

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Eleventh Session
(Fourteenth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, August 14, 2007/Sravana 23, 1929 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at Six minutes past
Eleven of the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[English]

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Everyday, it cannot go on like this.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please allow me to speak.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There is no glory in unruly behaviour.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Thomas, I will name you today.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I believe, all of you would join me....

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have said that I will allow you to raise it. What is going on here?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Karunakaran, this is not fair. I will allow you to raise it.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I can only express my anguish at your behaviour. I do not know what matter you are raising.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Why are you raising it now? You have not given any notice.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I can only express my deepest anguish.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I believe, all of you would join me...

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It is a Cricket victory.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I do not know as to what is happening in this House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Do not show any paper.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Acharia, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members you have to sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You sit down. First, you take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Ram Kripal Yadav Ji, you sit down please.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: From the beginning, not one word should be recorded.

*...(Interruptions) **

*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: Will Shri K. Francis George, Shri Suresh Kurup and Shri Ajaya Kumar take their seats? Or else, you have to face action today. I have come determined today to take action against these Members.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. You show the minimum courtesy to the Chair. Shri Thomas, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is not a place of *tamasha*!

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Not one word should be written.

(Interruptions)*...

MR. SPEAKER: You are also becoming unruly!

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri George, will you take your seat or not?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Give me the Rule book. Enough is enough.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is the Question Hour, I will not allow anything, Shri Karunakaran.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I can only say, Shri Acharia, that I do not expect such unruly behaviour from your Members. This is a very sorry state of affairs.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): You allow one of them to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: I will not allow now. Nothing will be allowed. They came to me. I have promised them that after the Question Hour, I will allow them. They agreed to it before me and now they are behaving in this manner. Is this the responsibility shown by your Party Members?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Prime Minister.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: At least, show some responsibility. Yesterday, you have sullied this House.

...(Interruptions)

11.06 hrs.

INTRODUCTION OF MINISTER

[English]

THE PRIME MINISTER (DR. MANMOHAN SINGH): Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission, I wish to introduce to you, and through you, to the august House my colleague Shrimati V. Radhika Selvi, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs, who has recently been inducted in the Council of Ministers.

MR. SPEAKER: I compliment her.

[English]

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: If the matter is taken up at 12 noon, Heavens will not fall!

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, will you take up your seats or not?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Tell me, whether you want to cooperate with the Chair or not.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Wait for your time.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded.

(Interruptions)*...

MR. SPEAKER: Give me the Rule book.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: That is proved by your behaviour!

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Members can raise these issues and if they want, we would draw the attention of the Railway Minister. Let the business be transacted.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Leader of the House, I have assured them that I will allow them at 12 noon. Can they not wait for 50 minutes? They are showing totally irresponsible behaviour. I am ashamed of them.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are not allowing the Speaker to speak.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I hope you remember that.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I do not need protection.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have to protect the House from you.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Not one word will be recorded.

(Interruptions)*...

MR. SPEAKER: Your Members came to me and I have assured them that at 12 noon I will allow them. They agreed with me and then, they are behaving in this responsible manner.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Do not give certificates to yourselves.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Not one word will be recorded.

(Interruptions)*...

MR. SPEAKER: No, I will not allow the Minister to speak. The Minister should not speak.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned till 11.30 a.m.

11.10 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till thirty minutes past Eleven of the Clock.

11.30 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at thirty minutes past Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, we express regret for what has happened today in the morning.

MR. SPEAKER: You did not do anything.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, you may please allow.

*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: Allow what?

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: This is a very urgent matter pertaining to Kerala. Please allow them to speak at 12 noon.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, I also join my colleague in expressing my unqualified regret for what happened today.

MR. SPEAKER: You are speaking without my permission.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Some amicable solution has to be found out.

MR. SPEAKER: Let me see.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: We will be able to do that.

[Translation]

Lalu Ji can find a solution.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You may try to have better control over your Members.

Now, can I have uninterrupted 2-3 minutes to speak in this House? This has become like this that the Speaker has to take permission of everybody for their kindness to allow the Speaker to speak!

11.30¹/₂ hrs.

FELICITATION TO INDIAN CRICKET TEAM WINNING TEST SERIES AGAINST ENGLAND

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, since there was a disturbance in the House earlier, I am repeating it again, I believe that all of you will join me in conveying our greetings and congratulations to the Captain of Indian Cricket Team, Rahul Dravid and his team for winning the Test Series in England. We wish them further success in future matches also.

11.31 hrs.

OBSERVATION BY THE SPEAKER

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Before we take up today's business in the House, I wish to refer with great sorrow and concern to what happened yesterday in this Chamber, which we call the Temple of Democracy. Some Members indulged in such unbecoming conduct that the questions are being rightly asked whether we are doing justice to our role of representing the people. It is a matter of deep anguish that such doubts are raised on the eve of our celebrating the 60th anniversary of our Independence for which thousands and thousands of our countrymen made supreme sacrifices.

Are we showing any respect to them and to our freedom fighters by what happened yesterday and on all such occasions?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: As such I am extremely sorry that we witnessed extremely uproarious scenes when the country's Prime Minister was speaking and that can never be condoned.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Kindly listen. I am including what happened today also.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am including what happened today also.

I have repeatedly asserted that subject to the constraint of the rules and the availability of time, the House shall certainly discuss all important issues which the Members wish to raise. The Members are certainly entitled to express their strong views in any matter they wish, but such expression of views has to be in a manner as are permitted by the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the House. That should of course be in a dignified manner and that there should be structured debates and discussions as are permitted. There can be no hindrance in debating all permissible issues and

expression of one's views in any matter, but unfortunately, there is a continuous violation of the rules and defiance of the Chair, which cannot be permitted for ever.

The people are closely watching us and they will, no doubt, give their verdict at the appropriate time. But till then, I wish to inform the hon. Members that in future all methods as are provided in our rules will be applied to enforce minimum discipline in the House, however painful that may be. We cannot further allow the prestige of this great institution to be lowered in the eyes of the citizens by our own people due to the totally inappropriate and unacceptable behaviour which is displayed in the House from time to time, including today.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: The Congress is solely responsible for whatever happened yesterday.
...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have said that it includes today also.

...(Interruptions)

11.35 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

MR. SPEAKER: Now, let us take up Q. No. 41.

Central Support to Unaided Colleges and Schools

*41. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is planning to launch schemes to fund unaided colleges and schools in various States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has assessed the standard of education imparted by these institutions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) No, Sir. Government does not have any such proposal for funding un-aided, self-financing schools and colleges in various States. However, in the XIth Plan, it is proposed that University Grants Commission (UGC) would cover some of the hitherto uncovered Colleges and Universities, whether Government aided or unaided, which are not self-financing, under Section 12(B) of the UGC Act, to make them eligible for financial assistance from the Central Government/UGC, subject to availability of resources.

(c) and (d) Assessment of standard of education is primarily the responsibility of the Universities with which the colleges are affiliated. However, UGC is responsible for the coordination, determination and maintenance of standards of University education. An Inter-University Centre, namely, the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) is mandated to assess and accredit public and private institutions of higher learning. As on 31-3-2007, it has assessed 3632 institutions, (140 University level institutions and 3492 colleges). Accreditation by NAAC is not compulsory at present. In the field of Technical Education, the National Board of Accreditation (NBA) constituted under the provisions of the AICTE Act 1987 accredits programmes in technical educational institutions.

There is no formalized system of assessment of all schools in the country. The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) assesses the performance of all schools affiliated to it. Similarly, State Boards have their own systems of assessment.

DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Sir, there are many unaided schools and colleges all over the country in various States. The students are deprived of education, even after 60 years of our Independence. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record anything except what Dr. Sarma says.

DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: It is unfortunate that this Ministry which is committed for the establishment of education system in the country has not come up with any proposal to fund these unaided colleges.

11.36 hrs.

(Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra and some other Hon'ble Members then left the House)

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Sarma, put your supplementary.

DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Sir, the reply of the hon. Minister is not satisfactory because they have only suggested that some of the colleges will be covered under the UGC funding. I apprehend that it would not even cover one per cent of the total unaided colleges and schools in the country. I would like to specifically know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will come up with a special programme to support the unaided colleges because the students are suffering and the standard of education is also suffering. There is a wide gap and discrimination between the aided and unaided colleges and schools.

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, even in the reply given to the hon. Member, it has been clearly stated that under Section 12(b) of the UGC Act, the aided or unaided institutions — barring self-financing institutions—would be eligible for financial assistance from the Central Government subject to availability of resources.

DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: My apprehension is that the UGC cannot cover even one per cent of the unaided institutions. Then, what will happen to other colleges and schools? That was the prime issue because these colleges, schools and the education system itself, all are suffering. The students are also suffering. So, what the Government is going to do?

Secondly, I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has kept any record of these unaided schools, colleges and the various categories of schools and colleges. How many students are there which can be brought under this new proposal?

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, education being the State subject, the institutions and schools can be set up either through the Central or the State legislation. But such schools which are set up in the States are subjected to the purview of the State Legislature and the institutes and universities set up under the Central legislation are subjected to Central Government purview. Under this, definitely schools which are set up in the States are the responsibility of the States....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: When she is replying, you cannot interrupt.

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, according to the Sixth All India Education Survey and also the Seventh All India School Education Survey, the total number of schools would be around 2,17,653 in 2002. But presently there are about 1.45 lakh secondary and senior secondary schools in India, out of which 9000 schools are affiliated to CBSE. CBSE is the body which actually looks into the quality of schools which are recognized by the CBSE. In these schools we have about 40 million students which are presently covered under the CBSE stream. This is the record which the Central Government keeps. With regard to State schools, the records are with the State Governments.

[Translation]

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reply of the hon. Minister to the question put up by hon. Member has not provided any new information. There are a large number of unaided schools in our country. Consequently, they underpay their teachers, which in turn, affects the quality of education adversely. The hon. Minister has stated that there is a resource crunch. The Government have recently introduced education cess. I would like to ask the hon. Minister—how much money, out of the said cess, the Government have allocated for higher education?

[English]

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: All schools established are affiliated to either the State Boards or to the Central Board. The CBSE, as I had mentioned earlier, is the competent authority to ensure standards in Central Board affiliated schools. In regard to schools affiliated to State Boards, I would again like to re-emphasize, that it is the responsibility of the State Governments to look into the quality, including teachers in the State Government schools. The State Governments are also competent to make appropriate regulations through law in respect of educational institutions independent of the Central Government.

As far as the question raised by the hon. Member with regard to teachers is concerned, I would again like to re-emphasize that it is the responsibility of the State Government to look into the matter to ensure that the required teachers are in place.

[Translation]

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you asked me to put question.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI LALIT MOHAN SUKLABAIDYA: There are about 1600 high schools and a few thousands primary and middle schools in Assam. The teachers employed in these schools are doing the same kind of job as their counterparts in the Government schools are doing. A few thousand of such teachers employed in these schools are not getting their salaries. Even many of them are retiring without getting any salary after having rendered their services.

MR. SPEAKER: The same point is being raised.

SHRI LALIT MOHAN SUKLABAIDYA: One of the Members had raised the point that in some such schools the teachers are being paid half salaries. But our teachers are not getting any salary. During the last three years in

my Budget speech I have been referring to the plight of these teachers. Now, I would like to request the Central Government to help the State Government with resources from the revenue that is being collected by way of educational cess for paying the salaries of the teachers. I would like to know if the Central Government will help the State Governments for paying the salaries of the teachers who are working without salary.

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: As I have mentioned earlier, the Kendriya Vidyalayas and the Navodaya Vidyalayas which are Central schools are basically the responsibility of the Central Government. We have been taking measures to ensure that the teachers are in place in these schools. With regard to the State Government schools, the responsibility is of the State Government.

Sir, answering the question on cess, basically it is meant for the Sarva Siksha Abhiyan and the Mid-day meal schools. Apart from this, there is one per cent additional cess being levied. This is towards secondary and higher education. But the two per cent cess is basically towards Mid-day meal and Sarva Siksha Abhiyan. Payment of salaries to teachers employed in State Government schools, again I would like to re-emphasize, is the responsibility of the State Governments.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ramdas Athawale. Your question has to be relevant, otherwise, I will not allow that.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is wrong to accord permission to non-aided schools. The talented students belonging to poor sections have to pay donations for seeking admission to such schools. There is, therefore, a need for the Government of India to enact a law in this regard. The un-aided schools should not be permitted to function, meanwhile, there is a need to provide aid to each school and college. I want to know whether the Government propose to take any decision in this regard?

Education in Maharashtra is in the process of privatization, be it MBBS, engineering, MBA or other

colleges. Students have to pay donation ranging from 20, 30, 50 thousand rupees to 1, 2 or even 30 lakh. Do the Government propose to enact any law to check privatization of education? If the Government fail to check it now, the situation would further deteriorate.

MR. SPEAKER: This question is not related to it, it is a policy matter.

[English]

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: In the school stream we have 97 million students in the age group of 14 to 18 years. Out of these 40 million students, as I have mentioned earlier, are in the school stream. There are about 57 million who are out of school. These are the children who are transiting into secondary and senior secondary schools. There is a pressure on secondary education and towards that end, in the Eleventh Five Year Plan we are trying to get through the Secondary Education Mission to ensure that the pressure on the secondary education is shouldered to a large extent. We are also trying to bring in a few more Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas to take the pressure off the secondary school education.

With regard to fees, there have been court interventions wherein it has been clearly emphasized and our National Programme on Education also clearly emphasizes that commercialization of education should be avoided.

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY: Sir, I have been observing that the hon. Minister is talking about only Central schools and State Government run schools. Here, I would like to ask one very serious question that relates to the question of survival of the tribal medium schools. In Assam, there are several thousands of lower primary schools, middle schools and high schools with Bodo medium. These schools have not yet been taken up by the Assam Government under the system of provincialisation. In the meanwhile, some of the teachers working in this category of schools have died hopelessly and some of them also have already crossed their retiring age without having got any salary.

I would like to know from the Government on the policy measures which the Government of India is going to take to revive and help all those schools particularly lower primary schools, middle schools and high schools with Bodo medium. This is a very serious issue, Sir.

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: In the elementary stream of education, we have ensured that tribal languages are taught to children who are covered under the Sarva Sikhsha Abhiyan.

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY: Sir, I would like to know about the policy decision of the government with regard to the non-provincialised schools with Bodo medium in relation to Assam state.
...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record.

(Interruptions)...*

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, I would request the hon. Member to give a separate notice as his supplementary does not arise out of this Question.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member may give a separate notice on this as it does not arise out of this Question. Then I would allow you.

MR. SPEAKER: Q. No. 42, Shrimati Bhavana P. Gawali—not present. Shri Sanjay Dhotre—not present.

Q. No. 43, Shri G. Karunakara Reddy—not present.

Q. No. 44, Shri Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu—not present, Shri Jasubhai Dhanabhai Barad—not present.

Q. No. 45, Shri Kiren Rijju—not present, Shri Anandrao V. Adsul—not present.

Q. No. 46, Shri Rayapati Sambasiva Rao.

*Not recorded.

Study on Naxal Activities

*46. †
SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:
SHRI UDAY SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has undertaken any study of the growing activities of Naxalites in different parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government has set up any unified command to deal with the Naxalism in the affected States in the country;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the details of loss of lives and property damaged due to Naxalism during last three years?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (f) The Central Government has been maintaining a close and continuous watch on the activities of the naxalites, including periodic visits to the various

States and detailed consultations with the State Government authorities about various developments and the steps required to check and control naxalite activities.

Among other institutional mechanisms for review and evaluation of the situation arising from naxalite activities, which include an Empowered Group of Ministers under the chairmanship of the Union Home Minister with Chief Ministers of the States concerned as special invitees and a Coordination Centre under the chairmanship of the Union Home Secretary, a Task Force has also been set up under the Special Secretary (Internal Security) in the Ministry of Home Affairs, comprising members of the Intelligence agencies, the concerned Central Para Military Forces and the officers of the State Police, with a view to deliberate upon the various steps needed to tackle the activities of the naxalites and to bring about co-ordination between the authorities of different States as may be necessary.

Law and order is a State subject. However, the Central Government is supplementing the efforts and resources of the State Governments through a variety of measures, including deployment of Central Para Military Forces which work under the command of the State Governments concerned, strengthening of the local Police and Intelligence agencies through the Police Modernisation Scheme, provision of financial assistance through the scheme of Security Related Expenditure, sharing of Intelligence and bringing about inter-State coordination.

The details of loss of lives in naxalite violence during the last 3 years, as per information available, are indicated in the table below:

Parameters	Year			
	2004	2005	2006	2007 (Till 31.7.2007)*
Casualties	566	677	678	431 (491)
(i) civilians	466	524	521	266 (390)
(ii) security forces	100	153	157	165 (301)

(*Figures in brackets indicate statistics of the corresponding period of 2006)

As far as damages to property is concerned, the naxalites have been observed to be targeting certain types of Government buildings and infrastructure pertaining to road and rail communications and, in some cases in recent months, power transmission facilities. Action is

being taken continuously by the State Governments to minimize such possibilities and to strengthen related security arrangements.

SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Sir, hon. Minister has explained the matter in detail. But there is no denying

of the fact that naxal activities are spreading like wild fire. It seems it has spread to over ten States. Huge sums of money are being spent on tackling naxal activities in these States instead of bringing about changes in the lives of the poor and needy.

Though the naxal movement originated in West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh has become the real hub. There is no stopping of the dreaded activities of naxals. The naxal activities have spread to 118 districts in twelve States. I am of the firm conviction that if we do not stop the naxal activities without further waste of precious time, our future generations would not forgive us.

Would the hon. Minister assure the august House on this matter? What measures has the Government of India initiated in the last two years to not only study and analyse but also stop the spreading of naxal activities in more districts in different parts of the country?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: The statistics which is made available is creating a wrong impression in the minds of some of us over here.

It is said that ten States are affected by naxal activities. That means, one-third of the country is affected by them. Now, if an incident takes place at a place in a State, that does not mean that the entire State is affected by naxal activities. Then they are saying that 188 districts are affected. It means that one-third of the country is affected. This way of looking at the problem is not correct.

There are about 8000 police stations in the country. How many police stations in the country are affected by naxal activities? Only 400 police stations are affected by them in the country. That means only about five per cent of the area is affected by naxalite States.

So, if we look at this problem from the angle of the number of States affected or the number of districts affected, it creates a wrong picture. That is why we shall have to correctly assess the situation and come to right conclusions.

It is a fact that naxalite movement is a little more than what it was in the past. It is also adopting methods which are creating some fear in the minds of people. The Government of India is applying its mind to this problem.

This problem has to be handled by the State Governments. I have been saying that nearly 35,000 men

and officers are given by the Union Government to the States which are affected by naxalite movement. Chhattisgarh receives nearly 13,000 men and officers to deal with this problem. Law and order is a State subject. It is a matter which has to be handled by the State Governments. We have been asking the State Governments to look into this matter, prepare plans and have the machinery to deal with this problem. The Government of India will help them. When we are giving these forces, we are not charging a single pie for this. Previously, we used to get money from them. But now we are not charging even a single pie. We are giving funds to the State Governments to modernise their police forces. We are giving equipments, like the USVs, that is Unmanned Survey Vehicles; we are giving them helicopters to carry the injured persons from the places where they are affected; we are giving them armoured vehicles; and we are giving them intelligence; and we are helping them in many ways.

Some States, like Andhra Pradesh, use these things properly. In Andhra Pradesh, the naxalite activity has come down by nearly forty per cent. But, unfortunately, in some other States the activity has gone up by forty per cent. If the States are particular about dealing with this problem and careful about making plans and policies, it can be done. The Government of India will help them to tackle this problem. We are applying our mind in a very serious manner in order to see that innocent people's lives are not lost.

SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: The hon. Minister has agreed that in Andhra Pradesh, the naxalite activity has gone down by forty per cent. I really appreciate that. Our Chief Minister has actually called the senior leaders of the naxalite movement and had a detailed discussion with them. Two rounds of talks had taken place. They did agree to all the terms and conditions and went back. But after six months, again they started killing the people.

Our State Government is distributing land to the common people; to the weaker sections, to the tribals; and to the landless people. The Government is constructing houses also for each and every person who is entitled to these houses. Even then the naxalite movement is still going on in Andhra Pradesh. The State Government do not have the proper equipment and the machinery to deal with the naxalites. Naxalites have very sophisticated weapons, but the Andhra Pradesh police do not have such sophisticated weapons.

I would request the hon. Minister to give more sophisticated weapons to Andhra Pradesh police also.

MR. SPEAKER: Ask the State Government to approach them.

SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Our Government is also approaching. The Chief Minister is approaching. Only because of that the naxalites have moved from Andhra Pradesh to Chhattisgarh.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: We have already given a lot of money to the State Governments to modernise their police force. We gave them not only money but also new and different kinds of equipments. What is really happening is that the naxalites are adopting military tactics to attack, whereas the police is sticking to the policing system. The police is finding it difficult to counter the attacks of the naxalites. But fortunately for Andhra Pradesh they have developed a training system under which it was possible for the police force to counter these kinds of attacks in a proper manner. What the hon. Member is suggesting has already been done. A lot of money has been given to them. Thousands of crores of rupees have been given to them.

If you want, I can give you the figures as to what amount of money has been given to each of the States to modernise their police forces. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Uday Singh—not present.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government of India had a dual policy to deal with the problem of naxalism—firstly to modernize the security forces of states, to make them capable of fighting the military tactics of the naxalite organizations and the second was to make education, telecommunication and roads available in such backward areas and to arrange for employment to improve the economic condition of the people there. For this purpose, the Government of India has provided financial assistance to all such states, where the problem of naxalism is existing. Regarding the second policy which includes to provide for roads, education, building schools and hospitals, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether, the Union Government has reviewed the situation with such states where the problem of naxalism exists and whether the funds allocated for the development of those areas have been utilized as also the expenditure

incurred so far alongwith the progress made by them in the field of development? Has the Home Ministry conducted any district-wise review of the same with the State Governments. If so, what is the outcome thereof?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a fact that in order to resolve the problem of naxalism the Government cannot rely on using the forces alone, it is essential to pay attention towards socio-economic development and that is why the Ministry of Home Affairs allocates a sum of Rs. 45 crore each year for three years for the development of those districts which are considered to be backward. This amount is over and above to what is allocated to the state governments through the Planning Commission. As far as this amount of Rs. 45 crore which is allocated to the state government by the Ministry of Home Affairs for this purpose is concerned regular monitoring is done and a discussion is held over the same, but it is the job of the Planning Commission to allocate funds for laying of roads to provide irrigation facilities and allocate funds for carrying out upgradation in the field of agriculture.

Each year when the State Governments demand funds under planning, the issue is discussed in Ministry of Planning. The funds allocated by the Ministry of Home Affairs are reviewed by the Ministry and the funds allocated by the Planning Commission for development works are reviewed by the Commission respectively.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Sir, hon. Minister has just now stated regarding the problem of naxalism that Rs. 45 crore are separately allocated to the backward districts. I would like to know whether this amount allocated for three years and provided under Rashtriya Samvikas Yojana is implemented in the backward districts or it is allocated separately to those districts to deal with the problem of regional imbalance?

This is a big problem and the naxalite violence and the problem of naxalism cannot be resolved by simply modernizing the weapons and providing training in states because economic disparity is increasing in the country. In order to fill this gap, the state and union governments will have to make concerted efforts alongwith the Planning Commission. I would like to know whether the Government is having any action plan for the same? ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: There is shortage of time, please give time to the hon. Minister to reply.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in order to deal with this problem Rs. 45 crore are not allocated to be spent over a period of three years, infact, each year Rs. 45 crore are allocated for three consecutive years. In this manner, in three years time approximately Rs. 150 crore are allocated for development in those districts. The funds are allocated to mitigate the problem of backwardness of these areas so that the people there could get some relief and start working. He is right in saying that we see naxalism growing maximum in backward areas. Therefore, in order to check naxalism in those areas, the Planning Commission after due consideration grants funds with a view to provide facilities like, roads, drinking water and schools etc. in those areas. I would also like to add that it is not only that the Planning Commission deliberates on this issue, even the State Governments are also called and discussions are held with them and after gathering all the information all this is done under an agreement. It is an issue where, as you have mentioned, joint efforts should be made.

I would like to say that the Home Ministry is making efforts towards this and funds are being granted under the same. We are contemplating to increase that amount so that development works could be carried out over there. But the Ministry of Home Affairs alone cannot carry out all these works, the Union Government has to do this with the joint efforts of Planning Commission, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation department, etc.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Scholarship to Meritorious Students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

*42. SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDALIKRAO GAWALI:
SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:

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

(a) whether the Union Government has taken a decision to grant sufficient amount of scholarship to the

meritorious students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for pursuing higher education and for purchasing books; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. Government has introduced a new Central Sector Scholarship Scheme of Top Class Education for SC and ST students, from the academic year 2007-08 with the objective of encouraging meritorious SC and ST students for pursuing degree and post-degree courses in identified institutions.

(b) The Scholarship covers full tuition fees and other non-refundable dues in respect of Government/ Government-funded institutions. However, there is a ceiling of Rs. 2 lakhs per annum per beneficiary studying in identified private sector institutions and Rs. 3.72 lakhs per annum per beneficiary undergoing training in identified private sector flying clubs for commercial pilot training, on tuition fees and other non-refundable dues. Up to Rs. 2200 per month for living expenses (based on actuals), Rs. 3,000 per annum for books and stationery, and Rs. 45,000 as a 'one-time' assistance for computer and accessories, is also given to each SC/ST student beneficiary under the above scheme.

[English]

FM Channels for Students

*43. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to have exclusive FM channels for educating students in the remote areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (c) Government has signed an agreement with Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) for operationalisation of FM stations for educational broadcast at 40 places, the details

of which have been indicated in the enclosed Statement-I. Out of this, 26 are presently operational and in 3 places *viz.* Jamnagar, Ludhiana and Bhubaneswar, IGNOU has decided not to set up FM stations. In addition, the Government has also agreed for setting up of FM stations for educational broadcasts by IGNOU at 15 more places as per details given in the enclosed Statement-II.

The FM stations set up by IGNOU are called Gyan Vani, a "Radio Cooperative" devoted exclusively to

education and community development. These inter-active participatory educational stations are aimed at great empowerment of the people particularly the disadvantaged sections of the Society located in the remote and distant areas of the country. The programmes include information relevant to students of pre-primary, primary, secondary and higher secondary, as well as enrichment programmes to build environmental awareness, women's empowerment, legal literacy, professional education and science education.

Statement I

Sl.No.	State	Place	Date of Operationalisation	Operational/Non-operational
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	16.09.06	Yes
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatnam	22.04.02	Yes
3.	Assam	Guwahati	07.02.05	Yes
4.	Bihar	Patna	04.06.06	Yes
5.	Chhattisgarh	Raipur	06.01.05	Yes
6.	Delhi	Delhi	26.01.04	Yes
7.	Goa	Panaji	04.06.06	Yes
8.	Gujarat	Ahmedabad	25.06.06	Yes
9.	Gujarat	Rajkot	16.01.05	Yes
10.	Gujarat	Jamnagar**	**	No
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	Srinagar*	—	No
12.	Karnataka	Bangalore	11.07.01	Yes
13.	Karnataka	Mysore	19.12.04	Yes
14.	Kerala	Cochin*	—	No
15.	Kerala	Trivandrum*	—	No
16.	Madhya Pradesh	Indore	22.06.06	Yes
17.	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	13.09.02	Yes
18.	Madhya Pradesh	Jabalpur	10.01.05	Yes
19.	Maharashtra	Mumbai	29.04.02	Yes

1	2	3	4	5
20.	Maharashtra	Aurangabad	09.11.06	Yes
21.	Maharashtra	Nagpur	22.10.06	Yes
22.	Maharashtra	Pune*	—	No
23.	Meghalaya	Shillong	01.03.05	Yes
24.	Orissa	Cuttack*	—	No
25.	Orissa	Bhubaneswar**	**	No
26.	Punjab	Chandigarh*	—	No
27.	Punjab	Jalandhar*	—	No
28.	Punjab	Ludhiana**	**	No
29.	Rajasthan	Jaipur	04.06.06	Yes
30.	Tamil Nadu	Chennai	20.06.03	Yes
31.	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore	14.01.02	Yes
32.	Tamil Nadu	Madurai*	—	No
33.	Tamil Nadu	Trichy*	—	No
34.	Tamil Nadu	Tirunelveli*	—	No
35.	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	22.05.02	Yes
36.	Uttar Pradesh	Allahabad	11.07.01	Yes
37.	Uttar Pradesh	Kanpur	22.06.06	Yes
38.	Uttar Pradesh	Varanasi	19.12.04	Yes
39.	Uttar Pradesh	Agra*	—	No
40.	West Bengal	Calcutta	07.01.03	Yes

**Note : IGNOU has decided not to setup station at these places.

*Note: Stations at these places likely to be operationalised by June, 2008.

Statement II

Sl.No.	State	Cities
1	2	3
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Port Blair
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar

1	2	3
3.	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla
4.	Jammu and Kashmir	Jammu
5.	Jharkhand	Ranchi
6.	Madhya Pradesh	Rewa
7.	Manipur	Imphal
8.	Mizoram	Aizwal
9.	Nagaland	Kohima
10.	Pondicherry	Pondicherry
11.	Punjab	Amritsar
12.	Rajasthan	Ajmer
13.	Rajasthan	Jodhpur
14.	Sikkim	Gangtok
15.	Tripura	Agartala

Indo-Pak Home Secretaries Level Talks

*44. SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU:
SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of Indo-Pak Home Secretaries was held recently;

(b) if so, the issues discussed and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether the issue of terrorism and extradition of Indian criminals were also discussed in the meeting;

(d) if so, the response of Pakistan thereto; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government on the outcome of the meeting?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (e) The Fourth Round of Home Secretary Level Talks with Pakistan on terrorism and drug trafficking was held

in New Delhi on 3-4 July, 2007, as a part of the continuing composite dialogue between the two countries. The main issues discussed in the talks related to terrorism, fugitives from Indian laws, drug trafficking and release of fishermen and prisoners. There was also a discussion on the draft agreements on Consular access and Visa.

During the Talks, the Indian side highlighted concerns relating to terrorism and infiltration and the continuing terrorist infrastructure and fugitives from Indian laws in Pakistan/PoK, and underlined the need for effective and significant steps against terrorist elements. The Pakistani side was also asked to take action against the terrorist infrastructure and to identify, apprehend and handover the fugitives from Indian laws.

The response of the Pakistani side was that they have taken measures to combat the menace of terrorism and that terrorist infrastructure does not exist in their territory. As regards the fugitives from Indian laws, they maintained that the details given by India in respect of these fugitives have been examined and it has been found that none of the fugitives are residing in Pakistan. However, they agreed that if further details are given in this regard, they would look into them.

During the Talks, it was agreed to take effective and sustained action against the terrorist activities. There was an agreement that the nodal points in the Central Bureau of Investigation of India and Federal Investigation Agency of Pakistan would meet periodically to facilitate early disposal of INTERPOL related cases. It was also agreed that the two drug control agencies would enhance mutual operational cooperation to control drug trafficking and that a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the two agencies would be signed at the earliest possible. Both sides also decided to release the fishermen in each other's custody, and prisoners who have completed their sentences and whose nationality has been verified by the other side. Further, the two sides agreed on the draft Consular access agreement and considerable progress was also made with regard to the draft Visa agreement.

Pursuant to the decisions and the understanding reached during the Talks, necessary follow up action has been initiated.

[Translation]

Cement Price

*45. SHRI KIREN RIJJU:
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether an organised attempt by the cement manufacturing companies in the country was undertaken recently to push up the prices of cement excessively;

(b) if so, whether the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission (MRTPC) has also issued notices to certain companies in this connection;

(c) if so, the complete details in this regard;

(d) whether the Government is contemplating to take over the right to fix prices of cement keeping in view the practices adopted by cement companies; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) As per Cement Manufacturers' Association, the average price of cement has increased from Rs. 158 per bag in December, 2005 to Rs. 229 per bag in July, 2007. The details of month-wise prices are given in the statement-I laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c) The details of cases pending with Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission (MRTPC) against the Cement Industry are given in the statement-II laid on the Table of the House.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise

Statement I

Year	Month	Average Price in Rs. per bag	Increase in Price since Dec., 2005	Percentage increase in price since Dec, 2005
1	2	3	4	5
2005	December	158		
2006	January	163	5	3.2%
	February	175	17	10.8%
	March	189	31	19.6%
	April	199	41	25.9%
	May	200	42	26.6%

1	2	3	4	5
	June	201	43	27.2%
	July	201	43	27.2%
	August	201	43	27.2%
	September	202	44	27.8%
	October	205	47	29.7%
	November	208	50	31.6%
	December	209	51	32.3%
2007	January	209	51	32.3%
	February	212	54	34.2%
	March	225	67	42.4%
	April	226	68	43.0%
	May	226	68	43.0%
	June	227	69	43.7%
	July	229	71	44.9%

Statement II

The details of the Petitions pending with the MRTPC Commission are as under:

Sl. No.	Case No.	Parties	Status
1	2	3	4
1.	RTPE 99/1990	DG, MRTPC Vs. Cement Manufacturers	Final arguments since 23.7.07
2.	MTPE 2/1992	DG, MRTPC Vs. Associated Cement Co. Ltd., Mumbai	Listed for final Arguments on 7.9.07
3.	RTPE 83/2000	DG, MRTPC & M/s. Gayatri Agencies Kanchipuram Vs. Cement Manufacturers' Association, Chennai	Listed for cross examination on 29.11.07

1	2	3	4
4.	RTPE 21/2001	Sh. Servejit S. Mokha & Another Vs. Cement Manufacturers' Association & Others	Listed for final arguments on 3.9.07
5.	RTPE 32/2006	DG, MRTPC Vs. Gujarat Ambuja Cement Ltd. & Two Others	Listed on 21.8.07 for framing on issues
6.	UTPE 86/2006	DG, MRTPC Vs. Various Cement Manufacturers	Listed on 25.10.07 for framing of issues
7.	RTPE 52/2006	The Builders Association of India Vs. Cement Manufacturers Association	Under preliminary investigation
8.	RTPE 1/2007	DG, MRTPC Vs. Associated Companies Ltd.	The report of DG (I & R) is awaited
9.	RTPE 4/2007	Jaimeen Steel Corporation Vs. Gujarat Ambuja Cement Ltd.	Matter listed for 31.8.07 for further directions

[English]

Policy on Special Economic Zones

*47. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU:
SHRI PRABODH PANDA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals for setting up of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) approved, pending for approval and put on hold as on date, State-wise alongwith the reasons for not approving the proposals so far, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government has any proposal to review the SEZ policy;

(c) if so, whether there is also any proposal to change the guidelines and rules framed for setting up of SEZs;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by when the said policy and the guidelines/rules are likely to be reviewed and changed?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Since the Special Economic Zones Act, 2005 and the Special Economic Zones Rules, 2006 came into effect on 10th February, 2006, Government has granted 366 formal approvals and 176 in-principle approvals for setting up of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) so far. Besides, 264 proposals for setting up of SEZs have been received. State-wise details of the number of formal and in-principle approvals and the proposals pending are as follows:

S.No.	Name of the State/UT	Normal approvals	In-principle approvals	Pending proposals
1.	Andhra Pradesh	61	8	16
2.	Chandigarh	2	—	—
3.	Chhattisgarh	1	2	3
4.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	2	1	—
5.	Delhi	2	—	4
6.	Goa	7	—	8
7.	Gujarat	29	9	9
8.	Haryana	29	28	27
9.	Himachal Pradesh	—	4	—
10.	Jharkhand	1	—	2
11.	Karnataka	36	17	42
12.	Kerala	11	2	12
13.	Madhya Pradesh	8	7	9
14.	Maharashtra	75	37	45
15.	Nagaland	1	—	1
16.	Orissa	9	6	4
17.	Puducherry	1	—	—
18.	Punjab	6	7	3
19.	Rajasthan	5	10	3
20.	Tamil Nadu	53	12	28
21.	Uttaranchal	3	1	—
22.	Uttar Pradesh	12	10	25
23.	West Bengal	12	15	23
Total		366	176	264

The 264 proposals could not be considered primarily due to non-receipt of recommendations of the concerned State Government and non-confirmation of availability of the required land.

(b) to (e) The SEZ Rules are reviewed and amended

from time to time and two amendments have already been carried out on 10th August 2006 and 16th March 2007 respectively. The Empowered Group of Ministers (EGOM) at its meeting held on 5th April 2007 after considering various issues related to the SEZs had fixed the upper limit of the area required for multi product

SEZs at 5000 hectares and fixed the minimum processing area uniformly at 50% for multi product SEZs as well as sector specific SEZs. The SEZ approvals are being now granted by the Board of approval in terms of the said directives. Accordingly, suitable amendments to the SEZ Rules, 2006, are under process. In pursuance of the decisions of the EGOM, the State Governments have been informed on 15th June 2007 that the Board of Approval will not approve any SEZs where the State Governments have carried out or propose to carry out compulsory acquisition of land for such SEZs after 5th April, 2007.

[Translation]

Missing Children

*48. SHRI VASANTRAO MORE:
SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Human Rights Commission has constituted any committee to examine the issue of missing children in the country as reported in the 'Hindu' dated July 3, 2007;

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

(c) if so, the details of recommendations made therein;

(d) the details of the recommendations implemented by the Government; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to implement the remaining recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A copy of the Recommendations/Suggestions as contained in Chapter-5 of the Report of the NHRC Committee on Missing Children is enclosed is statement.

(d) and (e) The report has been received very recently. Appropriate action on the recommendations will be taken by way of follow up with the State Governments and other measures in consultation with the Ministries concerned.

Statement

Recommendations/Suggestions part of the NHRC Committee's Report (Chapter-5 of the Report)

Sl.No.	Recommendations of the Committee
1	2
1.	<p>Priority Issue: Irrefutably, the problem of 'Missing Children' is a grave matter which is also a human rights issue. It is acknowledged that it has not been received the attention it deserves from the government and society at large. Therefore, this issue needs to be made a "priority issue" by all stakeholders, especially the law enforcement agencies. The Directors General of Police of States should take appropriate steps to issue police orders/circulars/standing instructions etc., sensitize all officers in this regard and also make them accountable</p>
2.	<p>Missing Persons Squad/Desk In Police Stations: The Committee recommends that every Police Station across the country should have Special Squad/Missing Persons Desk to trace missing children. This Squad/Desk should have a Registering Officer who should be made responsible of registering complaints of missing children. He/she should maintain complete records of efforts made by them to trace missing children as well as by the Special Squad. The Registering Officer should also write incident reports and keep them on record in Station Diary/case diary, as the case may be. In addition to this, the Registering Officer should also work as an Enquiry Officer whereby he/she should be made responsible for following up the entire procedure of tracing/tracking the missing child. The JAPU (Juvenile Aid Police Unit) can, if required, be utilized for addressing the issue of missing children, even though the children who are missing can never be labeled as juveniles, but are, in fact, children in need of care and attention. The functioning of this unit/squad should be regularly monitored/reviewed by Senior Officers and wherever necessary timely instructions and assistance should be provided to the Registering-cum-Enquiry Officer.</p>

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3. **Court Directives:** There is a need to reiterate the implementation of the Supreme Court Guidelines given on 14/11/2002 in Writ Petition (Cri.) No. 610 of 1996 filed by Horilal Vs. Commissioner of Police, Delhi & Ors. in all police stations across the country. This would entail prompt and effective steps for tracing missing children.

As per the directions given by the Delhi High Court, a Cell relating to missing persons/children was set up in the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). This Cell has been functioning ever since but due to lack of adequate resources, desired results could not be achieved. Since the CBI is a Central investigating agency having powers and jurisdiction to take up cases of inter-state and international ramifications, it would be desirable to strengthen this Cell to enhance its capacity to coordinate and investigate criminal cases relating to missing children and persons.

4. **Role of District Administration:** The legislation enjoins upon the district administration in the country to get places where children are employed, periodically inspected. The Committee notices with deep anguish that in this task the district administration all over the country has failed. This is evident from the fact that even today, the number of children found engaged as domestic help and bonded/child labour is enormous. Again, it is a matter of concern that in the identified cases of child labour and bonded labour in which prosecutions are launched against the employer the conviction rate is not even 1 per cent which obviously has resulted due to lack of supervision. Such an apathy towards this vital issue has to be curbed in favour of a proactive approach. The Committee urges the authorities concerned to hold district administration accountable for dereliction in discharging this responsibility.
5. The Committee is of the opinion that this exercise of regular inspections, if undertaken with all earnest, will ensure linking back a large number of children missing from their homes.

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6. **Mandatory Reporting:** The State Police Headquarters should evolve a system of mandatory reporting whereby all incidents of missing children across the country should be reported to the newly constituted National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPDR) within 24 hours of occurrence. Failure to report promptly would give rise to the presumption that there was an attempt to suppress the incident. The reporting should be done promptly and the procedure could be the same as is being followed by the concerned authorities for reporting custodial death cases to the NHRC.
7. **Involving Panchayat Raj Institutions (PRIs) Etc:** In order to make the investigative procedures concerning missing children more transparent and user-friendly, it would be preferable for the police investigating team to involve the community at large, such as representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions/Municipal Committees/Neighbourhood Committees/Resident Welfare Associations, etc, in addition to existing help lines. This will enable the community to get fully involved along with the police in tracing missing children. The Directors-General of Police should seriously consider taking full advantage of these agencies in the task of not only investigating crimes relating to children but also in tracking down missing children. The role of Panchayats and such bodies should be extended to:
- Prompt reporting of missing children;
 - Prompt dissemination of intelligence, if any, to the law enforcement agencies;
 - Rendering assistance to law enforcement agencies for tracing children;
 - Provide timely feed-back to the law enforcement agencies about the return of the child.
8. **Involving NGO's:** In places where vulnerable groups of children are found in large numbers,

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there is need for enforcement agencies to evolve some kind of a mechanism in partnership with non-governmental organizations and social workers, whereby apart from rendering counseling to them, awareness raising activities are also carried out. This would not only instill confidence in them but also strengthen them and give them special protection so that they are in no way lured by external agencies/factors. This initiative could be taken by the Missing Children Squad/Cell in the Districts. The DGPs need to ensure action on this initiative.

9. **National Database and Monitoring:** NCRB should establish a National Tracking System that would encompass the grass-root level in locating and tracing missing children. There should be prompt reporting of not only missing children cases, but also of return/rescue/recovery. All instances where children are rescued from places of exploitation including places of sexual exploitation and also exploitative labour, should be dovetailed into the NCRB data base. The database should be updated on a regular and systematic basis. This also involves revising the reporting format with respect to the rescue and recovery of persons who have been trafficked. The Director NCRB should liaise with the Project Coordinator, Anti Human Trafficking UNODC, New Delhi and workout the format as the UNODC is working in the field of empowering law enforcement agencies and developing appropriate projects, etc. with respect to Anti Human Trafficking and related issues. This could be made effective through web-based and other intra and inter State networking linkages. The information that is gathered ought to be appropriately disseminated. It is suggested that the NCRB evolve one-page useful position papers that has information with regard to various crimes, including the relevant statistics. This could be useful and accessible tool for different agencies that are dealing with a particular problem. For example, relevant information relating to missing children, if it is put in a page or two will be far more

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accessible and readable for all stakeholders than information compiled as part of a voluminous report prepared by the NCRB.

10. **SCRB/DCRB:** There is an urgent need to revive State/District Crime Records Bureax. The database on missing persons, their return and the processes involved should be properly documented. The State Missing Person's Bureax (MPB), needs to be revamped, made functional and strengthened. The officers should be well trained and knowledgeable to address the issues in an analytical manner and from the perspective of Human Rights. The SCRБ and the MPB should have proper liaison between them, so that the database of SCRБ and NCRB are dovetailed to the functioning of MPB and the Special cell/squad to be set up in the Police Stations. The MPB data should be specifically updated with the data of rescued children from trafficking crimes.
11. **Helpline:** There is a need to establish a Child Helpline through NGOs/PRIs/other agencies with adequate support from Government in all the districts. The Department of Women & Child Development, Government of India, may take the initiative to set up such a national network.
12. **Outsourcing Preliminary Inquiry to NGOs:** The NHRC Committee came to know about several instances where NGOs are actively functional, delivering the best results, in tracing missing children and also documenting them. Such efforts and initiatives have supplemented the work of the law enforcement agencies. The synergy of police and NGOs can be of immense help in addressing this issue and in providing tremendous support to the police agencies who are preoccupied with several other tasks, especially in those places where the police station strength is very poor. Therefore, Preliminary Inquiry into missing persons could be outsourced to NGOs, who are willing to undertake this task. MHA may issue appropriate guidelines to the States in this regard. Each State can identify a few such

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	NGOs and notify them if required. As of today nothing stops NGOs from causing such inquiries and many are already doing this work. Therefore, the best option, in the given situation, is to develop synergy between the law enforcement agencies and the NGOs and institutionalize this partnership.
13.	Cognizability of the Evidence: As of now the issue of missing children is not a cognizable offence and the very fact of missing of a child does not convey occurrence of a crime. However, some States like Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu allow police to register FIRs and take up investigation. In order to facilitate proper enquiry/investigation, it is advisable that an FIR is registered by the police with respect to the issue of missing children. However, experience shows that in many cases a child may not have gone missing and the panic reaction of the parents or wards lead to such reporting. Therefore, all such issues may not warrant registration of an FIR immediately. Nevertheless, it is advisable to register FIR if a missing child does not come back or is not traced within a reasonable time. The State Governments are advised to consider issue of appropriate directions to the law enforcement agencies to set a time limit of 15 days from the date of reporting that if a missing child is not traced back within 15 days, a presumption may be made of some malafide and an FIR registered with respect to all such issues of missing children.
14.	Sensitization of Stake Holders: There is a need to sensitize all ranks of police personnel and other stakeholders to the issue of missing children. For this a two-day module be designed by BPRD, so that uniform training is imparted to all concerned. Along with this, there is a need to prepare suitable reading material that includes good practices about missing children from other States/Union Territories as well as other countries.
15.	Rescue of Children in Need of Care and Attention: There is a need to identify "run away children", "abandoned children" "neglected

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	children" and such "vulnerable children" who are often found roaming around places where they are particularly exposed to abuse and exploitation such as railway stations, traffic junction etc. Their vulnerability increases due to a lack of support structures-family or otherwise. Proper identification, provision of care and support, and a 'safe place' is vital for them. These children are, under the JJ Act, are the children in need of care and attention which they should be given. This can be achieved by producing them before CWC and ensuring proper care in the concerned Homes. If Government Homes are not available, Government agencies should support appropriate NGOs to set up such Homes. The State Governments are called upon to notify such NGOs immediately so that they can become functional without delay. States should ensure that such notifications are done on a time frame of one month from the date of application by the NGOs.
16.	I-Card for Children: The local administration should facilitate the schools to keep a watch on their children, especially when they become untraced or become dropouts. Schools and old teaching institutions should introduce photo identity cards of children, so that tracing is possible. All such photos with identity particulars be documented and data base be developed urgently. The State Governments and the Central Government should take initiatives in this regard. Schools should embark on a programme of empowering the children on their rights, legal strengths and defence mechanisms in case of need.
17.	Poverty Alleviation Measures: It is acknowledged that poverty is one of the main factors in pushing children into inhospitable conditions and making them vulnerable for exploitation. The Central and State Governments have introduced several schemes to be implemented at Gram Panchayat level with the object of providing job opportunities to the poor and the disadvantaged and elevating them from the poverty line. All these

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programmes, especially concerning children welfare should be properly planned at the Gram Sabha level following the Antyodaya approach. Schemes such as Mid-day Meal Scheme, Sarva Siksha Abhiyaan, Health Immunization etc. deserve to be properly monitored for achieving optimum results. Proper implementation of these poverty alleviation programs are indeed a human, rights approach. If such schemes and programmes of the Government are implemented it can be reasonably expected that the vulnerable sections will become empowered to resist exploitation that often takes place now.

18. **Role of State Commissions:** There is a need to involve State Human Rights Commissions, Women Commission of State/Centre etc., with regard to the issue of missing children. Such bodies have tremendous overarching influence on all stakeholders in addressing the issues appropriately in their respective jurisdictions
19. **Role of Media:** In view of the current dreadful situation, the media can play an important role in increasing public awareness of missing children and the plight of the thousands of hapless families whose children are listed as untraced. This could be achieved as follows:
- At the newsroom level, crime reporters and metro editors need to include the category of missing children as a regular beat and as part of their daily news grind.
 - These stories need to be followed up and tracked regularly just like other stories of murder, human trafficking, etc. A LOST and FOUND series could be commenced. The cases of missing children being traced/returned home should be treated as the "good news" stories which will also encourage the police/local authorities to step up their actions.
 - The large picture story on the enormity of the continuing malaise of missing children, could coincide with Human Rights Day, Children's Day and so on.

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- Newspapers can make a separate section in their classified sections on missing children. The notices and advertisements on missing children need to have a better display and be given more prominence and space in newspapers and TV bulletins.
 - Just as some newspapers carry a daily/weekly count of say, victims of terrorism, a new slot of missing children in the city/country can be commenced.
 - Newspapers or TV channels with an emphasis on local news can have an arrangement with either the police or a local NGO, which has worked in the area to print without charge announcements and advertisements on missing children.
 - The missing child story should also be picked up for the daily crime shows many TV channels have commenced. Just as investigative stories are done on the flesh trade, on organ smuggling etc. case studies of how missing children end up in brothels or factories can be carried. Cases can be picked from solved cases or; where children were smuggled across borders, identities can be masked if need be.
 - Media organizations like media unions, the women's press corps and so on can collaborate with agencies like the NHRC and other NGOs working on children's rights issues to hold seminars and symposiums on the subject.
20. **Attention to Transit Points of Trafficking:** There is a need to keep special vigils at railway stations, bus-stands, airports, sea-ports and such other places, which act as transit points for missing children, including children who run away or are made to run away. In this context, the Government Railway Police, the Railway Protection Force, Airport and Seaport authorities needs to be oriented about the issue of missing children.

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21. **Missing Children from Across Border:** This is a grey area, which largely remains unaddressed. It has been reported that several foreign children who have been trafficked into India have been punished as illegal immigrants and are made to suffer. NHRC recommends the state governments to undertake review of all such cases and provide relief to such children, as all trafficked children, irrespective of their nationality, are children in need of care and attention. Moreover, there is a need of developing a Protocol on this issue. It is learnt that UNODC in its anti-human trafficking project can provide the required technical assistance. In this regard the Ministry of Women and Child Development can utilize the technical assistance of UNODC and in close coordination with the MEA, develop a protocol on this topic. The Project Coordinator, UNODC may provide the required technical assistance.

Survey and Research: The world of missing children is unknown and there is no proper study or research on this issue. Even today the exact figures of missing or traced children are not available. The existing legislation requires the State and district authorities to periodically carry out inspections/surveys of places where children are employed with a view to identifying missing children and those engaged in bonded labour/child labour. This task has remained a low priority area. There is an urgent need for the State administration to undertake micro studies especially at the places where children are reportedly vulnerable.

22. A village-wise survey of all children who have gone missing or even recovered is an urgent need to understand the realistic dimensions of the problem. Studies by academic institutions into various factors behind the vulnerability of children are recommended in order to generate right response.

(English)

Natural Calamity

*49. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any request from the State Governments, particularly from the Government of Kerala for relaxing the norms already prescribed with regard to natural calamity schemes, considering the gravity of calamity;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the criteria adopted by the Union Government to provide relief to the workers in the plantation sector; and

(d) the amount so far provided/spent by the Union Government during the last three years in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) and (b) Some State Governments, including Government of Kerala, had requested the Government of India for revision of norms for providing assistance under the Schemes of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF). These requests were mainly to increase the scale of assistance, inclusion of new calamities for providing assistance and provision of assistance for items not eligible under the guidelines, such as assistance for capital assets and restoration of damaged infrastructure. The Government of Kerala mainly requested for inclusion of sea erosion, lightning, boat accidents and fire accidents in the eligible list of natural calamities and revision of rates of assistance.

(c) The norm for agricultural input subsidy for all types of perennial crops including plantation crops has been revised from Rs. 4000 per hectare to Rs. 6000 per hectare.

(d) Statements-I and II showing the allocation and release of Central share of CRF and funds released from NCCF during the years 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 are enclosed.

Statement I*Release of Centre's share of CRF during 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08*

(Rs. in crore)

S.No.	State	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07		2007-08	
		Allocation	Released	Allocation	Released	Allocation	Released	Allocation	Released
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	180.56	180.56	258.06	258.06	270.96	335.48	284.51	219.99
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	10.96	10.96	21.23	21.23	21.84	21.84	22.48	11.24
3.	Assam	92.52	136.58	144.79	72.40	148.97	221.37	153.36	76.68
4.	Bihar	61.05	90.12	111.69	55.85	11.92	55.85	118.31	
5.	Chattisgarh	25.03	36.96	83.81	41.91	86.23	150.33	88.76	22.19
6.	Goa	1.13	1.13	1.58	0.79	1.66	2.45	1.74	
7.	Gujarat	147.14	147.14	184.50	184.50	193.73	246.87	203.41	48.57
8.	Haryana	74.12	74.12	93.28	83.95	97.95	107.28	102.85	51.43
9.	Himachal Pradesh	39.64	39.64	75.52	75.52	77.70	77.70	79.99	40.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	31.82	31.82	64.84	64.84	66.72	66.72	68.68	34.34
11.	Jharkhand	51.68	50.45	94.56	94.56	97.28	48.64	100.15	48.64
12.	Karnataka	67.98	67.98	86.00	86.00	90.28	113.98	94.81	71.11
13.	Kerala	61.30	61.30	64.13	64.13	67.33	67.33	70.70	70.70
14.	Madhya Pradesh	57.10	57.10	190.67	190.67	196.18	246.67	201.97	50.50
15.	Maharashtra	143.31	10748	167.18	167.18	175.54	220.00	184.31	47,70
16.	Manipur	2.62	0.00	4.17		4.29		4.42	10.67
17.	Meghalaya	3.59	3.59	8.47	4.24	8.71	12.95	8.96	4.48
18.	Mizoram	2.71	4.00	4.94	2.47	5.08	5.01	5.23	
19.	Nagaland	1.79	2.64	2.87	1.44	2.95		3.03	4.39
20.	Orissa	99.79	99.79	226.16	226.16	232.68	291.34	239.53	61.11
21.	Punjab	11187	111.87	109.52	54.76	115.00	112.26	120.74	57.50
22.	Rajasthan	188.71	188.71	311.73	311.73	327.32	413.66	343.68	85.50

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
23.	Sikkim	6.30	6.30	13.15	13.15	13.53		13.93	13.53
24.	Tamil Nadu	93.57	93.57	156.81	78.41	164.65	243.06	172.88	
25.	Tripura	4.74	9.25	9.64		992	14.6	10.21	10.07
26.	Uttar Pradesh	13336	13336	221.95	221.95	228.36	228.36	235.10	117.55
27.	Uttarakhand	29.50	2950	71.02	71.02	72.44	36.22	73.93	36.22
28.	West Bengal	92.17	92.17	176.05	176.05	181.12	181.12	186.47	93.24
	Total	1816.06	1868.09	2958.32	2622.94	3073.34	3521.06	3194.14	1287.31

Statement II*Release of assistance from NCCF during 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08*

(Rs. in crores)

Sl.No.	State	Assistance Released			
		2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	87.20	100.00	203.06	17.8
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	9.09	68.44	44.38	
3.	Assam	211.55			
4.	Bihar	398.92			
5.	Chattisgarh	52.74			
6.	Goa				
7.	Gujarat	55.00	304.31	545.69	
8.	Haryana				
9.	Himachal Pradesh		112.97	25.14	
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	50.00	309.77		13.51
11.	Jharkhand				
12.	Karnataka	63.62	358.85	384.97	
13.	Kerala	206.00	17.94		50
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1.70		30.85	

1	2	3	4	5	6
15.	Maharashtra	173.23	657.25	589.90	168.92
16.	Manipur				
17.	Meghalaya	6.16			
18.	Mizoram	10.68			
19.	Nagaland	1.81		0.81	
20.	Orissa	53.44		25.00	
21.	Punjab				
22.	Rajasthan	216.79		100.00	
23.	Sikkim	9.90		5.20	
24.	Tamil Nadu	783.14	1131.91		
25.	Tripura	0.05			
26.	Uttar Pradesh	192.10			
27.	Uttarakhand			7.06	
28.	West Bengal				
Total		2583.12	3061.44	1962.05	250.23

Indian Institutes of Management

*50. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to enact a law to specify the extent of the financial and administrative autonomy of the Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) in the country;

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

(c) the time by when the proposed amendments are to be brought for necessary legislative intervention?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c) The Government is examining the issue of formulating a legislation for the Indian Institutes of Management on the lines of the Institutes of Technology Act, 1961.

[Translation]

Problems of Weavers and Artisans

*51. SHRI RAMESH DUBE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the problems being faced by the weavers and the artisans in various parts of the country;

(b) the policy of the Government towards solving these problems;

(c) whether the Government proposes to establish a monitoring system to ensure proper implementation of various schemes/programmes for the weavers and the artisans; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) The Handloom Sector is facing stiff

competition from cheap powerloom products due to various reasons. There is a high wage component in the cost of handloom products *vis-a-vis* powerloom. Powerlooms also enjoy the advantage of superior technology and economies of scale. Handloom weaving is still largely a household enterprise and a predominantly rural activity, dispersed all over the country whereas powerlooms are better organized in terms of procurement of inputs and organization of market. The handloom sector being labour intensive by nature, the cost of products are high. The powerloom sector besides offers identical products in the market at a cheaper price which poses a problem to handloom sector in marketing its products, leads to accumulation of handloom stocks at various levels. Accumulation of stock leads to blockage/shortage of working capital, which in turn leads to over dues of Primary Weavers Cooperative Societies to banks, resulting in choking up of credit lines.

As far as handicrafts artisans are concerned, the constraining features are scarcity of appropriate raw material, lack of infrastructural facilities, lack of working capital, lack of knowledge about appropriate technology, lack of entrepreneurial skills among artisans and competition from machine made products.

(b) The Government of India is following a policy of promoting and encouraging the Handloom Sector through number of programmes and schemes to increase its production, productivity and efficiency and enhance the income and socio-economic status of weavers by upgrading their skills and providing infrastructure and marketing support and essential inputs. The handloom sector forms a part of the National Textile Policy, 2000, the details of the policy measures undertaken to promote and develop its exclusiveness for the global market are as under:

- (i) Training of weavers engaged in the production of low value added items, who may not be able to survive the competition consequent on globalization, with the objective of upgrading their skills to enable them to find alternate employment in the textile or other allied sector;
- (ii) Comprehensive welfare measures will continue to be implemented in close cooperation with the State Governments, for better working environment and the social security of the weavers;

- (iii) Effective support systems in research and development, design inputs, skill upgradation and market linkages will be provided;
- (iv) The implementation of the Hank Yam Obligation Order and the Reservation Orders issued under the Handloom (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985 will be reviewed keeping in mind the needs of the handloom weavers;
- (v) Weavers Service Centres will be revamped in consonance with the contemporary trends, and using Information Technology for efficacy, their activities suitably dovetailed with activities of centres of design excellence like NIFT and NID;
- (vi) As merchandising and marketing will be central to the success of the handloom sector, the present package of schemes for production of value added fabrics will be streamlined; innovative market-oriented schemes will be introduced; and joint ventures encouraged both at the domestic and international levels. Brand equity of handlooms will be commercially exploited to the extent possible.
- (vii) Recently, Cluster Development approach has been adopted to organize producer's self help groups and link them to market.

During the 11th Five year plan, following schemes are proposed for development of handloom sector:-

- (i) Integrated Handloom Development Scheme
- (ii) Marketing and Export Promotion Scheme
- (iii) Handloom Weavers' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme
- (iv) Mill Gate Price Scheme
- (v) Diversified Handloom Development Scheme.

The policy of the Government to address the problems of handicraft sector includes implementing various schemes for benefits and welfare of the artisans. During the 11th Five year plan the following schemes are proposed for implementation which shall address these concerns:

- (i) Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana
- (ii) Marketing Support and Service Scheme

- (iii) Design & Technology Upgradation Scheme
- (iv) Welfare Scheme
- (v) Human Resource Development Scheme
- (vi) Research and Development Scheme.

(c) and (d) The schemes being implemented by the Government of India for development of handloom sector and welfare of weavers are being implemented through the State Government/agencies. The schemes are being monitored regularly through the Directorate-in-Charge of Handlooms of the respective States and the Office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms.

A monitoring system is already in place for proper implementation of the schemes for handicrafts artisans. The implementation of schemes is monitored regularly by the Field Officers at the level of Assistant Director and Regional Director. Based on their inspection reports the settlement of claims and future interventions are decided. In order to make the implementation more effective, guidelines have been framed which are periodically revised to further strengthen the monitoring system.

[English]

Funding Pattern under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

*52. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY:
SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY:

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

(a) whether the government has recently reviewed the programme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in regard to its performance and funding pattern between Centre and States;

(b) if so, the details of the present funding pattern for this scheme and the revised funding pattern finalised;

(c) the names of States which have requested the Union Government to revert to old funding pattern for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan;

(d) whether the the Government has decided to allocate more funds to this scheme for the 11th Five Year Plan to make it more successful;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to cover more children during 11th Five Year Plan period under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c) The Centre-State fund sharing pattern for the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) as of 01.04.2007 is in the ratio of 50:50. Almost all States have requested for continuation of the 10th Five Year Plan funding pattern.

(d) and (e) The 11th Five Year Plan allocation for SSA are not known and are finalized by the Planning Commission.

(f) The stated goal of SSA is to achieve universal elementary education by 2010.

Anganwadi Centres

*53. SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY:
SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPAN:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of sanctioned Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) under the Integrated Child Development Services Scheme (ICDS) have not been so far made operational by the State Governments;

(b) if so, the number of AWCs sanctioned and the number among them made operational so far, State-wise;

(c) the main reasons for delay in making the remaining sanctioned AWCs operational;

(d) whether the Supreme Court has again issued stern warning to the States for failing to operationalise the sanctioned AWCs and has asked them to clear the backlog; and

(e) if so, the details and the measures taken by the Union Government to ensure that the sanctioned AWCs are made operational by the State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Statement indicating the number of sanctioned and operational Anganwadi centres State/UT-wise, as on 31.3.2007, is enclosed.

(c) As per an exercise conducted by the Ministry some time back, adopting Critical Path Method (CPM)/PERT Chart, operationalisation of AWC requires about 12 months. However, due to various reasons including delays in administrative sanctions, court cases etc., recruitment of Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) and Anganwadi Helpers (AWHs) gets delayed in the States/UTs, leading to delays in operationalisation.

Ministry of Women & Child Development is continuously Monitoring and reviewing the implementation of ICDS Scheme with the State Governments/UT Administrations and requesting them to take all required administrative measures for early operationalisation of sanctioned AWCs.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The Supreme Court in its order of 9th July, 2007 directed all the States to operationalize the AWCs sanctioned upto September 2006, by 15th July, 2007 with the exception of the State of Uttar Pradesh who were directed to operationalise the AWCs by 31.7.2007. Those Centres which have been sanctioned upto January, 2007 should be made operational by 30.9.2007.

Following the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court, the States/UTs were directed by the Ministry on 10.7.2007, to strictly adhere to the timeframe given by the Court.

Statement

State-wise number of Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) Sanctioned, Operational yet to be operationalised as on 31st March 2007

Sl. No.	State/ UT	No. of Anganwadis					
		Sanctioned upto 31.3.2005	Sanctioned during 2005-06	Sanctioned during 2006 07	Total sanctioned upto 31.3.2007	Operational as on 31.3.2007	To be operationalised
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	56539	9562	7843	73944	61761	12183
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2359	678	1240	4277	3037	1240
3.	Assam	25416	6659	5007	37082	25447	11635
4.	Bihar	60813	19715	560	81088	57767	23321
5.	Chhattisgarh	20289	9148	5500	34937	26801	8136
6.	Goa	1012	0	100	1112	1012	100
7.	Gujarat	37961	3523	2695	44179	38391	5788
8.	Haryana	13546	2813	833	17192	16359	833
9.	Himachal Pradesh	7354	10894	0	18248	7354	10894
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	18772	0	6711	25483	16409	9074,
11.	Jharkhand	24171	6683	1243	32097	22304	97931
12.	Karnataka	40301	11313	2646	54260	51111	3149
13.	Kerala	25393	3258	3464	32115	27980	4135
14.	Madhya Pradesh	49787	9537	9914	69238	56737	12501
15.	Maharashtra	62126	12864	9877	84867	74528	10339

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
16.	Manipur	4501	0	3120	7621	4501	3120
17.	Meghalaya	2218	961	209	3388	3162	226
18.	Mizoram	1361	231	90j	1682	1592	90
19.	Nagaland	2770	265	159	3194	2770	424
20.	Orissa	34201	3279	4217	41697	36527	5170
21.	Punjab	14730	2691	2748	20169	14730	5439
22.	Rajasthan	35821	11041	1510	48372	41985	6387
23.	Sikkim	500	488	0	988	886	102
24.	Tamil Nadu	42677	3049	1539	47265	45726	1539
25.	Tripura	3874	2220	1257	7351	6114	1237
26.	Uttar Pradesh	106059	31498	13170	150727	128859	21868
27.	Uttaranchal	6658	1134	1872	9664	7747	1917
28.	West Bengal	57540	17100	17512	92152	56774	35378
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	527	94	51	672	621	51
30.	Chandigarh	300	29	41	370	329	41
31.	Delhi	3902	526	1678	6106	4425	1681
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	138	77	4	219	138	81
33.	Daman and Diu	87	10	10	107	97	10
34.	Lakshadweep	74	0	13	87	74	13
35.	Pondicherry	677	11	0	688	688	0
All India		764454	181351	106833	1052638	844743	207895

Crimes against Women and Children

*54. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN:
SHRI FRANCIS FANTHOME:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of cases of crime against women and children is on the increase in the country as disclosed in the latest report of the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB);

(b) if so, the total number of cases reported during each of the last three years, State-wise, crime-wise;

(c) the total number of accused persons arrested and action taken against them; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check such cases/incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) and (b) According to available information, a total of

1,40,601; 1,54,333 and 1,55,553 cases of crimes against women and 11,663; 14,423 and 14,975 cases of crimes against children were reported during the years 2003 to 2005.

State-wise and crime-wise number of cases registered for offences against women and children during the year 2003 to 2005 are enclosed as statement-I and statement-II.

(c) Details regarding the number of persons arrested, charge sheeted, tried, convicted and acquitted for crimes committed against women and children during the year 2003 to 2005 are given in the Statement-III and Statement-IV respectively.

(d) As per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India, 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects and, as such the primary responsibility for prevention, detection, registration, investigation and prosecution of

crime, lies with the State Governments. The Union Government, however, attaches the highest importance to the matter of prevention of crimes against women and children and, therefore, from time to time, keeping in view the crime statistics compiled by the National Crime Records Bureau, has issued advisories to the State Governments and UT Administrations to give more focused attention to the administration of criminal justice system with special emphasis on prevention and control of crime against women and children within their jurisdiction.

The Union Government also supplements the efforts of the State Governments by providing financial assistance for modernization of State police forces in term of weaponry, communications, equipment, mobility, training and other infrastructure under the Scheme of Modernization of State Police Forces with a view to enhancing their capability to fight crime and maintain public order.

Statement I

Crime Head-wise Number of Cases Registered for Crimes against Women during 2003-2005

Sl.No.	State	Rape			Kidnapping & Abduction of Women and Girls			Dowry Deaths			Molestation		
		2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	946	1016	935	931	1030	995	466	512	443	4128	3817	3595
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	31	42	35	51	41	39	0	0	0	43	61	67
3.	Assam	1095	1171	1238	1351	1552	1456	60	74	99	878	883	899
4.	Bihar	985	1390	1147	674	997	929	909	1029	1014	688	704	451
5.	Chhattisgarh	898	969	990	149	174	184	79	71	100	1481	1661	1450
6.	Goa	31	37	20	13	10	12	2	2	2	19	23	30
7.	Gujarat	236	339	324	859	905	916	54	58	48	722	757	802
8.	Haryana	353	386	461	271	292	344	222	251	212	344	403	380
9.	Himachal Pradesh	126	153	141	96	99	102	6	8	2	250	284	286
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	211	218	201	615	632	658	10	9	5	875	990	830
11.	Jharkhand	712	797	753	262	178	283	262	275	257	424	411	293

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
12.	Karnataka	321	291	343	244	286	312	194	259	261	1585	1435	1585
13.	Kerala	394	480	478	102	142	129	33	31	21	1947	2260	2339
14.	Madhya Pradesh	2738	2875	2921	608	584	604	648	751	739	6848	6890	6426
15.	Maharashtra	1268	1388	1545	626	787	851	368	314	341	2661	2831	3228
16.	Manipur	18	31	25	71	71	69	0	0	0	44	30	25
17.	Meghalaya	40	54	63	10	18	19	0	2	1	13	34	44
18.	Mizoram	54	20	37	2	0	0	0	0	4	88	66	49
19.	Nagaland	14	18	17	3	4	9	0	0	0	4	3	7
20.	Orissa	725^	770	799	373	423	547	279	319	334	1669	1811	2238
21.	Punjab	380	390	398	295	311	329	110	113	99	348	261	308
22.	Rajasthan	1050	1038	993	1750	1881	1549	389	379	361	2715	2825	2503
23.	Sikkim	10	3	18	0	4	2	0	0	0	25	40	38
24.	Tamil Nadu	557	618	571	632	692	783	220	225	215	2022	1861	1764
25.	Tripura	114	160	162	29	54	43	20	20	34	127	134	161
26.	Uttar Pradesh	911	1397	1217	1499	2324	2256	1322	1708	1564	1098	1900	1835
27.	Uttaranchal	107	115	133	134	127	125	93	82	63	136	143	100
28.	West Bengal	1002	1475	1686	801	1018	1039	329	396	448	1186	1566	1572
Total State		15327	17641	17651	12451	14636	14584	6075	6888	6665	32366	33884	33305
29.	A & N Islands	2	10	4	2	3	1	0	0	0	9	6	11
30.	Chandigarh	18	19	33	28	43	45	1	6	3	11	20	31
31.	D & N Haveli	1	7	5	4	7	9	0	0	0	4	5	5
32.	Daman & Diu	5	1	2	1	0	2	1	0	1	3	1	1
33.	Delhi	490	551	658	797	881	1106	130	126	114	489	601	762
34.	Lakshadweep	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
35.	Pondicherry	2	4	6	13	8	3	1	6	4	56	50	60
Total UT		520	592	708	845	942	1166	133	138	122	573	683	870
All India Total		15847	18233	18359	13296	15578	15750	6208	7026	6787	32939	34567	34175

Sl.No.	State	Sexual Harassment			Cruelty by Husband and Relatives			Importation of Girls			Immoral Traffic (P) Act		
		2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2286	2310	2508	8167	2286	2310	2508	8167	2286	2310	2508	8167
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	14	0	0	0	14	0	0	0	14
3.	Assam	6	11	19	1808	6	11	19	1808	6	11	19	1808
4.	Bihar	11	13	13	1880	11	13	13	1880	11	13	13	1880
5.	Chhattisgarh	105	131	132	601	105	131	132	601	105	131	132	601
6.	Goa	7	15	8	24	7	15	8	24	7	15	8	24
7.	Gujarat	92	164	104	3684	92	164	104	3684	92	164	104	3684
8.	Haryana	1302	850	597	1618	1302	850	597	1618	1302	850	597	1618
9.	Himachal Pradesh	18	16	29	221	18	16	29	221	18	16	29	221
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	376	264	371	71	376	264	371	71	376	264	371	71
11.	Jharkhand	2	3	36	559	2	3	36	559	2	3	36	559
12.	Karnataka	84	57	71	1704	84	57	71	1704	84	57	71	1704
13.	Kerala	68	133	175	2930	68	133	175	2930	68	133	175	2930
14.	Madhya Pradesh	705	804	792	2938	705	804	792	2938	705	804	792	2938
15.	Maharashtra	682	862	919	5452	682	862	919	5452	682	862	919	5452
16.	Manipur	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	4
17.	Meghalaya	1	0	0	4	1	0	0	4	1	0	0	4
18.	Mizoram	0	0	4	3	0	0	4	0	0	0	4	3
19.	Nagaland	2	1	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
20.	Orissa	188	170	184	1289	188	170	184	1289	188	170	184	1289
21.	Punjab	199	38	43	987	199	38	43	987	199	38	43	987
22.	Rajasthan	33	41	28	5733	33	41	28	5733	33	41	28	5733
23.	Sikkim	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
24.	Tamil Nadu	681	1081	665	1555	681	1081	665	1555	681	1081	665	1555
25.	Tripura	0	0	1	247	0	0	1	247	0	0	1	247

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
26.	Uttar Pradesh	4970	2682	2881	2626	4970	2682	2881	2626	4970	2682	2881	2626
27.	Uttaranchal	98	110	89	317	98	110	89	317	98	110	89	317
28.	West Bengal	71	64	54	4948	71	64	54	4948	71	64	54	4948
	Total State	12187	9820	9723	49385	12187	9820	9723	49385	12187	9820	9723	49385
29.	A&N Islands	2	3	1	7	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
30.	Chandigarh	4	18	9	93	73	75	0	0	0	4	9	9
31.	D&N Haveli	0	0	0	2	3	5	0	0	0	2	0	0
32.	Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0	4	3	0	0	0	0	1	1
33.	Delhi	105	130	225	1211	1254	1324	0	0	1	46	123	151
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35.	Pondicherry	27	30	26	4	2	6	0	0	0	13	4	5
	Total UT	138	181	261	1318	1342	1418	0	0	1	65	137	166
	All India Total	12325	10001	9984	50703	58121	58379	46	89	149	5510	5748	5908

Sl.No.	State	Dowry Prohibition Act			Sati Prevention Act			Total Crimes Committed against Women		
		2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	195	339	306	0	0	0	18382	18921	20819
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	139	148	150
3.	Assam	92	36	82	0	0	0	5312	5700	6027
4.	Bihar	706	1220	789	0	0	0	5900	8091	8019
5.	Chhattisgarh	16	7	5	0	0	0	3336	3763	3599
6.	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0	121	132	121
7.	Gujarat	0	0	0	0	0	0	5735	6211	6343
8.	Haryana	3	6	7	0	0	0	4170	4276	4161
9.	Himachal Pradesh	7	5	1	0	0	0	729	823	793
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	4	2	0	0	0	0	2164	2208	2144
11.	Jharkhand	261	199	313	0	0	0	2488	2490	2544

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12.	Karnataka	341	337	361	0	0	0	5834	5423	6057
13.	Kerala	4	2	4	0	0	0	5653	6483	6762
14.	Madhya Pradesh	29	40	36	0	0	0	14547	15203	14529
15.	Maharashtra	29	21	23	0	0	0	11273	12169	13370
16.	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	137	134	140
17.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	69	113	131
18.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	147	91	95
19.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	30	37
20.	Orissa	412	532	446	0	0	0	4946	5239	6249
21.	Punjab	3	7	5	0	0	0	2375	1955	1969
22.	Rajasthan	3	13	1	0	0	1	11812	13127	11657
23.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	37	49	62
24.	Tamil Nadu	175	294	193	0	0	0	8888	9332	8648
25.	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0	537	670	840
26.	Uttar Pradesh	367	477	586	0	0	0	12840	15485	14875
27.	Uttaranchal	1	2	2	0	0	0	886	988	786
28.	West Bengal	17	36	18	0	0	0	8508	11047	11887
Total State		2665	3575	3178	0	0	1	136990	150301	150614
29.	A&N Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	22	27	22
30.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	159	188	205
31.	D&N Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	22	24
32.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	7	10
33.	Delhi	14	11	9	0	0	0	3282	3677	4351
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	0
35.	Pondicherry	5	6	17	0	0	0	121	110	127
Total UT		19	17	26	0	0	0	3611	4032	4739
All India Total		2684	3592	3204	0	0	1	140601	154333	155553

Statement II***Crime Head-wise Number of Cases Registered for Crimes Against Children during 2003-2005***

Sl.No.	State	Murder			Rape			Kidnapping & Abduction of Children			Feticide		
		2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	119	71	57	383	363	315	373	396	332	0	0	1
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	9	11	10	9	8	12	0	0	0
3.	Assam	2	1	13	5	7	90	0	3	18	0	0	1
4.	Bihar	8	9	26	3	3	8	33	29	72	0	1	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	29	44	37	186	308	382	45	70	110	6	6	21
6.	Goa	0	2	4	22	20	15	9	9	11	0	0	0
7.	Gujarat	49	74	76	75	96	90	267	300	285	4	0	4
8.	Haryana	24	23	38	77	24	131	92	42	101	2	15	8
9.	Himachal Pradesh	5	5	6	36	32	58	23	26	37	0	2	1
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	1	4	2	4	4	38	27	48	0	0	0
11.	Jharkhand	7	6	33	16	43	22	3	18	11	1	1	0
12.	Karnataka	23	54	47	25	42	48	29	41	35	0	4	7
13.	Kerala	31	51	45	69	159	140	23	74	45	0	0	1
14.	Madhya Pradesh	165	144	150	699	710	870	210	179	240	11	9	12
15.	Maharashtra	206	187	192	605	634	634	337	380	420	5	15	4
16.	Manipur	1	0	3	7	4	4	26	27	13	0	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	14	1	9	24	22	51	8	9	11	0	0	0
18.	Mizoram	5	0	0	9	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
19.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.	Orissa	15	9	10	55	31	28	25	11	16	0	0	0
21.	Punjab	25	42	26	54	54	51	67	53	59	11	8	12
22.	Rajasthan	26	21	57	49	137	246	46	128	132	12	17	10
23.	Sikkim	1	2	1	8	1	14	0	2	2	0	1	1
24.	Tamil Nadu	60	71	54	47	166	115	37	93	69	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
25.	Tripura	0	5	1	0	28	20	0	14	6	0	0	0
26.	Uttar Pradesh	458	528	390	301	394	394	561	735	749	3	2	0
27.	Uttaranchal	3	4	6	11	17	18	2	2	41	0	0	0
28.	West Bengal	2	2	2	16	19	6	32	99	102	0	0	0
Total State		1278	1357	1287	2793	3330	3764	2298	2775	2977	55	81	83
29.	A&N Islands	1	1	1	2	8	2	1	3	2	0	0	0
30.	Chandigarh	3	3	3	9	13	21	14	36	23	0	0	0
31.	D&N Haveli	0	3	1	0	0	0	1	7	4	0	1	0
32.	Daman and Diu	0	0	1	4	1	1	1	0	2	0	0	0
33.	Delhi	32	41	34	140	186	235	255	371	507	2	4	3
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35.	Pondicherry	1	1	0	1	4	3	1	4	3	0	0	0
Total UT		37	49	40	156	212	262	273	421	541	2	5	3
All India Total		1315	1406	1327	2949	3542	4026	2571	3196	3518	57	86	86

Sl.No.	State	Abetment of Suicide			Exposure and Abandonment			Procurement of Minor Girls			Buying of Girls for Prostitution		
		2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3	2	4	36	26	99	46	60	48	0	0	9
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
3.	Assam	0	0	5	0	0	0	12	8	0	0	0	0
4.	Bihar	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	7	5	0	0	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	4	6	8	3	14	6	0	1	0	0	0	0
6.	Goa	0	0	0	5	1	2	5	1	0	0	0	0
7.	Gujarat	01	1	82	95	1431	2	5	12	0	0	0	
8.	Haryana	0	1	0	24	15	32	3	0	0	0	0	0
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	11	13	12	4	0	0	0	0	0	
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
11.	Jharkhand	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	5	4	0	0	0
12.	Karnataka	0	1	1	11	17	18	1	4	7	0	0	0
13.	Kerala	0	0	1	1	0	3	7	20	21	0	0	0
14.	Madhya Pradesh	9	5	7	90	115	95	13	2	4	0	0	1
15.	Maharashtra	5	8	11	293	249	321	20	14	5	5	11	6
16.	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0
18.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.	Orissa	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	3	0	0	0	0
21.	Punjab	0	1	0	9	12	13	0	0	2	0	0	1
22.	Rajasthan	0	0	0	97	90	123	1	1	1	1	1	0
23.	Sikkim	1	0	1	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	0	3	1	7	20	6	0	6	0	0	0	0
25.	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26.	Uttar Pradesh	2	4	2	0	0	0	28	23	3	0	0	0
27.	Uttaranchal	0	0	0	0	1	0	7	32	9	0	0	0
28.	West Bengal	0	1	1	0	0	0	12	13	20	18	9	2
	Total State	25	33	43	672	670	876	171	205	145	24	21	19
29.	A&N Islands	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
30.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	11	11	7	0	0	0	0	0	0
31.	D&N Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
33.	Delhi	0	0	0	39	33	47	0	0	0	0	0	0
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35.	Pondicherry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total UT	0	0	0	50	45	57	0	0	0	0	0	0
	All India Total	25	33	43	722	715	933	171	205	145	24	21	28

Sl.No.	State	Selling of Girls for Prostitution			Child Marriage Restraint Act			Other Crimes Committed Against			Total Crimes Committed Against Children		
		2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	0	2	4	4	9	498	406	74	1463	1328	950
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	18	22	22
3.	Assam	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	70	19	21	199
4.	Bihar	0	1	0	0	3	4	10	5	0	56	59	115
5.	Chhattisgarh	0	0	0	6	14	3	335	477	430	614	940	997
6.	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	20	21	57	53	53
7.	Gujarat	0	0	0	11	30	25	175	198	202	665	799	836
8.	Haryana	0	0	0	3	2	7	62	42	57	287	164	374
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1	0	0	1	2	3	28	12	14	109	92	131
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	2	1	49	35	57
11.	Jharkhand	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	39	27	35	112	97
12.	Karnataka	0	0	0	2	1	3	25	25	25	116	189	191
13.	Kerala	0	0	0	0	1	3	48	56	127	179	361	386
14.	Madhya Pradesh	25	0	0	3	2	18	1437	2487	2324	2662	3653	3721
15.	Maharashtra	3	3	1	16	14	22	506	766	689	2001	2281	2305
16.	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	36	31	20
17.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	6	46	43	81
18.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	0	0
19.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
20.	Orissa	0	0	0	0	1	0	40	74	32	140	129	86
21.	Punjab	0	1	0	2	2	11	16	20	36	184	193	211
22.	Rajasthan	0	1	1	6	2	3	2	5	7	240	403	580
23.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	2	1	15	8	25
24.	Tamil Nadu	0	0	0	3	5	4	23	29	39	177	393	288
25.	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	12	0	0	59	28
26.	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0	4	1	4	345	234	259	1702	1921	1801

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
27.	Uttaranchal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	23	56	76
28.	West Bengal	6	12	44	1	8	2	61	43	57	148	206	236
	Total State	36	19	50	62	93	122	3644	4968	4500	11058	13552	13666
29.	A & N Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	1	6	14	8
30.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	3	40	66	57
31.	D & N Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	11	5
32.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	6	2	5
33.	Delhi	0	0	0	1	0	0	47	131	191	516	766	1026
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	30	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
35.	Pondicherry	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	2	5	12	8
	Total UT	0	0	0	1	0	0	56	139	197	575	871	1109
	All India Total	36	19	50	63	93	122	3700	5107	4697	11633	14423	14975

Statement III

Cases Registered (CR), Persons Arrested (PA), Persons Charge Sheeted (CS) Persons Tried (TC), Persons Convicted (CV) & Persons Acquitted (AQ) for Crime against Women during 2003-2005

Sl.No.	State	2003						2004						2005					
		CR	PA	CS	TC	CV	AQ	CR	PA	CS	TC	CV	AQ	CR	PA	CS	TC	CV	AQ
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1.	Andhra Pradesh	18382	29101	28902	19937	4819	15118	18621	28976	27139	18983	5781	13222	20819	31136	30389	22139	7543	14586
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	130	160	87	4	2	2	148	162	118	23	17	6	150	129	105	75	45	30
3.	Assam	5312	7551	4995	3583	521	3082	5700	8117	5578	4634	682	3942	6027	8780	5934	4425	762	3663
4.	Bihar	5900	11323	9444	7384	1447	5937	8091	12334	8987	6981	930	6051	6019	11220	9280	7213	1035	6178
5.	Chhattisgarh	3336	4869	4866	2799	1048	1751	3763	6051	6130	4833	1612	3221	3599	5491	5435	4472	1863	2789
6.	Goa	121	191	143	147	85	62	132	227	189	126	58	70	121	229	186	153	105	48
7.	Gujarat	5735	14060	13948	6175	404	5771	6211	15549	15543	6333	297	8036	6343	16510	16314	6830	555	6275
8.	Haryana	4170	6524	6553	6245	2008	4237	4276	6610	6404	6999	1985	5034	4161	6275	6264	4959	1159	3800
9.	Himachal Pradesh	729	1083	1113	864	101	763	823	1203	1103	801	87	714	793	1257	1242	1189	102	1067
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	2164	3580	3608	1596	282	1314	2208	3345	3313	2293	188	2105	2144	3163	3039	2117	136	1981

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
11.	Jharkhand	2488	3931	3515	2830	725	2105	2480	3631	3514	2788	725	2083	2544	3432	2367	5185	721	4474
12.	Karnataka	5834	10376	9632	8116	2308	9808	5423	9154	9272	7888	2440	3256	6057	10680	10335	9340	2375	6885
13.	Kerala	5853	8726	8170	4709	578	4131	6483	9848	9572	6387	737	5850	6762	10889	10155	6826	929	5887
14.	Madhya Pradesh	14547	24989	24024	18714	5562	11152	15208	27027	27067	16190	5412	10778	14829	24254	24298	18609	5836	12773
15.	Maharashtra	11273	29336	28619	21967	1238	20729	12169	30432	30240	19786	1177	18809	13370	34158	33326	20588	944	19642
16.	Manipur	137	160	7	6	3	3	134	132	6	8	0	8	140	127	11	4	0	4
17.	Meghalaya	69	82	23	13	3	10	113	96	50	15	4	11	131	106	53	37	4	33
18.	Mizoram	147	173	144	218	200	18	91	79	58	11	8	3	95	85	70	173	169	4
19.	Nagaland	25	30	22	17	16	1	30	36	75	110	97	13	37	37	40	57	49	8
20.	Orissa	4946	7805	7846	5801	907	4894	5239	7884	7991	5720	859	4861	6249	9524	9368	5456	663	4765
21.	Punjab	2375	4182	3637	2816	1126	1680	1955	3642	4031	2849	1031	1818	1968	3303	3027	1996	498	1488
22.	Rajasthan	11812	12982	12669	10103	3526	6577	13127	14640	14639	11168	4613	6555	11657	12838	12956	9534	4042	5482
23.	Sikkim	37	36	24	6	3	3	49	69	40	8	2	6	62	42	25	15	5	10
24.	Tamil Nadu	8888	11721	11082	9707	5378	4329	9332	12750	12465	11073	6032	5041	8648	12275	12471	11879	6152	5727
25.	Tripura	537	878	568	342	70	272	670	983	890	464	136	328	840	1308	1080	1007	182	815
26.	Uttar Pradesh	12840	23433	23406	23844	13286	10556	15485	32979	29886	24439	13838	10501	14875	32720	31006	25610	14537	10873
27.	Uttaranchal	886	1827	1594	863	577	286	988	2660	2116	1018	689	329	786	1648	1465	741	382	359
28.	West Bengal	8508	15982	14006	8611	882	7729	11047	16613	14345	7150	729	6421	11887	19227	17324	8995	1261	7734
Total State		136890	233911	222325	165517	47105	118412	150301	255530	240471	188886	50234	118652	150814	260621	247465	179534	51914	127820
29.	A&N Islands	22	36	24	16	3	13	27	44	38	26	12	14	22	32	23	14	2	12
30.	Chandigarh	159	206	164	118	24	94	188	331	261	164	79	85	205	306	247	97	17	80
31.	D&N Haveli	13	24	18	19	5	14	22	32	29	28	0	28	24	35	33	37	0	37
32.	Daman and Diu	10	10	6	7	5	2	7	15	17	12	0	12	10	17	18	7	0	7
33.	Delhi UT	3282	4789	4408	2484	657	1827	3877	5198	4688	2190	799	1391	4351	5853	5238	3429	798	2631
34.	Lakshadweep	4	3	2	1	1	0	1	1	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35.	Pondicherry	121	221	219	135	90	45	110	173	184	125	43	82	127	191	177	99	84	45
Total UT		3611	5289	4833	2780	785	1995	4032	5782	5199	2547	935	1612	4739	6434	5736	3883	871	2612
All India Total		140601	239200	227758	168297	47890	120407	154333	26322	246670	171433	51189	120264	155563	260655	253207	183217	52785	130432

Statement IV

Cases Registered (CR), Persons arrested (PA), Persons Charge Sheeted (CS), Persons Tried (TC), Persons Convicted (CV) & Persons acquitted (AQ) for Crime against Children during 2003-2005

Sl.No.	State	2003						2004						2005					
		CR	PA	CS	TC	CV	AQ	CR	PA	CS	TC	CV	AQ	CR	PA	CS	TC	CV	AQ
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1463	1184	1009	376	85	281	1328	1325	1159	707	139	568	950	1087	1037	1051	134	917
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	18	0	0	0	0	0	22	13	4	0	0	0	22	24	20	2	2	0
3.	Assam	19	21	9	4	1	3	21	18	19	8	1	7	199	202	109	32	13	19
4.	Bihar	56	108	80	25	22	3	59	76	46	20	1	19	115	131	80	12	0	12
5.	Chhattisgarh	614	555	554	129	69	60	940	960	969	704	214	490	997	1057	1055	475	271	204
6.	Goa	57	56	42	32	9	23	53	64	59	32	10	22	53	76	53	32	10	22
7.	Gujarat	665	682	671	375	105	270	799	805	796	280	88	182	836	968	950	270	66	204
8.	Haryana	287	321	325	317	68	249	164	301	301	328	54	274	374	362	355	228	45	183
9.	Himachal Pradesh	109	122	108	84	13	71	92	97	109	85	7	78	131	162	148	92	10	82
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	49	53	53	3	0	3	35	36	36	10	1	9	57	24	24	5	0	5
11.	Jharkhand	35	60	56	53	0	53	112	136	140	144	0	144	97	116	110	145	6	139
12.	Karnataka	116	105	98	46	0	46	189	135	132	65	1	64	191	160	160	77	4	73
13.	Kerala	179	196	195	53	8	45	361	249	116	107	18	89	386	428	467	656	90	566
14.	Madhya Pradesh	2662	3668	3648	1665	540	1125	3653	4530	4570	2469	803	1666	3721	4949	5010	3488	1483	1983
15.	Maharashtra	2001	2256	2182	570	79	491	2281	2440	2301	912	126	786	2305	2551	2386	856	108	748
16.	Manipur	36	91	1	0	0	0	31	23	0	0	0	0	20	16	1	0	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	46	0	0	0	0	0	43	0	0	0	0	0	81	31	7	0	0	0
18.	Mizoram	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.	Orissa	140	132	133	42	11	31	129	172	168	56	31	25	86	100	90	90	14	76
21.	Punjab	184	176	161	122	52	70	193	308	284	218	83	135	211	251	194	133	31	102
22.	Rajasthan	240	145	145	92	52	40	403	306	303	133	43	90	580	414	417	158	64	94
23.	Sikkim	15	15	18	8	6	2	8	35	13	0	0	0	25	12	7	1	0	1
24.	Tamil Nadu	177	157	138	45	24	21	393	416	321	103	26	77	288	263	278	250	78	174
25.	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0	59	56	36	9	7	2	28	24	35	20	4	16

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
26.	Uttar Pradesh	1702	2710	2795	3419	1961	1458	1921	3250	3027	3267	1961	1306	1801	2852	2753	3148	1817	1331
27.	Uttaranchal	23	45	45	13	8	5	56	67	61	26	17	9	76	107	85	55	29	26
28.	West Bengal	148	160	84	72	3	69	206	231	113	46	3	43	236	283	174	59	2	57
	Total State	11058	13028	12550	7545	3126	4419	13552	16050	15082	9729	3634	6095	13666	16660	16005	11313	4279	7034
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	6	4	1	0	0	0	14	20	10	3	0	3	8	17	12	0	0	0
30.	Chandigarh	40	39	38	23	8	15	66	21	17	28	3	25	57	61	53	30	6	24
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1	5	5	0	0	0	11	1	1	0	0	0	5	8	18	2	1	1
32.	Daman and Diu	6	6	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	5	6	5	0	0	0
33.	Delhi UT	516	437	478	123	35	88	766	558	572	272	181	91	1026	590	564	272	187	85
34.	Lakshadweep	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35.	Pondicherry	5	5	10	2	2	0	12	13	8	2	0	2	8	11	12	4	2	2
	Total UT	575	496	534	148	45	103	871	613	608	305	184	121	1109	693	664	308	196	112
	All India total	11633	13524	13084	7693	3171	4522	14423	16663	15690	10034	3818	6216	14975	17353	16669	11621	4475	7146

Import of Sports Equipments

*55. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the major items of sports equipments being imported at present;

(b) the total expenditure incurred on such imports during each of the last three years, item-wise;

(c) whether sports persons and National Sports Federations are allowed duty free import of any sports equipments to enhance their performance;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government proposes to promote the indigenous manufacture of sports equipments which are being currently imported; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) The major items of sports equipment imported in the country in last 3 years,

inter alia, include snow ski equipment, water sport equipment, Golf Clubs and other equipment, equipments for table tennis, lawn tennis and badminton, football, volley ball, basket ball, lawn tennis balls, golf ball, ice skates and other roller skates, gymnastic/athletic requisites, badminton, shuttle cocks and equipment for shooting. The year-wise, item-wise value of imports is enclosed as statement.

