfare**

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare have stated that TV advertisement on genuine brand extension (brand sharing name with tobacco products) amounts to the violation of the provision under section-6 of the Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003 (COTPA, 2003).

**(III) Department of Revenue (Ministry of Finance)**

Department of Revenue has offered no comments stating that the said CoS Note does not contain any tax related issues administered by them.

**(IV) Department of Consumer Affairs**

The Department of Consumer Affairs is of the view that any move to permit advertisements of genuine products sharing brand name or logo with alcohol and tobacco products will lead to indirect advertisements of alcohol and tobacco products.

**(V) Department of Legal Affairs**

Department of Legal Affairs have concurred with the withdrawal of the Notification dated 27.2.2009 stating that as the issue of withdrawal of the said notification is raised by the referring Department, so the view of the Legislative Department of Ministry of Law may also be obtained.

The Legislative Department have viewed that if the administrative Ministry decides to withdraw the said notification, the provisions as inserted by the Cable Television Networks (Amendment) Rule, 2009 (notification dated 27.2.2009) in

the Cable Television Networks Rules, 1994 would required to be omitted by issuing a fresh amendment rules, with suitable modifications as may be considered appropriate by the administrative Ministry in consultation with the Department of Legal Affairs.

*ANNEXURE II*

Details of action taken against TV channels for telecast of advertisements  
in violation of Rule 7(2) (viii) (A) of Cable TV Rules 1994 during  
the last three years

Sl. No.	Advertisements	Action Taken
1.	Advertisement of a liquor product by "NDTV Good Times" channel through telecast of the advertisement of 'Blenders Pride Music CDs'.	A Warning was issued to the channel on 06.04.2010.
2.	Advertisement of liquor product by "Star Anando" channel through telecast of the advertisement of 'Blenders Pride Music CDs'.	A Warning was issued to the channel on 06.04.2010.
3.	Advertisement of products of 'Haywards-5000 Soda' and 'Kingfisher Packaged Drinking Water'	A directive was issued on 17.06.2010 to all TV channels to stop carrying any advertisements of a product that uses a brand or logo which is also used for cigarettes, tobacco products, wine, alcohol, liquor or other intoxicants.
4.	Advertisement of a product of 'McDowell's Soda'.	A directive was issued on 17.06.2010 to All TV channels to stop carrying any advertisements of a product that uses a brand or logo which is also used for cigarettes, tobacco products, wine, alcohol, liquor or other intoxicants.
5.	Advertisement of FTV Vodka.	An Advisory has been issued to FTV channel on 17.1.2013.
6.	Advertisement of "McDowell's No.1 Platinum Soda"—The No. 1 Spirit of Leadership.	The Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI) was requested on 22.07.2011 to take up the matter with advertisers to take these advertisements off air. ASCI informed that the complaint has been upheld. It was also informed that the said advertisement has been withdrawn from all channels from 25th July, 2011.
7.	Advertisement of Kingfisher Beer on ET NOW channel	A Warning was issued to the channel on 12.9.2012.
8.	Advertisement of VB Best Cold Beer or Star Cricket channel	A Warning was issued to the channel on 12.9.2012.

## **APPENDIX XIX**

### **MEMORANDUM NO. 50**

**Subject:** Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Starred Question No. 214 dated 07 August, 2006 regarding "Obscenity and Vulgarly in Newspapers".

On 07 August, 2006, Shri Sitaram Singh and Smt. Sumitra Mahajan, MPs, addressed a Starred Question No. 214 to the Minister of Information & Broadcasting. The text of the Question along with the reply of the Minister is as given in the Annexure.

2. The reply to the Question was treated as an Assurance by the Committee and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting within three months from the date of the reply. But the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Information & Broadcasting vide O.M. No. 15/8/2006-Press dated 26 June, 2015 had requested to drop the Assurance on the following grounds:—

"That Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs treated the reply as Assurance in view of statement that the proposed amendments to the Press Council Act, 1978 were under consideration. As no time limit has been defined to amend the Press Council Act, 1978 and the considerable time is obviously required for the said process, the Committee on Government Assurances may be requested that the above mentioned Assurance may kindly be dropped in view of the facts as annexed."

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

The Committee may consider.

New Delhi:

Dated: 03.01.2017

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING  
LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 214  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.08.2006

**Obscenity and Vulgarly in Newspapers**

\*214. SHRI SITARAM SINGH:  
SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the obscenity and vulgarity in mass media is increasing;
- (b) if so, whether the Hon'ble Supreme Court has also issued directions to check the increasing obscenity in the newspapers;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to provide more penal powers to the Press Council to remedy the situation; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 214 TO BE ANSWERED ON 7TH AUGUST 2006.

- (a) Instances of obscenity and vulgarity in media have been brought to the notice of this Ministry.
- (b) No formal directions have been received from the Supreme Court.
- (c) Does not arise.
- (d) & (e) The proposal to provide more penal powers to the Press Council of India is under consideration in the Ministry.

## APPENDIX XX

### MEMORANDUM NO. 51

**Subject:** Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 3992 dated 06 August, 2014 regarding "Committee on Prasar Bharati".

On 06 August, 2014, Shri Hansraj Gangaram Ahir, MP, addressed an Unstarred Question No. 3992 to the Minister of Information & Broadcasting. The text of the Question along with the reply of the Minister is as given in the Annexure.

2. The reply to the Question was treated as an Assurance by the Committee and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting within three months from the date of the reply. But the Assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Information & Broadcasting *vide* O.M. No. H-11016/82/2014-BA(P) dated 22 June, 2015 had requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That the aforesaid Assurance is related to decision on the recommendations of Sam Pitroda Committee. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting had requested Prasar Bharati to prepare an action plan for undertaking the studies/reviews/audits on certain issues recommended by the Sam Pitroda Committee and apprise the Ministry of the outcome reports. The desired action plan is still awaited from Prasar Bharati. Since, the conducting of reviews/studies/audits is a time-consuming activity; therefore no time limit can be given in this regard. Moreover, at present the action on the report of Sam Pitroda Committee, is not pending with the Ministry. In view of the action on the report of Sam Pitroda Committee not being pending with the Ministry; the Committee on Government Assurances, Lok Sabha, may be requested to drop/delete the Assurance from the list of pending Assurances."

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

The Committee may consider.

New Delhi:

Dated: 03.01.2017

*ANNEXURE*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3992  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.08.2014

**Committee on Prasara Bharati**

3992. SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any decision on the recommendations made by Sam Pitroda Committee on Prasara Bharati;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR):  
(a) and (b) The Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Sam Pitroda has recommended for framing a long-term vision and strategy for Prasara Bharati that would include and be dependent upon the technology choices, assessment of human resources, review of programming including review of existing channels and also a study of independent sources of finances for Prasara Bharati.

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, on 13.03.2014 has requested Prasara Bharati to prepare an action plan for undertaking the studies/reviews/audits on issues referred above and apprise the Ministry of the outcome reports.

- (c) Does not arise.



**APPENDIX XXI**  
**MINUTES**  
**COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES**  
**(2016-2017)**  
**(SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA)**  
**FOURTH SITTING**  
**(05.01.2017)**

The Committee sat from 1000 hours to 1300 hours in Committee Room "B",  
Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

**PRESENT**

Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' — *Chairperson*

**MEMBERS**

2. Shri Rajendra Agarwal
3. Shri Anto Antony
4. Shri C.R. Patil
5. Shri Sunil Kumar Singh
6. Shri Taslimuddin

**SECRETARIAT**

1. Shri R.S. Kambo — *Additional Secretary*
2. Shri P.C. Tripathy — *Director*
3. Shri S.L. Singh — *Deputy Secretary*

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At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee and apprised them regarding the day's agenda. Thereafter, the Committee took up 25 Memoranda (Memorandum Nos. 27 to 51) containing requests received from various Ministries/Departments for dropping of pending Assurances. After considering a few Memoranda, the Committee authorized the Hon'ble Chairperson to decide the dropping or otherwise of the Assurances contained in the remaining Memoranda. Thereafter, the Hon'ble Chairperson decided to drop 05 Assurances

as per details given in Annexure-I\* and to pursue the remaining 20 Assurances as per details given in Annexure-II, for implementation by the Ministry/Department concerned.