(c) and (d) Sports persons of eminence and National Sports Federation are allowed to import specific sports equipment and sports requisites free of import duty.

(e) and (f) The National Sports Policy, 2001 stipulates that, "suitable measures will be initiated to ensure access to sports equipment of high quality. While the approach to import of equipment would, no doubt, bear the long term interest of the indigenous sports goods manufacturers in mind, the import of raw materials as well as finished sports goods of international quality should be permissible under Open General License. Similarly, Sports Federations/Associations and other recognized organizations involved in sports promotion, as also eminent sportspersons, may be extended exemption from customs duty. The matter relating to exemption from Sales Tax for sports goods and of free movement of raw materials and

finished sports goods in the country would be pursued with the State Governments". Further, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises has set up a Process-

cum-Product Development Centre at Meerut for sports and leisure goods to help this sector by providing common facility services, consultancy and testing facilities.

Statement

Import of Sports Equipment

Sl. No.	HS Code	Commodity	Unit	Qty. in thousands			Value in Rs. lakhs		
				2004-05	2005-06	Apr-2006-Feb-2007	2004-05	2005-06	Apr-2006-Feb-2007
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	95061100	Skis	Nos.	7.04	2.04	1.86	20.29	20.03	10.91
2.	95061200	Ski-Fastenings (Ski-Bindings)	Kgs.	1.56	0.01	0.11	14.69	0.05	0.67
3.	95061900	Other Snow-Ski Equipment	Kgs.	23.14	17.81	22.95	122.24	110.26	122.98
4.	95062100	Sail Boards	Nos.	0.01	0.04	0.00	3.97	4.76	0.08
5.	95062900	Other Water Sport Equipments (Surf-Boards Water-Skis Etc.)	Nos.	33.19	39.39	5.29	213.86	324.92	98.94
6.	95063100	Golf Clubs, Complete	Nos.	12.47	24.18	13.00	429.88	406.37	434.76
7.	95063200	Golf Balls	Nos.	69.98	105.95	104.17	70.18	82.71	59.74
8.	95063900	Other Golf Equipments	Kgs.	312.05	686.94	339.65	201.57	882.00	713.22
9.	95034000	Articles & Equipment for Table-Tennis	Nos.	312.05	686.05	686.94	339.65	201.57	402.19
10.	96065100	Lawn Tennis Rackets, W/N Strung	Nos.	111.21	132.56	133.84	322.28	378.42	402.15
11.	95065910	Badminton Rackets, W/N Strung	Nos.	1239.13	688.07	688.71	636.84	530.42	1058.28
12.	95065990	Others	Nos.	123.45	261.25	327.11	146.06	399.47	444.57
13.	95066100	Lawn-Tennis Balls	Nos.	1120.42	1202.19	1223.25	260.75	334.67	332.08
14.	95066210	Football	Nos.	58.28	565.52	1389.73	28.40	239.70	462.11
15.	95066220	Volley Ball	Nos.	39.00	41.61	43.15	27.17	56.93	55.41
16.	95066230	Basket Ball	Nos.	390.02	230.78	267.43	201.49	198.26	178.79
17.	96066290	Others	Nos.	267.88	515.76	254.17	73.56	171.93	123.89
18.	95566910	Hockey Ball	Nos.	106.85	22.34	03.09	16.35	8.64	0.16

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
19.	95066920	Cricket Ball	Nos.	18.40	2.41	1.22	9.19	23.65	33.24	
20.	95066930	Golf Ball	Nos.	11.99	70.15	59.56	38.08	98.50	92.54	
21.	95066940	Rugby Ball	Nos.	20.29	23.55	1.88	5.17	10.86	0.30	
22.	95066990	Others	Nos.	795.97	306.85	258.31	110.63	196.94	119.91	
23.	95067000	Ice Skates & Roller Skates, including Skating Boots with Skates Attached	Nos.	41.01	53.29	105.33	52.06	110.61	209.43	
24.	95069110	Boxing Equipments	Kgs.	130.36	121.75	27.99	693.76	599.62	177.71	
25.	95069190	Other Gymnastic/Athletic Requisites	Kgs.	1935.48	3420.58	3225.35	5185.82	8112.19	14973.32	
26.	95069910	Badminton Shuttle Corks	Nos.	1096.57	1918.61	1801.83	485.93	592.48	718.32	
27.	95069920	Leg Pads and Bats for Cricket	Nos.	1.01	1.59	1.93	8.94	0.47	5.32	
28.	95069930	Shoulder Pads for Football	Nos.	0.01	9.02	0.02	0.06	21.81	0.05	
29.	95069940	Hockey Sticks and Blades	Nos.	4.32	2.38	3.18	10.60	8.69	19.98	
30.	95069950	Polo Sticks Incl. Blades, Shafts & Heads	Nos.	0.16	0.20	0.00	5.26	0.53	0.00	
31.	95069960	Sports nets	Nos.	1.40	11.73	6.38	5.14	11.86	10.95	
32.	95069970	Tennis & Badminton Racket Pressures	Nos.	36.96	29.95	39.33	37.24	119.25	36.72	
33.	95069980	Other Guards	Nos.	0.42	9.92	56.14	11.34	18.41	45.91	
34.	959069990	Other Sports Equipments	Nos.	238.71	597.62	1563.35	3067.08	6424.19	6241.99	
Total							12811.79	20614.45	27560.08	

Import of Sports Equipments

Sl. No.	HS Code	Commodity	Unit	Qty. in thousands			Value in Rs. lakhs		
				2004-05	2005-06	Apr-2006-Feb-2007	2004-05	2005-06	Apr-2006-Feb-2007
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	930200	Revolvers and Pistols, Other than those of Heading No. 9303 or 9304	Nos.		0.13	0.07		22.43	14.32

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2.	930310	Muzzle-Loading Firearms	Nos.	0.53		0.00	5.29		0.00
3.	930320	Other Sporting, Hunting or Target-Shooting Shotguns, Incl. Combination Shotgunrifles	Nos.	0.02	0.01	0.01	29.98	11.32	27.13
4.	930330	Other Sporting, Hunting/Target-Shooting Rifles	Nos.	5.04	0.02	0.03	65.87	12.31	21.33
5.	930390	Other Firearms & SMLR Devices	Nos.	0.02	0.11	0.02	12.36	80.31	10.98
6.	930400	Other Arms (e.g. Spring, Air/Gas Gun & Pistols, Truncheons), Excl. those of Hdg. No. 9307	Nos.	0.41	0.01	0.15	8.87	7.51	33.24
7.	930510	Parts & Accessories of Revolvers/Pistols	Kgs.		0.07	0.42		1.67	14.75
8.	930521	Shotgun Barrels of Hdg. No. 9303	Kgs.		0.01	0.11		0.66	2.29
9.	930529	Other Parts (of Rifles etc. of Hdg. No. 9303)	Kgs.	0.48	4.11	0.02	19.65	19.08	0.47
10.	930599	Parts of Heading 9302 and 9304	Kgs.	1.72	0.77	1.79	111.29	6.21	154.91
Total							253.31	161.50	279.43

Fee Structure of Private Universities

*56. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :

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

(a) whether the fees charged by the private universities are very high in comparison to Central Universities;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon;

(c) whether the University Grants Commission (UGC) has suggested to the Union Government to constitute a high level committee to look into the fee and course structure of private universities as reported in the 'Times of India' dated July 7, 2007;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government for regulation of private universities fees?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (e) Since Private Universities do not generally receive financial assistance from public outlays, the fees charged by them are reportedly higher than the fees charged by publicly funded universities. The University Grants Commission (UGC), is empowered under the UGC Act, 1956 to make regulations, with the prior approval of the Central Government, for Admissions and Fee Structure in Universities and Colleges. An Expert Committee has been constituted by the UGC in August, 2007 to formulate -

- (i) Regulations with regard to admission and fee for self-financing, private professional institutions, including deemed to be universities.
- (ii) Regulations for admission and fee for self-financing courses in aided Universities/ Colleges.
- (iii) Regulations for admission and fee for aided courses in aided Universities and Colleges.

**Short Stay Homes and Family
Counselling Centres**

*57. SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA:
SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to open Short Stay Homes and Family Counselling Centres for providing shelters for women in each district of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of such centres likely to be opened during the current financial year; and

(d) the time fixed to cover all the districts of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (d) The Central Social Welfare Board implements the Schemes of Short Stay Homes and Family Counselling Centres. As per the report of the Working Group on Empowerment of Women for the XI Plan, it is proposed to merge the Short Stay Homes and Swadhar Homes Schemes and have one Swadhar Home in each district in the 11th Plan.

The Central Social Welfare Board proposes to have at least 2 Family Counselling Centres for Women in all districts by the end of XI Plan. 60 new Family Counselling Centres will be opened during 2007-2008.

[Translation]

SEZ for Herbal Products

*58. PROF. PREM KUMAR DHUMAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a need to set up Special Export Promotion Zones in selected States in order to increase the export of herbal material and medicines from the present level of Rs. 3000 crore to Rs.12000 crore by the year 2012;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of those States; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to increase the country's share in the world market in view of the vast potential for export of herbal products in our country?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) No proposals have been received for setting up Special Economic Zones (SEZs) for export of herbal materials and medicines. As and when such proposals are received, duly recommended by the concerned State Government, these would be considered subject to the provisions of the Special Economic Zones Act, 2005 and the Special Economic Zones Rules, 2006.

(c) Department of AYUSH has formed two sub groups for formulating Certification Scheme for standardization of export products which will give boost to export of herbal products. Also, the exports of Medicinal plants and its value added products have been covered under the Vishesh Krishi and Gram Udyog Yojana (VKGUY) scheme for 5% Duty Credit Scrip. Special support is also provided under the Marketing Development Assistance (MDA) & Market Access Initiatives (MAI) schemes to enable the exporters to undertake export sales promotion tour, market study and participation in foreign trade fairs. Also, special funding under the Exports Development Fund (EDF) Scheme and under the ASIDE (Assistance to States for Infrastructure Development of Exports) scheme is provided for encouraging the State Governments to promote exports.

[English]

Threat by Al-Qaeda

*59. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR:
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to a news-item in the '*Statesman*' dated July 20, 2007 regarding the activities of Al-Qaeda operatives and their plans to blow up important installations in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has since taken any steps to counter such threats; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. A call was received in the Police Control Room of Delhi Police as reported in the news item in question. During the course of investigation, one person namely Mintoo Kumar Mehto s/o Ramayan Mehto r/o House No. B-32, Gall No.-3, Panchsheel Enclave, Vikas Nagar, Uttam Nagar, Delhi was apprehended. A case FIR No. 58/2007 u/s 506/507 IPC PS Special Cell, Delhi dated 21.7.07 was registered by Delhi Police and the accused Mintoo Kumar Mehto was arrested. Investigations have revealed that this person had no links with Al-Qaeda and this was a hoax call made with intent to create panic.

The Government remains firmly committed to counter the challenge posed by terrorism. Towards this end, a multi-pronged strategy is being pursued in close conjunction with the State Governments, which involves measures to check infiltration from across the borders, deployment of central security forces in areas prone to terrorist's violence, continuous vigilance and strengthening of security arrangements in vulnerable areas and around vital installations, sharing of intelligence, strengthening of State Police forces and upgradation of their capabilities to deal with terrorist activities through the schemes of Police Modernisation, raising of India Reserve Battalions, etc. Efforts are also being made to strengthen bi-lateral and multi-lateral cooperation at the international level with the aim of combating terrorism through arrangements for Mutual Legal Assistance and Extradition Treaties, exchange of information and intelligence, etc.

Child Marriage

*60. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the lack of education is the main factor for child marriages in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Child Marriage Restraint Act of 1978 is not being implemented effectively in some States;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the States where this practice is more prevalent; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government for the proper implementation of the said Act in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) As per provisional results of National Family Health Survey-III (NFHS-III) - (2005-06), at all India level 44.5% of the women aged between 20-24 are married by 18 years of age and 71.6% of these women did not have any education.

(c) to (e) In order to prohibit child marriages and to provide for more effective and stringent punishment for offenders, a new legislation "The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006" has been enacted and notified on 11th January, 2007. Also awareness generation and advocacy measures are continuously being undertaken by the Ministry for this purpose.

[Translation]

Import of Agri Products

291. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:
SHRI SUBRATA BOSE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been substantial increase in the import of agricultural products like coconut oil, black pepper, edible oils, tea, coffee during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to reduce the agricultural imports to strengthen the indigenous primary sector;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Import of agricultural products like black pepper, tea, coffee etc during last three years has been fluctuating. The quantity and value of import of black pepper, edible oils (including coconut oil) tea and coffee during the last three years is given below:

Sl.No.	Item	Qty. in tons			Value in Rs. lakhs		
		2004-05	2005-06 (Apr-Feb)	2006-07	2004-05	2005-06 (Apr-Feb)	2006-07
1.	Edible Oils (including Coconut oil)	4753172.55	4293749.28	3913677.29	1110209.20	900276.05	876751.04
2.	Black Pepper	6923.47	14402.47	12818.20	4700.25	8752.62	10248.82
3.	Tea	31681.62	18715.58	22041.79	14533.53	10711.84	11657.32
4.	Coffee	22201.25	38183.16	17665.71	6385.34	16683.68	9540.61

(c) to (f) The Government monitors imports of sensitive agriculture products and in case of abnormal rise takes measure to reduce them through increase in tariffs, port restrictions, etc. Besides, it is also focusing on improving their production and productivity to reduce imports in long run. The Government has proposed replantation and rejuvenation of plantation crops like pepper, tea, XI Five Year plan under Special Purpose Tea Fund. In WTO negotiations, it is negotiating for special products and Special Safeguard Mechanism to be able to restrict agriculture imports.

[English]

Skill Development Programme

292. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indira Gandhi Open University has lately been conducting Skill Development Programmes (SDPs) in the North Eastern Region, to develop trained manpower and increase employment opportunities in Assam and other States in the Region;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of persons trained in different streams so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) According to the information provided by Indira Gandhi National Open University, certain programmes like Certificate in Craft and Design

(Pottery), Certificate in Motor Cycle Service and Repair, Certificate in Shoe Upper Cutting and Certificate in Shoe Upper Stitching are being offered in various States including the North East Region, enrolling 1487 students.

CAG Report on Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

293. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken cognizance of CAG report on Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the corrective measures being taken in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure proper accountability as well as efficiency of the project implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (d) The Performance Audit of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), submitted by the Comptroller & Auditor General of India in August 2006, for the period 2001-02 to 2004-05, has already been considered by the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) of Fourteenth Lok Sabha in its Forty-third Report and the Report presented to the Lok Sabha on 27th April, 2007.

The Government of India has issued strict instructions to States/UTs to recoup the inadmissible expenditure to the State SSA Programmes. Government of India is

monitoring the use of SSA funds through annual State/UT audits, independent concurrent financial reviews and field monitoring through 41 social science institutions.

[Translation]

Data Base of Missing Children

294. SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to involve NGOs to prepare data base of missing children in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

**Repeater Instrument to Davangere
T.V. Tower in Karnataka**

295. SHRI G. M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has sent a proposal to the Union Government regarding provision of repeater instrument to Davangere T.V. Tower to increase the F. M. signals in Karnataka;

(b) the reaction of the Government thereon; and

(c) the time by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Doesn't arise.

Recruitment in PMF

296. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the Prime Minister's J&K Reconstruction Plan, 5000 vacancies were to be released to Jammu & Kashmir State for recruitment in Para-Military Forces (PMF); and

(b) if so, the number of persons recruit so far under the said plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL):

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) CRPF have recruited 2795 candidates out of 3400 vacancies. SSB have recruited 1307 candidates out of 1600 vacancies.

Diversion of Funds under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

297. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:
SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 197 dated December 5, 2006 regarding diversion of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan funds and state:

(a) whether diversion of funds amounting to crores of rupees has come to the notice of the Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) The diversion of Rs.53 crores came to the knowledge of Government of India based on Performance Audit Report of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), conducted by the Comptroller & Auditor General of India for the period 2001-02 to 2004-05. Some instances have also come to notice through independent concurrent financial reviews conducted by Government of India. In cases of diversion of funds Government of India has directed States/UTs to recoup the inadmissible expenditure to the State SSA programmes.

The States/UTs have been strictly instructed to avoid recurrence of such instances in future. Government of India has also institutionalized annual statutory audit of all States/UTs SSA Programmes and in addition conducts field level financial reviews and monitoring.

Nitro-Glycerin Explosives

298. SHRI RANEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Gelatine is being used by the Peoples War Group (PWG), Naxalites for preparation of explosives;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government to phase out production of Nitro-glycerin based explosives; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In order to stop misuse of nitro-glycerine-based explosives, Government of India vide Notification No. G.S.R. 59 (E) dated January 21, 2004 prohibited the possession, sale and use of nitro-glycerine or such other substance throughout the country with effect from the first day of April, 2004. Time limit for disposal of the existing stock of nitroglycerine and nitro-glycerine based chemicals was extended till the 1st day of December, 2004 by Notifications No. G.S.R. 530(E) dated the 20th August, 2004.

[*Translation*]

Implementation of Schemes

299. DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of schemes being implemented in Jharkhand in the field of education;

(b) the names of the Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) to whom financial assistance provided and quantum of financial assistance provided to these organisations during last three years;

(c) whether these NGOs have misutilised the financial assistance;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard alongwith the action taken against these NGOs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) (a) The Ministry of Human Resource Development is implementing various Centrally Sponsored Schemes relating to Education, grants for which are released to State and UT Governments including Jharkhand. These Schemes, *inter-alia*, include Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, (SSA), Mid-Day Meal Scheme (MDM), Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS), Support to NGOs for Adult Education, Vocationalisation of Secondary Education at +2 level, Scheme for 'Strengthening of Boarding and Hostel facilities for Girls Students of Secondary and Higher Secondary Schools', Integrated Education for Disabled Children (IEDC), Access with Equity, ICT in Schools, Appointment of language Teachers, Development of Sanskrit, Area Intensive & Madrasa Modernisation programme (AIMMP), etc.

(b) Details of amounts released to NGOs in the State of Jharkhand during the last three years are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) No complaints of misutilization have been received.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Statement

Details of grants released to NGOs in the State of Jharkhand during the last three years i.e. 2004-05 to 2006-07

(Amount in Rupees)

S.No.	Name of the NGOs	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Jan Shikshan Sansthan, Ranchi	20,00,000	20,81,000	16,20,000
2.	Jan Shikshan Sansthan, Dhanbad	NIL	10,64,180	24,75,522

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Jan Shikshan Sansthan, Bokaro	27,00,000	14,52,856	15,53,091
4.	Jan Shikshan Sansthan, Hazaribagh	13,54,381	17,71,978	23,54,527
5.	Jan Shikshan Sansthan, Jamshedpur	15,88,552	27,21,340	26,43,307
6.	State Resource Centre, Jharkhand	48,27,304	69,02,374	44,49,344
7.	Gyan Niketan, Sahibganj, Jharkhand	NIL	9,90,000	NIL
8.	Vidyasthali, Dumka	9,00,000	NIL	NIL
9.	Badlao Foundation, Jamtara	NIL	15,96,240	NIL
10.	R.K. Mission Vidyapith, Deoghar	NIL	1,50,000	NIL
11.	Markaman Welfare Society, Hazaribagh	6,20,000	7,92,000	NIL
12.	Humanity, Ranchi	1,50,000	NIL	NIL
13.	Jan Sarokar, Ranchi	1,00,000	NIL	NIL
14.	Hindi Vidyapeet, Deoghar	NIL	4,22,888	4,22,888

Threats of Terrorist Attacks

300. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some threats of terrorists attacks have been received;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the efforts being made by the Government to tackle the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) Inputs regarding possible threats from terrorist elements are received from time to time. The Government pursues a multi-dimensional approach to deal with such threats and activities. The measures being taken by the Government include strengthening of border management to check infiltration, streamlining the intelligence machinery, ensuring improved technology, weaponry and equipment with the security forces both at the Centre and in the States, and undertaking well-coordinated intelligence based, counter-terrorism operations. Besides, steps have also been taken to achieve bilateral and multilateral cooperation to address the global imperatives of terrorism.

Regulatory Board for FM Channels

301. SHRIMATI RUPATAI D. PATIL:
SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI:

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

(a) whether there is a constant increase in the number of FM channels in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government is contemplating to form a separate Regulatory Board for the same;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by when the said Board is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details are indicated in Statement-I and Statement-II in respect of All India Radio FM channels and Private FM channels respectively.

(c) to (e) The Draft Broadcasting Bill, 2007, presently under consultation with stakeholders, among other things, has a provision to set up a Broadcasting Regulatory Authority of India (BRAI). Services falling under the ambit

of the Authority include radio-broadcasting services also. Apart from BRAI, there is no proposal specifically for FM radio.

Statement I

All India Radio FM Transmitters Commissioned during the last three years

Year	Sl.No.	State	City	No. of FM Stations
2004		NIL		
2005	1.	Andaman and Nicobar	Port Blair	1
	2.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	1
	3.	Chhattisgarh	Raigarh	1
	4.	Chhattisgarh	Saraipalli	1
	5.	Haryana	Rohtak	1
	6.	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	1
	7.	Karnataka	Gulbarga	1
	8.	Madhya Pradesh	Mandia	1
	9.	Maharashtra	Aurangabad	1
	10.	Manipur	Imphal	1
	11.	Meghalaya	Shillong	1
	12.	Orissa	Deogarh	1
	13.	Rajasthan	Udaipur	1
	14.	Tamil Nadu	Madurai	1
	15.	Tamil Nadu	Yercaud	1
	16.	Tripura	Agartala	1
	17.	Uttar Pradesh	Gorakhpur	1
	18.	West Bengal	Kurseong	1
	19.	West Bengal	Darjeeling	1
	20.	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada	1
2006	21.	Kerala	Manjeri	1
	22.	Uttar Pradesh	Kanpur	1

Statement II*Private FM Transmitters Commissioned during the last three years*

Year	S.No.	State	City	Total
2004		NIL		
2005		NIL		
2006	1.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	4
	2.	Delhi	Delhi	4
	3.	Jammu and Kashmir	Jammu	1
			Srinagar	1
	4.	Karnataka	Bangalore	5
	5.	Maharashtra	Mumbai	1
	6.	Rajasthan	Jaipur	5
	7.	Tamil Nadu	Chennai	3
	8.	Uttar Pradesh	Aligarh	1
9.	West Bengal	Kolkata	1	

*[English]***Revamping of Intelligence Set Up**

302. SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes a major revamp of the intelligence set up both at the Centre and the State levels;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide more specialised personnel and state-of-the-art equipment to the intelligence agencies particularly for technical surveillance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) In order to optimize intelligence flow and coordination between multifarious agencies at the Centre and in the States in the field of counter terrorism and

counter intelligence, a Multi-Agency Centre (MAC) and Joint Task Force on Intelligence (JTFI) have been created in Intelligence Bureau at Delhi, supported by Subsidiary Multi Agency Centres (SMACs) at almost all State capitals. For strengthening counter intelligence apparatus in Intelligence Bureau, additional manpower has been given. The States have been advised to earmark upto 5% of the annual total allocations under the Modernization of State Police Forces Scheme (MPF) towards strengthening training and technical capabilities of Special Branches.

Chrome Ore Export

303. SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided the chrome ore export quota for this year;

(b) if so, the present policy of the Government and in the past;

(c) whether the Steel Manufacturers are facing difficulties due to absence of revision of the export quota; and

(d) if so, the efforts being made/proposed to be made by the Government to remove the difficulties being faced by the Steel Manufacturers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Advance Licence Scheme

304. SHRI SUBRATA BOSE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to stop import of rubber by implementing Advance Licence Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government intend to launch any other scheme in lieu of Advance Licence Scheme to import rubber for its supply to manufacturers through STC or any other agency; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) No such proposal to stop import of rubber under Advance Licence Scheme has been received.

(c) The Advance Licence Scheme allows importing natural rubber (along with other inputs) free of duty to the extent of the quantity of natural rubber used in the manufacturing of rubber products exported from the country. Only the quantity of natural rubber that goes out of the country in the form of manufactured rubber products is permitted to be imported under the scheme. This facility is not specific to rubber products alone and is also World Trade Organization (WTO)-compatible. A crisis situation warranting stopping import of natural rubber through Advance Licence Scheme does not prevail in the natural rubber market now.

(d) No. Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Fire Fighting Arrangements

305. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to USQ No. 1973 dated December 5, 2006 regarding fire fighting arrangements in malls and state:

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in collecting the information; and

(d) the time by when the information is likely to be collected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Since a large number of establishments are involved, complete information has not been received. Complete information will be laid on the Table of the House at the earliest.

Assam Accord

306. SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of meetings held with All Assam Student Union (AASU) during each of the last three years on the implementation of Assam Accord;

(b) the details of outcome thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to implement the Assam Accord;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) and (b) A total of four tripartite meetings have been held between January 2005 to 31st July 2007 to review the implementation of Assam Accord. The meeting on

5th May 2005 was chaired by the Prime Minister and that on 2nd January 2006 by the Union Home Minister. Besides, two official level tripartite talks were held with AASU on 29th July, 2006 and 11th July, 2007. During all these meetings, clause-wise implementation status of Assam Accord was discussed.

(c) and (d) Action has been taken to implement various clauses of the Assam Accord. Certain clauses of the Accord are of continuing nature i.e. safeguards for Assamese people, measures for economic development of Assam, and to prevent infiltration, etc and, therefore, need to be continuously monitored. The Government is committed to implement Assam Accord in letter and spirit. The details of action taken on various clauses of Assam Accord are given in the enclosed Statement.

(e) In view of (c) and (d) above, does not arise.

Statement

Clause-wise Implementation Status of Assam Accord

Clause 5.1—Foreigners Issue

- i. The Citizenship Act, 1955, Citizenship Rules, 1956 and the Foreigners (Tribunals) Order, 1964, were amended.
- ii. Special Registration Officers have been appointed. Sanction was also accorded for the creation of 1280 additional posts under the Prevention of Infiltration of Foreigners Schemes.
- iii. Thirty two Foreigners Tribunals have been constituted in the State of Assam under the provisions of Foreigners Act, 1946 for detention of illegal migrants/foreigners.

Clause 6 and 7—Safeguards and Economic Development

- iv. A Cultural Centre called the Srimanta Sankaradeva Kalashetra Complex has been established.
- v. Sri Jyoti Chitran (Film) Studio at Guwahati has been modernized. Additional Rs. 10 crore has been sanctioned for further expansion/modernization of the Institute in the financial year 2006-07.

- vi. Numaligarh Refinery was set up at a cost of nearly Rs. 2,500 crores.
- vii. Two Central Universities, one at Tejpur, and the other at Silchar, have been set up.
- viii. An IIT has been set up at Guwahati.
- ix. Kathalguri power Project (60 MW) has been commissioned.
- x. Work for implementation of Assam Gas Cracker Project has started.

Clause 8 to 14—other issues

- xi. The power to issue citizenship certificates now vests only with the Central Government.
- xii. Border fencing of 191.47 Kms out of 223.81 Kms sanctioned has been completed on Assam-Bangladesh border. 236.62 Kms of border roads have been completed.
- xiii. Ex-gratia payment was made to the next of kin of persons killed in the course of the agitation.
- xiv. Disciplinary cases against employees in connection with the agitation were reviewed.
- xv. In the matter of recruitment, orders were issued by the Central Government for relaxation in upper age limit upto a maximum of six years in the case of candidates who had ordinarily resided in the State of Assam during the period 1.1.1980 to 15.8.1985.
- xvi. NSA detainees detained in connection with agitation were released.

[Translation]

Recognition of Teachers Education Institutions

307. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Council of Teacher Education accords recognition to the Teachers Education Institutions;

(b) if so, the details of Teacher Education Institutions accorded recognition during each of last three years, State-wise/Union Territory-wise;

(c) the details of basic requirement for according recognition to any of the Teachers Education Institutions;

(d) whether these recognized institutions are being monitored;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether there is any provision to cancel the recognition in case of irregularities; and

(g) if so, the details of such institutions where irregularities have been detected during each of the last three years and the action taken against them, State-wise and Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. The details of the number of institutions which have been accorded recognition by the NCTE, State-wise/Union Territory-wise, for the last 3 years are given in the enclosed Statement-I. The norms for recognition of institutions is laid down in the NCTE Act, 1993 and the Rules and Regulations notified by the NCTE from time to time. New regulations called the National Council for Teacher Education (Recognition Norms and Procedure) Regulations have been notified by NCTE in December, 2005 and Gazetted on 13.1.2006. These norms, *inter-alia*, cover conditions relating to financial resources, accommodation, library, laboratory, other physical infrastructure and qualified staff including teaching and non-teaching personnel, etc.

The Regional Committees of NCTE located at Bangalore, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar and Jaipur grant recognition after they are satisfied that the applicant institution had fulfilled the requisite norms.

(d) and (e) As per Section 13 of the NCTE Act, the Council may cause inspection of a recognised institution in order to ascertain whether the recognized institution is functioning in accordance with the provisions of the NCTE Act.

The State-wise numbers of institutions inspected under Section 13 of the NCTE Act during the last three years given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(f) and (g) Section 17 of the NCTE Act provides that where the Regional Committees of NCTE are, on its own motion or on any representation received from any person, satisfied that a recognized institution has contravened any of the provisions of the Act or rules, regulations, orders made or issued thereunder, or any condition subject to which recognition has been granted or permission has been given for additional intake for a particular course, they may withdraw recognition of such recognized institution.

The details of courses in respect of which irregularities were detected and consequently recognition was withdrawn, during the last 3 year, are given in the enclosed Statement-III.

Statement I

Sl.No.	Name of the States/UTs	No. of recognized institution as on		
		31.3.2004	31.3.2005	31.3.2006
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	02	02	02
2.	Andhra Pradesh	393	414	437
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	02	03	07
4.	Assam	28	39	68
5.	Bihar	28	30	38
6.	Chandigarh	06	07	07

1	2	3	4	5
7.	Chhattisgarh	41	50	59
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	—	—	—
9.	Daman and Diu	02	02	02
10.	Delhi	53	67	76
11.	Goa	03	06	07
12.	Gujarat	^ 338	442	585
13.	Haryana	71	87	92
14.	Himachal Pradesh	45	47	50
15.	Jharkhand	20	27	57
16.	Karnataka	280	771	1102
17.	Kerala	171	319	361
18.	Lakshadweep	—	—	—
19.	Madhya Pradesh	166	220	407
20.	Maharashtra	592	645	881
21.	Manipur	06	06	14
22.	Meghalaya	10	10	11
23.	Mizoram	04	04	04
24.	Nagaland	07	07	07
25.	Orissa	85	87	88
26.	Pondicherry	07	13	39
27.	Punjab	49	68	138
28.	Rajasthan	123	129	211
29.	Sikkim	04	04	04
30.	Tamil Nadu	156	325	719
31.	Tripura	05	07	09
32.	Uttarakhand (Uttaranchal)	11	14	49
33.	Uttar Pradesh	446	651	782
34.	West Bengal	43	47	56
Total		3197	4550	6369

Statement II*Name of Institutions Inspected under Section 13 of the NCTE Act during the last three years*

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Number of Institutions
1.	Andhra Pradesh	69
2.	Karnataka	22
3.	Gujarat	29
4.	Maharashtra	53
5.	Madhya Pradesh	16
6.	Uttar Pradesh	270
Total		459

Statement III

Sl. No.	Name of the States/UTs	No. of courses withdrawn recognition		
		2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	—	—	—
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1	—	—
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—
4.	Assam	8	3	—
5.	Bihar	—	—	—
6.	Chandigarh	—	—	—
7.	Chhattisgarh	—	—	—
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	—	—	—
9.	Daman and Diu	—	—	—
10.	Delhi	—	—	2
11.	Goa	—	—	—
12.	Gujarat	—	—	—
13.	Haryana	—	3	—
14.	Himachal Pradesh	—	—	—
15.	Jharkhand	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5
16.	Karnataka	—	18	—
17.	Kerala	—	13	—
18.	Lakshadweep	—	—	—
19.	Madhya Pradesh	—	—	—
20.	Maharashtra	—	—	—
21.	Manipur	—	—	—
22.	Meghalaya	—	—	—
23.	Mizoram	—	—	—
24.	Nagaland	—	—	—
25.	Orissa	—	1	—
26.	Pondicherry	—	—	—
27.	Punjab	—	—	—
28.	Rajasthan	—	10	1
29.	Sikkim	—	—	—
30.	Tamil Nadu	—	4	—
31.	Tripura	—	—	—
32.	Uttarakhand (Uttaranchal)	—	—	—
33.	Uttar Pradesh	—	1	5
34.	West Bengal	—	—	—
Total		9	53	8

[English]

Scholarship Scheme for Minority and Economically Weaker Sections

308. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently revised scholarships for SC/ST/OBCs/minorities and economically weaker sections;

(b) if so, the details thereof:

(c) the steps taken to provide easy availability of scholarship to other categories of beneficiaries;

(d) whether the Government has launched scholarship scheme for minorities and economically weaker sections of the country for pursuing professional and technical courses at undergraduate and postgraduate levels; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the target fixed during the Xth Plan period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENTT (SHRIMATI D.

PURANDESWARI: (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

Closure of Gold Mines

309. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of gold mines closed by the Union Government, State and Union Territory-wise;

(b) whether a large number of workers in these mines have been declared surplus;

(c) if so, the details thereof, mine-wise; and

(d) the steps taken for rehabilitation of such workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) Details of closed gold mines of Bharat Gold Mines Limited (BGML), a public sector undertaking under the administrative control of Ministry of Mines are as under:

Sl. No.	Name of State	Name of Mine
1.	Andhra Pradesh	(i) Old Bishanatham Mine
		(ii) Chigargunta Mines I and II
		(iii) Yeppamana Mine
2.	Karnataka	(iv) Nundrydroog Mine
		(v) Mysore Champion Amalgamated Mine

(b) to (d) At the time of closure of the company, *viz* BGML on 1.3.2001, there were 3580 employees on its rolls. In compliance of order dated 26.9.2003 of Hon'ble Karnataka High Court, Government has decided to invite global bids for sale of the assets of the BGML and to make counter offer to society/company floated by the co-operative society of ex-employees of BGML, at the highest bid received or the value of assets of the Company whichever is higher. This is subject to approval of Hon'ble Karnataka High Court (Company Court) and viability of the project. Company Application has been filed in the Hon'ble Karnataka High Court in this regard.

Quality of Cotton

310. SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the textile industry is affected adversely due to non-availability of good quality cotton;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to make good quality cotton available at reasonable price to the small and medium weavers/textile entrepreneurs;

(d) whether the Government is contemplating to provide subsidy or financial package to small weavers/textile entrepreneurs; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOAN): (a) No Sir,

(b) Question does not arise. Cotton cultivation in India has in the recent past shown significant improvement in varietal composition (as per staple length) in favour of medium and long staple varieties from predominantly short and medium staple cotton produced till 1980s.

(c) to (e) The Government of India has launched the Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC) in 2000 with the objectives of improvement in the production, productivity and quality of indigenous cotton and reduction in the cost of cultivation in a Mission mode. The TMC scheme has been continued during the 11th Five Year Plan till 31.3.2009. In order to facilitate modernization of weaving sector including small weavers/textile entrepreneurs, the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUF'S) has been extended in the 11th Five Year Plan. A Public-Private Partnership (PPP) based scheme *viz*. Scheme for Integrated Textile Park (SITP) was introduced in 2005 to provide the industry with world-class infrastructure facilities for setting up textile units, including weaving and other segments and meeting international environmental and social standards. The scheme is applicable throughout the country.

*(English)***Soda Ash Industry**

311. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Soda Ash Industry is facing competition with the increase in import of soda ash in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons for import of Soda ash at lower rate of import duty; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to protect Soda Ash Industry from such competition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Deployment of Para Military Forces

312. SHRI K. S. RAO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any request from State Governments for deployment of para military forces to tackle and control the local disturbance during each of the last three years, State-wise; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government against each request?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) The Central Para Military Forces (CPMFs) are deployed in aid of Civil authorities to maintain public order on the request of the State Governments received from time to time. It is not in public interest to indicate further details in this regard.

Representation of SCs, STs and OBCs in Government Offices

313. SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the categories of SCs, STs and OBCs are adequately represented in the Ministry and its subordinate offices;

(b) if so, the details thereof, category-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government has taken any steps to fill the backlog of vacant posts; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the time by which the vacant posts are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Export of Jewellery

314. SHRI HITEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total value of jewellery exported during each of the last two years, year-wise;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of jewellery; and

(c) the export promotion schemes being implemented in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Value of jewellery exported during 2005-06 and 2006-07 are as under:

Year	Export value (In Million US \$)
2005-2006	3882.17
2006-2007	5209.32

Source: Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council.

(b) The Government has taken the following steps to boost the export of jewellery:

(i) Export of gems and jewellery has been identified as a thrust sector in the Foreign Trade Policy (2004-09).

- (ii) Import of gold of 8 carat and above allowed under the replenishment scheme subject to the import being accompanied by an Assay Certificate specifying the purity, weight and alloy content.
- (iii) Duty Free import entitlement of consumables, tools, machinery and equipments for Gold and Platinum equal to 1% of FOB value of exports during the preceding financial year.
- (iv) Duty free import entitlement of gems & jewellery samples in a financial year upto Rs. 300,000/- or 0.25% of the average of last three years export turnover of gems and jewellery items, whichever is lower.
- (v) Duty free re-import entitlement for rejected jewellery upto 2% of the FOB value of exports in preceding year.
- (vi) Import of precious metal scrap/used jewellery allowed for melting, refining and re-export of jewellery. However, such import will not be allowed through hand baggage.
- (vii) Gems & Jewellery exporters allowed to export jewellery on consignment basis as per Rules.
- (viii) Gems & Jewellery exporters allowed to export cut and polished precious and semi-precious stones for treatment and re-import as per Rules.
- (ix) Import duty on cut and polished diamonds has been abolished.
- (x) Import duty on unworked corals has been reduced from 30% to 10%.
- (xi) Import duty on rough synthetic stones has been reduced from 12.5% to 5%.

(c) The Government provides financial assistance for promoting Indian gems and jewellery products through advertisement, publicity and participation in international fairs, organizing buyer-seller meets, etc under Market Development Assistance (MDA) and Market Access Initiative (MAI) Schemes of the Department of Commerce.

[Translation]

Introduction of IFM Course in KVS

315. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new vocational course viz. 'IFM' has been introduced at senior secondary level in Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of schools where IFM course has been introduced so far;

(d) whether any assistance is being sought for this field; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (e) A new vocational course on Financial Market Management (FMM) has been introduced at Senior Secondary level in some selected schools affiliated to Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) from the academic session 2007-08 in collaboration with National Stock Exchange (NSE), Mumbai with facility for joint certification. The course has been introduced, in 74 schools affiliated to CBSE including 20 Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs).

[English]

Selection of Candidates for PGP in IIMs

316. SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has brought changes in the criteria for selecting candidates for PGP in the Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) for 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding IIMs using multiple parameters for such selection; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The criteria for selecting candidates for PGP in the IIMs is decided by the

Institutes. Government does not interfere in the academic autonomy of these institutes.

Underground Mining

317. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the underground mining in the country is below its potential;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps to be taken to increase underground mining in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) to (c) As per information furnished by Indian Bureau of Mines, mining is a site specific activity dependent on the occurrence of mineral. In view of safety and economic viability of mining of such minerals, opencast method of mining is preferred over underground mining in our country. With the enunciation of the National Mineral Policy in 1993, "the mineral sector has been liberalized and economic parameters play a very important role in selecting the method of mining. It is anticipated that in future as the depth of opencast mines will reach its economically feasible limit, underground mining is likely to increase.

Allocation of Funds under Head Contingency Allowance

318. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of amount allocated and spent by the premier institutions viz. Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and Indian Institute of Sciences (IISs) under the head contingency allowance during the last three years;
- (b) whether the allocated money is properly spent by the institutions;
- (c) if not, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the remedial action proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Assistance to Textile Sector

319. SHRI M. APPADURAI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has studied the major problems being faced by the textile industry of late;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has extended any assistance to the textile industry during each of the last three years;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOAN): (a) and (b) As per the report of the Working Group on Textiles and Jute Industry for the 11th Five Year Plan (2007-2012) the major problems being faced by the textiles industry include:

- (i) Structural weaknesses in weaving and processing.
 - (ii) Highly fragmented and technology backward textiles processing sector.
 - (iii) Highly fragmented garment industry.
 - (iv) Except spinning all other segments are predominantly in the decentralized sector.
 - (v) The rigid labour laws;
 - (vi) Inadequate capacity of the domestic textiles machinery manufacturing sector;
 - (vii) Big demand and supply gap in the training facilities in textiles sector;
 - (viii) Infrastructural bottlenecks in terms of power, utility, road transport, etc.
- (c) and (d) Important measures taken by the Government in the recent past to help the textiles sector are given in the Statement.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement

- (i) To improve the productivity and quality of cotton for manufacture and export of competitive downstream textiles products, the Government launched the Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC). The Mission has achieved success in increasing the productivity and reducing contamination through the upgradation of cotton market yards and the modernisation of Ginning & Pressing factories.
- (ii) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) was launched to facilitate the modernisation and upgradation of the textiles industry, in both the organised and unorganized sector. The Scheme has been further fine tuned to increase investment in the targeted sub-sectors of the textiles industry. The cost of machinery has been further brought down by reducing the customs duty on imports.
- (iii) For the speedy modernisation of the textiles processing sector, Government introduced, w.e.f. 20.04.05, a credit linked capital subsidy scheme @10% under TUFS, in addition to the existing 5% interest reimbursement.
- (iv) To provide the textiles industry with world-class infrastructure facilities to set up-their units which meet international environmental and social standards, a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) based Scheme known as the "Scheme for Integrated Textile Park (SITP)" was introduced in August 2005.
- (v) In the 2004-05 Budget, the entire textiles sector, except for manmade fibre and filament yarn, was provided an optional exemption from excise duty. In the 2005-06 Budget, Central Value-Added Tax (CENVAT) on Polyester Filament Yarn was reduced from 24% to 16%. These modifications in fiscal levies were aimed at attracting more investment for the modernization of the textiles sector.
- (vi) To facilitate the import of state-of-the-art machinery to make Indian products internationally competitive in the post quota regime, the customs duty on textiles machinery was brought down to 10% in the 2005-06 Budget. This however did not include 23 items appearing in List 49, which attract a Basic Customs Duty (BCD) of 15%. The concessional duty of 5% continues on most of the machinery items.
- (vii) In the 2005-06 Budget, 30 items of knitting and knitwear were de-reserved. This was envisaged to facilitate the setting up of large sized modernized units to meet international competition.
- (viii) In the Budget of 2006-07, the following important announcements for the textiles sector were made:
- Reduction in excise duty on all man-made fibre yarn and filament yarn from 16 per cent to 8 per cent.
 - Reduction in import duty on all man-made fibres and yarns from 15 per cent to 10 per cent.
 - Reduction in import duty on raw materials such as DMT, PTA and MEG from 15 per cent to 10 per cent.
 - Provision of Rs. 189 crores during 2006-07 for the Scheme for Integrated Textiles Parks (SITP).
- (ix) Government launched the Debt Restructuring Scheme w.e.f. Sept., 2003 with the principal objective to permit banks to lend to the textiles sector at an 8-9% rate of interest.
- (x) In order to cater to the growing skilled manpower requirements at shop floor level, Government provides assistance to strengthen existing and open new Apparel Training and Design Centres (ATDCs).
- (xi) Government has allowed 100% Foreign Direct Investment in the textiles sector under the automatic route.
- (xii) Government has de-reserved the readymade garments, hosiery and knitwear from SSI sector so that large scale investment is encouraged in these sectors.
- (xiii) The National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) was set up to provide a leadership role in sensitizing the industry to the concept of value addition by inducting trained professionals to manage the industry. This has resulted in an increased demand for trained professionals in various sectors servicing the industry.

(xiv) To take a serious look at Fashion Education in the changing business context of World Economies, the Government is taking steps to:

- * Establish an institution of National Excellence to impart Fashion Business Education with International Benchmarking.
- * Appoint a nodal agency to standardize and benchmark Fashion Business Education in the country.
- * Set up an Apex Body to train teachers/trainers imparting Fashion Business Education in the country.

Private Schools Affiliated to CBSE

320. SHRI TUKARAM GANGADHAR GADAKH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of private schools affiliated to CBSE in the country particularly in Maharashtra during each of the last three years, State and Union Territory-wise; and

(b) the number of these schools situated in rural areas, State and Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) A Statement indicating the State-wise number of schools newly affiliated to Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) during the academic year 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 is enclosed. As on 30.06.2007 the total number of private schools affiliated to CBSE was 5998. Segregated data in respect of rural and urban schools are not available with CBSE.

Statement

State/UT-wise Number of Private Schools affiliated with the CBSE during last three years

Sl. No.	State Name	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	05	08	02
2.	Assam	04	08	10
3.	Bihar Including Jharkhand	32	51	15
4.	Gujarat	08	14	16
5.	Haryana	64	56	22
6.	Himachal Pradesh	17	04	11
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	04	05	03
8.	Karnataka	25	23	21
9.	Kerala	90	83	108
10.	Madhya Pradesh	43	38	44
11.	Maharashtra	19	16	27
12.	Manipur	01	03	07
13.	Meghalaya	01	00	00
14.	Nagaland	03	01	00

1	2	3	4	5
15.	Orissa	11	08	00
16.	Punjab	72	52	42
17.	Rajasthan	38	33	31
18.	Sikkim	01	00	00
19.	Tamil Nadu	10	07	07
20.	Tripura	01	01	02
21.	Uttar Pradesh	81	99	78
22.	Arunachal Pradesh	02	02	05
23.	West Bengal	05	07	04
24.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	—	01	01
25.	Chandigarh	01	01	04
26.	Delhi	58	45	33
27.	Chhattisgarh	10	09	07
28.	Uttaranchal	25	16	10
	Total	631	591	510

Manpower of BSF

321. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the existing manpower in Border Security Force (BSF) is sufficient for effective discharge of duties on the borders as well as in counter-insurgency;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to increase more battalions in its force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (d) The requirement of manpower for border guarding and counter-insurgency duties is regularly assessed and decisions taken regarding raising of additional Companies. 157 Companies (equivalent to 22½ Battalions) have been raised by Border Security Force since 2001.

Cessation of Operation in India by CFA

322. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has asked the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) to cease its operations in India;

(b) if so, the reasons and details thereof;

(c) the time since when the CFA has been in existence in India and the number of students acquired degrees from CFA; and

(d) the impact of the ruling of AICTE on the future of the students acquired degrees from CFA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Chartered

Financial Analyst (CFA) had not taken any approval from the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) for conducting this programme. The Guwahati High Court (Tripura Bench) had directed AICTE to take appropriate action as per the regulations notified by the Council. Accordingly a show cause notice was issued on 22.03.2007 to the Institution to clarify the reason for not taking approval from AICTE. The response received from the institution was considered and not found satisfactory. The AICTE has advised the institute to seize its operation in India. CFA Institute & another have filed a Writ petition (Civil) No. 4037 in the High Court of Delhi on 24th May, 2007 and obtained permission to conduct the examinations in June, 2007.

(c) As per the AICTE, no information regarding the exact date from which the CFA Institution has been in existence and the number of students who acquired degrees is available with them.

(d) Since CFA Institution has not obtained approval from AICTE, the degrees acquired from CFA are not recognized by the Council.

[Translation]

Powerloom Centres

323. SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme has been prepared to increase the number of powerloom centres in those States having less than 1000 powerloom centres;

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

(c) whether any central assistance is provided to increase the number of powerlooms; and

(d) if so, the time by when the said amount is likely to be released by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) and Scheme for Integrated Textiles Parks (SITP) are two major schemes of this Ministry focusing technology upgradation

and infrastructure development including assistance for powerloom sector.

(d) The above two schemes are on-going schemes.

[English]

Growing Naxalism

324. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some States are affected by violence, terrorism and naxalism activities in their respective States;

(b) if so, the details thereof State-wise; and

(c) The steps taken by the Government to curb such activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) State-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) The concerned State Governments take appropriate measures to combat and control violence, terrorism and naxalite activities in the respective States. The Central Government supplements and coordinates the efforts and resources of the concerned State Governments on both the security and the development fronts. On the security front, the measures *inter alia* include, deployment of Central Para Military Forces to assist the State Police Forces, sanctioning of India Reserve battalions, assistance under the Scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces and the Security Related Expenditure Scheme, assistance from defence forces in the areas of equipment, training and rescue operations, meeting training needs of State Police Forces through the Central Para Military Forces and Bureau of Police Research and Development and assistance in the area of Intelligence gathering, sharing and use. On the development front, the measures *inter alia* include assistance under the Backward District Initiative (BDI) component of Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana (RSVY), Scheme of Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF), Prime Minister's Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) and a large number of development schemes of various Central Government Ministries/Departments. In addition, the

Central Government has also taken measures for strengthening border management and for bilateral and multi-lateral cooperation in areas of mutual assistance in criminal matters.

Statement

Name of the State	2006		2007 (as on 31.7.2007)	
	Incidents	Deaths	Incidents	Deaths
1. State-wise extent of naxal violence				
Andhra Pradesh	183	47	82	26
Bihar	107	45	87	39
Chhattisgarh	715	388	399	259
Jharkhand	310	124	259	71
Madhya Pradesh	6	1	8	2
Maharashtra	98	42	63	13
Orissa	44	9	47	12
Uttar Pradesh	11	5	4	2
West Bengal	23	17	12	2
Kerala	2	—	4	—
Karnataka	10	—	6	5
Total	1509	678	971	431
2. State-wise extent of terrorist violence in North East				
Assam	413	196	302	193
Meghalaya	38	6	11	5
Tripura	87	28	64	13
Arunachal Pradesh	16	—	18	9
Nagaland	309	31	171	28
Mizoram	5	—	1	—
Manipur	498	124	340	108
Total	1366	385	907	356
3. Extent of terrorist violence in Jammu and Kashmir				
Jammu and Kashmir	1667	540	672	171

Note: Deaths include civilians and security forces killed.

[Translation]

Enrolment in Higher Education

325. SHRI SURAJ SINGH:
DR. CHINTA MOHAN:
SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:
SHRI P. MOHAN:

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

- (a) the percentage of student population pursuing higher education in the country;
- (b) whether the Government has chalked out any plan to improve enrolment of students during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has fixed any target upto the year 2012;
- (e) if so, the plans to achieve the said target; and
- (f) the number of additional degree colleges set up during the years 2005-06 and 2006-07 for the expansion of higher education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) The Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) for higher education is at present around 10%, which is proposed to be raised to 15% during XIth Five Year Plan period. Various schemes of development assistance to eligible colleges and universities for improving quality of higher education are being implemented through the University Grants Commission (UGC). These schemes aim, *inter-alia*, at improving curriculum, strengthening infrastructure, orientation and in-service training of the teachers and encourage research. The UGC provides Special Development Grant for universities in Backward Areas. It is also proposed to assist State Governments, to incentivise them to establish one college in each district which has a low Gross Enrolment Ratio, during the XI Plan, subject to availability of resources.

(f) While the Central Government do not establish Colleges, according to the UGC, the number of Colleges including Colleges recognized under Section 2(f) and 12(B) of the UGC Act for the purposes of eligibility for financial assistance has gone up from 17,625 during 2004-05 to 18,064 during 2005-06.

[English]

Border Violence

326. SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any report on border violence along the LoC of India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government to regularise law and order problems of the border areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the report of the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir, the infiltrating terrorists with support from across resort to firing and violence wherever they are detected and challenged. During 2007 (till August 10) 33 infiltration bids have been foiled in which 57 terrorists eliminated.

(c) The Government has initiated dialogue process with its counterparts across to address all the issues including the menace of terrorism. The ceasefire on LoC/ Border is holding well and has made the life of people residing in these areas safe and comfortable.

Polytechnic Education

327. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has assessed the need for technical manpower in the country in the coming years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to boost the polytechnic education in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken by the Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) There is a need to establish more Polytechnics in the country as the growth of Technical Institutions in Polytechnics & Degree Engineering Colleges has been non-uniform. At present, the student intake in Diploma Institutions is about 2.65 lac, while the student intake in Degree Engineering Colleges is about 5.82 lac. Therefore, in order to reduce the imbalance of degree and diploma intake, the Government is giving boost to Polytechnic Education during 11th Five Year Plan by starting more number of Polytechnics. In the first instance, steps have already been taken for establishment of new Polytechnics in certain Specially Identified Districts in the country. All India Council for Technical Education has also relaxed the infrastructure and other requirements for establishment of new polytechnics in order to boost private participation in polytechnic education.

[Translation]

Transfer Policy in KVs

328. SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL:
SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:

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

(a) whether there is any transfer policy for Keridriya Vidyalayas; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof of teaching and non-teaching employees working in Keridriya Vidyalayas alongwith the date since when it is in force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The salient features of the existing transfer policy of teaching and non-teaching employees working in Kendriya Vidyalayas effective from 14.03.2006 are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

KVs New Transfer Guidelines w.e.f. 14.03.2006

(As Amended from Time to Time)

The Salient Features are:

1. The objectives of the Sangathan's Policy have been spelt out by making it loud and clear that available staff will be deployed in an optimum manner in the best interest of the students in Hard and Very Hard stations and also to maximize the overall satisfaction of the employees.
2. All vital/useful information has made available on Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan's website (www.kvsangathan.nic.in), on 05.12.2006. Amendments made for time to time are also being notified.
3. An element of counseling has been introduced so that teachers get opportunity to bring their problems/difficulties/choice to the notice of the competent authority.
4. Allocation of posts for Kendriya Vidyalayas and relocation of excess staff are done after inviting applications of willing teachers and counseling.
5. Available vacancies are displayed on the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan website.
6. Any vacant post for which there are no takers in any part of the country will be offered to willing candidates till 31st August.
7. One tenure posting of male teacher/officer and non-teaching staff in the rank of Superintendent and above in North Eastern Region including Sikkim/A&N Islands/Hard and Very Hard stations will be made mandatory within 35 years of age as on 31st March of the year.
8. The request of direct recruit and promotee for posting to Hard Station/Very Hard Station, North Eastern Region (including Sikkim)/ A&N Islands will be considered throughout the year irrespective of the period he has completed at his place of posting.
9. Keeping in view the difficulties/problems of lady teachers who are posted more than 500 Kms

away from their home town they have been assigned separate entitlement points so that they are placed better in the priority list.

10. In order to avoid any confusion regarding date of submission and receipt of transfer application, issue of transfer orders etc., the calendar of activities has been specified.
11. As a measure of decentralization, the inter-regional transfers are considered and finalized by the Regional Transfer Committee (RTC) of the Region.

[English]

FDI in Retail Sector

329. SHRI SWADESH CHAKRABORTTY:
SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY:
SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:
SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has undertaken any study to allow FDI in the retail sector in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the study report and steps taken by the Government to regulate the entry of FDI into retail trade sector;

(c) the details of investment made by the FDI in the retail sector/industry during each of the last three years;

(d) whether the Government has assessed the impact of said investment;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government is considering to bring some changes in the various existing laws such as land acquisition, etc.

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the steps taken by the Government to safeguard the interest of small retailer of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY

OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) Government has recently instituted a study to assess the impact of organized retailing on unorganized retail trade through Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER). The final report is yet to be submitted by the ICRIER.

(c) Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) was allowed up to 51% in Single Brand Retail Trade in February, 2006. Till date 17 approvals involving an investment of US\$ 3.3 million have been granted by the Government. However, as per data provided by Reserve Bank of India, no inflows have been received in Single Brand Retail Trade.

(d) and (e) The policy on FDI in Single Brand Retail was allowed in February, 2006 and till May 2007 no foreign investment has been reported in the sector. FDI like any other investment not only brings in capital but also provides access to modern technology and best practices.

(f) and (g) Indian laws are subject to periodical review with a view to update and harmonise them with the needs of socio-economic development of the country.

(h) Government remains committed to initiating, where necessary, suitable measures for safeguarding the legitimate interests of all sections of society.

[Translation]

Patents on Margosa, Basmati rice and Turmeric

330. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR:
PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:
DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Patents for margosa (neem), Basmati rice and turmeric (Haldi) have been owned by foreign countries;

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

(c) the names of company which have obtained the said patents, country-wise;

(d) whether the multinational companies of America and Japan have staked their claims of the intellectual property rights for the germicidal, biochemical and medicinal qualities of margosa (neem);

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the reaction of the Government in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (e) Intellectual property rights, including patents, are granted under the sovereign prerogative of countries according to their respective laws and have territorial effect only, that is, they are effective only in the country of grant. Patents are granted to persons including government and not to countries.

According to section 3(j) of the Patents Act, 1970, plants in whole or any part thereof other than micro-organisms but including seeds, varieties and species and essentially biological processes for production or propagation of plants are not patentable. As per section 3(c) of the Act, the mere discovery of any living or non-living substance occurring in nature is also not patentable. However, patents are granted for processes used for preparation of products from patent parts which have medicinal or germicidal or insecticidal values.

No patent on Basmati rice has been granted by the Patent Office. Four patents relating to neem are owned by foreign entities, of which Spice Science Foundation, Neem Pharmeco and Rohm and Haas belong to the United States of America (USA) and Trifollo M GmbH belongs to Germany. Two patents on activity relating to germicidal values of turmeric are owned by Johnson & Johnson Ltd. of the USA.

(f) In order to protect bio-resources, provisions have been made under Section 10(4) of the Patents Act, 1970 for mandatory disclosure of source and geographical origin of the biological material used in the invention while applying for patents in India. Non-disclosure or wrongful disclosure of the same is a ground for opposition and revocation of patent, if granted, under Section 64 of the Patent Act, 1970.

In order to protect traditional knowledge from being patented, provisions have been made under sections 25 and 64 of the Patents Act, 1970 to include anticipation of invention by available local knowledge, including oral knowledge, as one of the grounds for opposition as also for revocation. Further, as per section 3(p) of the Act, an

invention which, in effect, is traditional knowledge or which is an aggregation or duplication of known properties of traditionally known component or components is not patentable.

Garment Import

331. DR. CHINTA MOHAN:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total production, demand and supply of garments in the country during each of the last three years;

(b) whether there is any gap between demand and supply of garments;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether garments are being imported to fulfill the demand in the country;

(e) if so, the value and quantity of garments imported during each of the last three years; and

(f) the percentage of demand of garments in the country that has been fulfilled by importing garments during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN): (a) to (c) The production in apparel sector during 2005-06 was of the order of Rs. 93328 crore including Rs. 37208 crore for exports and Rs. 56120 crore for the domestic market. No definite figure of any gap between demand and supply of garments can be indicated in the absence of official estimates of demand of garments in the country. However, there have been no reports of shortage in the supply of garments in the country.

(d) to (f) Imports of readymade garments during 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 (April to December) have been of the order of Rs. 149.54 crore (7705000 pieces), Rs. 251.59 crore (8133000 pieces) and Rs. 238.96 crore (8816000 pieces) respectively. The total imports of ready made garments during the last three years are thus less than one per cent of the total domestic production of apparel during 2005-06 alone.

*[English]***Performance of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan**

332. SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY:
SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:
SHRI B. MAHTAB:

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

- (a) whether the performance of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan has been unsatisfactory;
- (b) if so, the steps taken to achieve universal elementary education to all by 2010; and
- (c) the details of the action to monitor implementation of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan has made steady progress in enhancing enrolment and in reducing the number of children who are out of school in the 6-14 years age group. The Gross Enrolment Ratio at elementary level has risen from 81.60 % in 2001 to 93.54% in 2004 and the out of school children have reduced from 4.4. crore in 2001 to 75 lakh in 2006.

(c) A rigorous system of monitoring of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan has been put in place which includes, *inter alia*, monthly and quarterly progress reports and review meetings, furnishing of annual elementary school

statistics, field monitoring by 40 independent monitoring institutions, six monthly independent Review Missions and concurrent financial reviews.

*[Translation]***Foreign Trade Act**

333. SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL:
SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Director General of Foreign Trade has conducted any enquiry about Section 8 of Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act, 1992 during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years;
- (c) the number of companies and firms found guilty; and
- (d) the action taken/proposed to be taken against the companies/firms found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d) A Statement is Annexed.

Statement

S.No.	Name of the firm	Action Taken
1	2	3
1.	M/s. Dolphin Associates, Thane	Importer Exporter Code (IEC) Cancelled
2.	M/s. Sai Enterprises, Mumbai	Importer Exporter code Cancelled
3.	M/s. Tit Bit Foods (India) Ltd,	Show Cause Notice Issued
4.	M/s. Brilliant International	Suspended Importer Exporter code for one month
5.	M/s. Anu Nuts & Foods (India) Pvt. Ltd.,	Show Cause Notice Issued
6.	M/s. LMJ International	Show Cause Notice Issued

1	2	3
7.	M/s. Roma Impex	Show Cause Notice issued
8.	M/s. UNO Overseas	Show Cause Notice issued
9.	M/s. Priya Enterprises	Show Cause Notice issued
10.	M/s. Navakar Agro Industries Ltd.	Show Cause Notice issued
11.	M/s. Srinivas Chemical Industries Pvt. Ltd	Suspended Importer Exporter code and also imposed penalty 10 lakhs
12.	M/s. Raycon Distributors, Baroda	Suspended Importer Exporter code for one year and also imposed penalty 10 lakhs
13.	M/s. CNC Teenics Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad	Imposed penalty of Rs.5 lakhs.
14.	M/s. Raycon Distributors, Baroda	Imposed penalty of Rs. 10 lakhs
15.	M/s. KRBL Ltd.,	Show Cause Notice issued
16.	M/s. Jet King International	Show Cause Notice issued
17.	M/s. Kohinoor Foods	Show Cause Notice issued
18.	M/s. Genesis Organics Pvt. Ltd., Baroda	Suspended IEC code for six months and also imposed Penalty of Rs. 10 lakhs.

[English]

Coastal Security

334. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:
SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI:
SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL:
SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any revised proposal to upgrade/set up additional coastal police stations and also sanction of additional amount for coastal security has been received from the State Governments;

(b) if so, the details thereof and present status of the proposals, State-wise;

(c) the outcome of recently held meeting of secretaries of coastal States and Union Territories regarding stepping up of coastal security;

(d) whether the Government proposes to set up full fledged police stations on each port, State and Union Territory-wise;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken to set up such police stations on these coastal ports not having marine police station?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) and (b) A proposal has been received from the Government of Gujarat for increasing the number of Coastal Police Stations upto 40 as against the present provision of 10 under Coastal Security Scheme. However, there is no proposal to make any change on the components of assistance of the Coastal Security Scheme, which can be considered at the stage of review.

(c) In the review meeting held on 11.6.2007 on the Coastal Security Scheme it was decided to expedite sanctioning of man power, standard-rise the operating procedure for Coastal Police Stations, evolve a standard

pattern for Coastal Policing, expedite procurement of patrol boats and take measures for training and recruitment of staff.

(d) to (f) The Coastal Security Scheme provides for setting up of 73 Coastal Police Stations along the coastline of the country taking into consideration factors like vulnerability, existing arrangements and availability of jetty facilities. All the major ports have made security arrangements either through CISF or on their own. The minor ports are under the purview of State Government, who will take appropriate measures as per their security assessment.

Database of the Indian Patent Controller Office

335. ADV. SURESH KURUP:
DR. R. SENTHIL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding inaccessibility of the database of the Indian Patent Controller Office in its website;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to make the database more simple, accessible and user-friendly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) No written complaint has been received by the Patent Office. Some times it is possible that a temporary technical flaw in the retrieval system hampers access to the database. In the past, such flaws have been addressed on an immediate basis with the help of technical experts.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Patent Office Journal in which the patent applications are published is already available through the Patent Office website. Development of digitised patent database in simple, accessible and user-friendly format is a part of the on-going modernisation of the Intellectual Property Offices. Copies of documents relating to patent applications which are in public domain are available to the public on payment of prescribed fee.

Gold and Copper Deposits

336. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Geological Survey of India has discovered gold and copper deposits in Dausa district of Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Geological Survey of India (GSI) has estimated resources of Gold and Copper deposits in Dhani Basri area of Dausa (Dansa) District, Rajasthan. A resource of 3.2 million tonne of Gold-Copper ore of possible category at 1.50 ppm Au (gold) and 1.09% Cu (copper) of which 0.89 million tonne is of probable category with 1.04% Cu and 1.54 ppm Au has been discovered in Dhani-Basri area.

[Translation]

Police Reforms

337. SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID:
DR. RAJESH MISHRA:
SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR:
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:
SHRI GANESH SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the police has failed to maintain the law and order situation during the last many decades resulting in increased incidents of looting and killing of people;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether a meeting was held on 30.12.2006 under the Chairmanship of Union Home Minister with Chief Ministers of States and Administrators of Union Territories on the recommendations made by various Committees/ Commissions set up by the Government on Police Reforms;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof and the steps taken by the Government to improve the situation of law and order in the country;

(e) whether the Government has any proposal to bring new Bill on Police Reforms; and

(f) if so, the time by when this Bill is likely to be brought in?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India and therefore, the State Governments are primarily responsible for maintenance of law and order and providing security to the life and property of the people in their respective States. However, the Central Government has been providing financial assistance and technical support to the State Governments in terms of modern weaponry, mobility, communication equipment and also intelligence inputs to effectively counter security, related challenges.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. In the meeting, there was broad consensus in favour of pursuing further police reforms which were already under consideration and implementation and the need for bringing a new legislation on police by the States.

(e) and (f) Ministry of Home Affairs had set up an expert Committee to draft a new Police Act in September, 2005. The draft Model Police Act submitted by the Committee was sent to all States/Union Territories for consideration and appropriate action as 'Police' is a State subject. As for the Union Territories, the Ministry is considering enactment of a new legislation in place of existing enactments at the earliest possible, however, it is not possible to indicate a definite timeframe in this regard.

Diamond Industry

338. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:
SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total loss incurred by diamond industry during each of the last three years alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to promote the diamond industry and boost the export of diamond?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Most of the diamonds processed in India are exported. As per available information, there has been no loss as such; however, the exports have declined in the year 2006-07 due to reduction in trading activities in diamonds from Bonded Warehouses. Export figures of cut and polished diamonds during last three years are as follows:

(In Million US \$)		
2004-05	2005-06	2006-07 (Provisional)
11181.56	11829.74	10903.22

Source: Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council.

(b) The Government has taken the following steps to promote the diamond industry and boost the export of diamonds:

- (i) Export of gems and jewellery, which also includes cut and polished diamonds, has been identified as a thrust sector in the Foreign Trade Policy (2004-09).
- (ii) The licencing regime for rough diamonds has been abolished and customs duty on import of rough diamond has been reduced to 0%.
- (iii) Advance remittances without insisting on bank guarantee for import of rough diamonds has been permitted.
- (iv) Duty Free import entitlement of consumables, tools, machinery and equipments for Gold and Platinum equal to 1% of FOB value of exports during the preceding financial year.
- (v) Duty free import entitlement of gems & jewellery samples in a financial year upto Rs. 300,000/- or 0.25% of the average of last three years export turnover of gems and jewellery items, whichever is lower.
- (vi) Cutting and polishing has been treated as manufacturing for the purposes of exemption under Section 10A of the Income Tax Act.
- (vii) Gems & Jewellery exporters allowed to export cut and polished precious and semi-precious stones for treatment and re-import.

(viii) Import duty on cut and polished diamonds has been abolished.

(ix) Introduction of Income Tax on turnover basis for diamond units where profits declared are 8% or more of turnover.

Besides, the Government also extends financial assistance for various sales promotion activities undertaken in foreign markets.

[English]

Setting up of Universities and Educational Institutions

339. SHRI ANWAR HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received proposals from Foreign Nationals to set up universities and educational institutes in Assam and North East;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which the Government is encouraging Foreign Nationals in the Field of education in the North East?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESHWARI): (a) No such proposal has been received in the Ministry.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A Legislative proposal for regulating entry and operations of higher education institution has been prepared.

Review of Conditional Access System

340. DR. M. JAGANNATH:
SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN:

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

(a) whether the Government has reviewed the success of conditional Access System (CAS) in Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has received the report of the Committee to look into introduction of CAS;

(d) if so, the details then of;

(e) the details of recommendations made by the Committee;

(f) the time by when CAS is likely to be roll out in all over the country;

(g) whether problems are being faced by the CAS subscribers due to poor broadcast quality and cable operators failure to provide channels that subscribers have applied for under the pay channel category;

(h) if so, the details thereof; and

(i) the steps taken/to be taken by the Government to redress the problems faced by the CAS subscribers?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (i) CAS have been reviewed in consultation with TRAI. As on 31 July, 2007, 5.12 lacs SIBs have been reported to be deployed by Multi System Operators (MSOs)/cable operators. A meeting with the concerned State Government officials and nodal officers has been held in the ministry on 5 June, 2007. The State Governments have been requested to come up with their formal views on the extension of CAS and to get a survey conducted by a professional agency to understand the issues and problems, if any, faced by the viewers. TRAI has issued a regulation on Quality of Service to be provided by the Service providers in the CAS notified areas on 23 August 2006. To assess the implementation of Quality of Service norms, TRAI has engaged Broadcast Consultant India Limited (BECIL), a PSU under Government of India to carry out an audit of Quality of Service (QoS) performance in CAS notified areas.

(c) No Committee has been constituted by Government on implementation of CAS.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

(f) Extension of CAS requires evaluation of first phase & large scale consultations with Stakeholders, consumer organizations & States. Hence, no time limit can be given.

(g) and (h) TRAI has intimated that 47 complaints have been received by TRAI regarding poor quality and non-availability of channels selected by the subscribers. Out of these, 40 complaints have been resolved, and for the rest, the matter is being pursued with the service providers.

Pension to Freedom Fighters

341. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons covered under the freedom fighter pension scheme, as on date, State-wise;

(b) whether a large number of applications for freedom fighter pension are still pending with the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(d) the time by when the said pending applications are likely to be cleared;

(e) the amount of pension provided to the freedom fighters as on date separately;

(f) whether the Government has any proposal to increase the amount of pension of freedom fighters;

(g) if so, the time by when the said pension is likely to be increased;

(h) whether the Government has received any complaints about "Fake Freedom Fighters" claiming pension; and

(i) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken by the Government to check such cases in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) Since the inception of the Freedom Fighters' Pension Scheme in 1972, the Government has sanctioned pension to approximately 1.70 lakh freedom fighters and their eligible dependents till 31st July, 2007. State-wise break-

up of freedom fighters/dependents who have been sanctioned pension is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) to (d) Receipt and disposal of applications for grant of freedom fighters' pension is a continuing process. No record of applications, which are received directly from the applicants or without verification reports of the State Governments, is maintained. However, 310 applications, which have been received through the State Governments with their verification reports, were under process as on 31st July, 2007. A State-wise break-up of these cases is given in Statement-II. In addition, 438 cases of Maharashtra and 98 cases of Goa pertaining to Goa Liberation Movement (Phase-II) were also under process as on 31st July, 2007.

(e) The details of prescribed amount under various categories of pensions are given in the enclosed Statement-III.

(f) and (g) No such proposal is presently under consideration of the Government.

(h) and (i) Complaints containing allegation of bogus/ fraudulent claims for freedom fighter's pension are received from time to time. All such complaints are examined with reference to the applicable provisions of pension scheme in consultation with the concerned State Governments. In cases where the allegations are substantiated, the claims are rejected and if the pension has been sanctioned, the same is suspended/cancelled and recovery of pension ordered after following the prescribed procedure.

Statement

(As on 31.07.2007)

S. No.	State/Union Territory	Number of freedom fighters/dependents
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	14,572
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0
3.	Assam	4,438
4 and 5.	Bihar and Jharkhand	24,870
6.	Goa	1,427

1	2	3
7.	Gujarat	3,594
8.	Haryana	1,684
9.	Himachal Pradesh	617
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1,806
11.	Karnataka	10,083
12.	Kerala	3,206
13.	Madhya Pradesh and Chattisgarh	3,466
14.		
15.	Maharashtra	17,581
16.	Manipur	62
17.	Meghalaya	86
18.	Mizoram	04
19.	Nagaland	03
20.	Orissa	4,189
21.	Punjab	7,008
22.	Rajasthan	809
23.	Sikkim	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	4,097
25.	Tripura	887
26.	Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal	17,990
27.		
28.	West Bengal	22,479

1	2	3
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	03
30.	Chandigarh	89
31.	Dadra and Nagar Havelli	83
32.	Daman and Diu	33
33.	Lakshadweep	0
34.	NCT of Delhi	2,043
35.	Pondicherry	317
	Indian National Army (INA)	22,467
	Total	1,69,993

Statement II

S.No.	Name of State	Number of applications under process
1.	Andhra Pradesh	197
2.	Assam	19
3.	Bihar	3
4.	Gujarat	1
5.	Kerala	80
6.	Madhya Pradesh	3
7.	Tamil Nadu	4
8.	Puducherry	3
	Total	310

Statement III

S. No.	Category of Pension	Basic Pension (Rs.)	Dearness Relief (currently 58% of the basic pension) (Rs.)
1	2	3	4
(i)	Ex-Andaman political prisoners	7,330	4,251

1	2	3	4
(ii)	Freedom fighters who suffered outside British India (other than INA)	6,830	3,961
(iii)	Other freedom fighters (including INA)	6,330	3,671
(iv)	Widow/widower of above categories of freedom fighters	Entitlement same as of respective deceased freedom fighter	Entitlement same as of respective deceased freedom fighter
(v)	Unmarried & (unemployed daughters (maximum upto three such daughters)	1,500 each	870 each
(vi)	Mother and father	1,000 each	580 each

[*Translation*]

Educationally Backward Areas

542. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has identified the educationally backward States and districts especially rural people in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State and Union Territory-wise;

(c) whether the Government is contemplating to take steps for development of educationally backward States and districts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, State and Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI . D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) State-wise list of Special Focus Districts identified by the Ministry is enclosed as Statement. Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas scheme and the National Programme for Education of Girls at Elementary level as components of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, target educationally backward blocks. During the

XIth Plan, resources permitting, it is proposed to incentivise State Governments to establish one college in each district with a low Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in Higher Education, i.e. lower than the national average.

Statement I

S.No.	Districts
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	
1.	Adilabad
2.	Khammam
3.	Mahbubnagar
4.	Warrangal
Assam	
1.	Barpeta
2.	Darrang
3.	Dhemaji
4.	Dhubri
5.	Goalpara

1	2
6.	Karbi Anglong
7.	Kokrajhar
8.	Lakhimpur
9.	Morigaon
10.	Nalbari
11.	North Cachar Hills
12.	Sibsagar
13.	Sonitpur
14.	Tinsukhia
Bihar	
1.	Araria
2.	Darbhanga
3.	Katihar
4.	Madhepura
5.	Madhubani
6.	Muzaffarpur
7.	Paschim Champaran
8.	Purba Champaran
9.	Purnea
10.	Sheohar
11.	Sitamarhi
12.	Supaul
Chhattisgarh	
1.	Bastar
2.	Bilaspur
3.	Dantewara
4.	Jashpur
5.	Kanker
6.	Koriya

1	2
7.	Rajnandgaon
8.	Sarguja
Gujarat	
1.	Dangs
2.	Panchmahals
Himachal Pradesh	
1.	Chamba
2.	Kinnaur
3.	Lahaul and Spirit
Jharkhand	
1.	Deoghar
2.	Garwaha
3.	Giridih
4.	Godda
5.	Gumla
6.	Jamtara
7.	Latehar
8.	Lohardagga
9.	Palamau
10.	Sahebganj
11.	Saraikela
12.	Simdega
13.	West Singhbhum
Karnataka	
1.	Bidar
Kerala	
1.	Waynad
Madhya Pradesh	
1.	Balaghat
2.	Barwani

1	2
3.	Dewas
4.	Dindori
5.	Mandla
6.	Shahdol
7.	Sheopur
8.	Sidhi
9.	Umeria
10.	West Nimer (Khargone)
Maharashtra	
1.	Ahmednagar
2.	Chandrapur
3.	Dhule
4.	Gadchiroli
5.	Nanded
Manipur	
1.	Tamenlong
Meghalaya	
1.	East Garo Hills
Orissa	
1.	Balasore
2.	Boudh
3.	Gajapati
4.	Ganjam
5.	Kalahandi
6.	Kandhamal
7.	Keonjhar
8.	Koraput
9.	Mayurbhanj

1	2
10.	Nawarangpur
11.	Sambalpur
12.	Sundergarh
Rajasthan	
1.	Banswara
2.	Dungarpur
3.	Jaisalmer
4.	Sikar
Sikkim	
1.	North Sikkim
2.	South Sikkim
3.	West Sikkim
Tamil Nadu	
1.	Cuddalore
2.	Tiruvannamalai
Tripura	
1.	Dhalai
2.	North Tripura
3.	South Tripura
Uttar Pradesh	
1.	Barabanki
2.	Sitapur
West Bengal	
1.	Bankura
2.	North 24 Pargana
3.	Purulia
4.	West Midnapur

Technical Textile

343. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any policy in the 11th Five Year Plan for the manufacturing of technical textile;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has allocated any funds for technical textiles in the 11th Five Year Plan;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether growth rate for textile industry has been fixed at 16 per cent for the coming years; and

(f) if so, the measures taken to achieve this target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) to (d) Yes sir. The Government of India has formulated a Scheme for Growth and Development of Technical Textiles (SGDTT) to promote indigenous manufacture of technical textiles to exploit global opportunities and cater to the domestic demand. The scheme encompasses three components: (i) baseline survey to build the database of technical textile industry; (ii) setting up of Centres of Excellence; and (iii) creation of awareness among the entrepreneurs. Total requirement of the fund for SGDTT during the 11th Plan Period would be Rs. 96.00 crores, out of which Rs. 1.00 crore has been allocated in the Union Budget for the year 2007-08.

(e) and (f) The working group on Textiles and Jute Industry for the Eleventh Five Year Plan has targeted the textile industry to grow at the rate of 16 percent in value

terms. Major strategies to achieve this target include consolidating the raw material base and adopting cluster development approach; continuation of modernization and technological upgradation of different segments of Textile Industry through Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS); setting up of Integrated Textile Parks; increasing availability of textile machinery and wooing of foreign direct investment (FDI) in the sector; brand promotion support for design quality and support to technical textile, decentralized Powerloom, Handloom, Handicraft and Sericulture Sectors.

Law and Order in Delhi

344. DR. RAJESH MISHRA:
SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR:
SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA
DESHMUKH:
SHRIMATI JHANSI LAKSHMI BOTCHA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether law and order situation is worsening in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details of various crimes reported alongwith the reasons, during each of the last three years, till date, crime-wise; and

(c) the total number of persons arrested and action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) to (c) The law and order situation in Delhi has remained well under control. The details of cases reported, persons arrested and action taken against them during the year 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007 (upto 30th June) are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Crime Head	Number of cases reported and person arrested and action taken against them	2004	2005	2006	2007 (upto 30th June)
1	2	3	4	5	6
Dacoity	Cases Reported	30	27	14	16
	Cases Worked Out	29	26	13	12
	Persons Arrested	150	139	65	51
	Challaned	148	138	54	25

1	2	3	4	5	6
Murder	Cases Reported	481	455	476	215
	Cases Worked Out	363	337	377	167
	Persons Arrested	781	800	789	361
	Challaned	773	784	612	194
Att. to Murder	Cases Reported	519	467	510	251
	Cases Worked Out	494	439	479	227
	Persons Arrested	1179	1003	1045	499
	Challaned	1091	851	624	202
Robbery	Cases Reported	461	510	541	264
	Cases Worked Out	403	458	479	219
	Persons Arrested	1104	1162	1128	485
	Challaned	996	893	728	235
Kid. for Ransom	Cases Reported	28	31	32	14
	Cases Worked Out	24	24	24	12
	Persons Arrested	60	129	63	34
	Challaned	59	96	56	5
M.V. Theft	Cases Reported	8873	8863	9366	4053
	Cases Worked Out	2338	2395	2057	738
	Persons Arrested	4029	3629	2847	1094
	Challaned	2273	1820	1193	300
Snatching	Cases Reported	775	1136	1283	583
	Cases Worked Out	659	967	1066	398
	Persons Arrested	1100	1838	1593	602
	Challaned	665	1272	634	181
Rape	Cases Reported	551	658	623	297
	Cases Worked Out	520	630	583	267
	Persons Arrested	800	888	786	353
	Challaned	771	821	553	163

1	2	3	4	5	6
Total IPC	Cases Reported	53623	56065	57963	27353
	Cases Worked Out	33909	37223	37751	15651
	Persons Arrested	55132	57531	54377	23257
	Challaned	46469	44254	30132	8580
Local and Spl. Law	Cases Reported	25136	26573	30372	15599
	Cases Worked Out	24775	26444	30095	15323
	Persons Arrested	30084	31751	35015	17750
	Challaned	29766	30869	29254	12091

[English]

Misleading Advertisement

345. SHRI B. MAHTAB: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether TV channels and radio stations be held responsible for advertisements which are misleading or wrong;

(b) whether the proposed code for broadcasters is being objected to;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to protect the interests of the viewers?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The committee constituted for reviewing Programme and Advertising Codes prescribed under the Cable TV Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder and drafting a new content code, with a view to elaborate and update these codes and guidelines in order to give them greater specificity and details and introduce new provisions as found necessary as per contemporary community standard and to facilitate self regulation among the channels, have not submitted its Report. A draft of the proposed Code has also been posted on the website of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting www.mib.nic.in but it is not final and

representations are still being received. The Committee itself was constituted to protect the interests of the viewers. The Central Government has also constituted an Inter-ministerial Committee (IMC) under Section 20 of the Act to look into the violation of Programme and Advertising Codes prescribed under the Act and Rules framed thereunder. The Committee either *suo-motu* or on receipt of complaint, examines cases of violation of the Codes. Show cause notices are issued in the first instances to TV channels for telecasting objectionable programmes/ advertisements in violation of Codes. Further action is taken as per rules.

[Translation]

Jan Shikshan Sansthans

346. SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Jan Shikshan Sansthans established and proposed to be established during the current year and the next financial year, State-wise and Union Territory-wise; and

(b) the amount incurred and likely to be incurred thereon, State-wise and Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) (a) and (b) The number of new Jan Shikshan Sansthans proposed to be set up during the XI Five Year Plan is under consideration. Release of grants would depend upon the number of Jan Shikshan Sansthans sanctioned during the XI Plan period. So far a grant of Rs. 30.00 lakhs has been released in the current financial year for setting up two new Jan Shikshan Sansthans in

Jammu and Kashmir and Uttar Pradesh approved during 2006-07.

Common School System

347. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

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

(a) whether some State Governments including Bihar, have decided to implement common school system recommended by Kothari Commission during 1960s and submitted a scheme in this regard to the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto and financial assistance proposed to be provided, State and Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) No such scheme has been received so far from any State Government.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Import of Mangoes

348. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA:
SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that Japan, Korea, China, Australia, USA have shown keen interest to import our mangoes;

(b) if so, whether the Government has made any assessment of potential market for Indian mangoes there;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether 300 tonnes of mangoes have been exported to Japan alone this year; and

(e) if so, the details of exports made to various countries this year, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Sir. Japan, China and United States of America (USA) have shown interest in importing mango from India.

(b) and (c) The markets for Indian mango in USA, Japan and China have been opened only during the last three years. Import of Indian mango is not allowed in Australia owing to sanitary and phyto sanitary restrictions.

(d) Approximately 150 tons of mangoes have been exported to Japan in the current season.

(e) Countrywise figures for export of mango from India for 2005-06 and 2006-07 (April to December) is enclosed as Statement.

Statement

Commodity: 08045020 Mangoes Fresh Unit: KGS

S.No.	Country	Values in US \$ Million		Quantity in thousand	
		2005-2006	2006-2007 (Apr.-Dec.)	2005-2006	2006-2007 (Apr.-Dec.)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Algeria	0.04		34	
2.	Australia	0	0.02	5.97	2.1
3.	Austria		0		0.95
4.	Baharain	0.55	0.36	620.81	469.77

1	2	3	4	5	6
5.	Bangladesh PR	6.25	8.68	32,770.90	42,558.88
6	Belgium	0.02	0.06	20	57.03
7.	Bhutan		0.01		40
8.	Bosnia-Hrzegovina	0	0	0.5	2.5
9.	Brazil	0		1.5	
10.	Brunei	0	0.02	6.3	14.6
11.	Canada	0.31	0.1	323.77	73.75
12.	Canary Is.	0.01		53	
13.	Cayman Is.		0		1.8
14.	Taiwan	0.02		23.41	
15.	China PRP	0	0	0.55	0.1
16.	Congo P. Rep.		0.01		58.8
17.	Denmark		0		0.05
18.	Egypt A Rp		0		0.07
19.	Finland	0.02		20	
20.	France	0.17	0.06	158.84	63.44
21.	Fr. Polynesia	0.02		17	
22.	Germany	0.01	0.06	4.25	49.09
23.	Greece	0		2	
24.	Hong Kong	0.04	0.07	29.88	49.67
25.	Indonesia		0		0.01
26.	Iran	0.24		241.6	
27.	Israel	0.01		12.8	
28.	Italy	0	0	2	1.46
29.	Japan	0.11	0.1	70.16	69.34
30.	Korea Rp	0.03	0.02	27.39	21.69
31.	Kuwait	0.24	0.43	104.59	308.27
32.	Malaysia	0.14	0.17	243.66	272.22
33.	Maldives	0.01	0	20.82	6.27
34.	Malta	0.05	0.02	54	18
35.	Nepal	0.73	1.46	4,116.01	7,738.98

1	2	3	4	5	6
36.	Netherland	0.03	0.19	260.86	242.79
37.	New Zealand	0.01	0	18.5	3
38.	Norway	0	0.01	0.9	10.43
39.	Oman	0.17	0.24	226.69	148.05
40.	Pakistan IR	0.01	0	34.18	3
41.	Poland		0		0.31
42.	Portugal		0		0.01
43.	Qatar	0.05	0.08	40.45	80.32
44.	Russia		0.02		4.94
45.	Saudi Arab	1	0.81	1,564.15	1,078.03
46.	Slovak Rep		0		4
47.	Singapore	0.21	0.28	242.24	227.96
48.	Somalia		0		0.01
49.	South Africa	0.01	0	21	0
50.	Spain		0		0.9
51.	Sri Lanka DSR		0		0.1
52.	Swaziland	0	0	0.4	0.3
53.	Sweden	0	0	0.56	0.2
54.	Switzerland	0.03	0.21	9.01	156.99
55.	Thailand		0		0.98
56.	Turkey		0		0.03
57.	U. Arab Emts.	16.5	12.65	26,533.76	19,691.46
58.	U. K.	1.22	2.35	839.97	1,803.20
59.	Ukraine		0.03		25.84
60.	USA	0.1	0	83.21	0.03
61.	Vietnam Soc. Rep.	0.04		61	
62.	Yemen Republic	0.26	0.05	680	63.8
63.	Unspecified		0		2.21
Total		28.94	28.59	69606.59	75420.51

Exchange rate:

2005-2006: 1 US\$ = Rs. 44.2735

2006-2007(Apr-Dec) : 1 US\$ = Rs. 45.6086

Taxation on Indian Imports

349. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the restrictions imposed by USA such as increased taxation on Indian imports are affecting Indian exports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) The Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) programme of USA provides for the duty free importation of designated articles when imported from designated beneficiary developing countries. India is a designated beneficiary country. On June 29, 2007, the US Government published the President's proclamation # 8157 to modify Duty Free Treatment under GSP. By this proclamation, five Indian products will no longer get GSP treatment from July 2007. Thus import of these products into USA will not be duty free. The details of the five products are:

Sl. No	Product	Value of export in 2006 \$ million	Duty rate applicable % from July 2007
1.	Precious metals (other than silver) articles of jewellery	2211.25	5.5
2.	Wind powered electric generating sets	216.57	2.5
3.	Colour television reception apparatus	26.28	5.7
4.	Non-electric lamps & lighting fixtures of brass	17.30	3.9
5.	Cucumbers including gherkins prepared/preserved	14.73	9.6

Comments for continuation of GSP were submitted to the USA side and the issue was strongly taken up by the Department of Commerce at bi-lateral meetings.

Recommendations of "Simcon" on Piracy

350. SHRI JUAL ORAM:
PROF. PREM KUMAR DHUMAL:

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

(a) whether the Government is aware of the incidents of piracy in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any raid have been conducted in this regard;

(d) if so, the modus operandi of piracy identified;

(e) whether the entertainment industry is in heavy loss due to piracy;

(f) if so, whether the main cause of piracy is higher rates of entertainment;

(g) whether the Committee (SIMCON) had suggested to reduce the said higher rates;

(h) if so, the time by when the recommendations of the said Committee are likely to be implemented by the Government; and

(i) the steps taken/to be taken by the Government to prevent piracy?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. As per the estimation of Film & Television Producers' Guild of India there is a loss due to piracy of more than Rs. 1 crore per day in domestic market and between 40-50% in the overseas markets of the film industry. Raids are conducted by State authorities in such matters. In

general parlance, "piracy" is a term indicating/expressing activities which violate or infringe copyright. It may be mentioned that the owner of the copyright at a point of time may not be the original author or creator. The different *Modus Operandi* of piracy may be identified as follows:

- (i) Illegal duplication of copyright protected work including making copies for adoptions of computer programmes even for non-commercial use.
- (ii) Illegal exhibition of video without compensating the copyright owner.
- (iii) Illegal uploading and downloading of any copyright protected work/games from internet. Since 'piracy' infringes upon copyright, such activity would always cause loss to copyright owner.

(f) to (i) High rates of entertainment tax, which pushes up the cost of cinema tickets, is one of the reason behind piracy of films. SIMCON has recommended reduction in Entertainment Taxes which will be implemented by State Governments. The steps taken/to be taken by the Government to prevent piracy are as follows:

- (i) A training module in English has been prepared and printed for senior police officers/ other Enforcement Agencies on Piracy and its effects and sent to all State Governments.
- (ii) To create awareness on piracy Public Service Broadcasting Trust has produced a film and shown on Doordarshan.
- (iii) On the pursuance and on the recommendation of SIMCON, State Governments have lowered entertainment tax rates consistently from peak rate of 70% to 50% over the years.
- (iv) The Cable Television Network Regulation Act has been amended in 2000 to prohibit a Cable Operator from transmitting or re-transmitting any programme or channel for which the copyright holder has not granted him a license.
- (v) This Ministry has requested the Chief Secretaries of all States to advise District Magistrates and Superintendents of Police to include anti-piracy measures in their monthly activity reports.

- (vi) This Ministry in consultation with the FICCI is drafting Optical Disc Law to counter piracy in entertainment sector.
- (vii) In addition, this Ministry is providing all round support to Digital cinema to contain piracy.
- (viii) The suggestions of the industry for amendments in the Copyright Act have been communicated to the Ministry of Human Resource Development for consideration.

[Translation]

Schemes for Development of Women and Children

351. SHRI TEK LAL MAHTO:
SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various schemes/programmes launched by the Ministry of Women and Child Development for overall development of women and children during each of the last three years till date, scheme/programme-wise, State and Union Territory-wise.

(b) the details of funds allotted and actually spent under these schemes/programmes during the said period. State and Union Territory-wise;

(c) the names of the Non-Governmental Organisations of the States, particularly Orissa who have received financial assistance under these schemes/programmes during the said period, State and Union Territory-wise;

(d) the details of the beneficiaries under the schemes/programmes during the said period. State and Union Territory-wise,

(e) whether the Government has reviewed the functioning of these institutions.

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the remedial measures taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) The Scheme for Working

Children in Need of Care and Protection has been launched during 2004-05 and Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme for the Children of working Mothers has been re-launched in January 2006 by the Ministry of Women and Child Development for the development of women and children.

(b) to (d) The details of funds allotted/released to the NGOs, State and Union Territory-wise including Orissa,

under the Scheme for Working Children in Need of Care and Protection are available on the Ministry's Website (www.wcd.nic.in). As regards, the details under Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme for the Children of Working Mothers are given in the enclosed Statement.

(e) to (g) The functioning of these institutions are being reviewed through periodical reports review meetings and field visits by the concerned Area Officers.

Statement

Schemes for Development of Women and Children under Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme for the Children of Working Mothers during 2006-07 (w.e.f. 1.1.2006 to 31.3.2007).

Sl.No.	States/UT	Funds Released				Number of beneficiaries
		CSWB	ICCW	BAJSS	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	31927000	32373286	7353646	42517932	31150
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2498000	0	2093550	4591550	3875
3.	Assam	4750000	6214512	6847286	17811798	11050
4.	Bihar	21772000	2255028	1099540	25126568	20400
5.	Chhattisgarh	25281000	5911776	5818898	37011674	18650
6.	Delhi	8721000	3826304	1660370	14207674	5675
7.	Goa	1716000	0	0	17164000	725
8.	Gujarat	28108000	2479464	4877146	35464610	6000
9.	Haryana	4232000	12333744	714194	17279938	4600
10.	Himachal Pradesh	18176000	5800648	1596038	25572686	6325
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	7088000	0	2810140	9898140	11000
12.	Jharkhand	6661000	2725160	7874660	17460820	12800
13.	Karnataka	28867000	6058264	3247560	38172824	20100
14.	Kerala	21945000	4626480	2822214	29393694	9300
15.	Madhya Pradesh	50113000	5852369	7308208	63273577	30125
16.	Maharashtra	42221000	2607940	9823878	54852818	17800
17.	Manipur	9118000	1356288	2143780	126118068	3875
18.	Meghalaya	6742000	0	1574932	8316932	625

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
19.	Mizoram	2525000	526820	0	3051820	2650
20.	Nagaland	353000	732780	1055310	2141090	2075
21.	Orissa	8996000	3136416	5957608	17992024	9475
22.	Punjab	8116000	3306284	0	11422284	6550
23.	Rajasthan	17343000	1583176	9268670	28194846	14950
24.	Sikkim	4367000	0	883042	5270042	1650
25.	Tamil Nadu	38835000	5485748	1795024	46115772	14725
26.	Tripura	7765000	2911076	1216130	11892208	4075
27.	Uttar Pradesh	26806000	2881120	8258162	37945282	19875
28.	Uttaranchal	7678000	448600	7621388	19707988	11850
29.	West Bengal	33087000	2479464	3762952	39329416	17200
30.	Andaman and Nicobar	1665000	127152	0	1792152	275
31.	Chandigarh	141200	909468	0	2321468	950
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	444250	444240	
33.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	—
34.	Lakshadweep	470000	423840	0	893840	1250
35.	Pondicherry	9789000	83576	1680462	11553038	3250
36.	For NE, Displaced, HIV Sex workers, etc. *A.P. Creche Committee	0	2678360	0	2678360	7500
Total		489265000	97159143	111609028	698033171	332375

*[English]***Home Secretary Conference on Women Issues**

352. SHRI SARVEY SATYANARAYANA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has held any conference with all India Director Generals of Police and Home Secretaries on women's issues;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of women's issues pending with the police;

(d) the present ratio of women in police compared to men, State-wise;

(e) the steps taken to recruit more women in police; and

(f) the welfare measures provided for the women police?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A national meet of the State Home Secretaries and Directors General of Police was organized on 25.8.2004 on 'Crime Against Women'. The conference

made several recommendations and, *inter alia*, emphasized the need for immediate registration of FIR, prompt investigation of cases, setting up of women police cells and exclusive women police stations and sensitizing police officials about gender issues and crime against women.

(c) As per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India, 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects and as such, it is the responsibility of the State Governments and UT Administrations to take necessary steps to effectively implement the provisions of various laws concerning prevention of crime against women. However, the Union Government, has from time to time issued advisories to all the State Governments and UT

Administrations to give more focused attention to the administration of criminal justice system with special emphases on prevention and control of crime against women.

(d) A statement is annexed.

(e) and (f) Since 'Police' is a State subject, taking of steps for recruiting more women in police and looking after their welfare falls entirely under the jurisdiction of State Governments. The Union Government, from time to time, has been issuing advisories to the State Governments for making efforts to recruit more women in the police and provide welfare measures.

Statement

Percentage of Ratio of women in police as compared to men

(As on 31.12.2005)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Actual strength of police as on 31.12.2005 (men+women)	Actual Strength of women as on 31.12.2005	%age Ratio of women in police as compared to men
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	65584	1393	2.12
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3189	138	4.33
3.	Assam	28341	223	0.79
4.	Bihar	42213	890	2.11
5.	Chhattisgarh	13487	567	4.20
6.	Goa	3002	223	7.43
7.	Gujarat	46752	1632	3.49
8.	Haryana	30419	829	2.73
9.	Himachal Pradesh	8053	475	5.90
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	46553	888	1.91
11.	Jharkhand	22151	245	1.11
12.	Karnataka	50634	3112	6.15
13.	Kerala	35216	2018	5.73
14.	Madhya Pradesh	54125	1955	3.61

	1	2	3
15. Maharashtra	122536	7283	5.94
16. Manipur	4768	234	4.91
17. Meghalaya	5634	125	2.22
18. Mizoram	3616	0	0
19. Nagaland	5500	19	0.35
20. Orissa	26484	323	1.22
21. Punjab	52142	1515	2.91
22. Rajasthan	51880	1250	2.41
23. Sikkim	1922	178	9.26
24. Tamil Nadu	70900	7980	11.26
25. Tripura	9381	224	2.38
26. Uttar Pradesh	120139	2128	1.77
27. Uttaranchal	9143	435	4.76
28. West Bengal	60972	1318	2.16
Total (states)	994716	37600	3.78
29. Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2232	129	5.78
30. Chandigarh	3644	261	7.16
31. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	223	8	3.59
32. Daman and Diu	244	0	0
33. Delhi	43723	2027	4.64
34. Lakshadweep	273	16	5.86
35. Pondicherry	1520	60	3.95
Total (UTs)	51859	2501	4.82
Total (All India)	1046575	40101	3.83

Custodial Deaths

353. SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP:
SHRI NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU:
SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to make the reporting of deaths in judicial or police custody to Human Rights Commission (NHRC) within 24 hours obligatory;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of custodial deaths reported by the NHRC during each of the last three years, till date, State-wise;

(d) the action taken by the Government against the erring officials; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) As per the guidelines issued by the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), the States/Union Territories are under obligation to report to the NHRC every death whether in judicial custody or police custody within 24 hours of its occurrence irrespective of the cause of death of the deceased. The NHRC calls for reports to find out, if there is any omission or commission on the part of a public servant which may have resulted in violation of human rights of the deceased.

(c) As per the reports received by the NHRC from States/Union Territories, a statement indicating the number

of custodial deaths for the years 2004-2005 to 2007-2008 (upto 08.8.2007) is enclosed.

(d) The NHRC has recommended interim relief/ disciplinary action in 31 proven cases of custodial violence in police custody and 36 cases in judicial custody during the period from 01.4.2005 to 8.8.2007. The amount of compensation awarded during the period from 1.4.2005 to 8.8.2007 is Rs. 30,25,000 in police custody death cases and Rs. 35,00,000 in judicial custody death cases.

(e) The Chairperson and Member of the NHRC during their visits to the States/Union Territories always emphasize upon State functionaries the need to curb the occurrence of custodial deaths. Besides, the Commission from time to time, while disposing of cases of custodial deaths, make appropriate observations to the State authorities to prevent occurrence of such custodial deaths in future.

Statement

Custodial Deaths Reported to NHRC from State Governments/UTs during the years 2004-2005 to 2007-08 (Upto 8.8.2007)

State	2004-2005			2005-2006			2006-2007			2007-2008 (Upto 08.8.2007)		
	PC*	JC*	Total	PC*	JC*	Total	PC*	JC*	TOTAL	PC*	JC*	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Andhra Pradesh	13	116	129	11	134	145	5	118	123	1	51	52
Arunachal Pradesh	0	2	2	1	0	1	1	1	2	0	0	0
Assam	4	11	15	7	27	34	8	17	25	6	5	11
Bihar	3	150	153	1	246	247	2	193	195	3	76	79
Goa	0	4	4	1	4	5	0	1	1	0	0	0
Gujarat	15	54	69	20	52	72	7	54	61	6	12	18
Haryana	2	49	51	4	58	62	2	51	53	4	26	30
Himachal Pradesh	0	5	5	0	5	5	0	3	3	0	0	0
Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	2
Karnataka	9	51	60	5	67	72	8	56	64	2	20	22
Kerala	6	51	57	5	44	49	3	37	40	2	22	24

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Madhya Pradesh	2	49	51	4	44	48	10	59	69	4	39	43
Maharashtra	23	138	161	20	115	135	21	130	151	12	51	63
Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meghalaya	2	6	8	0	4	4	1	1	2	1	0	1
Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Orissa	3	39	42	2	42	44	2	53	55	4	7	11
Punjab	6	65	71	6	100	106	1	87	88	1	29	30
Rajasthan	0	50	50	7	50	57	3	54	57	0	19	19
Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Tamil Nadu	9	98	107	7	101	108	16	103	119	2	24	26
Tripura	1	4	5	1	4	5	1	5	6	0	2	2
Uttar Pradesh	7	219	226	18	259	277	12	241	253	14	113	127
West Bengal	11	64	75	8	76	84	7	69	76	4	28	32
Andman and Nicobar Islands	0	1	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chandigarh	1	3	4	0	3	3	0	2	2	1	0	1
Dadara and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Delhi	5	27	32	3	29	32	3	25	28	1	16	17
Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pondicherry	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	2	2
Chhattisgarh	5	26	31	2	52	54	3	50	53	1	18	19
Jharkhand	5	66	71	4	62	66	2	59	61	0	25	25
Uttaranchal	3	9	12	1	10	11	1	7	8	1	7	8
Total Cases	136	1357	1493	139	1591	1730	119	1477	1596	72	594	666

*PC: Police Custody

*JC: Judicial Custody

Youth In Terrorism

354. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether terrorism and militancy have taken roots and is growing amongst the youth as a cult;

(b) if so, the nature and number of terrorist and militant groups active in the various parts of the country, especially in the border areas;

(c) whether any bilateral and multi-lateral agreements and understandings have been signed with bordering countries, especially with Bangladesh and Pakistan to curb and contain their militant activities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) No, Sir. However, cases of the involvement of disgruntled local youth, influenced and subverted by external elements, in terrorist activities have come to notice in some parts of the country.

(b) At present, 32 organisations stand banned as terrorist organization under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 as amended in 2004.

(c) and (d) India has Joint Working Groups on counter terrorism with 23 countries. Further, India has signed Mutual Legal Assistance Treaties in criminal matters with 23 countries and Extradition Treaties with 30 countries. India has been supportive of all UN measures to combat global terrorism. So far as the bordering countries of Pakistan and Bangladesh are concerned, there are no specific treaties with them but India's security concerns and other related issues are discussed through the mechanism of the annual Home Secretary Level Talks. In addition, while India has recently set up a Joint Anti-Terrorism Mechanism with Pakistan, there exists a mechanism at the Joint Secretary level with Bangladesh on Border and security related issues. Similar mechanisms at the Home Secretary and Joint Secretary levels on border and security related issues also exist in relation to Nepal and Myanmar.

[Translation]

Deployment of PMF at Religious Places

355. SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has deployed Central Para Military Forces for the security of some important religious places of the country; and

(b) if so, the names of the important religious places of the country including Sai Temple situated in Maharashtra where the Central Para Military Forces was deployed for security purpose as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Central Para Military Forces (CPMFs) have been deployed in some religious places in the country.

(b) List of the religious places where CPMFs are deployed is enclosed as Statement. However, there is no deployment of CPMF in Sai Temple situated in Maharashtra.

Statement*Details of Religious/Historical Places where CPMFs are Deployed*

S.No.	Religious/Historical Places
1	2
	Central Reserve Police Force
1.	Ram Janam Bhoomi/Babri Masjid Complex, Ayodhya
2.	Kashi Viswanath Temple/Gyan Vapi Masjid Complex, Varanasi
3.	Krishna Janma Bhoomi/Sahidgaha Masjid Complex, Mathura
4.	Raghunath Temple, Jammu
5.	Nag Mandir, Patnitop, Udhampur
6.	Sudhmahadev, Udhampur
7.	Bagh-e-Bahu Mandir, Jammu
8.	Mahamaya Mandir, Jammu

1	2
9.	Basuki Nag Mandir, Bhaderwah, Doda
10.	Durga Mandir, Bhaderwah, Doda
11.	Chandi Mandir, Bhaderwah, Doda
12.	Shahadara Sharief, Rajouri
13.	Holy Sree Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine, Udhampur
14.	Shiv Mandir, Kishtwar, Doda
15.	Sarthal Mandir, Kishtwar, Doda
16.	Laxmi Narayan Mandir, Kishtwar, Doda
17.	Barbar Shah Temple, Srinagar
18.	Hariprabhat, Srinagar
19.	Sankaracharya Temple, Srinagar
20.	Gupt Ganga Temple, Nishat, Srinagar
21.	Ishbar Temple, Srinagar
22.	Akhada Buildings, Srinagar
23.	Ranbir Bhavan, Srinagar
24.	Durganag Mandir, Srinagar
25.	Gurudwara, Chattisingh Pura
26.	Jawanpura Gurudwara, Chattisingh Pura
27.	Shokipura Gurudwara, Chattisingh Pura
28.	Raghunath Mandir, Anantnag
29.	Goutamnath Mandir, Anantnag
30.	Shail Putri Mandir, Baramulla
31.	Raghunath Mandir, Baramulla
32.	Mata Kheer Bhawani Shrine, Tullamulla, Baramulla
33.	Devi Mandir Mattan
34.	Baba Rishi Shrine, Tangmarg, Baramulla
35.	Radha Swami Satsang, Beas, Amritsar, Punjab.
	Indo Tibetan Border Police
36.	Rumtek Monastery, Sikkim

*[English]***BALCO**

356. SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR DUBEY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether after the strategic sale of Bharat Aluminium Company Ltd. (BALCO), the gross fixed assets of the company has been significantly improved;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps being taken by the Government to improve the company's gross fixed assets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) to (c) Bharat Aluminium Company Limited (BALCO) has informed that the gross assets of the Company have increased by 403% from Rs. 962.99 crores as on 31.3.2001 (year of strategic sale) to Rs. 4845.04 crores as on 31.3.2007. As informed by the Company, the gross assets of BALCO for the years 2000-01 to 2006-07 are as follows:

Year ended	Gross Assets (Rs. in crores)
31.3.2001	962.99
31.3.2002	990.23
31.3.2003	1172.56
31.3.2004	1314.20
31.3.2005	796.45
31.3.2006	4199.66
31.3.2007	4845.04

Uniform Policy for Engineering Colleges

357. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is formulating any uniform policy for all engineering colleges both in private and Government sectors in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has a well-defined Approval Process for establishment of new technical institutions and extension/increase in intake and additional programmes for Technical Institutions which is uniformly followed.

Setting up of Vocational Park

358. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal for establishment of a Vocational Park in Kerala is under consideration of the Government; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposal and the status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) Presently, there is no such proposal under consideration of the Ministry of Human Resource Development.

[Translation]

Regulatory Authority to Control Obscene Material

359. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to set up a regulatory authority to regulate and control obscene, vulgar and defamatory materials in print and electronic media:

(b) if so, the composition of that authority;

(c) whether the said authority is likely to be able to check obscene and vulgar materials;

(d) whether the Government has sought the views of all sections of society before taken such steps,

(e) whether the Government proposes to prepare a glossary of such words which define obscene, vulgar and anti-social terms; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (f) So far as print media is concerned, there is no proposal at present to set-up a regulatory authority. In order to maintain high degree of responsibility in print media we already have the Press Council of India, which is a statutory, autonomous body.

With regard to electronic media there is the proposed Broadcasting Service Regulation Bill which *inter alia* provides for regulatory authority for regulating broadcasting issues including programmes and advertisements. The draft Broadcasting Service Regulation Bill was discussed with stakeholders on 20.07.2007 and posted on the website of Ministry (www.mib.nic.in) soliciting views from the stakeholders.

[English]

Flood Relief

360. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any request from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for sanction of Central assistance for formation of flood banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) to (c) Information is being collected from the Ministry of Water Resources.

Production and Import of Cement

361. SHRI P. MOHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of annual requirement of cement for domestic consumption in India;

(b) the yearly production of cement by all the cement manufacturers put together in our country;

(c) the reason for the short supply of cement to the builders/stockists;

(d) whether the Government has accorded permission to private firms to import cement without any restriction;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to check the continuous rise in the price of cement in the open market.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (c) As per the Cement Manufacturers' Association, the total production of cement was 127.57 million tonne, 141.81 million tonne and 155.66 million tonne in 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 respectively. The data in respect of consumption of cement is not available. However, a spurt in the prices of cement is indicative of a mismatch between demand and supply.

(d) and (e) There is no restriction on the import of cement if it meets mandatory BIS quality standards and carries the standard mark.

(f) Import duty on cement has been reduced from 12.5% to nil. Countervailing duty and special additional customs duty on cement have also been removed, which would facilitate imports so as to stabilize the market prices of cement.

Leasing of Iron Mining

362. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any objection has been made by iron ore rich States in the matter of giving mining leases to companies having their operations in other States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is considering to come out with a policy to tackle this issue; and

(d) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) to (d) Mineral rich states have sought to give preference in grant of mineral concession in the interest of developing the backward regions of their states to such applicants who are willing to set up value addition industry based on minerals within their state. This issue is under consideration of the Government.

Statement of ASSOCHAM on FDI

363. SHRIMATI JHANSI LAKSHMI BOTCHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the statement of Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) that FDI in the retail should be opened in a phased manner to allow domestic players to face competition;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to safeguard the interests of the indigenous retailers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy including policy on trading is reviewed on a continuous basis. In February, 2006 Government has, allowed Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) up to 51%, with prior Government approval, in the retail trade of 'Single Brand' products subject to the following conditions:

(i) Products to be sold should be of a 'Single Brand' only.

(ii) Products should be sold under the same brand internationally.

(iii) 'Single Brand' product-retailing would cover only products which are branded during manufacturing.

(c) Government remains committed to initiating, where necessary, suitable measures for safeguarding the legitimate interests of all sections of society.

*[Translation]***Production of Documentaries/Films**

364. SHRI MITRASEN YADAV: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Doordarshan produces documentaries/films on various subjects every year;

(b) if so, the total number of such documentaries/films produced during each of the last three years, till date;

(c) the total amount allocated/spent on their production during each of the last three years;

(d) whether any documentary/film on any subject related to the States, particularly Uttar Pradesh has been produced;

(e) if so, the details thereof during the said period, State-wise;

(f) if not, whether it is likely to be produced during the current financial year; and

(g) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSMI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) The details of documentaries/films produced by Doordarshan during the last three years along with expenditure incurred are given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) to (g) Documentaries/films are made on a wide range of topics including those of scientific, technical, medical, cultural, historical, etc. nature. No separate and comprehensive list is maintained as to which topics concern which specific State. However, Doordarshan Kendra Lucknow has produced a documentary on the First War of Indian Independence 1857 namely, "Bhartayan", which is UP related. This is being telecast since January 2007 on every Thursday of the month and will continue during the current financial year.

Statement*Documentaries/Films produced during the last three years alongwith Expenditure*

S.No.	Name of Kendra	Number of documentaries/Films produced			Expenditure incurred in Rs.		
		2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Lucknow (U.P)	2	4	3	13,300	2,70,342	2,24,109
2.	Chennai (T.N)	35	15	9	70,000	30,000	18,000
3.	Jaipur (Raj.)	3	4	8	4,700	28,700	78,700
4.	Bhubaneswar (Orissa)	19	27	12	55,000	78,000	36,000
5.	Mumbai (Maharashtra)	8	12	5	40,000	60,000	25,000
6.	Nagpur (Maharashtra)	1	1	1	5,000	3,000	—
7.	Ahmedabad (Gujarat)	3	1	20	16,000	4,800	43,450
8.	Srinagar (J&K)	—	5	40	—	1,50,000	13,00,000
9.	Bhopal (M.P)	12	17	11	40,000	65,000	37,000
10.	Hyderabad (A.P.)	—	12	11	—	1,50,000	2,75,000
11.	Central Commissioning Unit	53	158	269	2,25,00,000	2,47,75,000	8,03,75,000
12.	Patna (Bihar)	—	1	1	—	2,500	8,250

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
13.	Gauwahati (Assam)	281	—	—	4,21,50,000	—	—
14.	PPC Guawahati	567	15	10	8,35,98,000	2,70,000	1,80,000
15.	Imphal (Manipur)	—	50	49	—	50,00,000	80,00,000
16.	Azawi (Mizoram)	-	33	53	—	49,50,000	79,50,000
17.	Jalandhar (Pb)	4	7	7	14,000	28,000	10,000
18.	Nagpur (Maharashtra)	1	1	1	5,000	3,000	—
19.	Bangalore (Karnataka)	—	—	—	—	—	—
20.	Shimla (HP)	—	3	10	—	15,000	4,500
21.	Agartala (Tripura)	—	53	14	—	79,50,000	21,00,000
22.	Ranchi (Jharkhand)	—	2	7	—	18,000	80,100
23.	Kolkata (WB)	9	11	11	82,900	56,100	1,19,100
24.	Delhi	16	14	6	—	—	—
Total		1014	446	558	14,85,73,900	4,39,07,442	10,08,64,209

[English]

Participation of Private Detective Agencies

365. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to introduce a new scheme for effective gathering of intelligence in the country through private detective agencies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent of the benefits likely to be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Allotment of Iron Ore Mines to Steel Plants

366. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee constituted by the Planning Commission has recommended that the captive iron ore mines should be allotted to the steel plants established by 1st July, 2006;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations submitted by the said Committee; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) to (c) The High Level Committee (HLC) constituted under the chairmanship of Shri Anwarul Hoda, Member, Planning Commission to review the National Mineral Policy, 1993, in one of its recommendations has recommended that steel making capacities already in existence on 1st July 2006 that do not have captive mines may be given preference in allocation of iron ore reserves as a one-time measure to provide a level playing field, apart from the preference the states may give to value adders to get captive mines within the State. The recommendations of the HLC are available on the website of Planning Commission. The Central Government is reviewing the National Mineral Policy, 1993.

*[Translation]***Online Registration of CBSE Recognition**

367. CH. MUNAWAR HASSAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names and addresses of the persons who had registered online for Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) recognition/affiliation for 2008-09 State-wise, particularly in Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra;

(b) the cases in which affiliation has been granted, State-wise; and

(c) the time by when all the applications are likely to be disposed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) Central Board of Secondary Education has received 1551 applications online for approval of Middle Class Syllabus, Provisional Affiliation up to Secondary Level and Upgradation to Senior Secondary Level for the year 2008-09 Statement-I containing the State-wise number of applications received from schools is enclosed.

The list of 236 schools from Uttar Pradesh, and 85 from Maharashtra which have applied on-line alongwith the addresses is enclosed as Statement-II.

(b) The State-wise list of 37 schools for which affiliation has been granted by the Board so far is enclosed as Statement-III.

(c) The target date for deciding all such applications is 31.12.2007.

Statement I

Number of Applications received Online for the Session: 2008-09

State Name	Total Application
1	2
Andman and Nicobar Islands	6
Andhra Pradesh	38
Arunachal Pradesh	7

1	2
Assam	18
Bihar	59
Chandigarh	6
Chhattisgarh	28
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1
Delhi	32
Foreign Schools	19
Goa	2
Gujarat	44
Haryana	144
Himachal Pradesh	35
Jammu and Kashmir	15
Jharkhand	26
Karnataka	147
Kerala	97
Lakshadweep	1
Madhya Pradesh	127
Maharashtra	85
Manipur	8
Nagaland	2
Orissa	28
Punjab	129
Rajasthan	102
Sikkim	2
Tamil Nadu	38
Tripura	2
Uttar Pradesh	236
Uttaranchal	49
West Bengal	18
Total	1551

Statement II

List of Schools alongwith their Address whose applications were registered online from Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra for the session 2008-09

Sl. No.	Stage	School Name	Address
1	2	3	4

Uttar Pradesh*Middle*

1.		Citizen Girls College	Balam Nagar, Naini-211001, Allahabad, Karchana
2.		Saraswati Balika Vidyalaya	Suryakund, Gorakhnath, Gorakhpur-273015, Gorakhpur Sadar
3.		Navayuga Radlance School	Sector-G, Jankipuram-226021, Lucknow, Lucknow A-53, Budh Vihar, Taramandal Road
4.		Durga Academy	Gorakhpur-202701, Gorakhpur Sadar
5.		Dabble Public School	Village & Post Banthara-226001, Lucknow, Lucknow Sadar
6.		Indian National Public School	E-78A, Sector 20, Noida-201301, Dadri
7.		DLW Inter College, Varanasi	DLW, Varanashi-221004, Varanasi Cantt. Varanasi
8.		Jingle Bells Public School	Choti Bihar, Near Mahanagar, Pilibhit Bypass Main Road-243001, Bareilly, Bareilly

Secondary

9.		Nation Public School	Sanjeev Kumar Sharma C/o Nation Public School opp. D.M. Residence BSR-203300, Bulandshahr, Bulandshahr
10.		The Renaissance Academy	Near Kotwali-242307, Tilhar, Tilhar HS-19, Pocket-2, Builders Area Omega-I, Greater Noida,
11.		Delhi Scottish School	Gautam Budh Nagar (U.P.)-201308, Greater Noida, Greater Noida
12.		Red Rose Public School	G.T. Road Rohana, 251002, Rohana, Muzaffar Nagar
13.		Bijnor Public School	Najibabad Road, Bijnor-246701, Bijnor, Bijnor
14.		Bhartiya Bal Vidya Mandir School	Khasra No. 864 before Ansal Town, Bagda Road Barouli Aheer, Shamsabad Road-282001, Agra, Sadar

1	2	3	4
15.	Brilliant Public School	Shankar Vihar, Quarsi, Ramghat Road-202001, Aligarh, Koll	
16.	Guru Govind Singh Public School	Guru Govind Singh Public School, Vill. Rohat, Distt.:- Meerut-250502, Meerut, Meerut Opp. MMM Engg. College	
17.	Don Bosco School	Mahadevpuram-273010, Gorakhpur, Gorakhpur	
18.	Apeejay International School	1, Institutional Area, Surajpur, Kasna Road, Greater Noida-201306, Greater Noida, Greater Noida	
19.	Study well Public School	Lakhimpur Road, Sitapur-261001, Sitapur, Sitapur	
20.	C.V. Convent Public School	Behind power house-227305, Lucknow, Mohanlal Ganj	
21.	DSM Lions Public School	Rauzagaon, Distt. Barabanki-225402, Rauzagaon, Rudauli	
22.	St. Francis Convent School	U.P.S.I.D.C. Road Ghoghaj, Sikandra-282007, Agra, Agra	
23.	St Thomas School	Ward No. 5, Gautam Nagar Chandauli, 234104, Chandauli, Chandauli	
24.	Dev Rishi Vidya Peeth	Vill. Shahdabber Post Shahpur-251318, Muzaffar Nagar, Budhana	
25.	Green Field Academy Lakhimpur	Green Field Academy, Lakhimpur-Kheri, Pin-262701, Lakhimpur, Lakhimpur	
26.	D.S. Public School	1367, Charan Singh Colony, South Civil Line, circular Road, 251001, Muzaffarnagar, Muzaffar Nagar	
27.	Police Modern School 15 BN PAC Agra	15 Bn. PAC, Tajganj, Agra-282001, Agra, Agra	
28.	Delhi Public School Kashi	Village-Sehamalpur Post-Kazi Sarai-221105, Varanasi, Pindra	
29.	Greenvillage Public School	Jail Road, Aashinana Crossing, Bangla bazar, Lucknow, U.P.-226018, Lucknow, Lucknow	
30.	St. Johns School	Atrauli Distt Aligarh, Atrauli, Atrauli	
31.	Tej Public School	Kirwa Road, Jalalpur-250341, Meerut, Meerut	
32.	M.J. Activity High School	Laliganj, Utraula, Balrampur-271604, Balrampur, Balrampur	

1	2	3	4
33.	King George Inter College	King George Inter College	Raj Mahal Patel Nagar Utraula-271604, Balrampur, Utraula
34.	Lalit Academy	Lalit Academy	Sector-L, A-1/68, Aashiana-206010, Lucknow, Lucknow
35.	Amtulis Public School MBD.	Amtulis Public School MBD.	Wajid Nagar, Price Road, Moradabad, U.P.-244001, Moradabad
36.	R.K. Modern School	R.K. Modern School	C-5A, Sector-55, Noida-201301, Noida, Dadri
37.	Padamshree N.N. Mohan Public School	Padamshree N.N. Mohan Public School	Mohan Nagar Karamchari Sehkari Awas Samiti, Sector 5, Vasundhra, Ghaziabad-201010, Ghazibad, Ghaziabad
38.	Nosegay School	Nosegay School	Nosegay School, Railway Harthala Colony Moradabad, 244001, Moradabad, Moradabad
39.	Shivalik Public School	Shivalik Public School	Magtai-Bhichpuri Road, 282007, Agra, Agra
40.	K.K. Public School	K.K. Public School	Phalawda Road-251201, Khatauli, Jansath
41.	Radhaballah Public School	Radhaballah Public School	Amar Vihar, Dayalbagh-282005, Agra, Sadar Agra
42.	South City Public School	South City Public School	1208, Basant Vihar, Naubasta, Kanpur-208021, Kanpur, Kanpur Nagar
43.	Konark Vidyapeeth	Konark Vidyapeeth	Bara Gaon Road, Khakra (Baghpat)-201101, Khakra, Khakra
44.	Mahila Bright English Medium School	Mahila Bright English Medium School	Mahila Bright English Medium School, Ganga Prasad Road, Aminabad, Lucknow-226001, Lucknow, Lucknow
45.	Ryan International School	Ryan International School	A-1, Udyog Kunj, Delhi-Hapur Bypass, Dasna, 201302, Ghaziabad, Ghaziabad
46.	Parvati Radhakishen Fomra School	Parvati Radhakishen Fomra School	Village Khamni, Goverdhan Road Mathura, 281501, Khamni, Mathura
47.	Manipal Public School	Manipal Public School	Raibareilly Road Lucknow-226025, Lucknow, Lucknow
48.	Syadwad Jain Academy	Syadwad Jain Academy	Baghpat Trilok Tirth Parosher, Atisah Area, Baragaon, Bagpat (UP)-201101, Baragaon, Baghpat
49.	South City Public School	South City Public School	1208, Basant Vihar, Naubasta, Kanpur-208021, Kanpur, Kanpur Nagar

1	2	3	4
50.	Grammar Academy Dron Public School		Kausalpuri Colony-224001, Faizabad, Sadar
51.	Bamava Road, Sardhana, Meerut (U.P.)		Bamava Road Sardhana, Meerut-250342, Meerut, Sardhana
52.	Allahabad Public School		1. Noorulla Road Khudabad-211002, Allahabad, Allahabad
53.	National Public School		Kashipur Road, Bhojpur-244001, Moradabad, Moradabad
54.	R.S.S. International School		Sadarpur-Chhalera, Sector-45, Noida-201303, Dadri
55.	Asha Modern International School		3.5 KM, Janta Road-247001, Saharanpur, Saharanpur
56.	GBA Public School Baghpat		Subhash Gate Baghpat-250609, Baghpat, Baghpat
57.	BSS Education Centre		A-11, Indira Nagar-229001, Raibareli, Raibareli
58.	Shree Dutt Memorial Public School of Science and Commerce		Gyatri Nagar Utraula Road, Mankapur, Gonda-271302, Mankapur, Mankapur
59.	Madhavrao Scindia Public School		Shiv Garden Near Dental College Pilibhit Bypass Road-243006, Bareilly, Bareilly
60.	S.N. Public High School		Mussafar Ganj, Mirzapur-231001, Mirzapur, Sadar
61.	Shanti Niketan Public School		NH-3, Agra-Gwalior Road, Village Tehra-282001, Agra, Kheragarh
62.	Moon Light Public School Sisauli		VPO Sisauli Tehsil Buddhana, Disitt. Muzaffar Nagar (UP)-251319, Sisauli, Budhana
63.	Radhe Shyam Morarka Saraswati Vidya Mandir		Madhav Kunj Satabdi Nagar Meerut-250103, Meerut, Meerut
64.	Children Academy		Panchkoshi Road, Salarpur, Varanasi

1	2	3	4
65.	Brightway Public School	D-6 &, Sector-4, Industrial Area-227817, Jagdishpur, Musafirkhana	
66.	P.R. Wasson Public School	13/34, Govind Nagar, 208006, Kanpur, Kanpur Railway Crossing, ByPass Road	
67.	Rana Public School	Muzaffar Nagar-251003, Muzaffarnagar, Muzaffar Nagar	
68.	Kushwaha Army Public School	Kushwaha Army Public School, 9 Km Stone, Delhi Road, Saharanpur-247001, Saharanpur, Saharanpur	
69.	St. Francis Convent School	Wazirpur Road, Agra-282003, Agra, Agra	
70.	K.V. No. 4, Varanasi	K.V. No. 4, Varanasi, DLW Campus, Near Bank of Baroda, DLW Varanasi-221004, Varanasi, Varanasi	
71.	Doon Public School	Doon Public School Dllawarpur, Post Mohammdi-282704, Mohammdi, Mohammadi	
72.	B.R. International School	Near Kalli, Distt. Meerut-250002, Kalli, Meerut	
73.	Dr. Virendra Swarup Education Centre	Ghatia Ghat Road, Chandpur-209625, Farrukhabad	
74.	Universal Public School, Shiksha Samiti	Vill. & P.O. Baburi, Distt. Chandauli (U.P.)-232102, Baburi, Chandauli	
75.	Oxford Green Public School	Vill. Sirsa, Kaena Road, Greater Noida, G.B. Nagar, 201308, Greater Noida, Gautam Budh Nagar	
76.	Springer Balasthall	Springer Balasthall, F-19, Industrial Area, Gorakhpur-273001, Gorakhpur, Gorakhpur	
77.	V.S.S. Educational Academy	Near Water Corporation Office, Faizabad Road-224122, Akbarpur, Akbarpur	
78.	Gorakhpur City Secondary School	Mahrajanj Post Office Permeshwarpur-270024, Gorakhpur, Sadar	
79.	Awadh Public School	Rajani Khand-1, Sharda Nagar, Raebareilly Road-226002-Lucknow, Lucknow	
80.	B.S.M. School	B.S. Park, Kamal Road-247776, Shamli, Shamli	
81.	Rani Pritam Kunwar School	Neel, Bagh Sahaspur Bilari, 202411, Moradabad, Bilari	

1	2	3	4
82.	Apple Grove School	Delhi Road-247001, Saharanpur, Distt. Saharanpur	
83.	St. Marys School	Opp. New Kotwali, Mainpuri-205001, Mainpuri	
84.	B.S.D. Public School	Mainpuri-207123, Etah, Etah	
85.	Shyam Bihari Public School	Shyam Vihar Colony, Agra Road, Etah-207001, Etah, Etah	
86.	Marwah Modern School	Khutar Road-242401, Powayan, Powayan	
87.	Loyalis Fatima Academy	V. Kalakhera, Hasanpur-244241, Hasanpur, Hasanpur	
88.	Gyandeep English School	Khushhal Nagar Sec. A., Bada Lalpur, Post-Lamahi Distt. Varanasi, Teh-Varanasi, Varanasi	
89.	Taposthali School	C-Block, Sector 12, Pratap Vihar-201013, Ghaziabad, Ghaziabad	
90.	P.D. Modern Public School Bharatpur Road, Narahauli Mathura	PD Modern Public School Dampier Nagar Mathura-281001, Mathura, Mathura	
91.	Goptal Public School	Om Nagar, Sultanpur-228001, Sultanpur, Sadar	
92.	Ketan Convent School	Opposit ITI Gate, ITI Road-202001, Aligarh, Koil	
93.	Delhi Public School	Delhi Road, Preet Vihar (Next to Century Factory)-245101, Hapur, Hapur	
94.	RPS Public School	Khurja-Jewar Road, Vill. Siryal-203141, Village Siryal, Khurja	
95.	N.S. Children Academy	New Colony Madopur, Gorakhnath Gorakhpur-273015, Gorakhpur, Shedar	
96.	NS Children Academy	New Colony Madhopur, PO-Gorakhnath, Gorakhpur-273015, Gorakhpur, Shadar	
97.	Sarawati Balika Vidyalaya	Suryakund-273015, Gorakhpur, Sadar	
98.	Police Modern School, 39BN P.A.C. Mirzapur	Police Modern School, 39BN P.A.C. Mirzapur-231001, Mirzapur, Sadar	

1	2	3	4
99.	M.G. Convent School	Sector-G, L.D.A. Colony, Kanpur, Road, Lucknow-226005, Lucknow, Lucknow	
100.	Mahant Hari Singh Nirmal Public School	Seth Gath Road, Lakhimpur Kheri-262701, Lakhimpur Kheri, Lakhimpur Kheri	
101.	B.R.B. Model Shool	Khera Bujurag, near Har Prasad Mandir, Bareilly Road, Badaun-243601, Badaun, Badaun	
102.	Modern Public School, Jhansi	Kanpur Road-284001, Jhansi, Jhansi	
103.	Green View Public School	Jalapur, Sant Ravi Das Nagar, Bhadohi-221401, Bhadohi, Bhadohi	
104.	City Covent School	Khurja Road, Sikandrabad Bulandshahr, 203205, Sikandrabad, Saikandrabad	
105.	Indraprastha Public School	Village Khatha, Baghpat UP-250609, Baghpat, Khekra	
106.	Oxford International School	Industrial Area UPSIDC MG Road, GZB-201001, Ghaziabad, Hapur	
107.	Silver Stone Public School	Sambal Road, Bahjoi, Moradabad-202410, Bahjoi, Chandausi	
108.	St. Xavier's High School	Near Dak Bunglow, Kanpur Road-212601, Fatehpur, Fatehpur	
109.	Maa Bhagwati Public School	Vayu Vihar Colony, Patholi, Agra-282010, Agra, Agra	
110.	Ravi Children Academy	Near Dukh Haran Nath Mandir Gonda, Gonda	
111.	G.R. Public School	Near Govind Talkies Simbhaoli-245207, Simbhaoli, Garh Mukteshwar	
112.	Springdale School	Village & P.O. Dhoom Manikpur, Dadri-201001, Dhoom Manikpur, Dethi	
113.	KHMC School	Chaundausi Road-202410, Bahjoi, Chandausi	
114.	Decent Educational Academy	Khushhalgarh Road, Anoopshahr Bulandshahr-203302, Anoopshahr, Anoopshahr	
115.	Amol Chand Public School	G.T. Road-204215, Sikandra Rao, Sikandra Rao	

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116.	S.K. Academy	Bijoli, Hadour Road, Meerut-205001, Bijoli, Meerut	
117.	Royal Mount Academy	Vibhav Khan-2 Gomit Nagar, Lucknow-228016, Lucknow, Lucknow	
118.	Siddharth Public School	Guba Garden, Kalyanpur, Kanpur-208017, Kanpur, Kanpur	
119.	Brilliant Public School	Shankar Vihar Colony, Ramghat Road, Quarsi-202001, Aligarh, Koll	
120.	St. Xavier's High School	Mahuwariya Road, Laxmanpur-228001, Sultanpur, Sultanpur	
121.	Hilton Convent School	Avas Vikas Colony-244221, Jyotiba Phule Nagar, Amroha	
122.	Woodland Academy	Ramsariya Rajahi Gorakhpur-273008, Gorakhpur, Gorakhpur	
123.	India Today Convent Academy	Rampur Maniharan, Delhi Road Shahrampur-247451, Rampur, Rampur	
124.	The Avenue Public School	G-Pocket Ganga Nagar-250001, Meerut, Meerut	
125.	Himalayan Public School	Roorkee Road Muzaffamagar-251001, Muzaffamagar, Muzaffamagar	
126.	Lakshya Public School	Lakshya Public School, Delhi Road, Baghpat	
127.	Divine Sainik School	Lahartara, D.L.W. Raod Shivdaspur, Varanasi-221001, Varanasi, Sadar	
128.	Krishna International School	Krishna Nagar, Opp. Reliance Petrol Pump, 5 Km Delhi G.T. Road-202001, Aligarh Aligarh	
129.	JBM Global School	A-11, Sector-132, Noida-201301, Noida, Noida	
130.	Jingle Belle Public School	Chhoti Bihar, Near Mahanagar, Pilibhit By-pass main Road, 243001, Bareilly, Bareilly	
131.	Kedriya Vidyalaya	Got. I.T.I. Campus Deoria-274001, Deoria, Deoria Sadar	
132.	Gurukul Vidya Peeth	Vill. Bahadurpur, Bargon Road Saharanpur-247554, Saharanpur, Deoband	

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133.	St. Xavier's High School		Allwal Azamgarh-276001, Azamgarh, Azamgarh
134.	Archies Higher Secondary School		E-Block, Shyam Nagar, Kanpur-208013, Kanpur Kanpur
135.	Pinewood School		Pinewood School, Bijnor Road, Amroha, U.P.
136.	DGR Public School, Patla		DGR Public School, Patla, Modi Nagar, Ghaziabad U.P.-201204, Modi Nagar, Modi Nagar
137.	Toolika Public School		Jamuna Deva, Mau Road Ghazipur-233001, Ghazipur, Ghazipur
<i>Upgradation</i>			
138.	Padmawati Academy		11th Km. Pilibhit Road, PO Mudia Ahmad Nagar, Bareilly, 243122, Bareilly Bareilly
139.	Vrindavan Public School		Village Dhorera, P.O. Prem Nagar Vrindavana-281003, Vrindavan, Mathura.
140.	JP International School		# A Sector Omega 1, Greater Noida-201308, Dadri
141.	Renaissance School		Near Char-Yaar, D. M. Colony Road-203001, Bulandshahr, Bulandshahr
142.	Maharana Pratap Education Centre		Yojna No. 1, Awas Vikas Keshavpuram Kalyanpur-208017, Kanpur
143.	Bakahi Memorial Public School		Lal Ganj, Distt. Rae Bareilly, UP.-229206, Lal Ganj, Lalganj
144.	Saraswati Modern School		Pratap Singh Wala, Hambran Road, Ludhiana-141008, Ludhiana, West Ludhiana
145.	Shri Ramkrishna Harkrishna Academy		Academy, Shri Swami Narayan Mission Near, Valak Patiya Surat Kamraj Road-395008, Surat, Kamrej
146.	Ascent International School		Delta-II HS 11 B, Greater Noida, Gautam Budh Nagar-201308, Greater Noida, Surajpur
147.	Avadh International School		Avadh International School, Ashapur, Darshan Nagar, Faizabad (U.P.)-224135, 224135, Faizabad, Sadar
148.	Saint Angels Public School		Chamrawal Road (Chandinagar Road) Baghpat-250609, Baghpat, Baghpat

1	2	3	4
149.	Golden Public School	Pachenda Road, Gandhi Colony, Muzaffarnagar-251001, Muzaffarnagar, Muzaafarnagar	
150.	M.S. School	2nd Basai Road, Firozabad Road, Tundla, Dist. Firozabad-283204, Tundla, Tundla	
151.	Sheerwood College	Dildar Nagar, Khati Baba-284003, Jhansi, Jhansi	
152.	Shri Guru Teg Bahadur Public School	Village Post Mahangapur Distt. Lakhimpur Kheri, Uttar Pradesh-282902, Palla, Palla Kalan	
153.	Sharada Public School	Baudh Paripath, Tulsipur Road, Balrampur-271 201 (UP)-271201, Balrampur, Balrampur	
154.	Lucknow Public School	Sector-I, L.D.A. Colony Kanpur Road Lucknow-226012, Lucknow, Lucknow	
155.	Maharana Pratap Education Centre	Yojna No. 1 Keshavpuram Kalyanpur-208017, Kanpur, Kanpur	
156.	DAV Public School	DAV Public School, Meerut Road, Baghpat, U.P.-250809, Baghpat, Baghpat	
157.	Bethesda Christian Academy	Bethesda Nagar, Goyna, Modinagar Road, Hapur-245101, Hapur, Hapur	
158.	Bhai Gurdas Academy	Guru Ki Nagari Pandori, Ran Singh Taran Taran Road, Amritsar-143401, Tamtaran, Tamtaran	
159.	M.V. Convent Inter College	Raja Ram Arya Marg, Sulem Sarai Allahabad-211001, Allahabad Sadar	
160.	Dayawanti punj Model School	Village Sitamarhi District Sant Ravidas Nagar (Bhadohi) Uttar Pradesh-221309, Sitamarhi, Gyanpur	
161.	The Jain International School-Kanpur	Mainawati Marg, Azad Nagar, Bithoor Road-208002, Kanpur, Kanpur	
162.	Holy Point Academy	Seehpura (Vivek Vihar) Etawah Road Bharthana-206242, Bharthana, Bharthana	
163.	Avadh Collegiate	Daroga Khara, Kanpur Road Lucknow-227101, Lucknow, Lucknow	
164.	Vanasthali Public School	Sector-3 Vasundhra, Ghaziabad-201012, Ghaziabad, Ghaziabad	
165.	Indus Valley Public School	Plot No. 1, Sector-62, Noida (U.P.)-201301, Noida, Gautam Budh Nagar	

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166.	P.C. School	D-4 Govind Puram Ghaziabad-201001, Ghaziabad, Ghaziabad	
167.	Nalanda Shikshan Sansthan	V & P Udharanpur-241124, Hardoi, Shahabad	
168.	Taxsila Public School	Phase 1st, Sector-2 Shardhapuri, Kankerkhera-250001, Meerut, Meerut	
169.	Sishpal Singh Convent School	Hasanpur-Taharpur, Rajwaha Road. Saharanpur-247001, Saharanpur, Saharanpur	
170.	Maharishi Vidya Mandir	Maharishi Vidya Mandir, Doorwani Nagar, Naini-211008, Allahabad, Karchhana	
171.	RPM Public School	Kota Road, Hathras, 204101, Hathras, Hathras	
172.	Dr. Jagdish Memorial Public School	Railway Road-202393, Dibal, Dibal	
173.	Shree Mahaprabhu Public School	Narayan Ashram Shivkuti Post- Tellarganj-211004, Allahabad, Chail	
174.	Dehi Public School, Allahabad	Devrakh, Naini Allahabad-211009, Allahabad, Karchhana	
175.	Vishnu Bhagwan Public School	Jhalwa Pipalgaon, Allahabad, UP-211012, Allahabad, Allahabad	
176.	Smt. Sridevi Awasiya Vidyapeeth	Vamanpura, Kirwali, Agra, 282001, Kirwali, Agra	
177.	St. Vivekanand Public School	Sadabad, Hathras UP-281306, Sadabad, Sadabad	
178.	Ravi Children's Academy	Near Dukh Haran Nath Mandir, Patel Nagar, Gonda-271001, Gonda, Gonda	
179.	Maa Bhagwati Public School	Vayu Vihar Colony, Patholi Fatehpur Sikri Road, Agra-282010, Agra, Agra	
180.	St. Vivekanand Public School	Sadabad, Hathras, UP-281306, Sadabad, Sadabad	
181.	The Sanskar School	Shyampur Marg, Garh Road, Hapur-245101, Hapur, Hapur	
182.	St. Xavier's High School	Nagheta Road, Kurriya, Hardoi, Sadar Hardoi	

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183.	Agra Vanasthali Vidyalya	Jhama Nala Chaleear, Ferozabad Road, Agra, 282006, Agra, Etmadpur	
184.	St Xavier's High School	Blehnu Pura, Distt. Balrampur, Uttar Pradesh, 271201, Balrampur, Balrampur	
185.	The Pillars Public School	Civil Lines, Gorakhpur, UP, 273001, Gorakhpur,	
186.	Ascent International School	Delta II HS 11 B, Greater Noida, Gautam Budh Nagar, 201308, Greater Noida, Surajpur	
187.	Heritage International School	Heritage International School, Talanagri, Ramghat Road, Allgarh, 202001, Allgarh, Allgarh	
188.	Maharishi Vidya Mandir	Village-Bahchola Post-Saini Mawana Road, 250001, Meerut, Meerut Vidya Gram, Meerut-Hapur Highway, Panchi, Oppo.	
189.	MS Heritage School	Lalpur, Dist-Meerut, (UP), Pin 245206, 245206, Panchi, Meerut	
190.	D.A.V. Public School	Airport Road, Siwa, Babatpur, Varanasi, 221006, Varanasi, Pindra	
191.	Stella Maris Convent School	Civil Lines, Sultanpur, 228001, Sultanpur, Miranpur	
192.	DP Modern Public School	Ram Park Extn., Loni, Ghaziabad, U.P., 201102, Ram Park Loni, Ghaziabad 216, West end Road, Meerut Cantt.	
193.	Darshan Academy Florence	U.P., 250001, Meerut, Meerut	
194.	Nightingales Public School	05832, 243601, Budaun, Budaun	
195.	Maa Anjani Public School	Vill. & Post Dakhinara, Etah Road, Shikohabad., 205135, Shikohabad, Shikohabad	
196.	Morning Star Children's Academy	Karmer Road Orai, 285001, Orai, Orai	
197.	Karamdevi Memorial Academy	S-1, Barra-8, Kanpur-208022, 208022, Kanpur, Kanpur Nagar	
198.	Bethany Convent School	Bethany Convent School Naini, Post- Allahabad (U.P.), 211008, Allahabad, Naini	

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199.	Blue Diamond Public School	Blue Diamond Public School	Sadopur Ki Jhaai, Dadri, Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P., 203208, Dadri, Dadri
200.	Maharishi Vidya Mandir	Maharishi Vidya Mandir	Jhansi Road, 285001, Orai, Orai
201.	Divine Public School	Divine Public School	Bichhia Near PAC Camp, 273014, Gorakhpur, Not Applicable
202.	Bethany Convent School	Bethany Convent School	Bethany Convent School Naini, Post Allahabad (U.P.), 211008, Allahabad, Naini
203.	SGRRPS	SGRRPS	SGRRPS Ghaziabad, 201001, Ghaziabad, Ghaziabad
204.	Swami Vivekanand Public School	Swami Vivekanand Public School	Swami Vivekanand Public School, Vill. & P.O. Satwai Via Rohta, Meerut, 250502, 20502, Meerut, Meerut
205.	Gyansthali Public School	Gyansthali Public School	Gyansthali Public School Bye Pass Road Miranpur Pradesh, 251315, Miranpur, Jansath
206.	St. Mary's Academy	St. Mary's Academy	Sarsawa P.C., Ambala Road, 247232, Sarsawa, Saharanpur
207.	Lal Radhey Shyam Academy	Lal Radhey Shyam Academy	Begam Pur Mali, Kotwali Road Nagina (Bijnor), 246762, Nagina, Nagina
208.	Sunbeam School Varuna	Sunbeam School Varuna	Central Jail Road, Sikraoul, 221002, Varanasi, Varanasi
209.	Seth Anandram Jaipuriya School	Seth Anandram Jaipuriya School	Sector 14-C, Vasundhara Ghaziabad, 201012, Ghaziabad, Ghaziabad
210.	Vidya Sagar School	Vidya Sagar School	Mohan Nagar Binauli Road, 250611, Baraut, Baraut
211.	Takshashila Public School	Takshashila Public School	Anta Chouraha, Bijlipura, 242001, Shahjahanpur, Sadar
212.	Shree Sanatan Dharm Education Centre	Shree Sanatan Dharm Education Centre	118/266, Kalishalpuri, Kanpur-2006, 208012, Kanpur City, Kanpur City
213.	Maharishi Vidya Mandir	Maharishi Vidya Mandir	Kuchhechha, Betwa Nagar, 210301, Hamirpur, Hamirpur
214.	St. R.C. Convent School	St. R.C. Convent School	ST. R.C. Convent School, 247773, Jhinhana, Kairana
215.	Sumitra Modern School	Sumitra Modern School	464, Vijay Laxmi Nagar, Terwa, Chillola, Lakhimpur Road, Distt. Sitapur, 261001, Sitapur, Sitapur
216.	Khaitan public School	Khaitan public School	Sector-5, Rajinder Nagar, Sahibabad Ghaziabad, 201005, Ghaziabad, Ghaziabad

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217.	Sant Shri Asaramji Public School	Mathura Road, Sikandara Agra, 282007, Agra, Agra	
218.	Amity International School	HS-1, Sector-6, Vasundhara Yojna, 201012, Vasundhara	
219.	Arcadian Public School	Nauhjheel Bajna Road Bajna Mathura (U.P.), 281201, Mathura, Mant	
220.	Dayanand Dinanath Education Centre (DDEC)	NH 86, Afzalpur, Ramaipur, on Main Hamirpur Road, 209214, Kanpur, Kanpur Nagar	
221.	Mayoor School	1. Sector-126 Expressway Noida, 201304, Noida, Noida Mavi Road Parikshit Garh	
222.	D.M. Public School	Meerut, (U.P.), 250004, Meerut, Mawana	
223.	Lotus Valley International School	Plot No. 2, Sector 126, Expressway., 201304, Noida, Noida	
224.	Vanita Public School	C/o Kashi Anathalaya Association, Lahurabir Varanasi Cannt.-221002, 221002, Lahurabir, Varanasi Sadar	
225.	Jai Academy	Shivpuri Road, Jhansi, 284419, Jhansi, Jhansi	
226.	Gaurav Memorial International School	673, Bithoor Road, Kalyanpur Kanpur, 208017, Kanpur, Kanpur	
227.	St. Dominic's Sec School	Basantar Mathura Cantt, 281002 U.P., 281002, Mathura, Mathura	
228.	Central Academy	Sector-1, Yojna 3 Jhusi, Allahabd, 211019, Allahabad, Phulpur	
229.	Shri Ramswaroop Memorial Public School	Village-Anaura, Near Indira Canal, Faizabad Road, 227105, Lucknow, Lucknow	
230.	Adarsh Public School	B-193 Sector 52, 201307, Noida, Dadri	
231.	Amardeep School	Vibhav Nagar, Firozabad, 283203, Firozabad, Firozabad	
232.	Sanskaar International School	Jayantipur, Sulem Sarai, 211011, Allahabad, Sadar	

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233.	Ryan International School	HS-6, Block E. Beta 1, Greater Noida-201308, Surajpur	
234.	JP International School	Sector 3A Omega 1, Greater Noida-201308, Dadri	
235.	Dewan Public School	Delhi Road, Rithani, Meerut-250001, Meerut, Meerut	
236.	International Bishop Conrad School	Modern Village Dohna P.O. Bhojipura-243302, Bareilly, Bareilly	

Maharashtra

Sl.No.	Stage	School name	Address
1	2	3	4
<i>Middle</i>			
1.		Sahakar Vidya Mandir & Jr. (SC) College	Vidya Nagri, Chikhali Road Buldhana, 443001, Buldhana, Buldhana Sr. No.-178/5 + 6 Bhekarai Nager Fursungi
2.		Sona I English Medium School	Hadapsar Pune-412308, Pune, Hawali
3.		Ashirwad Shikshan Parsar Mandal	Ramwadi, Bail Bazar, Kalyan (E), 421301, Kalyan, Kalyan
4.		Kishor Suryawanshi International School	Post Box 608; Panchavati Post Office; Nashik-422003, Nashik, Dindori
5.		Chhatrapati Shivaji Public School	Village-Hamamal Hills, P.O. Morane, Laling Tal. & Dist. Dhule-424001, Dhule Dhule
6.		Kukadi Valley Public School	At Post Yedgaon, Tal.-Junnar, Dist.-Pune 410504, Yedgaon, Junnar
7.		Army School, Kamptee	Army School, Kamptee, The Mail Road, Kamptee Cantonment, Kamptee-441001, Nagpur, Kamptee
8.		Padmeshri Shankarrao Bapu Apegaonkar English School	PSBA English School Aditya Nagar Garkheda Prisar Aurangabad-431005, Aurangabad, Aurangabad
9.		Sanskar Vidya Sagar	KDK College of Engg. Campus Nandanvan Nagpur-440009, Nagpur, Nagpur

1	2	3	4
10.	Late Mrs. Housabai Jayapal Magdum Public School Nimshirgaon		At/Post.: Nimshirgaon, Tal.; Shirol, Dist.: Kolhapur [M.s.], 416101, Nimshirgaon, Shirol
11.	Vittal Public School		Vittalldham, At Post Majri/Champa, Tah, Umrer Dist. Nagpur, 441203, Umrer, Umrer
12.	Sunshine Academy, Wardha		Sunshine Academy, Swewagram Road Wardha, 442001, Wardha, Wardha
13.	Arya Gurukul		Vidyanagar, Nandivali Village, Haji malang Road, 421306, Kalyan E. Kalyan
14.	Spring Dale School		Sahakar Nagar, Bhandara, 441904, Bhandara, Bhandara
15.	Prakash Shete English Public School Nalegaon		Shri Radhaswami Bahuddeshiya Vikas Mandal Nalegaon, 413524, Nalegaon, Chakur
16.	Arya-The School of International Studies		A/P-Andoor, 416205, Kolhapur, Gaganbavda
17.	New Garden English School		College Raod post Office, 422210, Saikheda, NIPHAD
18.	Macaroon Students Academy		Wani, Mauza-Wadagaon Villege, Tal Wani, Dist- Yavatmal, 445304, Wani, Wadagaon
19.	New Horizon Public School		Sector 13, Khanda Colony, New Panvel West, 410206 Panvel, Old panvel
20.	Purna Kaveri Education Society's Little Wonders English School		Sarafa Market, Sillod, 431112, Sillod Sillod
21.	SND English Medium Public School		At. Post Nagar Manmad Road, Darade Complex, Yeola Tal Yeola Dist. Nasik, 423401, Yeola, Yeola
22.	Pravara Public School		Pravara Public School
23.	Manikgarh Cement English School & Jr. College		Pravaranagar, 413712, Pravaranagar, Rahata Post-Gadchandur, Taluka-Korpana, Dist Chandrapur
24.	Seth Praful Patel Public English School		Maharashtra, 442908, Chandrapur, Korpana Adhariwadi Jail Raod Umbarde
25.	Panchgani International School		Gaon, Koliwali, Kalyan, 421301, Kalyan Umbarde Gaon Kolivali, Kalyan
26.	Bharati Vidyapeeth English Medium School, Dhankawadi, Pune		Khinghar Road, Godvali, 412805, Panchagani, Mahabaleshwar Dhankawadi Pune 43,411043, Pune, Pune

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27.	K.C.E. Society's Orion English Medium School	K.C.E. Society's Orion English medium School Jaigaon Bahina Vidyangan, Jaigaon 425002, 425002, Jaigaon, Jaigaon	
28.	Carmel High School	Dhmanora Road-442605 (M.S.), 442605, Gadchiroli, Gadchiroli Plot No. 26 C. Old M.H.B. colony. Opp. Vaidya	
29.	Leaming Panorama Foundation	Kumar Garden, Gorai Link Raod, Borivali (W), Mumbai 400092, 400032, Mumbai, Borivali	
30.	Sheth Vidya Mandir	Vasant Nagri, Vasai (E), 401205, Vasai RD, Vasai Nandepera Road, NR. Maharashtra Soya	
31.	Swamileela International School	Plant, AT-Wanjri Taluka Wani, District- Yavatmal, 445304, Wani, Wani	
32.	Param Poojya Shree Ramkrishna Saraswati Gurukul	AT-Umale, post-Dhanwad., 425003, Umale, Jaigaon	
33.	PRMSS, Anuradha English Medium School, Chikhli, Dist. Buldana, Maharashtra	Anuradha English Medium School, Anuradha Nagar, Sakegaon Road, Chikhli, Dist. Buldana, 443201, Chikhli, Chikhli	
34.	Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan's Bhagwandas Purohit Vidya Mandir, Ashti, Nagpur	At-ASHTI (Khurd) Po-Waini TH + Dist. Nagpur, 441501, Nagpur, Nagpur	
35.	Pratibha International School	Block D-III, Plot No. 3 Behind Mehta Hospital off, Mumbai-Pune Road., 411018, Pimpri Chinchwad, Pune	
36.	Chhatrapati Shahu Vidyalyaya	New Palace Area, 416003, Kolhapur, Karveer	
37.	Nashik Education Society's Highflier's Academy	Kathe Gally, Dwarka, 422011, Nashik, Nashik	
38.	Suryakanta Devi Pote Public School	Kathora Boad (Gajanan Township), 444603, Amaravati, Amravati	
<i>Secondary</i>			
39.	The Jain International School	Yerla Village, Near Asaram Babu Ashram, 440001, Feateri, Nagpur.	
40.	Bharti Vidyapeeth God's Valley International School	Bharati Vidyapeeth Gods Valley International School, 412805, Panchgani, Mahabaleshwar	
41.	Muljibhai Mehta International School	Gokul Town Ship, Virar West Thane Distric, 401303, Virar,	
42.	Patuck Tech High School, English Medium	100, Nehru Road, Patuck Complex, Vakola Bridge, Santacruz(E), 400055, Mumbai, Andheri	

1	2	3	4
43.	Smt. S.M. Chokhawala Little Angles's Academic		Behind Sarvajanic Guj. Hlschool, AT. Post TA. Nawapur Dist. Nandurbar, 425416, Navapur, Navapur
44.	Dileagram Convent English Medium School		Dileagram School, Ballarpur Post. Chandrapur Dist, Maharashtra- 442701, 442701, Ballarpur, Ballarpur
45.	Shri P.G. Public School		Chaupale, 425412, Chaupale, Nandurbar Asha Nagar Opp. Kanakia Sanskruti 90 Feet
46.	Ryan International School		Road Kandivli East, 4030101, Mumbai, Kandivli East Wardhaman Nagar, Ring Road
47.	Lalitha Public School		Nagpur, 440008, Nagpur, Nagpur
48.	Param Poojya Shree Ramakrishna Saraswati Gurukul		At-Umale, Post-Dhanwad, 425003, Umale, Jalgaon
49.	Chanda Public School		Datala Road, Ramnagar, Chandrapur Maharashtra, 442401, Chandrapur, Chandrapur
50.	Shivam Public Shool		29 Shivam Tilaknagar Near Nehru English School Nanded, 431805, Nanded, Nanded
51.	ST. Annes Public School		Dwarakanagari, Warrors, Andawan Post, Dist Chandrapur, 442914, Chandrapur, Chandrapur
52.	St. Michael's English School		Naginabag Mission Compound, Chandrapur, 442401, Chandrapur, Chandrapur
53.	Dhruv Academy		Malpani Campus, Dhandharphal, Akole Road-422603, Sangamner, Sangamner
54.	ST. Vincent Pallotti School		P.O. No. 18, Pallotti Nagar, Anat Nagar, Nagpur 440013, Maharashtra, 440013, Nagpur, Nagpur
55.	Dondaicha Education Society's Rotary English School		Rotary Bhuwan, Rotary Marg, 425408, Dondaicha, Shindkheda
56.	City International School Wanowrie		Near Ganga Savera Complex, Wanowrie, Pune-411040
57.	Creative Multipurpose		Near Vidyasagar College Khairi-Bijewada Sheetalwadi, Ramtek Dist. Nagpur (Maharashtra State), Pin-441 106, 441106, Sheetalwadi, Ramtek Sr. No. 79-81-80-76/4 (New), Opp. Rajaram Gas Agencies Behind Bharathi Vidhyapeth
58.	Sarhad School		Katraj, Pune 411046. 41046, Pune, Haveli

1	2	3	4
59.	Blossom Public School		S.No. 80/2, Mumbai-Pune By Pass Highway, Tathawade, Pune-411033, 411033, Pune, Pune
60.	Vidya Prabodhini Prashala English Medium		Dr. Moonje Marg, Ram Bhoomi, Nasik-5, 422005, Nasik, Nasik
61.	Tilak Public School		Plot 31, Sector 25, Nerul (E), Near Seawoods Station, Navi Mumbai, 400706, Navi Mumbai, Thane
62.	Rayan International School		Behind S.R.P.F. Mantha Ring Road, Sai Nagar, 431203, Jalna, Jalna Gut No. 115, Namdhari Farms, Beed Bypass, 431001, Aurangabad, Aurangabad
63.	Tender Care Home		Near Friends Colony Amravati-Katol By Pass
64.	Sandipani		Hazari Pahad, Nagpur, 440023, Nagpur, Nagpur
65.	Royal Public School		Vidya Nagar-Bhandara-441904, Bhandara
66.	Narayana Vidyalayam		Kutala, Ghuggus Road, AT Padoli, 442406, Chandrapur, Chandrapur
67.	Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya Balsa, Dist. Parbhani		At-Balsa, (MAU Campus 431402, Parbhani, Parbhani
68.	School of Schools, Gadchiroli		Chamorshi Road, Popat Building, Gadchiroli, 442605, Gadchiroli, Gadchiroli Camp, High Court Road
69.	School of Scholars, Amravati		Amravati, 444602, Amravati, Amravati At : Sawangi (Meghe) Tahsil & Distt.
70.	School of Scholars, Wardha		Wardha, 442004, Wardha, Wardha
71.	St. Peters School		St. Peters School, Bela, Bhandara, 441906, Bhandara, Bhandara
72.	Global Indian International School		Survey No. 174 177, Swarganga, Vallabh Nagar, Pimpri, 411017, Pune, Pune
73.	Sanskar Bharati Public School		Marda Road, Tal. Warora, Dist Chandrapur (M.S), 442907, Warora, Warora
74.	School of Scholars, Akola		Keshav Nagar, Gorakshan Road Akola-444005, Akola, Akola
75.	Raigad Military School		Behram Baug, New Link Road Near Evershine Towers, Oshiwara, Jogeshwari(W), Mumbai-400102, Mumbai

1	2	3	4
<i>Upgradation</i>			
76.	Sri Guru Harkrishan Public School		Bezonbagh, Kadbi Chowk., 440004, Nagpur, Nagpur
77.	Fort International Academy		A/P: Rakshi, Tal: Panhala, 416201, Kolhapur, Panhala
78.	Tuli Public School		Tuli Vidya Nagari, Near Koradi Octroi Post. Bokhara Road, 441111, Nagpur, Nagpur STES, S.P.S., Gat No.309/310, Kusgaon (BK.), Off Pune-Mumbai Expressway
79.	Singhad Public School		Lonavala, Pune, 410401, Lonavala, Maval
80.	Hon. Sharad Pawar Public School		AT: Post Manur, Taluka Kaiwan, 423501, Manur, Kaiwan
81.	Atomic Energy Central School-3, Tarapur		Anuvikas Town Ship, Tarapur, Boisar, Thane District, Maharashtra-401 504, 401504, Tarapur, Thane District
82.	St. Joseph's Convent School		Soug Colony Jalgaon, 425002, Jalgaon
83.	Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya Ratnagiri		At Padave Rajapur Taluk, 416702, padave, Rajapur
84.	Bharti Krishna Vidya Vihar		Bharti Krishna Vidya Vihar Rawal Bhavan, Near Telangkhedi Garden Nagpur 440001, Nagpur, Nagpur
85.	Tuli Public School		Tuli Vidya Nagari, Near Koradi Naka, Bokhara Road, 441111, Nagpur, Nagpur

Statement-III

No. of schools which have been granted affiliation by CBSE for the session 2008-09 (as on 10.08.2007)

State Name	Total Application
1	2
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2
Andhra Pradesh	2
Arunachal Pradesh	3
Chandigarh	2
Delhi	1
Gujarat	2
Haryana	2
Karnataka	3

1	2
Kerala	3
Lakshadweep	1
Madhya Pradesh	1
Manipur	2
Punjab	5
Rajasthan	1
Tamil Nadu	1
Uttar Pradesh	4
Uttaranchal	1
West Bengal	1
Total	37

*[English]***Code of Ethics for Media**

368. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any lapse has been noticed on the part of media during the recent Gujjar agitation in various parts of the country, particularly in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, whether the Government has felt the necessity to evolve a code of 'ethics' for reporting such events;

(c) if so, whether any State has approached the Union Government/the Ministry of Law in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) Role of the media during Gujjar agitation has come to the attention of the Govt. The Supreme Court of India has also taken *suo motu* notice of the damage done during recent Gujjar agitation and set up a committee headed by Shri F.S. Nariman to examine the role of media in the cases where there is destruction/damage to properties and loss of lives or injuries to persons. A nominee of Ministry of Information and Broadcasting is also one of the members of this committee. The first meeting on the committee was held on 30.7.07.

(c) to (e) No such request has been received from any State in this regard.

Development of Border Areas of Assam

369. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Assam has submitted to the Union Government any special scheme for development of border areas of Assam;

(b) if so, the salient features and details of the scheme; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) and (b) Under Border Area Development Programme (BADP) Govt. of Assam has submitted their Annual Action Plan for the year 2007-08 proposing special works in the identified border blocks relating to development of Model Villages, link roads, bridges/culverts, community centers, drinking water facilities, electrification in villages, solar street lights.

(c) The Annual Action Plan has been approved and first installment of Rs. 1344.67 lakh out of the total allocation of Rs. 2017.00 lakh has been released to the State Government.

Authentication of Certificates

370. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the locations of the centres where authentication of certificates of educational qualifications for the persons seeking employment in Arabian countries is being done in the country;

(b) whether the Government is aware of the hardships being faced by the persons coming from distant places to New Delhi for this purpose;

(c) whether the Government proposes to open more authentication centres in the country to save the job seekers from the ordeal of long travel; and

(d) if so, the details of places identified for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) (a) The States/UTs of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chandigarh, Dadar & Nagar Haveli, Delhi, Gao, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, J&K, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Orissa, Pondicherry, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, UP, Uttarakhand, and West Bengal, have setup authentication centers. (The details are annexed as Statement).

(b) The authentication done by the State/UT has to be endorsed by the Ministry of External Affairs and for this purpose the applicant still has to come to Delhi. Most of the foreign missions based in Delhi accept authentication of documents by MEA only.

(c) and (d) All States/UTs have agreed to open authentication centres. Most of them have already done so. Some States/UTs have opened more than one centre.

Statement

Locations of the Authentication Centres opened by States/UTs

-
- | | | |
|----|------------------------|---|
| 1. | Kerala
(Three RACs) | 1. Shri K.s. Gopinathan Nair, Regional Authentication Officer, Lotus Villa, Sasthamangalam, Thiruvananthapuram, Tel: 0471-5575212 (O)

2. Shri Paulose C. John, Regional Authentication Officer, 40/9210-A, Dorai Swami Iyer Road, Ermakulam, Tel: 0484-5583832, 5583834 (O)

3. Shri K. Saleem, Regional Authentication Officer, 2nd Floor, CDA Building, Zamorin's Square, Railway Station Link Road, Kozhikode, Tel: 0495-2304882, 2304885 (O) |
| 2. | Karnataka | Shri H.C. Nagendra, Deputy Secretary/Shri C. Basavaraju, Under Secretary, Home Department, Passport and Foreigners, Room No. 220, IInd Floor, Vidhana Southa, Bangalore, Tel: 080-22092540, 22092371 (O) |
| 3. | Maharashtra | Smt. Madhuri Kokane, Joint Secretary, School Education and Sports Department, 4th Floor Mantralaya Annexe, Mumbai-400032. Tel No. 02222024237 (O), 24367773 (R)
[New appointed officer – Smt. Seema Dhandhere, Joint Secretariat (Higher & Tech Education)] |
| 4. | Andhra Pradesh | Shri Padmanabha Swamy, Additional Secretary (GPM & AR)/Shri W. Ganeshan, Joint Secretary, General Administration Department, Old Reception Hall, Near Old Main Gate, A.P. Secretariat Buildings, Hyderabad. Tel: 040-23454823 (O) [New appointed Officer Shri D. Rama Krishana, JS(GPM & AR), General Administration, AP Secretariat, Hyderabad.] |
| 5. | Tamil Nadu | Public (Foreigners) Department, Near Chief Secretary Office, Old Building, Third Floor, Chennai-9 |
| 6. | Punjab | (i) Smt. Joginder Kaur/Shri Bakhshi Ram, Under Secretary, Department of Non-Resident Indian Affairs, Government of Punjab, Ground Floor, Mini Secretariat, Sector-9, Chandigarh.

(ii) Dr. Atamjit Singh, Deputy Director (Colleges), Director of Public Instruction (C) Punjab, Chadigarh. |
| 7. | West Bengal | Shri Raychaudhuri, Joint Secretary to the Government of West Bengal, Home (Foreigners' & NRI) Department Writers' Building, Kolkata—700001 |
| 8. | Goa | 12. Dr. B.A. Gomes, Director of Higher Education, Government of Goa, Junta House, 2nd lift, 5th Floor, Panaji, Goa. [Phone No. 2425582/85, Fax No. 2425582, Mobile No. 9822802572] |

- (i) Dr. Celsa Pinto, Director of Education, Government of Goa, Panaji—Goa.
 (ii) Shri Aleixo F. Da Costa, State Director of Craftmen Training, Shram Shakti Bhavan, 3rd, Floor, Patto Plaza, Panaji, Goa 403001
 (iv) Dr. Chandrasekhar, Director, Directorate of Technical Education, Alto Prvorim—Goa, Tel: 0832-2413571, Fax No: 2413571
 (New Appointment Shri Bhaskar G. Nayak Director of Higher Education,)
9. Rajasthan
 (i) Dr. O.P. Gupta, Officer on Special Duty (OSD), Department of Higher Education, Room No. 203, 2nd Floor, Main Building, Government Secretariat, Rajasthan, Jaipur: Tel No. 0141-2227017 (O), 9829132131 (Mobile), 0141-2227017
 (Residence Address—Dr. O.P. Gupta, F-40, Vaishali Nagar, Jaipur (Rajasthan)
 (ii) Shri Madhusudan Sharma, Tele: 0141-2227724(O), 9928015521 (Mobile), 0141-2227395 (Fax)
 (ii) Shri Loknath Soni,
 Tel: 0141-2227399 (O), 0141-23557571, 9829015522 (Mob), 0141-2273951
10. UT of Chandigarh
 (i) Smt. Kamla Bains, District Education Officer, UT, Chandigarh
 (ii) Sh. Gulzar Singh, Deputy Director Adult Education, UT, Chandigarh
11. Meghalaya
 Smti R.V. Suchiang, IAS, Commissioner & Secretary, Education Department, Government of Meghalaya, Shillong.
12. Bihar
 Sri Gopal Ji, Dy. Director, Higher Education, Human Resource Development Deptt. Govt. of Bihar, Patna. (1) Shri Sunil Kumar, Dy. Director, (Higher Education), Govt of Bihar, Patna.
13. Madhya Pradesh
 Dr. Radha Ballabh Sharma, Additional Director & In-charge of Academic & Co-ordination Cell, Directorate of Higher Education, Satpura Bhawan, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh-462004
14. Mizoram
 Shri R. Malsawma, Under Secretary, Higher & Technical Education Department, Govt of Mizoram, Mizoram
15. Jammu and Kashmir
 (i) Shri R.K. Sharma, Special Secretary to Government, Technical Education Department, J & K Civil Sectt. Jammu/Srinagar. Phone (J) 0191-2546284, (K) 0194-2485765, 9419140855(M)
 Prof. (Dr.) Ali Mohammad Mir, Principal, S.P. College, M.A. Road, Srinagar (J & K), Fax No. 0194-2478828, Mob-9419010839, Residential Address Chandpora, Harwan< Sri nagar, Kashmir 191123, : Phone-0194-2462156.
16. Dadra and Nagar Haveli, UT
 (i) Shri V.C. Pandey, Director of Education, and (ii) Shri D. Balalah, Assistant Director of Education, (Admin) of the Administration of Dadra and Nagar Haveli, UT, Silvassa.
17. Sikkim
 Mr. G.B. Niroula, Joint Director (Examination) and Miss Deki Topeden, Deputy Director (Examination), Human Resource Development, Govt. of Sikkim, Gangtok, Sikkim.
18. Delhi
 Shri D.M. Khaneta, Authenticating Officer, Government of National Territory of Delhi, Directorate of Education, Authentication Cell, Near Delhi University Metro Station, Lucknow Road, Delhi-54 Tel No. 23814541.

19. Jharkhand Shri P.K. Lahara, Director, (Administration), Shri Siril Khakha, Deputy Secretary, Human Resource Development and Shri Shekhan Kumar Verma, Under Secretary, Human Resource Department, Jharkhand Ranchi.
20. U.P. Shri B.N. Batham, Special Secretary (HE), Department of Higher Education Lucknow Sectt. (UP) Tel No. 0522-2237918(c) and 2205454 (R) Fax No. 2235594
21. Pondicherry Director, (Higher & Technical Education), Chief Sectt. Education, Govt. of Pondicherry
22. Orissa Shri Bijay Shankar Deo, J.S. and Shri Chaturbhuja Mallick, JS, Dept. of Higher Education, Bhubeneshwar, Orissa
23. Haryana Shri S.K. Kalia, Dy. Director (Colleges-I), O/o Higher Education, Commissioner and Sh. V.S Malhan, Asstt. Director (Colleges, VII), Harayana (Chandigarh)
24. Uttarakhand K.S. Bist, Under Secretary (GED) & Sh. N.S. Dunganyal Ph. 0135-2712802, Secy. GAD, Mr. M.S. Khan, Ramesh Rawal, Fax 2712096 (ARO)
25. H.P. Sh. P. Mishra, Secretary (Education), Shimla (H.P.), Ph. 0177-2621894.

Youth Parliament

371. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Youth Parliament Competitions are to be held in all the schools and colleges of the States every year;

(b) whether a number of States have not held these competitions;

(c) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) the financial assistance provided to various States for holding this competition during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (c) No Sir. However, the All India Whips' Conference had recommended that all States should take steps to implement the Youth Parliament Scheme on the pattern adopted by the Central Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. The Central Scheme envisages the conduct of the Competitions in selected schools only and not in all the schools. Further, it is not mandatory on the part of States to conduct Youth Parliament Competitions in the schools and colleges.

(d) Details of Financial Assistance provided to various States for holding Youth Parliament Competitions during the last three years is as under:

S.N.	Financial Year	Name State/ Union Territory	Amount of Assistance (Rs.)
1.	2004-2005	(i) Chandigarh (Union Territory)	32,163/-
		(ii) Haryana	87,858/-
		(iii) Kamataka	1,00,000/-
2.	2005-2006	(i) Kamataka	1,00,000/-
		(ii) Haryana	1,00,000/-
3.	2006-2007	(i) Haryana	99,985/-

Recognition of Business Schools

372. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether All India Council of Technical Education has withdrawn recognition of certain Business Schools;

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

(c) the fate of students in these institutions; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to safeguard the interests of the students?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) As per the information furnished by All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE), the Council has withdrawn the approval of Amity Business School, Noida due to non-fulfillment of norms prescribed by AICTE. However, students pursuing the programme were permitted to complete their programme.

[*Translation*]

Leaving of Jobs by Personnel of PMF

373. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:
SHRIMATI KARUNA SHUKLA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of personnel of Para Military Forces (PMF) are leaving their jobs every year;

(b) if so, the reasons and total number of the said personnel leaving their jobs during each of the last three years, as on date, male/female-wise and force-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) The details of personnel leaving their job are as under:

Force	Male/ Female	Year		
		2005	2006	2007
1	2	3	4	5
BSF	M	17464	16210	7199
	F	03	04	03
ITBP	M	247	196	44
	F	03	06	02
SSB	M	10	64	61
	F	NII	NII	NII

1	2	3	4	5
CISF	M	1163	853	364
	F	11	18	04
CRPF	M	2268	2954	1172
	F	—	—	—
A/Rifles	M	1167	1956	1430
	F	02	01	NII

The main causes are:

- (i) Family/Personal/Domestic problems.
 - (ii) Separation from family for long durations.
 - (iii) Difficult duties in remote or hard areas.
 - (iv) Sickness/Mental depression/Psychiatric/emotional cases.
 - (v) Fear of punishment for wrong doings.
 - (vi) Attractive alternative employment.
- (c) The following steps have been taken:
- (i) Transparent leave policy.
 - (ii) Regular interaction, both formal and informal between Commanders/officers and troops.
 - (iii) Revamping of grievances redressal machinery.
 - (iv) Provision of telephone facilities to the troops to facilitate being in touch with family members and to reduce tension.
 - (v) Yoga classes for better stress management.
 - (vi) Recreational and sports facilities.
 - (vii) Basic amenities/facilities for troops and their families.
 - (viii) Better medical facilities.

Self-Employment to Weavers and Craftsmen

374. DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the financial assistance provided to the craftsmen and weavers in the country including Jharkhand to start self-employment during each of the last three years, State and Union Territory-wise; and

(b) the number of craftsmen and weavers benefited from this scheme during the said period, State and Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) and (b) The Government does not have any scheme both in the Handicrafts and Handloom Sectors, for direct financial assistance to artisans & weavers for the self employment in the country including the state of Jharkhand.

However, for the development of both these sectors, the Government has been implementing various schemes, which provide assistance to the artisans as well as to handloom weavers. In the handicraft sector, the schemes proposed for implementation during the 11th Five Year Plan include: Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana; Marketing Support and Service Scheme; Design & Technology Upgradation Scheme; Welfare Scheme; Human Resource Development Scheme and Research & Development Scheme. In the handloom sector, concerted efforts are being made through the schemes and programmes to increase production, productivity, and the efficiency of weavers and enhance their income and socio-economic status by providing skill upgradation, infrastructure and input supports to them.

Illegal Activities in Border Areas

375. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether ISI agents and smugglers are using international border for illegal activities as reported in *Rashtriya Sahara* dated June 11, 2007;

(b) whether the security forces are facing difficulties in monitoring the border areas; and

(c) if so, the details of the efforts being made by the Government to check these activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) and (b) Border Security Force is deployed on Indo-Pak Border. In the Gujarat sector, the Rann of Kutch area is inhospitable and during monsoon time, movement is difficult. As such, there are difficulties in monitoring the border area of Rann during monsoon. However, BSF constantly dominates the international border through its 120 Border Outposts. During the last three years, the

following number of persons were intercepted by BSF from this area some of whom were reportedly acting on behalf of the operatives:

2005	—	104 Nos.
2006	—	68 Nos.
2007 (Upto July)	—	35 Nos.

(c) Government has approved construction of 310 km of fencing along with border road and 310 km of floodlighting on the Gujarat border. Of these, 217 km of fencing and 202 km of floodlighting has already been completed. BSF have also floating BOPs in Creek area. Besides fencing and floodlighting, modern and hi tech surveillance equipment have also been introduced. BSF also conducts special operation and maintain coordination with other security/Intelligence agencies.

[English]

Sahitya Academy Films

376. SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Sahitya Academy makes films on eminent literary figures from time to time;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of such films made on the literary figures of the North East during each of the last three years along with names of the literary figures;

(d) the funds allocated for the purpose during each of the last three years including the current year;

(e) the details thereof; and

(f) the names of the writers in whose names films are made or proposed to be made this year?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Roads Along Indo-China Border

377. SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware about the dilapidated condition of the roads that provide access to Indo-China border areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has sanctioned funds for improving the condition of roads leading to Indo-China border area; and

(d) if so, the State-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) to (d) India-China border is characterized by high altitude terrain and relatively thin habitation which has resulted in inadequate road connectivity in areas close to the border. To redress this situation, the Government have decided to undertake the construction of 27 road links totaling 608 km in the border areas in the States of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh at an estimated cost of Rs. 912.00 crores. The work of construction of these roads is expected to commence from 2007-08.

[English]

FM Stations in Tamil Nadu

378. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of FM stations located in Tamil Nadu, city-wise;

(b) the details of the area of coverage of each of the FM stations;

(c) whether the Government has any plan to expand the coverage or to open more FM stations in the State;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the time by when the proposal is likely to be implemented; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) 8 All India Radio (AIR) F.M. Stations are operating in Tamil Nadu presently. City-wise locations and coverage of these 8 stations are given in the enclosed Statement-I. Private FM stations located in Tamil Nadu, city-wise has also been indicated in the enclosed Statement-II. The area of coverage of each Private FM Station depends upon technical parameters of Transmitters/antenna and on various physical variables.

(c) to (f) So far as AIR is concerned, 10 KW FM Transmitter at Dhampuri and 100 W FM relay centre at Ooty and Thanjavur are technically ready. As part of ongoing projects two FM transmitters (10 KW each at Thirunelveli and Madurai are under implementation. Completion of these projects will depend on approval and availability of funds and decision on Operation & maintenance staff.

As regards private FM Radio, a policy of FM Radio Broadcasting Service through private agencies was notified in July, 2005. A total of 337 channels were put on bid under this scheme. This includes 27 Channels in 7 cities in Tamil Nadu, Out of 27 Channels, 23 Channels were allotted to Private Operators. For 4 vacant channels, Tender Notice inviting pre-qualifications bids from Private Operators has been issued on 8-8-2007.

Statement

Coverage of All India Radio FM Transmitter in Tamil Nadu

S.No.	Place	Power	Approximate
			Coverage Area (in thousand Sq Km.)
1.	Chennai	20 KW	3.0
2.	Chennai	20 KW	3.0
3.	Nagercoil	10 KW	4.2
4.	Kodaikanal	10 KW	37.8
5.	Coimbatore	10 KW	3.6
6.	Tiruchirapalli	10 KW	3.04
7.	Madurai	1 KW	1.02
8.	Yercaud	100 W	8.5

Private FM Stations in Tamil Nadu

Sl.No.	Name of the City	No. of FM Stations in operation
1.	Chennai	7
2.	Coimbatore	1
3.	Thirunelveli	1

[Translation]

Export of Agricultural Products

379. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is planning to export agricultural products like wheat and rice;

(b) if so, the details thereof, till date; and

(c) the details of foreign exchange earned therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) As regards wheat, the export is currently banned. Rice is freely permitted for export under the Foreign Trade Policy in force. However, export of Basmati rice is subject to registration of contracts with APEDA.

(c) During the last three years, details of foreign exchange earned from export of rice and wheat is as under:

	Value in (Million USD)		
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
Basmati Rice	628.49	687.34	614.00
Non Basmati	878.01	717.85	940.98
Wheat	324.90	125.93	7.99

Source: DGCIS

[English]

Vigilance in Coastal Areas

380. SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has stepped up vigil in Pak Strait, Gulf of Mannar and the coastal areas in Tamil Nadu along the international border;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to protect and to safeguard the lives of the fishermen and their families in the coastal region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) and (b) The coastal areas in Tamil Nadu as also the regions of Pak Strait and Gulf of Mannar are being closely guarded by the Indian Navy and Coast Guard with assistance from the State Coastal Police. On receiving inputs from various intelligence agencies, the Government of India keeps issuing directives to Coast Guard and State Government to step up the vigil in the region.

(c) The State Governments of Coastal States issue regular instructions to the fishermen not to go for deep sea fishing to avoid apprehension. Coast Guard and State Government are also given directions to provide all possible help to the fishermen in the event of any exigency.

Fish Export

381. SHRI HITEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total export of fish during of the last three years, category-wise and country-wise;

(b) the details of foreign exchange earned therefrom, category-wise and country-wise;

(c) the steps contemplated to protect the prawn export industry of West Bengal and Kerala from the adverse effect of the import policy of Western countries;

(d) and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) A Statement is Annexed.

(c) and (d) India is proactively involved in improving the quality of prawns exported from the country in general and West Bengal and Kerala in particular, to match the standards specified by western importing country requirements. To this end, processes are being improved at all levels-hatcheries, farms, feedmills and processing units.

Statement Export Details Country-wise

Quantity In Tonnes = Q Country group	Foreign Exchange Earnings in US Dollars = \$			
	2006-2007	2005-2006	2004-2005	
1	2	3	4	5
JAPAN	Q	67437	59785	57832
	\$	299.20	262.79	266.96

1	2	3	4	5
USA	Q	43758	55817	50045
	\$	297.08	372.62	345.52
EUROPEAN UNION	Q	149760	136842	117742
	\$	610.86	484.02	405.4
CHINA	Q	203513	137076,	124826
	\$	259.06	191.99	154.1
SOUTH EAST ASIA	Q	67650	60140	63842
	\$	136.43	13270	139.77
MIDDLE EAST	Q	23599	22270	16624
	\$	82.56	69.64	54.7
OTHERS	Q	56924	40234	30418
	\$	167.75	13044	112.03
Total	Q	612641	512164	461329
	\$	1852.93	1644.21	1478.48

Export of Marine Products from India Category-wise

Quantity In Tonnes = Q	Item group	Foreign Exchange Earnings in US Dollars = \$		
		2006-2007	2005-2006	2004-2005
1	2	3	4	5
Frozen Shrimp	Q	137397	145180	138085
	S	997.64	970.43	938.41
Frozen Fish	Q	270751	182344	159689
	S	321.95	225.94	168.69
FR Cuttle Fish	Q	55701	49651	44239
	S	175.75	124.48	104.89
FR Squid	Q	47252	52352	48124
	S	126.25	130.49	106.63
Dried Item	Q	24293	14167	9692
	S	40.75	30.03	27.09

1	2	3	4	5
Live Items	Q	2478	2588	2282
	S	14.22	13.99	11.31
Chilled Item	Q	7200	5060	3988
	S	26.63	18.4	15.16
Others	Q	67571	60841	55250
	S	149.72	130.46	106.29
Total	Q	612641	512164	461329
	S	1852.93	1644.21	1478.48

[Translation]

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

382. PROF. PREM KUMAR DHUMAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of projects being run under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in the country, State wise;

(b) the total number of teachers and students in the centers, State-wise;

(c) the total number of buildings proposed to be constructed under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government is providing untrained casual teachers and giving adhoc appointments in place of appointing regular trained teachers under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government to improve this situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme is to be implemented in all districts of all States/Union Territories of the country aiming at universalisation of elementary education for children in the 6-14 year age group.

Details of teachers and school buildings sanctioned under the SSA programme till 2007-08 are given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) and (e) Teachers are recruited by States/UTs as per their norms, rules and regulations.

Statement

State-wise Teachers sanctioned and School Buildings sanctioned under SSA

Sl.No.	State/UT	Teachers Sanctioned (Up to 2007-06)	School Buildings Sanctioned (Up to 2007-08)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	37933	9189
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3054	951
3.	Assam	5410	7132
4.	Bihar	220046	18010
5.	Chhatisgarh	53391	16403
6.	Goa	201	0
7.	Gujarat	1848	835
8.	Haryana	8090	2053
9.	Himachal Pradesh	3414	0
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	25426	6931

1	2	3	4
11.	Jharkhand	83709	16531
12.	Karnataka	22404	2974
13.	Kerala	496	523
14.	Madhya Pradesh	92715	40813
15.	Maharashtra	1236	14016
16.	Manipur	123	968
17.	Meghalaya	7077	1107
18.	Mizoram	961	1049
19.	Nagaland	168	166
20.	Orissa	68724	11267
21.	Punjab	3304	514
22.	Rajasthan	111132	8340
23.	Sikkim	468	50
24.	Tamil Nadu	20542	6510
25.	Tripura	3326	1182
26.	Uttar Pradesh	251745	40674
27.	Uttarakhand	5651	3909
28.	West Bengal	92681	4124
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	130	4
30.	Chandigarh	785	24
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	797	126
32.	Daman and Diu	129	12
33.	Delhi	28	6
34.	Lakshadweep	21	6
35.	Pondicherry	42	38
Total		1127207	216237

[English]

Survey on Functioning of Elementary Schools

383. SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT pleased to state:

(a) the number of elementary schools in the country functioning without blackboards;

(b) the reasons therefor;

(c) whether a survey to this effect was conducted by National University of Educational Planning and Administration (NUEPA);

(d) if so, the details of the survey revealed by this organization;

(e) whether the Government has considered the survey report of the said organization; and

(f) if so, the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) As per District Information System for Education (DISE 2005-06), 89,407 schools at the elementary level have been reported to be without blackboards.

(c) to (f) National University of Educational Planning & Administration collects the data annually through District Information System which covers schools up to elementary level. DISE data has revealed that school facilities like drinking water, common toilets, separate toilets for girls etc. have shown improvement over the previous year. DISE data has also revealed that Pupil Teacher Ratio, Enrolment, Transition Rate and Gender Parity Index have improved.

Association for Rubber

384. SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and other Asian countries producing Rubber, Tea and other cash crops propose to form an association/organization on the lines of the oil producing countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) India is

already a member of various Inter-Governmental organizations viz. Inter-Governmental Group on Tea, International Coffee Organisation, Association of Natural Rubber Producing Countries, International Pepper Community, etc., set up for bringing together major producing and consuming countries of these commodities for the purpose of interacting on various policy issues concerning these sectors.

Proposals Under IIUS

385. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat had sent two proposals for approval under Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme (IIUS) during 2004 and 2005;

(b) if so, the present status of these pending proposals; and

(c) the time by when both the projects are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (c) During 2004 and 2005, 13 proposals were received from the State of Gujarat under Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme (IIUS). 4 proposals were sanctioned, 4 rejected and 5 proposals could not be considered because the entire tenth plan allocation of Rs. 675 crore stood committed for the sanctioned projects.

Helpline for Women

386. SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:
SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up round the clock helpline for women in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise/Union Territory-wise;

(c) the help likely to be provided through this helpline; and

(d) the details of the institutions/agencies enlisted to provide this service, State/Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (c) This Ministry is running Scheme of "Swadhar—A Scheme for Women in Difficult Circumstances" under which Helpline facilities are available. This is a toll free telephone facility that can be accessed by any women in distress.

(b) and (d) The State/Union Territory-wise details of the institutions/agencies are available at the website of the Ministry namely www.wcd.nic.in.

SEZ for Textile Units

387. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal from the Government of Tamil Nadu for setting up of export oriented textile units under the Special Economic Zones (SEZs) Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) to (c) The Government has granted formal approval to ETL Infrastructure Services Limited to set up a sector specific textile SEZ in Uthukuli Village, Erode District, Tamil Nadu in an area of 101.62 hectares. This SEZ has not been notified so far. Approval 'in principle' has been granted to RNB Infrastructures Private Limited to set up an SEZ in Coimbatore District, Tamil Nadu over an area of 107.24 hectares; and to Best & Crompton to set up a textile and apparel park in Krishnagiri District, Tamil Nadu, over an area of 120 hectares.

Development Board for Konkan Region

388. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has been coordinating with the Ministry of Home Affairs for establishment of a separate Development Board for

Konkan Region on the lines of Vidarbha and Marathwada; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) Government has received a Resolution passed on 20th February, 2005 by both the Houses of Maharashtra State Legislature recommending the establishment of a separate Development Board for Konkan region of the State.

(b) The Planning Commission, who were consulted in the matter, are of the view that backwardness by itself is not a reason for constitutional amendment as there are other instruments available to the Centre and State Governments to gear up their developmental machinery.

[Translation]

Repealing of Armed Forces Special Powers Act

389. SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up an Administrative Reforms Commission to repeal the Armed Forces Special Power Act;

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

(c) if so, the details of recommendations made by the Commission;

(d) whether the Government has considered the recommendations;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to check the violation of human rights by the Armed Forces?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) to (f) The Second Administrative Reforms Commission in its Fifth Report on 'Public Order' has, inter alia, made recommendations regarding the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958. These recommendations of the Commission along with the recommendations of Justice

B.P. Jeevan Reddy Committee on review of the Armed Forces (Special) Powers) Act 1958 are being examined.

(g) For preventing misuse of powers under the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958, the Army Headquarters have issued guidelines containing 'Do's & Don'ts' for the Armed Forces deployed in Counter Insurgency Operations. Violation of these guidelines by members of the Armed Forces make them liable for prosecution under the Army Act. In addition, the Chief of Army Staff has issued 'Ten Commandments' to the troops deployed in Counter Insurgency Operations to guide them while conducting the operations. The Human Rights Cell established at various levels of Army regularly monitors human rights violation, if any, by the members of the Armed Forces. The troops are sensitised at regular intervals regarding the importance of upholding Human Rights.