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*The Committee then adjourned.*

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\*Not enclosed.

ANNEXURE II

STATEMENT SHOWING ASSURANCES *NOT DROPPED* BY THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES AT THEIR SITTING HELD ON 05.01.2017

Sl. No.	Memo No.	Question	Ministry/ Department	Subject	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	27	USQ No. 1723 dated 03.12.2014	Atomic Energy (Department of Atomic Energy)	Production of Electricity	The Department have contended that with the establishment of NITI Aayog, the concept of Five Year Plans has lost relevance and as there would not be the Thirteenth Five Year Plan, fixing target for nuclear power generation during the next Five Year Plan, even in future, does not arise. The Committee feel that an Assurance cannot be dropped merely on this ground as in any Department a medium-term/long-term perspective/futuristic plan is always conceived taking into consideration growth of economy. Even if the concept of Five Year Plans has lost its relevance, the Department need to give electricity generation targets, say, for the next five/ten years. The Committee, therefore, urge upon the Ministry to take concrete steps to materialize the same and fulfil the Assurance at the earliest.
2.	28	USQ No. 413 dated 14.03.2012	Civil Aviation	CBI Enquiry on Airbus and Indian Airlines Deals	The Ministry have contended that the matter is under investigation by CBI and since the investigation process is a time consuming process and may take years to come to a final conclusion, the Assurance should be dropped. The Committee are of the view that an Assurance cannot be dropped merely on the ground that the matter is being investigated by the CBI which will take time. In this case, the Ministry are required to furnish the

3.	29	USQ No. 1325 dated 01.12.2014	Civil Aviation	Setting up of an Aviation Ombudsman
4.	30	S.Q. No. 188 (Supplementary by Shri Faggau Singh Kulaste, M.P.) dated 03.08.2015	Civil Aviation	Purchase of Aircraft by Air India

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details of the CBI investigations into the deal between Airbus and Indian Airlines. The Committee feel that the matter is of national concern and as such it should be brought to its logical conclusion. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Ministry must enhance the level of co-ordination with the CBI for proper and expeditious investigation into the case and the details thereof apprised to the Committee so as to fulfil the Assurance.

The Ministry have contended that since separate grievance redressal mechanisms are already therewith each airline as well as with DGCA to address the grievances, the Assurance for setting up of an ombudsman for Civil Aviation Sector may be dropped. The Committee feel that the contention of the Ministry is untenable as sub-sector redressal mechanisms are different from sector-wise regulator. There are a large number of public grievances/disputes relating to aviation sector and since most of the service sectors like Insurance, Banking etc. have independent Ombudsman, setting up of an ombudsman for Civil Aviation Sector can be considered thoughtfully. The Committee desire that the Ministry should work towards setting up of an aviation ombudsman and fulfil the Assurance at the earliest.

The Ministry have contended that the matter is still under investigation by CBI and since the investigation process is a time consuming process and may take years to come to a final conclusion, the Assurance should be dropped. The Committee are of the view that the matter is of national concern and as such should be brought to its logical conclusion. Moreover, the Committee feel that an Assurance cannot be dropped merely on