[English]

Malnourished Children and Women

390. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether more than half of the women and children in India are suffering from severe malnutrition and chronic undernourishment;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to distribute foodgrains free of cost to women and children suffering from malnutrition etc.;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken to wipe-out malnutrition and undernourishment among women and children in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) No, Sir. As per National Family Health Survey-3 (2005-2006), 19.1% children are severely malnourished and 33% women have chronic Energy Deficiency.

(b) to (d) Free food supplements are given to children (6 months to 6 years) and pregnant and lactating women

under the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme. Children suffering from severe malnutrition receive double the quantity of supplementary food for 300 days in a year.

Undernourished adolescent girls weighing less than 35 kg. receive 6 Kg. of wheat/rice per month under the Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls implemented in 51 districts. About 12 crore children are receiving mid day meals in schools under the National Programme for Nutritional Support to Primary Education.

(e) The Government is seized of the problem of malnutrition and is implementing a number of schemes which directly or indirectly improve the nutritional status of women and children. Some of these are as under:

- (i) Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme (Ministry of Women & Child Development);
- (ii) National Programme for Nutritional Support to Primary Education (Mid Day Meal Scheme) [Department of Elementary Education & Literacy];
- (iii) Nutrition Programme for Adolescent girls in 51 districts to provide free foodgrains to undernourished adolescent girls and pregnant and nursing mothers (Ministry of Women & Child Development);
- (iv) Nutrition Education and Training Programmes of Food and Nutrition Board (Ministry of Women & Child Development);
- (v) National Rural Health Mission including Iron and Folic Acid and Vitamin A Supplementation programmes and Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illness (Ministry of Health & Family Welfare);
- (vi) National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme (Ministry of Health & Family Welfare);
- (vii) Targetted Public Distribution System (Department of Food & Public Distribution);
- (viii) Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme/ Swajaldhara and Total Sanitation Campaign/ National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme (Ministry of Rural Development).

Expert Committees to Examine Military Situation in Jammu and Kashmir

391. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI RAO:
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has set up two expert committees to examine the ground situation of Jammu & Kashmir and undertaken a review of the armed Forces Special Powers Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these expert committees have recommended for demilitarization in Jammu & Kashmir;

(d) if so, the details of recommendations made by the said committees separately; and

(e) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) There have been demands and reports, from time to time, about reduction in the level of security force deployment in Jammu and Kashmir in view of the overall improvement in the security environment. The approach of the Government is to ensure that the deployment of security forces is related to the scale of problems and requirements on the ground. In this context, it has been decided to constitute a Committee under the Chairmanship of the Defence Secretary to examine the overall situation and security forces deployment in the light of the approach of the Government as stated above and to determine whether there is need to relocate and configure the existing security forces deployment.

The Committee would also conduct a parallel exercise to review the application of the Armed Forces (Jammu and Kashmir) Special Powers Act 1990 to different areas of J&K. The review would be carried out in conformity with the legal requirement of a periodic review of the application of the Act.

(c) to (e) The Report of the Committee has not yet been submitted to the Government.

Inclusion in ST List

392. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Assam had furnished a report in 2005 regarding inclusion of six communities of Assam in the Scheduled Tribes (ST) list as required by the Registrar General of India and National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(b) whether on earlier occasions the Government of Assam, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes, Registrar General of India, concerned Select Committee and Standing Committee of Parliament also recommended for inclusion of the 'Konch Rajbonshis' and other communities into the ST list;

(c) if so, the details of such recommendations made therein, community-wise and the action taken by the Government so far;

(d) the reason for delay in implementing those recommendations; and

(e) the time by when the said community is likely to be included in the ST list?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) Yes, Sir. The State Govt. of Assam has in 2005 sent a copy of the report regarding the social status of Koch Rajbongshis, Tai-Ahom, Chutia, Moran, Matak and Tea & Ex-Tea Garden Communities living in Assam, recommending the inclusion of these communities in the Scheduled Tribes list of Assam.

(b) to (d) In 1993, the State Government of Assam recommended the specification of Koch Rajbongshi as a Scheduled Tribe, but the report appended to the State Government's recommendation was found contradictory and the RGI had rejected the claim. Later, the State Government sent a revised report, on basis of which in 1995 the RGI supported its inclusion in the list, without connecting it with the earlier report.

On 27.1.96, an Ordinance effecting the inclusion of Koch Rajbongshi in the list of Scheduled Tribes of Assam (excluding autonomous districts of Assam) was promulgated. The Ordinance was re-promulgated thrice on 27.3.1996, 27.6.1996 and 9.1.1997 for giving continued effect to the inclusion. The Ordinance lapsed on 2.4.1997.

The Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, (Amendment) Bill, 1996 was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 12.7.1996. The aforesaid Bill was referred to the "Select Committee" of the Lok Sabha on 02.08.1996. The Select Committee submitted its report on 14.08.1997. The report of the Select Committee was circulated among the State Government of Assam, the Registrar General of India, National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Government of Assam and the Registrar General of India had recommended the inclusion of Koch Rajbongshi in the list of Scheduled Tribes of Assam (though in March 1997, the Govt. of Assam had stated that Koch Rajbongshi have been benefited like other sections of the society by the process of development and it will not be correct to say that they have become backward during this period so as to claim status of Scheduled Tribes). But the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes did not favour its specification as a Scheduled Tribe. However, in 2002 the National Commission changed their stand and recommended the inclusion. They also referred the case to RGI for the justification for inclusion, but the RGI rejected the claim of Koch Rajbongshi community.

The RGI has commented eight times (1981, 1992, 1995, 1997, 2000, 2003, 2005 and 20.3.2006) on the proposal for inclusion of Koch Rajbongshi including the above referred reference of 2005 (on 20.3.2006). Similarly, in the case of the other aforesaid communities, RGI has rejected the claim for their inclusion in the list of Scheduled Tribes of Assam several times.

(e) As the modalities require consent of the concerned State Government, Registrar General of India and the National Commission for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes for modification in the list of Scheduled Tribes and this takes time, therefore, no specific time-frame can be mentioned at present.

[Translation]

Closure of NTC Mills

393. SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDALIKRAO GAWALI:
SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of NTC mills lying closed in each State/Union Territory including Maharashtra for the last five years;

(b) the number of workers given Voluntary Retirement so far and the amount thereof, State and Union Territory-wise;

(c) the number of textile mills modernised so far and the status of modernisation of the remaining textile mills State and Union Territory-wise;

(d) the number of closed NTC mills whose land has been sold by the Government, State and Union Territory wise; and

(e) the amount received by selling of the said land, mill-wise, State and Union Territory wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) As per the Revival Scheme for National Textile Corporation approved by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), 67 mills have been closed under ID Act. State and Union Territory-wise list of closed mills is enclosed as Statement-I.

(b) As on 01.08.2007, 55455 employees (including 48019 workers) have been given Voluntary Retirement

by paying compensation of Rs. 1942.88 crores. State and Union Territory-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(c) In accordance with the scheme approved by BIFR, NTC Ltd. has to modernize 22 mills by itself through generation of funds from sale of land and assets. NTC has started modernizing its thirteen mills for which orders for purchase of machinery have already been placed and machinery is in the process of installation and commissioning. Two mills in the State of Madhya Pradesh will be revived now, as the relief & concessions requested for sale of land have been given by the State Govt. One mill in Mahe could not be taken up for modernization due to labour problem which has now been resolved. As regards remaining six mills, it has been decided to relocate 4 mills from metro cities to sub-urban area in the same state and revive 2 mills on turn key basis. List of these mills is enclosed as Statement-III.

(d) and (e) There are 29 closed mills whose land has been sold by NTC. Union Territory-wise list giving details of amount received is enclosed as Statement-IV.

Statement-I

List of 67 Mills closed Under ID Act

S.No.	Name of the Mills	Date of Closure
1	2	3
Rajasthan		
1.	Edward Mills	06.05.2002
Punjab		
2.	Dayalbagh Mills	01.09.2003
3.	Panipat Woolen Mills	15.05.2004
Madhya Pradesh		
4.	Kalyanmal Mills	31.05.2002
5.	Swadeshi Textile Mills	31.05.2002
6.	Hira Mills	31.10.2002
7.	Indore Malwa United Mills	31.03.2003

1	2	3
	Chhattisgarh	
8.	Bengal Nagpur Cotton Mills	31.10.2002
	III. NTC (Maharashtra North) Ltd.	
9.	Kohinoor Mills No. 2	01.06.2002
10.	Kohinoor Mills No. 3	01.06.2002
11.	India United Mills No. 4	31.10.2002
12.	India United Mills No. 2	31.3.2004
13.	India United Mills No. 3	31.3.2004
14.	Jam Mfg. Mills	31.3.2004
15.	Shri Sitaram Mills	31.3.2004
16.	Model Mills	5.6.2004
17.	R.S.R.G. Mills	5.6.2004
18.	Vidharbha Mills	5.6.2004
19.	Kohinoor Mills No. 1	27.12.2006
20.	India United Mills No. 6	24.1.2007
21.	Bharat Textile Mills	1.4.2004
22.	Digvijay Textile Mills	1.4.2004
23.	Elphinstone Spg. & Wvg. Mills	1.4.2004
24.	Jupiter Textile Mills	1.4.2004
25.	Mumbai Textile Mills	1.4.2004
26.	New Hind Textile Mills	1.4.2004
27.	Podar Processors	1.4.2004
28.	Shree Madhusudan Mills	1.4.2004
	Gujarat	
29.	Petlad Textile Mills	6.5.2002
30.	Rajkot Textile Mills	6.5.2002
31.	Virangam Textile Mills	31.7.2002
32.	New Manekchowk Textile Mills	31.7.2002
33.	Mahalaxmi Textile Mills	30.9.2002

1	2	3
34.	Rajnagar Textile Mills 2	31.10.2002
35.	Ahmedabad Jupiter Mills	31.3.2003
36.	Himadari Textile Mills	30.9.2003
37.	Jehangir Textile Mills	30.6.2004
	Andhra Pradesh	
38.	Adoni Cotton Mills	6.5.2002
39.	Natraj Spinning Mills	6.5.2002
40.	Netha Spinning & Weaving Mills	6.5.2002
41.	Azam Jahi Mills	31.10.2002
	Karnataka	
42.	Mysore Mills (Merged with Minerva Mills)	—
43.	M.S.K. Mills	6.5.2002
	West Bengal	
44.	Bangasri Cotton Mills	6.5.2002
45.	Bengal Fine S. & W. Mills No. II	6.5.2002
46.	Manindra B.T. Mills	6.5.2002
47.	Jyoti Wvg. Factory	6.5.2002
48.	Central Cotton Mills	6.5.2002
49.	Shree Mahalaxmi Cotton Mills	6.5.2002
50.	Bengal Luxmi Cotton Mills	25.10.2003
51.	Rampooria Cotton mills	25.10.2003
52.	Bengal Fine S. & W. Mills No. I	25.10.2003
	Biher	
53.	Gaya Cotton & Jute Mills	6.5.2002
	Tamil Nadu	
54.	Kishnaveni Textile Mills	31.5.2002
55.	Om Parasakthi Mills	31.5.2002
56.	Kaleeswarar Mills 'A' Unit	21.7.2002

1	2	3
57.	Somasundaram Mills	31.1.2002
58.	Balaramvarma Mills	6.1.2003
	Uttar Pradesh	
59.	Atherton Mills	11.3.2004
60.	Bijli Cotton Mills	11.3.2004
61.	Laxmirattan Cotton Mills	11.3.2004
62.	Lord Krishna Tex. Mills	11.3.2004
63.	Muir Mills	11.3.2004
64.	New Victoria Mills	11.3.2004
65.	Rae Bareli Tex. Mills	11.3.2004
66.	Shri Vikram Cotton Mills	11.3.2004
67.	Swadeshi Cotton Mills	11.3.2004

Statement-II*Number of employees retired under MVRS as on 1.8.2007 Millwise & State-wise*

S.No.	Name of the Mills.	No. of employees retired under MVRS	Amount Paid (Rs. in Crore)
1	2	3	4
	NTC (APKKM)		
	Andhra Pradesh		
1.	Azam Jahi Mills	455	15.87
2.	Netha Mills	126	2.73
3.	Ananthapur Mills	284	7.81
4.	Adoni Mills	104	3.49
5.	Natraj Mills	59	2.23
6.	Tirupathi Mills	4	0.24
	Karnataka		
7.	M.S.K. Mills	750	21.6
8.	Minerva Mills	1687	63.55

1	2	3	4
9.	Mysore S & W Mills		Already merged with Minerva Mills
10.	Sree Yallamma Mills	311	9.43
	Kerala		
11.	Cannanore Spg.	0	0
12.	Kerala Laxmi	1	0.04
13.	Vijay Mohini	0	0
14.	Algappa Mills	108	2.41
15.	Parvathi Mills	224	5.53
	Pondicherry		
16.	Cannanore Mahe	6	0.15
	RMD	180	7.63
	Corporate Office	88	6.14
	Total	4387	148.85
	NTC (DPR)		
	Punjab		
17.	Suraj Textile Mills	529	12.68
18.	Dayal Bagh Mills	505	11.12
19.	Kharar Textile Mills	577	14.4
20.	Panipat Woolen	631	14.86
	Rajaasthan		
21.	Udaipur Mills	365	9.82
22.	Sri Bijay Cotton	408	9.97
23.	Mahalaxmi Mills	288	7.24
24.	Edward Mills	280	7.89
	RMD	109	4.6
	Corporate Office	31	2.21
	Total	3723	93.79

1	2	3	4
	NTC (Gujarat)		
25.	Amd. New Textile Mills	1156	41.78
26.	Jehangir Textile Mills	1115	41.07
27 & 28	Rajnagar No. 1 & 2	1400	48.89
29.	New Manekchow Mills	778	27.43
30.	Himadri Textile Mills	515	19.43
31.	Ahd. Jupiter Mills	794	27.97
32.	Viramgam Textile Mills	732	22.43
33.	Petlad Textile Mills	376	11.25
34.	Mahalaxmi Textile Mills	725	23.48
35.	Rajkot Textile Mills	307	9.49
	RMD	21	0.73
	Corporate Office	48	3.1
	Total	7967	277.05
	NTC (MP)		
	Madhya Pradesh		
36.	Indore Malwa Mills	1841	43.66
37.	Swadeshi Mills	617	16.97
38.	Kalyanmal Mills	1446	37.12
39.	New Bhopal Mills	301	9.68
40.	Burhanpur Tapti Mills	707	16.54
41.	Hira Mills	878	22.92
	Chhattisgarh		
42.	Bengal Nagpur Mills	1223	31.61
	RMD	25	0.87
	Corporate Office	29	1.6
	Total	7067	180.97

1	2	3	4
	NTC (MN)		
	Maharashtra		
43.	Indu No. 1	498	25.68
44.	Indu No. 2	813	39.66
45.	Indu No. 3	490	23.84
46.	Indu no. 4	592	30.4
47.	Indu No. 5	342	18.44
48.	Indu No. 6	321	15.11
49.	Model Mills	1306	46.52
50.	R.S.R.G. Mills	621	17.39
51.	Savatram Mills	196	5.7
52.	R.B.B.A. Mills	359	10.99
53.	Vidarbha Mills	528	15.63
54.	Kohinoor Mills 1	510	22.79
55.	Kohinoor Mills 2	83	3.95
56.	Kohinoor Mills 3	16	0.67
57.	Tata Mills	266	12.48
58.	Jam Mills	702	36.56
59.	Podar Mills	333	18.86
60.	Shri Sitaram Mills	292	13.09
	RMD	21	0.92
	Corporate Office	19	1.33
	Total	8308	360.01
	NTC (SM)		
61.	Apollo Mills	251	12.89
62.	Digvijay Mills	869	41.92
63.	Bharat Textile Mills	809	33.29
64.	Jupiter Mills	739	36.63
65.	Mumbai Mills	805	37.36

1	2	3	4
66.	New Hindi Textile Mills	889	40.73
67.	Aurangabad Mills	16	0.55
68.	Chalisagaon Mills	588	17.86
69.	Nanded Mills	150	5.77
70.	Barshi Mills	6	0.2
71.	Dhule Mills	338	11.43
72.	Podar Processors	431	19.08
73.	Finlay Mills	1071	49.28
74.	Gold Mohur Mills	481	23.08
75.	Elphinstone Mills	702	33.49
76.	New City Mills	472	24.79
77.	Sri Madhusudan Mills	512	21.63
	RMD	4	0.23
	Corporate Office	30	2.04
	Total	9163	412.25

NTC (TN&P)**Tamil Nadu**

78.	Somasundram Mills	642	15.97
79.	Coimbatore Murguon	7	0.23
80.	Om Paraskthi Mills	284	7.39
81.	Coimbodia Mills	241	8.45
82.	Krishnaveni Mills	223	5.99
83.	Sri Rangavilas Mills	7	0.26
84.	Pankaja Mills	4	0.14
85.	Pioneer Mills	3	0.1
86.	Balaramverma Mills	292	6.4
87.	Kaleswarar-A	216	5.75
88.	Kaleswarar-B	1	0.03

1	2	3	4
89.	Sri Sarda Mills	11	0.41
90.	C.S. & W. Mills	221	7.19
	Central Texting Lab.	4	0.22
	Pondicherry		
91.	Sri Bharthi Mills		
92.	Swadeshi Mills	206	5.66
	RMD	96	2.76
	Corporate Office	57	3.77
	Total	2515	70.92
	NTC (UP)		
	Uttar Pradesh		
93.	Muir Mills	1248	36.05
94.	New Victoria Mills	1276	36.08
95.	Swadeshi, Kanpur	1118	34.45
96.	Shri VikramCotton Mills	473	12.57
97.	Lord Krishna Mills	513	12.57
98.	Swadeshi, Naini Mills	878	25.69
99.	Swadeshi Rae	164	4.41
100.	Swadeshi, Mau	416	10.72
101.	Bijli Cotton Mills	116	3.45
102.	Laxmirattan Mills	1143	31.86
103.	Atherton Mills	982	27.09
	RMD	215	8.46
	Corporate Office	11	0.77
	Total	8553	245.38
	NTC (WBABO)		
	West Bengal		
104.	Rampooria Mills	207	7.22
105.	Bengal Luxmi Mills	192	6.53

1	2	3	4
106.	Jyoti Mills	101	3.97
107.	Arati Mills	273	10.68
108.	Central Cotton Mills	288	10.7
109.	Bengal Fine No. 1	175	6.02
110.	Bangasri Mills	75	2.79
111.	Laxmi Narayan Mills	388	15.74
112.	Sodepur Mills	308	11.67
113.	Shree Mahaluxmi Mills	152	6.2
114.	Bengal Fine No. 2	52	1.91
115.	Maindra Mills	103	4.11
	Assam		
116.	Associated Mills	98	3.72
	Biher		
117.	Bihar Coop.	321	11.13
118.	Gaya Cotton Mills	153	4.8
	Orissa		
119.	Orissa Cotton Mills	133	3.62
	RMD	379	15.14
	Corporate Office	266	18.91
	Total	3664	144.86
	NTC (HC)	108	8.8
	Grand Total	55455	1942.88

Statement III*List of 22 Mills Proposed for Revival*

Sl.No.	Name of the Mills	Location
1	2	3
	Karnataka	
1.	Minerva Mills	Bangalore

1	2	3
	Kerala	
2.	Algappa Textile Mills	Alagappanagar
3.	Cannanore Spg. A& Wvg. Mills	Cannanore
4.	Kerala Laxmi Mills	Trichur
5.	Vijayamohini Mills	Trivandrum
	Mahe	
6.	Cannanore Spg. & Wvg. Mills	Mahe
	Maharashtra	
7.	Podar Mills	Mumbai
8.	Tata Mills	Mumbai
9.	India United Mill No. 5	Mumbai
10.	Barshi Textile Mills	Barshi
11.	Finlay Mills	Mumbai
	Tamil Nadu	
12.	Cambodia Mills	Coimbatore
13.	Coimbatore Murugan Mills	Coimbatore
14.	Pankaja Mills	Coimbatore
15.	Pioneer Spinners Mills	Kamudakudi
16.	Sri Rangavilas S. & W. Mills	Coimbatore
17.	Kaleeswarar Mills 'B' Unit	Kalayarkoil
	Rajasthan	
18.	Udaipur Cotton Mills	Udaipur
	Gujarat	
19.	Rajnagar Textile Mill No. 1	Ahmedabad
	West Bengal	
20.	Arati Cotton Mills	Dass Nagar
	Madhya Pradesh	
21.	Burhanpur Tapti Mills	Burhanpur
22.	New Bhopal Textile Mills	Bhopal

Statement IV*Details of Sale of Land of Closed Mills of NTC as on 31.7.2007*

Sl.No.	Name of the State/Mill	Area of land sold (in acres)	Price at which land sold (Rs. in crores)	Amount received of the land (Rs. in crores)
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh				
1.	Natraj Mills, Nirmal	70.00	3.11	3.31
2.	Netha Mills, Secunderabad	9.83	24.02	24.02
3.	Azam Jahi Mills, Warrangal	200.25	49.72	51.19
Total		280.08	76.85	78.52
Karnataka				
4.	Mysore Mills, Bangalore	18.69	79.16	80.05
	Mysore Mills (Bunglow No. 106)	1.88	37.01	37.01
5.	MSK Mills, Gulbarga	155.20	17.08	16.15
Total		175.77	133.25	133.21
Grand Total		455.85	210.10	211.73
Delhi				
6.	Ajudhia Textile Mills, Delhi	4.54	67.01	67.01
Total		4.54	67.01	67.01
Punjab				
7.	Panipat Woollen Mills, Kharar	7.69	12.50	12.50
Total		7.69	12.50	12.50
Grand Total		12.23	79.51	79.51
Gujarat				
8.	Rajkot Textile Mills Rajkot	8.72	18.20	18.20
9.	Jehangir Mills, Ahmedabad	10.52	25.00	5.00
Total		19.24	43.20	23.20
Maharashtra North				
10.	Vidarbha Mills, Achaipur (Plot No. 1-2)	4.99	0.50	0.50
	Plot No. 6)	0.89	0.36	0.36

1	2	3	4	5
	Vidarbha Mills, South side mills gate	1.81	0.75	0.75
11.	Model Mills, Nagpur			
	Model Mills (Plot No. 2)	0.21	0.36	0.36
	Model Mills, (Plot No. 3 plot of old labour chawls)		1.10	1.24
	Model Mills (Plot No. 1 Near S.T. Stand)	6.98	9.50	9.50
	Model Mills (plot with 5 Bungalow)	1.49	6.32	6.32
12.	RSRG Mills, Akola (Plot No. 3)	1.96	0.45	0.45
	Plot No. 1	1.10	0.25	0.25
	Plot No. 2	1.06	0.30	0.30
	RS RG (Plot with Staff Quarter)	1.27	0.41	0.41
13.	Kohinoor Mills No. 3, Mumbai	4.84	421.00	421.00
	Total	27.70	441.44	441.44
Madhya Pradesh				
14.	Indore Malwa, Indore	3.95	88.93	81.81
	Total	3.95	88.93	81.81
South Maharashtra				
15.	Mumbai Textile Mills, Mumbai	16.62	702.22	702.22
16.	Jupiter Textile Mills, Mumbai	10.91	276.60	276.60
17.	Elphinstone Mills, Mumbai	7.97	441.75	441.75
	Total	35.50	1420.57	1420.57
Tamil Nadu				
18.	Omparasakthi Mills, Coimbatore	14.25	4.50	4.50
19.	Kalleswarar 'A' Mills (Site No. 2)	0.19	0.54	0.54
20.	Krishnaveni Mills, Coimbatore	4.52	5.20	5.20
21.	Bairamvarma Mills, Shencattah	20.22	1.72	1.72
	Total	39.18	11.96	11.96
Uttar Pradesh				
22.	Bijli Cotton Mills, Hathras	5.82	4.69	2.64
23.	Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Kanpur	3.23	7.50	7.50

1	2	3	4	5
	Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Kanpur	1.53	4.23	0.32
	Total	10.58	16.42	10.46
West Bengal				
24.	Bengal Luxmi Tex. Mills, Serampore	27.72	17.00	6.25
25.	Bangashri Textile Mills, Sukhchar	26.71	61.00	61.12
26.	Central Cotton Textile Mills, Belur	11.67	13.35	13.40
27.	Shree Mahalaxmi Textile Mills, Palta	11.24	15.41	15.41
28.	Jyoti Weaving Factory, Kolkata	4.98	13.31	13.31
	Total	82.32	120.07	109.49
Bihar				
29.	Gaya Cotton Textile Mills, Gaya	29.30	9.02	9.21
	Total	29.30	9.02	9.21
	Grand Total	111.62	129.09	118.70
	Great Grand Total	715.85	2441.22	2399.38

*[English]***Flood Affected States**

394. SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU:
 SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:
 SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:
 SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:
 SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL:
 SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD
 SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH:
 SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN:
 SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN:
 SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP:
 SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:
 SHRI HEMMAL MURMU:
 SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY:
 SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:
 SHRI JUAL ORAM:
 SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI:
 SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS:
 SHRI PANNIAN RAVINDRAN:
 SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:

SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR:
 SHRI M. APPADURAI:
 SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY:
 SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:
 SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:
 SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States/UTs affected by flood during the last three years particularly in 2007;

(b) whether the Union Government has appointed any Central team to visit the flood affected States;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reports submitted by such teams, State/UT-wise;

(d) the details of loss of lives and property, crops and livestock due to flood during the said period, State/UT-wise;

(e) whether some State Governments have requested the Union Government to provide Central assistance and foodgrains to meet the situation in their respective States;

(f) if so, the details of Central assistance and foodgrains provided by the Union Government during the said period so far, State/UTs-wise; and

(g) the steps taken by the Union Government to tackle the situation in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) to (g) The names of States/UTs reported damage in varying degrees due to heavy rains, floods etc. during the years 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 and details of loss of life and property are given in the enclosed statement-I.

The States of Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Karnataka, Kerala and Uttar Pradesh have so far submitted memoranda seeking financial assistance and foodgrains in the wake of heavy rains/floods of 2007. Inter Ministerial Central Teams have been constituted and deputed to these States except Uttar Pradesh, where the Team will

visit shortly. The reports of the Central Teams in respect of Andhra Pradesh and Orissa have been received and are being processed. Statements II & III showing the allocation and release of Central share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) as well as funds released from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) during the years 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 are enclosed.

Additional Central assistance including foodgrains for the floods of 2007 will be considered after processing of the reports of Central Teams and as per the laid down procedure.

The Government of India has enacted Disaster Management Act 2005 and constituted National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) to specifically address the situation caused by various natural calamities including floods.

Statement I

Statewise details of damage due to heavy rains/floods/landslides during the years 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08

(Provisional)

Sl. No.	State/ UT	Years											
		2005-06				2006-07				2007-08 (as on 13.8.07)			
		Lives lost (No.)	Cattle lost (No.)	Houses (No.)	Crops area (in lakh ha.)	Lives lost (No.)	Cattle lost (No.)	Houses damage (No.)	Cropped area affected (in lakh ha.)	Lives lost (No.)	Cattle lost (No.)	Houses damaged (No.)	Cropped area affected (in lakh ha.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	114	4656	120404	3.34	247	366308	322074	8.14	57	47172	202420	0.36
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	10	636	6572	0.12	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	—
3.	Assam	27	—	735	0.33	7	20	2367	0.11	37	—	10091	3.55
4.	Bihar	51	—	4268	0.56	25	19	17447	0.75	257	102	130927	11.31
5.	Chhattisgarh	37	470	22155	0.41	37	9653	15820	0.15	10	38	12288	0.022
6.	Gujarat	213	7563	161622	3.66	293	8421	161625	7.47	321	9707	28157	4.68
7.	Goa	0	0	0	0.00	—	—	5	0.00	2	—	439	neg.
8.	Haryana	11	66	3647	0.12	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
9.	Himachal Pradesh	15	3081	2872	0.58	48	846	4379	0.94	1	41	369	0.004
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	3	86	357	0.01	25	2677	11835	0.61	—	—	—	—
11.	Jharkhand	—	—	—	—	5	101	3011	0.03	—	—	—	—
12.	Karnataka	160	13000	110498	2.43	123	236	20440	1.55	172	3451	57147	0.39
13.	Kerala	131	1509	20527	0.60	180	2289	114435	0.24	235	2772	50399	0.96
14.	Madhya Pradesh	86	45638	223022	0.05	168	6107	129998	—	60	290	17809	0.04
15.	Maharashtra	1108	31251	591224	10.00	423	13417	594516	12.59	113	1477	47045	—
16.	Manipur	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
17.	Meghalaya	1	115	67	—	—	—	—	neg.	—	—	—	—
18.	Mizoram	2	8	27	0.08	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
19.	Nagaland	15	—	214	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20.	Orissa	22	—	5410	3.45	90	1658	120356	3.09	32	663	27810	1.37
21.	Punjab	25	116	268	1.04	8	16	224	0.02	7	1	200	0.078
22.	Rajasthan	82	435	12981	0.34	146	42253	254844	17.36	51	503	8232	neg.
23.	Sikkim	10	63	390	0.26	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
24.	Tamil Nadu	252	1468	757852	4.47	23	67	444	17.37	28	109	656	—
25.	Tripura	—	—	4	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	3	—
26.	Uttar Pradesh	203	259	72729	3.67	508	588	—	—	170	141	203700	29.55
27.	Uttarakhand	113	277	1712	—	—	—	—	—	14	20	50	—
28.	West Bengal	7	—	481	—	36	697	160575	0.45	182	3728	357857	2.21
29.	Puduchery	—	—	—	—	—	268	265	neg.	2	—	82	neg.

neg. = negligible

Statement II*Allocation and releases of Central share of CRF during 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08*

(Rs. in crores)

Sl.-No.	State	2005-06		2006-07		2007-08	
		Allocation	Released	Allocation	Released	Allocation	Released
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	258.06	258.06	270.96	335.48	284.51	219.99
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	21.23	21.23	21.84	21.84	22.48	11.24

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Assam	144.79	72.40	148.97	221.37	153.36	76.68
4.	Bihar	111.69	55.85	114.92	55.85	118.31	174.07
5.	Chattisgarh	83.81	41.91	86.23	150.33	88.76	22.19
6.	Goa	1.58	0.79	1.66	2.45	1.74	0.87
7.	Gujarat	184.50	184.50	193.73	246.87	203.41	48.57
8.	Haryana	93.28	83.95	97.95	107.28	102.85	51.43
9.	Himachal Pradesh	75.52	75.52	77.70	77.70	79.99	40.00
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	64.84	64.84	66.72	66.72	68.68	34.34
11.	Jharkhand	94.56	94.56	97.28	48.64	100.15	48.64
12.	Karnataka	86.00	86.00	90.28	113.98	94.81	71.11
13.	Kerala	64.13	64.13	67.33	67.33	70.70	70.70
14.	Madhya Pradesh	190.67	190.67	196.18	246.67	201.97	50.50
15.	Maharashtra	167.18	167.18	175.54	220.00	184.31	47.70
16.	Manipur	4.17	—	4.29	—	4.42	10.67
17.	Meghalaya	8.47	4.24	8.71	12.95	8.96	4.48
18.	Mizoram	4.94	2.47	5.08	5.01	5.23	a
19.	Nagaland	2.87	1.44	2.95	—	3.03	4.39
20.	Orissa	226.16	226.16	232.68	291.34	239.53	61.11
21.	Punjab	109.52	54.76	115.00	112.26	120.74	57.50
22.	Rajasthan	311.73	311.73	327.32	413.66	343.68	85.50
23.	Sikkim	13.15	13.15	13.53	—	13.93	13.53
24.	Tamilnadu	156.81	78.41	164.65	243.06	172.88	a
25.	Tripura	9.64	—	9.92	14.6	10.21	10.07
26.	Uttar Pradesh	221.95	221.95	228.36	228.36	235.10	117.55
27.	Uttarakhand	71.02	71.02	72.44	36.22	73.93	36.22
28.	West Bengal	176.05	176.05	181.12	181.12	186.47	93.24
Total		2958.32	2622.94	3073.34	3521.06	3194.14	1287.31

©Central share of CRF has not been released for want of information relating to crediting of earlier releases and utilization certificate.

Statement III*Release of assistance from NCCF during 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08*

(Rs. in crore)

Sl.No.	State	Assistance Released		
		2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	100.00	203.06	17.8
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	68.44	44.38	—
3.	Assam	—	—	—
4.	Bihar	—	—	—
5.	Chhattisgarh	—	—	—
6.	Goa	—	—	—
7.	Gujarat	304.31	545.69	—
8.	Haryana	—	—	—
9.	Himachal Pradesh	112.97	25.14	—
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	309.77	—	13.51
11.	Jharkhand	—	—	—
12.	Karnataka	358.85	384.97	—
13.	Kerala	17.94	—	50
14.	Madhya Pradesh	—	30.85	—
15.	Maharashtra	657.25	589.90	168.92
16.	Manipur	—	—	—
17.	Meghalaya	—	—	—
18.	Mizoram	—	—	—
19.	Nagaland	—	0.81	—
20.	Orissa	—	25.00	—
21.	Punjab	—	—	—
22.	Rajasthan	—	100.00	—
23.	Sikkim	—	5.20	—
24.	Tamilnadu	1131.91	—	—
25.	Tripura	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5
26.	Uttar Pradesh	—	—	—
27.	Uttarakhand	—	7.06	—
28.	West Bengal	—	—	—
Total		3061.44	1962.05	250.23

Residential Schools

395. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of residential schools funded by the Union Government, State-wise, and U.T.-wise; and

(b) the number of students who have been benefited from these residential schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) There are three school systems which are funded by this Ministry and managed by Autonomous Organizations viz. Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS), Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS) and Central Tibetan School Administration (CTSA). Kendriya Vidyalayas are not residential schools. The State/UT-wise break-up of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas and residential CTSA Schools is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) 1,91,111 students from Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNVs) and 3239 students from CTSA schools have benefited from the residential schools during the year 2006-07.

Statement

The State/UT-wise number of residential schools funded by the Ministry of Human Resource Development

Sl.No.	State	No. of JNVs	No. of CTSA schools
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	22	—
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	16	—

1	2	3	4
3.	Assam	25	—
4.	Bihar	37	—
5.	Chhattisgarh	16	—
6.	Delhi	2	—
7.	Goa	2	—
8.	Gujarat	18	—
9.	Haryana	19	—
10.	Himachal Pradesh	11	02
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	14	—
12.	Jharkhand	21	—
13.	Karnataka	27	01
14.	Kerala	14	—
15.	Madhya Pradesh	48	—
16.	Maharashtra	31	—
17.	Manipur	9	—
18.	Meghalaya	7	—
19.	Mizoram	3	—
20.	Nagaland	10	—
21.	Orissa	29	—
22.	Punjab	17	—
23.	Rajasthan	32	—
24.	Sikkim	4	—
25.	Tamil Nadu*	0	—

1	2	3	4
26.	Tripura	3	—
27.	Uttar Pradesh	66	—
28.	Uttarakhand	12	01
29.	West Bengal	14	02
Sub-Total		529	06
U.T.			
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Island	2	—
2.	Chandigarh	1	—
3.	Dadra & N. Haveli	1	—
4.	Daman & Diu	2	—
5.	Lakshadweep	1	—
6.	Puducherry	4	—
Sub-Total		11	Nil
Grand Total		540	06

*Tamil Nadu State has not opted for the Navodaya Vidyalaya Scheme.

RTI Subject In School Curriculum

396. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to include the Right to Information (RTI) Act as a subject in school curriculum in all Government and private schools of the country;

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) the time by when it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, RTI Act is mentioned in class X Political Science, Class XII Sociology and Class XII Political Science text books brought out by National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT):

Rehabilitation of Women and Children in J&K

397. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has constituted any committee to look into the matter of rehabilitation of women and children suffering from militancy in J&K;

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

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of women and children affected by militancy;

(d) the number of women and children rehabilitated so far; and

(e) the time by when the remaining women and children are likely to be rehabilitated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (e) Pursuant to the Second Round Table Conference on Jammu and Kashmir held at Srinagar on May 24-25, 2006, five Working Groups on Jammu and Kashmir were constituted. Working Group-I was on 'Confidence-building measures across segments of society in the State'. The Group was entrusted with the theme to evolve *inter-alia* schemes to rehabilitate all orphans and widows affected by militancy. The Group in its report has recommended the formulation of a scheme for this purpose.

There is already a Rehabilitation Council functioning in the State of Jammu and Kashmir since 1998, which is looking after the rehabilitation of widows, orphans, handicapped and old men and women, whose bread-winner has been killed or incapacitated by militancy. The details of beneficiaries to be covered under the schemes of the Rehabilitation Council during the year 2007-08 are as under:

Widows	5273
Orphans	8500
Others	3604
Total	17377

The Rehabilitation Council has provided assistance during 2006-07 to:

Widows	4451
Orphans	5215
Others	1566
Total	11,232

All identified beneficiaries have been covered under the scheme and their number is being updated as and when fresh applications are presented.

Coal Crisis at NALCO

398. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY:
SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR DUBEY:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that NALCO in Orissa has reached a crisis stage due to inadequate supply of coal;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to address the problem; and

(c) whether the production of Aluminium has been affected recently as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) NALCO has informed that the reasons for inadequate supply of coal are lower raising at the Bharatpur mines of Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) during peak summer months, equipment related problems at Bharatpur mines affecting coal transportation to NALCO's loading point, non-availability of railway rakes for transportation and some local issues. NALCO has purchased imported coal to blend with local coal and has got allocation of 75 rakes of coal from Bharat Coking Coal Limited as a special one time measure, against which receipt has commenced from 7th August, 2007.

(c) Due to low coal supplies, at present five units of the Captive Power Plant are in operation as against the normal operation of seven units, as a result of which there is shortfall of power availability from captive units for production of aluminium in the smelter. However, aluminium production is being maintained by NALCO by purchasing around 100 MW power from State Grid.

Communal Violence Bill, 2005

399. SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY:
SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the various organisations/groups have opposed the proposed Communal Violence (Prevention, Control and Rehabilitation of Victims) Bill, 2005 in its present form and have demanded its withdrawal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL):

(a) and (b) Representations have been received from some organisations/groups suggesting, inter alia, to include targeted mass crimes; all gender-based crimes beyond schedule of offences; increased accountability of State Government authorities; national uniform entitlements of relief and rehabilitation for victims of communal violence; etc. within the ambit of the Bill. Suggestions have also been received to remove violence between different groups, castes or ethnic groups from the purview of the Bill and restricting the Bill to deal with communal violence only; requirement of receipt of request from State Governments for deployment of armed forces by Central Government; requirement of Government's sanction for prosecution of public servants. The groups have also urged the Government to redraft the Bill keeping in view their observations.

The aforesaid Bill was introduced in Rajya Sabha on 5.12.2005 and it was referred to the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee. The Bill was also put on website and consultations were held by Government at various places. The Standing Committee obtained the views of the State Governments and political parties and also heard legal and constitutional experts, NGOs, etc. and after examining the Bill clause by clause submitted its report to the Parliament on 13.12.2006 making various observations/recommendations. Keeping in view the Standing Committee report and after consulting the Ministry of Law and Justice, the official amendments have been introduced in the Bill and a Notice has been given in Rajya Sabha on 9.3.2007 for consideration and passing of the Bill along with the official amendments. Notices of

amendments were also given in Rajya Sabha on 27.4.2007 by Shri Prasanta Chatterjee and Shri Moinul Hassan, MPs incorporating some of the suggestions mentioned above.

(c) Does not arise in view of the position stated above.

Shortage of Infrastructure In Anganwadi Centres

400. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:
SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS:
SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:
SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the condition of Anganwadi Centres in the country is satisfactory,

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

(c) the total number of Anganwadi Centres functioning in the country at present and number of such centres having no basic infrastructure;

(d) the number of children benefited under the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme during each of the last three years, including current year, State and Union Territory-wise;

(e) the total grant provided by the Government to the States for this Scheme during each of the last three years including current year, State/UT-wise, and

(f) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to improve the conditions of Anganwadi Centres in the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) According to a study titled 'Rapid Facility Survey of Infrastructure at Anganwadi Centres' conducted by the Ministry through National Council for Applied Economic Research (NCAER), New Delhi during 2004-05, 46% AWCs were running from pucca building, 21% AWCs from semi-pucca buildings; 15% from kutcha building, 9% in open space and 6% from other places; about 9% were running from the house

of AWCs and 6.91% from Helper's house. It was also found that 46% of AWCs did not have toilet facilities & 27% lacked drinking water facilities. The survey covered a total of 287,684 AWCs in the country.

The ICDS Scheme envisages that AWCs should be set up in buildings/accommodation owned by the Government of local bodies. Alternatively, the accommodation would be provided by the local community. The Scheme also envisages hiring of building for which grant at stipulated rate is also released by the Government of India.

(c) There are 844743 operational anganwadi centres out of 1052638 sanctioned Anganwadi centres in the country as on 31.3.2007. As per reports received from 19 States, 209004 AWCs do not have drinking water facility and 91298 AWCs do not have child friendly toilets. Similarly, 163254 AWCs are running from pucca building, 9689 AWCs from Kutcha building, 51974 AWCs from rented buildings, 66875 AWCs from buildings owned by the community allotted to AWCs and 5681 AWCs from open space.

(d) Statement-I indicating the number of children (6 months to 6 years) who received supplementary nutrition and children (3-6 years) who received pre-school education during the last three years, State-wise, is enclosed.

(e) Statement II and III indicating funds released to the States during the last three years including current year, State/UT-wise, in respect of maintenance of ICDS Projects and supplementary nutrition are enclosed respectively.

(f) Although the Scheme does not provide for construction activity, the Government has, as a special case, sanctioned construction of 47872 Anganwadi Centers (AWCs) in North Eastern States out of NER component of the budget of the Ministry during 2001-02 to 2006-07.

The Government under the proposed revamped ICDS Scheme is also contemplating infrastructural development, during 11th five year plan.

To augment the infrastructural facilities in the AWCs, the Government is seeking assistance through convergence with the following scheme of the line Ministries:-

- Total Sanitation Campaign and Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme—Department of Drinking Water Supply.
- Backed Region Grant Fund—Ministry of Panchayati Raj.
- Scheduled Caste sub Plan—Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.
- Tribal Area Sub plan—Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- MPLAD—Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation.

With the assistance from the World Bank construction of 57447 AWCs, along with installation of 31368 hand pumps, was sanctioned in 20 States/UTs under the various Projects viz. ICDS-I, II, III and ICDS-APER. Construction of these AWCs was sanctioned during the currency of these projects over a period of 15 years (1991-92 to 2006-07).

Rent for Anganwadi Centres has been revised periodically and the latest revision has been approved w.e.f. 1.2.2007. For AWC in Rural/Tribal projects the rent has been revised from Rs. 100/- p.m./AWC to Rs. 200/- p.m./ AWC and for Urban Projects from Rs. 500/- p.m./ AWC to Rs. 750/- p.m./AWC.

Apart from this, all the State Governments/UT Administrations have been addressed to seek support for creation of infrastructural facilities in the AWCs in areas indemnified under Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan/Tribal Sub-Plan from the funds available under the Schemes/ Programmes administered by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and Ministry of Tribal Affairs respectively. States have also been advised to utilize the assistance of NABARD under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF)-XII plan for the purpose.

Statement I

Statewise no. of children (6 months-6 years) received supplementary nutrition and pre-school education under ICDS Scheme during the last three years

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of Children (6 months - 6 years) received supplementary nutrition			Number of children (3-6 years) attended preschool education		
		2004-05 (as on 31.3.2005)	2005-06 (as on 31. 3.2006)	2006-07 (as on 31.3.2007)	2004-05 (as on 31.3.2005)	2005-06 (as on 31.3.2006)	2006-07 (as on 31.3.2007)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2423099	2484768	3255815	1564251	1528018	1830381
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	63183	88494	148241	29005	37961	60208
3.	Assam	1103139	1280013	914369	781953	894811	850590
4.	Bihar	2102148	4018291	3483564	1555177	2222702	1937398
5.	Chhattisgarh	1416134	1430228	1652830	607795	588000	731761
6.	Goa	39731	39571	43726	19149	18608	19451
7.	Gujarat	1643594	1585728	1741045	1429062	1404500	911982
8.	Haryana	933680	954988	1119039	441684	455452	525398
9.	Himachal Pradesh	318945	349545	347244	110402	121738	111025
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	182978	273790	424768	107385	121325	203247

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11.	Jharkhand	425240	1423868	1606592	427412	768959	837624
12.	Karnataka	2511867	2440327	3075047	1293121	1265145	1504243
13.	Kerala	922125	902955	959868	540937	524205	523328
14.	Madhya Pradesh	2841159	2650862	3869502	1516173	1544066	1809546
15.	Maharashtra	3304434	4837317	5106760	1798953	2705644	2847066
16.	Manipur	0	178905	259997	111851	113922	114807
17.	Meghalaya	188194	191321	287773	90331	96436	131635
18.	Mizoram	113925	114114	125681	50021	50468	57617
19.	Nagaland	243630	263075	301539	94459	105865	109768
20.	Orissa	3685151	3717589	3770595	942078	943705	985333
21.	Punjab	438318	552324	864528	419668	441890	435608
22.	Rajasthan	2711322	2549408	2594168	1334907	1264447	1212438
23.	Sikkim	33058	30933	38620	13765	10183	11400
24.	Tamil Nadu	1842967	1726249	1862205	1130007	1063995	1193698
25.	Tripora	148205	148205	233427	101052	101052	123695
26.	Uttar Pradesh	6117582	7768943	18041539	3439464	4081381	8155442
27.	Uttaranchal	372310	378258	538644	178444	182138	192550
28.	West Bengal	3696175	3880402	2998314	1502012	1641755	2469468
29.	A & N Islands	21283	23378	21106	10066	9709	9912
30.	Chandigarh	31723	34563	32958	13509	14557	13936
31.	Delhi	405687	367807	428922	168199	151554	163955
32.	Dadra & N Haveli	12520	11935	11935	5019	4990	4990
33.	Daman & Diu	6977	7094	6694	4213	3587	3089
34.	Lakshadweep	3877	4013	5758	4024	4018	2540
35.	Pondicherry	31764	29446	29516	7744	5694	6307
	All India	40337104	46717707	58185339	21841290	24492450	30081428

Statement II

State-wise Position of Funds released under ICDS Scheme (General) during the year 2004-05 to 2007-08 (Till 8.8.2007)

Sl.No.	State	2004-05 Funds released	2005-06 Funds released	2006-07 Funds released	2007-08 Funds released
1	2	3	4	5	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7277.34	14750.69	21877.67	15407.02
2.	Bihar	9408.47	5036.11	20976.12	5082.36
3.	Chhattisgarh	3275.49	4412.01	4561.5	4643.47
4.	Goa	286.33	373.53	397.96	105.55
5.	Gujrat	12405.58	9917.54	12732.62	6010.22
6.	Haryana	4674.34	5312.47	6015.49	3780.47
7.	Himachal Pradesh	2617.26	3480.88	2882.29	2206.66
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	3457.78	4989.19	5410.99	1636.65
9.	Jharkhand	3824.62	4288.33	7845.37	4115.16
10.	Karnataka	11023.50	14176.11	19122.28	3161.61
11.	Kerala	5546.74	5725.65	8115.91	2207.69
12.	Madhya Pradesh	6263.10	9498.48	13002.16	8198.59
13.	Maharashtra	11930.96	16808.92	20433.15	11337.65
14.	Orissa	9968.40	10600.69	12137.96	6373.98
15.	Punjab	3904.27	5591.61	5861.62	2722.13
16.	Rajasthan	7849.67	7459.77	13809.14	6471.80
17.	Tamil Nadu	12303.16	15212.94	12786.6	8233.69
18.	Uttaranchal	1723.77	2861.67	1676.39	862.47
19.	Uttar Pradesh	15100.87	31989.58	24768.42	19929.74
20.	West Bengal	12633.07	19391.00	17182.73	11871.46
21.	Delhi	1118.36	1290.03	1379.78	657.55
22.	Pondicherry	218.89	233.68	195.22	115.63
23.	Andaman & Nicobar	185.39	212.82	174.11	109.55
24.	Chandigarh	155.26	156.87	163.41	136.00

1	2	3	4	5	
25.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	48.27	70.10	62.33	28.14
26.	Daman & Diu	38.98	47.74	56.78	29.86
27.	Lakshadweep	25.15	42.67	38.34	21.20
28.	LIC	500.00	800.00	1200.00	200.00
29.	Arunachal Pradesh	1697.61	1780.28	3145.86	938.38
30.	Assam	15799.37	22462.56	16077.48	4580.29
31.	Manipur	2054.55	1664.87	3631.405	770.78
32.	Meghalaya	1450.81	2158.35	2114.925	753.83
33.	Mizoram	781.68	1476.66	1573.255	340.90
34.	Nagaland	1358.50	2531.64	2471.215	726.72
35.	Sikkim	332.88	354.75	782.6	192.87
36.	Tripura	1414.45	2779.91	4475.41	1073.54
	Total	172654.87	229940.10	269138.48	135033.61

Statement III*Release of funds on Supplementary Nutrition—2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08*

(Rupees in lakh)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Released 2005-06	Released 2006-07	Released 2007-08 (As on 08.08.07)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4745.42	9052.04	2310.20
2.	Bihar	8260.92	11828.92	4213.59
3.	Chhattisgarh	3133.33	2953.64	1343.20
4.	Goa	115.13	175.41	35.12
5.	Gujarat	3339.82	4297.21	1345.00
6.	Haryana	1810.62	2829.56	970.85
7.	Himachal Pradesh	660.00	629.63	300.13
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	343.56	653.20	317.69
9.	Jharkhand	761.49	11154.47	1355.89

1	2	3	4	5
10.	Karnataka	7379.97	9407.65	2472.11
11.	Kerala	1738.28	3666.11	687.07
12.	Madhya Pradesh	5457.86	5770.97	3037.82
13.	Maharashtra	9869.23	8443.33	3306.59
14.	Orissa	6697.98	6646.40	2186.35
15.	Punjab	1246.53	3138.07	819.66
16.	Rajasthan	5534.27	8571.57	2227.26
17.	Tamil Nadu	3703.59	3451.94	832.62
18.	Uttar Pradesh	18125.13	41902.48	11914.89
19.	Uttarakhand	705.72	1347.89	344.87
20.	West Bengal	6348.24	5916.07	3206.09
		89977.09	141836.56	43227.00
21.	A & N Islands	80.39	93.67	19.98
22.	Chandigarh	76.33	154.76	31.20
23.	Dadra & N Haveli	22.59	22.59	17.62
24.	Daman & Diu	13.74	13.74	
25.	Lakshadweep	7.52	39.91	5.57
		200.57	324.67	74.37
26.	Delhi	737.49	694.29	401.73
27.	Pondicherry	85.72	55.03	27.75
		823.21	749.32	429.48
28.	Arunachal Pradesh	113.41	879.60	202.65
29.	Assam	3066.67	3711.54	2922.36
30.	Manipur	664.58	914.32	348.34
31.	Meghalaya	687.17	1023.42	305.50
32.	Mizoram	471.24	488.97	190.67
33.	Nagaland	929.07	1188.71	445.40
34.	Sikkim	118.48	95.77	34.93
35.	Tripura	407.06	707.69	410.15
		6457.68	9010.02	4860.00
	Total	97458.55	151920.57	48590.85

Regulatory Authority for Higher Education

401. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

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

(a) whether there is a lack of uniformity in the higher education policy of the country;

(b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government proposes to set up an Independent Regulatory Authority for Higher Education (IRAHE) and a National Commission for Higher Education to ensure uniformity in higher education as reported in the Times of India dated June 1, 2007;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the role that would be assigned to the Commission for Higher Education; and

(f) the time by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Separate Statutory Professional Councils have been established for various Professional discipline to maintain the standard of education in respective discipline.

(c) to (f) A proposal to set up 'National Commission on Higher Education', as the independent regulatory authority, was formulated for inter-departmental consultation. However, the proposal is being reformulated in the light of the observations of various stake-holders, involved.

Introduction of New Examination System

402. SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has proposed to introduce new pattern of questions for CBSE class-X examination in the coming year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there are reports from experts on the assessment and evaluation process also; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) Yes sir.

(b) Keeping in view the National Curriculum Framework, 2005, Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has proposed the following for Class X Board Examination 2008:

(i) Increase the number of very short type question in Science, Social Science and Mathematics.

(ii) Introduction of questions in new formats to include diagram/illustration based questions, data based questions, skill based questions, context-based questions and application-oriented questions.

(iii) Inclusion of questions on assessment of higher order thinking skills of learners.

(c) and (d) The National Focus Group on Examination Reforms, constituted by National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), had suggested major changes in the existing examination pattern with special emphasis on inclusion of objective type questions, and questions related to assessment of higher mental ability of learners like reasoning, problem solving, creative thinking and logical thinking.

[Translation]

Transmission of Programmes in Border Areas

403. SHRI SURAJ SINGH:
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:
SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE:

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

(a) whether installation of powerful transmitters across the border by neighbouring countries particularly China has affected transmission of programmes of Doordarshan and Akashvani in the cities, towns and villages of the

country which lie near the border areas as reported in the Times of India dated June 23, 2007;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check this impact on transmission in the aforesaid parts of the country; and

(d) the time by when the said border areas are likely to be freed from the impact of foreign transmitters?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Although Chinese TV signals are received in some areas of Arunachal Pradesh during favourable seasonal conditions, however, Doordarshan transmission is not affected by the foreign TV signals. Similarly, though Chinese radio channels are audible on different frequencies in Arunachal Pradesh, but coverage of AIR transmitters in Arunachal Pradesh has not been affected by Chinese transmitters.

(c) and (d) A Special package for expansion of Doordarshan and All India Radio Coverage in North East Region and Island territories of Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep has been approved by the Government in May, 2006. With the launch of "DD Direct Plus" (free to Air DTH service of Doordarshan) both AIR and TV signals can be received all over the country including NE Region except Andaman & Nicobar Islands with the help of small size dish receive system.

[English]

Natural Disasters

404. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether various State Governments sought for early release of fund earmarked for rescue and relief against natural disasters;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State and Union Territory-wise; and

(c) the time by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) to (c) The States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala have only requested for advance release of their 2nd instalment of Central share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) for the year 2007-08 for undertaking relief operations in the areas affected by floods.

The Government of India have accordingly released Central share of CRF, in advance, amounting to Rs. 142.255 crore to Andhra Pradesh, 47.405 crore to Karnataka and Rs. 35.35 crore to Kerala.

[Translation]

Cotton Corporation of India

405. SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL:
SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) is functioning satisfactorily;

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

(c) whether any review of the functioning of CCI has been carried out;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Cotton Corporation of India Ltd (CCI) was set up in 1970. Over the years, its operations have undergone significant changes keeping pace with the developments which have taken place in Indian cotton economy in the past. In addition to commercial operations, CCI undertakes Minimum Support Price (MSP) operations in cotton without quantitative limit whenever market prices of kapas touch MSP. Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC) with four Mini Missions has designated CCI as implementing agency for Mini Missions III and IV of TMC, which pertain to improvement of marketing infrastructure and modernization/ technological upgradation of the existing ginning and pressing factories. As 01 June, 07, under MM-III, development of 229 market yards (including new market yards and also improvement of existing ones) have been

sanctioned, out of which work on 112 market yards have been completed and under MM-IV, modernization of 905 ginning and pressing factories, have been sanctioned, out of which 563 factories have been completed. CCI paid dividend amounting to Rs. 2.5 crore, Rs. 5 crore, Rs. 5.41 crore and Rs. 5 crore during the year 2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06, respectively.

(c) and (d) The performance of the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) are reviewed on regular basis in Review Meetings held by the Secretary (Textiles) with Managing Director of the Corporation and also by the Parliamentary Committee. Nothing adverse has come to the notice of the Government of India.

(e) Question does not arise in view of (d) above.

Supply of Study Material

406. SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether text-books and other study material under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan are being made available in time;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and Union Territory-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether cases of diversion of books to ineligible

students or charging money for providing books have come to the notice of the Government.

(e) if so, the details thereof, State and Union Territory-wise;

(f) the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(g) the time by when the targets of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan are likely to be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan provides for grant of free textbooks to all girls, Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe children at primary and upper primary level within an upper ceiling of Rs. 150 per child where the State Government does not provide the same from its own budget. The details of free textbooks distribution in 2006-07 under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan are given in the enclosed statement.

(d) to (f) It has been reported that in Assam, Tripura and Haryana distribution of textbooks was made to some ineligible children. The Government of India has directed the States of Assam, Haryana and Tripura to credit the amount involved in distribution of free textbooks to ineligible children, to the SSA account from the funds of the State Government.

(g) The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan aims to universalize elementary education by 2010.

Statement

Progress of Free Textbook distribution in 2006-07 under SSA

S. No.	State/ UT	Target for 06-07	Achievement	Percentage of Achievement
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Island	7450	7458	100%
2.	Andhra Pradesh	416174	416174	100%
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	134286	134286	100%
4.	Assam	2849165	2849165	100%
5.	Bihar	7575118	4872415	64%
6.	Chandigarh	32000	31510	98%

1	2	3	4	5
7.	Chhattisgarh	2984739	2954739	99%
8.	Daman & Diu	7842	7842	100%
9.	Delhi	220336	220336	100%
10.	Goa	60270	60270	100%
11.	Gujarat	485445	416980	86%
12.	Haryana	1375661	1375661	100%
13.	Himachal Pradesh	215056	207989	97%
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	786202	786202	100%
15.	Jharkhand	3421904	3421904	100%
16.	Kerala	1749514	1748162	100%
17.	Lakshadweep	11985	0	0%
18.	Madhya Pradesh	8043341	8043341	100%
19.	Maharashtra	8954044	8954044	100%
20.	Manipur	321951	276120	86%
21.	Meghalaya	560570	560570	100%
22.	Mizoram	197376	197376	100%
23.	Nagaland	33678	36874	109%
24.	Orissa	3402376	3402376	100%
25.	Punjab	2043712	2043712	100%
26.	Rajasthan	424034	424034	100%
27.	Sikkim	20398	6422	31%
28.	Tripura	618344	618344	100%
29.	Uttar Pradesh	15917311	15917311	100%
30.	Uttarakhand	886645	878779	99%
31.	West Bengal	3120658	3120658	100%
Total		66877585	63991054	96%

Educationally Backward Districts

407. DR. CHINTA MOHAN:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":

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

(a) whether 350 districts in the country are identified by University Grants Commission as educationally backward;

(b) if so, the number of such districts and grounds on which these districts are identified as educationally backward;

(c) the targets fixed for promoting education in these districts; and

(d) the time frame fixed to achieve these targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The University Grants Commission (UGC) has identified, based on a Study Commissioned by it, 376 educationally Backward Districts which have Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER), less than the national average. The University Grants Commission provides Special Development Grant for universities in Backward Areas. It is also proposed to assist State Governments, to incentivise them to establish one college in each district, which has a low Gross Enrolment Ratio, during the XI Plan, subject to availability of resources.

[English]

Increase in the Number of Engineering and Medical Colleges

408. SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has constituted any Committee to look into the matter of increasing the number of engineering and medical colleges in the country particularly in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the salient features of the recommendations received so far;

(c) whether the Government of Assam and other States in the North East have lately approached the Union Government for increasing the number of seats in the different Technical and Medical Institutes to cope with the increasing demand for admission to different Technical and Medical courses;

(d) if so, the number of additional seats sought to be added and their original capacity, indicating the percentage of seats to be increased; and

(e) the response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Attack on Amarnath Pilgrims

409. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:
SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:
SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA"

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of militant attack on Amarnath pilgrims have increased in the recent past;

(b) if so, the number of pilgrims killed/injured in each of such incidents;

(c) whether the Government has made any investigations of such incidents;

(d) if so, the findings thereof;

(e) whether it is fact that a major conspiracy of attack on Amarnath Pilgrims have been unearthed by the military recently;

(f) if so, details thereof;

(g) the action taken by the Government on the report of Sengupta Commission constituted after death of 300 pilgrims in the year 1996; and

(h) the steps taken by the Government to check the activities of terrorists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (d) No, Sir. As per the report of the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir, so far, in two separate attacks directed against Amarnath pilgrims on July 17 & 21, 2007 at Base Camp Baltal and Pahalgam respectively, two persons were killed and 26 others including 10 pilgrims injured.

(e) and (f) No, Sir.

(g) The Government of India had accepted the report of Sengupta Committee and sent a copy of the same to the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir for taking necessary follow up action. Since Shri Amarnath Yatra is conducted by the State Government, the State Government had taken appropriate remedial measures for improvement of infrastructure, providing shelter, restriction on number of Yatris, etc. on the basis of the recommendations/suggestions made by the Committee.

(h) As per the report of the State Government, in view of the increased terrorist threat, various steps have been taken for the security of Amarnath pilgrims, which include the following:-

- (i) Security Forces deployed on constant alert and Road Opening Parties (ROPs) have been further strengthened;
- (ii) Intensive patrolling of routes leading to Holy Cave being carried out with surprise checking of vehicles;
- (iii) Special ~~nakas~~ established en-route and thorough checking/ frisking being carried out;
- (iv) Doorframe metal detectors and X-ray machines/ gadgets installed at Holy Cave, Sheshnag, Chandanwari, Ashmuquam and Base Camp.
- (v) Emphasis laid on various security /Intelligence agencies to generate actionable intelligence to thwart the evil designs of terrorists and ensure security and safety of yatris.

In addition to the above mentioned steps, additional Central Paramilitary Forces and Dog Squads have been provided to the State Government for the security arrangements for the Amarnath Yatra 2007.

FDI in Tobacco Industry

410. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to formulate a policy to allow FDI to ensure better prices to tobacco farmers of their produce without affecting the interests of traders and manufacturers and to frame guidelines to check trade in contrabands;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the Foreign Direct Investment in tobacco industry and its impact on farmers, exporters and manufacturers; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to safeguard the interest of tobacco industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) As per the extant policy, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) up to 100% is allowed, with prior Government approval, in the tobacco sector for manufacture of cigars and cigarettes of tobacco products, subject to industrial licence and conditions thereof under the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951. There is no proposal to review the FDI policy in the sector.

(c) and (d) While formulating the policy on FDI, interests of all stakeholders are taken into account.

Bike Stunts in Delhi

411. SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID:
SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cases of bike stunts/gangs of bikers are on the increase in Delhi roads as reported in *Times of India* dated July 25,2007;

(b) if so, whether the Government has taken any action against bikers for rioting, ruckus and performing stunts in Connaught Place and other areas;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the action taken by the Government on the observations of the Supreme Court in this regard; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to check such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) to (d) Some incidents of stunt by bikers have been reported during the Guru Parva celebration in the night intervening in 22nd /23rd July, 2007 as reported in news item in question. Delhi Police has registered two cases vide FIR No. 473 dated 23rd July, 2007 under section 147/148/149/186/353/332/446/427 IPC and the Prevention of Damage to Public Property Act, 1984 at Police Station Connaught Place, New Delhi and FIR No. 244 dated 23rd July, 2007 under Section 147/148/149/186/323/427/353/332/394 IPC at Police Station Mandir Marg, New Delhi and arrested 45 persons including 11 juveniles.

(e) and (f) The steps taken by Delhi Police to check such incidents include keeping strict watch by all the Division/Beat/Traffic staff in their respective areas/points; keeping a watch over the intruders and bikers found roaming in their area, taking legal action immediately against the offenders if such incidents come to notice; conducting motorcycle/foot patrolling round-the-clock; checking of vehicles daily by putting barricades on the roads; installation of police pickets at important places; deployment of PCR vans at important points etc.

[Translation]

Bangladesh Refugees

412. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:
SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bangladeshi people are residing in the country;

(b) if so, the details and total number of Bangladeshi people residing in the country, State-wise;

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government against them;

(d) whether the Government has not repatriated Bangladeshi people so far after identifying them; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL):

(a) and (b) According to available reports, Bangladeshi nationals have been using porous Indo-Bangladesh border to enter into India illegally. It is difficult to make a realistic estimate about the number of such illegal Bangladeshi immigrants because they enter surreptitiously and are able to mingle easily with the local population due to ethnic and linguistic similarities.

(c) to (e) The State Governments/UT Administrations have been empowered under section 3 (2) (c) of the Foreigners Act, 1946 to detect and deport foreign nationals illegally staying in India. Administrative instructions are issued from time to time requesting the State Governments/UT Administrations to detect and deport illegally staying foreigners.

[English]

Deaths due to Fall in Manholes and Sewers

413. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH:
SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of children/persons injured/died/survived due to falling in open manholes, bore-wells and sewers in Delhi during each of the last three years, separately;

(b) whether the Government has taken any action against the responsible officials of civic agency;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) The number of children/persons reported to have injured and

died in Delhi due to falling in open manholes, bore-wells and sewers during the last three years is as under:

Year	Children		Persons (other than children)	
	Injured	Died	Injured	Died
2004	-	2	-	2
2005	-	2	1	1
2006	-	2	-	-
2007 (upto 31.7.2007)	1	3	-	3

(b) and (c) These incidents were inquired into and three municipal employees were removed from municipal services.

(d) To check such incidents in future, necessary care is being taken to ensure that the manholes of the covered drains are kept in order and instructions have been issued for providing railings on both sides of the open drains/nallahs and also to provide/replace the manhole covers on all covered drains.

Internet Connectivity for Education

414. SHRI ANWAR HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to provide connectivity to all schools and colleges in the country through internet communication; and

(b) if so, the total number of schools and colleges to be connected through internet in the country including North Eastern States, State and Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) Under the centrally-sponsored scheme of "ICT @ School", there is provision for internet connectivity in Government and Government aided secondary and higher secondary schools subject to availability of telecom infrastructure in the vicinity and based on the viable proposals received from the State Governments.

Internet connectivity has already been provided to 149 universities including those in the North Eastern

Region. The question of covering all eligible colleges would arise only if resources so permit during the Xth Plan.

Assessment of Colleges and Universities

415. DR. M. JAGANNATH:
SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA:

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

(a) whether the Government has recently decided to make the compulsory assessment of all colleges and universities mandatory in the country and give ratings based on their quality of education and academic performance; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Drought Relief

416. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:
SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the drought, floods and cyclone related problems have been included under Disaster Management Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to provide relief and rehabilitation to the persons affected by recent floods drought and cyclone?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) to (c): Relief assistance in the wake of natural calamities is provided to the States under the Schemes of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF). The calamities of drought, floods and cyclone are included in the list of identified calamities in the wake of which relief is provided as per extant items and norms of assistance.

Provision of relief and rehabilitation to the people affected by natural calamities including floods, drought and cyclone, is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments. Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments by providing logistic support and financial assistance. Logistic support is provided by the Government of India to the affected States in terms of deployment of Army columns, IAF helicopters, Naval boats & Personnel from National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) battalions as well as provision of transportation of drinking water and fodder to the drought affected areas. The Government of India provides financial assistance to the affected States by way of release of Central contribution to the Calamity Relief Fund of the respective States. Additional financial assistance is also provided in the wake of calamities of severe nature from NCCF after following the laid down procedure.

For the year 2007-08 the allocation of CRF is Rs.4258.85 crore out of which 75% amounting to Rs.3194.14 crore is share of GOI. Out of 50% share of GOI amounting to Rs.1597.07 crore due to be released in June 07, Rs. 1412.49 crore has already been released to States for relief/rescue work. In addition, on the request of the State Governments, second installment of Central share of CRF has been released in advance to Andhra Pradesh (Rs. 142.25 crore), Kamataka (Rs.47.40 crore) and Kerala (Rs. 35.35 crore).

Licence Fee on Television Sets

417. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:
SHRI M. APPADURAI:

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

(a) whether the cost of maintaining Doordarshan and All India Radio has increased several times;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefore alongwith the details of expenditure incurred by Doordarshan and All India Radio separately during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the Government proposes to impose an annual 'licence fee' for each television sets owned by consumers as reported in Times of India dated July 10, 2007;

(d) if so, the detail thereof and reasons therefore; and

(e) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) The details of expenditure by Doordarshan and AIR during the last three year are given below:

(Rs in crores)			
Year	DD	AIR	Total
2004-05	969.42	722.56	1691.98
2005-06	1237.04	759.36	1996.40
2006-07	1150.77	770.62	1921.39

(c) No Sir.

(d) and (e) Doesn't arise.

[Translation]

Vocational Courses

418. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) has started various new vocational courses at the elementary stage this year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of students benefited therefrom in the country; and

(d) the colleges in the country which are functioning as a centre for such courses of IGNOU and imparting education to the students, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Two new vocational courses viz Certificate in Shoe Upper Stitching (CSUS) and Certificate in Shoe Lasting & Finishing (CSLF) have been started during this year, benefiting ninety students.

(d) Two institutions namely ZETA Leather Exports, Gurgaon (Haryana) and Footwear Design & Development Institute (FDDI) Noida (UP) are imparting Education to the students in the courses, referred to in reply to part (b) of the question.

Shivalinga at Amarnath

419. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:
SHRI RAKESH SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Shivalinga have been tempered in the holy cave of Amarnath;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any incidence of illegal entry by some people into the holy cave of Amarnath have come to the notice; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government against the guilty persons and to check such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (d): As per the information made available by the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir, before commencement of Amarnath Ji Yatra, forces comprising of various units are deployed to sanitize and secure the route/track as also Holy Cave site and such groups do have darshans of the Shiv Lingam for divine blessings.

During the current year-2007, soon after deployment of security forces to different places on Amarnath Ji yatra track before the official commencement of yatra to Holy Cave, some Army /Security forces jawans performed puja at the Holy Cave collectively as well as individually during which they lit Agarbatties/Dhoppa, etc. and also physically touched the fully formed Shiv Lingam at Holy Cave with their bare hands mainly to seek divine blessings. Besides, some civilians too had Darshans of Shiva Lingam at the Holy Cave.

A religious preacher performed a week long Ram Katha/Hawan at the Holy Cave before formal commencement of yatra. It has been learnt that some NRIs have utilized helicopter sorties from, Baital to the Holy Cave to participate in the Ram Katha. Nothing as could be termed as desecration of Shiv Lingam has been reported to have happened at the Holy Cave. Similarly the entry can not be termed as illegal.

[English]

Doordarshan Kendras

420. SHRI B. MAHTAB: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any steps for the upgradation of Doordarshan Kendras/ All India Radio in the country during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of the Doordarshan Kendras/ All India Radio upgraded in the Tenth Five Year Plan period, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) whether the Government proposes to open any new Doordarshan Kendra/All India Radio, particularly in Orissa during Eleventh Five Year Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details in respect of All India Radio (AIR) and Doordarshan (DD) are attached as Statement-I and statement-II respectively.

(c) and (d) Eleventh Five Year Plan has not yet been finalized.

Statement I*List of AIR Stations upgraded during the Xth Plan period (2002-07)*

Sl. No.	Year	State/Union Territory	Place
1	2	3	4
1.	2002-03	A&N Island	Port Blair
2.		Chhatisgarh	Raipur
3.		Delhi	Delhi
4.		J&K	Jammu
5.		J&K	Srinagar
6.		Karnataka	Dharwad
7.		Karnataka	Mangalore
8.		Karnataka	Mysore
9.		Kerala	Calicut
10.		Maharashtra	Nagpur
11.		Manipur	Imphal
12.		MP	Indore
13.		Nagaland	Kohima
14.		Orissa	Cuttack
15.		Rajasthan	Jodhpur
16.	2003-04	Assam	Guwahati
17.		Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar
18.		Himachal Pradesh	Shimla
19.		J&K	Srinagar
20.		Rajasthan	Jaipur
21.		U.P.	Lucknow
22.	2004-05	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad
23.		Bihar	Patna
24.		Gujarat	Ahmedabad
25.		Gujarat	Bhuj
26.		Karnataka	Bangalore

1	2	3	4
27.		Kerala	Trivandrum
28.		M.P.	Bhopal
29.	2005-06	A&N Island	Port Blair
30.		Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad
31.		Haryana	Rohtak
32.		Himachal Pradesh	Shimla
33.		Karnataka	Gulbarga
34.		Maharashtra	Aurangabad
35.		Manipur	Imphal
36.		Meghalaya	Shillong
37.		Rajasthan	Udaipur
38.		Tamil Nadu	Madurai
39.		Tripura	Agartala
40.		UP.	Gorakhpur
41.		West Bengal	Kurseong
42.	2006-07	Andhra Pradesh	Vijaywada
43.		Delhi	Delhi
44.		J&K	Kargil
45.		Rajasthan	Kota
46.		UP.	Kanpur

Statement II*List of Doordarshan Kendras upgraded during the Xth Plan period (2002-07)*

Year	Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	Location
1	2	3	4
2004-05	1.	A&N Islands	Port Blair
	2.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad
	3.	Chhatisgarh	Raipur
	4.	Delhi	Delhi

1	2	3	4
	5.	Delhi	CPC
	6.	Goa	Panaji
	7.	J&K	Jammu
	8.	Jharkhand	Daltonganj
	9.	Karnataka	Bangalore
	10.	Karnataka	Gulbarga
	11.	Maharashtra	Mumbai
	12.	Pondicherry	Pondicherry
	13.	Sikkim	Gangtok
	14.	Tamilnadu	Chennai
	15.	West Bengal	Kolkata
2005-06	16.	Assam	Guwahati
	17.	Bihar	Patna
	18.	Bihar	Muzaffarpur
	19.	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
	20.	Rajasthan	Jaipur
	21.	Uttar Pradesh	Bareilly
2006-07	22.	Andhra Pradesh	Vijaywada
	23.	Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar
	24.	Assam	Dibrugarh
	25.	Assam	PPC Guwahati
	26.	Assam	Silchar
	27.	Chhattisgarh	Raipur
	28.	Delhi	Delhi
	29.	Gujarat	Rajkot
	30.	Jharkhand	Ranchi
	31.	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla
	32.	J&K	Srinagar
	33.	Kerala	Trivandrum

1	2	3	4
	34.	Madhya Pradesh	Indore
	35.	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
	36.	Maharashtra	Pune
	37.	Manipur	Imphal
	38.	Meghalaya	Tura
	39.	Meghalaya	Shillong
	40.	Mizoram	Aizwal
	41.	Nagaland	Kohima
	42.	Orissa	Bhubaneswar
	43.	Orissa	Sambalpur
	44.	Punjab	Jalandhar
	45.	Tripura	Agartala
	46.	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
	47.	Uttar Pradesh	Mau
	48.	Uttar Pradesh	Allahabad
	49.	West Bengal	Jalpaiguri

Textile Export

421. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN:
SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH:
SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the textile sector has registered a decline in the rate of growth during 2006-07 in comparison to 2005-06;

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

(c) whether the textile industry is expected to witness a loss of over six lakh jobs in the current year;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the textile industry is likely to suffer heavy loss due to shortfall in export;

(f) if so, the steps taken in this regard; and

(g) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to provide incentives/concessions to boost the textile exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) and (b) There has been no decline in India's textile exports. As per provisional data, India's textiles and clothing exports during 2006-07 were of the value of US\$ 18729.93 million, as against exports valued at US\$ 17520.07 million during the year 2005-06, registering a growth of 6.91%.

(c) and (d) There is no such apprehension given the steady achievements of the Textiles Industry, so far.

(e) to (g) No loss is foreseen since there has been no decline in exports. Besides, the Government has been taking a number of steps to modernize the textiles and garment industry and enable it to adopt the modern

management principles and corporate culture. Some of the important initiatives taken in this regard are as follows:-

- (i) 100% Foreign Direct Investment is allowed in the textiles sector under the automatic route.
- (ii) The Government has de-reserved readymade garments, hosiery and knitwear from the SSI sector.
- (iii) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) has been made operational from 1.4.1999 to facilitate the modernisation and upgradation of the sector.
- (iv) A new "Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks" has been formulated by merging this "Scheme for Apparel Parks for Exports" and the "Textiles, Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme", in order to expand the production base of the textiles and garment sector.
- (v) The fiscal duty structure has been generally rationalised to achieve growth and maximum value addition within the country. Except for mandatory excise duty on man-made filament yarns and man-made staple fibres, the whole value addition chain has been given the option of excise exemption.
- (vi) The import of specified textiles and garment machinery has been allowed at a concessional rate of customs duty to encourage investment and to make our textiles product competitive in the global market. The cost of machinery has also been reduced through fiscal policy measures.
- (vii) Duty-free import of 21 items of trimmings and embellishment items is allowed to garment exporters. This can be upto 3% of their actual export performance during the previous year.
- (viii) For the speedy modernisation of the textiles processing sector, Government has introduced, w.e.f 20.4.2005, a credit linked capital subsidy scheme @10% under TUFS, in addition to the existing 5% interest reimbursement.
- (ix) The National Institute for Fashion Technology (NIFT) and the Apparel Training & Design Centres (ATDCs) are running various courses/

programmes at various places in the country to meet the skilled manpower requirement of the textiles industry, especially apparel, in the field of design, merchandising and marketing.

- (x) Facilities like eco-testing laboratories have been created to enable exporters to get garments/textiles pre-tested so that they conform to the requirements of the importing countries.

Achievement Survey

422. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Seventh All India School Education Survey conducted by National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) in the country particularly in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the details of achievement surveys conducted by National Council of Educational Research and Training in Andhra Pradesh in the main curriculum;

(c) the lacunae found in the above surveys; and

(d) the remedial measures taken by the Government to improve the standard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) The 7th All India School Education Survey was conducted with reference date as 30th September, 2002. It provides inter-alia, data/information on the availability of schooling facility, infrastructure, number of teachers and their qualifications, class-wise enrolment of students, etc.

Out of 26,646 villages in Andhra Pradesh, 92.97%, 51.03%, 24.20% and 3.77% villages have primary, upper primary, secondary and higher secondary stage schooling facility respectively. The corresponding percentages for All India are 78.94, 31.41, 11.44 and 3.55.

NCERT has also conducted Baseline Achievement Survey at the end of Classes III, V and VII/VIII. The mean achievement of Andhra Pradesh vis-a-vis the National Average of Classes V and VII surveys is given below:

Class	Language		Mathematics		EVS		S. Studies		Science	
	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National
III	Andhra Pradesh State did not participate in Class III Survey.									
V	54.8	58.3	43.5	46.5	44.56	50.00				
VII	62.56	52.69	24.95	29.78	-	-	38.97	35.98	37.33	32.98

(d) These survey reports do not contain specific recommendation for Government of India. However, findings of these surveys are made use of for improvement of educational standards in schools. Andhra Pradesh has launched a programme called 'Children's Learning Acceleration Programme for Sustainability (CLAPS)' for enhancing learning achievement levels under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan.

Inspection of Export Firms

423. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of export firms inspected during the last three years;

(b) the total number of export firms against whom complaints have been received by the Government and have been blacklisted;

(c) whether the Government proposes to take action against the blacklisted firms;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (e) Inspections are carried out by the Regional offices of the Directorate General of Foreign Trade, as and when required. Information in this regard is not centrally maintained. The number of firms which stood blacklisted during the last two years and the current year, under Rule 7 of the Foreign Trade (Regulation) Rules 1993, is as follows:

2005	950
2006	990
2007	898

Orders against the defaulting firms are passed by the authorized officers, acting in quasi-judicial capacity, under the provisions of Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act, 1992 and Rules made thereunder.

Mid-day Meal Scheme

424. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:
SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY:
SHRIMATI K. RANI:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce any scheme to provide mid-day meal facility upto Eighth Standard students of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds allocated to each State and Union Territory for this scheme during the current financial year;

(d) the details of nutritious food proposed to be added in the scheme in view of increased allocation, State and Union-Territory-wise;

(e) whether 65% of schools are not providing meals to children under the Mid-day Meal Scheme implemented in the country;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) the details of various irregularities/complaints reported in the Mid-day Meal Scheme;

(h) whether the Government has taken any remedial action in the matter; and

(i) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) The Union Budget for 2007-08 has announced the extension of the Mid-Day Meal Scheme to the Upper Primary stage in Educationally Backward Blocks. A budget provision of Rs. 7324 crores has been made for lower and upper primary stage for the MDM Scheme in the current year. The State wise allocation of funds for the primary stage is enclosed as statement. The actual quantum of funds for Upper Primary stage to each State/Union Territory will be finalised after formal approvals are received for extension of the programme to Upper Primary stage.

(d) The Mid-Day Meal Scheme guidelines, 2006 stipulate a provision of a cooked mid day meal to children studying in classes I - V with nutritional content of 450 calories and 12 grams of protein. The National Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee for Mid Day Meal Scheme has recommended a nutritional norm of 700 calories with about 20 grams of protein for Upper Primary stage.

(e) and (f) The MDM Scheme covers children studying in classes I—V in schools run by Government, Local Body and Government aided schools and EGS/AIE centers. As reported by the States/Union Territory Administrations, all eligible schools/Institutions have been covered under the Scheme

(g) to (i) As and when complaints come to the notice of the Government about inferior quality/unhygienic food or irregular supply of mid-day meal or black marketing of food grains, State Governments/UT Administrations are asked to conduct suitable enquiry and initiate corrective actions. States/UTs are continuously advised and encouraged to establish systems to avoid recurrence of such incidents and give full attention to the issues of quality and regular supply of food and prevent misuse of resources. States have also been urged to involve the parents, community members, Village Education Committee members and Panchayati Raj Institutions to supervise the cooking and serving of mid day meal to children.

Statement

Allocation of Central Assistance under Mid Day Meal Scheme during 2007-08

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Allocation	
		Cooking cost (Rs. In Lakh)	Monitoring, Mangement and Evaluation (Rs. In Lakh)
1	2	4	5
Non-NER States			
1.	Andhra Pradesh	17266.55	427.87
2.	Bihar	41706.81	1033.49
3.	Chhattisgarh	10267.21	254.42
4.	Goa	249.12	6.17
5.	Gujarat	10122.78	250.84
6.	Haryana	5193.20	128.69
7.	Himachal Pradesh	1923.96	47.68
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	2742.94	67.97
9.	Jharkhand	17160.93	425.25
10.	Karnatáka	13637.88	337.95

1	2	4	5
11.	Kerala	5785.05	143.35
12.	Madhya Pradesh	27971.79	693.14
13.	Maharashtra	27018.31	689.51
14.	Orissa	16507.49	409.05
15.	Punjab	4631.20	114.76
16.	Rajasthan	24325.41	602.78
17.	Tamilnadu	12035.38	298.24
18.	Uttarakhand	2304.22	57.10
19.	Uttar Pradesh	49419.82	1224.62
20.	West Bengal	30620.62	758.78
	Total	320890.67	7951.66
UTs with Legislature			
21.	Delhi	3494.65	86.60
22.	Pondicherry	163.94	4.06
	Total	3658.59	90.66
UTs without Legislature			
23.	A&N islands	100.38	2.49
24.	Chandigarh	217.80	5.40
25.	D&N Haveli	117.07	2.90
26.	Daman & Diu	44.16	1.09
27.	Lakshadweep	23.69	0.59
	Total	503.10	12.47
NER States			
28.	Arunachal Pradesh	928.14	21.95
29.	Assam	13770.52	325.67
30.	Manipur	1071.71	25.35
31.	Meghalaya	2372.31	56.11
32.	Mizoram	369.04	-8.73
33.	Nagaland	761.85	18.02

1	2	4	5
34.	Sikkim	364.84	8.63
35.	Tripura	1723.98	40.77
	Total	21362.39	505.23
	Grand Total	346414.75	8560.02

Rehabilitation of Land Oustees by NALCO

425. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- the total number of land oustees of NALCO;
- whether NALCO has taken any step to provide jobs to all the land oustees;
- if so, the number of land oustees who have been given jobs so far;
- whether there is a proposal to give jobs to at least one member of each land oustees family; and
- if so, the steps taken in that regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) The total number of land oustees for National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO)'s Mines & Refinery Complex, Damanjodi is 600 and for its Smelter & Power Complex, Angul is 35.

(b) As a part of rehabilitation policy, NALCO at its initial stage, had formulated a policy for providing employment to one able bodied member of each oustee subject to suitability of candidate and availability of vacancy.

(c) Out of 600 land oustees at Damanjodi, one member each from 591 land oustees has been provided employment and out of 35 land oustees at Angul, 34 land oustees have been given employment in the Company.

(d) and (e) NALCO has intimated that the Company stands committed to provide employment to at least one member of each land oustee family. However, the Company has not been able to provide employment in

respect of the remaining oustees as on date due to reasons like non-determination of bonafide nominees, lack of response from the families, etc.

[*Traslation*]

Downlinking Policy

426. SHRI TEK LAL MAHTO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- whether certain important guidelines were issued on 11 November, 2005 under the Downlinking Policy;
- if so, the details thereof;
- the details of metropolitan cities where the said guidelines have been implemented and the details of difficulties faced in the implementation of the said guidelines;
- whether the Government proposes to effect some changes in the said guidelines relating to the Downlinking Policy; and
- if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Yes, sir.

(b) The downlinking guidelines require, inter-alia, that the entity applying for permission for downlinking a channel, uplinked from abroad, (i.e. Applicant Company), must be a company registered in India under the Indian Companies Act, 1956, irrespective of its equity structure, foreign ownership or management control, the applicant company must have a commercial presence in India with its principal place of business in India, the applicant company must either own the channel it wants to downlink

for public viewing, or must enjoy, For the territory of India, exclusive marketing/distribution rights for the same, inclusive of the rights to the advertising and subscription revenues for the channel. The full text of the guidelines is available on the Ministry's website (www.mib.nic.in).

(c) These guidelines are applicable all over India. The cable operators/DTK operators can transmit/re-transmit only those private TV channels which are permitted under the downlinking guidelines. The list of such channels is also available on the Ministry's website.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

Export of Onion

427. SHRI SUBRATA BOSE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of onion exported during each of the last three years and target fixed for its export during the current year;

(b) whether there is a persistent demand particularly from rose onion growers to increase the export quota of onions;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the farmers are not getting remunerative prices;

(e) if so, whether the Government proposes to lift the restriction on the export of onion to enable the farmers to get remunerative price;

(f) whether the Government is considering to formulate a permanent Export policy for onion; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The quantity of onion exported from the country during the last three years is given below:

Year	Quantity
2004-05	870216
2005-06	960507
2006-07	1103318 (from April to December 2006)

(Source: DGCI&S)

No target has been fixed for export of onions.

(b) No, Sir. There are no quantitative restrictions on export of any variety of onions.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir. The farmers are getting remunerative prices. The export price has gone up from Rs. 8676.66/MT in 2004-05 to Rs. 9776.38/MT in 2006-07 (April-December' 06).

(e) Does not arise.

(f) and (g) Export of onion is permitted with 'No Objection Certificate' (NOC) from the designated State Trading Enterprises (STEs) subject to a Minimum Export Price (MEP) fixed by the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED). There is no proposal to change the policy.

[Translation]

Implementation of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

428. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOUCES DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of complaints received regarding irregularities in the implementation of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan;

(b) whether any enquiry has been conducted in regard to these complaints; and

(c) if so, the outcome of these enquiries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) According to the information furnished by the School Education Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh, an amount of Rs. 14,98,03,378 of District

Primary Education Programme (DPEP)/Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) had been diverted to unauthorized Bank Accounts by the Assistant Accounts Officer of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Andhra Pradesh. An FIR was lodged by the SSA office with the City Central Crime Station on 2.4.2007. Subsequently, the State Government has transferred the case to CID for further investigation. The Government of Andhra Pradesh also has on 5.5.2007 appointed a retired Judge of the High Court as a Commission of Inquiry under the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952 to probe into all aspects of embezzlement including the circumstances or the lapses which led to embezzlement and to fix the responsibility on the persons allegedly involved. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has suspended three Accounts Officials and another three have been transferred out of the State Project Office of SSA/DPEP. In addition, Government of India has requested the Comptroller and Auditor General of India to carry out a special Audit of Accounts pertaining to DPEP and Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan for the period from 2000-01 till the date through the Andhra Pradesh State Accountant General (Audit) to ascertain the veracity of accounts.

[English]

Universalisation of Secondary Education

429. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has drawn out a strategy for universalisation of secondary education;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the suggestions sought from various State Governments in this regard; and

(d) the allocation made therefor during the current year and for the 11th Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) A concept note has been prepared for implementing a scheme for universalization of access to and improvement of quality of education at secondary stage. The main objective of the scheme is to provide access to good quality secondary schools within a reasonable distance of every habitation.

(c) Suggestions of the State Government have been invited on the contours of the scheme including its components, implementation structure, method of planning and implementation, monitoring and evaluation, sharing of resources between the centre and States, private sector participation and other issues of relevance.

(d) Rs. 1305 crore has been provided in the budget for 2007-08 for this scheme. The allocation for the Eleventh Five Year Plan has not yet been finalized.

[Translation]

Mines in India

430. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States alongwith the minerals being extracted from the mines located therein;

(b) the number of mines operating at present indicating the number of those lying closed;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to revive such mines; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for the revival and opening of closed mines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) State-wise information on the minerals is given in the Indian Minerals Year Book published by the Indian Bureau of Mines, a copy of which has been supplied to the Parliament Library.

(b) As per information available with the Indian Bureau of Mines, a total of 2380 mines (excluding, atomic, minor minerals and petroleum & natural gas) were operating in the country during 2006-07. Four mines have been closed in the country since 2003, as per mine closure plan.

(c) and (d) Revival of closed mines depends on demand of mineral and commercial viability of mining operation which are generally cyclical in nature.

Vacant Posts in Universities/KVs/NVs

431. SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether various categories of posts are lying vacant in Central Universities, Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons for their lying vacant; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to fill up these posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) In so far as Central Universities are concerned, each Central University is governed by its individual Act of Parliament and the Statutes made thereunder, in terms of the relevant Statutes, the appointments to the teaching as well as non-teaching posts in a University are made by its Executive Council on the recommendation of a Selection Committee constituted in accordance with the provisions of these Statutes. The Selection Committee for the posts of Professor, Reader and Lecturer and certain other specified posts includes, inter-alia, a nominee of the President, in his capacity as the Visitor of the University. In view of the foregoing, while this Ministry's role is limited

to providing the Visitor's nominees to the Selection Committees for the posts of Professor, Reader, Lecturer and certain other specified posts, the Government, through the University Grants Commission (UGC), keeps reminding the Central Universities to fill the vacant posts. This is, thus, a continuous process. According to the information provided by the UGC, 2159 teaching and 4965 non-teaching posts, as per the details given in the enclosed Statements-I and II, respectively, were lying vacant as on 31st March, 2007 in the various Central Universities.

According to the information furnished by the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) and Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS), the various categories of posts lying vacant in Kendriya Vidyalayas as on 1st July, 2007 and in Navodaya Vidyalayas as on 31st March, 2007 are given in Statements III and IV, respectively. Retirement, death, resignation, termination from services, opening of new Vidyalayas, upgradation of existing Vidyalayas, non-availability of eligible candidates etc. are amongst the main reasons for these vacancies. Nearly 450 vacancies of teachers in Navodaya Vidyalayas have been filled in the month of July/August, 2007 under the special recruitment drive. Filling up of these vacancies is a continuous process.

Statement I

Central University-wise vacant teaching posts as on 31st March, 2007

Sl.No.	Name of the University	P	R	L	O	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Aligarh Muslim University	53	98	129	-	280
2.	Banaras Hindu University	123	35	369	-	527
3.	University of Delhi	81	115	147	-	343
4.	University of Hyderabad	15	19	13	-	47
5.	Jamia Millia Islamia	20	34	73	5	132
6.	Jawaharlal Nehru University	47	39	33	-	119
7.	North-Eastern Hill University	22	16	10	-	48
8.	Pondicherry University	8	11	17	-	36
9.	Visva Bharati	13	20	49	19	101
10.	Tezpur University	10	9	24	-	43

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11.	Nagaland University	17	16	45	5	83
12.	Mizoram University	6	7	11	-	24
13.	Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University	9	13	26	•	48
14.	MGA Hindi Vishvidyalaya	4	4	4	-	12
15.	Maulana Azad National Urdu University	-	2	11	-	13
16.	University of Allahabad	51	74	104	-	229
17.	Manipur University	21	28	25	-	74
Total		500	540	1090	29	2159

P: Professor

R: Reader

L: Lecturer

O: Others

Statement II*Central University-wise vacant non-teaching posts, Group-wise, as on 31st March, 2007*

Sl.No.	Name of the University	Gr. A	Gr. B	Gr. C	Gr. D	O	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Aligarh Muslim University	38	47	156	162	-	403
2.	Banaras Hindu University	68	50	1136	994	-	2248
3.	University of Delhi	30	56	538	249	15	888
4.	University of Hyderabad	7	2	53	83	-	145
5.	Jamia Millia Islamia	8	9	80	16	-	113
6.	Jawaharlal Nehru University	47	27	72	66	-	212
7.	North-Eastern Hill University	9	26	20	33	-	88
8.	Pondicherry University	7	12	45	8	-	72
9.	Visva Bharati	27	10	105	292	-	434
10.	Tezpur University	10	5	34	8	-	57
11.	Nagaland University	14	7	9	7	-	37
12.	Mizoram University	4	9	19	14	-	46
13.	Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University	4	-	12	2	-	18

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
14.	MGA Hindi Vishvidyalaya	-	-	6	-	-	6
15.	Maulana Azad National Urdu University	6	3	10	-	-	19
16.	University of Allahabad	2	2	50	35	-	89
17.	Manipur University	7	5	39	39	-	90
Total		288	270	2384	2008	15	4965

Gr.: Group

Statement III*Various categories of posts lying vacant in Kendriya Vidyalayas as on 1st July, 2007*

S.No	Category	No. of vacant posts
1	Principal Grade I	120
2.	Principal Grade II/Vice Principal	47
3.	Headmaster	123
4.	Post Graduate Teachers	1699
5.	Trained Graduate Teachers	1630
6.	Misc. Teachers (Drawing, Music, Librarian, Yoga etc.)	829*

*Include some posts of KVS Headquarter/Regional Offices

Statement IV*Various categories of posts lying vacant in Navodaya Vidyalayas as on 31st March, 2007*

S.No	Category	No. of vacant posts
1	Principal	26
2.	Vice Principal	80
3.	Postgraduate Teachers	570
4.	Trained Graduate Teachers	641
5.	Misc. Teachers (Drawing, Music, SUPW, Librarian, Yoga etc.)	231
6.	Non- teaching staff	1725

*[English]***Encroachment of Forest Land by BALCO**

432. SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR DUBEY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1688 and 952 dated August 8, 2006 and 6th March, 2007 respectively and to state:

- (a) whether the information has since been collected;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, reasons for its delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) to (c) The Implementation Report in respect of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 1688 dated 8th August, 2006 has been sent to Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs by the Ministry of Mines on 3rd August 2007.