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1	2	3	4	5	6
					the ground that the matter is being investigated by the CBI which will take time. The Committee desire that the Ministry must enhance the level of co-ordination with CBI for proper investigation and expeditious fulfillment of the Assurance.
5.	31	USQ No. 3036 dated 17.12.2015	Civil Aviation	Financial Irregularities in Purchase of Aircrafts	The Ministry have requested for dropping of the Assurance on the grounds that matter is under investigation by CBI and many a times it takes years to come to a final conclusion. the Committee feel that an Assurance cannot be dropped merely on the ground that the issue is being investigated by the CBI which will take time. The Committee urge upon the Ministry to enhance the level of co-ordination with CBI for speedy investigation into the case. The Committee would also like to be apprised of the initiatives taken and the progress made in the matter.
6.	32	SQ No. 271 dated 16.03.2015	Civil Aviation	Purchase of Aircraft by Air India	In yet another instance, the Ministry have requested for dropping of the Assurance on the grounds that matter is under investigation by CBI and many a times it takes years to come to a final conclusion. The Committee feel that an Assurance cannot be dropped merely on the grounds that the issue is being investigated by CBI which will take time. The Committee urge upon the Ministry to enhance the level of co-ordination with CBI for speedy investigation into the case. The Committee would also like to be apprised of the initiatives taken and the progress made in the matter.

7.	33	USQ No. 54 dated 30.11.2015	Commerce and Industry (Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion)	Tyre Industry
8.	36	USQ No. 1927 dated 10.12.2015	Drinking Water and Sanitation	World Bank Assistance
9.	37	USQ No. 2420 dated 25.07.2014	Finance (Department of Revenue)	Collection of Investor Details

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The Ministry have contended that the matter is under consideration of the Competition Commission of India which is a quasi-judicial organization. Since it is not known when the decision of the Commission will come out, the Ministry have requested for dropping the Assurance. The Committee feel that an Assurance cannot be dropped merely for the simple reason that its implementation would take more time. Moreover, delay in the outcome of investigation is no ground to drop the Assurance and the matter should be brought to its logical conclusion. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Ministry must enhance the level of co-ordination with the CCI for proper and expeditious investigation into the case and the details therefore apprised to the Committee so as to fulfill the Assurance.

The Ministry have stated that the Expert Committee under Dr. R.A. Mashelkar has enlisted various innovative technologies on Solid Liquid Waste Management (SLWM) and a compendium consisting of such technologies has been published and uploaded on the website of the Ministry for the benefit of various States. A Source Book on Solid Liquid Waste Management (SLWM) in Rural Areas has also been published by Ministry. Thus, in sum and substance, the Assurance has been fulfilled. The Committee desire that the requisite Implementation Report may be laid in the House.

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The Ministry have stated that details for three financial years 2010-2011 to 2012-13 were called under section 133(6) from the the cooperative banks on an all India basis. Information on cash deposited in saving bank accounts with Cooperative Banks and

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1	2	3	4	5
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10.	38	USQ No. 2204 dated 11.12.2015	Finance (Department of Disinvestment	Irregularities in Disinvestment
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11.	39	USQ No. 3268 dated 18.12.2015	Defence (Depart- ment of Defence)	Sainik School in Andaman and Nicobar Islands
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Cooperative Credit Societies as well as the amount of interest paid by them to their depositors/members was also collected. Thus, in sum and substance, the Assurance has been fulfilled. The Committee desire that the requisite Implementation Report may be laid in the House.

The Ministry have requested for dropping of the Assurance citing that the matter is under CBI investigation and since it is a procedural matter, issue of taking action in the matter will depend on the findings of the investigation, upon its completion. The contention of the Ministry is untenable since an Assurance cannot be dropped merely on the ground that the matter is being investigated by CBI which will take time. While emphasizing that the matter should be brought to its logical conclusion, the Committee desire that the Ministry should co-ordinate with the CBI for proper and expeditious investigation into the case. The Committee would also like to be apprised of the initiatives taken and the progress made in the matter.

The Ministry have requested for dropping of the Assurance on the grounds that the proposal of Andaman and Nicobar Islands Administration for setting up of a Sainik School is at a very nascent stage and there is no action pending on the part of this Ministry. The Committee feel that once an Assurance is given, it is incumbent upon the Ministry to fulfill it with proper planning and co-ordination with all the Ministries/Departments/agencies involved within a definite timeframe. Far from being convinced to drop the Assurance, the Committee urge upon the Ministry to

12.	41	USQ No. 3931 dated 20.03.2015	Finance (Department of Economic Affairs)	Bitcoin Exchange and Trading
13.	43	USQ No. 4367 dated 08.08.2014	Health and Family Welfare (Department of Health and Family Welfare)	Setting up of Hospital in Delhi

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take appropriate steps in right earnest with better co-ordination so that there is no further delay in fulfilling the Assurance.