For fulfilling Assurance given in response to Unstarred Question No. 952 dated 6th March, 2007, information was sought from Bharat Aluminium Company Limited (BALCO) and the State Government of Chhattisgarh. Some clarifications have not yet been received from them, and hence, there is delay in fulfilling the Assurance.

*[Translation]***Impact of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan**

433. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the impact of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan on Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs) and Other Backward Classes (OBCs) students and the details of increase in the literacy rate among them during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government proposes to make education up to 8th Standard compulsory for children of these categories;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of other facilities provided free of cost to these children?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan covers children of 6-14 years of age. The Gross Enrolment Ratio for primary and elementary level for SC and ST children from 2001-02 to 2004-05 is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) The aim of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is to provide Universal Elementary Education to all children in age group of 6-14 years.

(d) SSA supports children in the 6-14 age group studying in Government schools where elementary education is free.

Statement*Gross Enrolment Ratio of SC students*

Primary (%)				Elementary Level (%)			
2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
93.0	95.6	88.3	115.3	85.6	81.1	83.4	98.8

Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) of ST students

Primary (%)				Elementary Level (%)			
2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
96.3	98.7	91.37	121.9	88.9	80.5	86.06	102.4

*(English)***US-GSP Programme**

434. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the US Government has invited comments from India for giving trade benefits under its Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) Programme;

(b) if so, whether the Government has submitted its comments;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the details of benefits got by India in dollar terms, under US-GSP programme;

(e) whether the continuance of GSP has been taken up in the bilateral meetings held from time to time with US officials; and

(f) if so, the details of the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Sir. The US GSP scheme provides for an annual review to examine whether the GSP benefit on specific product categories should be continued. The review is done on the basis of certain criteria determined every year. During the 2006 Review of the GSP programme, the United States Trade Representative (USTR) issued notices, inviting comments for the review of the GSP status of the following categories of items from India:-

- (i) Precious Metal articles of jewellery;
- (ii) Non electrical lamps and light fittings;
- (iii) Cucumbers including gherkins, prepared or preserved by vinegar or acetic acid;
- (iv) Hand hooked carpets and other textiles floor covering, tufted, whether or not made up, of wool or fine animal hair;
- (v) Colour television reception apparatus, video display diagonal over 32.29 cm incorporating a VCR or a player;

(vi) Other aromatic nitrile-function pesticides fast colour bases and fast color salts of diazo, azo or axoxy compounds;

(vii) Wind powdered electric generating sets.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. India had submitted that for the product categories under the GSP review, most of the production took place in the small scale, cottage or agriculture sectors. India had also highlighted the adverse implications of the GSP withdrawal on the livelihoods of a large number of workers employed in these sectors.

(d) India has been a beneficiary of the US-GSP programme since its inception in 1976. During 2006, US \$5.67 billion worth of India's export to the US enjoyed GSP benefits.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. India has represented against the withdrawal of the GSP benefits. A petition had been filed in the office of the USTR with regard to jewellery and non-electrical lamps on September 5, 2006. An oral statement was made with regard to Cucumber, Hand hooked carpets and colour television reception apparatus at the public hearing before the chairman of the GSP sub committee of the USTR on February 16, 2007. In addition, the government raised the issue in the India-US Trade Policy Forum meeting in April 2007. The US Government have decided to allow the continuation of GSP benefits to India on its exports of hand hooked carpets and other textile floor coverings.

Export of Passenger Cars

435. SHRI RANEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether passenger cars are being exported from the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years, model-wise;

(c) whether there has been any increase in the export of passenger cars during the current year;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the foreign exchange earned therefrom during the aforesaid period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Number of passenger cars exported during the last three years are:

2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1,60,670	1,69,990	1,92,745

(c) and (d) Quantity-wise exports of passenger cars are increasing. As per provisional figures, during April-July 2007, exports of passenger cars have registered a growth of around 17% over April-July, 2006.

(e) Foreign exchange earned by passenger car exports during the last three years are as under:

(In US \$ millions)

2004-05	2005-06	2006-07 (April-December 2006)
265.87	193.35	147.55

Fall in value realisation is on account of export of higher numbers of small cars.

Funds for Higher Education

436. SHRI P. MOHAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the allocation of funds by the Government for higher education for the current financial year is adequate;

(b) if so, the details and percentage in relation to GDP;

(c) whether Knowledge Commission's observation that this allocation may be further increased is being considered by the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D.

PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Allocation of funds for higher education is made keeping in view the availability of resources and the priorities vis-a-vis other sectors. The GDP for the current year is not yet known.

(c) to (e) The Government has not taken any decision on the recommendations of the Knowledge Commission, which is the subject of wider consultation.

Job Oriented Education

438. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to make education job oriented from the 9th class onwards;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to set up any Commission/Committee of experts in this regard;

(d) if so, the time by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (e) Presently, there is no such proposal under consideration of the Ministry of Human Resource Development to make education job-oriented from the 9th class onwards. As per the current Policy, there is general education with common subjects upto Class 10. Vocational stream is introduced at the higher secondary stage (Classes 11 and 12).

New Digital Option

439. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce a new digital option for television viewers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; State/UT-wise; and

(c) the time by when it is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Conditional Access System (CAS) has for Cable television viewers in parts of metropolitan area of Delhi, Mumbai and Kolkata from 31.12.2006. CAS is already under implementation in Chennai. Though digital transmission and distribution has not been made mandatory for introduction of CAS but it is seen that almost all of the Multi System Operators operating in CAS notified areas have switched over to Digital technology. The Central Government at present is evaluating the success of the first phase of implementation. The State Governments will apprise the Central Government of their views on the extension to remaining parts of the three metres.

The relevant notifications giving details of areas notified under CAS are given in the enclosed Statement-I and II.

The other digital options available for Television viewers all over India is the Direct-to-Home (DTH) service. Apart from Doordarshan's DD Direct+free to air service there are two other private DTH service providers namely Tata Sky & Dish TV. The number of service providers is likely to increase.

Another recent option for digital content delivery is Internet Protocol Television (IPTV) services by Telecom Service providers. MTNL has started a pilot offering of IPTV in Delhi recently.

Under a pilot project Doordarshan has started its TV on mobile services using Digital Video Broadcasting-Handheld (DVB-H) technology in Delhi.

Statement I

Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 10th July, 003

S.O. 792(E).—In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of Section 4A, read with Section 9 of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 (7 of 1995) the Central Government having been satisfied that it is necessary in public interest so to do, and in supersession of the notification S.O.39(E), dated 14th January, 2003, hereby notifies the 1st day of March 2003

as the date within six months from which it shall be obligatory for every cable operator to transmit/retransmit programmes of every pay channel through an addressable system in the areas specified below, namely :-

- (i) In the Municipal Council of Greater Mumbai, the area to the West of the main line of Central Railway between Chatrapathi Shivaji Terminus (CST) station and Sion Railway Station, including the area from Navy Nagar (in the south) upto the CST railway Station (in the north), including Ballard Estate, bound by the Sion-Bandra Link Road and the Mahim Causeway on the northern side and includes the areas Colaba, RC Church, World Trade Centre, Maker Towers, Nariman Point, Cuffe Prade, Fort, Fountain, Bombay Stock Market, Prince of Wales Museum, CIDCO, Marine Drive Gateway of India, Horniman Circle, Reserve Bank of India, Churchgate, Ballard Estate, Town Hall, Shahid Bhagat Singh Road, Madam Cama Road, Veer Nariman Road, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Dr. Dadabhai Nauroji Marg, Marine Lines, Charni Road, Kalbadevi, Thakurdwar, Girgaum, Waikeshwar Road, Nepensea Road, Cumbala Hill, Malabar Hill, Grant Road, Khetwadi, Breach. Candy, Peddar Road, Hajiali, Mahalaxmi, Worli, Tardep, Altomout Road, Dr. Dadasheb Bhadkamkar Marg, Sardar Vallabhai Patel Road, Saat Rasta, Lala Lajpatrai Marg, Mahalakshmi Race Course, Dr. Annie Besant Marg, N.M. Joshi Marg, Gokhale Road, Dr. Moses Rotid, Prabhadevi, Dadar (West), Shivaji Park, Cadell Road, Lady Jantshedji Road, Sitladevi Road, Mahim, Gen Arunkumar Vidya Marg.

- (ii) In the National Capital Territory of Delhi, the area covering Chanakyapuri, Motibagh, Vasant Vihar, Safderjung, Vasantkunj, Chattarpur, Madangir, Kalkajii, Santa Vihar, Maharant Bagh; bounded in the East by Yamuna River (from Delhi-Haryana border near Badarpur to Bhairon Marg; bounded in the West by Wellington Crescent, Sardar Patel Marg, NH8 (from Dhaulakuan to Gurgaon Border); bounded in the South by Delhi-Haryan border (from Gurgaon to Badarpur and Yamuna river); bounded in the North by Bhairon Marg, Raj path (from National Stadium to Vijay Chowk), Parliament House, Talkatora Road upto Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital.

- (iii) In the Kolkata Metropolitan Area, the areas whose northern boundary is the eastern bank of the river Hooghly up to the confluence with Tolly's Nalla on the right; eastern boundary is the line along the western bank of Tolly's Nalla starting from its confluence with river Hooghly in the north running south down along the mouzas of Magurkhali; Southern Boundary is along the line following the southern boundaries of mouzas Magurkhali, Ramjibanpur, Sajnaberia, Gopalnagar, Kalua, Hanspukuria area within Police Station Behala proceeding towards the southern boundaries of mouzas Kalagachhia, Sankharipota, Naoabad, Khanberia, Chandigarh, Shibhugli and Rameshwarpur within Police Station Maheshtola.

Thereafter the same line following the southern Betuabi Rajarampur, Santoshpur, Uttar Raipur, Benjan Haria Charial, Eastern and southern mouzas of Nischintapur and Southern boundaries of mouzas of Uttar Ramchandrapur, Raghunathpur, Rajarampur, Achhipur within Police Station Budge Budge.

And then proceeding further westward in a straight line and meeting the western boundary-line of District 24 Parganas in the river Hooghly; and western boundary is the line along the east bank of river Hooghly starting from the confluence of Tolly's Nalla running south-south-west where it meets the line of District 24 Parganas in the river Hooghly.

- (iv) Chennai Metropolitan area.

[F. No. 9/2/2003-BP&L]
Rakesh Mohan, Jt. Secy.

Footnote :-The Notification S.O. 39(E) dated 14th January, 2003 was published in the Gazette of India [Extraordinary] dated 14th January, 2003 in Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (ii).

Statement II

Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 31st July, 2006

S.O. 1231(E).— WHEREAS section 4A of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 (7 of 1995) (hereinafter referred to as the Act) envisages "transmission

of programmes through an addressable system" [(hereinafter referred to as the Conditional Access System (CAS));

AND WHEREAS the Government of India in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, by notification vide number S. O. 39 (E) dated the 14th January, 2003, made it obligatory for the cable operators in the whole of Chennai and Kolkata Metropolitan areas and the areas covered by the Municipal Council of Greater Mumbai and the National Capital Region of Delhi to transmit or re-transmit programmes of every pay channel through an addressable system within a period, of six months from 15th January 2003;

AND WHEREAS the Government of India, in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, by notification vide number S.O. 792 (E) dated the 10th July, 2003, revised the notified areas to certain specified areas in the Chennai and Kolkata metropolitan areas and the areas covered by Municipal Council of Greater Mumbai and the National Capital Region of Delhi in supersession of the notification number S.O. 39 (E) dated 14th January 2003, to transmit or re-transmit programmes of every pay channel through an addressable system within a period of six months from 1st March 2003;

AND WHEREAS the Government of India, in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting by notification vide number S.O. 271 (E) dated the 27th February 2004, suspended the operation of the notification number 39 (E) dated the 14th January 2003 read with notification number 792 (E) dated 1 July 2003;

AND WHEREAS the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi passed an order dated the 10th March 2006 in CWP No. 14464-66 of 2004 filed by M/s. Hathway Cables & Datacom Pvt. Ltd. and Others directing the Central Government to implement Conditional Access System in the areas notified vide notification number S.O. 792 (E) dated the 10th July, 2003 by Government of India in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting within four weeks;

AND WHEREAS the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi passed an order dated the 20th July 2006 in LPA no. 985/2006 & CMs 6680/2006 and 6658/2006 directing the Government of India to implement Conditional Access System by 31st December 2006 in the notified areas vide number S.O. 792(E) dated the 10th July, 2003 by the Government of India in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in terms of the order passed by the

learned single judge dated the 10th March, 2006 for which necessary notification shall be issued by 31st July 2006;

NOW, THEREFORE, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 4A, read with section 9 of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 (7 of 1995), the Central Government, having been satisfied that it is necessary in the public interest so to do, and having regard to the aforesaid order dated the 20th July, 2006 of the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi hereby, notifies 31st December, 2006 as the date from which it shall be mandatory for every cable operator to transmit or re-transmit programmes of every pay channel through an addressable system in the areas notified by the Government of India in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting vide number S.O. 792(E) dated the 10th July, 2003.

[F.No. 9/16/2004-B&L (Vol. IV)]
N. Bajendra Kumar, Jt. Secy.

Legislation to Control Private Institutions

440. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to bring a legislation in order to exercise control over admission in private vocational educational institutes and in their fee structure; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) Presently, there is no such proposal under consideration of the Ministry of Human Resource Development.

Subsidised Freight Rates in Agricultural Products

441. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal for setting up of cold storage at the 5 Airports in the North East Region;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to subsidise freight rates in agricultural products in order to boost exports in the North East Region; and

(d) if so, the decision taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. APEDA is setting up four walk-in-type cold rooms and one Centre for Perishable Cargo (CPC) at an estimated cost of Rs. 2.43 crores to promote the export of perishable produce from North Eastern Region. These facilities are being provided at airports in Agartala, Aizwal, Dimapur, Imphal and Guwahati.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Government has extended the Scheme for Inland Transport Assistance for the year 2007-08 for agriculture products from the North East Region including Sikkim, to boost exports from that region.

Cluster Development Scheme

442. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new scheme called 'Cluster Development Scheme' for the development of handloom sector has been launched recently;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) whether this cluster approach is likely to replace the cooperative approach for the development of handloom sector;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) if not, the steps being taken/proposed to be taken to provide assistance to States, particularly Karnataka under the said scheme and strengthening the cooperative sector in handlooms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOAN): (a) and (b) The Government of India launched new scheme called 'Integrated Handloom Cluster Development Scheme' in the year 2005-06 for holistic & integrated development of 20 handloom clusters in a time frame of four years at a total cost not exceeding Rs. 2.00 crore per cluster. These clusters are spread in 12 States, including the State of Karnataka, each covering about 5,000 handlooms.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Integrated Handloom Cluster Development Scheme will be replaced by a proposed new "Integrated Handloom Development Scheme (IHDS)", which has been formulated by merging the components, with or without modifications of the Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana, Integrated Handloom Cluster Development Scheme, Integrated Handloom Training Project and Workshop-cum-Housing Scheme implemented during the Xth Plan. In the State of Karnataka, Gadag is one of the 20 handloom clusters where the cluster development programme is under implementation. Additional five handloom clusters *i.e.* (i) Mahalingapur- Bagalkot Distt. (ii) Challookere Town, Chitradurga Distt. (iii) Kollegal - ChamaraJanagar Distt. (iv) Thimmasandara - Kolar Distt. and (v) Mulakalamuru-Chitradurga Distt. have been selected in the State of Karnataka and their diagnostic study has been conducted. The proposed new Scheme will cover the weavers both in and outside the cooperative fold.

Criteria for Permission of News Channel

443. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria and guidelines followed by the Government for granting permission to starting a News Channel;

(b) the number of such requests received by the Government alongwith the permission granted during each of the last three years including current year;

(c) whether some requests are pending with the Union Government at present;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the time by when such requests are likely to be cleared in each case;

(f) whether there are any discretionary powers to relax necessary conditions in sue cases; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Permission for

starting a News Channel are given as per the procedure prescribed in the 'Guidelines for Uplinking from India' which were issued on 2.12.2005. These guidelines and the application form are available on the Ministry's website (www.mib.nic.in). The eligibility criteria is as prescribed in para 3.1, for News and Current Affairs TV Channels.

(b) Receipt of applications under the uplinking guidelines is an on-going process. No record is kept in the Ministry of incomplete applications which are closed or returned. As many as twenty-five private satellite TV channels were permitted to be uplinked from India during the year 2005, thirty-seven channels were permitted during the year 2006 and thirty-one channels have been permitted during the current year up to 31.7.2007. Complete list of channels permitted is available on the Ministry's website.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. As on 31.7.2007, applications of 59 companies to uplink 99 TV channels from India are at various stages of scrutiny. These also require inter-Ministerial comments and hence, no definite time frame can be indicated.

(f) No, Sir. All the applications are processed as per the procedure prescribed in the guidelines.

(g) Does not arise.

Review of Licensing Policy

444. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has reviewed the compulsory Industrial Licensing Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of applications for industrial licensing received/cleared/pending for compulsory licensing during each of the last three years, State-wise, separately; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to cater all the pending applications for industrial licensing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) Review of the Compulsory Industrial Licensing Policy is a continuous process. Presently only five industries are kept under Compulsory Industrial

Licensing regime for reasons related to security and strategic concerns, social reasons, problems related to safety and over-riding environmental issues and manufacture of products of hazardous nature.

(c) and (d) Receipt of applications for Industrial Licence and their consideration is a continuing process and applications are disposed of in a time bound manner by the Licensing Committee in this Department. The

Licensing Committee meets at regular intervals and all applications are considered in consultation with the administrative Ministries/Departments and the State Governments concerned. Statement I and II indicating the number of Industrial License (IL) applications received and Letter of Intents (LOIs)/Industrial Licences granted (State-wise) during the years 2004, 2005 and 2006 are enclosed.

Statement I

Statewise details of IL applications received during the last three years

Name of the State	2004	2005	2006	Total
1	2	3	4	5
Andaman & Nicobar	0	0	0	0
Andhra Pradesh	11	33	24	68
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0
Assam	2	1	0	3
Bihar	0	0	0	0
Chandigarh	0	0	1	1
Chhattisgarh	1	1	1	3
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	6	1	0	7
Daman & Diu	3	0	0	3
Delhi	0	0	0	0
Goa	1	1	0	2
Gujarat	9	10	7	26
Haryana	8	1	1	10
Himachal Pradesh	0	2	0	2
Jammu-Kashmir	0	1	2	3
Jharkhand	1	3	0	4
Karnataka	7	10	14	31
Kerala	3	4	2	9
Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5
Madhya Pradesh	1	1	2	4
Maharashtra	21	16	9	46
Manipur	0	0	0	0
Meghalaya	0	1	0	1
Mizoram	0	0	0	0
Nagaland	0	0	0	0
Orissa	0	4	1	7
Pondicherry	0	0	0	0
Punjab	18	28	31	77
Rajasthan	1	1	3	5
Sikkim	0	0	0	0
Tamil Nadu	31	44	37	112
Tripura	0	0	0	0
Uttar Pradesh	6	2	5	13
Uttaranchal	0	2	0	2
West Bengal	9	9	2	20
More than One State	2	1	0	3
Withdrawn/closed	0	4	3	7
Total	143	181	145	469

Statement II*Statewise details of LOIs+DILs granted From January 2004 to December 2006*

Name of the State	2004	2005	2006	Total
1	2	3	4	5
Andaman & Nicobar	0	0	0	0
Andhra Pradesh	12	26	18	56
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0
Assam	0	1	0	1
Bihar	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5
Chandigarh	0	0	0	0
Chhattisgarh	3	2	0	5
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	4	1	0	5
Daman & Diu	4	0	1	5
Delhi	0	0	0	0
Goa	0	1	0	1
Gujarat	8	7	7	22
Haryana	5	3	0	8
Himachal Pradesh	0	0	2	2
Jammu-Kashmir	0	0	0	0
Jharkhand	1	0	0	1
Karnataka	7	14	8	29
Kerala	2	2	3	7
Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0
Madhya Pradesh	0	2	1	3
Maharashtra	10	10	8	28
Manipur	0	0	0	0
Meghalaya	0	1	0	1
Mizoram	0	0	0	0
Nagaland	0	0	0	0
Orissa	0	0	0	0
Pondicherry	0	0	0	0
Punjab	15	26	24	65
Rajasthan	0	0	1	1
Sikkim	0	0	0	0
Tamil Nadu	19	32	33	84
Tripura	0	0	0	0
Uttar Pradesh	3	3	1	7
Uttaranchal	0	0	2	2

1	2	3	4	5
West Bengal	6	4	1	11
Location in more than One State	1	0	0	1
Total	100	135	110	345

[Translation]

Cotton Industry

445. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the problems being faced by cotton industry in the country particularly in Punjab;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) and (b) There is no information regarding difficulties/crisis in the cotton industry in the country particularly in the State of Punjab. The year-wise production of cotton in the country as a whole for the last five years is as under:

Production in lakh bales 170 kgs				
2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
136	179	243	244	270

Source : Cotton Advisory Board (CAB)

Area, Production and Yield in the State of Punjab for the last three years is as under:

Year	2004-05			2005-06			2006-07		
	Area	Production	Yield	Area	Production	Yield	Area	Production	Yield
Punjab	5.09	16.50	551	5.57	20.00	610	5.88	26.00	752

Source : Cotton Advisory Board (CAB)

(c) Question does not arise in view of above.

[English]

Funds to DAVP in North Eastern Region

446. SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to activate the functions of Directorate of Audio and Visual Publicity in the North Eastern Region;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total allocation for DAVP for the North Eastern Region?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP) has

a Regional Office at Guwahati and Field Exhibition Offices at Guwahati, Agartala, Imphal, Kohima, Aizwal, Itanagar and Shillong, in the North Eastern region. These offices are already holding exhibitions and conducting other activities for publicity of programmes and policies of Government of India, particularly relating to this region.

(c) The total Budget allocation under Plan for DAVP for the North Eastern region during 2007-08 is Rs. 260.00 lakhs.

[Translation]

Primary Schools in Gram Panchayat

447. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether arrangement for upper primary/middle schools at all Gram Panchayat headquarters has been made by the Government;

(b) if so, the details of number of Gram Panchayat headquarters having middle schools/upper primary schools at present, State-wise and Union Territory-wise;

(c) whether all Gram Panchayat headquarters have primary schools (upto class 5);

(d) if so, the present details thereof, State-wise and Union Territory-wise; and

(e) the details of those Gram Panchayat headquarters lacking the above-said schools, State-wise and Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (e) As per estimation in 2006, 98% of population has access to primary schools within 1 km. of a habitation, while about 9600 Education Guarantee Scheme centres serve the remaining habitations. The ratio of primary schools to upper primary schools in the country was 2.57:1 in 2005.

[English]

Radio Stations

448. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of radio stations expected to go on air till the end of the year, State and Union Territory-wise;

(b) whether the Government has received bids for class-C and D cities;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

(SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) The details of All India Radio Stations and Private FM Radio Stations which are expected to go on air till the end of the year has been indicated in Statement I and II respectively.

(b) to (d) A new Policy of expansion of FM broadcasting through Private Operators was notified in July, 2005. Subsequently, 337 channels including 217 channels of class-C and class-D cities in 61 cities were put on bid. Out of these 217 channels, agreements were signed with successful bidders for 139 channels in 57 cities as per enclosed Statement-III. For the remaining 78 vacant channels of class-C and class-D cities, pre-qualification bids have been invited from private Companies through Tender Notification dated 8.6.2007.

Statement I

Details of AIR Stations expected to go on air by the end of 2007

S.No.	State	Name of the Cities	Expected to go on air by the end of 2007
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Macherla	1
2.	J&K	Diskit	1
		Nyoma	1
		Padum	1
3.	Maharashtra	Oras	1
4.	Manipur	Churachandpur	1
5.	Orissa	Rairangpur	1
		Soro	1
6.	Rajasthan	Dungarpur	1
7.	Tamil Nadu	Dharmapuri	1
8.	Tripura	Dharmanagar	1
Total			11

Statement II

Details of Private FM Channels Expected Go on air by the end of 2007

Sl.No.	State	Name of the Cities	To be Operationalised By the end of 2007
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Tirupathi	2
		Vijayawada	2
		Vishakhapatnam	3
		Warangal	2

1	2	3	4
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar	1
3.	Assam	Guwahati	2
4.	Bihar	Muzzaffarpur	1
5.	Chhatisgarh	Bilaspur	2
		Raipur	4
6.	Daman & Diu	Daman	1
7.	Gujarat	Ahmedabad	2
		Rajkot	3
		Surat	4
		Vadodara	4
8.	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	3
9.	Jharkhand	Jamshedpur	3
		Ranchi	4
10	Karnataka	Gulbarga	2
		Mangalore	4
		Mysore	2
11.	Kerala	Cochin	3
		Kannur	4
		Kozhikode	2
		Thiruvananthapuram	4
		Thrisur	4
12	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	1
		Gwalior	1
		Indore	3
		Jabalpur	4
13.	Maharashtra	Ahmednagar	3
		Akola	2
		Aurangabad	1
		Dhule	1

1	2	3	4
		Jalgaon	3
		Kolhapur	2
		Mumbai	1
		Nagpur	4
		Nanded	2
		Nasik	1
		Pune	3
		Sangli	2
		Sholapur	2
14.	Meghalaya	Shillong	2
15.	Mizoram	Aizwal	1
16.	Orissa	Rourkela	2
17.	Pondicherry	Pondicherry	3
18.	Punjab	Amritsar	3
		Patiala	4
19.	Rajasthan	Ajmer	3
		Jodhpur	4
		Kota	3
		Udaipur	2
20.	Sikkim	Gangtok	3
21.	Tamil Nadu	Chennai	1
		Coimbatore	3
		Madurai	3
		Tiruchy	2
		Tirunelveli	2
		Tuticorin	3
22.	Tripura	Agartala	1
23.	Uttar Pradesh	Agra	2
		Allahabad	3
		Kanpur	1
		Lucknow	2

1	2	3	4
		Varanasi	2
24.	West Bengal	Asansol	1
		Kolkata	3
		Siliguri	4
TOTAL			164

*Statement III**Detail of Channels for which Bid was received (Phase II)*

Sl.No.	State	Name of the Cities	Category	Total Channels	Bid Received
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Rajahmundry	C	4	2
2	Andhra Pradesh	Tirunelveli	C	3	2
3	Andhra Pradesh	Tirupathi	C	2	2
4	Andhra Pradesh	Warangal	C	4	2
5	Assam	Guwahati	C	4	4
5	Bihar	Muzaffarpur	C	4	1
7.	Chandigarh	Chandigarh	C	2	2
8.	Chhatisgarh	Bilaspur	C	4	2
9.	Chhatisgarh	Raipur	C	4	4
10.	J&K	Srinagar	C	4	1
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	Jammu	C	3	1
12.	Jharkhand	Ranchi	C	4	4
13.	Karnataka	Gulbarga	C	4	2
14.	Karnataka	Mangalore	C	4	4
15.	Karnataka	Mysore	C	4	2
16.	Kerala	Kannur	C	4	4
17	Kerala	Kozhikode	C	2	2
18	Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram	C	4	4
19	Madhya Pradesh	Gwalior	C	4	4
20.	Madhya Pradesh	Sagar	C	4	0

1	2	3	4	5	6
21.	Maharashtra	Akola	C	4	2
22.	Maharashtra	Aurangabad	C	3	2
23.	Maharashtra	Dhule	C	2	1
24.	Maharashtra	Jalgaon	C	4	3
25.	Maharashtra	Kolhapur	C	2	2
26.	Maharashtra	Nanded	C	4	2
27.	Maharashtra	Nasik	C	2	2
28.	Maharashtra	Sangli	C	2	2
29.	Maharashtra	Sholapur	C	3	2
30.	Orissa	Bhubaneswar	C	4	3
31.	Orissa	Rourkela	C	4	2
32.	Pondicherry	Pondicherry	C	3	3
33.	Punjab	Jalandhar	C	4	4
34.	Punjab	Patiala	C	4	4
35.	Rajasthan	Ajmer	C	4	3
36.	Rajasthan	Bikaner	C	4	1
37.	Rajasthan	Jodhpur	C	4	4
38.	Rajasthan	Kota	C	4	3
39.	Rajasthan	Udaipur	C	4	3
40.	Tamil Nadu	Thrissur	C	4	4
41.	Tamil Nadu	Tiruchy	C	4	2
42.	Tamil Nadu	Tuticorin	C	4	3
43.	Uttar Pradesh	Aligarh	C	2	1
44.	Uttar Pradesh	Bareilly	C	4	2
45.	Uttar Pradesh	Gorakhpur	C	4	1
46.	Uttar Pradesh	Jhansi	C	4	1
47.	West Bengal	Siliguri	C	4	4
48.	Maharashtra	Ahmednagar	C	3	3
49.	Andaman & Nicobar	Port Blair	D	4	0

1	2	3	4	5	6
50.	Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar	D	4	1
51.	Daman & Diu	Daman	D	2	1
52.	Goa	Panaji	D	3	3
53.	Haryana	Hissar	D	4	4
54.	Haryana	Karnal	D	2	2
55.	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	D	4	3
56.	Manipur	Imphal	D	4	0
57.	Meghalaya	Shillong	D	4	2
58.	Mizoram	Aizwal	D	4	1
59.	Nagaland	Kohima	D	4	0
60.	Sikkim	Gangtok	D	4	3
61.	Tripura	Agartala	D	4	1
TOTAL				217	139

Modernisation of NIC Mills

449. SHRI K .C. PALLANI SHAMY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether NTC is wooing private players for modernisation of the Mills;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also proposed to develop mini textile hubs on mill land; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) and (b) It has been decided to seek private partnership to modernize and run some of NTC mills through joint venture route. The proposal for Joint Venture has been approved by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) and Group of Ministers (GOM) as a part of the Revival Scheme for NTC, to be implemented by the year 2008.

(c) and (d) It has been decided to set up Indian Textile Plaza on the vacant land of Jehangir Textile Mills,

Ahmedabad which includes setting up of Textile Museum, Training Centre, and Exhibition Centre etc. To implement the project a memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been entered into with National Building Construction Corporation (NBCC) for developing the Indian Textile Plaza at a cost of Rs. 180 crores.

[Translation]

Report of Iodine in Rock Salt

450. PROF. PREM KUMAR DHUMAL: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any survey with regard to reported availability of adequate iodine content in rock salt found in Drang region of Mandi district in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the Government has taken any action to set up a project in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) and (b) No,

Sir. The Geological Survey of India (GSI) which is the premier exploration agency under the Ministry of Mines has not conducted any study regarding availability of iodine content in the rock salt deposit in the Drang region of Mandi district in Himachal Pradesh. GSI has also not set up any project in this regard.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Special Economic Zones

451. SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the land is being acquired on NH-8, Delhi-Jaipur Highway for setting up of Special Economic Zone (SEZ);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether as per the SEZ norms the land belonging to existing industries can be diverted for SEZs for other industries;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Land/land usage is a State subject and the land acquisition is carried out by respective State Governments. All the State Governments have been informed on 15th June, 2007 that the Board of Approval will not approve any Special Economic Zones (SEZs) where the State Governments have carried out or propose to carry out compulsory acquisition of land after 5th April, 2007.

(c) to (e) The Special Economic Zones Rules, 2006 prescribe that the identified area for setting up the SEZ should be vacant and contiguous. Further the developer must have legal possession, lease hold rights for a period of twenty years or more and/or irrevocable rights to develop the said area as SEZ which should also be free from encumbrances.

Visit of Uzbekistan Delegation

452. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a trade delegation from Uzbekistan has visited India and shown interest to set up textile units in the country particularly in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details alongwith the locations identified for setting up of textile units in the country; and

(c) the time by when these units are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) Yes, Sir. A delegation from Uzbekistan visited India during July, 2007. However, the purpose of visit of the delegation was to attract Indian investment in the textiles sector in Uzbekistan.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of the (a) above.

Assistance for Vocational Education

453. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received proposals from State Governments particularly from Maharashtra for financial assistance to implement the revised scheme of Vocational Education & Training (VET) in the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Industrial Growth

454. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:
SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the industrial growth rate has shown a decline during the last three years as compared to the previous years;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to improve the said growth rate;

(d) whether the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has held the Indian Government responsible for the said decline in growth-rate; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (c) According to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) estimates released by Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) the industrial growth rate in 2006-07 was 10.9 per cent. The Industrial growth rate since 2000-01 is given below:

	(Growth in percent)
2000-01	6.4
2001-02	2.7
2002-03	7.1
2003-04	7.4
2004-05	9.8
2005-06 (Quick Estimate)	9.6
2006-07 (Revised Estimates)	10.9

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

Fake Currency

455. SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU:
SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:
SHRI HEMMAL MURMU:
SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA:
SHRI NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU:
SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of counterfeit currency seized in current year till date in capital and other parts of the country;

(b) whether the Government has conducted any probe regarding involvement of ISI and other agencies in this regard; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof and steps taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) According to Delhi Police, fake currency of the amount equivalent to Rs. 6595780/- seized in Delhi during the 2007 (upto 31st July). As per the information made available by the National Crime Records Bureau, fake Indian currency of the amount approximately equivalent to Rs. 62907369/- seized during the year 2006.

(b) and (c) Intelligence inputs suggest strong suspicion of involvement of ISI and other agencies in this regard. 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and as such registration, investigation and prevention of crime including cases of fake currency is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, the Government has taken a number of steps to curb circulation of fake currency notes in the country which inter-alia include sharing of intelligence with the State Government; shoring up of vigilance by the Border Security Force/Customs authorities to prevent smuggling of fake currency notes into the country; dissemination of information on security features through print and electronic media for the benefit of public etc.

Naxal Activities

456. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:
SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU:
SHRI HEMMAL MURMU:
SHRI PRABODH PANDA:
DR. M. JAGANNATH:
SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA:
YOGI ADITYA NATH:
SHRI NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU:
SHRI KIREN RIJJU:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:
SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN:
SHRIMATI KARUNA SHUKLA:
SHRI KAILASH BAITHA:
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by the Government to rehabilitate the victims of Naxalism alongwith the details of fund allocated for the purpose during the said period, State-wise;

(b) the details of Naxal activities during the last three years particularly in 2007;

(c) whether the Government has undertaken any study regarding nexus of naxalites with Maoist of Nepal and terrorists;

(d) whether any internal assessment report has been prepared by the Government on the naxalite situation; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL):

(a) to (e) States have their respective policies for providing relief to victims of naxal violence. Under the Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Scheme of Ministry of Home Affairs, Rs. 1 lakh for every civilian killed and Rs. 3 lakh for every security personnel killed is reimbursed to State Governments.

State-wise details, of naxal violence during last three years and in 2007 (upto July) are given in the enclosed statmeent.

The Central Government has been maintaining a close and continuous watch on the activities of the naxalites, including periodic visits to the various States, and detailed consultations with the State Government authorities about various developments and the steps required to check and control naxalite activities. Monitoring, review and evaluation of the naxal situation for appropriate counter actions is a continuous process.

Statement

State-wise extent of naxal violence during 2004 to 2007 (July, 2007)

Name of States	2004		2005		2006		2007 as on 31.7.2007 (31.7.2006)*	
	Incidents	Deaths	Incidents	Deaths	Incidents	Deaths	Incidents	Deaths
Andhra Pradesh	310	74	535	208	183	47	82(122)	26(24)
Bihar	323	171	186	96	107	45	87(75)	39(36)
Chhattisgarh	352	83	385	168	715	388	399(453)	259(306)
Jharkhand	379	169	312	119	310	124	259(191)	71(75)
Madhya Pradesh	13	4	20	3	6	1	8(5)	2(-)
Maharashtra	84	15	94	53	98	42	63(63)	13(28)
Orissa	35	8	42	14	44	9	47(29)	12(6)
Uttar Pradesh	15	26	10	1	11	5	4(8)	2(4)
West Bengal	11	15	14	7	23	17	12(15)	2(12)
Kerala	5	-	-	-	2	*	4(1)	-
Karnataka	6	1	8	8	10	-	6(5)	5(-)
Haryana	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Total	1533	566	1608	677	1509	678	971(967)	431(491)

*Figures in bracket show details of the corresponding period of 2006.

Programmes for Tribals

457 SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Tribal Affairs has conducted any study to know the total number of educated persons among the tribal population;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has formulated any programme in this regard;

(d) if so, the main features of the programme; and

(e) the details of the allocations made and expenditure incurred under the said programme during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KYNDIAH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) Ministry of Tribal Affairs has not formulated any specific programme to know the total number of educated persons among the tribal population. The Census data is referred to.

Hike in Cement Price

458. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY pleased to state:

(a) whether cement manufacturers have squeezed supplies by as much as 40-50%;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such move by manufacturers is to maintain the high prices of cement in the country; •

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(e) the action taken by the Government against the manufacturers found responsible therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI

KUMAR): (a) No Sir. The production and despatches of cement have been increasing every year. The production of cement by large plants in 2006-07 stood at 155.66 million tonne registering a growth of 9.77% over the production in the previous year. The capacity utilization in the Cement Industry was 94% during 2006-07 and 98% during first quarter of this year.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

US Patents on Yoga

459. SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY:
SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR:
SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPAN:
PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:
DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the US Patents & Trademarks Office (USPTO) has sanctioned yoga related copy rights trade marks on yoga accessories and yoga trade marks so far and an application for grant of patents of yoga practiced in steam room is under its consideration;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken up the matter with the US Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of US Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) A search of United States Patent and Trade Mark Office (USPTO) database by the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks shows that the USPTO has granted 168 patents mainly in yoga related devices and accessories, such as, yoga mattresses, grip block, yoga socks, devices for stretching, etc. Similarly, there are about 3700 trademarks on yoga accessories which have been listed in the database of registered and pending trade marks by USPTO. However, the search of USPTO database has not produced any result with regard to pendency of any application for grant of patent on yoga practised in steam room.

(c) No, sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

SEZs

460. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Environment Support Groups have criticized the Government's Special Economic Zones (SEZs) Policy particularly for failing to address the environmental issues related with it;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to address the environmental concern and social impact of SEZs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) The Special Economic Zones have to abide by the environmental laws and detailed notifications and instructions regarding the legal requirements and procedure for environmental clearances for the Special Economic Zones have been issued by the Ministry of Environment & Forests. Also, the Letter of Approval issued to the Special Economic Zone (SEZ) developers under the provisions of the SEZ Rules, 2006, inter-alia include conditions that the developer shall conform to the environmental requirements and that he shall obtain required approval from various statutory authorities under relevant statutes and regulations of the Government of India and the State Government and the local bodies. As per information available, in the 136 newly notified SEZs, Rs. 46705 crores have been invested and 40153 direct jobs have been created.

Death of Prisoners In Jail

461. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWASI:
SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN:
PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:
SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR:
SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Male/Female prisoners who died in different jails including Tihar Jail separately, during each of the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether the Government has constituted any Committee/conducted any inquiry to probe the causes of such deaths;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government against the officials found guilty and to check such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) The information relating to death of prisoners is not maintained jail-wise. However, as per the data compiled by the National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB), the total number of male/female prisoners who died in different jails including Tihar Jail in the country during 2003 to 2005 are as under:

Year	Male prisoner	Female prisoner	Total
2003	1044	16	1060
2004	1144	25	1169
2005	1341	46	1387

(b) to (d) "Prisons" is a state subject under List II of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution and Prison Administration is the responsibility of the respective State Governments.

However the Model Prison Manual circulated to all State Governments prescribes various measures such as keeping the prisoners under safe and humane conditions, providing medical facilities etc. In case of death of any prisoner, the postmortem is required to be conducted immediately. A full report on the circumstances of death of prisoner is required to be submitted and suitable action against the guilty officials is to be taken as per law.

The National Human Rights Commission have also issued an advisory to all the State Governments directing that the concerned District Magistrates and Superintendent of Police should be instructed to report to the Secretary General of the Commission about such incidents within twenty four hours of the occurrence or of these officers having come to know about such incidents. Failure to report promptly would give rise to the presumption that there was an attempt to suppress the incident.

Circulation of Indian Newspapers

462. SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the circulation of the Indian newspapers has been increasing over the years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, during each of the last three years including current year;

(c) whether the Government proposes to support small and medium newspapers financially to increase their circulation;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government also proposes to review the norms to empanel newspapers with DAVP from three years to one year accordingly; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of circulation for the year 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) The norms to empanel newspapers with DAVP were reviewed recently and the following provisions have been made with effect from 15.5.2007 in the Advertisement Policy:

(a) To provide special encouragement for newspapers in vernacular languages like Urdu, Sanskrit, Kashmiri, Dogri, Khasi, Santhali, Bodo, Konkani, Maithali, Manipuri and Nepali languages, empanelment can be considered after 12 months of publication instead of 3 years.

(b) In order to tap the readership potential of mass circulated newspapers, with a circulation of one lakh and above, such Newspapers would be made eligible for empanelment after a period of 1 year of publication. The circulation claim of such Newspapers will be accepted only if certified by RNI or ABC.

Statement

Circulation of Newspapers during 2003-04 to 2005-06

Year	Circulation
2003-04	133087588
2004-05	156719209
2005-06	180738611

[*Translation*]

Apparel Park Scheme

463. SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA:
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:
SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA:
YOGI ADITYA NATH:
SHRI GANESH SINGH:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects sanctioned under Apparel Park for Exports Scheme (APES), Textile Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme (TCIDC) and Scheme for Integrated Textile Park (SITP) alongwith the projects completed during each of the last three years and the current year. State-wise;

(b) whether the production has been started in all the projects under the said schemes;

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

(d) the time by when the production in these projects is likely to be started;

(e) the number of jobs generated alongwith the details of the targets fixed under the said scheme during the above period; and

(f) the details of the funds provided and spent so far under the said scheme, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN): (a) Number of projects sanctioned under the Apparel Park for Exports Scheme (APES), Textile Centres Infrastructure Development Scheme (TCIDS) and Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP), year-wise and State-wise, is as under:-

State	APES					TCIDS				SITP	
	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2005-06	2006-07
Andhra Pradesh		1				1		1			4
Gujarat	1					1	1	1		2	5
Haryana						1					
Jammu & Kashmir								1			
Karnataka	1										1
Kerala	1							1			
Madhya Pradesh			1				1				
Maharashtra				1			2	1		3	3
Punjab				1							1
Rajasthan			1			1		1		1	3
Tamil Nadu		2					2	1		3	3
Uttar Pradesh	1	1						1			
West Bengal											1

(b) to (d) The TCIDS was aimed at infrastructure development of the exiting textiles clusters where textile units are already functioning. Out of the 12 projects sanctioned under the APES, only one project is reported to be completed. Projects sanctioned under the SITP are at their initial stage of execution and it is expected that all the projects will be completed by 2008-09.

(e) Projects sanctioned under the SITP during the Tenth Five Year Plan envisage employment generation for 5.70 Lakh persons (Direct / Indirect). As the TCIDS and APES were primarily aimed at infrastructure development, no target was fixed as such for employment generation.

(f) State-wise release of funds for the projects sanctioned under the APES, TCIDS and SITP are as under:-

(in crore Rupees)

State	APES	TCIDS	SITP
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	3.04	4.10	22.22
Gujarat	9.61	12.04	36.00
Haryana	⊙	10.26	⊙
Jammu & Kashmir	⊙	0.29	⊙
Karnataka	13.19	⊙	2.12
Kerala	12.61	3.13	⊙
Madhya Pradesh	1.69	4.58	⊙
Maharashtra	4.18	27.11	31.17

1	2	3	4
Punjab	0.94	⊙	0.00
Rajasthan	0.98	22.79	23.39
Tamil Nadu	23.76	20.72	23.16
Uttar Pradesh	26.29	0.00	⊙
West Bengal	⊙	⊙	4.00

⊙ No project sanctioned under the scheme.

[English]

Policies and Norms for Private Radio Operators

464. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

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

(a) whether the Task Force set up by the Government to consider the policies and norms for participants of private radio operators for wide coverage of population in the country has submitted their report;

(b) If so, the details of the recommendations made by the said Task Force;

(c) The action taken/being taken by the Government on such recommendations; and

(d) The number of FM Radio Stations being operated under All India Radio and operating under private sector separately, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

(SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government on 24.7.2003 constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Amit Mitra, Secretary General, FICCI to make recommendations for FM radio broadcasting through Private agencies.

(b) The Committee submitted its recommendations to the Ministry in November, 2003. The recommendations of the Committee are available on the Ministry's website www.mib.nic.in.

(c) The Government, after examination of the Committee's recommendation and other relevant factors, approved a new policy of expansion of FM Radio broadcasting service through private agencies (Phase-II) which was notified on 13.07.2005. Under the new policy, the Government invited bids for 337 channels in 91 cities across the country. Out of 337 channels, agreement was signed with private operators for operationalisation of 245 channels after successful bidding. Presently 102 FM channels are operational including 21 FM channels operationalised under the Phase-I scheme.

(d) The number of FM Radio Stations being operated under All India Radio and private sector, State-wise has been indicated in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Sl.No.	State	AIR FM	Private FM	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	12	5	17
2.	Assam	5	2	7
3.	Bihar	3	1	4

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Chhattisgarh	4	0	4
5.	Chandigarh	0	2	2
6.	Delhi	2	8	10
7.	Goa	1	3	4
8.	Gujarat	5	8	13
9.	Haryana	3	6	9
10.	Himachal Pradesh	5	0	5
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	7	2	9
12.	Jharkhand	5	0	5
13.	Karnataka	14	7	21
14.	Kerala	7	0	7
15.	Madhya Pradesh	13	7	20
16.	Maharashtra	16	9	25
17.	Manipur	1	0	1
18.	Meghalaya	2	0	2
19.	Mizoram	1	0	1
20.	Nagaland	1	0	1
21.	Orrisa	6	3	9
22.	Punjab	3	5	8
23.	Rajasthan	12	7	19
24.	Sikkim	0	0	0
25.	Tamil Nadu	8	9	17
26.	Tripura	3	0	3
27.	Uttaranchal	1	0	1
28.	Uttar Pradesh	9	11	20
29.	West Bengal	8	7	15
30.	Union Territory	4	0	4
Grand Total		161	102	263

Traffic Management in Delhi

465. SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID:
SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the traffic management in the NCT of Delhi is far from satisfactory as compared to other developed countries;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to appoint Integrated Traffic Management Group therefor;

(c) if so, the details in this regard; and

(d) the time by when this group is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) to (d) Traffic management in Delhi cannot be compared with traffic management in developed countries. Traffic management involves management of drivers, vehicles, roads, and environment. Delhi has the highest registration of motor vehicles in the country. In addition road geometry, constraints on parking space, inadequate training of drivers and lack of public discipline etc. have made regulation and control of traffic and extremely challenging task. Besides, there is heterogeneous traffic moving on the same road, with different speed which also slows the discharge of traffic. There is no proposal finalised by Government of NCT of Delhi to appoint Integrated Traffic Management Group.

Facilities to Prisoners in Jail

466. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH:
SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total strength of prisoners in Tihar Jail, Delhi;

(b) whether inhuman treatment is being meted out to the prisoners;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the details of the basic facilities being provided to the prisoners including education, training for rehabilitation and Medical facilities;

(e) whether the reforms and innovation introduced by the then Chief of Jail still continue to be observed in the Tihar Jail;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) As on 9.8.2007 the total strength of prisoners in Tihar Jail was 11,467.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

(d) The facilities being provided to the prisoners in Delhi Jails include:-

(i) Food, clothing and bedding.

(ii) Medical facilities.

(iii) Free legal aid.

(iv) Education and library facility.

(v) Mediation and spiritual activities.

(vi) Vocational training.

(vii) Sports and cultural activities.

(viii) Interview/Mulakat with relatives and friends.

(ix) Grievances redressal system.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. The reforms and innovation being observed in Tihar Jail include:-

(i) The meditational, educational, vocational, cultural and sports activities form the daily routine of the prisoners.

(ii) The interview process between the prisoner and visitor has further been improved with the introduction of tele-booking and Central Public Relation Offices.

(iii) A model interview room has been constructed in Central Jail No.3 to facilitate better communication between the prisoner and his visitor.

- (iv) A drug de-addiction center with 120 beds provision has been inaugurated in Central Jail No. 3.
- (v) A Legal Aid Counseling Centre has recently been inaugurated in Prison Complex to strengthen the legal aid activities in jails.
- (vi) To decongest the prison and for the expeditious disposal of undertrial cases, Plea Bargaining Courts were organized.
- (vii) Process of introducing new gas pipe lines in Jail Kitchens instead of gas cylinders has been initiated.
- (viii) A new jail complex consisting of 6 jails is coming up at Mandoli for lodging around 3500 prisoners.
- (ix) A court complex has been established in Tihar premises to dispose of the cases of minor offences.
- (g) Does not arise in view of (e) above.

Health Drink and Pill from Tea Extracts

467. SHRI ANWAR HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Tocklai Experimental Station in Jorhat, Assam has developed an exotic health drink and pill from tea extracts;
- (b) if so, the way in which Government is promoting it;
- (c) whether the Tea Board of India has any plan to promote this new scientific development;
- (d) if so, whether the Government has any plan to provide more funds to Tocklai for research in this field in the current financial year; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Tocklai Experimental Station has developed "Tea Tablets" and "Tea Soft Drinks" (which are of high antioxidant value) out of tea extracts. A Research Scheme under 10th Plan

on "Product Diversification in Tea" was sponsored by Tea Board to Tea Research Association, covering such areas of research.

(b) and (c) Tea Board is keen to promote these products after seeing the feasibility for commercialization in future. Experimental samples have been exhibited/presented in several workshops/conferences.

(d) and (e) Funds are being provided continually to the Tocklai Experimental Station of Tea Research Association by the Government through the Tea Board for undertaking various Research and Development (R&D) activities in tea.

Obscene Programmes on Television

468. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether private TV channels and Doordarshan telecast obscene serials/programmes etc. without any check;
- (b) if so, whether there is any proposal to make it mandatory for TV serials/programmes etc. to obtain Censor Board clearance before telecast; and
- (c) if not, the manner in which the Government ensure that obscene programmes/serials etc. are not broadcast on television by private TV channels, Doordarshan etc.?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) All programmes and advertisements telecast on TV channels transmitted/retransmitted through the cable TV network, are required to adhere to the Programme and Advertising codes prescribed under the Cable TV Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder. Action for violations of the Codes can be taken by any authorised officer i.e. DM, SDM or Commissioner of Police or any other officer notified in the official gazette by the Central Govt. or State Govt. The Central Govt. has also constituted an Inter-ministerial Committee (IMC) under Section 20 of the Act to look into the violation of Programme and Advertising Codes

prescribed under the Act and Rules framed thereunder. The Committee either suo-motu or on receipt of complaint, examines cases of violation of the Codes. Show cause notices are issued in the first instances to TV channels for telecasting objectionable programmes/ advertisements in violation of Codes. Further action is taken as per rules.

Withdrawal of Financial Support

469. DR. M. JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a working group of Planning Commission has recently suggested that strict action including cancellation of accreditation and withdrawal of financial support against universities and other institutions which are not implementing reservation policy; and

(b) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken on the suggestions of the said working group?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Planning Commission's Working Group on Development of Education of the SC/ST/Minorities/Girls and other Disadvantaged Groups for the 11th Five Year Plan has given such a recommendation. However, the 11th Plan has not yet been finalized.

Export of Marine Products

470. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has chalked out an ambitious strategy to boost the export of marine products:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of the States identified for the development of brackish water aquaculture; and

(d) the other steps taken by the Union Government to boost the export of marine products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Among the major initiatives taken up by the Marine

Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) to boost India's marine product exports are those related to (i) market promotion measures, such as participation in leading seafood fairs abroad and buyer seller meets; (ii) brand promotion of Indian marine products; (iii) biennial organization of the India International Sea Food Show; (iv) awareness generation among farmers to facilitate improvement of quality of marine products commensurate with importing country requirements and among fishermen to improve catching practices; (v) expansion of area under aquaculture for shrimps and scampi, and (vi) facilitation of technology upgradation in processing units, boats, fishing gear etc. Development of brackish water aquaculture has been taken up in the maritime States of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Kerala, Karnataka, Goa, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal.

[Translation]

Export of Iron Ore

471. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to reduce export of iron ore from the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether steel companies of China have decided to put a check on import of iron ore from India;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to boost the export of iron ore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Government is not aware of any decision of Chinese steel companies to put a check on the import of iron ore from India.

(e) Government permits export of iron ore with iron content upto 64% without canalization. While export of iron ore with more than 64% iron content is canalized through MMTC Ltd., Government permits export of iron ore fines with more than 64% iron content against licence by private mine owners/leaseholders.

*[English]***Package for Coffee Growers**

472. SHRI B. MAHTAB: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has announced a package for coffee growers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the benefits of the package have reached the coffee growers; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to increase the areas under coffee cultivation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Coffee Relief Package sanctioned by the Government of India on 8th June, 2005 for the coffee growers envisages as follows:

- (i) Sharing the total interest burden on Special Coffee Term Loan (SCTL) estimated to be Rs. 287.10 crore for the 3 year moratorium period equally amongst the banks, government and the loanee growers to the extent of 1/3rd each.
- (ii) Requesting the Banks to lower the interest rates charged on SCTL from the existing 11% to 9% or the rate applicable to agriculture sector whichever is lower during the remaining repayment period of SCTL loans.
- (iii) Writing off of coffee developmental loans along with interest amounting to around Rs. 24 crore, due from the Coffee Board to the Government of India and waiving by the Coffee Board of the old developmental loans amounting to around Rs. 64.59 crore extended by the Board to the small coffee growers (having holdings below 10 hectares);
- (iv) Continuing the Interest Subsidy Scheme for small growers at the rate of 5% and large growers at the rate of 3% for the remaining period of the X Plan which would be reduced by one percent in the case of those growers who received the benefits of the reduced interest burden on SCTL during the moratorium period.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Considering the fact that there is not much scope to expand coffee area in the traditional coffee growing states like Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu, efforts are on to expand coffee area in the non-traditional coffee growing states like Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and the North East.

Meat Export

473. SHRI HITEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of meat exported during each of the last three years, country-wise;

(b) whether the Government is contemplating to impose ban on the export of meat;

(c) If so, the time by when it is likely to be imposed and the benefits expected to be accrued from this ban; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Details of the quantum of Meat exported country-wise are available at DGCI&S website.

(b) to (d) At the moment, there is no need to contemplate ban on export of meat.

Setting up of Eklavya Model Schools

474. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the scheduled districts in the country where Eklavya Model Schools have been set up;

(b) whether the Government has a proposal to set up more Eklavya Model Schools in the country;

(c) If so, the number of such Eklavya Model Residential Schools proposed to be set up in 2007-08;

(d) whether any review has been made on the working of these schools since they are set up;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether such Model Schools have not yet started functioning in some States; and

(g) if so, the direction given by the Union Government to the State Governments to make such schools fully functional?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) A list of partly/wholly scheduled districts in the country having Eklavya Model Residential schools (EMRSs) is enclosed as Statement.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) A study was carried out during 2005 by the National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA) at the behest of the National Advisory Committee (NAC). The study covered four States one each from Eastern, Western, Northern and Southern Regions. In the study, the initiative of setting up of EMRS was appreciated. It also highlighted certain shortcomings and the same were brought to the notice of all the concerned States. Further, The Standing Committee constituted by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs also reviewed the setting up and functioning of the Eklavya Model Residential Schools in its meeting held on 18.10.2006 wherein following important issues were discussed:

(1) The future management of these schools viz formation of the Eklavya Vidyalaya Samiti (EVS) as registered society under the Central Government.

(2) Revision of recurring/non-recurring cost norms.

(3) Need for at least one such school in each ITDP/ITDA.

(4) Increase in number of sections/students in each school.

(f) Yes, Sir.

(g) All those States in which the sanctioned EMRSs have not yet started functioning have been directed to undertake steps to make the schools operational in 2007-08.

Statement

S.No.	Name of the State	Name of the District
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Adilaba East Godavari Warangal Mahaboobnagar
2.	Chhattisgarh	Baster Ranker Sarguja Raigarh Dantewada Jashpur
3.	Gujarat	Sabarkantha Narmada Valsad Surat Navsari Dang Dahod Panchmahal
4.	Himachal Pradesh	Kinnaur
5.	Jharkhand	Ranchi West Singhbhum Dumka Sahebganj
6.	Madhya Pradesh	Jhabua Ratlam Badwani Dhar Betul Seoni

1	2	3
		Mandla
		Anuppur
		Dindori
		Chindwada
		Umaria
		Sindhi
7.	Maharashtra	Nashik
		Thane
		Amravati
		Nagpur
8.	Orissa	Mayurbhanj
		Sundergarh
		Koraput
		Rayagada
		Keonjhar
		Gajapati
		Kandhamal
		Nawrangpur
9.	Rajasthan	Udaipur
		Banswara
		Dungarpur
		Sirohi

WTO Conference

475. SHRI SUBRATA BOSE:
SHRI SARVEY SATAYANARAYANA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any strategy for talk at the next round of WTO conference;

(b) if so the details of issues intended to be discussed therein;

(c) whether the Government has drawn attention of the WTO to eliminate the existing barriers on its services export;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any agreement amongst WTO member countries to comply to the foreign investment in education sector;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The main elements of India's strategy at the WTO continue to be as follows:

(i) Increased market access, particularly in developed countries markets, for India's agricultural and industrial products;

(ii) Full development of India's vast potential in the services sector with special emphasis on areas of export interest to India and other developing countries, such as information technology, professional services, and easy access for professionals and skilled persons into developed countries markets;

(iii) Collaborative action with other developing countries to use the WTO as an instrument for global development, with emphasis on the problem of the poorest people; and

(iv) Protection of sensitive and vulnerable sectors in India, especially in agriculture.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir, India has emphasised at the WTO negotiations, the need to remove explicit and implicit barriers to trade in services. These include disciplining of Domestic Regulations which act as barriers to effective market access. In order to pursue its interests in services negotiations India has sponsored requests in Cross Border Supply (Mode 1) and Movement of Natural Persons (Mode 4), and is the coordinator of the plurilateral groups in these areas. India is also the co-sponsor of plurilateral groups on Computer and Related Services (CRS) and Architectural, Engineering and Integrated Engineering Services.

India has also made specific requests to its important trading partners in Accountancy Services, Architecture Services, Computer Related Services, Health Services, Construction and Related Services, Engineering and Integrated Engineering Services and Financial Services.

(e) No Sir,

(f) and (g) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Export of Iron Ore

476. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:
SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of iron-ore exported from the country as on date, year-wise;

(b) whether the Government is reconsidering the export policy in respect of iron ore for keeping its reserve safe in the interest of the nation;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether India has sufficient reserves of iron;

(f) If so, the details thereof; and

(g) the details of assessment regarding difference between import and export of iron ore for the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) As per information given by Department of Commerce, iron ore export during last three years is given below:

Year	Quantity (in Million Metric tonnes)
2004-05	78.14
2005-06	89.27
2006-07	93.11

(b) to (d) Export of minerals in India continues to be guided by the EXIM Policy notified by Government. This policy regulates and promotes judicious use of iron ore

for domestic purpose and export of surplus quantity. A high level committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Anwarul Hoda, Member Planning Commission, took up export of iron ore as one of the issues, not specifically included in its Terms of Reference, whose resolution was considered crucial for stimulating investment and technology flows into the mining sector. The Government had also considered the issue of restricting iron ore exports in view of domestic demand, taking into account the employment and investment concerns of the mining industry.

(e) and (f) As per available information, India has sufficient resources of iron ore, estimated at 25.25 billion tonnes, which continues to increase. Reserves, which are a function of detailed exploration, are estimated at 7.21 billion tonnes.

(g) The difference between export and import of iron ore for the last three years are as under:

(Quantity in Million Metric Tonnes)			
Year	Export	Import	Difference
2004-05	78.14	0.49	77.65
2005-06	89.27	0.61	88.66
2006-07 (Provisional)	93.11	0.26 (April-December, 2006)	92.85

[*English*]

Subsidies given to Exporters

477. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:
SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether at a time when Indian exporters were facing pressure due to rise in the value of the rupee, the World Trade Organisation (WTO) has asked India to relook the duty neutralization incentive given by the Government to exporters;

(b) if so, the precise demand of the WTO, and the estimated annual amount of subsidy given by Government to exporters on this account; and

(c) the Government's response to this demand of the WTO?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The World Trade Organisation (WTO) has not made any request to India to review its duty neutralisation schemes.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Quality School

478. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is planning to open one quality school in each district of the country;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme prepared by the Union Government in this regard; and

(c) the time by when these schemes are likely to be implemented in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) Under the Navodaya Vidyalaya Scheme, one quality residential school viz. Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya (JNV) is opened in each district of the country. JNVs are co-educational residential schools to provide good quality modern education. Students in the JNVs are admitted in class-VI and provided free education upto class-XII. At present, 540 JNVs are functioning throughout the country.

[Translation]

Extraction of Granite

479. SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has some special schemes to improve granite extraction;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total quantity of granite reserve at present, State-wise and Union Territory-wise;

(d) the quantity of granite exported during each of the last three years;

(e) whether the granite export has been badly affected during recent years;

(f) if so, the details alongwith the reasons therefore; and

(g) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) and (b) Granite is a minor mineral defined under Section 3(e) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation Act, 1957 (MMDR Act) and as per Section 15 of the MMDR Act, 1957, all powers to make rules and grant mineral concessions for minor minerals have been given to the concerned State Government. The Central Government has notified the Granite Conservation and Development Rules, 1999 on 1st June, 1999, to conserve the granite resources and to prescribe a uniform frame work with regard to systematic and scientific exploitation of granite throughout the country.

The Central Government has constituted a Granite Development Council (GDC) including various stakeholders to discuss and redress issues raised by granite industry.

(c) As per available information, resources of granite (as per United Nation Framework classification) as on 1-4-2000 are as follows:

State	(In '000 cu.m)
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	2405890
Assam	583950
Bihar	877612
Chattisgarh	50057
Gujarat	421296
Haryana	34000
Jharkhand	8847364
Karnataka	9307678
Kerala	2808
Madhya Pradesh	1994084
Maharashtra	1158847

1	2
Meghalaya	286467
Orissa	1843060
Rajasthan	8525208
Tamil Nadu	559435
Uttar Pradesh	494819
West Bengal	33426
All India Total	37426001

(d) to (g) As per available information, quantity-wise export of granite during the years 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 is as follows:

Year	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
Quantity (in tonnes)	2098169	2608556	2841086

The export of granite has increased in past few years.

[English]

Setting Up of Navodaya Vidyalayas

480. SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up Navodaya Vidyalayas for providing technical education only to the students belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in each district of all States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) There is no proposal in this Ministry to set up Navodaya Vidyalayas for providing technical education only to the students belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in each district of all States. There is provision for reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in each Navodaya Vidyalaya under the existing scheme.

Import of Natural Rubber

481. SHRI RANEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made any agreement to give sanctions to companies for the import of natural rubber to India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there has been any export of natural rubber from India to any foreign country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Import of Natural Rubber in India is free.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The quantity of exports of Natural Rubber from India to various countries during the year 2005-06 and 2006-07 were 73,830 tonnes and 56,545 tonnes, respectively.

FDI in Higher Education

482. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Group of Ministers set up on Foreign Direct Investment in higher education has recommended 50 per cent FDI in higher education and suggested that only well recognised and established universities from both India and abroad should be allowed to set up campus in the country; and

(b) if so, by when a final decision is likely to be taken to introduce amendments to be incorporated in the University Grants Commission Act in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The present policy of the Government permits Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) upto 100% on the automatic route in the education sector. A legislative proposal on entry and operations of foreign educational institutions in the country is under consideration of the Government. Amendment of the University Grants Commission Act, is not contemplated, for this purpose.

Programmes on Population Growth

483. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the specific programmes organized on an all India basis on the World Population Day on July 11, 2007 to bring down the population growth during the 11th Five Year Plan; and

(b) the estimate of population of the country on World Population Day and the population growth registered during the 10th Five Year Plan, State-wise including North Eastern Region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) The Jansankhya Sthirata Kosh (National Population Stabilisation Fund), which is society under Ministry of Health and Family Welfare organized an event on World Population Day i.e. 11th July, 2007 at national level at New Delhi in partnership with the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, National Service Scheme and National Literacy Mission. Over 500 adolescents and youths from underserved villages of eight states viz. Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, M.P., Rajasthan, Uttaranchal, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Orissa also participated. The motive was to educate this cohort of young people to imbibe lessons about responsible parenthood so that they can act as youth leaders to propagate the ideas on their return.

The programme was addressed by Union Health Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports & Panchayati Raj and Minister of State for Health & Family Welfare.

Many States and Districts have also reportedly organised programmes on the occasion of World Population Day.

(b) The estimated population of India as on 1st July, 2007, is 1134,023 thousand. State-wise estimated growth rates between 2002-2007 based on the projections made by the Technical Group on Population Projections are given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

*Estimated State-wise growth rates during 2002-2007
(Tenth Five Year Plan)**

State/UT	Growth rate during 1st April, 2002 to 31st March, 2007
1	2
India	7.90
Jammu and Kashmir	7.64
Himachal Pradesh	5.97
Punjab	6.80
Chandigarh	26.05
Uttarakhand	8.44
Haryana	9.96
Delhi	15.03
Rajasthan	9.89
Uttar Pradesh	10.11
Bihar	8.86
Sikkim	6.38
Arunachal Pradesh	6.28
Nagaland	6.02
Manipur	6.46
Mizoram	6.32
Tripura	6.48
Meghalaya	6.29
Assam	7.31
North Eastern region (including Sikkim)	7.01
West Bengal	5.95
Jharkhand	8.34
Orissa	5.43
Chhattisgarh	8.22
Madhya Pradesh	9.70
Gujarat	8.18

1	2
Daman and Diu	33.33
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	26.46
Maharashtra	8.03
Andhra Pradesh	5.73
Karnataka	6.23
Goa	13.79
Lakshadweep	15.63
Kerala	4.38
Tamil Nadu	4.18
Pondicherry	17.85
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	18.58

*Source: Table II, Population Projections for India and States 2001-2026, Report of the Technical Group on Population Projections, May 2006, National Commission on Population, M/O Health and Family Welfare.

Fencing of Indo-Bangladesh Border

484. SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- the total area on Indo-Bangladesh border which has completed fencing, Statewise;
- the total funds spent on fencing till date; and
- the steps taken by the Government to make the Indo-Bangladesh border fully protected from infiltration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) and (b)

Name of the State	Fence Completed (in Km)	Exp. Incurred (Rs. in Cr.) (as on 31.7.2007)
West Bengal	1180.00	931.06
Assam	197.38	241.36
Meghalaya	380.12	370.35
Tripura	658.06	1056.32
Mizoram	91.01	278.44
Total	2506.57	2877.53*

*This also includes expenditure on construction of 3220 km. of roads, 277 km of floodlighting and 22810 mtr of bridges.

(c) To check infiltration from across the border the Govt. of India has taken the following steps:

- Augmentation of strength for patrolling/naka duties;
- Close co-ordination with other Agencies including State Governments;
- Conduct of special operations;
- Erection of border fencing and construction of border roads
- Round the clock surveillance of the border by patrolling;
- Up-gradation of intelligence network;
- Construction of 277 kms of floodlighting on Indo-Bangladesh border in West Bengal as a pilot project.

Import of Cement

485. SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- whether Pakistan has offered export of cement to India;
- if so, the quantity of cement proposed to be imported from Pakistan;
- whether the Government has any proposal to ban export of cement from India in view of shortage; and
- if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The shortage of cement in India has prompted imports from all producers, including Pakistan. Till date, 15 applications have been received from Pakistan seeking BIS Certification Marks License, as it is mandatory requirement for any cement to be imported into India. Since these applications are at different stages of processing in Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), the cement to be imported from Pakistan cannot be quantified at this stage and will be open to market forces.

- No Sir.
- Does not arise.

Online IIT and IIM Courses

486. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of institutes in the country which are presently offering IIT and IIM courses, State-wise alongwith the break-up of students;

(b) whether the Distance Education Council (DEC) has allowed major institutes in the country to offer on-line IIT and IIM courses;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the names of institutes identified for the same; and

(d) the time by when the courses are likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Assistance to Universities

487. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of universities have sought financial assistance to set up national centre to study natural calamities and disaster;

(b) if so, the details thereof, university-wise; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The University Grants Commission (UGC) is not having any specific scheme to provide financial assistance to universities to set up national centre to study natural calamities and disaster. However, UGC provided financial assistance to five universities, for conducting courses at PG level on Disaster Management, during Xth Plan period, under its 'Innovative Programmes'.

Sting Operation

488. SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU:
SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:
SHRI MILIND DEORA

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

(a) whether the Government has any plan to bring new conduct code for TV industry for sting operations as reported in the Hindustan Times dated July 20, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has also discussed this issue with the representatives of TV industry;

(d) if so, the response given by them; and

(e) the further steps taken or likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Govt. is planning to bring a new content code but it is not focussed on sting operations. Details may be seen at www.mib.nic.in

(c) to (e) A committee has been constituted for reviewing Programme and Advertising Codes prescribed under the Cable TV Networks (Regulation) Act 1995 and rules framed thereunder and the guidelines for certification of films prescribed under Cinematography Act 1952 and drafting a new content code. The Committee comprises of the representatives of TV industry apart from several civil society groups and the Code has been discussed with them. Responses have been both for and against the Code. However, the final recommendations of the Committee are yet to be received.

Growth in Mining

489. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production in the mining sector has risen considerably from January, 2007 to till date;

(b) if so, whether the overall performance would receive a boost by a three fold improvement in mining output and robust growth in manufacturing and intermediate goods;

(c) if so, whether the Ministry of Mines has fixed any target in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to achieve the target fixed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) As per

information available with Indian Bureau of Mines, there has been a 5.5% growth in the index of mineral production for the period January to June in the year 2007 as compared to the same period in the previous year.

(b) to (e) The robust growth in the demand for metals is likely to drive the performance of the mineral industry. With the enunciation of the National Mineral Policy in 1993, the mineral sector has been liberalized and the growth in this sector is driven by the market demand.

Nithari Case

490. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:
PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:
SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR:
DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of CBI investigation into kidnapping, rape and murder of children in the Nithari village in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the number of children and women murdered in the said incident;

(c) the number of children and women identified so far;

(d) the number of suffering families provided financial assistance;

(e) whether the Government has received any report from National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details of recommendations of NHRC and action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) As informed by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), a total of 19 cases pertaining to the Nithari incident have been registered. Till date charge sheets have been filed in 11 cases in the court of SJM (CBI cases) Gaziabad. Remaining 8 cases are under investigation.

(b) CBI has registered 19 cases pertaining to the murder of 18 children/women.

(c) As per CBI report, the identity of 8 children/women has been conclusively established by DNA tests whereas identity of 3 victims was established through identification of clothes and other belongings by the parents and relative of the deceased, confession of the accused recorded under section 164 Cr. P.C. and other circumstantial evidence. Identity of remaining victims is being ascertained through skull superimposition test being carried out at CFSL Chandigarh.

(d) As per information available with the Central Government, Government of Uttar Pradesh has provided financial assistance to families of 17 victims.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. In view of the investigation already in progress in the cases of missing children in the Nithari village, the Commission in its proceedings dated 2nd July, 2007, closed all the cases pending with the Commission in this regard. However, considering these incidents of missing children as symptomatic, the matter was upgraded and recommendations were issued to contain the problem of missing children in the country.

The recommendations of NHRC have been received very recently. Appropriate action on the recommendations will be taken by way of follow up with the State Governments and other measures in consultation with the Ministries concerned.

Central Universities

491. SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY:
SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN
SHRI B. MAHTAB:
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:
SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH:
SHRIMATI JHANSI LAKSHMI BOTCHA:
SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up 30 New Central Universities of International Standards or at least one Central University in each State and degree college in each district in order to improve the access to higher education as reported in the *Hindu* dated June 23, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) It is proposed to establish 30 Central Universities during the Xth Plan and the first two years of the XIth Plan period, subject to the Plan being finalized, and to provide assistance for establishing one college in each district with low Gross Enrolment Ratio in higher education.

(b) and (c) Action for establishment, in the first phase, of one Central University in each of the 16 States which do not have a Central University so far, namely Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttarakhand, has already been initiated.

Rehabilitation of Trafficking Victims

492. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:
SHRI PRATIK P. PATIL:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal of rehabilitation project for the children affected by the Trafficking and Harassment has been received from any NGOs/Organisations for grant-in-aid through National Children Fund,

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether the incidents of human trafficking have increased during the recent past;

(d) if so, the details during each of the last three years, State/Union Territory-wise;

(e) whether the Government has prepared rehabilitation plan for victims of human trafficking;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) the time by when the said plan is likely to be implemented; and

(h) the steps taken by the Government for the rehabilitation of the trafficking victims and the grant-in-aid provided to the NGOs organisations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The information is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) As per information furnished by National Crime Records Bureau, a total of 5510, 5748 and 5908 cases under Immoral Trafficking (Prevention) Act and 231, 245 and 223 cases under various sections of IPC [Procurement of Minor Girls (Section 366-A IPC), Selling of Girls for Prostitution (Section 372 IPC) and Buying of Girls for Prostitution (Section 373 IPC)] were reported in the country during 2003 to 2005 respectively.

(d) Statement-II is enclosed.

(e) to (g) A 'Comprehensive Scheme for Prevention of Trafficking and Rescue, Rehabilitation and re-integration of Victims of Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation' has been included in the Annual Plan 2007-08. The scheme has specific components for prevention of trafficking, rescue, rehabilitation and repatriation of victims.

(h) The Ministry of Women and Child Development runs Swadhar Shelter Homes which provide shelter, food, clothing, counseling, rehabilitation and other facilities to women in difficult circumstances including trafficked victims. A pilot project on combating trafficking of women and children for sexual exploitation is also being implemented.

Statement-I

State-wise information regarding receipt of Project Proposals on Rehabilitation of Trafficking Victims during 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07.

Sl.No.	State	No. of Proposals received
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	31
2.	Bihar	6
3.	Chhattisgarh	3
4.	Delhi	6
5.	Gujarat	7
6.	Haryana	7
7.	Jharkhand	4
8.	Karnataka	21

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
19.	Nagaland	1	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.	Orissa	11	22	29	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
21.	Punjab	54	32	58	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	1
22.	Rajasthan	51	79	115	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0
23.	Sikkim	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	2839	3022	2777	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25.	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26.	Uttar Pradesh	47	44	31	28	23	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
27.	Uttaranchal	0	4	2	7	32	9	0	0	0	0	0	0
28.	West Bengal	152	121	74	12	13	20	6	12	44	18	9	2
Total (States)		5445	5611	5742	171	205	145	36	19	50	24	21	19
29.	Andman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30.	Chandigarh	4	9	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32.	Daman and Diu	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33.	Delhi	46	123	151	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35.	Pondicherry	13	4	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total (UTs)		64	137	166	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
Total (All India)		5510	5748	5908	171	205	145	36	19	50	24	21	28

Source: Crime in India

Minority Institutions

493. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any request from minority Institutions for accreditation with the National Institute of Open Schooling;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of minority institutions so far granted accreditation in the country, State and Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) has received 116 applications from minority institutions for accreditation since June, 2006. Out of these, 63 applications have been found eligible of which 20 have already been granted accreditation.

(c) The details of minority accredited institutions, accredited vocational institutions and accredited agencies are as under:

State/UT	Als	AVIs	AAAs
Madhya Pradesh	01	—	—
Uttar Pradesh	03	01	01
Haryana	01	—	—
Bihar	01	—	01
Karnataka	—	—	02
Maharashtra	02	—	01
West Bengal	03	—	—
Delhi	—	—	02
Chandigarh	—	—	01
Total	11	01	08

Total number of Accredited Institutions = 11 + 01 + 08 = 20

Tea Gardens

494. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN:
SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY:
SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tea gardens closed in the eastern and southern regions in the country alongwith the reasons for closure and the number of workers rendered unemployed during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the Government has started any talks with the public sector banks to work out revival strategy for the old/closed tea gardens;

(c) if so, the details and its outcome; and

(d) the steps taken to further promote the tea industry in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) As per available information as on 1.4.2007, 33 tea gardens are lying closed, of which 17 are in Kerala, 14 in West Bengal and 2 in Assam. The depressed price situation since mid- 1999 coupled with other factors like high cost of

production and low prices of tea have affected the viability of tea gardens resulting in the closure/abandonment of some of the tea gardens in the country. The total number of workers affected due to closure is about 31,000.

(b) and (c) The Government of India after in-depth examination of the causes of closure of tea gardens and in consultation with major public sector banks and others concerned, has recently announced a rehabilitation package for closed tea gardens. The package envisages restructuring the outstanding bank loans, waiver of accumulated penal interest on these loans, waiver of Tea Board loans, provision of fresh working capital after regularization of old accounts with the banks, provision of long term finance through Special Purpose Tea Fund Scheme of Tea Board for undertaking replanting/ replacement/rejuvenation of old tea bushes and also improving the manufacturing facility in the factory through quality up-gradation scheme of Tea Board.

(d) Several Plan schemes are being implemented through the Tea Board for the overall development of the tea sector including the scheme of Special Purpose Tea Fund for financing replantation/rejuvenation activities aimed at improving the age profile of old tea bushes.

[*Translation*]

Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana

495. SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of projects implemented under Deendayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana, State and Union Territory- wise;

(b) the details of funds released and persons benefited under the scheme during each of the last three years, State and Union Territory-wise;

(c) the provisions for Centre and States share of funding under the said scheme;

(d) whether the said scheme has been reviewed;

(e) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) The details of projects implemented under Deen Dayal Hathkargha

Protsahan Yojana, State-wise, Union Territory-wise are given in the enclosed Statement-I

(b) Statement-II showing funds released and number of persons benefited under the scheme during each of the last three years, State and Union Territory-wise is enclosed.

(c) As per the provisions under the Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana the share of funding for Center and State is in the ratio of 50:50 for all the States except in the case of the States falling under the North Eastern Region, Sikkim, J&K, Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand where the funding is in the ratio of 90:10. In respect of implementing agencies which have 100% beneficiary members as SC/ST/Women/Minorities, the funding is 75:25 between the Center and the State.

(d) to (f) Yes, Sir. The scheme has been reviewed on the basis of evaluation report submitted by the National Institute of Small Industry Extension Training (NISIET), Hyderabad and also in consultation with the Planning Commission. In consonance with the suggestions of the Planning Commission and the recommendations in the Evaluation report of NISIET, Hyderabad, it is proposed to amalgamate the components of Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana under the proposed Integrated Handloom Development Scheme (IHDS) to be implemented during the 11th Plan period.

Statement-I

Projects Sanctioned Under Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana

S.No.	State	Number of Projects Implemented
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	181
2.	Bihar	11
3.	Chhattisgarh	47

1	2	3
4.	Gujarat	1
5.	Himachal Pradesh	99
6.	Jammu and Kashmir	6
7.	Jharkhand	6
8.	Karnataka	54
9.	Kerala	295
10.	Madhya Pradesh	18
11.	Orissa	1
12.	Rajasthan	2
13.	Tamil Nadu	1227
14.	Uttar Pradesh	651
15.	Uttaranchal	25
16.	West Bengal	100
Total (A)		2726
N.E. States		
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	29
2.	Assam	401
3.	Manipur	324
4.	Meghalaya	1
5.	Nagaland	457
6.	Tripura	16
Total (B)		1228
G. Total (A + B)		3954

Statement-II

Funds Released and Beneficiaries Covered during the Years 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 under the Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana

(Rupees in lakh)

Sl.No.	State	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
		Total (Released)	Beneficiaries	Total (Released)	Beneficiaries	Total (Released)	Beneficiaries (Provisional)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	363,496,28	48253	656.11800	63676	991.13343	120000
2.	Bihar	0.00000		0.00000		0.00000	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Chhattisgarh	11.20316	147	4.60819		7.45423	2000
4.	Delhi	0.00000		0.00000		0.00000	
5.	Gujarat	0.00000		0.00000	13225	488.14417	30000
6.	Haryana	0.00000		0.0000		0.00000	
7.	Himachal Pradesh	96.81991		27.49570	445	112.08979	3500
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	20.42000		25.37736		0.0000	
9.	Jharkhand	0.00000		3.22000	100	22.57500	700
10.	Karnataka	104.76438	21935	1050.00425	19434	70.25350	10000
11.	Kerala	523.73295	12700	285.41308		320.78963	25000
12.	Madhya Pradesh	40.19176	1400	30.32594	870	6.33119	900
13.	Maharashtra	0.00000		0.00000		259.85246	5000
14.	Orissa	123.35634	31337	190.81042	20096	1525.19189	116300
15.	Punjab	0.00000		0.0000		15.00000	300
16.	Rajasthan	43.38821	19644	0.00000	1170	40.46361	1000
17.	Tamil Nadu	3375.20322	108000	4226.94507	161036	1694.69730	125000
18.	Uttar Pradesh	931.51580	9551	1048.53625	4403	798.37733	20000
19.	Uttaranchal	53.49308	831	0.00000		31.76009	300
20.	West Bengal	881.37431	23795	382.14574	21488	363.88638	30000
Total (A)		6660.93940	277593	7931.00000	305943	6748.00000	490000
N.E. States							
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00000		0.00000		0.00000	
2.	Assam	0.00000	237453	11.12326	277600	202.07338	700
3.	Manipur	426.35435		248.05772	6986	23.23000	
4.	Meghalaya	0.00000		0.00000		0.00000	
5.	Mizoram	7.75896		0.00000		11.87362	3000
6.	Nagaland	268.25000		870.81275	7212	462.82300	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
7.	Tripura	29.50000		0.00000		0.00000	
8.	Sikkim	0.00000		0.00000		0.00000	
Total (B)		731.86333	237453	1129.99373	291793	700.00000	10000
Others							
3.	Delhi	100.00000		0.00000		0.00000	
Total (C)		100.00000		0.00000		0.00000	
G. Total (A + B + C)		7400.80273	515046	9060.99373	597741	7448.00000	500000

[English]

Issuance of Multipurpose National Identity Card

496. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA:
YOGI ADITYA NATH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has launched Multi-Purpose National Identity Card (MNIC) scheme recently as reported in the *Hindu* dated May 26, 2007;

(b) if so, the names of the States where this scheme has been launched;

(c) the time by when the said scheme is likely to be implemented in all States;

(d) the criteria adopted by the Government to cover the citizen of the country under the scheme; and

(e) the total funds granted by the Government towards the scheme and total funds utilized so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The distribution of identity cards under the Pilot Project on MNIC has been commenced from 26th May, 2007. The Pilot Project has been under implementation in the selected areas of twelve (12) states and one (1) Union Territory namely Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Delhi, Goa, Gujarat, Jammu and Kashmir, Rajasthan, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Tamil

Nadu, West Bengal and Puducherry since November, 2003 and covers a population of 30.95 lakhs. Under the Project identity cards would be given to those who are 18 years of age and above and who have been able to give proof of citizenship at the time of verification.

The Government proposes to implement the scheme in the entire country after the results of the Pilot Project are available.

(e) An amount of Rs. 44.36 crores has been sanctioned for the Pilot Project, out of which Rs. 15.66 crores has been spent so far.

Liberahan Commission

497. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has extended the term of the Liberahan Commission;

(b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of time extension has been given to Liberahan Commission so far; and

(d) the time by when the said Commission is likely to complete its findings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a)

and (b) Yes, Sir. The work relating to finalisation of findings of the Liberhan Ayodhya Commission of Inquiry is in progress and as such the Government has extended its term upto 31st August, 2007.

(c) The Government had extended the term of the Commission on 40 occasions.

(d) The report on findings of the Commission is expected to be submitted to the Government within the extended term of the Commission.

Road Accidents in Delhi

498. SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID:
SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether road accidents are on the increase in NCT of Delhi;

(b) if so, the total number of persons killed/injured during each of the last three years;

(c) the action taken by the Government against the accused persons including Blue Line Buses;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check such incidents in future;

(e) whether the Government proposes to formulate plans for the regulation of traffic in Delhi on the lines of traffic managed by countries like UK, Singapore and Malaysia; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) to (c) The requisite information is given below:

Year	No. of Road Accidents	No. of injured	No. of killed
2004	9092	7896	1977
2005	9375	8274	2049
2006	9299	8280	2169
2007 (Up to 31 st July)	5013	4548	1227

Action taken against drivers/buses involved in accidents includes suspension/cancellation of driving licences of drivers, punching of driving licence for traffic violation suspension/cancellation of permit of buses, etc. and arrest/prosecution of drivers under relevant provisions of law.

(d) The steps taken by the Government to check such incidences in future are given in the enclosed Statement.

(e) and (f) As per the Transport Department, Government of NCT of Delhi, no such proposal is under consideration.

Statement

The steps taken by Delhi Police to check road accidents in Delhi include:

1. Education awareness of general public by distribution of Road Safety Literature among various categories of road users with an object of inculcating better road disciplines among them.
2. Special emphasis on defensive driving, lane driving, driving at roundabouts and general traffic rules to be observed on Delhi roads.
3. Installation of Public Address System on major intersections to guide general public.
4. Regulation of traffic jointly by Traffic staff and PCR staff on selected locations and mobile patrolling by Traffic ZOs.
5. Bus stand management on selected bus stands with the help of local police.
6. Removal of obstruction from bus stands on major corridors.
7. Training of professional drivers of buses and commercial vehicles.
8. Taking out Mobile Exhibition Van to different places for Road Safety Training activities and refresher courses.
9. Rigid enforcement of traffic rules in Delhi.
10. Special prosecution drives against DTC, Private buses and heavy commercial vehicles from time to time.

11. Concerted action against drunken driving, reckless driving, minor's driving, red light jumping, over speeding etc. to reduce road accidents.
12. Arrest of drivers found indulging in reckless driving.
13. Cancellation of permits of commercial vehicles.
14. Computer based road accident analysis system for scientifically analyzing road accidents on various important parameters and identification of Black Spots.
15. Ensuring conflict free traffic circulation plans in important parts of Delhi.
16. Segregation of fast moving traffic from slow moving traffic.
17. Closure of gaps in the central verges on accident-prone roads.
18. Provision of bus bays, yellow boxes, bus boxes etc. on city roads.
19. Introduction of traffic signals/blinders in accident-prone areas.
20. More police presence in accident-prone areas.
21. Taking up with civic agencies for various engineering improvements viz. geometric designs, provision of street lighting, construction of speed breakers, provision of iron railings on central verges, installation of road signs, painting or road markings, carpeting of roads, junction improvement etc.
22. Synchronization of Traffic signals in important travel corridors.
23. Expansion of Area Traffic Control System.
24. Prosecution of traffic violator through Interceptors.
25. Prosecution of traffic violator through Red Speed Check Camera.
26. Prosecution of traffic violators through Simputers.
27. Monitoring of traffic through Traffic Video Monitoring System.

[Translation]

Drop out Rate in Rural Areas

499. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether meritorious students of rural areas are forced to give up their studies mid way to earn their livelihood due to lack of schools;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to open residential schools for boys also in rural areas on the lines of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) As per the Selected Educational Statistics, 2004-05 (with reference date 30.9.2004), the drop out rate for classes I to X was 61.92%. Separate drop out rate for rural areas is not available.

(b) and (c) There is no proposal at present to open residential schools for boys in rural areas on the lines of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas.

(d) and (e) The Sarva Shiksha Aabhiyan being implemented at elementary stage provides for opening of new schools in habitations which do not have schooling facilities and strengthening of existing school infrastructure through additional classrooms etc.

[English]

News-on-Phone

500. SHRI ANWAR HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to start news-on-phone service at the Regional News Unit of AIR, Guwahati;

(b) if so, whether there is any scheme for full upgradation and digitalization of News Unit of AIR, Guwahati;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by when this Plan is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Prasar Bharati has informed that a scheme for upgradation and digitalization of Regional News Unit at Guwahati has been proposed in the draft XI Plan, which is yet to be approved.

(d) News-on-Phone service is likely to be implemented during 2007-08. However, the scheme for upgradation and digitalization of RNU at Guwahati will be implemented after approval of XI Plan.

[Translation]

Right to Education Bill

501. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of Right to Education Bill;

(b) whether the Government has given concession to States for implementation of Right to Education Bill;

(c) if so, the reasons for giving concession to States for implementation of Right to Education Bill;

(d) the names of States which have lodged objections to implementation of Right to Education Bill; and

(e) the details of the main objections raised by State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (e) In pursuance of Article 21A of the Constitution, which makes education a Fundamental Right for children in the age group of 6-14 years by providing that *"the State shall provide free and compulsory education to all children of the age of six to fourteen years in such manner as the State may, by law, determine"*, a draft Model Right to Education Bill, 2006 was formulated and circulated as framework to the States/

UTs with a view to seek their comments thereon. In order to motivate and incentivise the State Governments to adopt the Model Right to Education Bill, 2006, it was proposed that the scale of funding under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) be made contingent upon enactment of appropriate State Acts on free and compulsory education where none exist, or suitable adaptation of existing Acts. The comments from 23 States/UTs have been received.

The main objections raised by the States and UTs relate to the following issues:

1. Proposed replacement of the Central Legislation by a Model Bill for State Legislation.
2. Linkage of SSA funding with State/UT enactment of Model Right to Education Bill or modification of existing State/UT Acts
3. Making elementary education first charge on revenues of each State Government, next only to law and order.
4. Financial liability for free and compulsory education to be borne by the States/UTs.

[English]

Reconsideration of New National Mineral Policy

502. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments have requested the Union Government to reconsider the draft of the new national mineral policy and evolve consensus of all States on it before its consideration by the Union Cabinet.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) to (c) Some of the Chief Ministers had given a representation to Prime Minister on 31.12.2006. Their points of view were duly discussed in several meetings of their State officials and the suggestions were given due consideration. Recently the same points were again raised by some of the Chief Ministers and these were again discussed in a meeting with Central Government on 6.8.2007. The National

Mineral Policy is under consideration of the Central Government.

[Translation]

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

503. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has approved the proposal of Government of Uttar Pradesh to open 800 primary schools; and

(b) the number of higher primary schools and additional class rooms to be constructed by the Government under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) The annual work plan and budget approved for the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan programme for Uttar Pradesh for the year 2007-08, inter alia, includes opening of 813 new primary schools, construction of 5512 upper primary schools and 31,535 additional classrooms.

[English]

Import of Apples and Fruits

504. SHRI HITEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether permission of import of apples and other fruits under Open General Licence Scheme is adversely affecting fruit-growers in Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any survey or study has been conducted in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for promoting export of domestic apples and other fruits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation has suggested

that the import of apples and other fruits under the Open General Licence has increased the availability of such fruits in the country, due to which the fruit produced in the country are not getting competitive/good price.

(c) Department of Commerce has not conducted any study in this regard.

(d) To promote export of apples and fruits, APEDA (Agricultural & Processed Food Products Exports Development Authority) takes a number of measures including participation in fairs, promotional campaigns, setting up and up gradation of laboratories, setting up of centers for perishable cargo, pack houses and other infrastructural facilities, implementation of residue monitoring plans and market access initiatives. Besides that Agri Export Zones have been set up for apples and for other fruits. APEDA has been extending financial assistance to exporters under its schemes for financial assistance for Infrastructure Development, Market Development, Quality Development, Research & Development and Transport assistance. A Vishesh Krishi and Gram Udyog Yojana also exists to promote export of agriculture products in which a duty credit scrip equivalent to 3.5—5% of FOB value of exports is granted.

[Translation]

Promotion of Official Language

505. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government makes any effective arrangement and organizes programmes and carry out research work for promotion and development of the official language Hindi;

(b) if so, the details of amount released in this regard during each of the last three years, till date, head-wise; and

(c) the measures taken to enrich and update the Hindi scientific glossary particularly of Physics and Chemistry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) and (b) Department of Official Language in the Ministry of Home Affairs makes effective arrangements and organizes programmes for promotion and development of the Official Language Hindi. Following amounts have been utilized during each of the last 3 years, head-wise:

S.No.	Name of the Scheme/Project/Programme	Amount Utilised (Rupees in Lakhs)		
		2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1.	Training on Official Language	224.24	193.19	181.63
2.	Software Development	111.76	278.20	413.10
3.	Regional Rajbhasha Conference/Seminars. Conference/Seminars	6.64	7.96	7.90
4.	Rajbhasha Awards Scheme	5.45	7.91	6.10
5.	Publication of Books, Magazines, Publicity material, etc.	13.57	23.92	25.11

(c) Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology under the Ministry of Human Resource Development continuously takes measures to enrich and update the Hindi Scientific Glossary. As far as Physics and Chemistry are concerned the information is as under:

PHYSICS

Published Work

The following glossaries/definitional dictionaries of physics and allied subjects have been published:

1. Glossary of Physics
2. Definitional Dictionary of Physics
3. Definitional Dictionary of Fluid Mechanics

Ongoing work:

- (i) Work on publication of School-level Physics Glossary is in its final stage.
- (ii) An updated Glossary of Electornics and allied branches of physics which is also related to Engineering has been prepared and sent for printing. Work on Definitional Dictionary of Electronics is also going on.
- (iii) Work on Definitional Dictionary of Plasma Physics is in progress.

CHEMISTRY

Published Work

The following glossaries/definitional dictionaries of chemistry and allied subjects have been published:

1. Glossary of Chemistry.
2. Glossary of Steel and Non-Ferrous Metallurgy
3. Definitional Dictionary of Higher Chemistry
4. Definitional Dictionary of Chemistry (Organic)
5. Definitional Dictionary of Metallurgy
6. Definitional Dictionary of Petroleum Technology
 - An updated Chemistry Glossary containing 48000 terms has been recently published.
 - Work on publication of School-level Chemistry Glossary is in progress.

Misuse of Coins

506. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether coins are being melted for its misuse in the country;

(b) if so, the number of reported cases of melting of coins till date, State/Union Territory-wise;

(c) whether the Government has detected any gang involved in the misuse of coins;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State and Union Territory-wise; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a)

to (e) Requisite information is being collected from the State Governments/UT Administrations and will be laid on the table of the House.

[English]

Targets under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

507. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the targets fixed for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan has been achieved during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the strategy and programme laid down for the said Abhiyan and the targets laid down thereunder for the 11th Five Year Plan;

(d) the steps taken for replicating the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in Secondary Education Sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) Targets and achievement for key items under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) during last three years are as given below:

Items	Targets	Achievements
Opening of Schools*	240072	193220
Construction of School Buildings	131843	162597
Construction of Additional Classrooms	586766	591916
Appointment of Teachers	671125	394522

*Targets & Achievements are cumulative figures since the inception of scheme.

(c) The strategy for the 11th Five Year Plan is to achieve universal elementary education with thrust on Quality with Equity under SSA. The 11th Plan allocations are finalized by the Planning Commission.

(d) A Concept Note on the universalisation of access and quality at the Secondary stage has been prepared which has received 'in principal approval' of the Planning Commission with certain stipulations.

[Translation]

Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme

508. SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state

(a) the number of creches set up during each of the last three years under Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme, State-wise;

(b) whether there is no creche in several Departments, Public Sector Enterprises under Central Government and autonomous organizations situated in the country particularly Delhi;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor,

(d) whether the Government has directed these departments/organizations to set up creches for the children of women employees;

(e) if so, the manner in which the Government proposes to ensure the circulation of these directions to these departments/organizations; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme for the Children of Working Mothers was launched w.e.f 1st January, 2006. 13295 new creches have been sanctioned during the last two years under the scheme. Details about location of creches is available on the Ministry website www.wcd.nic.in.

(b) to (f) The Ministry of Women and Child Development had requested all Ministries/Departments of the Government of India emphasizing the need for opening creches in their office premises for the benefit of their women employees.

Some of these Ministries/Departments have informed that none of their female employees require the support of creche facilities at their work place. However, Creches are also run by Grih Kalyan Kendra under the aegis of Department of Personnel and Training for the welfare of Central Government Employees in Delhi.

*[English]***Non-Governmental Organisations**

509. SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is implementing programmes for Tribal Development through Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in the country particularly State of West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details of the programmes in progress; and

(c) the comparative study on the development being undertaken in Ninth and Tenth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry has been implementing following schemes exclusively through Non-Governmental Organizations in the country including the State of West Bengal for development of Scheduled Tribes:

(1) **Grant-in-aid to Voluntary Organizations:** It is a Central Sector Scheme. The prime objective of the scheme is to enhance the reach of welfare schemes of Government and fill the gaps in service deficient tribal areas, in the sectors such as education, health, drinking water, agro-horticultural productivity, social security net etc. through the efforts of voluntary organizations, and to provide an environment for socio-economic upliftment and overall development of the Scheduled Tribes (STs). Under this scheme various projects viz. Residential/Non-Residential Schools, Hostels, Mobile Dispensaries, 10-Bedded Hospitals, Computer Training Centres, Mobile Library-cum-Audio Visual Unit, etc. are covered. During 2006-07, about 510 such projects of NGOs were funded in the country and out of them, 34 were in West Bengal.

(2) **Educational Complex in Low Literacy Pockets for Development of Women's Literacy in Tribal Areas:** It is also a Central Sector Scheme. Under this scheme, the Ministry provides financial assistance @ Rs.9000/- per ST girl per annum for free schooling, boarding and lodging, uniforms, books, food etc. Besides this, the organization running the educational complex is also required to impart training in craft/vocational education and practical training in agriculture, horticulture, poultry and related subjects. During 2006-07, about 84 educational complexes of NGOs/State owned autonomous

societies were funded, and out of them one educational complex has been funded in West Bengal.

There are two other schemes viz. Vocational Training Centre (VTC) in Tribal Areas and Development of Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs), which are implemented through State Governments as well as NGOs. The details of these schemes are as under:

(I) **Vocational Training Centres (VTC) in Tribal Areas:** The main aim of the scheme is to develop the skills of the tribal youth to enable them to get employment or become self-employed. It aims to improve their socio-economic condition by enhancing their income. During 2006-07, about 9 projects of NGOs were funded. There was no recommendation for a project of VTC from West Bengal during 2006-07.

(II) **Development of Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs):** It is an exclusive scheme for development of Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs). It is a very flexible scheme. Any activity/work, which is very crucial for the survival, protection and development of PTGs, can be taken up under this scheme. The activities/works may include provisions for housing, land distribution, land development, agricultural development, cattle development, income generation programmes, health care, infrastructure development, social security etc. During 2006-07, about 38 projects of NGOs were funded. There was no recommendation for a project of NGO from West Bengal during 2006-07.

(c) No comparative study on development undertaken in Ninth and Tenth Five Year Plan has been conducted by this Ministry.

Assistance for Professional Education

510. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has sanctioned Central assistance to the Governments of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh for professional education;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last two years;

(c) whether the Government of Bihar has sent any proposals in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details of the proposals finalized/ pending thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the All

India Council for Technical Education provides financial assistance to its approved technical institutions under various Faculty Development and Research & Institutional Development Schemes. The details of grant-in-aid released by the AICTE in last two year under various schemes to technical institutions in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

Statement

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the Scheme	Bihar				Uttar Pradesh			
		2005-2006		2006-2007		2005-2006		2006-2007	
		No. of Cases	Amount	No. of Cases	Amount	No. of Cases	Amount	No. of Cases	Amount
1.	MODROBS	0	0	1	11	8	68.82	10	84.15
2.	Quality Improvement Programme	0	0	0	0	5	70.48	1	4.27
3.	PG Scholarship	2	79.65	1	27.96	11	175.95	15	338.04
4.	Travel Grant	0	0	0	0	11	5.71	11	4.76
5.	Research Promotion Scheme	0	0	0	0	9	69.02	10	117.3
6.	Nationally Coordinated Project	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	20.9
7.	Entrepreneurship Development Centre	0	0	0	0	1	5.6	1	8
8.	Industry Institute Partnership Cell	0	0	0	0	1	7	0	0
9.	Professional Societies/Bodies	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2.25
10.	National Doctoral Fellowship	0	0	0	0	3	5.07	19	34.59
11.	Career Award for Young Teachers	0	0	0	0	1	2.79	2	5.25
12.	Emeritus Fellowship	1	1.05	0	0	13	17.74	9	13.44
13.	Visiting Professorship	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
14.	Staff Development Programme	0	0	0	0	3	2.06	8	7.43
15.	Seminar Grant	0	0	1	0.75	4	3.49	33	18.5
Total		3	80.7	3	39.71	70	433.73	121	658.88

Earthquake Resistant Buildings

511. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of recommendations made by the National Disaster Management Committee (NDMC);

(b) the details of steps taken to make multi-storey buildings and structures of National importance earthquake resistant;

(c) whether the Government proposes to make it mandatory for retrofitting of existing residential multi-storey buildings in earthquake prone zones;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the steps taken by the Government to implement the recommendations of the NDMC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) has laid down guidelines for the "Management of Earthquakes" in April 2007 with a view to reduce earthquake risk, and minimize the impact, loss of lives and damage to property caused by earthquakes. The guidelines prescribe measures for Central Ministries and Departments and State Governments to prepare disaster management plans having specific components on earthquake risk management. The measures are:

- (i) Earthquake Resistant Construction of New Structures;
- (ii) Selective Seismic Strengthening & Retrofitting of existing Priority Structures and Lifeline structures;
- (iii) Regulation and Enforcement;
- (iv) Awareness & Preparedness;
- (v) Capacity Development (Education, Training, R&D, Capacity Building and Documentation);
- (vi) Emergency Response.

(b) to (e) The responsibility to identify and prioritize the existing structures to make them earthquake resistant lies with the concerned Ministries and Departments and respective State Governments. The Disaster Management Act, 2005 stipulates for preparation of State Disaster Management Plan by every State having regard to the

guidelines laid down by the NDMA. The State Disaster Management Plan has to inter-alia, include the measures to be adopted for prevention and mitigation of disasters and the capacity-building and preparedness measures to be taken. The guidelines for Management of Earthquakes laid down by NDMA recognizes that it is not practically feasible or financially viable to retrofit all the existing buildings. Union Government is implementing a National Programme for Capacity Building of Engineers and Architects in Earthquake Risk Management to ensure seismic safe construction by training of structural engineers and architects at reputed institutions. Government has also sent advisories to State Government and Union Territory Administrations from time to time to take up various disaster mitigation and preparedness measures including measures relating to earthquake mitigation and preparedness by way of adoption of modern building bye-laws to ensure seismic resistant construction.

Relief Code

512. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to amend the relief code;

(b) if so, the details of new provisions proposed to be incorporated; and

(c) the steps taken to change the relief code?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) to (c) The Relief Code/Manual is prepared by the respective State Governments. It contains details for providing relief to the people affected by natural calamities and focuses only on post-disaster response and relief. State Governments have been advised to update their Relief Codes/Manuals with an emphasis on measures relating to preparedness, prevention and mitigation.

Infiltration

513. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:
SHRI JUAL ORAM:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has identified the International Borders where infiltration is on the rise or there is a possibility of massive infiltration;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to stop all kinds of infiltration in these areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) and (b) Indo-Bangladesh border is vulnerable to infiltration on account of poor economic conditions on Bangladesh side; porous and riverine border; high density of population in Bangladesh; and cultural, religious, linguistic and ethnic similarities among the people living on either side of the border. However, available reports indicate a decline in infiltration during the last four years due to erection of fencing on Indo-Bangladesh border.

(c) The Government have adopted a multi-pronged approach to check infiltration from across the border which includes, inter-alia, round the clock surveillance of the border by patrolling and by establishing observation posts; construction of border fencing and flood lighting; introduction of modern and hi-tech surveillance equipment; upgradation of intelligence set up and coordination with the State Governments and concerned intelligence agencies.

[Translation]

Human Trafficking

514. SHRI AJIT JOGI:

SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA:

SHRIMATI RUPATAI D. PATIL:

SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI:

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has become a hub of human trafficking particularly of women and children from Nepal and Bangladesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether women and children who are victims of human trafficking are diverted towards flesh trade;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to check human trafficking and flesh trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) to (d) There are no authentic or substantiated reports that India has become a hub of human trafficking. However, a few incidents have come to the notice of the Government of India of trafficking in women and children from Nepal and Bangladesh, some of whom were being trafficked for the purpose of prostitution.

(e) "Police" and "Public Order" are state subjects, and the State Governments are primarily responsible for prevention and combating of crime of human trafficking. However, the Union Government is taking several measures, in concert with the State Govt. for prevention and control of crime of trafficking as well as measures for rehabilitation of victims. The Union Government has advised all the State Governments to deal with the crime of trafficking in a holistic manner and to evolve an effective and comprehensive strategy encompassing rescue, relief and rehabilitation of victims besides taking deterrent action against the law violators. The Ministry of Home Affairs has set up a Nodal Cell to coordinate matters relating to trafficking in human beings between the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations and other related Ministries etc. and organizing co-ordination meetings to review and sensitize Police Officers of the States/Union Territories on the subject.

The Ministry of Home Affairs had also constituted a Working Group of Directors General of Police of some of the affected States to study issues relating to cross border trafficking in women and children and make suitable recommendations for dealing with the problem. These recommendations have been forwarded to the State Governments for evolving a comprehensive strategy for effectively dealing with the problem of trafficking. Border guarding forces have also been directed to exercise vigilance against cross border trafficking. The issue of cross-border trafficking was also discussed during the recent meeting of representatives of the SAARC countries on the implementation of the SAARC Convention on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution.

[English]

Technology in Plantation Sector

515. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to focus on new technology in plantation sector as reported in *Business Line* date July 26, 2007; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Tea Board in collaboration with Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur wishes to set up an Advanced R&D Centre for tea technology which would include the following activities:

- (i) Carry out performance audit of existing processing machinery and suggest ways and means of making them energy efficient to reduce the cost of production.
- (ii) To come out with new processing techniques for various types of teas and design new machinery for making good quality tea.
- (iii) To come out with simple mechanical aids for reducing the drudgery and improving the productivity of workers.

Rubber and Coffee Boards are also making all efforts to improve the productivity and quality of Rubber and Coffee.

Salient Features of Northeast-Thailand

516. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal to observe 2008 as the year of North East Thailand was mooted during the recent visit of the delegation led by the Commerce Minister of Thailand to the 'North Eastern Region;

(b) if so, the details and salient features of the Northeast-Thailand year to be observed; and

(c) the steps so far taken and the central aid to be given in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (c) In the course of discussions during the visit of Thailand delegation to the North East in June

2007 there was a suggestion that 2008 may be observed as the Year of North East in Thailand. As a follow-up of the Thai delegation visit in June, 2007, it has been decided to organize a North East India Investment Opportunities Week at Bangkok in the first week of October, 2007. An Indian Delegation including representatives from the North Eastern States and some businessmen interested in the North East would be visiting Bangkok during this period.

Deportation of Bangladeshis

517. SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether thousands of suspected Bangladeshi have been detected in Arunachal Pradesh by Police and the Public during the 2nd week of July, 2007 and reportedly pushed back from Arunachal Border;

(b) if so, whether they have taken shelter in Assam;

(c) whether the Union Government has asked for any report from the Governments of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to deport those Bangladeshis from Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) to (e) The Government had sought reports from the State Governments of Arunachal Pradesh and Assam. According to the information received from the Government of Arunachal Pradesh, during regular checking by the authorities, persons from outside the State who were not found to have valid Inner Line Permits (ILP) were sent back. Detailed report from the Government of Assam is awaited.

Textile Export Processing Zones

518. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up Textile Export Processing Zones in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the allocation earmarked therefor; and

(c) the time by when the said zones are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) to (c) Proposals have been received to set up Special Economic

Zones in the Textiles/Apparel/Woolen Sectors from various agencies/private promoters. Till 31.7.2007, 5 proposals have been notified. Formal approval of the Board of Approval has been given to 15 proposals, and approval has been given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the Developer	Location	State	Sector	Area (in hectares)
1	2	3	4	5	6
A. Notified SEZ					
1.	GIDC (Apparel)	Ahmedabad, Gujarat	GJ	Apparel	38.4.13
2.	Neogen Properties Pvt. Ltd.	Thumkunta and Gollapuram Village, Hindupur Mandal, Anantpur District, Andhra Pradesh	AP	Apparel Park	141.65
3.	Brandix India Apparel City Private Limited	Atchutapuram Mandal, Visakhapatnam District, in the State of Andhra Pradesh	AP	Textiles	404.69
4.	Karnataka Industrial Area Development Board (KIADB)	Village Perumenahally, Kokkanagatta, Sumudra vally, Hamumanthapura, Taluk Hassan, Karnataka	KN	Textiles	233.307
5.	M/s. Orient Craft Infrastructure Ltd.	Gurgaon, Haryana	HR	Textiles	114.8318
B. Formal Approval Granted by the Board of Approval					
1.	Gujarat Industrial Development Corporation Ltd.	Ahmedabad	GJ	Apparel	38
2.	Neogen Properties Pvt. Ltd.	Thumkunta and Gollapuram Village, Hindupur Mandal, Anantpur District, Andhra Pradesh	AP	Apparel Park	141.64
3.	Brandix India Apparel City Private Limited (BIAC)	Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh	AP	Textiles	404.7
4.	Orient Craft Infrastructure Ltd.	Gurgaon, Haryana	HR	Textiles	113.35

1	2	3	4	5	6
5.	M/s. Maharashtra Industrial Dev. Corpn.	Kagal, Maharashtra	MH	Textiles	104
6.	MIDC	Butibori, Dist. Nagpur, Maharashtra	MH	Textiles	383
7.	Welspun Anjar SEZ Limited	Taluka Anjar, Village Varshamedi, Gujarat	GJ	Textiles and Garment Sector	284
8.	MIDC	Distt Solapur, Maharashtra	MH	Textiles Industry	195
9.	MIDC	District Yavatmal, Maharashtra	MH	Textiles Industry	208
10.	MIDC	District Pune, Maharashtra	MH	Textiles Industry	101
11.	KIADB	Hassan, Karnataka	KN	Textiles	202
12.	Mridul Infrastructures Pvt. Ltd.	Rajpura, Patiala, Punjab	PB	Textiles	100
13.	ETL Infrastructure Services Ltd.	Uthukuli Village, Erode Distt., Tamil Nadu	TN	Textiles	101.62
14.	Uttar Pradesh State Industrial Development Corporation (UPSIDC)	Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh	UP	Textiles	103.72
15.	MAS Fabric Park (India) Private Limited (MFP)	Chintavaram Village Chillakru Mandal, Nellore District, Andhra Pradesh	AP	Textiles and Apparel	235

C. Granted In-principle Approval by the Board of Approval

1.	Shreeaumji Real Estate Private Limited	Tehsil Faruknagar, District Gurgaon, Haryana	HR	Apparel	101
2.	M/s. Gokuldas Exports Apparel and Textile Park Pvt. Ltd.	Bangalore	KN	Apparel and Textiles	141
3.	M/s. Millet Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd.	Bangalore, Karnataka	KN	Apparels and Fashion Accessories	100
4.	Rockman Projects Ltd.	Ludhiana, Punjab	PB	Textiles	100
5.	PNB Infrastructures Pvt. Ltd.	Coimbatore Distt	TN	Textiles	107.24

1	2	3	4	5	6
6.	Hinduja Investments Private Limited	Doddamannugudde Village, Ramanagaram Taluk, Bangalore rural district	KN	Textiles and Apparel	100
7.	Best and Crompton	District Krishnagiri, Tamil Nadu	TN	Textiles and Apparel Park	120
8.	Nirmal Realty Private Limited	Village Bhokari, Dohole and Koshimbi Bhiwandi Taluka, Thane District, Maharashtra	MH	Textiles and Garment Sector	162
9.	Welspun Anjar SEZ Limited	Village Chaudwar, District Cuttack, Orissa	OR	Textiles and Garments	202
10.	M/s. Arihant Techno Economic Park Pvt. Ltd.	Bhiwandi, Mumbai Maharashtra	MH	Textiles	107
11.	M/s. DLF Universal Limited	Amritsar, Punjab	PB	Textiles	160
12.	Alok Infrastructure Private Limited	Village Surangi near Silvassa in the Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli	DNH	Textiles	80
13.	Lodha Dwellers Private Limited	Village Posari Amboshi, Chirad, Kumbharli, Sakroli, Wadi, Karavli, District Thane, Maharashtra	MH	Textiles	360
14.	M/s Overseas Infrastructure Alliance (India) Pvt. Ltd.	Chhata, dist. Mathura, UP	UP	Textiles/Garments	100
15.	RNB Infrastructures	Pugal Road, Bikaner, Rajasthan	RJ	Woollen Sector	101.17
16.	Austral Coke and Projects Limited	Nardana, Maharashtra	MH	Textiles	100
17.	DLF Limited ('DLFL')	Located at Dankuni Township, West Bengal	WB	Textiles	100

Coastal Security

519. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of states in which Coastal Security Forces are presently functioning;

(b) whether the Union Government has provided any assistance to the State Governments for setting up and for the augmentation of the Coastal Security Forces, particularly for Tamil Nadu;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) The Coastal Security Scheme provides for strengthening the infrastructure for patrolling and surveillance of coastal areas of all the nine coastal States (Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamilnadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal) and four Union Territories (Pondicherry, Lakshadweep, Daman & Diu and A & N Island).

(b) to (d) Upto June, 2007, an amount of Rs. 2468.58 lakhs has been released under the Coastal Security Scheme of which Rs. 309.20 lakhs released to the Government of Tamil Nadu.

Tea Production

520. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of tea produced during each of the last three years till date;

(b) whether production of tea is declining;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to increase production of tea?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The quantity of tea produced in the country during each of the last three years is given below:

Year	Production (million Kgs)
2004	892.96
2005*	927.98
2006*	955.95
2007 (Jan-June)*	334.71

*Estimated.

Source: Tea Board

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) In order to promote production and productivity of tea, Tea Board is already implementing a number of Plan schemes for development of the sector under which financial/technical assistance is provided to the tea industry. In addition, a Special/Purpose Tea Fund has also been set up for financing replantation/rejuvenation activities aimed at improving the age profile of old tea bushes.

12:00 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Papers to be laid on the Table.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 22 of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995:

(i) The Cable Television Networks (Fifth Amendments) Rules, 2006 published in Notification No. G.S.R.697(E) in Gazette of India dated the 11th November, 2006.

(ii) The Cable Television Networks (Amendments) Rules, 2007 published in Notification No. G.S.R.286(E) in Gazette of India dated the 11th April, 2007.

(iii) The Cable Television Networks (Second Amendment) Rules, 2007 published in Notification No. G.S.R.482(E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th July, 2007.

(2) Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at item Nos.(i) and (ii) of (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—6679/07]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): Sir, on behalf of Shri Shriprakash Jaiswal I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 18 of the Central Reserve Police Force Act, 1949:—
- (i) The Central Reserve Police Force Inspector (Ministerial) and Subedar Major (Ministerial) Recruitment Rules, 2007 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 381(E) in Gazette of India dated the 23rd May, 2007.
 - (ii) The Central Reserve Police Force Inspector (Stenographer) and Subedar Major (Stenographer) Recruitment Rules, 2007 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 383(E) in Gazette of India dated the 23rd May, 2007.
 - (iii) The Central Reserve Police Force Inspector (Hindi Translator) and Subedar Major (Hindi Translator) Recruitment Rules, 2007 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 385(E) in Gazette of India dated the 23rd May, 2007.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT—6680/07]

- (2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under proviso to article 309 of the Constitution:
- (i) The Central Reserve Police Force Joint Assistant Director Recruitment Rules, 2007 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 379(E) in Gazette of India dated the 23rd May, 2007.
 - (ii) The Central Reserve Police Force Administrative Officer/Section Officer Recruitment Rules, 2007 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 380(E) in Gazette of India dated the 23rd May, 2007.
 - (iii) The Central Reserve Police Senior Private Secretary Recruitment Rules, 2007 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 382. (E) in Gazette of India dated the 23rd May, 2007.

- (iv) The Central Reserve Police Force Hindi Officer Recruitment Rules, 2007 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 384(E) in Gazette of India dated the 23rd May, 2007.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT—6681/07)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:
- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the British India Corporation Limited and its subsidiaries, Kanpur, for the year 2005-2006.
 - (ii) Annual Report of the British India Corporation Limited and its subsidiaries, Kanpur, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned, at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT—6682/07]

12.03 hrs.

DEPARTMENTALLY RELATED STANDING COMMITTEES—A REVIEW

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the Hindi and English versions of the 'Departmentally Related Standing Committees (2005-06)—A Review'.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—6683/07]

12.03¹/₄ hrs.

COMMITTEE ON EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN

Thirteenth Report

[English]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH (Karol Bagh): I beg to present the Thirteenth Report (Hindi and English versions)

of the Committee on Empowerment of Women (2006-07) on the subject 'Insurance Schemes of LIC for Women'.

12.03 $\frac{1}{2}$ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY

Two Hundred-third Report

[English]

SHRI P. RAJENDRAN (Quilon): I beg to lay the Two Hundred-third Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Industry on 'The Tyre Corporation of India Ltd. (Disinvestment of Ownership) Bill, 2007' (Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises).

12.04 hrs.

ELECTIONS TO COMMITTEES

(I) Central Advisory Committee for the National Cadet Corps

[English]

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of clause (i) of sub-section (1) of section 12 of the National Cadet Corps Act, 1948, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from amongst themselves to serve as members of the Central Advisory Committee for the National Cadet Corps, for a term of one year from the date of election, subject to other provisions of the said Act."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of clause (i) of sub-section (1) of section 12 of the National Cadet Corps Act, 1948, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from amongst themselves to serve as members of the Central Advisory Committee for the National Cadet Corps, for a term of one year from the date of election, subject to other provisions of the said Act."

The motion was adopted.

(II) Central Silk Board

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of clause (c) of sub-section (3) of section 4 of the Central Silk Board Act, 1948, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, four members from amongst themselves to serve as members of the Central Silk Board, subject to other provisions of the said Act."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of clause (c) of sub-section (3) of section 4 of the Central Silk Board Act, 1948, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, four members from amongst themselves to serve as members of the Central Silk Board, subject to other provisions of the said Act."

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER: According to the rules, I come to the next item which is Calling Attention. Now, there is a request from some hon. Members to raise one matter. I have permitted it subject to your consent, that is, those whose names are in the Calling Attention. That relates to the killing of some people by ULFA militants in Assam. If you agree, I take it. There is only one issue.

... (Interruptions)

Please wait for my observation. There is only another issue of which some agitation was shown this morning. But I have requested them for a proper and structured discussion. I shall consider a separate notice. Please give it. I will allow it tomorrow. It will be a full discussion by way of Call Attention.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You just give a notice. Your name will be included. Please wait. I am allowing this matter to be raised because of its importance.

12.05 hrs.

SUBMISSION BY MEMBERS

Re: Situation arising out of continued killing of Hindi Speaking People by ULFA Militants in Assam

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a matter of serious concern that 80 Hindi speaking people working in Assam have been killed by the ULFA militants since January. Concern had been expressed in the House earlier also and we are expecting that the government would think over it seriously and strive to bring down the incidence of massacres by having better coordination with the State Government. Innocent children, women have been killed without exception and many people have been left wounded but it is still continuing. It is being done to force the workers leave not only Assam but the valley also and people in thousands are migrating from there. Mr. Speaker, Sir, even in a Railway Board's examination conducted recently in May in Pune, the answer sheets of the candidates from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar were torn and they were also beaten up. This separatist tendency is very dangerous for the country and the biggest cause for concern is that the information in regard thereto is coming through none than the intelligence network of the Army which is telling this and their report says that...*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: That will not go on record.

...*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER: There is no notice for that.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please bring it to me.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: ...*(Interruptions)* I am not saying this, it has been published in the newspapers. It is a serious matter and hon. Home Minister is present here and he should express his views on this.

*Not recorded as ordered by the Chair.

**Not recorded.

[English]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very serious incident. About 30 people, mainly farmers and agricultural labourers from Bihar have been killed by KLNLF in Karbi Anglong district of Assam. Children and women are not spared and people are terrorized there. The Government should take serious note of this and ensure the protection of those Hindi-speaking people from Bihar who are working in different parts of the country including Assam. I demand that the Government should make a statement about the action taken to protect the people from Bihar.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the ULFA terrorists are targeting the people in Assam particularly from Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan in a planned manner. This mayhem has increased further since January. Even so, that in the last four days since Saturday night, four Hindi speaking persons including two each from Rajasthan and Bihar, have been killed in Rongbonghat village under Bhokhajan Police Station of Onglong district. The dead also include a woman. About 29 Hindi speaking persons have been killed in the last four days. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am saying this because it is a question related to keeping the national unity and integrity intact. Nothing could be a bigger example of Terrorism than this. The State government is just being a spectator even after watching the activities of the terrorists. I want to say that the State Government can not keep quiet on this because question of law and order is also related to it.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The State Government is not here to reply to you.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Hon. Home Minister is sitting here. He could give a statement and clarify the action being taken to deal with the terrorists by sending special central forces and to maintain the national unity and protect the Hindi speaking persons. He should explain his action plan by making a statement.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): Hon. Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a very serious matter as indicated by the incident in which 20-30 Hindi speaking people have

been killed and their limbs have been chopped off in Assam in the last 3-4 days. The ULFA militants have targeted and killed the Biharis and forced them to flee from there. They have killed the people settled there for 100 years and looted their property, it is a very deplorable act.

MR. SPEAKER: All right, but you should speak in a little low volume.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Sir, the State Government is not taking any action. I feel that...*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Do not mention any other Sarkar.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Sir, I demand that the Prime Minister should intervene without delay. Security should be provided to the people of Bihar who are being murdered regularly. The Prime Minister should intervene and hon. Home Minister should take cognizance of this. One should not sit idle. These people should be provided security in Assam. The House should be concerned on this matter. You should take a decision in this regard and give some directions to the Government.

MR. SPEAKER: All right. Take your seat please.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You should cooperate.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Not one more word will be recorded.

...*(Interruptions)***

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: The other hon. Members can speak only if you will be quiet.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You should sit quietly. I speak in Hindi only.

...*(Interruptions)*

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

**Not recorded.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Sir, it is a very serious matter.

MR. SPEAKER: It is a serious matter and that is why I have allowed you first to speak on it.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Yadav, you are misusing this opportunity.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Shahnawaz Hussain.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record all these things.

...*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN (Bhagalpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you as you gave me an opportunity to speak on this serious issue.

MR. SPEAKER: It is an important issue and that is why all of you have been given an opportunity to discuss this issue. Please cooperate.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Sir, such incidents have been taking place in Assam for the last one year and when the Parliament's session is held we discuss this issue. The Government issues a one line statement that it has provided protection but no action is taken at grass root level. Hindi speaking people are being killed. More than 30 people have been killed there in the last four days. Congress is in power there as well as at the Centre. We want that security be provided to the people of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and all Hindi speaking people living there.

MR. SPEAKER: All people should be provided security.

*Not recorded.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Sir, all people living there should be protected.

Sir, Ram Kripalji has raised this issue that ULFA and the terrorists who have surrendered have been provided protection. An inquiry should be conducted as to with whom they are connected on whose instructions they strike.

With this I would also like to say that a delegation consisting three MPs. of BJP visited Kashmir. I myself, Shri Brij Bhusuan Singh and Sukhdeo Paswanji had gone there. We called on the Governor and the Chief Minister Shri Gulam Nabi Azad. They also accepted that seven thousand people have fled. But as per our information about 40 thousand labourers including the goldsmiths of Bihar, labourers from Bengal were asked by Ahmed Shah Jilani to leave the state and consequently labourers in large number are leaving the valley. It is a conspiracy of Pakistan to force the labourers to leave valley. We request the Government not to issue one line statement regarding Kashmir and Assam just as a customary gesture. The Government should come forward with concrete programme to provide security to the people there because every citizen of the country has the right to work anywhere in the country.

MR. SPEAKER: You have raised a very good question. Now please conclude.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: There is no need to create any kind of disturbance in it. The Government should come out with a concrete programme instead of giving lame excuses.

YOGI ADITYA NATH (Gorakhpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, whatever has been taking place in Assam for the last 78 months, is a matter of concern for all of us and the entire country. Sir, the entire country is aware as to what kind of protection ULFA enjoys in Assam. ULFA has also links with ISI and Naxalite groups. After all, why Central Government is watching silently the massacre of Hindi speaking people in Assam for such a long time and not taking strict action against them. We demand that state government has no right to be in power if it fails to protect citizens there. The Congress Government of Assam, under a conspiracy is trying to disrupt the demographic balance of state along with ISI by encouraging the massacre of labourers especially of Hindi speaking areas who have contributed a lot for the development of Assam and in that...*

*Not recorded as ordered by the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER: I will see it.

YOGI ADITYA NATH: The anti-national and anti Hindi speaking activities of ULFA should be checked by sacking that Government ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Your point has already been covered. You were to only associate with it.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You should all associate.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYA NATH: ... ②

MR. SPEAKER: Please bring it I'll delete that.

YOGI ADITYA NATH: The massacre of Hindi Speaking people taking place continuously there, is a dangerous sign. The Government must clarify the situation and issue statement regarding the steps being taken in this regard....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing more will be recorded.

...*(Interruption)*

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record one word.

...*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You were given opportunity to speak. should other members not be given opportunity to speak? Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: No more interruptions; I have called him.

...*(Interruptions)*

②Not recorded as ordered by the Chair.

*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Chowdhury, please take your seat. Nothing will be recorded except Shri Prabhunath Singh.

*(Interruptions)...**

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is being recorded.

*(Interruptions)...**

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record anything.

...(interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: We have one Prabhunath Singh. It is enough. I do not want many Prabhunath Singh.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: What is happening. Please say what you want to say outside. I do not understand. What are you saying.

[English]

Without my permission anybody can get up and say something.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): We want protection.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You give me protection.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar): Mr. Speaker, the State which is being discussed,
...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You see, very hot temper is going on. Do not provoke anybody.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, the state which is being discussed is represented by the Prime Minister himself. Hindi speaking persons in the state, particularly Biharis, are being continuously targeted. More than one hundred persons have been killed since January. Among the people who have been killed, are persons who run 'paan' or tea stalls. Abductions of entire families take place and five, seven or even fifteen persons are murdered at a time. The number of such killings has crossed the one hundred mark. This issue had been discussed in the House earlier also and the hon. Home Minister had given the assurance that Biharis and Hindi speaking people would be provided protection in the state. This is not merely a law and order issue. ULFA extremism or terrorism cannot be linked only to failure of law and order system. It is also the duty of the Union Government to tackle the problem by providing security to the Hindi speaking people in the state, particularly the Bihar labourers who are being killed...*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: What is this? This won't do.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This is not right.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: That is because the hon. Minister gives assurances and despite his assurances Hindi-speaking Biharis are being killed. You....*

MR. SPEAKER: Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Otherwise the killings will go on unabated. Anyone's resignation from the House and the announcement of compensation by the government would not do....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: I would like to request the government and Soniaji, through you, to give due consideration to this serious issue and to take appropriate steps to protect the life and property of Biharis.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: She is an hon. Member of the House. She is not a Minister.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam): Please allow me to associate with this issue.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You will also be associated with this issue.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Hon. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have to say with sorrow and anger, that people from Rajasthan in Kardayang district in Assam are being forced to flee the place. Their families are being terrorized, and kidnapped.* These people had migrated to that district in search of a livelihood hundreds of years ago and are running small business there. Hundreds of persons have been killed during the last six months. Assurances have been given in the House that efforts are being made to root out the terrorism prevalent in Assam and that the Army is being posted there to provide security. But I am sorry to say that killings are continuously taking place in the various districts in the state one after the other. Both life and property are at stake. Compensation should be provided to the victims of terrorism. Lakhs of rupees in compensation should be paid to the families of those who have been killed but that is not being provided and these people are not being taken care of either. Therefore, I would like to request the government, through you, that the government should make some concrete announcements on the eve of Independence Day in order to safeguard the sovereignty, unity, communal harmony in the country and to promote peace amongst all sections of the country. The Home Minister and the hon. Prime Minister merely issue

statements denouncing the acts of terrorism whereas terrorist activities are being carried out unchecked and innocent people are being killed. The government should come forward to safeguard the life and property of these people and...*

MR. SPEAKER: This is worth associating. You have spoken very well.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra, do you want to speak on this?

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): Mr. Speaker, I would like to say that a full discussion should be held on this issue instead of merely allowing it in zero hour.

MR. SPEAKER: If you wish to associate, then send a slip. I am ready for this. You give a notice.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Panskura): Sir, I am only just suggesting that a statement may be made by the Home Minister on this issue because it is a serious collapse of the law and order situation in regard to Hindi speaking people in the country. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Alright, Malhotraji's suggestion would be put on record, not his.

[English]

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: I am only supplementing. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It is because you are speaking without my permission.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, I seek your permission. ...(Interruptions)

*Not recorded as ordered by the Chair.

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the horrifying genocide in Assam, is a matter of serious concern. People are being tortured and dismembered. Hindi speaking people are being hounded out of the state. Every person knows that ULFA and the ISI are hand-in-glove in the state. They are in collusion and are operating under a conspiracy and everyone knows this. I do not agree with Shri Prabhunath Singhji that this should be investigated. It is evident....*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Leave it, this will be deleted.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot do that, Malhotra Saheb!

...(Interruptions)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:..*

MR. SPEAKER: I will look into it.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am deleting it.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Bring that to me. I will delete that. The name of state government will not figure.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:..*

MR. SPEAKER: Very well. Shri Dasgupta wants to make a constructive suggestion.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, I am only sorry that an issue of national importance is being made a matter of political corroboration....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Dasgupta, you give your suggestion.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: All right, Sir....*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You leave it, what is the benefit. You have made a very good speech, your whole speech is on record.

[English]

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir...

MR. SPEAKER: Please, only make a suggestion.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, I am only demanding that the Minister of Home Affairs must make a statement with regard to such incidents which are happening not only in Assam.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, you may send your names to associate on this issue.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: He has not given a notice.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, these incidents are happening not only in Assam, other people are also being thrown out. Even Bengalis are being thrown out from Maharashtra....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing more. Sorry, I cannot make it a debate here today.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: It is not a debate. But we want a statement, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Very well. But how many times would you go on repeating this?

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Why the agriculture labour and common labour are being targeted, is a matter of serious concern....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Every hon. Member wants to make a suggestion without giving a notice! No, it cannot be.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the Calling Attention—
Dr. Pandeya.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Please understand that it is the agony of the situation. It is an agony that even after 60 years of Independence, the Government cannot protect the agricultural labour and the normal labour all over the country! This is my agony. I express it with deep regret.

MR. SPEAKER: Please bring that to me. I would see as to how much is permissible.

Dr. Pandeya, please allow me two more minutes. Shri Krishnadas is very agitated. Let him make his submission.

Mr. Krishnadas, you please be very brief and to the point. I am allowing only one hon. Member on this issue.

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS (Palghat): Yes, Sir. I would be very brief and also to the point....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Those hon. Members, who wish to associate, may send their names and their names will be added as associated.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, I have already promised to you. If you give a proper notice, I will accommodate you.

Hon. Members, Shri Anwar Hussain, Shrimati Ranjeet Ranjan, Shri Vijoy Krishna, Shri Sita Ram Singh, Shri Furkan Ansari, Shri Virendra Kumar, Shri Shailendra Kumar, Shri Harin Pathak, Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh, Shri Srichand Kiplani, Shri Dushyant Singh, Prof. Mahadeorao Shiwankar, Shri Raghuranath Jha, Shri Ramesh Dubey, Prof. Prem Kumar Dhurnal, Shri Girdharlal Bhargava, Shri Kiran Rijju and Shri Bhanwar Singh Dangawas have been allowed to associate with this matter.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker. Sir, the hon. Home Minister is present here, it is such a serious matter....*(Interruptions)* It is a matter pertaining to the people of Bihar.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: The Home Minister is present here and he wants to speak.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Very well if the hon. Home Minister wants to speak. But this habit is wrong. However, the hon. Minister is kind enough to react. Let us hear him, now.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): Sir, I can understand the agony expressed by the hon. Members of this House. I, myself and on behalf of all the hon. Members of the House, condemn the genocide taken place and would like to fully sympathise with the people whose kith and kin have been killed.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I think, the House joins you in that.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Yes, Sir. I can understand the agony expressed by the hon. Members on the floor of the House.

[Translation]

Today the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs has gone to Assam and he will be back tonight or by tomorrow after taking stock of the situation prevailing there. We have sent a Committee of some officers with special security there yesterday. They will come back with complete information. We have been in contact with the Chief Minister, the Chief Secretary and D.G. of Assam and have gathered all the information from them. I would like to submit very politely that such incidents do occur and have been occurring there despite the efforts made by the Government as well as the Chief Minister of Assam because Assam is a very large region with plenty of bushes and hills. We sympathise with them for that. We discuss the problem with them and I would like to share with you whatever we intend to do, what we have done, they have done and whatever I have been told. After reviewing all this they have come to the conclusion that these incidents are occurring in two districts and they have decided to increase the number of police stations in these two districts. They have also decided to increase the number of police force in these two districts and in localities where these people are living. The third decision is that as there can not be a police station everywhere

and in every village despite having so much police force there, so, patrolling would be done there on a large scale. The fourth decision is that as these incidents occur at night, therefore, patrolling would be increased at night. Sometimes these assailants come in police and army uniform, so, the District Collectors and other senior officers the DSPs of the districts and other officers of the villages have been asked to keep a vigil on that. The fifth thing is that if the people come to know about any such thing anywhere, all the people living there should help them. They have taken all these steps.

...(Interruptions)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Steps are being taken for the last one year....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Let him complete.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: He has volunteered to reply to you. He is responding to you though he is not obliged.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No please. Do not record anything. Only the hon. Minister's speech will go on record.

(Interruptions)...*

MR. SPEAKER: Only the hon. Minister's observation will go on record.

(Interruptions)...*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Harin ji, please sit down.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: They have taken all these steps and have told us that they will discuss with us and do whatever more is required to be done and implement suggestions if there are any. Now, here, the third question arises—what we have done for them from here? I would like to submit that we have already deployed about 110 companies of CRPF there for this purpose
...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: What is all this going on? Will you not allow the Minister to reply? He is *suo motu* responding.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record even one word. Not one word will be recorded. Only the hon. Minister's reply will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You are the ones who encourage.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I want to inform the House that we have told them to appoint a Nodal officer for this purpose only, which they have appointed, who will coordinate with the para-military forces personnel. A large number of army and CRPF personnel are already deployed there to safeguard the borders and as such there is a huge strength of force in total but the area is such that they can not be deployed at every place. Hence we, have told them that the Chief Minister should himself be present in Unified command meeting and have empowered him to take help from the Army, the CRPF and their police forces for doing whatever is required. We have assured them that if they require more help like providing helicopters to evacuate the people from the places where incidents occur, we will readily provide them. We have been passing the information received from intelligence agencies to them but it is very much desirable to understand that Assam is a province having common borders with other provinces and we have also to take care of other parts of the country.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, lastly, with all, humility I would like to know the reason behind the conflict with people migrating from other states, such as with Hindi speaking people in Assam and other states. In some of the states it is against Hindi speaking people when they go to these states in search of job, say southern Indian states. It is sheer narrow-mindedness. But, as he has said such incidents should not be taken politically. If there is a need to hold a detailed discussion on this issue, the Government is prepared for it. It would benefit all of us....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: What are you doing? He was not obliged to reply. He has responded.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: If the hon. Members have some suggestions, I would surely accept that and I would apprise the Members of the steps taken by the Government.

[English]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad): Sir, please allow me for a minute....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: What is the going on?

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded. This type of unruly behaviour is not correct.

(Interruptions)...*

MR. SPEAKER: He was not obliged. He has very kindly responded on his own. He has given an elaborate reply. Nothing more.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Not one word will be recorded.

(Interruptions)...*

MR. SPEAKER: Please tell me what do you want.

[Translation]

What do you want. First you sit down. Please listen to me. I am highly grateful to you. There is a procedure under which the Call Attention motion was to be taken up. I am obliged to the hon. Members whose names are

in the Call Attention Motion because of the importance of this matter. I have called at least ten hon. Members who had given notice. I have given opportunity to all of them. The hon. Minister was not obliged to reply. But *suo motu* he volunteered to reply. I believe he has given a fair reply.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please listen. This is not the way to behave.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: What are you telling? Will you not allow the speaker to speak.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: So long as I am here, I will not allow you then to speak at all.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Since I am the Speaker, I would no doubt speak.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: There should be a proper debate and discussion.

[Translation]

You give a notice. Suggestions have come from both the sides.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, two issues have emerged out of it. The Minister of Home Affairs has not made a mention of ULFA in his statement. Secondly, when Army, CRPF and other agencies are deployed there, why such incidents are still taking places?...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Make him Minister in the name of ULFA.

[English]

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, it is an extremely disappointing statement.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Very well.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it would involve a lot of work for me and I will have to take action on many fronts.

MR. SPEAKER: It will invite ULFA every where.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Members, who are not satisfied may give notices.

[English]

I will consider.

Now only Mr. Krishnadas is allowed to speak. No more hands to be raised.

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: Thank you, Sir. I express my unconditional and sincere regret on the incident occurred in the morning, whatever it may be.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you.

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: Sir, we are thankful to you for giving us this opportunity.

MR. SPEAKER: Giving you only; no 'us'.

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: Sir, this is a very-very serious and genuine and realistic matter which concerns the entire people of Kerala. There was a proposal to set up a new Division centralized at Salem in Tamil Nadu. Tamil Nadu is our neighbouring State and we are having very good relationship with them. They are our brothers and sisters. We are not opposed for setting up of a new Division at Salem. This is not a question between Tamil

Nadu and Kerala. Our case is with the Indian Railways only.

So, the proposal was to set up a new division, the formation of a new division. It should be a formation and not bifurcation of a division. Instead of forming a new division centralised at Salem, now the Indian Railway proposes to bifurcate the existing Palakkad Division into two, taking away the major, portion, and giving it the name as Salem Division. There are certain conventions, traditions and rules which are being followed by the Indian Railways. It is deadly against the convention followed by the Indian Railways. Our request is that when the proposal came up, we had expressed our anxiety and anguish about the existing Palakkad Division and its future. At that time, hon. Railway Minister had given an assurance on this floor that there was nothing to worry about it and the issued would be settled amicably in consultation with the hon. Chief Ministers of both the States of Kerala and Tamil Nadu. This was the situation.

Now, unilaterally the hon. Minister of State of Railways has declared its inauguration of Salem Division on 14.9.07, without consulting both the Chief Ministers as was assured on this very floor. It is deadly against the assurance which was given by the hon. Railway Minister on the floor. So, this is our request to the Government, through you. We met several times hon. Prime Minister, several times hon. Minister of Railway, Shri Lalu Prasad and also the UPA Chairperson to express our anguish and anxiety and apprised them of the worry of the people of Kerala. Now, without taking into account the sentiments of the people of Kerala, unilaterally the Minister of State of Railways has declared the inauguration of Salem Division, that is, newly formed Salem Division.

MR. SPEAKER: I must compliment you that you have very ably presented your case.

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: So, our request is that without consulting both the Chief Ministers, as was assured on the floor, they cannot inaugurate this newly proposed Salem Division before finalising the territorial jurisdiction of this Division....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You give a notice. I will allow the matter tomorrow. He will be forced to give the reply.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: Sir, the setting up of newly proposed Salem Division should take into account our sentiments, the sentiments of the people of Kerala.

MR. SPEAKER: I appreciate your agony.

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: Our demand is that in setting up a new Division, there should be a new railway zone for Western Coast also, containing newly proposed Salem division the existing Trivandrum Division, existing Palakkad Division and area of Konkan Railway....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Is there anything to be said tomorrow?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Name should be recorded and nothing else. Only names are to be recorded. You please send your names.

Shri N.N. Krishnadas, you have very ably presented your case. I compliment you. I am sure, the matter will be looked into. I have given a suggestion to you. If you accept, then there will be a very good result, I am sure.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I am thankful to you for your co-operation. Dr. K.S. Manoj is allowed to associate in the matter.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Item No. 10.

...*(Interruptions)*

12.49 hrs.

WITHDRAWAL OF MEMBER OF HOUSE

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): Sir, I also want to say.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No. From the beginning, you are disturbing the House.

Item No. 10—Dr. Laxminarayan Pandey. Nothing else will be recorded.

(Interruptions)...

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: There have been apologies expressed from all sides, not one.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: But we would like to say...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No, it will be tomorrow. No more now. I will not allow one word to be recorded. I am sorry.

(Interruptions)...

MR. SPEAKER: Only Dr. Laxminarayan Pandey's speech will be recorded.

(Interruptions)...

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Thomas, you are very unfair today. You are showing irresponsibility. I am sorry to say that. Nothing is being recorded. Why are you saying?

(Interruptions)...

MR. SPEAKER: No, it will not be recorded. It is not being recorded. Why are you saying? It will not be recorded. I will not allow the Minister to respond.

...*(Interruption)*

MR. SPEAKER: He will not be allowed to respond. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)...

MR. SPEAKER: You are committing a breach of privilege. Your case will go to the Privileges Committee, if you do not stop. This is very unfair.

I will have to name you. You want to be hero today.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: My only request is that my privilege motion...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It will not come up.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: It is already submitted yesterday...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It will not come up.

MR. SPEAKER: I will not consider it.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Sir, I only request that the hon. Railway Minister may dispel the fear of the Members in this House....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are spoiling the Kerala case. I would not touch it. I would not touch that subject.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, enough is enough. I have no patience any more. Give me the Rule Book.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No, I have no patience. Will you move a Motion for Suspension?

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): I would request the hon. Member to please sit down. Otherwise, I will be compelled to move a Motion....(Interruptions) Please take your seat.

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Sir, this is not a small matter....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What are you doing?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: I request for my privilege notice. The hon. Minister for Railways is here....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: He is a very strange person.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Thomas, I am compelled to name you under Rule 374(1).

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Sir, I am not standing in the way, but the hon. Minister may say....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Thomas, I am compelled to name you under Rule 374(1).

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What is happening here? I am compelled to name him under Rule 374. I would direct you to withdraw.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Mr. Speaker, I would request you to direct the hon. Minister to say whether the inauguration is fixed or not. This is my only request to you....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Thomas, I direct you to withdraw from the House under Rule 373.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: The hon. Railway Minister is present here. He may kindly say whether the inauguration is fixed or not....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: If he does not withdraw, then you have to move a Motion for Suspension.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded.

(Interruptions)..."

MR. SPEAKER: You will not be allowed to stay here. I have never seen this in my 37 years of Parliamentary life. You are behaving in this manner.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: I have already requested you....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please move a Motion for Suspension. He has to be suspended. You move a Motion for his Suspension.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: I express my regrets....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No, there is no question of expressing regrets. You are behaving abominably, and in a disgusting manner.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: I have already expressed my regrets....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Your expression of regret is meaningless. I have asked you to withdraw from the House, and you have to do it. Otherwise, you will be suspended. I have asked you to withdraw from the House. You have to go out of the House, and you cannot come back without my permission. You have to go out.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: I will obey you, and I will go out of the House....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You tender your apology.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: I am going out of the House, but I request the hon. Railway Minister to kindly say whether the inauguration is fixed or not....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You have to withdraw from the House under Rule 373.

...(Interruptions)

(Shri P. C. Thomas then withdrew from the House.)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, please take your seat, otherwise it will also happen to you.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What is happening in this House? I am allowing all opportunities to you, and you are deliberately wasting the time of this House. This Calling Attention is an important matter, and he is waiting very patiently because there were other urgent matters. Hence, I have allowed others to mention it. Now, it is his Calling Attention, and he was entitled to raise it at 12 o'clock. He is waiting patiently, but others are creating this type of disturbance in the House. Will unruly behaviour become a common feature?

Dr. Pandey, I am very sorry.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE (Idukki): Sir, I also tender my apology to you....(Interruptions)

12.50 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Sale of spurious drugs in the country causing serious health hazards to the people and steps taken by the Government in regard thereto

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY (Mandsaur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to call the attention of hon'ble Minister of Health and Family Welfare towards the following matter of urgent Public importance and request him to issue a statement in this regard.

"Sale of spurious drugs in the country causing serious health hazards to the people and steps taken by the Government in regard thereto.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): Sir, the manufacture, sale, distribution of spurious drugs is a clandestine activity generally indulged by anti-social elements and generally carried out by unlicensed manufacturers. The State Governments are responsible to monitor the quality of drugs moving in the market as they are the licensing authorities for the establishments engaged in the wholesale and retail sale
...(Interruptions)

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Sir, let it be laid on the Table of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you for that?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, you can lay the rest of the statement on the Table of the House.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: This is an elaborate answer, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Very well, they will ask questions and you can answer them.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: I would like to lay the rest of the statement on the Table of the House.

*As a part of their function, the Inspectors appointed by the States carry out market surveillance by drawing samples from sales establishments, hospitals and manufacturers and get them tested at their respective Government laboratories.

Trading of counterfeit drugs is reported the world over. The extent of counterfeit drugs in the country is difficult to assess. As per the information available, on an average 40,000 samples are got tested by the States from their laboratories and the incidence of spurious drugs reported for the years 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 is between 0.182 and 0.29 per cent. The media reports and figures quoted in media in this regard are exaggerated and not substantiated by facts.

Two pilot studies were conducted—one by the Government and the other by a Private Professional Body—and both do not indicate any significant incidence of spurious drugs.

In view of the concerns expressed in Parliament, public and media in the year 2003, the Government of India constituted an expert committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. R.A. Mashelkar with two main objectives—one to upgrade the regulatory system at the States and the Centre to that of global standards and, two, to assess the counterfeit drugs and initiate action to curb the trade of counterfeit drugs.

Government has taken many steps to contain this social evil. In pursuance of the recommendations of the Expert Committee set up under the Chairmanship of Dr. R.A. Mashelkar, Director-General and Secretary, CSIR, Government had introduced a bill in the Parliament for the amendment of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940, to provide for stricter penalties, provision for special courts for speedy trial of drug related offences, compounding of offences, authorizing the police also to file prosecution for drug related offences and making all drug related offences cognizable and non-bailable. The draft Bill was referred to the Parliamentary

Standing committee and the recommendations of the Committee have been incorporated and the revised Bill is expected to be introduced in the current session of the Parliament. The proposed punishment for counterfeit and spurious drugs in this Bill has been made more stringent with life imprisonment and/or fine of Rs. 10 lakh.

Government of India is also implementing a 5-year World Bank Aided Capacity building Project for Food Safety and Quality Control of Drugs with a total project cost of Rs. 354.25 crore. Under this project, 23 States and 7 Central drug laboratories are being strengthened by new laboratories, renovations and extensions and providing the latest sophisticated equipment. This would enhance the capacity of the laboratories to deal with larger number of samples speedily. Assistance is also provided to States for providing National Accreditation board for Laboratories (NABL) accreditation of the laboratories, funding for manpower and training of drug regulatory staff under the project and a strong media campaign for the education of the consumers in Drug purchase and use has also been initiated.

Since the success of eradicating the problem of spurious drugs depends upon adequate measures taken by State Governments, I have taken up this issue in detail with all Chief Ministers in national level meetings. Detailed guidelines have been issued to the State Governments to undertake focused surveillance over possible movement of spurious drugs. Specific training programmes for regulatory officials of State Governments on the logistics of intelligence work, prosecutions, etc., have been conducted. Schedule-M of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act has been amended to make it at par with international standards and it has been made mandatory for the manufacturers of drugs to comply with the requirements of the schedule for quality control of products manufactured by them.

A Bill is being introduced in this session of Parliament providing for the creation of a Central Drug authority for strengthening the regulatory system for licensing and control of drugs.

The Government is taking all possible steps to check and mitigate this social evil and I appeal to all the hon. members to ensure quick and smooth passage of the proposed legislations in this regard.*

..... This part of the speech was laid on the Table of the House. Also Placed in Library. See No. LT-6679/07)

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have read this statement not only once but three to four times and I am really disappointed that hon'ble Minister has not taken this issue as seriously as he should have. Probably, he is not concerned enough about the health of common people in the country. The business of making spurious drugs is going on illegally and trade worth thousands of crores of rupees is being carried out. In whatever has been stated by him in this regard a lot of blame has been put upon the state governments. I do not understand as to how far it is justified to hold the states responsible for this or to leave the matter to them regarding this national issue, which is related to the National Health policy of the country?

I would like the hon. Minister of Health and Family Welfare to seriously ponder over this issue. This issue is similar to mass genocide. I would like to know as to how and when the measures suggested by him are going to be implemented? I believe that this work can be executed properly and timely only when we express some concern towards this.

Hon'ble Minister of Health and Family Welfare has also talked about a Committee constituted under the leadership of Dr. Mashelkar. He has also stated that the Committee has made certain recommendations also. I am aware of those recommendations and also that the hon. Minister would like to present a Bill based on the recommendations made by the Parliamentary Committee on the same recommendations. I would like to know as to when that Bill would be presented? Whether the Bill has been redrafted? Because the previous Government had also brought a similar Bill. Would this Bill also include all the concerns expressed regarding such companies about which it has been known that they are engaged in production and sale of spurious drugs. It is an important issue. As the hon. Minister has stated that he wants to bring this Bill in the current session itself, I would like the hon. Minister to give an assurance that this Bill would be presented in this session itself.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring one more thing to your notice. Hon'ble Minister wants to set up a Central Drug Authority. It is a good proposal. But a provision has already been made for such an authority. Besides, there is also a Central Drug Policy. How far is that policy being implemented? What has been the outcome of that policy? Whether any efforts would be

made to bring such a policy, which is integrated and comprehensive, by reviewing the Central Drug Policy so that an Integrated Drug Policy could be evolved for the entire country. Both, the Bill and the Drug Policy are at their own respective places. Since, they are going to give certain rights to the Police as well as the State Governments under the Bill, they must elaborate on them. Whereas, under the Central Drug Policy the quality of drugs, their formulae etc. are deliberated upon. Its implementation must be explained.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell as to how the business of spurious drugs is flourishing in the country. There is only one formula for preparing any medicine under which registrations of brand name is sought. Medicines like Analgin, Novalgin, Etanol etc. are all registered but one more medicine is mixed with that registered medicine and that is named differently. This is sold openly in the market. The common man is unaware of this because the 'wrapper' is similar.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of hon. Minister of Health and Family Welfare towards one more thing. The licence of a Pharmacist is issued to one person only for selling medicines but as many as 5 to 6 people sell medicines. There is only one pharmacist and the rest of the people are not trained in the field of medicine. Therefore, a mistake can be made at the shop where the drug is sold and spurious drugs can be sold as well as purchased easily. It is State Government's responsibility to appoint pharmacists and issue licence to them but the Union Government must also direct the State Governments that only trained pharmacists will work with the shops selling medicines. Those who are either trained or have sought some kind of training in this regard. I would like to make one more request in this regard and seek an explanation as to how fare they are going to set up a Special Court along with giving special rights to the Police forces. Under whose jurisdiction this would fall and who will govern the police force? Whether it would be under the Union Government? I would request hon. Minister of Health and Family Welfare to explain as to what would be the type of composition and nature of the court. I would further like to draw your attention towards this that a number of times the doctor prescribes us a prescription and on the basis of the same we purchase the medicines, but these days, it has been seen that if one goes to a medicine shop and asks for some medicine for blood pressure, the shop keeper would immediately give him any medicine like Ethelol, etc.

It should also be ensured that medicines are not sold without the authorization or prescription of a doctor. Otherwise, no information is available as regards the medicine being given and the kind thereof. I have seen many ill effects of these fake drugs like how allergy results from the anti-allergy medicines because they are fake and thus people suffer as a result thereof. I have also seen such patients who became so much sick after taking anti-allergy medicines that they suffered for atleast 15-20 days. What provisions are you making in this regard so that their quality can be checked? Hon. Health Minister said in the beginning that the manufacture, sale and distribution of fake drugs is a secret activity. But, I cannot understand as to how it can be a secret activity when they are being sold openly. A racket has been unearthed in Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh during previous years and recently in Orissa. If it is a secret activity, then does not the Central Government have some Agency? How do the people manufacture medicines secretly? Anti-social elements are involved in this work and generally fake medicines are manufactured without licence. I think medicine is also a central subject. The state governments are responsible for monitoring the quality of the drugs reaching the market. Not only the State governments the Central Government is also responsible as it controls these drugs and their quality and takes action under the Central Act regarding their formulations. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has obtained any information regarding turnover of the fake drugs which is pegged at between three thousand to ten thousand crore rupees or fifty percent of the total drugs turnover. Please, clarify as to the actual turnover of fake drugs and what could be the other measures to check it?

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the whole statement of the hon. Minister is so irresponsible I am using this word because if one reads even its first para, it becomes clear as to how irresponsible our hon. Health Minister is, the way he has passed the whole responsibility on the state government. Not only this, even his statement begins with saying that this work is being done by the anti-social elements.

[English]

generally carried out by unlicensed manufactures.

[Translation]

I would like to know the procedure of giving licence and the action being taken by the Central Government to check manufacturing by the unauthorized persons? Secondly, in his statement he says that the figures in the media.

[English]

"which are exaggerated and not substantiated by facts."

[Translation]

But not only media is giving these reports, the Chairman of IMA who is considered a responsible person is also corroborating the same figures. There are drug inspectors who take the samples which are to be tested and confirmed by the laboratories. I would like to know whether all the laboratories *i.e.* seven laboratories including the Central Laboratory are working to their capacity, yet are they well equipped? I have seen the laboratories in Mumbai and Delhi. Once, I was the Chairperson of a sub-committee and during that time I had seen both of them.

[English]

They are not well equipped.

13.00 hrs.

[Translation]

Thirdly, are these laboratories as per the norms? Hon. Minister should also reply whether timely results are provided by investigating the samples given to them.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: There will be no lunch recess today.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Sir, now a Bill is going to be introduced which I welcome and want that it is introduced soon. But one more thing is written in hon. Minister's statement after reading which I feel sad because it is not necessary that more poor people die due to spurious drugs. Whoever will take them, he will die. But, hon. Minister has said that

[English]

"the Government is also implementing a five year World Bank aided Capacity Building Project etc."

[Translation]

Many things have been mentioned therein and it is worth crores of rupees. I would like to know whether the Government of India will take care of the health of the people of the country, our laboratories will be upgraded, training will be imparted and public awareness will be created only when World Bank will provide aid? What is the purpose of the Ministry if the Government will not do anything on its own?

Sir, I would like to know one thing more. Now talks are going on about setting up an authority, the recommendation for which dates back to 1975. They are saying that now Bill will be introduced and we will set it up. Have you made any time bound programme for it?

[Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan]

I would like to know one thing more. The prices of drugs have increased so much that they have become out of reach of the common man. Is it also one of the reasons that cheaper and spurious drugs are entering the market. Whether the persons manufacturing spurious drugs are affecting our policy in one-way or the other? Whether it is true or not? I would like to know the answers to all these questions from the hon. Minister.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Basu Deb Acharia, you are entitled to put only questions.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): The State of the Minister does not show the situation is so serious. In a State of our country, Orissa, the situation has become so serious in regard to the circulation of spurious and counterfeit drugs. The Opposition Parties in the State have decided to observe a day's bank demanding the CBI Inquiry on certain incidents which have taken place in Orissa resulting in deaths because of the use of spurious and counterfeit drugs....*(Interruptions)* They are coming from various States. It is not only pertaining to one State....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You are holding a meeting between yourself.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: This is not pertaining to one State. The situation is same in almost in every State. Drugs are the essential components meant for the healthcare of the public. Quality of drugs is of paramount importance as these are consumed mostly by ailing patients. Circulation of spurious drugs is of great concern to everybody, namely, drug industry, regulator, those who are in medical profession and the general public. The IMA, the World Health Organisation and the Federation of Medical and Sales Representatives of the country have been campaigning for several years against circulation of spurious drugs but no concrete action has been taken to stop the circulation of spurious and counterfeit drugs.

Hon. Minister has described the circulation of spurious drugs as a social evil. We do not consider it as a social evil but as a criminal act. When a criminal act is being perpetrated in our country continuously for several years, why has no concrete action yet been taken? There is no stringent law prevailing in our country today. A number of Committees were appointed by the Government

of India, starting from Hathi Committee to Dr. Mashelkar Committee. But the recommendations of those Committees are yet to be implemented.

Today, the total turn over in pharmaceutical industry is more than Rs. 30 crore; in one report, it is said that the percentage of the spurious and counterfeit drug is 30 per cent and some other report says that it is 40 per cent. If 40 per cent of the drugs are counterfeit and if they are consumed by the patients, you can imagine what will happen to the patients. There have been deaths every year because of prescription of these drugs not only by the rural quacks but also by the Government hospitals, which are being supplied to the patients.

The hon. Minister has stated that several measures are to be taken. May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has ascertained the percentage of spurious drugs? What he has stated in his statement is that the figures stated by various organizations are exaggerated. How can the Government come to the conclusion that the figure is exaggerated?

MR. SPEAKER: Please put your question.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Even the WHO has stated that the drugs which are coming from outside, up to 30 per cent of the drugs which are imported into this country, are spurious. If the production cost of one tablet is Re. 1, it is sold to the people at Rs. 10. The UPA Government, in its programme, is committed to reduce the price of drug so that the price will be affordable to the poor patients. So, I would like to know what action has been taken to reduce the price of drug. This issue of price does not pertain to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, but the Government is answerable to this House.

Secondly, as the situation has become so serious, what stringent measures—in addition to enactment of a legislation—the Government proposes to take to cut the circulation of drugs and also to take action against those who are manufacturing them. Sir, you will be surprised to know that the number of manufacturers has increased enormously, whereas the testing facility in our country, since 1995 has remained the same.

MR. SPEAKER: You are entitled to put question only. Please put your question. Please cooperate. Prof. Malhotra.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: There has not been any augmentation in regard to testing facilities,

commensurating with the increase in the number of manufacturers. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude. You know the rules very well. You have to ask a clarification.

Thank you very much for your cooperation. Prof. Malhotra.

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this issue is neither a political issue nor is it related with any state government or the central government. It is not a new issue. It is a very serious issue. I only regret that the hon. Minister whom I respect very much has given a statement which reflects that he has taken this problem carelessly. He has said:

[English]

"The incident of spurious drugs reported for the year years 2004-2005, 2005-06 and 2006-07 is between 0.182 and 0.29 per cent."

[Translation]

It means only one fifth of one percent. If 99 percent drugs are genuine then what action the Government can take?

[English]

'Media Reports, and the figures quoted in Media are exaggerated.

[Translation]

you did not need to say this. You have relied on the statement of Drug Inspectors. Drug Inspectors are in collusion with spurious drug manufacturers. Thus they have a nexus in the racket of spurious drugs worth billions of rupees. Instead of taking action against them, he is saying that there is no problem at all.

Further, it has been said that in the drug business of nineteen thousand crore rupees, Rs. four thousand crore business is of spurious drugs. A statement about UP has been issued by the Chamber of the state that

[English]

twenty percent of the drugs sold in Uttar Pradesh are fake. This is the study made.

[Translation]

Some people put this figure at 40 percent some at 30 and others put it at 20 percent.

[English]

They are mass murderers.

[Translation]

They are committing mass murders. The condition is very serious. Instead of hanging the spurious drug manufacturers publicly he is saying that there is no problem, condition is not serious. Only point two percent cases have come to light and there is no problem. It has also been said that they are going to increase the punishment from five to ten years.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that there is no doubt that it is a state subject. But it is true for Ayurvedic as well as other medicines. It is also taking place in Ayush and all Allopathic medicines. Recently a TV Channel in a sting operation had shown that how these spurious drugs are manufactured openly everywhere. How can we say that these are only exaggerated figures when such factories are being run openly at various places. There is need to take strict action in this regard. So, the hon. Minister, instead of belittling the problem should rise above the political plank....(*Interruptions*)

[English]

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Panskura): Is it fit for liberalization?

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Drugs also being imported. Other things are also happening. We would like to request the hon. Minister to take this issue seriously, take strict action and save the country from such people.

[English]

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Sir, the Statement made by the Minister, on behalf of the Government, is very much evasive and contradictory. It intends to shift the Central Government's responsibility to the State Governments. The Statement says that the State Governments are responsible to monitor the quality of drugs moving in the market. In another sentence the Statement says that the trading of counterfeit drugs is reported the world over. On the one hand the Government says that there is no such alarming situation and on the other it says that it is reported the world over and hence

[Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy]

the Government is completely helpless to control this world over drug trading in the country. This has created confusion in the minds of entire country. In my opinion this spurious drug trade is spreading because of lack of stringent laws in the country.

Sir, the hon. Minister is supposed to be the Member of Indian Medical Association which has assessed that 35 per cent of the drugs sold in India are fake drugs. This is the statement of Indian Medical Association and not mine. The hon. Minister is supposed to be a Member of this Association. Data collated by the Health Ministry for the past decade shows that of the less than 40,000 samples tested every year, between 8 and 10 per cent did not meet quality standards. This is the statement of the Health Ministry. The Ministry has also stated the same before the Parliamentary Petitions Committee. How can the Minister say in the Parliament that it is between 0.182 and 0.29 per cent when the representatives of the Ministry have stated before the Petitions Committee of the Parliament that 8 to 10 per cent of the medicines available in the market are fake medicines or below quality standard? According to the World Health Organisation, the fake drugs market in India...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: What he said was that out of the samples tested, the fake drugs reported are between 0.182 and 0.92 per cent.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Below quality standard medicines are fake medicines and are not good for the health care. The Government has itself admitted it. It is also injurious.

MR. SPEAKER: I agree with him that it is mass murder.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: According to the World Health Organisation, the fake drug market in India is worth Rs. 4000 crore and one in four drugs is spurious. This is WTO's own survey.

Sir, the European Commission, Taxation and Customs Union has alleged that India is the biggest supplier of counterfeit drugs to the European Union. This is a shame to us. We are ashamed of it. Nearly one-fourth of Indian drugs export revenues worth over one billion dollar come from European Union market.

MR. SPEAKER: Come to your question now.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: I am not exaggerating it. This is the statement of World Health Organisation and the European Commission. So, we must take it seriously.

Now India is seeing the epidemic of counterfeits of life saving drugs. We will make no apology for the use of the term manslaughters to describe this criminal and lethal trade. Indeed, we may call it murder. The Minister is not taking it seriously. His own statement says that it is not so much serious. The former Health Minister in the NDA Government, Mrs. Sushma Swaraj, had rightly proposed death penalty for these merchants of death. The call for death penalty for the makers of spurious drugs has long been given silent burial.

MR. SPEAKER: Now please come to your question part.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Sir, once this Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha in 2003 but unfortunately the Lok Sabha was dissolved in 2004. A Committee was constituted under Dr. Mashelkar. It has also recommended certain good things. But the Minister is sitting over the Bill. I charge that the Minister is ...* sitting over the Bill for the last three and a half years.

MR. SPEAKER: That word will be deleted.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: He is not introducing the Bill for the stringent measures which are necessary for the country to control the spurious drugs market.

MR. SPEAKER: You put your question.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Sir, when is the Government going to introduce the Bill regarding amendment to the Drug and Cosmetic Act, 1940? He could say that the Standing Committee is considering it but all these things have been considered long ago. He is sitting over the Bill. He should tell us when he is going to introduce the Bill... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: If you want, I am prepared to have a proper discussion.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: The country requires a legislation for strict penalties in pursuance of the recommendation of Dr. Mashelkar Committee with provision of special courts for drug related offences, compounding of offences, authorising the police also to file prosecution, making all drug related offences cognizable and non-bailable. We would like to know whether he is considering all these aspects of the recommendation....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Now no more Mr. Tripathy. You see the rule about the Calling Attention Motion.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry. Now, I would not allow. We are violating all the rules.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing more will be recorded now. The hon. Minister to reply now.

(Interruptions)..."

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Tripathy, you have spoken for more than five minutes. You are entitled to put one question only.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, do not record anything more.

(Interruptions)..."

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh): Sir, I also want to speak on this.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: As directed by me, you send your name to be associated.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will not allow, Mr. Basu.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Then, I will ask the Minister not to reply and go away. I will not allow.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You have never bothered even to give a notice.

SHRI ANIL BASU: Sir, I have given notice.

MR. SPEAKER: Your name has not come.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: If the hon. Members always disturb the House, then I am very sorry about it. Anybody has the right to disturb the House any time they like.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Basu, I have said that I will not allow you. You even did not bother to give a notice.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI ANIL BASU: Sir, I had given a notice at 9.40 a.m....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Your name has not come in. Moreover, five Members are allowed to speak in a Calling Attention and I have allowed five hon. Members.

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): Firstly I would like to thank all the hon. Members, especially the senior Members for bringing this issue to the notice of the Government....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Deo, you come up with another notice, I will allow it.

...(Interruptions)

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: This issue of spurious drugs is a very serious, very critical and a very crucial issue in this country. I would like to assure you and through you the hon. Members of the House that the Government is taking all the steps necessary and the Government considers this as a very important issue. The Government is taking all steps necessary to eradicate the issue of spurious drugs and drugs related with this.

Sir, firstly I would just like to define very shortly the parameters. There are different types of drugs. One is the standard drugs, which is the normal drug. Then, we have sub-standard drugs; adulterated drugs, misbranded drugs; and then we have spurious drugs. These are the different types of drugs prevalent. All standard drugs are normal drugs. Sometimes a drug could be sub-standard because of the loss of refrigeration with a pharmacist, in which case the manufacturing could have been all right but when the drug reached the pharmacist there may not have been proper refrigeration owing to which the drug became sub-standard by way of temperature change and such other things. A lot of issues are there. But whatever be the reason it is not considered as a standard drug.

Sir, the Government in the last few years has taken a number of steps. First is to increase the penal and legal punishment which the Bill that I intend to introduce in this Session of Parliament envisages. Second is to improve upon the enforcement authority. We are setting up a Central Drug Authority. I would have introduced this Bill in the last Session of Parliament itself, but I was not given the opportunity to do so because the House got

[Dr. Ambumani Ramadoss]

adjourned earlier. But I wanted to do it in the last Session itself....*(Interruptions)* Allow me to finish my reply and then you can ask your questions and I will reply then....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Basu, I have disallowed your question but even then you are insisting on this.

SHRI ANIL BASU: Sir, you are a legal luminary.

MR. SPEAKER: But I have to be an illegal person to deal with you!

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir, this is a very serious issue. I am prepared to listen to the hon. Members and as I promised I would reply to all their queries....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, you may please carry on. You can ignore him. His submissions are not being recorded.

*(Interruptions)...**

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir, the next point was about upgrading the enforcement authority. But then this is a Concurrent subject where both the Central and the State Government are part of it. I am not shying away from my responsibility but we have to work in tandem. Licensing, monitoring, enforcement, drug inspectors are all part of the State Government. Nevertheless we are trying to improve the enforcement authority at the State as well as at the Central Government level.

Sir, on this issue hon. Member, Shrimati Mahajan asked as to why World Bank funded money was being used for this enforcement. World Bank funded money was brought in by the last NDA Government. It was started during the NDA Government. There was a sum of Rs. 350 crore for capacity building. In fact, my predecessor Shrimati Sushma Swaraj was doing a very good work on this and during her tenure there was a very important Bill on this for discussion in the Parliament. I am continuing from what she had been doing. It is a continuous process.

Some hon. Members have said that the reply given is very evasive. But going by the reply I would say that it is a very elaborate reply wherein the Government has said what all steps are being taken. We are also training

personnel at the State as well as the Central Government in consonance with the global regulatory pattern. This is a very important point. We have set up a new Pharmacovigilance Committee to monitor the adverse impact of drug and drug reaction all over the country. Then, we have modified Schedule M to make it monitoring mandatory for all units in this country and all units should have good manufacturing practice in consonance with global standards. These are some of the things which we have taken up which I would not go into depth. But very briefly, I would like to say the other side of the drug industry in our country, namely, the goods side.

Sir, the Indian drug industry is the fastest growing one in the world....*(Interruptions)* Please give me a few minutes to explain. Sir, he is such a senior Member. Why does he not give me a few minutes to speak?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Most reluctantly and painfully, with great sorrow, I had to take action against an hon. Member who is like my own brother. I know him so well. But for the sake of the House, I had to do so. I am not threatening but let me not repeat it. Right or wrong, until you get me out of here, I will go on enforcing the rules. Therefore, please cooperate. Whether I give you an opportunity or not, you will find that I have followed the rules. I have also allowed, with your kind cooperation, two important issues to be raised. Now if any Member wants to do whatever he or she likes, then there is neither the necessity of the Chair nor the List of Business nor the rules.

[Translation]

There is no need to say anything. I shall leave after Dr. Pandey occupy the chair.

[English]

Give me a proper notice and I will try you give you an opportunity.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS Sir, in fact, India has the fourth largest volume of pharmaceutical produces in the entire world and India has the highest USFDA approved pharmaceuticals outside the United States. The USFDA is one of the biggest and the most credible bodies in the entire world. It is the Food and Drug Administration Authority. It is the enforcement authority and nearly about 105 of our drugs are approved by the USFDA and EU has approved about 265 bulk items and 60 formulations.

Initially, there were only two generic formulations from India approved by the United States. Today, there are about 350 generic formulations approved by the USFDA. Our pharmaceutical domestic growth last year was about 10 to 15 per cent and export was about 15 to 20 per cent.

And as regards the value of GDP, nearly about 2.5 per cent of the GDP is due to Indian pharmaceutical growth. In monetary terms, I could say that the domestic growth is nearly Rs. 36,000 crore and the export is about Rs. 24,000 crore. This is the goods side of the industry and we are really doing well in the industry.

Sir, I am not denying that there is a problem. But the problem is not to the extent which has been created in the media saying that 30 per cent or 40 per cent or 50 per cent of the drugs are spurious drugs. It is not to that extent definitely. And the Government also has gone into the issue. We are going into it scientifically and we are getting a lot of inputs from the associations, the manufacturers themselves and also research studies.

MR. SPEAKER: The matter is serious. I am sure that the Government will take care of it.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir, I accept it. I am also a doctor and I also know the seriousness of the issue and what a spurious drug could do to a patient....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Certainly, even if it is 0.1 per cent.

...(*Interruptions*)

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir, I share the concern of the hon. Member of the seriousness of the issue.

MR. SPEAKER: You agree with all that the hon. Members have said and then deal with it.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: I share the concern of the hon. Member.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri B.K. Deo, no clarifications are allowed. I am sorry. Nothing will be recorded.

(*Interruptions*)...*

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir, two Bills are going to be introduced...(*Interruptions*) I will come to Orissa.

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not respond to him. I have not allowed him.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: In the two Bills which are going to be introduced, penal and legal punishment are dealt with. We have proposed life imprisonment for anybody found to be selling spurious drugs.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Why not death penalty?

MR. SPEAKER: You may bring an amendment to the Bill in the House.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: That is the policy of the Government. The Government says that we will have life imprisonment and a fine for the person. Earlier, the fine was Rs. 10,000 and now we are making it Rs. 10 lakh. Then we are making it a non-bailable offence and trying to have Special Courts for quickening the process of penal and legal implications. Of course, the National Drug Authority will be the enforcement agency and we will try to set it up as soon as it is passed in the Parliament and I am sure that after introduction, it will go to the respective Committee. It is going to be an autonomous professional body and we want it to be on the lines of the global bodies like the USFDA and EU. On the same lines, we are going to set up the National Drug Authority.

In fact, the hon. Members were asking what was the Government doing from 1975. There are Reports from various Committees like the Hathi Committee, Mani Committee and Mashelkar Committee. Finally, the UPA Government is going to do what has not been done in the last few years. We are going to do what has not been done in the last few years. We are moving on those lines. ...(*Interruptions*)

Coming to the issues raised by the hon. Members, Dr. Pandeya was saying that we are shuffling off our responsibility. We are definitely concerned about this problem. I had a lot of discussions with the authorities themselves. In fact, a lot of drug inspectors and drug controllers have been suspended at the State level because of their inaction. We are depending on the State Governments and the State enforcing authorities for the action. Prof. Malhotra mentioned about the samples. These samples were lifted by the State Governments. That is the information which I have to give to the entire House.

[Dr. Ambumani Ramadoss]

In this Session both the Bills will be introduced....*(Interruptions)* Dr. Pandeya was categorically saying that some of the chemists and druggists in the country are unlicensed. But according to law and according to the Act all of them must have licence. Not only the unit should have the licence but also the persons who are working there and those who are managing it. Without licence they cannot carry on their activities.

It is said that medicines are given without prescriptions. Drugs are made available over the counter. Since the number is huge—there are a lot of units in this country which have rural and urban base—we are not in a position to monitor each and every unit. But then we are trying to regulate them through the respective councils so that they can take action against them if anybody gives information about them.

Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan mentioned about unlicensed manufacturing. This is a clandestine operation. Dr. Pandeya was right in saying that most of these units who are doing this get the licence to manufacture a drug on the normal pattern. But during night or so, they manufacture these drugs clandestinely. This is very rampant and we are trying to take cognizance of it. If any hon. Member or anybody else gives information about this, we will take action immediately. I am not finding fault with the media and saying that it is exaggerated. I would also like to thank the media. Whenever there are some string operations, etc. immediately we send our officers. We need all necessary information from all parts of the country to take action against them.

There were some figures which were supposedly made by the Indian Medical Association. We approached the IMA to know whether they had given the statement. They had denied it. We asked the IMA whether they gave those figures. They said, "We have nothing to do with the statement." This is the status of it.

An hon. Member raised the issue about the labs and asked whether they are working properly. We are trying to see that they work properly. It is a continuous process. It is a World Bank aided project. We are spending nearly Rs. 350 crore on that. All the drug testing labs, both the Central Government and the State Governments are being modernized. Some of them have already been modernized. Modernisation is in regard to not only infrastructure but also in regard to man power. We are trying to train the man power in accordance with the global standards. We see to it that it takes place concurrently....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Do not reply to him.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Shri Basudev Acharia mentioned about WHO. He has asked whether WHO has stated that thirty per cent of the drugs in India are spurious. We asked the WHO about it. They have given a written reply to us saying that they have not issued any statement as such....*(Interruptions)* There is nothing to laugh in this.

This is a serious issue. We are not denying that this issue is not there in the country. We are trying to take all necessary steps to mitigate this problem. We are trying to improve the legal and penal punishment against anybody who is caught having these spurious drugs. Definitely, in the Amended Bill, which will be introduced shortly, there will be very stringent action taken against them. We are considering Mashelkar and Hathi Committee Reports. First, we are considering Mashelkar Committee Report. He has also recommended two parts. One is the enforcement part, and the second is the penal legal part again which we have incorporated.

Then a point was raised about the increase in testing facility. This is one of the good points which has been raised by the hon. Members. The Government has set up the required infrastructure, lab testing facilities and training of the manpower, etc., and currently now 40,000 samples are being tested annually which is not enough. I agree with it. We need a minimum 100,000 samples to be tested every year. That is why, we are giving a lot of funds to the State Governments for requisite training of the personnel because they have the maximum manpower to test these facilities.

Sir, Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra has alleged that I have given a very irresponsible reply. But then this is a very elaborate reply and I would like to contradict him. He is a very senior Member and a very good friend of us. There are a lot of Committees in the Ministry of Health also....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: He is energising you.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: He was also asking in Uttar Pradesh what was the action taken in this regard. In fact, in Uttar Pradesh, in Meerut, we have suspended the Drug Controller and the Drug Inspectors who are there. A lot of raids have been happening in that area. He was asking about the policy of the Government and

also about the death penalty. In fact, I am continuing what my predecessor has recommended to the Government and the decision of the Government is that rather than death penalty, we will give a life imprisonment and will increase the fine. That is what we are trying to do....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot impose a penalty; the court has to impose a penalty.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir we are recommending.

MR. SPEAKER: Even if there is a provision for death, you cannot impose a penalty.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir we are recommending it in the Bill....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: We will have a proper discussion in my room with you.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir I would like to welcome Shri Anil Basu in my Chamber over a good cup of South Indian Coffee....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANIL BASU: Thank you very much.

MR. SPEAKER: Now you will keep quiet. But please do not give an impression that by disturbing the House, you will get Minister's invitation.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: In fact, I have responded to Shri Tripathy's questions. I have responded about the IMA, WHO and other issues.

Sir, we have asked EU for their comments and reports. We have sent three reminders to the EU. They have not responded till date. I am not sitting on the Bill. We are definitely bringing the Bill before the House. We have introduced one part of the Bill in the last Session and during this Session, we will introduce both of them. I would like to request the hon. Members to pass both these Bills as soon as possible so that we could definitely increase the legal penal provisions and set up our Central Drug Monitoring Authority to monitor it....(*Interruptions*) We want to make the enforcement in a proper manner....(*Interruptions*)

Sir, with these few words, once again, I would like to assure the hon. Members and of course to the entire country that the Government has taken up this issue

very seriously. It is a very serious issue. In fact, a number of studies have been done in this regard. I have asked the private agencies to do a lot of studies since there are a lot of clandestine operations. The Government also in the next four or five months is going to set up a very critical evaluation method. I will be bringing the facts and figures in the next Session as to what we are trying to do. It is going to happen throughout the country in a major way.

So, once again, I would like to assure through you, Sir to this House that we are taking this very seriously and if Members have any issues, they can bring it to my notice....(*Interruptions*)

13.40 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Matters under Rule 377 are treated to be laid on the Table of the House.

- (i) **Need to issue a commemorative stamp on the Centenary celebration of Late Shri Pasumpon Muthuramalinga Thevar, a veteran freedom fighter from Tamil Nadu**

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN (Dindigul): Pasumpon Mutharamalinga Thevar, widely known as Thevar a great patriot and liberator was born on 30th October 1908 and died on 30th October 1963. Within this short period of 55 years he did yeomen service to Indian Nation.

He was at first introduced to Subash Chandra Bose by Srinivasa Iyengar at Chennai during the All India Congress Conference held on 1927 at his age of 19 years. Since then he became a veteran Congress man and became the President of the Tamil Nadu Congress Committee. He stood first in allowing scheduled caste people to Sri Meenakshi Temple at Madurai during temple entry agitation.

He was a ferocious orator by which he popularized Congress party among the rural masses and made them to fight against alien rulers.

Though Thevar was a staunch Hindu he respected all religions. As a social reformer he gave practical suggestions to the government like providing land for the landless labourers belonging to scheduled caste. Further he was a champion for the cause of repeating the

*Treated as laid on the Table.

[Shri N.S.V. Chitthan]

Criminal Tribes Act of 1911 by which more than 90 communities were benefited in Madras Presidency alone.

He was also a trade union leader and stood for the cause of workers in mills at Madurai for which he was imprisoned in 1938. He was a great orator both in English and Tamil. He loved Tirukural very much. He visited Burma twice since Independence. He was elected twice both for Parliament and state assembly (1952, 1957) one and same time. In 1962, again he was elected to Parliament but did not attend to it due to ill health. He was a true bachelor known for his service and sacrifice.

To honour this patriot and champion of the down-trodden, I urge upon the Government of India to release a postal stamp to commemorate Pasumpon Mutharamalinga Thevar birth centenary year which starts from 30th October, 2007.

(ii) Need to send a Central Team to assess the losses incurred in Teesta Lower Dam Project Stage-III and Stage-IV in Darjeeling, West Bengal

SHRI D. NARBULA (Darjeeling): NHPC (National Hydel Power Corporation) has been generating electricity through different projects in different States. Two such projects have started in Teesta River in the District of Darjeeling namely—(1) Teesta Lower Dam Project (TLDP) stage-III at Rambh at 27th Mile and (2) TLDP Stage-IV at Kalizora. The Government of India has been investing a huge sum of money for these projects.

During the recent heavy rain in the Hill Regions of Darjeeling many portions of both the Dams (under construction) and many materials and equipments of both the projects were either destroyed or swept away by the Teesta River and a huge loss in crores have been incurred. The Central Government the Ministry of Power should send an enquiry team to assess the losses incurred in TLDP Stage-III and TLDP Stage-IV separately. It should also enquire whether any human life was involved in this loss. Secondly an assessment should also be made whether these two projects can be revived and if so when will the work start.

The Government, should also enquire as to the persons, experts, technicians under whose instructions and guidance the work of these projects were in progress for

which the Government, sustained such a huge loss and those if found negligent of their work have to be taken to task.

[Translation]

(iii) Need to extend the sheds over platform Nos. 1, 2 & 3 at Palanpur railway station, Banaskantha, Gujarat

SHRI HARISINGH CHAVDA (Banaskantha): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in my constituency Banaskantha, at the Palanpur railway station construction was carried out under the model railway station scheme and facilities have also been provided there but the sheds at platform No. one, two and three are very small and fall short of the requirement as a result of which passengers have to face several problems during winter, summer and rainy season and there luggage gets wet. The demand for extending the sheds of these platform is being made for years now but it has not been done so far. The people of this area say that facilities provided at the Palanpur railway station are not the sort of facilities ought to be provided at the model railway station. It is necessary to conduct an inquiry into this.

Through this House, I would like to request the Government to construct the sheds at platform Nos. one, two and three as per the demand.

(iv) Need to evolve a comprehensive policy for the welfare and upliftment of orphan street children in the country

SHRI K.C. SINGH 'BABA' (Nainital): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the orphan and children who beg at the crossroads and bus stands in big cities. Such children remain deprived of the benefits of the constitutional provision of compulsory free education for children under fourteen years of age and the 'Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan' being run by the Government.

Sir, a large number of small children can be seen at the crossroads and sub-stands in Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and other big cities in the country entertaining people by performing extraordinary feats and begging. This gives a glimpse of the poverty prevalent in our country to the foreigners and the people of our country. Some people take undue advantage of the helpless situation of the children. Their photographs are sold in the name of art and people serve their own interests by making documentaries on such children. No one thinks about the

welfare of these children. Many non-governmental organizations in the country are receiving funds from the Government for looking after the welfare of such children but no solution seems to be in sight. We all know that children of this age need good education and upbringing.

Sir, through you I would like to urge the Union Government, that an effective scheme should be formulated to provide primary education to these children. These children should also be provided training in sports and other fields in accordance with their capability so that they get an opportunity to become good players, gymnasts and good citizens and it would also ensure a good future for them.

[English]

(v) Need to sanction a special rehabilitation package for the flood affected districts of Assam

SHRI ANWAR HUSSAIN (Dhubri): The devastating flood of July-August 2007 in Assam has affected 26 district out of 27. Death toll has gone up to 23. According to Government's assessment altogether 3967 revenue villages, 44,19,792 people, 535,586 hectare area of land 155608 hectare of Agricultural land, 949 houses were damaged and 221 Nos. of PWD roads were badly affected.

There were 53 nos. of breaches of embankments which have made the situation very critical. Many cattle have lost lives including the rhinos.

Outbreak of water-borne diseases with receding of water might follow. The most dangerous curse of the flood is erosion. Thousands of hectare of areas of land might be eaten up by the Brahmaputra and its tributaries. Arrival of the last wave of flood can not be ruled out.

I urge upon the Government to sanction special flood package for Assam for rehabilitation, seedlings, seeds for Rabi cultivation, manure, free tractoring, food, medicine, repairing of roads, embankments, etc.

(vi) Need for corpus fund of Rs. 500 crores for the maintenance and development of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Memorial, Karamsad, Gujarat

SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR (Vadodara): The Government of India and Government of Gujarat have helped in building Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Memorial, Karamsad, Gujarat. Now for maintenance and

development of the memorial, a corpus fund of Rs. 500 crores is required.

I urge upon the Government to release a corpus fund of Rs. 500 crores as early as possible, for the above purpose.

[Translation]

(vii) Need to set up an airport in Ajmer, Rajasthan

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Sir, Ajmer is the heart of Rajasthan. Ajmer is an important city of the country historically, socially, culturally and from the point of view of religion, archaeology, tourism and education. Till 1956 Ajmer had been a 'C' category Union Territory due to its distinct geographical, historical and cultural identity. Later it was merged with Rajasthan. There is another important place of pilgrimage near Ajmer, namely Pushkar. Every year lakhs of local and foreign pilgrims come to pay obeisance at Dargah Sharif in Ajmer and to bathe in the holy waters of Pushkar and to visit the temples there. Every third tourist who visits the country desires to go to Rajasthan, particularly Ajmer and Pushkar. Foreigners also visit Ajmer and Pushkar in large number for sight seeing as well as on pilgrimage.

Even so, such an important center of education, religion and culture has not got air-link even after 60 years of independence. Ajmer is linked to the entire country through National highways and rail routes, still the foreign and domestic tourists and pilgrims who desire to travel by air have to take road or rail transport from Delhi or Jaipur to Ajmer which results in wastage of time, energy and money.

Hence, I would like to urge the Union Government that an airport should immediately be constructed at the city to provide air-link to this place of historical, cultural, religious and tourist importance.

(viii) Need to give 50% share to Rajasthan from the profits earned due to exploration of petroleum products from the State

SHRI BHANWAR SINGH DANGAWAS (Nagaur): Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Union Government towards the potential of Rajasthan in the petroleum sector. Western Rajasthan is mainly desert land which lacks basic facilities but this area is rich in minerals and particularly abundant in petroleum. This is proved by discovery of oil in Barmer-Sanchor basin and

[Shri Bhanwar Singh Dangawas]

discovery of gas in Jaisalmer district. The local denizens are affected by the work undertaken for exploration for petroleum and gas and the Union Government receives profits from the petroleum resources of the State. Therefore, since petroleum reserves are situated in the States, the State Governments should receive a share of the profits for the development of essential services for the local citizens. The State Governments have demanded 50% share in the profits from the Union Government.

I would like to request the Union Government to take steps to grant 50 percent share of the profits earned from the petroleum products from Rajasthan to the State Government.

(ix) Need to confer dwelling rights on tribal people living in wild life sanctuaries in Madhya Pradesh.

SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI (Rewa): Sir, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh are among those States in the country which boast of a dense and extensive forest cover. But in the recent times, it has been observed that due to lack of proper care and other exigencies, a large part of the forest land has become denuded. These forest lands have been occupied by tribals and other rural population for long years and they earn their livelihood through agriculture and by breeding cattle. They have never caused any harm to the forests. Even so, efforts are being made from the last some time to evict them from the forests and the rationale being given by the officers is that they are encroaching up on forest land. This is a baseless accusation since these tribals have been living there from generation to generation. The work of demarcating and dividing revenue land and forests land in Madhya Pradesh has been undertaken recently. It has posed a threat for the livelihood and residence of thousands of tribals.

Hence, it is my request to the Minister of Environment and Forests that a humanitarian approach should be adopted in dealing with this matter so that the tribals are also safeguarded alongwith the forests. There are habitats in Madhya Pradesh where tribals have worshipped the forests as their deity and have protected them. Hence, they should not be evicted in the name of demarcating forest and revenue lands.

(x) Need for four-laning of Chittorgarh-Neemach Road under National Highway Development Project on priority basis

SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI (Chittorgarh): Sir, there is always much traffic on the Chittorgarh-Neemach road but the transportation system breaks down due to the width of the road being only 7 meters and the people of this area have to face to lot of difficulties.