The Ministry have requested for dropping of the Assurance on the grounds that the issue related to exchange and trading of Bitcoin is being examined in consultation with RBI and regulatory action, if required, would be considered in the light of global developments which are beyond its control. The Committee, however, do not accept the contention of the Ministry and feel that once an Assurance is given it is incumbent upon the Ministry to bring it to its logical conclusion within a reasonable timeframe. Moreover, with the increasing Bitcoin exchange and trading, it is imperative to have a requisite regulatory framework. The Committee desire that the Ministry must pursue the matter with concerted efforts to fulfil the Assurance at the earliest.

73

The Ministry have requested for dropping of the Assurance on the grounds that they have absolutely no role to play in setting up of the proposed Hospital at Madipur and the same comes under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Government of NCT of Delhi. The Committee feel that the contention of the Ministry is untenable since the NCT of Delhi is not a full fledged State of the Union but comes under the administrative control of the Union Government. Moreover, once an Assurance is given, it is the responsibility of the Ministry to bring it to its logical end. The Committee desire that the Ministry must pursue the matter, vigorously with the Government of NCT of Delhi and all the concerned Ministries/agencies for its proper and expeditious

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14.	45	USQ No. 1948 dated 17.12.2013	Home Affairs	Conviction of Italian Marines
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15.	46	USQ No. 2897 dated 27.08.2013	Home Affairs	Working of NIA
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conclusion. The Committee would also like to be apprised of the initiatives taken and the progress made in the matter.

The Ministry have contended that although investigation of the case has been completed by NIA, no action can be taken by the Agency towards filing of the charge sheet till the disposal of writ petition filed by the accused Italian marines in the Supreme Court of India. The Ministry have further requested for dropping of the Assurance since the matter is sub-judice. The Committee feel that the contention of the Ministry is untenable since an Assurance cannot be dropped merely on the ground that the matter is sub-judice. The Committee desire that the Ministry should take, the requisite measures to implement the Assurance. The Committee would also like to be apprised of the initiatives taken and the progress made in the matter.

74

The Ministry have contended that it is not possible to complete investigation of all cases handed over to the NIA at any particular time. The Committee understand that since NIA is an investigation agency, cases are entrusted to it for investigation on regular and continuous basis. However, the Assurance is about those cases which were handed over to NIA during 2010-2013 and the Ministry ought to have proper information about them. Moreover, the Committee note that the Ministry have not said anything in regard to the Assurance on amendment in the NIA Act which is under consideration of the Ministry of Home Affairs to make NIA more effective in discharging its duties. The Committee desire that the

16.	47	USQ No. 4492 dated 21.12.2011	Human Resource Development (Department of Higher Education)	New Education Policy
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17.	48	USQ No. 809 dated 16.07.2014	Information and Broadcasting	Recruitment in Prasar Bharati
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Ministry must pursue this matter with concerted efforts to fulfil the Assurance at the earliest and bring the matter to its logical conclusion.

The Ministry have requested for dropping of the Assurance on the grounds that the Government have now decided that there is no need to setup an Education Commission for the time being and initiated the process of formulating a New Education Policy for which a Committee has been constituted. The Committee note that the issue is of national concern and hence should be brought to its logical conclusion. Since the New Education Policy is long overdue in the country, the Committee desire that the Ministry must pursue the matter vigorously and fulfil the Assurance. The Committee also like to be apprised of the initiatives taken by the Ministry in expediting the case and the progress made in the matter.

75

The Ministry have informed that the Assurance related to two matters viz. Establishment of Prasar Bharati Recruitment Board (PBRB) and “the total number of posts lying vacant in Prasar Bharati, State-wise”. Regarding the first matter, the Ministry have contended that since the reply from the Prasar Bharati is awaited and the proposal for establishment of PBRB is not pending with the Ministry, the Assurance pertaining to this part may be deleted. However, the Committee feel that the contention of the Ministry is untenable as the Assurance cannot be dropped merely on the ground that information is still awaited from one of their own agencies. The Committee desire that the Ministry should adopt a pro-active approach and enhance the level of co-ordination with Prasar Bharati for timely implementation of the Assurance.

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18.	49	USQ No. 942 dated 16.07.2014	Information and Broadcasting	Surrogate Advertising
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19.	50	SQ No. 214 dated 07.08.2006	Information and Broadcasting	Obscenity and Vulgarity in Newspapers
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Regarding the second matter, the Ministry have requested the Committee to drop the Assurance as they have provided the requisite information. The Committee desire that an Implementation Report in the matter may be laid on the floor of the House.

The Ministry have contended that since the conclusion of this matter may take some more time as the same is policy matter involving various differing opinions, the Assurance should be dropped. The Committee feel that the contention of the Ministry is untenable since an Assurance cannot be dropped merely on the ground that it involves policy matter and may take some more time to complete. Moreover, once an Assurance is given, it should be brought to its logical end. The Committee desire that the Ministry should pursue the matter in a time bound manner so that things do not get stuck up and ensure early implementation of the Assurance.

The Ministry have requested for dropping of the Assurance on the ground that considerable time is required to amend the Press Council Act, 1978. The Committee feel that the contention of the Ministry is untenable since an Assurance cannot be dropped merely on the ground that its implementation may take more time than the specified period of three months. Considering the pressing need for checking the increasing obscenity and vulgarity in newspapers and periodicals, the Committee feel that the Assurance should be brought to its logical end and hence they direct the Ministry to pursue the matter vigorously. The Committee would also like to be apprised of the initiatives taken and progress made in the matter.

20.	51	USQ No. 3992 dated 06.08.2014	Information and Broadcasting	Committee on Prasar Bharti
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The Ministry have contended that the matter relates to decisions on the recommendations of the Sam Pitroda Committee and since the conducting of reviews/studies/audits is a time consuming process and in view of the fact that action on the report of the said Committee is not pending with the Ministry, the Assurance may be dropped. Since Prasar Bharati has solemn national obligations and urgently requires big reforms, the Committee do not accept this contention as a valid ground for dropping the Assurance. The Committee feel that the matter is of national importance and needs to be pursued to its logical conclusion. For this, the Ministry must take concrete action instead of resorting to lackadaisical approach in the matter. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Ministry should make concerted efforts to fulfil the Assurance at the earliest.

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## APPENDIX XXII

### MINUTES

#### ELEVENTH SITTING

MINUTES OF THE SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT  
ASSURANCES (2016-17) HELD ON 31ST JULY, 2017 IN CHAIRPERSON'S  
CHAMBER ROOM, NO. 133, PARLIAMENT HOUSE ANNEXE,  
NEW DELHI

The Committee sat from 1500 hours to 1530 hours on Monday, 31st July, 2017.

#### PRESENT

Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' — *Chairperson*

#### MEMBERS

2. Shri Rajendra Agrawal
3. Prof. (Dr.) Sugata Bose
4. Shri Naranbhai Bhikhabhai Kachhadiya
5. Shri Prahlad Singh Patel
6. Shri Sunil Kumar Singh

#### SECRETARIAT

1. Shri U.B.S. Negi — *Joint Secretary*
2. Shri P.C. Tripathy — *Director*
3. Shri S.L. Singh — *Deputy Secretary*

At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee and apprised them regarding the day's agenda. Thereafter, the Committee considered and adopted the following four (04) draft Reports without any amendment:

- (i) Draft 59th Report regarding requests for dropping of Assurances (acceded to)
- (ii) Draft 60th Report regarding requests for dropping of Assurances (not acceded to)
- (iii) Draft 61st Report regarding requests for dropping of Assurances (acceded to)
- (iv) Draft 62nd Report regarding requests for dropping of Assurances (not acceded to)

2. The Committee also authorized the Chairperson to present the Reports during the current session of the Lok Sabha.

*The Committee then adjourned.*

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

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