According to a traffic survey conducted in April 2006 the Chittorgarh-Neemach road qualifies for four-laning.

Therefore, Sir, through you I would like to request the Government, to widen this Chittorgarh-Neemach road in four lanes by giving it priority under the National Highway Development Project.

[English]

(xi) Need to procure wheat from domestic market at a higher Minimum Support Price and scrap the deal to import wheat from foreign market

SHRI SUNIL KHAN (Durgapur): The Government has decided to import half a million tonnes of wheat at a price of \$317 to \$330 or Rs. 12,700—13,500 a tonne after having earlier scrapped a tender to import what at an average price of \$263 or Rs. 10,500 a tonne in May this year. This will incur a minimum loss of Rs. 125 crore if half a million tonnes of wheat had been bought at May prices. If wheat had been bought in the domestic market the difference would have been larger. The market prices in India are between Rs. 10,000—11,000 a tonne. The government has so far bought around 11 million tonnes of new season wheat from domestic farmer at Rs. 8500 per tonne refusing to raise prices even though the prevailing open market price is nearly 20 per cent higher than its fixed procurement price. The Government's buying price sets the market trend in the country and a dip in its granary stocks can trigger a price rise with private traders trying to profit as they did last year when grain prices went up 40 per cent.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government to scrap the deal to import wheat at much higher price and procure wheat from our own farmers by raising the minimum support price to the farmers.

(xii) Need to sanction a new railway zone for the Western Coasts with its Headquarters in Kerala

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): There is a long standing demand by the Kerala

Government for the immediate formation of a Western Railway Zone with Headquarters in Kerala comprising the Konkan Railway and Kanyakumari Railway division in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu state respectively. The Railway administration had not given due consideration in the matter of Railway development in Kerala. The people of Kerala feel they are neglected. This neglect can be rectified by sanctioning a new Zone for the Western Coast with its Headquarters in Kerala.

[Translation]

- (xiii) **Need to bring out a white-paper on essential components of policy followed for fixing the price of petroleum products**

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has recently sent a proposal to the Cabinet Committee of Economic Affairs for increasing the price of petroleum products because if the prices are not increased, the oil companies will have to bear a loss of Rs. 52,162 crores. The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas wants to get the prices of petroleum products increased on the pretext of loss but the reality is in dark. There is news of increase in profit of the oil companies during the quarter ending in June 2007-08 and according to it the profit of Indian Oil, ONGC and Reliance has increased by 11%, 12% and 28% respectively.

In this context, I would like to draw the attention of the House to the fact that the dividend of oil refineries has increased during April to June in 2007. The dividend of Indian Oil Corporation has increased to 10.70\$ (dollar) per barrel this year from 6.70\$ in 2006. The dividend of reliance Industry, BPCL and Mumbai project of HPCL has increased from 12\$ to 15.40\$, from 5.4\$ to 6.5\$ and 8.08\$ to 9.08\$ respectively. It is evident from the above mentioned facts that the oil companies are earning and the most important thing is that the continuous development of petroleum industry in the country indicates that this industry is not incurring losses.

I, therefore, request the Government that before hiking the prices of petroleum products in the country a white paper on petroleum industry in which the price determination policy, quantity of production of crude oil and gas, capital investment in the companies, the rates of Government taxes and the total reserves and surplus amount of the companies including dividend amount should be clearly mentioned, be brought out.

- (xiv) **Need to provide special relief package to the Government of Bihar for the rehabilitation of the flood-affected people in the State**

SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA (Samastipur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, about 16 to 17 districts of Bihar namely, Sahara, Madhubani, Poonia, Katihar, Darbhanga, Samastipur, Muzaffarpur, Sitamarhi, Khagaria, Begusarai etc. were very much affected by the floods due to heavy rain and the breaking down of embankments of the rivers in Bihar during the last few days. It has caused a great loss of life and crops. The farmers are the worst affected by this natural disaster because all their crops, cattle and houses have been completely destroyed. In this situation, I would like to demand from the Government to waive off the agricultural loans given to the affected farmers of flood-affected districts, to give fair compensation to the families who have lost their family members and to make speedy arrangements for rehabilitation of those people whose houses have been destroyed.

[English]

- (xv) **Need to fill up the vacant posts of Doctors and Medical Attendants in Hospital for Beedi workers in Mukkoodal in Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu**

SHRI M. APPADURAI (Tenkasi): Under the aegis of Beedi Workers Welfare Board, an hospital has been constructed in Mukkoodal in Tirunelveli District. This hospital with 30 beds is expected to attend to the needs of about 5 lakhs of Beedi workers. Five posts of Doctors, eight posts of Nurses and two posts of Junior Assistants are lying vacant and there are only two Doctors and Nurses now. Everyday, the OPD receives about 400 patients. Due to this in-patients are not admitted for want of Doctors and Medical Attendants even when there are thirty beds for in-patients. The purpose of constructing this hospital has not been fulfilled as the posts of Doctors and Nurses are lying vacant for more than three years. Hence, I urge upon the Union Health Ministry to take appropriate action. The recommended demand from this hospital for the sanction of Rs. 40 lakhs to purchase medicines also lie unattended. I would like to impress upon the Union Labour Welfare Ministry calling for positive intervention. The Housing Scheme for the Beedi workers with financial assistance from both the Central and the State Governments will have to take shape as yet. The Beedi workers' children are not getting properly the allowance to pursue education. I urge upon the Union Government to intervene positively.

*[Translation]***(xvi) Need to open a Kendriya Vidyalaya at
Maharajganj, District Siwan, Bihar**

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Maharajganj is the sub-divisional police headquarters of the Siwan district in Bihar. Sub-divisional police headquarters, railway station, hospital, high schools colleges many business establishments, thana, block headquarters are already there in Maharajganj. Thousands of working as well as retired employees of the Central Government and the State Government reside in Maharajganj and the surrounding areas. Maharajganj is a densely populated area but there is not a single good school in Maharajganj. These employees have to send their children out of Maharajganj for education which causes unnecessary financial burden for the employees. The need for a good school in Maharajganj is being felt for many years.

On the demand for the setting up of a Central school in Maharajganj, the Hon. Union Minister of Human Resource Development had sent a proforma of criterion laid down by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan through his letter No.F.I-3(19)2004 KVS-1600 dated 30.05.2005 with an assurance of setting up a Kendriya Vidyalaya in Maharajganj. According to the directions of the Union Government, the draft for Maharajganj Kendriya Vidyalaya and a representation of District Collector of Siwan regarding the availability of building and land has been forwarded to the Union Government but the Union Government has not initiated any action as yet for the setting up of a Kendriya Vidyalaya in Maharajganj.

Through you I demand the Government to start teaching in the sanctioned Kendriya Vidyalaya at Maharajganj of the Siwan District in Bihar at the earliest.

**(xvii) Need to release a special financial package
for rehabilitation of flood affected people in
Bihar**

SHRI SURAJ SINGH (Balia, Bihar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Bihar has been struck by natural calamity once again. 2.83 lakh cubic metre water from Adhwara, Kosi, Mahananda and Gandak rivers flowing from Nepal to India has flooded Bihar and Uttar Pradesh and wreaked havoc in these States. As per the government sources, 8 million people in five thousand villages situated in 38 districts of Bihar have been affected by floods. More than a hundred people have lost their lives. Standing crops in 9,18,000 hectares of land is estimated to have got destroyed. More than 70,000 houses have got destroyed. There is unrest

in the State. Although the people of Bihar have to endure nature's fury every year, yet this year its fury has been particularly severe.

Hence, it is my request to the government that a first instalment of Rs. 5000 crores be released for Bihar as immediate relief measure. The flood-affected should be provided help expeditiously. For this, it is necessary to make relief assistance available to the villages directly or through their respective panchayats. Fortunately, a wide network of panchayats is present in the State and this network can be used to make a justified and effective distribution of relief assistance.

*[English]***(xviii) Need to stop mining activities in Vishakha-
patnam district and setting up of refinery in
Vizhianagaram district to safeguard the
interests of tribal people**

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam): Sir, Andhra Pradesh State Government is to undertake Bauxite mining in the Agency (tribal) tract of Vishakhapatnam District through the A.P. Mineral Development Corporation and to allow the Jindal Group to set up the alumina refinery in Vizhianagaram District. The people of the area is organizing big demonstration to stop against the Jindal factory. It will result in an ecological disaster in the tribal tracts and water resources in the tribal tracts would be affected. Any mining activity will lead to destruction of forests, as everyone knows tribes eke out a living even without education by collecting Addaku, Kara kaya and other minor forest produce. Such a mega project by the Jindal Group would cause massive displacement of indigenous people in the agency belt or Vishakhapatnam and Vizhianagaram districts. If the refinery factory is set up in the region the people would be further migrated and face livelihood problem.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government of India to intervene in the matter and instructions may kindly be given to the concerned authorities to stop the project immediately.

13.41 hrs.

**MERCHANT SHIPPING (AMENDMENT)
BILL*, 2004***[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Now, we will take up Item Number 12. Shri T.R. Baalu.

*Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): Sir, with your permission, I would like to say a few words on the Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Bill pending in the House before I move for consideration of the Bill.

[SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN *in the Chair*]

13.41¹/₄ hrs.

Consequent to the tragic events of 11th September, 2001 in the US, the International Maritime Organization unanimously agreed in November 2001 to develop and adopt new measures relating to the security of ships, and of port facilities by a Conference (known as Diplomatic Conference on Maritime Security) of the Contracting Governments to the International Convention for Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS 74).

India has ratified the International Convention SOLAS 74 on 16th June, 1976 which came into force on 25th May, 1980. This Convention has been amended from time to time to incorporate provisions pertaining to the safety of ships. During the Diplomatic Conference on Maritime Security held in December, 2002, amendments to the SOLAS 1974 were adopted including the adoption of the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code (ISPS).

The objectives of the ISPS Code are: to establish an international framework involving cooperation between contracting Governments, Government agencies and shipping and port industries to detect security threats and take preventive measures against security incidents affecting ships or port facilities used in international trade; to establish the respective roles and responsibilities of the Government, Government agencies, local administration and the shipping and port industries at the national and international level for ensuring maritime security; to ensure early and efficient collection and exchange of security-related information; to provide a methodology for security assessments so as to have in place plans and procedures to react to changing security levels; and to ensure confidence that adequate and proportionate maritime security measures are in place.

The ISPS Code will bring about uniformity in addressing security-related issues on board ships and the ports in our country. The Code envisages three security levels commencing from Level 1 to the highest level, that is, level 3. Each level shall require additional

measures to heighten the security of ports and ships. Each ship and port will be guided by an approved Ship Security Plan and Port Facility Security Plan.

In order to give effect to the provisions of the SOLAS 1974, each contracting Government is required to promulgate laws, decrees, orders and regulations as considered necessary so as to give full and complete effect to the Convention. This is with a view to ensure that ships and ports are fit for the service for which they are intended.

The Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Bill, 2004 was introduced in the House on 23rd December, 2004. The Bill was referred to the Departmentally-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture for examination and report. The Report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee was presented to the House on 27th July, 2005.

The Committee, in its report, recommended that the Bill be passed after incorporating official amendments and taking into account its recommendations in respect of Section 344A, 344L, 344Q and 344J along with the recommendations contained in paras 14, 17, 23, 25, 29, 37, 45 and 47 of the said Report. The aforementioned amendments and recommendations have been considered by the Government and included appropriately.

I, therefore, give notice of my intention to move the amendments after the adoption of the Motion that the Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Bill, 2004 be taken into consideration.

I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 and the Indian Ports Act, 1908, be taken into consideration."

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 and the Indian Ports Act, 1908, be taken into consideration."

[*Translation*]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Bill, 2004 because it relates to the security and safety of merchant ships and certain amendments have been

[Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat]

carried out in Merchant Shipping Act 1958 and Indian Ports Act, 1908 thereby. Before expressing my views on this Bill I would like to know the reasons for the extraordinary delay in presenting this Bill in the House. As the Minister has accepted himself, this Bill was introduced in the House on 23 December, 2004 and was received back from the departmentally related standing committee in July 2005 and thereafter introduced in the House in 2007. When it is such an important Bill relating to security of ships and ports why has the UPA government taken such a long time to bring this important Bill? This cannot be said to be a proper procedure from any angle. Whenever any international agreement or treaty is signed and India confirms it we are bound by its terms. We are bound by those rules with regard to the ships coming or plying in our territorial waters their navigators and crew as well as regarding construction of ports and other matters. Hence, I would like to ask the hon. Minister, through you, that when this Bill was passed by the standing committee and sent to the Ministry in 2005 what is the reason for the delay in presenting it to the hon. Minister. Kindly clarify the reasons for the said delay.

As I said in the beginning, this Bill relates to the security and safety of merchant ships. It also adheres to the rules of International Convention of Life at Sea which aims to safeguard life at sea—be it on ships or ports. It was confirmed by India on 16 June, 1976 and enforced on a worldwide scale on 25 May, 1980. Its abbreviation is ISPS code. It is the most important code amongst the international codes that relate to the safety of merchant ships and foreign ships. As the hon. Minister said, its main objective is

[English]

to specify minimum standards for the construction equipment operation of ships with their safety.

[Translation]

All the member countries have signed the agreement relating to minimum standards specified in the world conference regarding safety of ships, navigational safeguards, and installation of all required equipments. These terms are binding upon all the member countries. Since India also signed the international treaty in the said conference, its terms are binding upon us as well. Hence, in my view, this Bill is very important for the safety of our ships and I hope that these rules would be made applicable in our country soon after this Bill is passed.

Sometimes we read the news of ships sinking, fire in oil-ships or sinking of ship carrying gas off the shores of Goa. Apart from this, pirates also loot small ships or ships develop leaks and the sea water starts entering into the ships. Such incidents can be heard of to have taken place not only with relation to our ships but also the ships of other countries. I hope that the government would make rules to comply with the provisions enshrined in the Bill and enforce them strictly so as to ensure the safety and security of sailors, crew and people working at the ports in the country and we do not have to face any difficulty in ferrying cargo or passengers.

Sir, our country has had a rich maritime trade from very early times. The ancient Vedas say, "Veda yo veenam padmantrichen, patatam vedah navah samudriyah" which shows that our people had knowledge. The Rishi's and Muni's knew the routes of migratory birds and were aware of sea routes as well. It shows that sea routes were used for trading from ancient time. Our country is surrounded by sea from three sides. We not only have big ports such as Kandla, Peepawav, Mumbai, Kochi, Chennai, Kolkata and Vishakhapatnam but many small ports as well. This Bill was brought to ensure the security of these ports when the NDA government was in power. At that time infrastructural development of the country as a whole was stressed upon in fields as diverse as sea trade, aviation, road transport, the construction of golden quadrilateral and development of sea routes. The government should give credit to the UPA government for preparing this Bill. It was sent to the Standing Committee after the present government came to power. It was returned in 2005 and now even the year 2007 is about to end. This Bill has been delayed too long. It shows that the government is moving forward at a very slow pace.

Now that this Bill has been presented here by him, I support this Bill because it is related with maritime trade interests, the lives of thousands of marine personnel and our security and I think that he will certainly make rules and regulations in this regard very soon and implement them so that there is no negligence with regard to the security of our country.

Recently there had been an incident a few days ago. Till now the terrorists have been engaged in sabotage here but now the risk of their entering into the country through sea-route has increased. It has been already reported by the newspapers and recently LTTE also had attacked the boats and ships of Navy of our country and similarly other terrorists of Al-Qaida. or Lashkar-e-Taiba were traced in Bangalore, many terrorists from Srilanka have been arrested in Chennai so that as of now the sea-routes too, are not safe and their network and talks on mobiles were intercepted. It has been clear

from those talks that they may attack the ships also. So, I would like to alert the government, through you, that they should not consider the sea-routes safe and the government will be able to safeguard the merchant ships from terrorist and extremist attacks or LTTE or marine smugglers with the help of the Navy and provisions contained in this Bill and coordinating with the informations available with the Navy. There are other things in the Bill as hon. Minister has told that the Bill contains those sections which have been amended. One of them is regarding registration as initially there was a provision of registration only which was started in 1958 but now for the words "registration" the words-registration, certification, safety and security shall be substituted which have literal meaning. Security means maritime security and includes any measure to protect ports or ships or any person or thing relating directly or indirectly to maritime navigation employed by the owners or operators or persons in charge of the vessels or management of port facilities, offshore installations and other marine organizations or establishments against terrorism, sabotage, stowaways, illegal migrants, criminals seeking refuge, piracy, armed robbery, seizure or pilferage and any other hostile act or influence. That shows the wide ambit of the Bill and hence its importance.

Supporting the Bill I would like to request the government that out of the eleven codes mentioned in the Bill the last code—International Civil Security Code—is very important and there should not be any kind of negligence in this regard and International Ship and Port Facility Security Code is the most important code of all codes.

There should not be any kind of negligence on part of the government in complying with this code. The government should take care of recognized marine organizations because if they are given a contract or permission then every care should be taken to see that there is no negligence in security.

Mr. Chairman Sir, there should be no relaxation with regard to the norms laid down for security or facilities as any kind of relaxation is not in the interest of the nation. The ships are of different weights to cope with various trades e.g. one is of 300 tonne or the other is of greater weight, they have their specific numbers which indicates the name of country of a particular ship to enable one to know as to which country it belongs to and wherefrom it is coming. They are equipped with indicators for directions which need to be ascertained properly so that

they could be traced easily. It has been provided that International Marine Organization will give the number of a ship. I have said in the beginning that the security of merchant shipping is an important aspect with a view to carrying out trade. We being signatory to the international agreement, are bound to secure the sea-coast of our country, strengthen the ports, upgrade our ports and ships to bring it to international level and it is imperative for us to comply with those agreements. I request the hon. Minister to take care of all these things.

Mr. Chairman Sir, while concluding I would like to say one more thing that Sethusamudram was constructed crores of years ago and is related to the faith of crores of our people. It lies between Srilanka and India. Hon. Minister is a religious person and the people of southern India also repose their faith in it. NASA, many scientists and big leaders have expressed their opinions in this regard. Even thousands of sailors of that place are opposing it. An efforts to blast it with the help of dynamite was made but it has not been destroyed much. The government should look for an alternative route because the faith of crores of people is associated with it. It is an international heritage. It has more importance from the point of view of archaeology. So I would like to tell hon. Minister to be free from all prejudices and to take measures to save this sethu as well as to prevent misplaced dare-devilry of destroying it.

With these words, I support this Bill.

[English]

SHRI K.S. RAO (Eluru): Mr. Chairman Sir, I rise to support this Bill. In fact, I congratulate the hon. Minister for bringing this Bill, though delayed by two years, perhaps which is not in his hands.

Sir, it is a very important Bill. The reason being, particularly, after globalization, the movement of cargo from country to country is liberalized. So, naturally, the quantum of the transport through ships, through waterways is substantial and in having agreed to be a part of the International Maritime Conference, it is inevitable for us also to make the laws accordingly. Unless, we make it, the country will suffer very badly and we will be almost losing hundreds and thousands of crores of rupees over this. Our ships cannot go to the international ports, and the other ships cannot come to our ports where international cargo is handled.

[Shri K.S. Rao]

What would be the situation? Imagine that situation where the prices of commodities will be spiraling in this country. The Parliament is discussing day in and day out the increase in prices and even the dismal increase makes everyone of us get hurt and we are not in a position to answer the public on this issue. If this law takes prominence in that regard, it is a welcome step.

So, I would request the hon. Minister not only bringing in of this law is very important but, as my hon. colleague earlier said, the rules and regulations, the decrees, the orders must also be made immediately.

14.00 hrs.

Our ships and ports should be equipped accordingly into international standards. Maybe, it requires a large budget. Though it is to be borne by the port and then ship owners and all that, yet, if necessary, the Government must think in terms of going to their rescue by providing some loans, if necessary. Otherwise, all of us will suffer; the country will suffer, the people will suffer. Particularly at a time when we are importing food commodities like wheat, oils, edible oils, some of these things will also go up. It is necessary that it has to be followed up by providing all these most modern equipment. In this context, I only wish to bring it to the notice of the House that all this was thought of only when there was an incident on America on 11th September without which they would not have thought of this. Unfortunately this also reflects the cost on the living of the common man by increasing terrorism in the entire world. I do not know how some of the people are resorting to terrorism in various parts of the world and what could be their motives, and what they want to achieve out of it. But they are putting load on the life of the common man. Because of the terrorism the need for not only this law, but also the need for equipping ourselves, the need for increasing the number of people in this activity has gone up. That means the cost on a commodity has gone up. So, these measures which have to take care of the security on importing some food-grain or exporting some food-grains also is loaded to that cost. Who are the sufferers? The terrorist are doing extensive damage to every citizen including their own citizens. Maybe on some issues they are agitated, that is not the right way to solve their problem or to achieve their goals.

Now having seen the terrorism going on in several parts of the world, particularly which is vulnerable in the sea, where piracy is there—these days we see lots of

weapons also being transferred through ships which are extensively damaging the human kind—it is all the more necessary that we have to equip ourselves and the ports as well as the ships to the present standards available in the global market.

Sir, we have also to ensure early and efficient collection of information. Without proper information, there cannot be proper security arrangements. So, information is most important of all and that is to be taken care of first. Once we get the information, then the other equipment can help us to see what kind of protection has to be given and in which place it has to be given. All these things can be done. So, information is essential and information is to be taken care of.

As far as shipping is concerned, if we observe in the recent past, the cost of transport through shipping has gone up substantially high. Maybe some of these reasons are responsible. Earlier a commodity which could be transported from here to say a Gulf country which used to cost about \$ 20 is now costing \$ 40. If this is not taken care of, we should not be surprised if it becomes \$ 100 or \$ 200. Naturally, it must be taken as a part of our economy. It is only saving our own country; it is saving our own people.

Keeping all these things in our mind, the Bill which has been brought up today is in the interest of our people and there should not be any hesitation on the part of any Party or any Member to support this Bill. The only thing that I would like to say is that no Member of BJP will lose an opportunity while discussing any issue; let it be nuclear energy; let it be food security; let it be common man. They will infuse something communal in that regard. The hon. Member just now spoke about Sethusamundam. There is no connection between this Bill and Sethusamundam. It is connected only with transporting materials and cargo to the ports where the international cargo is handled and not the domestic cargo. Domestic cargo, domestic passengers are in no way connected with this Bill. So my humble request to the hon. Member is...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: That is the way of all the present ships....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI K.S. RAO: Our former leader, NTR, was also discussing on those days 'Rs. 2 per kg' issue on everything. 'Rs. 2 per kg' issue is a wonderful thing. It has to be done. But he used to discuss about it at every occasion, no matter what it was.

The hon. Member was also discussing it in a similar manner. I do not say that he does not have the authority but let those things not be mixed with these things which are essential....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, he has taken a view of his own.

SHRI K.S. RAO: Sir, there is not much to speak on this Bill and I support this Bill.

I would, once again, request the hon. Minister to do the needful in bringing the rules and regulations and other things immediately so that the country will not lag behind and the country also will not suffer on account of this.

[Translation]

SHRI GANESH PRASAD SINGH (Jehanabad): Mr. Chairman Sir, the government has brought a Bill titled Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Bill, 2004. I support this Bill. It makes some provisions for taking measures for security of the ships and citizens. It was being reported every other day by the newspapers that the criminals, terrorists and other people used to travel in the ships in hiding and carry on illegal activities. Now the laws have been enacted to check these and some amendments have been carried out in the existing laws and foolproof security arrangements have been made. Amendments have been proposed in clause 2, 3 and other sections of the Bill. The objective of these amendments is to provide more security to the ships. These amendments are being made in order to authorize the persons or organizations of our country or foreign countries to implement the security codes and take measures for security. All these things have been mentioned in this Bill. These amendments will certainly bring effective security to our shipping transport system. So I support this Bill and conclude my speech.

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA (Dhandhuka): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Bill, 2004 a bill further to amend the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 and Indian Ports Act, 1908, has been presented in the House by the Government for further consideration. This Bill was prepared during the NDA regime. That dream is going to be fulfilled today. Therefore, I am very happy and welcome the hon'ble Minister for bringing this bill.

Sir, as you already know that various activities are being carried out in India by the neighbouring countries of Gujarat as a result of which the state is facing

problems. Not only this, there are a large number of fishermen in Gujarat who are caught by the neighbour country and kept in jails for years. You must be aware that the process of mutual release of some fishermen was held the other day. The coast guards there have a lot of pressure to provide security and, therefore, there is a great need to increase security there.

Sir, Kandla is the biggest port in Gujarat where lakhs of tonnes of goods are loaded and unloaded to and from abroad. Besides, efforts are going on for years for building smaller ports in the private and public sector in Gujarat. There was a Dhaulera Port in district Ahmedabad where goods were brought from all over the country. But, this port was closed as the sea receded back too far. Now, a new port is going to be constructed there. There was a long standing demand for its construction but there were many obstacles on the environment front. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has now given some clearance after fighting for many years.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, why early clearance is not provided for ports? Are we really concerned about the ports and want to promote them? There are many small natural ports in Gujarat. In respect of their development, many proposals are pending with the Government for approval. I want to request the hon'ble Minister that whatever clearance is needed for ports, it should be given immediately.

Sir, there is a great need to develop all the ports in our country as stated by Rasa Singh ji. We all know very well that our trade has been carried out through sea for years. Fruits, clothes etc. were imported through sea and our traders used to visit far away lands for trading through sea only. Trade through sea is not a new thing for us rather it is an old tradition. Our country was first discovered by Vasco-da-Gama through sea itself. But, is the sea-route safe today from the point of view of security? Can our ships sail to other countries safely today? Terrorism is being discussed. Earlier, it was confined only to the valley. Dacoits used to live in Chambal. But, today it is impossible to tell as to where they are not living. Incidents of looting are rampant everywhere. People always have apprehensions in their mind that their ships can be looted or blown off. Even the sea trade is not safe today.

Sir, there is a port in Gujarat named as Dhaulera port on which lakhs of rupees are being spent by a private company. It falls in my constituency. I, therefore,

[Shri Ratilal Kalidas Varma]

request the hon'ble Minister that construction work of this port should be completed. Hon'ble Baaluji is doing a great job for which I thank him. But, the work is not going on at the required speed. In this regard, injustice is being done to Gujarat. Our hon'ble Shankar Singh Vaghela ji is sitting here. He is also a Minister and we appreciate him for his cooperation in the development of Gujarat. I request him to raise every question on Gujarat wholeheartedly and get hon'ble Minister's assistance. India bound goods will arrive on Kandla and other natural ports in future. I am recommending Dhaulera port because Kandla is 350 kms. from Ahmedabad. All the goods for Rajasthan and UP are sent from this port. A distance of 200 kms can be reduced if Dhaulera is developed as a port and traders would be able to send their goods in less time.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for allowing me to speak.

[English]

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY (Berhampore, West Bengal): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Bill under the nomenclature Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Bill, 2004 moved by the hon. Minister.

It is better late than never. The Bill is very much contemporary specially in view of the present global scenario, which day after day, is being infected by terrorism.

Sir, being a seafaring nation, India has a long experience in any mercantile trade. But in the earlier ages, we had experienced the existence of pirates. But now it has assumed a new dimension because the terrorists are now equipped with more technological gadgets and other scientific equipment. So, to deal with this menace, an international framework was an imperative tool, and therefore, Safety at Sea was envisaged and India was a signatory to the Convention on Safety of Life at Sea.

We have our Merchant Port Protection Bill, etc. But in the wake of 9/11, we had observed a horrendous episode where the aircraft was used as a flying missile which demolished the Twin Towers in America. In New York, the aircraft had been transformed into a flying missile but in the sea, the ship, in the same way, could be transformed into a floating missile. We know that three-fourths of our earth is covered by water.

In the present scenario, if we see the modal share of our international trade, then we will find out that the merchant shipping has been growing exponentially and there is a huge potentiality that has been lying ahead in terms of merchant shipping. We cannot but pleased without having an international framework in which we can also contribute so that our mercantile trade could also be secured. That is why, an amendment was felt necessary, and the Act has been amended to fulfil that objective. The International Code for the Security of Ships and Port Facility was simply an amendment to SOLAS by the Conference of Contracting Governments on 12.12.2002.

Sir, there are a slew of functional requirements which have been included in the ISPS code. If we remember the grim incident that took place in Bombay in the year 1993, there the explosives were brought through the sea route and dumped in the Western Coast of our country, which wrought havoc in Bombay and entailed a communal riot. Sir, even in the Persian Gulf, *USS Cole* was attacked by terrorists.

When the land route and the air route are being sealed, are being given priority, then the terrorist organisations, those who have no geography, those who do not belong to a nation, those sub-State entities are taking the advantage of the vast, open expanse of our seashore. Therefore, not only to protect our traders but also in view of the growing and alarming menace arising out of the terrorist implication, we are also eager to join in the international framework so as to protect our trade and so as to deter and prevent any terrorist activity which may take place by resorting to the sea route.

Sir, India has a huge coastline. In our neighbouring country Sri Lanka also, more often than not, we are noticing that the terrorist attacks are being carried out on the sea. May I ask the hon. Minister whether the existing framework, existing infrastructure under his custody is equipped enough to implement the ISPS code specially in view of the technological advancement that has been taken place? Furthermore, the terrorist organisations are very adept in using those technological gadgets to carry out their nefarious designs.

Secondly, I want to know whether our Navy is not well competent to deal with this menace of terrorism which has been prescribed behind the background of the ISPS code. It is true that insofar as our security is concerned, we are pondering over unified command. Insofar as our

nuclear doctrine is concerned we are pondering over our tripod security system. But, insofar as maritime transport is concerned, in which security is an integral part, to that direction that Bill has made some amendment. Here, I want to know what kind of mechanism we are exploring in consultation with Navy or any security arm that is available in the country to deal with any impending terrorist attack against any of our ports, against any of our merchant ships, etc.

Nowadays our merchant ships are facing a growing menace in the whole of Africa specially the region around Somalia. There, our Navy is providing the security to our merchant ships. Even in the Malacca Strait which is the lifeline of our oil imports, there also the security concerns have been very much considered not only by India but also by the world leaders. Our Ministry of Shipping, I think, is till date, dealing with the growing merchant trade. But this ISPS is a new phenomenon, a new aspect which is going to be included in this Ministry. So, I want to know whether this Ministry, with its own infrastructure is capable enough to deal with it.... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, there is limited time. Are you referring to Indian ports?

SHRI ADHIR CHOUDHURY: Yes, Sir.

The objective of this amendment, as has been expressed by many Members and what is inherent in this Bill, is to exchange information and to exchange intelligence among various countries which are included in this ISPS Code. Sir, it is easily conceivable that if our ships are not ISPS compatible, then they will not be allowed to enter into the ports of any foreign country and on the reverse side also, foreign ships will not be allowed to enter into our ports. So, in order to run a facile and smooth maritime transport, the ISPS code is a necessary and imperative ingredient of our mercantile industry. Therefore, there is no hesitation in supporting this Bill.

I would simply ask one more question to the hon. Minister. Who will incur the expenditure for the implementation of the ISPS Code? I think that when we go to implement ISPS Code, expenditure will have to be incurred. So, who will incur this expenditure? Here, there is no mention of any other financial provision that has been delegated to any authority, etc. The functional requirements of ISPS include gathering and assessing information with respect to security threat, requiring the maintenance of communication protocols for ships and

port facilities, preventing unauthorised access to ships, preventing the introduction of unauthorized weapons, incendiary devices, etc.

Sir, furthermore, you are well aware that now the terrorists are carrying drug cartels through sea routes. Will our infrastructure be able to put a check on those threats? That is also a question because only signing the ISPS Code will not be sufficient enough to protect our security. We are all to look after the entire gamut of security concern spanning from weapon to drug cartel to other illegal activities. Furthermore, how many ports of our country have so far been covered by ISPS Code?

The fishermen are often subjected to various kinds of harassment and other problems whenever they are venturing into the sea for fishing, especially in the areas of Sri Lanka-India seawaters, especially in Kachha Theevu and other places in and around Kachha Theevu, etc. For the sake of those fishermen and welfare of those fishermen also, we should devise a way in consultation with our neighbouring and littoral States so that their fishing rights could be protected. I think, our hon. Minister is sensitive enough to the welfare of our fishermen because he also hails from that particular area where fishermen have been subjected to various kinds of persecution and torture, etc. I would like to support the Bill.

Furthermore, I would also request the hon. Minister to implement all the ISPS Codes as soon as possible so as to continue our growth in maritime sector.

[Translation]

SHRI SAMIK LAHIRI (Diamond Harbour): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak. I do not want to repeat the things which have been said so far. I want to draw the attention of the hon'ble Minister towards a few points only. There is no doubt that the ISPS Code, to which we are also a signatory country, should also be implemented in the country. Today, we should think and take action regarding the security of our ports, ships and the ships arriving here. This Bill was referred to the Standing Committee when it was presented in the House earlier because the House deemed it necessary to have expert's views on some issue like stake holders, etc. This bill is very much necessary but why was it sent to the Standing Committee? I have with me the report of the Standing Committee. I am very sorry to say that the Ministry did

[Shri Samik Lahiri]

not pay heed to any recommendation of the Standing Committee. It did not take any initiative to implement them. If you will allow, I will quote it. The Standing Committee, in its recommendation, had stated that:

[English]

"The Committee recognizes that our Constitution empowers the Government to enter into international agreements and no subsequent ratification by the Parliament is necessary. However, if such agreements warrant any legislative change subsequently, then powers of the Parliament are final. Therefore, the Government should be mindful of that flexibility."

[Translation]

The recommendations of the Standing Committee were unanimous because it had representation of all the parties. In all, there were eight recommendations on which no initiative has been taken. The amendment which was there with the original Bill is more of a grammatically amendment. The Government has not brought the amendment especially on the content. It is true that only after 9//11 the issue of security was brought to light in our country when USA called for security arrangements everywhere. That is why we have finalized this Bill. I am talking about the Standing Committee again and again because all the parties had taken this decision unanimously.

I would not like to repeat the things said by my colleagues till now. I would like to quote as follows in order to bring out as to what the suggestion to bring an amendment regarding a clear cut Seamen Identity Document was:

[English]

"The Committee recommends the Department of Shipping to rationalize the method of issuing identification document in a completely transparent and objective manner without leaving any scope for its subjective application in the future."

[Translation]

I know this will not be inserted in the Act. But I hope hon'ble Minister will certainly give assurance in the House that this document which will be given to the seafarer and the issue of security of the sea farer in its

entirety will depend fully on that document. I hope hon'ble Minister will putforth his views regarding this issue in the House.

Secondly, I would like to draw the attention of hon'ble Minister towards both section 344(L) and section 344(Q). I would like to quote the recommendations of the Committee in this regard.

[English]

"The Committee recommendation states 'such other authority. Who are the 'other authorities'?"

[Translation]

If they would not clarify this issue other authorities may crop up. It should be specified in the Act itself.

Hon'ble Minister must clarify what is the meaning of 'such authority', who constitutes such authority? Whether it is IMO, or our Ministry or our Parliament or is it DG (shipping)? There is a need to bring clarity in it. After this I would like to draw the attention of the hon'ble Minister towards section 44(A)(ii) also which states:

[English]

"against any other hostile Act or influence which is now mentioned in chapter II of Section 3 (44A)(ii)"

[Translation]

Committee had taken an initiative in this regard that it should be made specific.

[English]

It is too broad.

[Translation]

The provision made in it that.

[English]

"against any other hostile Act or influence"

[Translation]

how we will determine who is hostile among them. This law may be misused due to this and that is why the Committee has also stated that seamen may be harassed too under this law because

[English]

"against any other hostile Act or influence"

[Translation]

has not been defined in it. If they do not like trade unions in ports and shipping in future, it may be defined as an act of hostility and this law may be applied against them also.

[English]

How the Ministry is going to protect the basic rights of the working class.

[Translation]

Therefore the Committee had recommended:

[English]

"The Department of Shipping should clearly specify and incorporate 'any other hostile Act or influence' in the Bill itself so as to make it more comprehensive and subject to monitoring."

[Translation]

After this if we look at 344(J) about which Committee said that it was a contradictory provision and Ministry should also think over it. Regarding this Committee said:

[English]

"The Committee recommends that the Department of Shipping should revisit the provision of Section 344J with a view to protect the right of the Seamen and ensure that no harassment is caused to the Seamen working in the smaller vessels."

[Translation]

It often happens. There is no protection for them and especially as our senior colleague Shri Hannan Mollahji was saying that such type of harassment is also taking place in Andaman. The Government should inform this House about its opinion by bringing clarity in this regard. I would like to draw the attention of hon'ble Minister towards another very important issue that about section 344(M) it is repeatedly said that

[English]

human element is missing.

[Translation]

there is no mention of human element about the people who are working in the ports and on ships. How they will be protected. No provision has been made about it. There is no protection about them in it.

[SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV *in the Chair*]

14.39 hrs.

The Committee had recommended about this:

[English]

"The Committee recommends that the shore leave be institutionalized within the framework of law and a clause be inserted in the proviso to section 344M".

[Translation]

But it is regrettable that not a single recommendation out of so many recommendations has been implemented. The Ministry has not paid any attention to even a single recommendation. It is true that there is no compulsion on the part of Government to bring the matters related to international law before this House. But the Government should inform the House and keeping its suggestions in view it should have conducted an enquiry into all the matters related to the internal security of the country and the security of ships and ports. This Bill has been introduced in the House to amend this Act, which is to be passed by the House. Earlier when this Bill was introduced it had been referred to the Standing Committee with the consent of the House. Despite constituting members from various political parties the Committee was unanimous on this issue but hon'ble Minister did not pay any attention to it, he should have informed the House. I demand that hon'ble Minister must follow the report so laboriously prepared by all the members of the Standing Committee. Hon'ble Minister should in his reply give assurance to this House that he would take initiative to consider the recommendations given unanimously in the report and for this he would introduce further amendment in this Bill.

With this I conclude.

[English]

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are discussing the Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Bill, 2004 which intends to further amend the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 and the Indian Ports Act, 1908. India had ratified the International Convention on Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS 1974) on 16th June, 1976 and it came into force on 25th May, 1980. We have rightly annulled all the past international treaties; and we are now, although late, incorporating all the eleven Codes or similar instruments that are made mandatory under SOLAS 1974.

Security of ships and port facilities is very much essential for passengers and cargo in the waterways. It is also necessary to develop international cooperation between the ~~connecting~~ countries to detect or assess the security threat and take preventive measures against security incidents. At present, the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 and Indian Ports Act, 1908 do not contain all the provisions that are required. Hence, this amendment will help us in coming on par with the international standards.

India is a major sea-fearer supplying country. The proposed legislation will help to improve our sea-fearers' employment prospects because of the availability of identity documents. This legislation provides for provision of identity document which will be of great help to sea-fearers with regard to their employment prospects elsewhere also. The proposed amendment to Indian Ports Act, 1908 also will help in the development of ports and putting up the safety facilities which will in turn help the international ships to come to our ports.

Movement of goods on waterways is the most economical from commercial point of view. In the international global trade, all industries are getting more and more interested in putting up industries near ports. Port-based industries are the most attractive industries in the global trade now. So, when we develop these ports and for which, a lot of infrastructure is required to be developed at our ports in the country. We have lot of scope because of vast coast for development of more ports and providing facilities of international standards at the existing ports.

This would pave way for coming up of more industries in and around port areas of the country as port-based industries are made more attractive. In our country, in the past, our share in the international trade was more

than 20 per cent. Now, our share in the international trade is less than two per cent or about one per cent. Our traditional sea merchants were very capable as they were occupying the share of more than 20 per cent in the international trade. Hence, the Government must look into this aspect and develop ports to the level of international standards, which would also increase our share in the international commercial trade.

In the global arena, everyone is interested in the port-based industries about which I have already stated. What is now required is, we should build up required infrastructure as our ports are lacking in infrastructure. Safety measures are also very much necessary. We should make efforts to create better infrastructure. In the sphere of international tourism, port-based tourism is also very much attractive. We have to develop the ports and make them safety on par with international standards so that it would attract more tourists to our country. Safety measures in ports and development of ports would help us to increase port based tourism.

Lastly, I would like to request the hon. Minister that when he would formulate the rules, he must ensure that the rights of the workers, seamen are well protected, because there is an apprehension that rights of the workers and seamen will not be protected with this legislation. He should make an assurance to this House that when he frames these rules, he would ensure that the rights of workers and seamen are protected. With these words, I conclude.

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH (Bhilwara): Sir, I stand to support the Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Bill, 2004. I want to say that India has been the seafaring nation for centuries to centuries. In those days, our seafarers used to visit China and all the other countries which had sea and coastal areas. We have the largest coastal area. I think, we can boast of having such a long coastline which we have been trying to protect because there are other hazards because of the coastline. Having said that, I must say that this Bill has been due for a long time. It should have come much earlier than now. But I must say that even when it has come today, it is an important legislative Bill and we need to pass it. Having said this, one of the Members has very rightly put some concerns that were taken up in the Standing Committee. But I feel that when we sign this SOLAS and this Convention—the very purpose of SOLAS and this Convention means that we are looking after the security

of the ships and the people—all those concerns are met.

All those things that were put by the Standing Committee automatically come into effect because those are the issues which are sorted out internationally by all the concerned countries. I am sure, the Minister while replying would mention about all these things. But I would only want to say that even in those days, there used to be pirates on the sea. Today also there are pirates on the sea.

They are taking a lot of people from one area to another, when we have such a long coastal line. Ships are coming to India—small ships are also engaged and the big ships unload their cargo. Human cargo also comes to India, because we have such a long coastal line. It is not possible for really the Coast Guards or the Navy to really stop that. That is a big concern. Human cargo goes to other countries also. This is the problem of countries which have long coastal lines. Australia has this problem; we have it; a lot of European countries which have long coastal lines have this problem.

Along with that, port facilities also have to be developed, and that involves huge money. When the ships come to India for the export and import of cargo, we need to really have good port facilities and so, we really need to improve and upgrade the infrastructure at the ports. This requires huge money. I am sure the international players would want to come into this area. Since we do not have these moneys, I think that there is no harm if these facilities are upgraded with their assistance. We have the BOOT system or the pure 'T' system or other systems, but the most important thing is that our exports and imports are rising.

When we are doing this, everything cannot be sent by air; it has to go by sea also. If it has to go by sea, these ships that come into India or go out can be used; and for that, we have to have the ports of the international standards. So, we should have what is called the 'turn around'; this is very important. They do not want to wait. Whenever they come, they would just like to unload the cargo and want to 'turn around' and go away because for each day the ship is anchored, they will be losing hundreds of thousands of crores of rupees by way of demurrage and other charges. So, if our imports and exports have to grow, we need to upgrade the ports and we need to do that. This amendment will look after that as well.

May I also say that today Indians have really taken up the Merchant Navy? There are a lot of Indians in international companies where they are working. It is a good thing because we also have been able to take to the sea; and we have been taking to the sea for a long time because this has been our way of life—from Gujarat and from Maharashtra, people for centuries have been going into the sea. They are very good seamen. When we are good seamen, we are employed in international companies, in Merchant Navies, etc. Those people have to be looked after and I am sure, this will be looked after. But I say that we have to really look after them personally as to what are the problems that they face, when they visit other countries. They have visa problems; they have other contract problems, etc. That must also have to be looked into.

In the end, may I also say that these are the ships which carry nuclear wastes and weapons of mass destruction? SOLAS Convention will not be able to look after all of them.

We must be aware of a system that detects it and does not allow it to come into India. Weapons are coming into India through sea. How are we going to really look after it? We will not be able to avoid it just by signing this Convention. I think we should also look into this concern.

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): Sir, I am thankful to all the hon. Members who have participated in the discussion on Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Bill. Eight hon. Members, S/Shri Rana Singh Rawat, K.S. Rao, Ganesh Singh, Ratilal Kalidas Verma, Adhir Chowdhury, Samik Lahiri, B.K. Tripathi and Vijayendra Pal Singh, have participated in the discussion.

As all the Members have already said, the International Convention on SOLAS, 1974 was ratified in 1976 and came into force in 1980. Time and again this particular Convention was amended to suit the latest developments. As we all know, because of the 9/11 incident the entire world got awakened to go for the latest security arrangements be it ship, port or any other installation. As far as ships are concerned, 1974 SOLAS Convention takes care of it. But as far as port facilities are concerned, ISPS Code has to take care of it. Because of the introduction of ISPS Code world over, as per the International Maritime Organisation Convention, we have to amend our Merchant Shipping Act.

[Shri T.R. Baalu]

Some of the friends have said that this Bill was delayed for more than two years. It is correct but it was delayed because of valid reasons. Inter-Ministerial discussions warranted to have a smooth passage of the Bill. Even in 2007, the Ministry of Defence asked for some clarifications which we clarified. We never wanted to delay this Bill. Cutting across Party line everybody is supporting this Bill. There is no gray area as far as this Bill is concerned. It is in everybody's interest. Why should we delay it?

I may tell the House that we are not keeping quiet. The Ministry is not keeping lukewarm. In spite of the delay, I may tell the House that we have 12 major ports in our country and all the ports are complying with ISPS Code. On 1st July, 2004 itself all the major ports are complying with ISPS Code. We have got 187 minor State Ports and out of that 41 non-major ports are complying ISPS Code. Both the shipyards are complying ISPS Code. All the 300 foreign going vessels are complying ISPS Code. There are 518 coastal ships and out of that 150 coastal vessels are complying ISPS Code.

15.00 hrs.

So that does not mean we were sleeping or our response was lukewarm. We have done what best the Government can do.

Friends, the steps that we are taking now with provide for international framework through which ships and port facilities can cooperate to detect and deter the acts which threaten the security in maritime transport sector. It would not only detect but it would also deter. So, this particular amendment is very much necessary.

As I have already said, this Bill has received a lot of support cutting across party lines. I want to reply to each and every Member who has participated in this discussion. My friend, Mr. Rawat from BJP has asked why it was delayed. I have already answered it. I cannot answer as far as Setu Project is concerned. It is totally a different subject. Moreover, it may create a lot of commotion between myself and some of my friends on that side.

My friend, Mr. K.S. Rao has said that terrorist activities are growing now-a-days and that it should be prevented at any cost. He has also said that exchange of information should be properly done. We have taken

care of all these things. Once the Bill is passed, sufficient rules will be formulated to take care of all his concerns.

Mr. Ganesh Singh and Mr. Kalidas Verma have mentioned some of the issues. It has been said that the Government of India should expeditiously accord approval and environment clearance for setting up of small ports in Gujarat. As far as small ports are concerned, the Central Government encourages setting up of minor ports in each and every State. So, definitely Gujarat will get a minor port with the support of Central Government. If the State Government recommends the case, definitely we will see that it is developed in the 11th Plan.

Mr. Adhir Chowdhury has raised the issue of delay and has asked whether the existing ports are equipped with the modern facilities. I have already answered that all the ports are ISPS compliant.

Mr. Lahiri was very much concerned about some of the recommendations made by the Standing Committee. He said that all the recommendations of the Standing Committee have not been accepted. The Standing Committee will recommend but at the same time the Government will have its say. There are 11 recommendations and out of that four recommendations which you have just now mentioned, have been taken into consideration. Out of 11 recommendations, four have been agreed to. What are those four recommendations? They include Seamen Identity Document which would be finalised and notified during the course of making rules. The second one is regarding the hostile act. The hostile act has been taken care of in Section 3 (44A)(ii). It has been adequately covered in the proposed amendment. You kindly go through the amendment.

The next thing is regarding the vagueness of the term 'such other authority'. It is said that it could be misused. You are correct. Now the term 'such other authority' has been replaced with 'designated authority'.

The designated authority has been included now. So, all his questions have been answered. Next, I come to the question raised by Shri Tripathy. He asked about the Cruise Shipping Policy. It is on the anvil. It is in the process of being formulated. I am the Chairman of the Committee and the hon. Minister of Tourism is a Member of that Committee. We are making the final version of the policy. That would be finalised soon and after that it would be taken to the Cabinet and we believe it would be cleared as soon as possible.

The next question was about the protection of rights of seamen and port workers under the ISPS regime. This issue has been taken care of in the proviso to Section 344(M) which provides for taking into consideration the human element. It has already been proposed in the Bill. I would request the hon. Members to kindly go through the Bill.

Shri Vijayendra Pal Singh talked about some of the weapons of mass destruction. He need not have any fear on this score. All the ships that are departing from our ports are ISPS compliant and these things never occur. At the same time there is continuous vigil and there is continuous monitoring whenever our ships are either entering our ports or are departing from our ports. We are taking all care in this regard. In this regard I may inform the House that in the JNPT port we have installed a X-ray machine wherein each and every wagon will have to go through the X-ray machine. I do not think anybody can enter into Indian ports just like that. In fact, no port is vulnerable to any acts of violence or any such thing. The hon. Member may not worry about that aspect.

Finally I would like to say that if the hon. Members still want to give any guidance and advice, they are welcome to do so. They can write to me and I would definitely go through their suggestions and see that proper action is taken.

SHRI SAMIK LAHIRI (Diamond Harbour): How does the Government propose to protect the interests of the workers who are engaged in the ships and ports? This point has been referred by many hon. Members. It is because the workers may be harassed in the name of security.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: The human element has been taken care of in the Bill. I would request the hon. Member to please go through the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 and the Indian Ports Act, 1908, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

The House would now take up clause-by-clause consideration.

"That clause 2 stands part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 3

Amendment of Section 3

Amendment made—

Page 2,

for line 13,

substitute "(ii) against any other hostile act or influence which threatens the security in the maritime transport sector,". (3)

(Shri T. R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 3, as amended, stands part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 3, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 4 and 5 were added to the Bill.

Clause 6

Insertion of new Part IX-B

Amendments made—

Page 3,

lines 32 and 33,—

for "or such other authority as may be designated by it",

substitute "or the designated authority, as the case may be,". (4)

Page 3,

for lines 39 to 41,

substitute "344M.(1) The Central Government or the designated authority as the case may be, shall set security levels taking into consideration human element such as shore leave and provide information thereof to all the Indian ships, as may be prescribed". (5)

Page 4, lines 8 and 9,—

for "or such other authority as may be designated by it",

substitute "or the designated authority or the authorised person, as the case may be," (6)

(Shri T. R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 6, as amended, stand part of the Bill"

Clause 6, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 7 was added to the Bill

Clause 1

Short title and Commencement

Amendment made—

"Page 1, line 4,—

for "2004", *substitute* "2007" (2)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted

Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.

ENACTING FORMULA

Amendment made—

"Page 1, line 1,—

for "Fifty-fifth", *substitute* "Fifty-eighth"." (1)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Enacting Formula, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

The Enacting Formula, as amended, was added to the Bill.

The Title was added to the Bill.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

15.13 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Situation arising out of floods in various parts of the Country

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: We may now take up Item No. 13, namely, the Discussion under Rule 193 regarding the flood situation in the country.

Hon. Members, I have to inform you that Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra whose name has been listed for initiating the discussion under rule 193 today has requested the hon. Speaker to allow Shri Ananth Kumar to initiate the discussion in his place. The hon. Speaker has also acceded to his request and has allowed Shri Ananth Kumar to initiate the discussion.

Now, Shri Ananth Kumar may initiate the discussion.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR (Bangalore South): Sir, I rise with great anguish to speak about the havoc caused by the worst ever floods in our country.

To portray the gravity of floods in our country, recently, the United Nations has come out with a statement. The UN described it as "The flood situation in India and Bangladesh is the worst in living memory." The sheer size and scale of floods and the massive number of people affected pose an unprecedented challenge to the delivery of desperately needed humanitarian assistance, says the UN statement.

We also know the causes of floods. Unfortunately, this year, the summer rainfall in the western and northern parts of India was 25 per cent more than usual. According to the Central Water Commission, of the 71 large reservoirs monitored by the Central Water Commission, 41 have gone above 20 per cent of the total storage capacity. Major rivers like the Ganga, Indus and Godavari have more water than the average of the last ten years as on 21st June.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I want to give an important information to the hon'ble Minister and the House. We are also debating on this very topic. According to the information received just now, police resorted to lathicharge on a large number of flood affected people in Betlah in Bihar in which 100 persons have been injured seriously. I want to apprise the House of this situation through you. Out of those people ten persons, including women, are in critical condition. It is a very unfortunate situation....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Discussion is going on this subject now. You should raise your point when there is discussion on that specific issue.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: I want to bring to the notice of the hon'ble Minister that the situation has gone out of control....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, take your seat.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: What could be more unfortunate than to lathicharge the persons seeking relief?...*(Interruptions)* Is this the Government?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have brought your point to the notice of the hon'ble Minister.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN (Bhagalpur): He is giving information about lathicharge who himself was associated with the elements which were in power in Bihar for 15 years....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Firing took place there....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Take your seat, please. Nothing will go on record now.

(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Ganesh Prasadji, take your seat. Nothing is going on record.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing, except what Anant Kumarji is saying, will go on record.

(Interruptions)...

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Chief Minister of Bihar, Nitish Kumarji and the Government is busy with its relief works. I would just urge all the Members of the House that we should not indulge in politics when there is flood and relief work is going on.

[English]

Sir, the whole country is reeling under severe flood situation. It has affected Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Orissa, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka, Assam and North-East. More than 22 States are affected; 192 districts have been affected; and more than 27,472 villages have been totally washed away. Nearly 22 lakh hectares of cropped land have been destroyed, more than 1,483 persons have lost their lives; more than one lakh live stock has been lost; more than 330 lakh people have been affected; and more than 6.40 lakh houses have been damaged. All these things have happened.

This is the brief picture of the entire country. The same thing has happened in the State of Karnataka also. For the first time, because of this severe flood situation in Karnataka, there is a huge loss of Rs. 4,200 crore. Many districts across the State, like Bijapur, Bhagalpote, Dharwad, Karwar, Haveri, Belgaum, Davangere, Shimoga, Uttar Karnataka, Dakshin Karnataka, Coorg and Bellary have been affected. Many districts have been severely affected.

Our State has already submitted its memorandum for the relief. The hon. Home Minister is present here. It pains me to see from the official Press Release of the Government of India which says that out of the Calamity Relief Fund of Rs. 4,258 crore for the year 2007-08, Rs. 1,292 crore have been provided for the affected areas. We know in the Union Budget, every year "x" amount is provided for the Calamity Relief fund.

In that, one-fourth portion is given by the State Governments and three-fourth portion is given by the Union Government. But I have been informed by the Chief Minister, Deputy Chief Minister and Revenue Minister of the Karnataka Government that though they have given the memorandum to the hon. Prime Minister and to the hon. Minister of Home Affairs, till date not a single paisa has been released to the State of Karnataka. It is a very seriously step-motherly attitude towards the State of Karnataka. I do not know why this step-motherly attitude is being shown to the State. I also want to know from

[Shri Ananth Kumar]

the hon. Minister Home Affairs, who is present here, and when he gives his reply—we do not want to know how much is provided and how much is budgeted—how much amount of money is released to different State Governments. I think that is the most important thing.

Sir, I want to quote the hon. Chief Minister of Karnataka. In a Press Conference he has said:

"The Centre has always been non-cooperative to the State of Karnataka. Whenever help is sought, said Kumaraswamy, the Centre should bring a proper relief policy."

This is an anguish of the people of Karnataka. We have asked a relief package of more than Rs. 4,000 crore. I earnestly hope that the hon. Minister of Home Affairs and the Union Government will come to the rescue of all the 20 States including Karnataka immediately through the Calamity Relief Fund.

Sir if the assessment of the Union Government is that this is the biggest tragedy in the living memory of the country in flood situation, then why only Rs. 1,284 crore has been released? Why has not the entire money been released? Why is there no extraordinary grant or packages for the different States—States like Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Assam and North-East, Orissa, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Gujarat and Kerala where floods have created havoc? I always feel that in such a grim situation of national calamity, there should not be any partisan attitude, there should not be any lip sympathy and there should not be any playing of the politics....*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): Sir, we have prepared a note and it has been circulated it to all the hon. Members. It shows as to what is the damage caused in each of the State, to what amount of money each of the State is entitled to, what assistance has been given and what assistance can be given to them. Now if you say that we are treating Karnataka in a step-motherly manner, probably this is nothing but politics. I have put this document in the hands of the hon. Members and it speaks about each of the State.

...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Sir, we did not get it.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: You just go and collect it from the Publication Counter....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Sir, I am only placing the anguish of the people of Karnataka which has been expressed by the Chief Minister of Karnataka in an official Press Conference.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: That you can say, but you do not say that we are giving step-motherly treatment.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: I also know that these amounts are budgeted and entitled. We also know that this has been recommended by various Finance Commissions—starting from 10th Finance Commission to the 12th Finance Commission. This is a mandatory sum. What we are asking is this. We want more than the ordinary grant. We want a package. If "X" State is getting a package, if "Y" State is getting a package, there should not be any step-motherly treatment to the State of Karnataka. The State of Karnataka had already given one Memorandum in July itself. Now, again they are coming with another Memorandum for more than Rs. 4200 crore of relief. Therefore, we are requesting for an extraordinary assistance because, for the first time, more than 237 people died in the State of Karnataka because of the flood situation.

Shri Shivraj Patil, the hon. Home Minister, visited Guwahati and Patna. Shrimati Sonia ji also accompanied him. The Assam Government's spokesman said in Guwahati: "Assam's floods have ravaged 26 of the 27 districts since June. The Congress leader also visited Eastern Assam. The UPA Chief has assured the Chief Minister of all possible assistance." The Assam Government's spokesman said this. We have no reservation if the UPA Chairperson goes to different parts of the country. I do not understand one thing. Later, in Patna, Sonia ji and Patil ji held an hour-long discussion on the flood situation with the senior Government officials at Raj Bhavan. It was in Patna. Though Sonia ji stayed clear of the media, she interacted with the political workers inside the Raj Bhavan. We have no objection to that. The question is that the hon. Prime Minister has been elected from the State of Assam. He represents the State of Assam. He is the Chief Executive of the country. I want to ask the hon. Home Minister one thing. We expected that the hon. Prime Minister would visit many important States where flood has ravaged such States.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: He did visit Karnataka.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: We expected him that he should come to Karnataka.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: He did go to Karnataka.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: He has not come to Karnataka....(*Interruptions*) He has not come for seeing the floods.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: The level of the debate should not be lowered down....(*Interruptions*) Last year, I did go to Karnataka....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: There is no lowering of the debate. I have not yielded to you....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Last year, I did go to Karnataka. I could not go to Assam....(*Interruptions*) What is this? I traveled with the Ministers and others in Karnataka but I could not go to Assam. You do not expect the Ministers and the Prime Minister to visit each and every place....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: My only earnest request to the hon. Home Minister is this. The U.N. states that this is the worst-ever flood in India in the living memory. When it is the case, then I expect the hon. Prime Minister of the country to visit Assam, the North-East, Karnataka, Gujarat, Kerala and Orissa which are most affected. I do not know why he has not visited....(*Interruptions*)

The hon. Home Minister Shri Shivraj Patil ji can definitely accompany the Prime Minister but he is accompanying the Congress President! We have no objection to that. Therefore, if somebody is lowering this tragedy, it is they. They are playing politics with this....(*Interruptions*)

I charge the UPA Government with callousness in handling the flood situation in the country. I will come out with scientific details. The experts have said that foresight and better forecasts are needed. They are responsible with the governance. Last year, we had brought forward the Disaster Management Act also. They have come out with many organizational structures for that. I think they are answerable to Parliament and, through Parliament, to the entire people of the country about how those systems are functioning.

The Meteorological Department's long-term predictions did not warn farmers of the recent deluge and the damage it would do to their crops.

I will quote further, Sir, this year's regional forecasts do not reflect the trend of the monsoon. IMD has said that North-West India would receive rains amounting to 90% of its long period average. i.e., the LPA, North-east India 98% of its LPA, Central India 96% of its LPA and South Peninsula 94% of its LPA. This indicates an even distribution of rainfall as seen in the map. There are large parts of the country that have had nearly 200% of what was expected. The Meteorological Department had expected 90%, 95% or 98%, Sir, whereas the rains are to the extent of 200%. Therefore, I want to know, Sir, what is the problem and where are we going wrong? Why are we failing to forecast and forewarn the country regarding the rains, unprecedented rains and floods?

I want to bring out an incident. I want to bring out a report from the home State of the hon. Home Minister, Sir. Recently, on 10th July, 2007, the Comptroller and Auditor General's Audit Report for Maharashtra was tabled on the Table of the State Legislature on 18th April. It has scrutinised the post-flood disaster relief expenditure in the year 2005-06. Why are our flood relief programmes failing? I think it will be an eye-opener. The Performance Audit of the expenditure on preparedness for flood and relief rehabilitation to the flood victims indicated that the level of preparedness of floods was not adequate. This is CAG Report on the State of Maharashtra. Relief assistance was not extended without proper identification of affected persons. Financial management was deficient and monitoring on relief and rehabilitation activities was unsatisfactory. Sir, the CAG Report continues. I want to bring it to the knowledge of this august House. No lessons were learnt from flood disaster of 2005. The VHP system in Nanded and Sangli districts and 3 talukas of Kolhapur district were shown non-functional. During the subsequent floods disaster of 2006 although the model action plan prepared by the Union Government in 1981 that had laid down the importance of cleaning of drainage passing through residential areas regularly well before the onset of monsoon, the CAG's Audit scrutiny found that in none of the 10 Maharashtra districts where audit review was carried out; instructions were not issued for drainage cleaning to the administrative departments, to the district authorities and the local bodies. Even after the flood disaster in July-August, 2005, long term plans aimed at desiltation of rivers, improvement of drainage systems were not in place in any of the districts. In the case of Mumbai, on the recommendations of the Government's fact finding Madhavrao Chitley Committee, desiltation and widening of Mumbai's Mithi River was carried out. But, I quote—it is very important—but even here the CAG could

[Shri Ananth Kumar]

not ascertain the claim of the Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority of having excavated 12.56 lakh cubic metres of silt, debris, rocks from the river.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRABUNATH SINGH (Maharajanj, Bihar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, hon'ble Member Shri Ram Kripal Yadavji had just raised the discussion on lathichage in Betia. I had talked to the District Magistrate of Betia just now. There was no lathicharge in Betia today. Betia is not fully affected by flood waters rather people, whose crops have been destroyed by the rains, had assembled there yesterday and started pelting stones at the police injuring 2 policemen. But, not a single person was injured from the public. No Member should make false allegations in the House. They should talk responsibly and not indulge in making irresponsible utterances....(*Interruptions*)

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Take your seat now.

[*English*]

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Sir, I would like to bring another incident to the notice of this august House about non-coordination between the Centre and the States due to which floods are occurring repeatedly. I want to quote what the Water Resources Minister of the Government of Assam said. Shri Bharat Chandra Narah, the Water Resources Minister of the Government of Assam said:

"Though the North Eastern Electric Power Corporation (NEEPCO) has denied media reports that it had released water from its Ranga Nadhi Project in the neighbouring States, the Assam Government was not satisfied. We suspect NEEPCO has released water from Ranga Nadhi. Otherwise, how would large tracts in Lakhimpur and Dhemaji get inundated all of a sudden and that too without heavy rains?"

Sir, I am bringing all these issues to the notice of the hon. Home Minister because I feel the entire House is with him in controlling the flood situation in the country and also to provide relief and rehabilitation to the people in flood ravaged areas. The Government of India had constituted a Task Force on Flood Management, Erosion and Control in August, 2004 when the UPA came into power. The reason why I wanted the hon. Prime Minister to visit Assam was that he represents the State of Assam in Parliament. This Task Force was asked to look into recurring floods in Assam and some other neighbouring

States and it was headed by the Chairman, Central Water Commission. The Task Force submitted its Report on 12th December, 2004. This means, it submitted its Report within 6 months of its constitution. The Task Force had recommended a number of flood management works amounting to a total of Rs. 4,982.10 crore which included works amounting to Rs. 310.14 crore under immediate works and works amounting to Rs. 2,030.15 crore as short-term works and works amounting to Rs. 2,635.81 crore as short-term works category-II to be implemented in 6 months, 2 years and 7 years respectively. The State Governments were, however, required to prepare Detailed Project Reports of all the schemes and process them for approval as per the guidelines of the Planning Commission and get the techno-economic clearance by apprising the agencies for taking them up for implementation. My question is this. What has happened to the implementation of the recommendations of the Task Force? If these recommendations had been implemented for the State of Assam and the entire North East, would the floods have ravaged Assam now?

Sir, even the hon. Chief Minister of Bihar has said that if the flood in Bihar has to be controlled, it cannot be controlled only by the efforts of the Government of Bihar, but there has to be a meeting between the Governments of India, Nepal, Bhutan and Bangladesh and he has requested the Prime Minister to do the needful in this regard because only with this international cooperation floods in Eastern Uttar Pradesh and Bihar can be controlled. We expected that there would be a meeting at the level of the Prime Minister because this is the third consecutive year of flood in Bihar.

Sir, the hon. Home Minister said that he has circulated a report to hon. Members of Parliament about the action taken to control flood. I also want to draw his attention to the Annual Report of the Ministry of Home Affairs for the year 2006-07. Under the heading 'Natural Calamities in 2006', in paragraph 8.22 it is stated:

"In the overall scenario, 22 States and 1 Union Territory were affected in variant degrees by various natural calamities like heavy rains, flash floods, floods, land slides, cloud bursts and cyclonic storms as per the preliminary reports received from the States, 47.74 lakh hectares of cropped area and about 8.82 lakh houses have been affected besides loss of lives of 2,643 persons and 1,15,783 cattle. The flood situation in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh,

Jammu and Kashmir, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa and Rajasthan was very severe."

This is last year. I can read the same statistics like this for the earlier year also. Therefore, what we are urging and demanding is that there has to be an institutional mechanism because even the international experts also say this. For example, Prof. Collin Thorn, Head of the Physical Geography, England's Nottingham University says: "You cannot attribute particular events to climate change. But on the other hand, the conditions that promote serious flooding will become much more frequent—we are going to witness every year more and more floods, much more frequent—than they are now. So, the probability is that we will have more extreme events."

There is another international expert, Prof. Graham Chapman of Lancaster University, who has said: "You have to have the society that learns to live with them. With floods, the first thing to learn is that you cannot stop them, you have to live with them." When this is the case, we expect that the Union Government, the Government of India, under the leadership of Dr. Manmohan Singh, under the Stewardship of Shri Shivraj Patil, as the Home Minister, will come out with more serious steps to tackle this flood situation.

Sir, in 2006-07 Report, the hon. Home Minister has given: "The Government have enacted the Disaster Management Act on 26 December 2005." Fair enough. But in that, in addition, the Act contains provisions for constitution of National Disaster Response Fund and National Disaster Mitigation Fund and similar funds at the State and District levels. The Act also provides for the specific role to local bodies, including Panchayati Raj Institutions as well as Urban Local Bodies in disaster management.

My straight question to the hon. Home Minister is whether we have a National Disaster Management Fund instituted. Have they instituted the National Disaster Mitigation Fund? I am asking this because the very Act has been brought up by saying that the existing two funds, the Calamity Relief Fund and National Calamity Contingency Fund are not at all sufficient. Therefore, we are coming out with these new measures and the Act has been passed in 2005. Now, what has been done? What are the precautionary measures taken? These are the basic questions.

I also want to bring out one important thing that day in and day out, we are requesting, through this hon. House, the hon. Home Minister that there should be a revision of CRF guidelines. Now, what has happened is that when there is flood and for one hectare, for the loss of.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: We have revised it. We have increased it by 35 per cent and we have mentioned this in this book. It is only two months back.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Sir, this 35 per cent is a pittance because per hectare the earlier guideline was Rs. 1,000.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: We have already done that. We have mentioned that also.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: What we are demanding is that per acre, and not per hectare, Rs. 4,000 should be given.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: That is a different issue. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Rupees 4,000 should be given for death, for grievous injury, for loss of houses, for loss of crop, for everything.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: It is given in the last page. You will find it if you look at the last page. Every five years, the Finance Commission gives a report and after that we revise the norms. Accordingly, after the Twelfth Finance Commission's report, norms have been revised and in what fashion the norms have been revised is given in the last page in this booklet.

If you just go through it, you will find it. Last time I know that you were insisting on that. You have also contributed in getting this revised.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Thank you, Sir.

Sir, my request to the hon. Home Minister is this. He knows the entire thing very well. These CRF Guidelines had formed a GoM also. You were the Chairman; the hon. Finance Minister and the hon. Agriculture Minister were also part of the GoM for the review of the CRF Guidelines. But the question is this. What were we demanding? We were demanding three things in the Parliament. Firstly, we were demanding compensation for the crops loss in dry farming, compensation for crop loss in the irrigated lands and compensation for crop loss in the horticulture land. But mere 35 per cent increase, Rs. 1000 for 2.4 acre, per hectare, is of no use. It is a pittance.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: That is a different issue.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Therefore, we want proper revision of the CRF Guidelines. That is what we are demanding.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Ananth Kumar, how much time will you take now?

[Translation]

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am concluding my point in 2-3 minutes.

[English]

Before concluding, my demand to the Union Government is that the hon. Prime Minister should visit various States which are severely ravaged by the floods like Karnataka, his own State of Assam in North East, Gujarat, Orissa, Maharashtra and Bihar. The hon. Prime Minister should visit all these States to get a on-hand feel of the flood ravages.

Secondly, we are not satisfied with the review of the CRF Guidelines of increasing a mere 35 per cent of the age-old gratis. It has to be scientific. Therefore the basic minimum we demand is Rs. 4000 per acre of crop losses.

Thirdly, whatever are the recommendations of the task-force, they have to be implemented in a time-bound manner. We do not have the status paper whether they have implemented or not implemented.

Fourthly, I do not know why this UPA Government has kept the interlinking of river water in cold-storage. I want to go back to that Task Force's report. In that Task Force's Report, it has been very clearly said:

"Construction of storage dams, as proposed will considerably reduce the severity of floods and the resultant damages. The flood peaks are estimated to reduce by about 30 per cent in the Ganga and Brahmaputra Basins.

In view of large variations in rainfall over space and time, the country experiences frequent floods in some parts and severe droughts in some others. Floods are a recurring feature particularly in Brahmaputra and Ganga rivers which carry 60 per cent of the water resource of our country. Flood damages which were of the order of Rs. 52 crore in 1953 went up to Rs. 5,846 crore in 1998

with an annual average of Rs. 1,343 crore affecting Assam, Bihar, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh—Sir, nowadays it has come to the down south and West also—besides causing untold human sufferings. On the other hand, large areas in Rajasthan, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu face recurring droughts."

Therefore, the Task Force chaired by my dear friend Shri Suresh Prabhu has come out with a grand plan which was planned by Sir M. Visvesvaraya to Dr. Ambedkar to K.L. Rao to Rajiv Gandhi that interlinking of river waters in the country has to be completed and implemented. That is the only permanent solution for the flood control situation in the country.

Therefore, we urge upon the Union Government that there should not be any politics, there should not be any partisan attitude, and there should not be any lip sympathy and crocodile tears because they have always said:

[Translation]

'The hand of the Congress with the common man', as the slogan goes but the common man and the farmer has been washed away by the flood while you are waving hands from above doing aerial surveys.

[English]

They need to get up and also understand the seriousness of the flood situation that is prevailing in the country. This is the most crudest floods that the country has witnessed in its living memory, according to the United Nations. Therefore, they should tighten the governance and give relief to all the flood-affected States immediately in a time-bound fashion.

[Translation]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): Hon'ble Mr. Chairman, Sir, my previous speaker has said that current flood situation being witnessed by the country today is history's worst in the opinion of the United Nations. The fury of the floods in the State has not subsided as yet. It is a severe flood. I have myself been to Darbhanga, Madhubani, Muzaffarpur etc. in Bihar. Nineteen districts in Bihar are affected by flood causing huge losses to the State. Many shortcomings also came to notice while dealing with the situation, e.g. relief did not reach people properly and there were not sufficient number of boats. I covered 200 kms but could not see even a single boat. No relief reached in the first 7-8 days but it started

reaching slowly later. Just now the hon'ble Member was saying that it was known that floods would occur. If it was known then why arrangements were not made beforehand. It was reported that about 393 places in the 4300 km. long embankment, needed repairs but repair works have not been started at many places even now. It was decided earlier to begin it in May but it is yet to take off. It was known that flood would come but even then no precautionary measures were taken. Likewise, in Uttar Pradesh, there are 22 districts affected by flood, 13 in West Bengal, 14 each in Kerala and Andhra Pradesh, 27 in Assam, 9 in Orissa, 22 in Gujarat, 11 in Rajasthan besides Karnataka and Maharashtra. It is very frightening and crores of people have been affected by it. Around 3.5 to 4 crore people have been affected by it. In the 60 years of freedom, there is not a single year when there was no flood in the country. It occurs frequently in Bihar because water flows down there from Nepal. Similar situation exists in Bengal and the eastern region. Today, even Rajasthan, which is called a desert, is having floods. Gorakhpur is still in dangerous situation today....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN' (Begusarai): There is flood even in China.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Not only in China, but there is flood in the whole of Asia. There is flood even in London and Germany. It is not a matter to score points for political gains. It should be explored as to how to deal with the situation unitedly.

I was going through last 60 years records to find out how much money is spent on it on an average. I would say that on an average Rs. 1360 crore are spent on it. Every year it results in death of 1580 people and one-lakh cattle. It is a great loss. Every year relief and rehabilitation measures are taken after floods. In fact, relief has become an industry now. People, other than the affected ones derive more benefits from relief work. Therefore, there is a need to combat such a situation.

Recent floods have resulted in land erosion at many a places. A number of districts in Bihar and North-Eastern region have been affected by land erosion. A highway has been swept in Begusarai. In addition to it, several river embankments have also faced land erosion. Ganga is an example of it. Murshidabad, Malda and Nadia in West Bengal have also faced land erosion. Brahmaputra also faces land erosion. Therefore, there is a need to prepare an action plan to check it. For this purpose, first

we will have to study the reasons that cause flood. The erosion of embankment has been going on since British era. It results in increase in the height of side, whereas, the level of surface remains same. If any side gets swept away the surface of canal comes in level with the land in its vicinity, which leads to flood over there. In DVC plan eight reservoirs were planned to be constructed to check flow of water so that floods can be averted and reserved water can be utilized for irrigation. But said plan did not materialize and only four reservoirs, out of the 8 planned earlier, could be constructed. It results in floods in Bihar and Bengal every year. Every year, we consider 25 September as the date for arrival of flood. The Jharkhand Government is not prepared to allot land for construction of remaining four reservoirs. If said reservoirs were constructed as planned earlier, present situation could have been averted. Merely strengthening of embankment is not going to solve any purpose. We will have to construct more and more reservoirs and evolve a long-term strategy; otherwise, we will keep facing the fury of floods.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Who is to do it?

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Both, the Central and State Governments will have to do it, and if necessary, the contribution of public may also be sought. It has to be done on massive scale. It has been observed that the Government formulate plans, but it does not implement them in full.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Centre has to do it or the State?

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: The State, Centre and also the local bodies, all these three will have to do it. The States are fund starved, so the Centre should allocate funds to the States.

16.00 hrs

Secondly, drainage system is out of order everywhere. It is so, because of siltage. So far as floods in Midnapore. 24 Pragma, Hawrah and Murshidabad districts are concerned, the State Government has suggested for certain projects for strengthening of drainage system and those will have to be completed. A special drainage programme has been undertaken to save Mumbai from flood. Kolkata also experiences water logging and that results in failure of drainage system. The Government will have to consider drainage package programme for

[Shri Hannan Mollah]

the city. Apart from it, so far as DVC is concerned, we would not be able to save the State from floods unless more and more reservoirs are constructed. The Centre will have to look into this aspect also.

There is no reservoir on river Brahmaputra. The Government are concerned about only constitution of committees. It has constituted four committees, namely Central Flood Control Board, 1954; then Brahmaputra Flood Control Board, 1979; followed by Brahmaputra Board in 1982 and now in 2007, creation of Brahmaputra Authority is underway. This way, four boards have come into existence. But if we fail to see as to where does the problem lie and what needs to be done, what has been done and what has not been done, merely constitution of boards will serve no purpose. As and when, next Government comes in power that will reverse it. Therefore, there is a need to lay emphasis on what responsibilities the board has to carry out and how many projects have been implemented by it?

[SHRI MOHAN SINGH *in the Chair*]

16.03 hrs.

The Government will have to take steps to check massive land erosion being caused by several rivers including Ganga and Brahmaputra. Secondly, deforestation is a matter of concern. All the trees on river banks have been cut, people dig sand there and grow grass, then the banks will be eroded. No steps have been taken to protect it. Earlier, there used to be two forest guards per ten kilometers of distance. They used to ensure that the banks remain intact. That practice is no more in vogue. Deforestation is taking place on river banks and no plans are afoot to check it. None of our schemes are practicable. We will have to take local people with us; otherwise we cannot avert this situation.

Contingency plan is a must to tackle rest of the problems. Contingency plan should be put in place 3-4 months before on set of rainy season. We should do away with the shortcomings if any, in the contingency plan. But the Government will have to see to it. Helicopters are not made available in time, other items required for undertaking flood relief, including food grains are not made available in time for dropping. When water recedes, it will lead to outbreak of several diseases. Unless we evolve a contingency plan, prepare a team of doctors in the event of outbreak of any disease including

the medicines likely to be required, we will not be able to protect the people. The Government should make its intentions clear about the contingency plan. The Government should prepare a long-term plan and there should be constant monitoring of rivers. We will have to get ourselves prepared to act according to the way rivers react. Flood protection programmes should be implemented properly. All the houses may collapse when the floodwaters recede. This year the number of houses that are likely to collapse may be just double of those which collapsed last year. Plans for construction of new houses have to be worked out right away. Indira Awas Yojana should be implemented to the maximum extent and the funds provided under it presently should be increased 8-10 times. My suggestion is that maximum utilization should be made of NREGP. New roads will have to be constructed as they have broken away due to floods. The programme of providing employment for 100 days should be run in these areas also. More houses of the poor have collapsed. Their houses should be built. If they plan to build their houses then such a scheme should be included in NREGP and rules should be relaxed for the purpose. Those who have lost their houses should be included in the NREGP and money should be provided to them thereunder. It will assist those poor people whose houses have collapsed. Thus, there is a need to change the NREGP. Women, children and the handicapped persons are suffering the most. I have seen their condition. They are living on the streets. The animals are not getting fodder today. Human beings manage to get at least some food but animals are not getting fodder. This also is a problem. I think it is the responsibility of the state. It is necessary to see the people bearing the problem. It is also necessary to increase the CRF. The old prices of various items have increased. Prices of fertilizers and seeds have also increased. The CRF amounts need to be raised to help the farmers fully.

Talks should be held with Nepal as far as floods in North India is concerned. Talks should be held with the Government of Nepal for the floods in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. All the water of Nepal flows down here and we are not able to contain it. This problem cannot be solved unless dams are built there. So much electricity can be generated from these dams which can cater to not only one or two States but the whole of the country. Nepal can also become rich from the money which can be earned from that electricity—how is this possible? The Government should take initiative and talk to Nepal. A permanent solution should be found for this. Solution to check flood in the areas having excessive floods can be

found out. Floods reach every year and discussion also takes place but it is a serious problem needing long-term solution. States and the Centre should formulate some scheme together to find a solution. Public should also be involved in finding the solution in order to evolve a scheme therefor.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are having a discussion on flood and also expressing our concern towards the victims, though, this discussion is not taking place for the first time in the House. Floods are certain in the season of floods. Mr. Chairman, Sir, many States of the country are affected by floods including yours. Uttar Pradesh and Bihar are affected by it. Our neighbouring States of Assam, West Bengal, Orissa also get affected by it. It is almost certain that floods will occur there. That is why we hold discussion and get into politicking too. We also get embroiled in whether relief has been distributed or not. But, the floods in Bihar this time are an unimaginable calamity. The main reason for this is continuous rains for more than 20 days from July to first week of August especially in those areas in North Bihar which are lying along the border with Nepal. Senior citizens say that they have never seen such continuous torrential rains in their life. The Meteorological Department situated in Patna has said in its report that such rains were never seen in the previous years. Central Water Commission has told that the rivers flowing near Nepal were flowing two to three metres above the danger mark. Floods were an obvious outcome of such a situation. This flood has led to much destruction and all sections of people, whether poor or rich, have been affected. But, this has troubled the Government of Bihar most. About 19 districts, 187 blocks, 1958 panchayats and 7302 villages have been affected.

It is an estimate as it is not possible to know the exact figures during the flood. But, it is estimated that about 1.25 crore people have become victims of the flood with the number of affected families being thirty lakh. It is an estimated figure as it is not possible to give the correct figures now. About 1.35 lakh houses were badly damaged in the floods and it is guessed that more than 5 lakh houses have got destroyed. Most of the affected people belong to poor section who used to live in their huts in the low lying areas. During the flood they somehow made arrangements for living at higher place along railway lines using plastic sheets or sarees of women. It does not matter which Government is there and whatever relief it will provide, it is just not possible

to bring back normalcy in the lives of the flood affected people. Farmers are in dire straits due to destruction caused by flood. Standing crops of paddy, sugarcane and other foodgrains have been destroyed in lakhs of acres of land. According to the Department of Agriculture, crops have been destroyed in 7 lakh hectares of land. But, it is also an estimate and it is not possible to give exact figures in the present circumstances. According to the Department of Agriculture, crops worth Rs. 943 crore have been destroyed in Bihar. Besides, foodgrains, clothes, utensils and other things kept in the houses of the people have been washed away in the water. There is no information about their livestock also—some have been washed away, some have died and others have escaped to other villages. Thus, there is much destruction everywhere which cannot be denied.

The Government of Bihar is carrying out relief work on war footing. The State Government is facing this serious challenge with full sensitivity and commitment. Officers and staff of all the departments are engaged in the relief work day and night under the direct leadership of the hon. Chief Minister so that every affected family gets relief. Not only officials but the Chief Minister himself is inspecting and monitoring the situation by visiting flood affected areas so that maximum relief material is provided to the victims of flood. He himself is looking after their need of medicines, food and other things. About 5500 boats are being pressed into service in the flood-affected areas in Bihar. Large boats are being sent in trucks by the Department of Disaster Management from less affected areas to highly affected areas. Housing, clothes, food, tarpaulin, medicines, etc. are being provided in relief camps set up for 2 lakh 36 thousand people evacuated from flood-hit areas. The Chief Minister has constituted 441 medical teams and these teams have been sent to flood-affected areas. These teams are working round the clock to provide medical and other assistance to these people. 265 animal shelters and 1062 relief camps are extending all possible help to the people. 6900 quintals of items such as 'choora', 'sattu', 'chana', 'jaggery', salt, matches and candles have been distributed so far. One lakh thirty four thousand quintals of wheat and rice, 90 thousand ploythene sheets and Rs. 7 crore in cash have been distributed so far. Bihar Government is helping the flood-affected people wholeheartedly. It is indisputable that despite providing all assistance the Government is not able to help the people resume a normal life. On the request of the Bihar Chief Minister, the Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh is making arrangements to send around 300 tonnes of foodgrain and one lakh ploythene sheets out

[Shri Prabhunath Singh]

of which some of the material has been received and is being distributed amongst the people and the rest is yet to arrive. Once the material is received it will also be distributed to the people. Four helicopters have been engaged since 2nd of August for dropping food items to places which are inaccessible by boat or other means of transport. So far, 36,340 packets have been dropped amongst the flood affected people by helicopters.

Mr. Chairman, Sir despite all these arrangements by the State Government the flood-affected people are still facing lots of difficulties. It is natural to sympathise with them. But the flood situation in Bihar cannot be controlled by the State Government alone. The major responsibility lies on the shoulders of the Union Government. The reason for this is that the State Government cannot hold talks with Nepal. Talks had been held with Nepal when Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji was the Prime Minister. But that proved to be futile. Even now, until talks are held with Nepal, the problem of floods cannot be solved. It has become a kind of tradition there that floods will occur and relief material will be distributed. Some people are drowned, we make speeches in the House which are published in the newspapers. In this manner we comply with convention.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Bihar Government has prepared a plan and submitted it to the Union Government. I would like to tell the Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs through you, that Bihar Government has made a plan to link the rivers in the State. It cannot be said that linking of these rivers would save Bihar from floods entirely but the devastation that occurs presently can be avoided. In fact, the Gaya region in Bihar is facing a drought like situation like situation despite floods occurring in rest of the State. Even now, the weather is quite hot there whereas it has been raining for the last three or four days in Chhapra, which was mentioned just now. Different regions of the State face different problems because of the floods. whereas on the one hand Madhubani, Darbhanga, Samastipur are devastated by floods, on the other hand Betiah Chhapra, Siwan, Gopalganj and Vaishali in North Bihar are suffering from water logging since there is no drainage system in place there. Large tracts of low lying areas and crops of farmers have been flooded and they are not in a position to replant the crops. The farmers will face starvation if there are no crops for one year. I would like to bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs that the State

Government expects Union Government to extend a helping hand and in this context the Chief Minister of Bihar Shri Nitish Kumar has on 12.08.2007...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ): Would you allow me to speak for two minutes?

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Take three minutes.

PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Sir, there is a problem because question relating to flood and flood-relief are to be answered by the Minister of Home Affairs but certain questions being raised in this regard relate to my Ministry. I can answer those questions. He raised the matter of rivers...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please reply later. Not now.

PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: I have asked for just two minutes. Please let me make my point. He was talking about what the State Government has done for Bihar. Information about the efforts made or going to be made by the Union Government for Bihar should also be given...*(Interruptions)*. Hannan Mollah Saheb said that another Brahmaputra Board is being constituted. I would like to clarify that a new board is not being constituted but the existing Brahmaputra board is being given a new look...*(Interruptions)*. A Cabinet note has been sent in this regard so that the entire region may be benefited. What I mean to say is that since this work relates to my Ministry, I would like to clarify matters to avoid any misunderstanding...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon'ble Minister, you must reply when the debate gets over and you would be given an opportunity to intervene.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': There will not be any misunderstanding. It is the responsibility of the Centre. It is a common responsibility. Minister of Home Affairs will give a reply to this. You must give him the feedback...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you would like to intervene then you would be given an opportunity.

PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Please listen to me. What I mean to say is that Minister of Home Affairs will give a reply to this but what about the questions being raised in between as to what does the Union Government propose to do for Bihar...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You must also reply.

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': There is lack of coordination in your Government....(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon'ble Minister, debate on flood is going on, this includes relief as well as flood related schemes. The flood schemes are related to your department. Once the debate gets over and a few Hon'ble Members have had their word thereafter you have all the right to intervene. You are required to give a notice in this regard and then you would be allowed to intervene. For now, let the hon'ble Members speak. If Ministers themselves will intervene then the proceedings are likely to go on till late in the evening. Prabhu ji, you carry on with your statement.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, Bihar is a part of the country and I am not saying that the Union Government is not concerned about Bihar or does not consider itself to be answerable for the same. I simply want to say that hon'ble Minister must approve the proposal forwarded by the Government of Bihar, by the Chief Minister of the State regarding river linking and funds should be allocated for the same. Otherwise also if any State Government seeks funds then it is not seeking any favour, it is their right and they are rightfully asking for their rights. So there is nothing like favouring them. It is the responsibility of both Union and the State to safeguard the lives of the people of the country and the Union Government is in no way detached from that. I was saying that Hon'ble Chief Minister had met Hon'ble Prime Minister and requested him for various things including a request for providing resources worth Rs. 11.56 crore under various items. He has demanded Rs. 5000 crore for building flood and earthquake proof houses and shelter places. Similarly, a demand for Rs. 700 crore has been made to overcome the losses suffered in the field of agriculture. Rs. 1600 crore have been demanded for rehabilitating people and for developing latest flood control technology. A request has been made for constituting a high level task force in order to find a permanent solution to the damages suffered by Bihar every year. A request has also been made to launch a high level initiative with Nepal to find a solution to the problem. An additional allocation of 30 lakh quintal of wheat and rice has been demanded so that 50 kilogram of wheat alongwith 50 kilogram rice could be distributed amongst each affected family. 180 lakh liters of kerosene has also been demanded. A request has been made to increase the amount being given to the farmers from Rs. 2000 to

Rs. 5000 for the crop damage suffered by them. There is an estimate of grant of Rs. 212 crore under the stocks and management request for which has been forwarded to the Union Government. Rs. 1600 crore are likely to be spent for laying of the damaged roads and assistance has been sought for the same. I was saying that it is not only the farmers who have been affected by the floods, infact, the Government of Bihar has also been affected badly. Hon'ble Chief Minister had taken the development of Bihar as a resolve and new roads were being laid in Bihar all around. But those roads have again been converted to pits. Bihar has been badly affected with economic burden. Chief Minister of Bihar has kept all these things before the Hon'ble Prime Minister and through you I would also like to request that Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs, who is present here must seriously consider the issues raised by me and help the State Government in getting assistance form the Government.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would only like to say that when I will be giving a reply, Hon'ble Member may not be present here....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would surely be here at that time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is leaving now, he has to leave early.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I would like to say that the Union Government grants three kinds of assistance. Firstly CRF, secondly—NCCRF and thirdly—Planning Commission provides the assistance. The kind of demand being made by Hon'ble Member is funded by the Planning Commission. He should not merely issue a memorandum, in fact, he should send it in a proper planned manner as to how many houses have got damaged, how much money is required for their repair, how many roads have been damaged and the funds required for their repair along with the amount due to be paid to the farmers. He must forward a plan for all these and we will get it reviewed. That issue goes to the Cabinet. Each year funds are granted to people of all the regions irrespective of their being Tsunami affected, flood or earthquake affected. Mr. Chairman, Sir, funds would be granted once their plan is received but simply writing a letter will not suffice. He will have to present a plan as to how much money is required and for what work, then only we will be able to help.

MR. CHAIRMAN: So far, hon'ble Member is far behind the demand made by Uttar Pradesh. For that he will have to work hard. We have sought Rs. 80 thousand crore and his demand is for mere Rs. 10-20 thousand crore.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, we have also made a demand. I will convey all the points to the State Government as asked by the hon'ble Home Minister and I will submit the draft as desired by the Central Government.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will conclude with a request. People are facing the scourge of flood in Bihar. Flood victims in Bihar have not received any assistance from the Centre so far.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not so. You should read the book. It is written there. It is injustice, it is misinformation.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Bihar has just been provided Rs. 700 crore.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, Centre is responsible for the losses incurred recently due to flood. It should have sent a team to Bihar to review the situation but no team was sent there. Two ministers did go there and one of them has been embroiled in the helicopter controversy. Helicopter was meant for one place and he got down at other place and it has become a controversy after this news appeared in the newspaper. He said that Bihar Government is useless and is doing nothing. He had taken photographers alongwith him and has sent the photos to the newspapers. I urge that such leaders or Ministers should not do politics because Bihar is not a personal state of Nitish Kumar ji, it is an important part of the country. The hon'ble Minister should have taken Chuda-Meetha with him for his Bihar visit so that the flood victims would have got some relief. The cost of Chuda-meetha would have been less than the expenditure incurred on helicopter. We know that the flood victims of Bihar are crying. The former Chief Minister of Bihar used to say that he would drink all the flood water but present Chief Minister Nitish Kumar has no device with him so as to drink the flood water. Now allegations of lathicharge in Betiah, Muzzafarpur are being levelled in the House. Instead of doing politics with the flood victims by making allegations work should be done in the interest of the people of Bihar. People of the country should understand that Bihar is an economically backward State. The Chief Minister of Bihar has, therefore, resolved to develop it

and he is committed to it. Everyone should cooperate so that work can be done in the interest of the people of Bihar.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I thank you for giving a hon. political speech.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, I would like to say that we have not uttered a single word either against Nitish Kumarji or State Government. I want to say that we provided Rs. 114 crore extra after visiting Bihar....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to tell hon'ble Home Minister that it was said for some one else and not him....*(Interruptions)* I am grateful to him that he went there and inspected the relief work there and helped in it....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, that issue ends there. Take your seat.

Shri Balasaheb Vikhe Patil

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL (Kopergaon): The House should not talk about Bihar only, it should talk about Maharashtra and the whole of the country....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: That was about the country so far. Now you should talk about Maharashtra.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on this discussion. While initiating the discussion, Ananth Kumarji has said that

[English]

The United Nations has declared the flood situation in India and Bangladesh as the worst in the living memory.

[Translation]

It is true and this should also be accepted that nobody had imagined that flood would strike on such a large scale. It is one thing to make preparations to deal with flood and quite another when the situation goes beyond imagination. The Central Government and the State Government, both are jointly responsible for it and

the problem cannot be solved by making accusations. Hon'ble Home Minister has published a book.

[English]

South West Monsoon 2007—flood situation in the country.

[Translation]

It is for the first time that he has provided this book to all the publication counters. This book mentions as to what is happening and what is not happening in each State and what must be done. It is a good book and I hail the hon'ble minister for it that for the first time an effort has been made to provide this book taking Parliament into confidence. Otherwise, it was difficult to get even a note.

Secondly, hon'ble Prime Minister has also given orders for providing immediate relief. It is also true that the Home Minister and UPA Chairperson Shrimati Sonia Gandhi visited Patna, Guwahati and some other places. They tried to meet the people, spoke to them and asked the Government to provide relief there. Hon'ble Home Minister also asked for it and met the people there. Shrimati Sonia Gandhi is the Chairperson of the UPA. I cannot understand what is the objection in her going over there? Some Members were objecting why did she go there and not the Prime Minister. I understand that it is necessary that Prime Minister should go there but it is not possible for the PM to visit each State at the same time. Gavit ji visited Gujarat recently. He took stock of the situation and discussed it. The Government listened to him. You were also in the NDA Government and you know that it was difficult for a person to visit all places in the country in a single tour at that time.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN (Bhagalpur):
You too were with us.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Therefore, I want to say that it is necessary to hold discussion on the flood situation by rising above politics and party affiliations. Politics is going on in Karnataka, Bihar and Gujarat. Preparations have to be made now to deal with the flood situation. All the States have Government of one party or the other. Bengal has Government of one party, Maharashtra has of another, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand yet another. Therefore, it is not right to criticize one and welcome the other because no single party has Government in all the States. It is a problem

for which we all will have to work together. Prabhunath Singhji said that Central Government and State Governments should prepare a policy so that the problem of Bangladesh and Nepal which is continuing from pre-independence days may be addressed. A joint commission was constituted and its meeting was held several times but, it could not arrive at an amicable solution. The political condition in Nepal is unstable. We want peace to be restored quickly and a stable Government there so that an amicable solution could be found by the Government of India and the Government of Nepal and Bihar and Uttar Pradesh may get some relief. It is right that power may be generated there and that power may be supplied to Nepal, India and Bangladesh also. It is not so that Government of India thinks not to provide relief or not to talk to Nepal. Nepal is not an untouchable country and we are continuously holding talks with the Government of Nepal. But such an atmosphere is being created in which it is said that no talks are being held with Nepal. This is not right.

Sir, it is not so that Government of Nepal is not paying attention or Government of India is not paying attention and therefore floods are caused or when the United Nations stated that it is an unprecedented and very serious situation only then Government paid attention to it. I would not like to repeat it. There is a responsibility of the Governments at the time of floods. It is right that it is also the responsibility of the Central Government but it would not do if State Government thinks that everything will be done by the Central Government. The Central Government have to protect the autonomy of States. As per the recommendations of Sarkaria Commission Central Government cannot interfere in matters of State Government and it does not want to do it. You want Central Government to shoulder the responsibilities of States and also to perform its duties. It will not do if you want that Central Government only provide funds and States only receive those funds.

Sir, I would like to welcome hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs who formulated revised guidelines in this regard. As per that the earlier compensation of Rs. 50 thousand has now been increased by the Central Government to rupees one lakh, Funds have been increased under crop insurance scheme. The amount has been doubled in case of a person's death, when one constructs a 'kuccha' house or 'pucca house'. Rehabilitation should be carried out outside flood and command area by earmarking it. The discussion are being held for carrying out rehabilitation work properly. Houses are always constructed on the bank

[Shri Balasaheb Vikhe Patil]

of river for rehabilitation. It makes the problem more complex.

Sir, Hainan Saheb said earlier that we have constructed 'bandhs'. I would like to inform that due to construction of 'bandhs' the level of river beds have gone up. It causes floods whenever it rains. When there were no 'bandhs' water used to spread naturally and flow away. Now it is raining from the month of June. People have been suffering for the last two months. The cattle and utensils of poor people were washed away. They lost their livelihood. It is right that Government is providing food to the people free of cost in flood affected areas. When we talk of rehabilitation it should be carried out whole-heartedly and not be left incomplete. Using our 50 years experience a special package like Indra Awas Yojna should be started for drought prone area and flood prone areas. We should prepare a scheme for constructing special houses for them under it. We should provide for their insurance, social security separately. We should also make arrangement for the education of their children, where they will get education? Their six month's time have been wasted. Therefore I suggest that Central Government and State Governments should build hostels and boarding schools together for the children belonging to economical by weaker sections. They should also prepare such a scheme that their next generation, their children would not have to suffer as a flood victim and they achieve something in future.

Sir, my fourth suggestion is that employment guarantee scheme should be started in flood affected areas on priority basis. It is being implemented in Maharashtra. Maharashtra has tried to divert the rivers for floor irrigation as it has been done in Pathankot. At some places 40 per cent 'Kuccha' houses and at some other places 60 percent 'pucca' houses were washed away by flood waters. When the water goes in the unirrigated areas it does not cause flood because water flows away to different areas. But today with the advent of new technology gates are opened when reservoir is filled with water. As a result at some places 5 lakh, at some places 7 lakh and at some places 10 lakh cusec water get collected causing a flood like situation. At times floods are caused due to excessive rain. At times flood is caused due to our wrong control over reservoir. Therefore, we would have to find out some mechanism under which we may know the exact time when the gates should be closed and opened. We shall have to monitor the reservoir properly. Earlier when it used to rain-water

used to flow away. There was no question of opening or closing down the gates. Earlier it also served the purpose of irrigation, water also got submerged. But at present a flood like situation is continuing in Garchirauli, Amrawati, Sangli and Kolhapur due to new technology. Along with this there is still a dispute between the States of Karnataka and Maharashtra. Floods ravaged Maharashtra in the month of June itself. The months of October and November are still to come when it rains. We have to see how this problem is tackled. It is a good thing that machines and a warning system would be set up. But the main problem of flood is rehabilitation. The Government of India has prepared a policy that each State should prepare and send a interstate river linkage project by the year 2002. But some States have sent such project but others have not Maharashtra has also sent it. I would like to say that Government of India should accept them as project by evaluating them technically.

[English]

It should be a Central or National Project.

[Translation]

It would not be a huge linkage project because this project has been in the center of controversy. Disputes are going on among various States in this regard. In case it is implemented Bihar would have no objection if its water goes to Tamil Nadu, nor Maharashtra would complain if its water goes to Andhra, nor Andhra would say that they want water....(Interruptions)

[English]

I am specifically talking about within the State.

[Translation]

If river linkage project is implemented within the state itself than in the areas where it rains heavily and water flows down.

[English]

Surplus water can be transferred to the deficit areas located within as also outside the basin.

[Translation]

We want 4 per cent growth rate for agriculture, national growth rate at 8-10 per cent and it can be achieved only by this because

[*English*]

Flood control means development.

[*Translation*]

Unless flood is controlled, the damage will continue. Crores of people have been rendered homeless due to this. Houses have been destroyed, crops have also been damaged as a result loans given by the banks have turned into bad debts. So we must do whatever we want to do to check floods. It is essential. Many economists and psychologists have written that all things will be right after flood control.

I would only say regarding damage to the crops of farmers that like the Vaidyanathan Committee had given a package for

[*English*]

revitalization of co-operative societies and district cooperative banks

[*Translator.*]

Radhakrishnan Committee had recommended interest to be waived off for drought affected areas in case crops are destroyed for two years in a row. But what should be done if it happens for the third year also? In this connection, I would urge that carrying forward the recommendations of the Radhakrishnan Committee, the loan of the farmer whose crop gets destroyed in flood-affected areas should be waived off. The Government of India should financially support the banks in this regard otherwise the banks can become bankrupt.

Sir, the farmers were given Takavi loans during the British rule and even after independence. Takavi loan used to be waived off later on. This loan was usually taken for buying livestock, seeds, plough and for constructing house. This which was its purpose. Shri Vasant Rao Naik was the Chief Minister then and he extended Takavi loan amounting to Rs. 700 crore to the farmers.

[*English*]

Ex-gratia payment is assistance.

[*Translation*]

We should think as to how we can provide relief to the people by mixing new and old methods otherwise they will say that we only deliver speeches. Discussion on flood and famine took place three times last year. It seems like it has become a compulsion for the House to hold discussion on famine and flood, otherwise what will the people think? But, holding discussion is also not yielding

any results. Except for 5-6 years, I have been a member in the House for 25 years. I see that the same discussion is taking place every year. But no concrete plan is being made. Shri Ananth Kumarji has spoken about Task Force.

The Task Force of the Ministry of Water Resources has written it correctly that they had formulated a plan involving the expenditure of Rs. 5300 crore for 2010 and for Rs. 3400 crore for 2005-06 and 2006-07 respectively but there were not implemented. It has also been written that

[*English*]

the States are not capable. So, sharing should be there.

[*Translation*]

Sharing has taken place. Somewhere they have given 90% share and in some cases they have prescribed 25% share to State and 75% to Centre. I am giving this suggestion because it is not one day's work.

[*English*]

It should be treated as basic infrastructure like road, irrigation etc.

[*Translation*]

Now, we all want to increase the growth rate of Indian economy along with the rise in population and to achieve that we want electricity, railways, industries, SEZs. We speak about infrastructure. Make flood rehabilitation and flood control a part of infrastructure, flood bonds could be floated or external loan could be taken and every state should be made responsible. Funds should be given to that state only which will work properly because

[*English*]

some accountability should be there. It should not be without any accountability of the States or the concerned Departments.

[*Translation*]

The same thing is happening in North East. This problem surfaces there every year. There is shortage of electricity too in our area and that is why I am giving this suggestion.

[*English*]

It should be treated as infrastructure.

[*Translation*]

Otherwise, it will not get priority. I, therefore, would like to give 3-4 more suggestions to the Government.

[Shri Bala Saheb Vikhe Patil]

16.46 hrs.

[SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN *in the Chair*]

In the present context, something has been stated about Maharashtra. I would say that the funds given for Mumbai are being used properly and efforts are being made to control flood situation through it. Though in case of sudden floods no Government, no State can do anything. But, as far as Government of India is concerned then I have no hesitation to say that it has opened many centres. Army helicopters are flying there, army boats have been pressed into service and jawans are working. My second suggestion is that military is not employed so hurriedly all over the world. India is the only country where army is called for just any work in any state whether it be peace, riot, flood situation or disaster management. I have no objection to it but there should be some provision under disaster management law and there should be some organization which should work itself.

[English]

Army men are also human beings.

[Translation]

At least, it should be considered before pressing Army into service.

[English]

So, my suggestion is that there should be a separate organization to deal with disaster management. I can understand in an emergency situation but not for all time to come.

[Translation]

The Government and all the parties should ponder over together to find the way to help the people and provide them relief. Army has today become a plaything, which can be called anytime. This also is not right in my view.

[English]

We must have an authority for each and every valley. Once we have an authority for each and every valley, then we can plan everything including rainfall, runway, floods and what not. Some States have appointed some Basin Valley Authority. The Brahmaputra Board is converting the Board into the Valley Authority. It is a welcome step. In that way, the Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India and the State Government should see to it. This is a State subject.

[Translation]

Reference was also made about the Brahmaputra Board. I am giving this suggestion for every valley.

[English]

Law and order, earthquakes, flood situation, cyclone and what not, everything under sky

[Translation]

All our State Governments must see to it that one water authority is set up for every river. This will help in proper planning. We already have some experience of flood situation but it will help in controlling it. This is my humble suggestion. There are many problems but you are the chairman and you have given a warning. We are bound to obey because.

[English]

we cannot overrule you, otherwise, you will not allow us to speak next time.

[Translation]

My suggestion is only this that the flood situation is very serious; it is unprecedented. But, it is wrong that Karnataka has been given funds. Government of India is treating all the States equally and giving them equal money.

[English]

They are treating everybody equally.

[Translation]

We should discuss this issue rising above party politics. But, if we just keep making speeches and indulge in politics then it will create problem in that the victims will remain victims. It is not the solution of the problem.

[English]

Trying to score political points over one another will not lend any seriousness to the debate scoring politics.

[Translation]

This is my request to all of you.

With these words, I conclude and extend sincere thanks to you for allowing me to put forth my views.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Chairman Sir, this session of the Parliament is known as Monsoon Session. Since the beginning of my career as legislator and Member of Parliament whenever there is monsoon session every year floods, rain and drought are discussed in assembly and Parliament. But after the session we forget everything, flood occurred and flood water receded, certain relief works are executed and some of them are not executed. We think that flood occurred this year only and it would not recur next year and we do not discuss the precautionary measures. Every year when there is a discussion, we come to hear one sentence—the flood of this year is unprecedented and I think that after repeating the same sentence we never take care to be prepared

in advance for next year. Now, United Nation has also expressed its concern that perhaps India has witnessed unprecedented flood this year. But our villagers termed the flood of this year more devastating than that of 1998 and in 1998 they had said that the flood of year 1998 was more devastating than that of year 1936. After that all the people, particularly the politicians and people running administration forget the havoc of floods. The flood of this year is different from the floods of previous years in one respect that this year flood occurred in June and July otherwise flood always occurred in the end of August and September.

I had gone to Gujarat with a Parliamentary Committee. On the way in the desert area of Banner and Jaisalmer, I was very much worried that it would be very hot there and it would be difficult to stay there but next day it rained cats and dogs in the ran of Kutchh and our journey to Ahmedabad became a difficult job. It did not stop raining and Gujarat was almost flooded with water in a week and before that Mumbai was already flooded. Every time when we used to discuss the flood situation in the Parliament our colleagues from Maharashtra and Gujarat mocked at us and said that these Members from eastern Uttar Pradesh and Northern Bihar hype the flood up and create pressure in the Parliament for some undue package. But during the last three or four years the people of Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Gujarat and the rich states of our country have got a feel of the havoc of flood and the problems of the people affected thereby and they are now sensitive to that situation and it soothes us. Flood in eastern UP is a routine phenomenon. But this year Hon. Minister of Home Affairs has mentioned the names of 22 districts as flood affected districts in U.P. One or two names are missing in this list and my Parliamentary constituency—Deoria is one of them. There was horrible flood which caused a lot of destruction. Flood occurred and receded but it cannot be said that it will not occur again. Rainy season is not over yet and floods can recur. Several districts, where there is flood every year, have not been mentioned in the booklet circulated by the Home Minister. At present Uttar Pradesh is facing the crisis of drought. 22 to 24 districts were affected by floods. The remaining 35 or 36 districts are affected by drought. This year the floods were more problematic because neither the administration nor the political activists had expected floods in the month of July itself. But as our friend Shri Prabhunath Ji said that it rained in cersantly for 30 days in Bihar and in some districts, particularly in Gorakhpur and Basti from 10th of July to 30th of July. Now work could be carried out and as a result thereof occurrence of floods in the areas which experienced heavy downpour was quite natural. Today, there is news in newspaper and on television that the flood situation in Bihar has worsened further because it has been raining continuously since yesterday. I also inquired on telephone and came to know that it had been raining from yesterday in my constituency also. Deoria and Kushinagar are in east-

zone of the country and so whenever there is rain in Patna, Betiah and Gopalganj, it rains in Deoria and Kushinagar also and those areas also face the same problems. The television are showing the pictures of water flowing at knee deep level in Patna. Drainage of water is a serious problem. In my constituency all of a sudden a dam broke down and the whole tehsil got inundated overnight and the people were caught in a fix. Any kind of relief was not possible. There was a tragedy in our neighbouring Maharajganj, Gorakhpur. The villagers were affected by 646 terrible flood in a small river. Almost all the people of a village tried to board a single boat. According to the official report, the boat capsized and 36 people were drowned and they could not be rescued. But the local people say that the death-toll could be higher. Same kind of tragedy occurred in Kushinagar district when a dam broke and water gushed into the village and more than a dozen people died in boat accident. Just now a suggestion has been made that the people of flood prone areas should be rehabilitated out of the catchment area. I think that it has two aspects - one aspect is that there should be immediate relief after the floods. The people should be compensated for the cattle and the crops destroyed by the flood and houses should be provided to those people whose houses have been damaged. We prepare an estimate every year that the Government would get 1.5 lakh houses constructed under Indira Aawas Yojna this year. Another 1.5 lakh people are rendered homeless by the time this scheme is executed and those 1.5 lakh people require additional houses. Thus the existing scheme is set aside and a new problem is cropped up before us and we talk about providing houses to such people immediately. But these people have their own problems. If we ask them to leave that place because every year that place is flooded. Then those people are not willing to leave that place because they earn their livelihood there only. They have their land and property there only and they earn their livelihood from that area only. So they are not ready to leave that place.

17.00 Hrs.

Therefore, in addition to implementing relief schemes, the Government should simultaneously raise the surface level of flood prone areas and villages which get submerged every year. If the level of residential areas is raised flood-related incidents, such as loss of lives etc. can be averted.

Gandak, a major river, passes through my district. Apart from my district, it causes havoc in Bihar also. Since a railway bridge was constructed on said river with the cooperation of the Government of India, the engineers besieged the course of Gandak in such a way so that it causes no damage to the bridge on river. The besieging of river course now saves the crops over thousands of acres which used to get waterlogged and destroyed earlier. But since the river course has not been besieged beyond 8-9 kms, so beyond this stretch the water flow in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh swiftly. Therefore, in view of it,

[Shri Mohan Singh]

the Government should evolve an action plan, though it may be quite expensive. Howsoever, it should be considered as a scheme of national importance. The Government of India should evolve a scheme, wherein, course of rivers should be besieged and all the rivers which cause havoc should be included in the said scheme.

Secondly, prevention from flood and relief work could easily be done in eastern UP because the largest river, the Ganges was not flooded. The water of several small rivers from Ghaggar to Rapti fall into Ganga. Since Ganga has sufficient capacity to absorb the water of other rivers so it did not cause more havoc in eastern Uttar Pradesh. What I mean to say is that, all predecessor Governments since the time of Dr. K.L. Rao, when he was a Union Irrigation Minister, had never accepted it as their responsibility to protect the states from floods. It used to be the responsibility of State Governments. Constitutionally, since irrigation is a state-subject, so the Central Government did not owe the responsibility of protecting states from flood and it was left to the states to formulate plans in this regard, when Dr. K.C. Rao assumed the office of Union Minister of Irrigation, the state governments, especially the State Government of Uttar Pradesh gave a memorandum to him demanding that all small or large rivers flowing through U.P. should be connected in such a way that the course of rivers which has more flow of water should be controlled in such a way so that it can be diverted to another river which has less water flow so that it cannot cause flood. It will also result in storage of water for future use for irrigational purposes. Similarly, large reservoirs should be constructed so that floodwater can be stored in them. One such project was evolved during Dr. K.C. Rao's regime. Previous NDA Government prepared outlines of such project. They conceptualized an ambitious project for inter linking of rivers from north to south. Though said project may be quite capital intensive one, yet I would urge the Government to complete said project so that a permanent solution could be found to flood problem.

Thirdly, I would like to say that several very large rivers, especially Brahmaputra and Ganga flow from Himalyas to the Indian soil. Now, not only Indians, even environmentalists from all over the world are of the view that Gangotri glaciers are Shrinking every year by two meters. If it continues, they have predicted that the existence of Ganga will be extinct in next 50 years. The five rivers, namely Indus, Jhelum, Chenab and Ravi etc. flow from Tibet. As Tibet has no independent existence, so these rivers have come under the control of China. People of our country demand our Government hold talks with Nepal and Bhutan, but nobody dares to talk about holding talks with China. What can be greater misfortune than this for such a vast country as ours? Every other day we hear the news that large sized glaciers have been broken and pushed into river Chenab which has

flooded Himachal Pradesh. We never try to convey that why a glacier has been broken and pushed into the river. Some news channels have broken the news that China is trying to change the course of river Brahmaputra with the aid of hydrogen. Recently, it has been reported by the newspapers that China is constructing road to scale the highest Himalayan peak, Mount Everest, or Sagarmatha as we call it in Hindi. China has laid rail network throughout Tibet. Now, the environmentalists of the world say that environmental imbalance has been created in Tibet, the roof of the world. Global warming has resulted in melting down of these glaciers. Therefore, I would urge the Government of India to hold talks in this regard with the Government of Nepal, though we have had talks with them, the Government of Bhutan and also with the Government of China. This time, the Government should come out courageously and tell China that it wants to hold talks with China not only on border issues but also with regard to the rivers originating from Himalyas. A coordinated policy should be framed jointly by India and China then only we can check the course of these rivers and can evolve a mechanism to protect India from floods. I am apprehensive about the steps the Government may take in this regard.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for having given me an opportunity to speak on this topic.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhunjharpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, today, we are holding a discussion on the calamity of floods in this august House of the country. Today, we are discussing the unprecedented floods that have hit the country. Today, it has become a matter of concern for the country. Hon'ble Member Shri Mohan Singh ji, very rightly said just now that we have only Monsoon Session when we do not discuss the situation of floods and drought every year and there must be some conclusion of the discussions. Therefore, I would like to draw your kind attention towards the challenge faced by the nation today. Floods have caused havoc. Nearly 22 States of the country namely, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Assam, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh etc. are badly effected by floods. So far, approximately 1,200 people have lost their lives in these 22 States, more than 3 crore people have been displaced and crops worth crores of rupees have been destroyed. In Bihar seedlings of paddy have also got washed away due to which paddy crop could not be taken home. A question has arisen as to what would the people eat this year because only two crops i.e. wheat and rice are cultivated there. More than 68,000 cattle have been washed away in the floods. Particularly Bihar, Eastern Uttar Pradesh, Assam and West Bengal have been badly affected by floods. More than 60 lakh people in Bihar and West Bengal are affected by floods. In Uttar Pradesh 21 districts have been affected due to half a dozen rivers like Ghagra, Rapti and Sharda. 6 months of floods and 6 months of drought have become the destiny of Bihar. The condition in 20 districts of Bihar

is very serious due to floods. Madhubani, Darbhanga, Sarnastipur, Seetamarhi, Saharsa, East Champaran, West Champaran, Supaul, Katihar, Madhepur, Sheohar, Gopalganj, Khagadiya, Begusarai, Arariya, Patna, Nalanda and Bhagalpur are the districts worst affected by floods. It rained for twenty two days continuously in Bihar, which has never happened before. The people there can withstand rain for only seven days. They cannot withstand continuous rain for twenty two days. The Hon'ble Minister of Water Resources is present here and he is aware that the largest river there is Kamla. Besides that, there was a rise in the water level of the rivers flowing from Nepal like—Kosi, Gandak, Budi Balan, Bagmath, Budi Gandak, Aadwara Samuh, Lakhndei, Fareha, Mahananda, Narayani which resulted in devastating floods and the 30 year old record was broken. Such unexpended floods have not occurred in Bihar so far. The people there were not used to withstand such heavy floods. There is complete devastation in north Bihar. There were no means of transport because all the roads were washed away. The District got cut off from Sub-Divisional Headquarters and the division got cut off from block headquarter. Road link was cut off. Nobody could go from one place to another. Everything remained wherever it was. The management which had to be done prior to the calamity was lacking. Arrangements for boats were not made. I do not want to politicize this issue but arrangements have not been good this year. The boats were not repaired. The practice is to repair boats six months in advance before the rainy season to make the boats sailable. This year precalamity management which ought to be done was not there. This season even Patna district could not remain unaffected from floods. Jalla region, Mokamabadahiya and Fatwatal region which is spreading in an area of 1200 square kilometer, got affected by flood severely.

17.12 hrs

[SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN *in the Chair*]

Pulses are the main crop of Bihar. All the dams and embankments between Punpun to Jahanabad and Nalanda have got damaged. Embankments made on all the rivers be it Kosi, Bhutahi Balan, Kamla Balan, have been damaged. My parliamentary constituency is surrounded by these three rivers. Repair work of embankments was not carried out. In the month of May-June itself I had expressed my apprehensions before the Government in advance about destruction. It was said that the State Government was very sensitive about the

issue and worked on a war footing but the fact remains that they did nothing. I can prove it. I had informed the District Collector of Madhubani about it and also the Secretary, the Commissioner of Water Resources Department alongwith the District Collector that the embankments would be broken this season and people will have to face lot of inconvenience. But no action was taken thereon. Apprehensions were expressed three months in advance about breaking of Bhotahi slope embankments at eleven places, about which I have got proof. I had myself sent a message to Hon'ble Chief Minister of Bihar that he must save the embankments, otherwise the lives of people would be in danger. But no precautionary action was taken thereon. According to the information given by the Calamity Management Department on the 3rd of August, one and a half crore people have been hit by the floods particularly in 20 districts. Nearly 200 people have lost their lives and standing crops on seven and a half lakh hectare of land have been destroyed. During floods, people lose their lives due to three reasons—capsizing of boats, snake bites and by drowning. Out of 1200 people died in floods 300 people have died in Bihar alone. Besides one and a half crore people are affected by floods. According to the official figures 1 crore 40 lakh 54 thousand people are affected by floods. We have put the figures to one and a half crores and I believe this assessment is not correct. During the 10-15 days that we spent amongst the flood affected people, we have ourselves seen as to how many people have died. This is the official report which has been presented by the Ministry of Home Affairs. The State Government has estimated the loss to be to the tune of Rs. 315.76 crores. Would the actual loss be of mere Rs. 315.76 crores? Crop of rice worth crores of rupees got destroyed and lakhs of people were rendered homeless. Kuchha homes were washed away by floods and crores of people were rendered homeless. Therefore, I would like to say that the Union Government should grant a special economic package and help the people who have been rendered homeless. If need be the Government should effect changes in the guidelines under Indira Awas Yojana to reconstruct the houses of flood victims. People would be able to do something when they have a roof over their head. Today, they do not have any shelter. In regard to providing relief, I would like to say that it is a matter of national concern and we all must unitedly find a solution to this problem.

Madam Chairperson, regarding relief I would like to give you the details of the funds released under CRF and NCCF till 31 December 2006 that Rs. 361.28 crore were allocated to Andhra Pradesh under CRF in 2006-07

[Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav]

and the share of the Centre in CRF is Rs. 335.48 crore. The amount released under NCCF is Rs. 203.06 crore. An amount of Rs. 153.23 crore was allocated to Bihar under CRF but no amounts has been released so far. Similar in the case with other States, Utilisation certificate was not furnished by the State Government to the Centre which infact paves way to stall the release of the CRF amounts to the victims of the floods. The allocated amount of Rs. 153.23 crore till 31st December, 2006 has not been released as the utilization certificate has not been submitted by the State. This amount was released as late as on 10th August, 2007 when the hon'ble Home Minister and UPA Chairperson hon'ble Soniaji conducted an aerial survey. An amount of Rs. 114.92 crore has been released four days back comprising first instalment of the Central component for 2006-07. Funds have been released on 10th August 2007 after receipt of utilization certificate from the State Government. Funds were not released because utilization certificate was not received. It is the basic reason due to which Bihar could not get funds. Now, I will discuss about the relief work.

People have struggled a lot to get relief. Just now, some hon'ble Members were stating that lathicharge was not resorted to. Madam Chairman, it is a heart rending incident. There is a village called Chakdah in my district Madhubani. I reached that village at 11.30 p.m., where one Darshanand Thakur had been shot dead. What was his crime? Madhubani was flooded and the district administration wanted to divert flood waters to Chakdah in order to save themselves out of the troubled waters at the cost of the people of flooded areas. I had got a cement road constructed there and people had gathered there as there was water on both sides. Administration asked them to let flood water flow through that areas but the people of the village asked them to divert water on the other side otherwise they will get drowned. But, Administration remained adamant and did not agree and called the whole police force of the Madhubani Police Station. Chief Minister's programme was to be held the next day. All the police officials of the district arrived there and started diverting water forcibly. On this, the villagers formed a human chain there and told the administration that they will not allow water in their village and administration can do so only after killing them. After that, police resorted to lathicharge. People did not move even after getting injured in lathicharge. Some of them are in hospital and I can even tell the names of two injured persons—Shivnath Chaudhary and Dhanik Lal Chaudhary. After that, the police started firing in the

mohalla in which a medical representative, Shri Darshanand Thakur was shot dead while he was putting his bag down just after entering into the Bisvi village. He has a wife and a child. Thus, the 39 year old youth was shot dead on the spot. Those who are flood victims and were demanding relief were shot. Instead of firing, water cannon or lathicharge could be resorted to. If the crowd did not disperse then rubber bullets and tear gas could have been used. Firing could be opened only if the crowd became aggressive. Let the Government prove if rubber bullets or water cannon was used. Opening of fire suddenly is a violation of human rights. What happened with the flood victims in Bihar is very serious. They speak of sympathy but only Home Secretary went there the next day and announced a compensation of rupees one lakh to the bereaved family.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Four more Members of your party have to speak. Other Members are also to be given opportunity to speak.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Please do not bind me in time limit. It is a serious matter. Debate on this issue should continue for two more days. We had proposed this in the BAC meeting. Time should be given to speak considering the seriousness of the matter. The calamity of floods is the most important issue to discuss in the whole of the country as many States have been affected by it. I have been constantly demanding for a judicial inquiry into the manner in which Shri Darshanand Thakur was shot dead in village Chakdah on 3rd August because all the top officials are guilty. Lathicharge and firing was opened on flood victims. Administration was pressing for post mortem at night. In the meanwhile, I reached the hospital. I said that there was no rule for conducting post mortem at night and the District Magistrate postponed it. The dependent family was pressurized to carry out postmortem at night but I told them to do it in day as there is no rule of doing it at night. Home Secretary arrived in the day but was reluctant to visit the site of incident. He was asked to go there and take stock of the situation. Do you know what did the Home Secretary, Bihar do? He filed a case of murder against a havildar and accepted everything indirectly. The officer who gave the orders of firing was not involved by him and he considered as if he had performed his duty just by filing a murder case against a Havildar. This is the story of firing the flood victims instead of providing them relief. people died in lathicharge in the Sonvarsha Block in district Saharsa. People are being killed in the name of providing relief. People are dying not only by getting drowned in the floods but also by firing. Many

people had died in the boat mishap in Samastipur but those who had survived have now died in the course of relief work. It is an inhuman act. That is why I had urged for a judicial inquiry into the matter or else the Central Government should order a CBI inquiry into the Madhubani firing so that truth may emerge. I demand a special financial package for the flood affected people and pucca houses under special Indira Awas Yojana separately for the homeless. This should be done by relaxing all the rules.

Let me tell you something more as this problem is sure to be repeated next time. Regarding relief, Prabhunath Singhji was telling that lot of relief work is going on but only Rs. 250 are being given, actually. Where the people will go with this money? People are sitting on a high embankment and there is no arrangement for grinding of flour or cooking of rice. They should be provided readymade food like gram, sattu or chura but instead they are giving them Rs. 250. Embankments and roads have broken on all sides and foodgrain can not be transported from anywhere. This should have been done 2-3 months before. In hilly areas, food grain is stored before the time of landslides. But, the Government, has failed completely in this regard. There should have been disaster management in advance as to how a natural calamity should be faced.

There is severe crisis of fodder. The number of livestock is declining very fast. Polythene sheet is not available anywhere and we are procuring it from Kolkata. He kept assuring that polythene has reached Muzzaffarpur but it did not. How could it have reached as National Highway has got out off in Muzzaffarpur; schools and roads are lying in tattered condition and traffic is closed. Now, epidemic is spreading fast as it occurs when the waters recede. Now, water has risen again because torrentiality of rains have again increased since yesterday, therefore, life saving drugs, snake-bite medicines should be made available.

Now, I will conclude after making my last point which is about provisional solution. Flood comes every year, so what is its solution? Every six months we keep on debating the flood situation and during the next six months, the drought situation. There was a large-scale demonstration at Parliament Street on 9 August 2002 in which many people had gathered and I also suffered lathicharge. I had asked for a permanent solution of the flood problem. The then Minister of Water Resources,

Shri Arjun Charan Sethi had assured the House that as per the Indo-Nepal talks held in 2001, seven JPO offices would be opened at seven places. A permanent solution under Indo-Nepal Agreement can be found and eastern Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, West Bengal can be saved. Joint project offices were to be opened for temporary solution and hon. Minister of State would tell us as to where the offices have been opened in 2004. Indo-Nepal Agreement took place in 2001 and offices have been opened only at four places and not at seven places. Here, engineers of both India and Nepal will prepare together the Detailed Project Report (DPR). Regarding DPR, it was assured in 2004 but now even 2007 is passing by and nobody knows when it will be ready as it was proposed to be prepared in two years. It will not be prepared unless priority is given to it. A permanent solution means high level dams. High level dams would prove to be useful in achieving multi purposes if they are built at the proposed sites of the rivers originating from Nepal like Kosi at Kabrah, Kamla at Sisapani and Bagmati at Nunthar. This will help in controlling floods and producing hydroelectricity. Ten thousand megawatt hydroelectricity can be produced from them and can be provided at cheaper rates to the farmers in seven states. This project is not being taken up. The Central Government has an important role in it but the State Government is also jointly responsible. Until a permanent solution is found, people will keep on drowning in floods every year and witnessing the destruction all around them. They will keep on harping on relief which will tell upon their industriousness. This country will be weakened if the people seek refuge in relief rather than become industrious. That is why I want to say that stress should be given on permanent solution to the flood problem and water should be controlled by building high-level dams. The Government should ensure compliance of the Indo-Nepal Agreement of 2001. At present the lives of the people should be saved by starting urgent relief work there. But, attention should be paid to find a permanent solution in future. Otherwise I will not spare no effort on this question. If needed, I will take out a march to the Parliament like we did in 2002. The struggle of the local people and flood-affected people will continue until a permanent solution is found. I want to let the house know this that is why I want that the Government should take it on priority basis.

SHRI ANANT GUDHE (Amravati): Madam Chairman, a discussion on the situation of floods in different parts of the country is going on in the House. On the one

[Shri Anant Gudhe]

hand, there are some states which are affected by floods every year. But, the Vidarbha region, from where I come, remains dry every year.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

17.31 hrs

The monsoon had arrived this year on time but the rains had not started in the country yet, there was heavy rainfall there in the second-third week of June about which no weather forecast was made and the absence of which caused a lot of destruction in Vidarbha. All the dry districts like Amravati, Wardha, Gadchiroli, Chandrapur, Bhandara etc, became flood affected. Dam water was released into all the rivers and all the rivers were flooded. Many people living on the banks of rivers in the Anjangaon, Surji, Chandurbazar, Daryapur, Amravati, Bhatkuli Tehsil in district Amravati were washed away. All the household articles of the poor people living in mud houses were washed away. Their utensils, clothes were washed away and they started living here there and in schools. One and a half month has passed by since floods came there but even after that people have not got the facilities which they should have got. They got assistance of one thousand rupees and 20 kg foodgrains only. They have had no food, no drinking water and no place for living for the past one and a half month. Such a miserable situation has been created there today. The Central Government has sent assistance to the State Governments. The Government has stated in the book presented here today that it has provided Rs. 245 crore to the state. But, the affected people are not getting any relief even today. People are staying in schools there and all the approach roads are tattered and have been cut off. Even if one-two districts, not whole of Vidarbha, is taken into consideration then 2170 culverts have collapsed, 2477 roads have become useless and condition of 179 roads is such that it is impossible to walk on them even today. Children are not able to go to schools. There is no way to go to schools in other villages for the children of the villages which have no schools. Children are staying indoors for one or one and a half months now and they have nothing to eat, nor are they able to go to schools. Besides, I will tell about the work that was required to be taken up urgently. The Chief Minister, the Deputy Chief Minister, many other Ministers of the State visited the site and promised that the work of road construction would be started on priority basis. But the fact is, that almost two months have passed by since

then but the roads which had been damaged and needed repair have not yet been repaired, with the consequence that children are not able to reach their schools even now and the promised relief is nowhere in sight. The flood-affected people are demanding rehabilitation. Floods occur every year and loss of life and property of people living in the vicinity of rivers and rivulets will keep on if the situation persists like this, and it will not be possible for us to rehabilitate such people permanently. A permanent solution to the problem has to be found. The Union Government says that it is providing flood assistance to all the States but the contribution and the attitude of the State Governments thereto is not ethical. The funds received for providing flood relief do not reach the affected people. These funds are diverted by the State Governments. Mumbai had been flooded on 26th July the previous year. All the newspapers had reported about the Mithi River flowing through the city but even today after the lapse of one year, status quo remains. The Union Government had said that it would provide Rs. 500 crores and the government had said that it would take necessary measures to stop Mithi River from flooding its banks but nothing has been done as yet. There is no change in the status quo. There is no improvement in the situation of villages which had been washed away.

A minimum of Rs. 1000 crore is needed to provide relief in the Vidarbha region alone. The Prime Minister has granted a financial package to 5 districts. Many farmers died and quite a few committed suicide when drought had occurred there. Vidarbha had drawn the attention not only of the country but of the world community. 5 districts had been granted financial packages but the farmers are not getting any benefits. The Standing Committee report has revealed that the benefits of package given by the Prime Minister are not reaching the farmers. The farmers who were hit by drought and driven to commit suicide had to face the havoc caused by floods and this time had to resort to suicide because thousands of acres of crop got washed away by floods. People had planted crops by the side of rivulets and the floods washed them away. One and a half months have passed by since then but no survey of the area has been conducted as yet. Funds have not reached the beneficiaries. Funds have been siphoned off by the members of the local unit of the Congress party and other political parties. People who own big building have received the money but the affected families have not received any assistance so far. It has been suggested that the areas adjacent to rivers and rivulets should be demarcated from the mainland by red-line and it should

be proclaimed that establishment of habitats within the red-line has been prohibited. People settling within the red-line would not be entitled to get any compensation in the event of a flood. If the people who settle inside the red-line get stranded due to floods, they would not get any assistance. People should be rehabilitated outside the red-line on a permanent basis. People are living in schools because temporary sheds are being provided there and the schools are closed. Space for temporary sheds has been provided in schools but the estimate of Rs. 15000 for construction of such sheds is a decade-old estimate. That estimate has gone up to Rs. 40,000 today but we still tell people to build them in Rs. 15000. How can a shed be built in Rs. 15000 when it is difficult to get even the raw material for this amount? We do not give more than Rs. 15000 and this amount is not enough to cover the costs. Prices of all things have increased. The prices of iron and cement have gone up. The quality of cement which used to cost Rs. 100 two years ago now costs Rs. 300. Hence, the prevailing prices should be taken into consideration. If Rs. 40,000 is provided for building temporary sheds, people would be more likely to avail of the offer. The hon. President belongs to Khallar village. The entire village has been swept away. The village has been devastated.

Two storied building of gram panchayat and all the roads have been damaged beyond repair. Those people want to be rehabilitated at some other place but the Government has floated no new scheme. The Home Ministry says that no report regarding Maharashtra has been submitted. More than two months have passed by but people have got neither food nor shelter. Children are not going to school because roads have not been built. I request the Union Government to give thought to this issue. The Union Government should monitor the spending of central funds provided to the States as relief assistance. The flood water is still rising in Maharashtra and floods are still occurring. If the Union Government does not take serious notice of the situation it is likely to get much worse. People have become homeless and are facing lots of difficulties. Their temple has also been washed away. Hence it is my request that the Union Government take action to improve the situation.

YOGI ADITYA NATH (Gorakhpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the terrible havoc wreaked by floods is the matter for discussion in the House today under Rule 193. It has been said rightly that every year this topic remains

confined to the limits of discussion. Floods are not like earthquakes or hurricanes which cannot be predicted. We know the areas where floods are a certainty and areas which are drought prone. It is regrettable that even though we are going to celebrate 60 years of independence, we have failed to implement any mechanism to predict and prevent the natural disasters which have been besetting the country for the last 60 years. We will not be able to bequeath anything to the nation. Thousands of people die due to floods every year. Every year crops on lakhs of hectares of land are damaged by floods. The rural areas lose livestock in lakhs every year. Despite all this, when the House sits, the matter remains limited to discussion.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I belong to Gorakhpur district in North Uttar Pradesh. This place lies at the estuary of small and big rivers which come down from Nepal. This point is often raised here that when the hill rivers in Nepal are swollen by rains, they flow with great force and flood large tracts of land area. As per the report of the Ministry of Home Affairs out of the 70 districts in Uttar Pradesh 22 flood-ravaged districts lie on the Indo-Nepal border. 25-46 villages have been flooded completely and more than 30 lakh people have been affected by floods. Crops spread over 29,55,000 hectares of land have been damaged. 2,03,700 houses have been damaged and livestock in thousands has been killed. The State Government has estimated the cost of the damage to be Rs. 1728 crores. Sir, these figures are likely to be much higher in reality since these are just government estimates. I had visited these areas myself and found that there are many places which have not been reached by the administrative machinery. They did not send relief material there and it is highly unlikely that those areas would ever receive assistance. It is my belief that till the administration accesses such places the actual figures involved will never be recorded. Every year we discuss the terai region in eastern Uttar Pradesh. Merely 2.4 percent of total financial investment made in Uttar Pradesh has been invested in that region. The administration has formally provided employment six persons on every 1000 persons in a state which has a population of one crore thirty six lakhs. Per capita capital investment in the region is less than Rs. 300. It is a State which is already battling poverty. The landless labourers from eastern Uttar Pradesh work for 7-8 months in Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Punjab and other places in the country to earn their livelihood. When they return, they invest their savings in farming which gets lost in the flood. The same people went to other countries like Mauritius, Fiji, Guyana, Thailand,

[Yogi Aditya Nath]

Malaysia etc. and made rich contribution in their development but they remained neglected in their own land and no attention was paid to them. They have remained a victim of abject poverty, starvation, illiteracy, malnutrition and many other diseases. We even discuss it in the House. In 2005, more than 3000 children had died of Japanese Encephalitis in BID Medical College, Gorakhpur within six months. But, the then State Government did not provide medical or other facilities in that area which has constantly been hit by floods. Both the State Government and the concerned department of the Government of India have accepted that as many as 22 districts have been hit by floods.

Railway traffic from Gorakhpur to Bihar on Narkatiaganj route was also suspended for a few days. Gorakhpur-Sonauli road connecting India and Nepal also remained closed due to flood. The relief material being provided to the flood victims is very less even today. I was reading that it is not being provided in accordance with the norms of the Central Government. I inspected one of the centres. I asked how much is being provided every year to the flood affected families and they replied— 10 kg rice, 2 kg potato and 2 liters of kerosene, on weighing rice was found to be 7 kg and not 10 kg. Such is the situation there that 7 kg rice was being passed on to the people there for 10 kg. Such a situation exists there.

On the question of providing plastic sheet to the people who have been displaced from their houses and whose houses have been washed away and villages are under water, the Government had approved five meters of plastic sheets for them. But, it has been seen that in some areas 3 or 4 meters of plastic sheet is being provided and at some places it is not being provided at all. There were talks of setting up medical camps in Uttar Pradesh but I would like to tell that no medical camp has been set up so far. There is no arrangement of fodder and no arrangements have been made for saving the livestock from the diseases spreading to them from the flood water.

Sir, this is the flood situation there at present which I am describing. People there are struggling with the flood crisis. People are facing problem there but the figures given in this booklet say something else. Through you, I want to know that if both the Governments, State

as well as the Central Government know that flood will come, then, what are they doing to protect from it.

Sir, we believe that the rivers originating in Nepal create floods in India. We know from the current situation in Nepal that no project with the assistance of the Government of India can be successful in Nepal as long as the Maoists would dominate the Government there. There is strategic lapse or there is failure of our foreign policy that even after being an ally of India, Nepal is drifting apart and because of our weakness such people are becoming powerful in the Government as are not only dead against India but also oppose all the projects sponsored by India.

Sir, I had raised many questions related to flood in the House. I have an answer to one of the question with me. The Government gave a reply to a question on 19th July, 2004. According to it, there are 6 main ongoing projects in Nepal, namely (1) Pancheshwar Multi Purpose Project (2) Sapt Kosi High Dam Multi Purpose Project and Sam Kosi Storage-cum-Diversion Scheme (3) Boodhi Gandak Hydroelectricity Project (4) Upper Karnali Hydroelectricity Project (5) Kamla Multi Purpose Project, and (6) Baghmata Multi Purpose Project. India can implement these 6 projects together with Nepal. It is not that efforts for this were made only during our NDA Government, rather talks are going on since 1954 for implementation of these projects but not even a single project has been started from 1954 to 2007. Every time some project reaches the initiation stages Maoists in Nepal start opposing it. The NDA Government had tried to start them in 2001, but could not succeed owing to opposition from Maoists and local politics. Even today, we believe that until there is peace in Nepal and Maoists continue to dominate the Government, no project by India in Nepal can be successful. Sir, I want to say that even if projects with Nepal cannot be started, we can at least make efforts at local level and prevent floods by making embankments on the river side and patching on borders. Arrangements can be made so that villages can be saved from getting submerged.

Sir, the Government of India has started an employment guarantee scheme. The ratio in this scheme is 60 per cent Kutch work and 40 percent pucca work or 80 per cent Kutch work and 20 per cent pucca work at some places to ensure that people can get employment. In this context, I want to say that for the villages facing situation of submersion, arrangements should be made

to raise the surface of such villages by laying a layer of soil and this work should be done by the people of the same village. This way local people will get not only employment but will also be saved from the tragedy of floods.

Sir, four motor-boats were made available to the Gorakhpur District Administration during the floods in 1998 and 2000. Out of the four motor-boats, two I had made available through the NGOs and two from the MP funds. When flood came this time, I asked the District Administration to provide motor-boats so that we can bring relief material to the affected villages. But, none of the motor-boat was in working condition at that time. There was no arrangement of boats in the villages hit by floods. When administration was requested to provide boats they informed that they had no boats. When funds are available for Gram Sabha, regional Panchayat, District Panchayat, Legislators' fund, MPLAD funds and all other disaster relief schemes, then, why can't we make permanent arrangement of small and big boats in the villages frequently hit by floods. A boat capsized in Maharajganj district which is adjacent to my parliamentary constituency. Though it did not take place in my constituency it was just adjacent to my constituency. As many as 26 people died in this accident. I inquired how did it occur? They replied that the boat was old and of middle-size. It was not a bigger boat. There are three types of boats, size-wise. First is small-sized called dongi which may carry three-four people but there is always danger of its capsizing. Second is middle-sized boat and it may carry 10 to 12 people. And third is big-sized boat and it may carry 40-50 people. The boat in the accident was a middle sized boat. It could carry only 12-15 people but 50-60 people were travelling in it. When the entire village was submerging in water, where people would go? That was an older boat and it capsized in the middle of the river. As many as 26 people of that village died in that boat accident. It might be the picture of every village. This time the number of such accidents has been the highest. Such accidents have occurred in Maharajganj, Varanasi and Kushinagar districts of Uttar Pradesh. Two big accidents of this type have occurred in Bihar. In one of such accidents, more than 100 people had got drowned. Perhaps human fault on our part is that we have not made proper arrangements to contain floods.

Sir, there are 6 joint venture hydropower projects with Nepal. We notice that disruption of power supply in MPs' residences and even in Parliament House occurs quite often. Especially MP residences are having frequent

power disruptions these days. The main reason for this is the shortage of power. It is not so that we have no plans to address the shortage of power. If we complete the hydropower projects with Nepal, the shortage of power in India and Nepal may be removed and we may save people from the scourge of floods. Therefore, I would like to request the hon. Minister that at present our 6 hydropower projects are in progress with Nepal through which we would not only be able to generate power but also be able to save Eastern Uttar Pradesh and Bihar from the scourge of floods. Along with this we shall also be able to supply water to those areas where it is needed most. First of all we must extend our co-operation for restoring peace in Nepal, stop the hegemony of Maoist and then try our best to complete these projects with the co-operation of Nepal. Otherwise, we shall not be able to save Bihar and UP from the scourge of floods with all the plans that we may formulate with that perspective.

Sir, the NDA Government had prepared a scheme to interconnect all the rivers in the country. I want to know why the UPA Government has put that scheme on the back burner. All the states have prepared project in this regard, the Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Rajashtan, Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh also want to participate in it. Eastern districts in Uttar Pradesh are affected by flood and Western districts are experiencing severe drought situation.

18.00 hrs.

Had the project of interlinking all the rivers been implemented we would have staved off the dual situation of having floods somewhere and drought somewhere else. I think we can deal with the problems like drought, flood and water logging in the country.

Apart from this, would also like to know from the hon. Minister the progress of the hydropower projects proposed to be implemented with collaboration of Nepal, please clarify position in this regard. Secondly, what is the policy of the Government regarding the rivers in the country proposed to be interlinked under a scheme formulated during the period of the NDA Government? Apart from this, I want to know that whenever is debate is held on the issue of flood, only loss of life is discussed and loss of livestock is not mentioned. I would like to thank the hon. Minister of Home Affairs for providing us a booklet regarding flood, but I would like to submit that relief material is not being distributed in the same manner

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(as made out in the booklet) in the flood affected areas visited by me. No compensation has been provided to any of those rearing cattle for the loss of their livestock....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This discussion will continue also on the 16th of this month.

[English]

that will be continued on 16th also.

[Translation]

Two more speakers are still left in the list. Therefore I would like you to conclude, please.

YOGI ADITYA NATH: I am concluding in just 1-2 minutes....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now nothing will go on record.

[Translation]

I have given you more than sufficient time.

YOGI ADITYA NATH: I am going to conclude.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, there is one more important issue and I am raising it. Nobody will think about the farmers of this country, nobody will speak about their livestock? I would have concluded by this time. No compensation is being paid for the loss of livestock. here, I would like to request the hon. Minister of Home Affairs that though the Prime Minister visited certain areas of the country but neither the Prime Minister nor any Minister of the Union Government have visited the flood affected areas of Eastern Uttar Pradesh. I would like to request the hon. Minister of Home Affairs and hon. Minister of Water Resources to send a Central team to those areas to assess and discuss the damage inflicted, the discussion on the damage of houses....*(Interruptions)* some houses were destroyed in floods and now the kuchcha houses will collapse when the flood water will recede. It was said that two lakh houses have been destroyed but more damage is likely to ensue. Rs. 25 thousand is given for the construction of houses to those who come under the Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojna. I would like to request that Rs. 25 thousand is a meagre amount for construction of house and therefore it should be increased to at least Rs. 50 thousand. After conducting a thorough survey so much lumpsum amount should be provided that sufficient assistance may reach all the flood affected people.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Each party has its turn, but our turn never comes. All parties should get opportunity....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your name is in the list.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: That is an other thing but why rotation is changed frequently?

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: That I do not know. I was not there at that time.

[Translation]

Minister Saheb can at any time intervene.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: No discussion is held about Orissa whereas Orissa is badly affected by floods....*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me time to speak.

Discussion in detail on flood is being held in the House. Hon. Members are also expressing their views. There is huge destruction and ruin in several parts of the country. It causes a loss of crores of rupees, of life and property and wreaks a lot of damage and destruction. It is a serious matter. We have to find a solution to this problem very responsibly. When we will manage the flood in a better way, we will be able to manage drought also in a better way but unless we do better flood-management, we cannot manage drought better. Flood-situation cannot be managed by managing drought but better management of flood can help manage drought. So, a very important question is before the House. All the hon. Members have expressed their views regarding the flood of this year. I respect their sentiments but there are many facts and questions about which the entire country has a right to know through the House. The people of the country have a right to know who is responsible for what? What are our responsibilities? What is the state government's responsibility?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You may speak when your turn comes.

SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV: We have to discharge duties sensitively and humanely. This House is the apex institution of democracy and its voice reaches every nook and corner of the country. We do not want to play any kind of politics in it and it is not even desirable. When we have got the responsibility, we want

to come to the House with all the facts. Hon. Home Minister will himself tell about the situation in its entirety but same parts of the States in the country particularly Bihar and Uttar Pradesh comes into the flood risk zone. This zone is the most dangerous zone where floods come and with it comes the destruction but preparation are made on a war footing there. We know that every year there is flood. We have to make preparations with regard to provisions, resources and other precautionary measures. Now the question is whether these precautionary measures were taken, whether preparations were made in advance because these preparations are made before the 15th of June.

Sir, I would like to present several facts before you. But, first of all, I would like to present the fact that the flood water coming from the foot hills of Nepal flooded Bihar terribly thereby causing loss of property worth billions of rupees. Nineteen districts are flood-affected and about 1.5 crore people are affected by floods caused by water rushing from the tarai regions of Nepal and they are in trouble. The crops in the area measuring more than about 11 lakh hectares have been destroyed, the death toll is more than 160 as the official figures show but the unaccounted death-toll is higher. The number of flood affected villages in Bihar is about seven hundred. This is the situation of Bihar. Now with these facts and figures I would like to tell the House about the preparations which should have been made before 15th of June and what precautions we should have taken. There is no enmity at the time of war, daughter's marriage, funeral and natural disaster. I would like to present the facts before the House. Bihar State Flood Control Council had sanctioned 393 schemes prior to the flood. About 400 schemes were sanctioned and it was said that out of those schemes 102 schemes would be implemented and work on 102 schemes would be started. When the flood struck how many of the schemes stood completed, infact, people have been dying for 20 days now and so far only 79 schemes were completed 102 schemes out of 400 schemes are taken up and 79 of those 102 schemes are completed i.e. only 26% of the total schemes is executed. I am making this statement responsibly. If anybody has other facts, he can mention them on his turn....(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record.

...(*Interruptions*)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: He is a Minister of the Government of India. He has just said that we should work together by rising above politics...(*Interruptions*) this whole speech is aimed at only putting the Bihar government in the dock....(*Interruptions*) Here the Union Ministers will be put in the dock. The Government of Bihar will reply with regard to their actions....(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing should be recorded.

...(*Interruptions*)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV: I am presenting the facts....(*Interruptions*) All the schemes started before monsoon should have been completed cent percent. But only 20% work has been executed till now....(*Interruptions*) This fact is surprising. The State Government should have acted speedily and that did not happen and the floods came.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I would give time to you and the members of your party for speaking. You may speak whatever you like at that time.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV: Hon. Member may speak when his turn comes....(*Interruptions*) You should speak on the basis of facts. The public of Bihar knows what you are doing....(*Interruptions*) You sit down....(*Interruptions*) I am telling you. Just listen to me and have patience....(*Interruptions*) I would place the facts patiently....(*Interruptions*) I will tell the House about what we are going to do in future....(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing is going on record.

...(*Interruptions*)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV: It is our responsibility and duty to place our points before the

[Shri Jay Prakash Narayan Yadav]

house, which is why I have come here with these facts. We are bringing two new schemes. I will give you more information, please have patience....*(Interruptions)* I will talk about the eleventh five-year plan. Bihar is being given two gifts-one is the Bagmati embankment and the other is embankment on Mahananda. A 798 crore rupees package is being given for Bagmati embankment. A package of Rs. 855 crore is being provided for Mahananda embankment. We are bringing these two major schemes. A task force had been constituted to assess the loss suffered due to havoc caused by the devastating floods of 2004. Its report was submitted. The State Government was told to submit schemes. The Union Government sanctioned funds for the schemes which were submitted. I have the figures with me. I will quote the figures later. The schemes were selected on the basis of the recommendations of the task force in 2004. Further action is being taken thereon. You want information but it has to be presented in the correct manner. Three schemes were started in 2004-05 to check soil erosion by Budhi Gandak in Basai in Begusarai. Utilisation certificate for 3 crore 43 lakh rupees of central financial assistance has not been submitted by the state government till date. Similarly, 3 crore 50 lakh rupees were released on 13.2.07 as first instalment of the 11012.82 lakh rupees sanctioned for the two schemes by the Union Government in 2006-07. The utilization certificate for the said amount has not been received till date even though breaking of Basai embankment in Begusarai caused extensive damage this time. The Union Government released funds despite non-submission of utilization certificate. Truth cannot be kept hidden by telling untruths. Truth prevails in the end....*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI KARUNA SHUKLA (Janjgir): It is true that Bihar has been ruined to the extent that it will take time to place it back on its feet....*(Interruptions)*

(English)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

....*(Interruptions)**

(Translation)

SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV: I will talk about so many things. Besides....*(Interruptions)* who do you want to listen to? Please sit down. You live next

*Not recorded.

door so you will be able to get all the information....*(Interruptions)* About Gandak, I would like to tell you....*(Interruptions)* I will inform you of those facts also, please listen patiently....*(Interruptions)*

(English)

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabar Kantha): This is not fair....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing is going on record.

....*(Interruptions)**

(Translation)

SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV: I am putting my points. Please listen....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mistryji, neither the points made by you nor by him have been included in the record of proceedings....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV: I want to tell about Gandak....*(Interruptions)* leave it....*(Interruptions)* Let us look at it from another angle....*(Interruptions)* Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, let it be. Yes, I am the Minister. Note down the points I am making and corroborate them with the information you are already having. Only then you will come to know that I am giving you facts....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Sita Ram Yadavji, you take care of your own health.

....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV: Funds were given for Gandak River also. Ganga basin is adjacent to it. I, myself have visited Buxar, Bhojpur, Patna, Chhapra, Hajipur and Bhagalpur, the constituencies of the hon. Members who are speaking. I visited their areas....*(Interruptions)* I know how much money has been given for their areas i.e. for Karsela and Beehpur. Had the Union Government not stepped in, your embankments would not have been saved. The Government is aware of its responsibility. When responsibility is shirked, it is made aware of its lapse. Hence, you should not think

*Not recorded.

negatively about it. I took the initiative for the Rs. 17 crore project being implemented in Bhagalpur. I held a meeting with the department. I would like to tell you the number of meetings I have held. I had a meeting on 9 July 2007 and 23 July 2007. We are discussing the issue of a high dam. I will take initiative in this regard....(*Interruptions*) I have summoned officers on a regular basis to discuss the matter. I do not want to drop names but I phoned an hon. Minister to ask him to send the officers to me. The Union Government is ready to provide funds. You just have to tell us what scheme you propose to undertake and the amount of funds you need. People did not turn-up for meetings. I have a record of dates of all the meetings. I have on record the reasons for summoning officers on 23 July, 9 July, 29 March, 8 March, 9 February and 29 January. I had called the officers for discussions ten days earlier. I told them that you look after the work at your end, I take the responsibility for dealing with the work at this end. You should take your work seriously. Besides, Patna and other areas which submerge. ...(*Interruptions*) Many parts in Patna have been devastated. How has this happened? I have just begun. Funds have been provided for shoring up and beautification of the embankments of Lalvakia, Bagmati, Kamlabalan, Khandu. Funds have been granted for Kosi project separately.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, construction of high dams as a permanent solution to the problem of floods is being talked about. But, I want to bring forth the fact that the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Home Minister had themselves gone on tours for the purpose in the year 2004 after assuming power on formation of the UPA Government. Hon. Railway Minister had himself made a tour in which I too had accompanied him. Shri Shyam Sharanji was the Ambassador in Nepal when discussion on construction of high dam in Nepal took place in February, 2004....(*Interruptions*) Hon. Members, please listen to me seriously to get acquainted with certain facts. I had telephonic conversation with the Indian Ambassador in Nepal in February, 2004. I told him that there must be Exchange of letter so that high dams are constructed in a harmonious manner in Nepal. To this, he said that you have made a very good beginning. The then Prime Minister of Nepal was visiting India at that time. When talks were held with him on the issue, he had said that construction of high dam is discussed when there is flood. This work should be carried on. He expressed happiness on this and Exchange of letter took place in February. After that, it was agreed upon to open office there. The UPA Government allocated Rs. 32 crore for preparation

of DPR and construction of high dam in Nepal. High dam is necessary to save Bihar from the heavy rains in Nepal and the flood in Kosi river about which it is said that Bihar wails, when it laughs. I had organized a debate on flood in the Bihar Assembly also in 2004. I was an MLA then. I have documents with me to show that the debate was organized by me. On conclusion of talks in and harmonious atmosphere, Nepal allowed opening of office there. The Finance department released Rs. 32 crore for the purpose. After that due to certain political activities, a period of about a year and a half got wasted. Meanwhile, many meetings were being held. Shri Soz is sitting here. Irrigation Minister of Nepal came here about months ago and he promised full cooperation in the project. Now our offices are being run in Nepal at 7 places. Main office at Virat Nagar, division offices in Janakpur and Bharan, sub-division offices at Katni, Lahan, Chatra and a second sub-division office is being run at Chatra. We had convened a meeting of officials a few days back in this regard. When officials told that the dam would be constructed by 2009 then I told that we should prepare the DPR by December, 2008 for construction of high dam in Nepal, as two years time has already been lost in this regard. It is the UPA government's victory. How would it mean this or that or a mention to the NDA rule? You may speak whatever you like, but truly speaking, it is nothing but the fact. Therefore, I want to put across my point. In addition to it the hon. Railway Minister conducted the aerial survey of the flood affected areas and said that the condition of Bihar is very bad and lot of destruction is taking place there due to flood. Lakhs of people have been stranded there and their condition is very miserable. A helicopter landed there....(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing would go on record except the speech of the hon. Minister.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV: After that, when, the hon. Railway Minister Shri Lalu Prasad ji and Shri Ram Vilas Paswan ji and other hon. Members met the hon. Prime Minister, he himself said that today 21 days have passed but the Government of Bihar has

*Not recorded.

[Shri Jay Prakash Narayan Yadav]

not asked for assistance from the Central Government and utilization certificate in respect of Rs. 550 crore given to Bihar from CRF has not been received so far. Hon. Prime Minister had said this respectfully in the presence of hon. Railway Minister Lalu Prasad Yadav ji and other Members. It is a fact. Even without receiving the certificate, hon. Prime Minister reiterated that Rs. 174 crore is being released and instructions has been issued to arrange polythene from the neighbouring states. Besides, Army has also been alerted there and their boats have been arranged to carry people to safe places. The Central Government provided all this without being asked for as it is our duty so that flood victims do not suffer loss of life and property. The State Government did not ask for anything and did not do anything for protection from flood....(*Interruptions*). It is very painful. To save flood victims forgetting all differences in such critical times is the only duty.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: He is a central Minister and saying that the State Government did not ask for anything. Hon. Home Minister is sitting here. When Prabhunath Singh ji was speaking, then Patil ji had said that they should submit a project for whatever they need. Thus, the difference in his and hon. Home Minister's statement is noticeable.

SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV: You can keep correcting the difference. But, listen to what I am saying and in the end you will also say that I was right.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Is he a Central Minister or a Minister of Bihar State Government because he is speaking only about Bihar while Orissa is also facing flood and he is not saying anything about that....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV: If you will listen me fully then I will speak about Orissa, Assam and other states also. Maximum destruction has been caused in Assam and Bihar by floods loss to the tune of hundreds of crores of rupees has been caused in Bihar where talks about construction of high dam are in the air. UPA Chairperson Sonia Gandhi, Home Minister Shivraj Patil and Railway Minister Shri Lalu Prasad ji visited the flood-affected areas in Bihar. They had a aerial survey of Bihar and said that there was massive destruction there but no relief work is going on. That is why the condition of Bihar is going from bad to worse. I have the figures and I will tell you that the orders for relief work were issued on the 13th.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: I also have the document of the Government of Bihar.

SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV: High dams would have to be built if we want to find a permanent solution to the problem of floods. Rs. 199 crore have been granted one month back for better management and to build a barrage at Punpun to save the area from floods. A Flood Control Commission also needs to be constituted. Rabri Deviji had also given a memorandum to Hon'ble Chairperson of UPA, Smt. Sonia Gandhi and Shri Patilji saying that such a Commission is needed to prevent the devastation caused by floods occurring every year. Now a days even Rajasthan is experiencing floods. States such as Assam, Orissa and Bihar are hit by floods every year. Brahmaputra board in Assam and Ganga basin board are functioning. Such boards need to be constituted in other States as well. The State Governments should also take action to fulfil their responsibility. I know where erosion has occurred due to floods. I have information that forecast about the floods was made. The State Governments should have been prepared to handle the situation but they proved to be negligent.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: What was the forecast made by Nepal?

SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV: I have all the information. It had been forecast that there would be heavy rainfall this year due to which havoc can be caused in many districts. It had also been predicted that heavy rainfall would start from 5 July onwards due to monsoon clouds rising from Nepal and Bay of Bengal. The Bihar Government should have started preparing for the situation from 15 June but it did not do so. The Chief Minister was on a visit to Mauritius at that time. The Irrigation Commissioner of the State was not present there from May to June. Hence, the department was not able to make preparations for dealing with flood. 26 districts in Assam have been affected by floods. Orissa faced heavy rain fall from 6 June to 8 June. Three areas in Uttar Pradesh experienced heavy rains from 3 August to 7 August. There were heavy rains in West Bengal on 28th. I have the figures with me about States where people have to suffer due to floods. There is loss and devastation. Bihar has suffered great losses from floods. No relief assistance is reaching there. Boat accidents are taking place. People are drowning and there is no one to take care of them.

Finally, I would like to say that a serious discussion is being held here and the Union Government has always

been ready to extend full support to the State Governments. The Union Government is ready to grant the assistance sought by the Bihar Government and also ready to pay for the relief assistance provided to the flood-affected persons earlier. The UPA Government is making all out efforts to persuade Nepal to build high capacity dams. We are on the job of preparing a physical report on Kamla and Bagmati rivers. Further, as hon'ble Shahnawazji was just saying something about this Ministry. Rs. 17 crore have been utilized for carrying out works to prevent erosion in Bhagalpur. Work has to be carried out in Munger. I assure you that the Union Government will not allow lack of funds to be a constraint and it is prepared to take action on war footing to save people from floods. There will be no holding back of assistance. With these words, I conclude.

[English]

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack): Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, at the end of the day, I stand here to speak about the situation arising out of floods in various parts of the country.

There was a time in the Puranic age when people of Gop faced the wrath of Indra. Today, different parts of the country are facing the wrath of monsoon, be it Brahmaputra or Ganges or Mahanadi or Subarnarekha. The deserts of Rajasthan are getting flood too. Scores of people are dying because of floods and many more have fallen ill. When rains have brought relief from heat and cheer to the people, it has led to flood in many States.

The recurring menace of flood and erosion constitutes one of the biggest challenges before the nation. Over decades, this has proved to be a perennial bane for the country inflicting extensive damages on agriculture and infrastructure in particular. The permanent solution to the problem eluded so far is dearth of funds which has been cited as the major reason. The constraints of funds seems to be easing of late with assistance coming from various quarters including ADB and the NABARD and other channels. But the problem lies in implementation in a time-bound manner.

In recent times, erosion has assumed more serious dimensions than floods. Today, there is a need to identify the selected areas and take up long-term anti-erosion projects. For minimizing the impact of floods, the Government should consider more viable options other than embankments because, as scientific studies have

shown, embankments often cause abnormal rise in the river bed and add to the severity of the flood once the embankment is breached or overtopped. The possibility of dredging various major rivers which have become shallower than it was 50 years ago also demands serious attention of the Government.

Therefore, there is a need to re-consider "embankment protected area" concept and look for resettlement of habitations in safe places which are perennially getting flooded. Secondly, dams and reservoirs have proved that they are not remedial measures to curb flood. Whether allowing free flow will help is a big question, as we see maintenance of embankments is a big drain into the exchequer. There is a need to revisit this issue and the whole gamut of flood control. It is proved that floods cannot be controlled, rather they should be regulated.

I come to the problem which our State is facing. Orissa was ravaged by floods in five phases from July to September, 2006. Massive damage occurred due to these calamities of severe nature. The Government of India was requested for Central assistance out of the NCCF for providing relief to the affected people and for immediate repair and restoration of relief lines. In response, the Government of India had sent an Inter-Ministerial Team to assess the damage caused by floods. They visited 12 districts, when the State was combating with the 4th phase of flood. I must remind this House that last year Orissa faced five-phased floods.

A final memorandum was submitted to the Government of India on 18th September, 2006, requesting an assistance of Rs. 2,382.43 crore out of the NCCF and one lakh MT of food grain to meet the expenditure. At the midst of monsoon, the hon. Prime Minister visited the State and realising the severity of floods, announced an assistance of Rs. 200 crore out of the NCCF. But subsequently only Rs. 25 crore was provided. I repeat, out of the NCCF Rs. 200 crore was announced by the Prime Minister before the media. But subsequently only Rs. 25 crore was provided. Why is this disparity? Why do you neglect Orissa? After a lapse of seven months from the occurrence of floods in the State, after the lapse of five months from the visit of Central Team on 17th January, 2007, High Level Committee approved Rs. 115.24 crore from the NCCF subject to the adjustment of 75 per cent of the balance available in the CRF account of the State. This is nothing but arithmetic jugglery. This is my charge. Practically, no amount has

[Shri B. Mahtab]

been released despite Prime Minister's declaration. If this is not Centre's apathy, what else is it?

The hon. Minister gave account of the rainfall June. The depression in the Bay of Bengal in the first week of July caused widespread rainfall in different parts of the State in upper and lower catchment areas of different river basins in Subarnarekha, Jalaka, Baitarani, Buddhabadanka. The districts of Baleswar, Bhadrak, Jajpur, Keonjhar and Mayurbhanj were affected and storm surge and saline inundation affected parts of Kendrapada during the first week of July. During the last part of June, Koraput, Kandhamal, Nayagarh, Ganjam, Sundargarh and Angul experienced flood of severe nature. Altogether 12 districts, 46 blocks, around 15 lakh people were affected. The loss assessed is around Rs. 306 crore. A Central Team has visited in the last week of July. Result is awaited. In August first week, Orissa experienced 26 per cent excess rainfall than the State average in a spell of 72 hours leading to serious flood situation in Baleswar, Bhadrak, Jajpur, Rayagada, Gajapati, Ganjam, Kalahandi, Kendrapada and Jagatsinghpur.

In Cuttack city, my native place, there was 330.25 mm of rainfall within ten hours which surpassed a record rainfall of 320 mm of 1934 and 330 mm means approximately 13 inches of rainfall or more within ten hours. During the super cyclone, the city received 205 mm of rainfall in two days. Major parts of the city were submerged and 48 wards of that Municipal Corporation and more than 3.5 lakh of people were affected. Fifty thousand people were marooned and more than 3,146 people were evacuated to safer places. The storm water deposited is around 34,16,801 cubic metre. The discharge capacity of that Main Storm Water Channel is only 21 cubic metre per second. The normal time required for discharge of this volume of water is 76 hours. I should thank the State Government and the municipal corporation authorities that within 48 hours, by utilising the modern machineries, we could lift the water from that city.

Sir, to meet the relief expenditure on account of floods, I have three suggestions to make before this Government. Firstly, Orissa Government has asked for financial assistance of Rs. 506.70 crore out of NCCF. Secondly, there is a need to restore CRF allocation for 2007-08 to Rs. 319.38 crore after adjusting the Central share of Rs. 58.66 crore advanced during 2006-07 as a Grant. Thirdly, there is a requirement to specially allocate at least 50,000 Indira Awas Yojana houses for flood victims of BPL category whose houses have been damaged due to floods.

Sir, this House has deliberated again and again about Kalahandi during the eighties and nineties. Those were the days of drought, plight of population, sale of children and today the situation has changed. Kalahandi today is a rice surplus district. Indrabati project has made the turnaround. Today Hati, another river, is inundating large tracts of Kalahandi District.

Sir, recently news has come that Raipur, Bhawanipatna National Highway link also was inundated which had four feet of water. A truck was washed away and a person lost his life. There is a need to strengthen the embankments of the Hari river.

Sir, I draw the attention of this House towards an important matter. Assam Government suspects this has come about in the media and we would like to get an answer from this Government—that a substantial amount of water was released from a dam upstream or a natural dam has burst in Arunachal Pradesh. Assam Water Resources Minister—I need not name him—has said, though North-Eastern Electric Power Corporation has denied media reports that it had released water from its Ranganadi project in the neighbouring State, the Assam Government is not satisfied. We would like to know what are the facts....*(Interruptions)*

Sir, I need another two minutes. As communities around the world today are battling floods which are not only recurring very often, but is very abnormal, experts warn such events may become more frequent due to climate change and that lessons still need to be learnt to limit losses. Floods may result in lower death tolls than earthquakes, wars or tsunami and, therefore, gain less international attention, but they have caused devastations of high intensity. Worldwide, major countries are facing flood fury. Urban areas are turning into hell. The primary reason behind susceptibility to flooding is its unplanned, large-scale urbanisation, poor drainage maintenance and lack of public concern about the use of non-biodegradable plastic products which are secondary reasons. ...*(Interruptions)*

Before I conclude, I would like to remind this House what has come to light by an Audit Report where it is stated:

"Preparedness for floods was inadequate; relief assistance was extended without proper identification of affected persons; financial management was deficient and monitoring of relief and rehabilitation activities was unsatisfactory."

This is not the case of one State, but of all.

Flood control projects will continue to fail to insure people against flood disaster unless our planners integrate thinking on drainage and upstream and downstream linkages. Therefore, repeatedly, the Meteorological Department is receiving flak from all quarters for their ineptitude in predictions. The Meteorological Department needs to be upgraded. Why can't the weather forecast not be nearer to truth?

Lastly, I would urge upon the Government to ensure that farmers get adequate support through crop insurance. Accordingly, steps should be taken for the benefit of the farmers. The State Governments should be provided full support to replenish seeds also and saplings too. There is a lot to be done. Let us not play politics in this situation of calamity.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Before I adjourn the House, I have only two speakers. They are not able to be present on 16th. They shall speak for 2 minutes each.

First of all, I would like to request Shri Ram Chandra Paswan. You have got only two to three minutes.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMCHANDRA PASWAN (Roser): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the people's representatives from Bihar are raising their voice here in the House about the havoc caused due to floods in Bihar and the people of entire country got to know about it. As a matter of chance, my constituency is also amongst the flood hit areas. There is no block there which is easily accessible. The main point is that so far the State Government has neither provided any security to the people there nor has it started any flood relief works. Today the biggest need of that region is boats. The State Government has not started any boat ferry service there. Hundreds of people are dying. Instead of providing relief, people are being lathi charged and fired at. Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, the President of the Lok Janshakti Party, which is national party, had visited that area with me. We toured all the flood affected areas in Bihar. Lakhs of people were stranded and no security arrangements were in place for them. I would like to ask the State Government as to what it is doing for the lakhs of people whose houses have been washed away or destroyed. I not only hope but believe that the Union Government will take some initiative in this regard. I have met the hon. Prime Minister with on this issue. The Home Minister and Smt. Sonia

Gandhi had toured the area. Shri Panjari was also present at the Prime Minister's house. He had also come to meet us and he told us that the Bihar Government had funds of 550 crore rupees. If it demands another instalment of funds we can provide it but we have not received any demand so far. Despite this, the Union Government has released Rs. 150 crores to Bihar but nothing is known about the utilisation of the amount. Are plan funds meant to be utilized or to keep intact? We do not know whether the fund was utilized as yet. Therefore, it is my request that the Union Government should get the loans of flood affected people, particularly farmers waived off. The Union Government should also monitor the utilization of funds provided to the State Government. Houses should be constructed under Indira Awas Yojana for people whose houses have been washed away, and special welfare schemes should be run. Talks should be held with Nepal to find a solution to the problem of floods because Bihar is flooded by water which flows down from Nepal every year at the time of harvesting. At that time heated discussions take place, accusations and counter-accusations are hurled across the board, time passes and the issue dies down. The State Government and the Union Government keep on passing the buck and the common people suffer as a consequence thirst. On the one hand people suffer due to floods and on the other due to drought. There is no arrangement for boats in the flood ravaged areas. There are no boats because the owner of the boat is not being paid despite running ferry service. When the Flood Protection Dam was built in Nepal in 1960 its objective was to store water and also to use this water for irrigation through canals. The dam was built but the irrigation canals were not and as a consequence some regions are hit by floods every year and some regions suffer from drought. That is why I say that this is a very serious matter. This is not a matter of single year. This is a recurring problem. The Union Government should intervene in the matter and find a permanent solution for this problem either through Bihar Government or Nepal Government.

14 km length of Fuja Darjiya embankment remains to be built. The State Government must have started its construction with its own funds but now the State does not have a single penny. 50 km of area submerges due to non completion of the said embankment. Hence construction of the remaining 14 km of the embankment should be expedited to save the people who suffer loss of life and property due to floods every year. 1,25,000 houses have been provided for the flood affected people but the question is not merely of 1,25,000 houses. At

[Shri Ramchandra Paswan]

least, 5 lakh houses have been destroyed in this area. The existing relief measures are just not enough. A comprehensive scheme should be chalked out in this regard. It is good that a debate on flood situation is taking place and it will continue till 16th or 17th but it would be fruitful only, when compensation is provided to flood affected people who have suffered loss of life and property. Those people should be provided houses under the Indira Awas Yojana and loans of farmers should be waived of. The farmers should be provided loans at subsidized rates to enable them to carry on farming.

SHRI KIREN RIJJU (Arunachal West): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are two types of Natural calamities, First those which are predictable and second those about which we never know and we cannot make any predictions as to when and how they will strike. We are not understanding this simple things that there should be full preparedness on the part of the Government to face the calamity about which we can be sure enough that it is coming. Why cannot this happen? It generates anger in our heart. The northeastern States in India experience heaviest rains. We all know that Brahmaputra river crosses the danger mark, how many villages will get inundated, how much rain Arunachal Pradesh is likely to receive, how much damage likely to be suffered, roads likely to be washed away but no preventive arrangement is made against all this likelihood. It is a matter of regret. Three years have passed and hon'ble Prime Minister is overlooking Arunachal Pradesh. We do not know why he does not visit there? What message it will send to the people of the country?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to inform the hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs that the Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh comes from Congress Party. I have no hesitation in accepting that he has carried out so many good works because we must appreciate the good work done. Last year when people in his own village were killed due to house collapse and half of my village was washed away the Chief Minister had provided help and I am thankful to him for this. But no assistance is coming forth from the Central Government. It is regrettable. If you look at Arunachal Pradesh you would find that more than half of the hydel power projects are located there. It is a key State for the Economy? It is rich in oil, gas and has the largest forest cover in India. All of us know that Arunachal is an important State but only speaking about it will not do, they must show action. Hon'ble Minister of Water Resources is here. I would like

to tell him if he would not control the situation of floods in Arunachal Pradesh, the problem of Assam cannot be resolved because atleast 98% of the water in the rivers of Assam come from Arunachal Pradesh. How that can be regulated. In Arunachal, Brahmaputra is known as Siyan and in Tibet it is known as Humphco, how can that be regulated. Rivers here are not like the rivers flowing there because they carry huge quantity of water. The Government has not formulated any policy to regulate them. Our Prime Minister is M.P. from Assam and the Ministry of Railways has announced that it is preparing Bogibill Project. The stones required for the execution of that project will all come from Arunachal Pradesh but stones check floods and after lifting all the stones from there complete flooding of the area will take place.

19.00 hrs.

There is no arrangement for that. Policy for this purpose should be formulated in a wide perspective. The problem will not be solved only by giving Rs. 500 crore. With such policy and the attitude of the Government, no improvement is possible. We must formulate some policy, publish a paper for its permanent solution. For us no solution seems to be in sight. It is not a good sign.

The roads of 16 districts have been destroyed in our State. No district has any connection with any part of the country. There is no helipad so nobody can visit and take stock of the situation, roads are already damaged. Some people have also died of some unknown disease. There is no means to send a medical team there to take stock of the situation. If we conduct a survey in Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa after two three days of flooding, houses look submerged in water. But in our State houses are washed away once for all. Nothing remains as proof to show that there were houses here. When the photographers reach there nothing is left to take photographs of. There are so many things to be understood. Unless the people who are in the Ministry think over it, the condition will not improve. If you put Bihar and Arunachal, Jammu Kashmir and Rajasthan on the same scale, the policy will not succeed. The different States in India have their own specific problems. The policy should be formulated keeping this in view. I, through you would like to tell the Government whatever has been said till date is a different thing but Government must change its attitude for future and it will serve no purpose to please the people by providing rupees one-two crore as alms. Such a package should be prepared with a comprehensive approach so that this problem may be solved once for all.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now the House shall take up matters of Urgent. Public Importance. Chaudhary Lal Singh.

[Translation]

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH (Udhampur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with your permission I would like to raise an important issue in the House to bring it to the while of the Government. When village Defence Committees had been set up, it was provided that its members will work throughout the day and after that four people would protect that village and rest of the people would carry out their own work. It was a good arrangement. But now the same person works throughout the day.

19.04 hrs.

[SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN *in the Chair*]

It is great injustice that a person works continuously but the honorarium paid to him is as meager as Rs. 200 or 400. If he refuses to work they throw him out from village Defence Committee, I meant to say and it is my request that when a person works like a sepoy his salary, education of his children, his uniform, his clothes, his guns, his shoes and his accommodation should be taken care of by the Government. They should be paid not honorarium but full salary. Along with this they have posted SPO in our State.

Sir, about 425 jawans of BDS and SPOs have been killed. This is the figure provided by the Government since they are not permanent employees, no employment is provided to the Members of their families nor any other benefit can be given to them by the Government. Thus they have to bear nothing but loss.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude within a minute; It is 'Zero Hour' mention only.

[Translation]

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: Sir, first please listen to me then I shall conclude.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am here for a number of times. You please conclude.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is for you that I come here and a sit here.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: Sir, I am concluding. The third thing which I would like to say is that a police personnel gets 450 rupees per month as ration allowance whereas a jawan of C.R.P.F. gets 1200/- rupees per month. I want to say that both these jawans have the same diet. So demand that a police-personnel should also get 1200 rupees as monthly ration allowance.

Sir, all these three issues are related to the Union government. So I request the government to consider these and out the discrepancy because I have already raised these issues many times in the House. Thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRI B. MAHTAB: Year long official programmes have been planned in different parts of the country to mark the 150th anniversary of the 1857 First War of Independence and the 60th anniversary of Independence. At least, a list of 65 suggested events has been prepared, commencing from Independence Day and concluding on August 11 next year. But to my surprise not a single event which occurred in Orissa is listed though people's sacrifice there is no less if not more. During the 1857 First War of Independence, Hatee Singh and Madho Singh were incarcerated in Andaman and later hanged to death for their fight against the British. Sardar Surendra Sai led a struggle for more than 27 years and was imprisoned in Hazaribagh which was demolished by the sepoys and he was let free. Chakhi Khuntia of Puri was closely associated with Rani of Jhansi Laxmi Bai during her struggle. During 1942 Quit India Movement, 29 people laid down their lives in Iram resisting British forces non-violently. The Salt Satyagraha of Includi was termed as second only to Dandi. Laxman Nayak, a young tribal, was hanged to death during the Quit India Movement.

His martyrdom is perhaps the only one after 1942. But not a single event is listed by the Government.

I urge upon the Government to take up some events or these events of importance and celebrate occasion in Orissa too.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (Midnapore): Sir, I would like to draw your attention and the attention of the House to a very important matter about the land reforms policy.

Sir, the land reforms programme is already incorporated in the Common Minimum Programme of the UPA Government. This Government has already passed its tenure; three years have already been passed; it has left out with two years. But in most of the States, this programme has not been implemented; it has rather been ignored. So, thousands and thousands of farmers are coming up particularly in the State of Andhra. They are coming up in the streets and they are fighting for implementation of the land reforms programme. Last month, in July, not less than seven days or a week-long movements, strikes, dharna and *satyagraha* were observed all over the State of Andhra Pradesh in 23 districts.

On the particular date after *satyagraha*, on the 28th of July, the Police resorted to firing on the struggling peasants and seven innocent people had been killed by the Police. This is a matter of deep concern. It is a national concern. In all other States, the farmers are coming to the streets.

So, I urge upon the Central Government to take this matter seriously and to call a National Conference in this matter so that land reform programmes could be implemented properly all over the country as soon as possible.

This matter is a very important matter. That is why, I have brought this matter before this house.

[Translation]

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA (Jalaun): Mr. Chairman Sir, Urai in my parliamentary constituency is the district headquarters of Jalaun. There is a post office at the station which is being removed from their due to some specific reasons. That post office caters to thousands of people. It receives lakhs of letters for further dispatch to other cities and villages. I would like to request the Minister of Communications and Information Technology, through you, not to merge that post office

with a post office at another place so that the people of the district might avail maximum benefit therefrom. I demand that this post office should be expanded further so that the people of my constituency might avail maximum benefit therefrom.

SHRIMATI KARUNA SHUKLA (Janjgir): Mr. Chairman Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards Chhattisgarh. Chhattisgarh is a new, backward, poor and tribal-dominant State. But it is regretted that the Union Government has decreased the quota of APL rice from 60,000 metric tonnes to 740 metric tonnes only this year. It has caused an additional burden of 150 crore rupees for the State Government. I am raising this matter because at times the Union Government curtails the quota of sugar and kerosene. In addition to this the supply of 398 MW power from central pool has been curtailed forever. Now the Union government has slashed the quota of APL rice which is the main staple food-item of Chhattisgarh. I request the government of common man and the poor not to hit the poor hard and not to discriminate against the only seven years old Chhattisgarh?

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR (Sagar): Mr. Chairman Sir, thousands of people die untimely and a large number of people become handicapped or are become brain-dead because of taking wrong medicines every year in our country. The handwriting of the doctors on the prescriptions for the patients is so illegible that the less educated salesmen at chemist shops get confused and give some other medicines for example-Corflam in place of Corflo, one pharmacist gave Plendil instead of Icordil and as a result thereof the patient had heart-attack and he died. As per one assessment, medicines of about 5000 brand names are being sold in the country and more than half of these have identical names. Only nurses and pharmacists can read the names of medicines prescribed by the doctors. There are multipurpose shops in rural areas where consumer goods, clothes iron and medicines are available in the same shop. Less educated people give medicines of identical names which causes problems for the patients.

Therefore, I request the Union Government to make provisions to get printed the names of medicines on the bottles and wrappers in Hindi and regional languages also with English.

About 80 percent population of the country lives in rural areas. Besides their mother tongue they know Hindi. Therefore, the persons associated with medical science should be encouraged to adopt Hindi.

[English]

DR BABU RAO MEDIYAM (Bhadrachalam): Thank you Chairman, Sir.

I want to bring this matter to the notice of the Ministry of Home Affairs and to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. This is regarding the brutal killings of Dalits and other downtrodden people in Andhra Pradesh.

On 28th July, 2007, seven people were shot dead by long range modern weapons like AK-47, SLR at Mudigonda village in Khammam District of Andhra Pradesh. The landless poor people are agitating for house sites and cultivable lands since three months. The administration has not paid any attention towards the legitimate demand of the poor. State-wide protests were taken up in the form of indefinite hunger strikes all over the State. As a part of State-wide demonstrations, about 250 people gathered at the hunger strike tent at Mudigonda.

A Special Anti-Naxal Squad was brought into the spot and they, without observing any preliminary steps to disperse the mob, at once resorted to firing on the people around the hunger strike tent. Four people died on the spot and three others succumbed to death due to bullet injuries. About 15 people were injured and they are still under treatment at the local hospitals. Out of the seven killed, four belong to the Scheduled Caste community and three people belong to other backward communities. They are all inhabiting in rented huts and they did not have any piece of land. Their livelihood entirely depends on the daily labour.

Hence, Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would request the Union Government to make an inquiry into this incident by the CBI, and also I demand adequate compensation should be paid to the deceased and the injured, and cases should be booked against the culprits under Section 302 of IPC and SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.

[Translation]

SHRI GANESH SINGH (Satna): Hon'ble Mr. Chairman Sir, through you, I want to draw the attention of the Central Government to the constant shortage of fertilizers in the country. There used to be no shortage of fertilizers in our country 2-3 year back and fertilizer producing factories in the country were able to meet its demand. Suddenly, all the fertilizer units were closed down owing to a wrong policy of the Central Government and now

we are importing fertilizers from abroad. A new development has taken place. Earlier the Central Government itself used to import fertilizers but now this responsibility has been given to the State Governments. I am surprised as to why this is happening? The Central Government has passed its responsibility to the State Governments and today the situation is such that the fertilizers are not available to the farmers in their time of need. On the one hand, farmers are facing serious problems of flood, famine, hailstorm, frost and on the other hand our production is declining. Owing to shortage of foodgrains, Central Government is importing more than 5 lakh tonnes of wheat from abroad once again. Wheat is being imported at higher rates from abroad while our farmers can increase their production at lower costs. Even subsidy is not being provided to them in order to encourage them.

I would like to know from the Central Government as to where it is leading the country, to, when the economic condition of the farmer is getting worse day-by-day as a result of such wrong policies. Our country was self sufficient in the matter of foodgrains but that is coming to an end slowly. Today, even seeds and foodgrains are being imported into the country from abroad. It can be guessed from this as to what will be our condition in the coming time. Therefore, the Government should make new schemes to make the agriculture sector self-sufficient and provide benefit to the farmers directly.

[English]

SHRI ANWAR HUSSAIN (Dhubri): Thank you, Sir. I draw the attention of the House to a matter of utmost concern. During the last one-and-a-half months, 6,000 people from Arunachal Pradesh, 2,000 people from Nagaland and 500 people from Mizoram—all of whom are Muslims—were forced to leave these States as they have been branded as Bangladeshis. They had all inner-line permits and were settled there for more than ten to thirty years. The student organizations and some chauvinistic and communal forces have driven them out. It is very unfortunate that the State Governments of Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Mizoram kept mum and did not do anything and encouraged those chauvinistic and communal forces. In the subsequent cases, they were driven into Assam and the Government of Assam verified the citizenship of all these 8,500 people and found them to be *bona fide* Indian citizens.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is a very serious issue. You cannot do it in a 'Zero Hour' mention. It is a very important matter.

SHRI ANWAR HUSSAIN: Sir, please let me complete. Let me explain and say what it is the problem.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is a very serious matter, not to be taken up in a 'Zero Hour' mention. Because of you that I am here. Please be brief.

SHRI ANWAR HUSSAIN: Thank you, Sir. I am narrating the problem.

The Chief Minister of Assam went to the extent of saying that if anybody can prove anybody of them to be a Bangladeshi he would resign from the Chief Ministership. This is the case.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. You cannot do it in a 'Zero Hour' mention.

SHRI ANWAR HUSSAIN: I would urge upon the Government to ensure that law should not be taken by any organization or chauvinistic and communal forces. I also urge upon that all these people who have been driven away should be resettled there and the compensation for their shops, business establishments, godowns and houses be given.

SHRI A.V. BELLARMIN (Nagercoil): Thank you, Sir. I wish to invite the attention of the august House to a matter of utmost urgency and importance concerning the life and living of fishermen. The time has come to form a separate Ministry, at least in the status of Minister of State for Fisheries. It is pertinent to point out that hundreds of millions of people are living in the coastal villages along the long stretch of tri-seas of Indian peninsula. They are dependent upon the oceanic resources and venture into the seas exploring the same at the risk of their lives. Equal number of people living in the inland also are dependent upon the sea products for their livelihood.

It is woeful to note that the miseries, the hardships experienced by these people are disproportionately increasing. It has become alarming, after the tsunami killer waves raged the shores in December, 2004. There has been ingress of waters into the coastal villages destabilizing their dwellings. There was recession of sea water creating panic leading to distress and migration very frequently. There was missing, downing of fishermen who were venturing into the seas. There were

harassments, kidnappings, nabbing, captivating by sea pirates and sea robbers and the people were taken by neighbouring countries as prisoners and sometimes they were killed by firing and bombing. All such catastrophes have started springing up in the recent times. There has been loss of lives and properties and cases of losses of fishing implements are being reported almost everyday.

The present arrangement existing with the Ministry of Agriculture is insufficient to deal with this problem. Thousands of cases are pending for years. Even the death compensation for the tsunami victims was not completely disbursed yet. Separate Ministries in State Governments have to wait for long for disposal of the issues as they have to wait for long to get things sanctioned or approved by the Central Ministry.

The proposed Coastal Zone Management Zone Bill will not be a solution for the problems. That will lead to further commercial exploitations of oceanic belts. I, therefore, request the Government to think of setting up a separate Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Wealth.

SHRIMATI ARCHANA NAYAK (Kendrapara): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Culture and Tourism to the following matter of my constituency.

In 1982, during an archaeological excavation conducted at Lalitgiri site in the State of Orissa, golden caskets containing the sacred relic of Lord Buddha was recovered. This rare and precious relic is the centre-piece of the findings in the famous Buddhist site of Lalitgiri.

It was kept in the strong room of Archaeological Survey of India's Headquarters at Bhubaneswar, Orissa for the last 25 years. There was a demand, time and again, to place the relic in Lalitgiri at the very site of its recovery. Now, I have come to know that the Government of India has recently decided to transfer the sacred relic to Ratnagiri, another Buddhist site under the ASI, and keep them permanently there.

This decision has hurt the sentiments of the people of Lalitgiri area. The local people take pride in the Lalitgiri site as an ancient centre of Buddhist culture and a potential destination of foreign tourists, especially from the Far East.

Since Lalitgiri forms part of my constituency and a mass agitation is gaining momentum against the decision to place the sacred relic in Ratnagiri, I would like to request the hon. Minister of Culture and Tourism to

reconsider the above decision and to preserve the sacred relic of Lord Buddha at the very site of its recovery, Lalitgiri in Orissa.

[Translation]

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' (Almora): Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is watch making unit of HMT in district Nainital of Uttarakhand. This unit was set up with a loan of Rs. 45 crore while it has paid Rs. 280 crore as interest so far and Rs. 67 crore as depreciation cost to the headquarters. It has made business worth Rs. 620 crore so far. It is very unfortunate that the Board of Directors and the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises have decided recently to close down this unit while 600 labourers and their families are working there. This is the only Public Sector Unit which is manufacturing watches in Uttarakhand. This is the only factory where watches based on Braille system were being manufactured for the Blind people. Mechanical watches, alongwith Quartz watches, were also manufactured there. Non-watch components were also made here till date. Here, the average age of workers is 41 years while it is 57 years in other HMT units at Bangalore and Tumkur. The salary bill of its secretary was also the lowest among all the factories. The present managing director of HMT is ready to continue its operation. If he is ready to run it and machinery is no more owned by the factory, then such a factory which makes watches for the Blind people should not be closed down in the interest of the country. If it is necessary to close it down, then it should be merged with the Bangalore unit. The employees of Uttarkhand should be accommodated in the BHEL unit in Haridwar instead of Bangalore. Their families are facing crisis of livelihood. I want to demand from the hon. Minister that it is the only industry in Uttarakhand and it should not be closed down.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, two notices are received after 9.30 a.m. I will call you on the condition that you will finish your speech as soon as possible. If not, during the course of your speech, I will adjourn the House.

Shri Shailendra Kumar will speak now. Please be brief.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail): Hon. Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of

Parliamentary Affairs to my parliamentary constituency Chail in Uttar Pradesh comprising 3 districts of Allahabad, Kaushambi and Fatehpur. The officials there take a long time in spending the funds under the MPLAD scheme. Regarding the funds allocated by me for various projects, they give one installment but delay the second installment with the result that the work on various pending projects is not completed. There was a discussion and expression of concern in the House on the flood and drought situation in the whole country. Our Uttar Pradesh is facing drought. I want that the Central Government should ask especially the Chief Secretary and the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh to ensure timely utilization of MPLAD fund, and allocation should be made for pending projects so that they can be completed....(*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Shailendra Kumar, please conclude. There is a separate Ministry under the Minister and you can tell him about the same.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: In addition to this, I would like to make one more demand through you that the other budget allocation for MPLAD fund should be given in advance for the places facing flood or drought situation so that the fund could be spent on the problem of flood and drought. This will help in providing employment to the people and complete the pending developmental works.

[English]

SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL (Katwa): Hon. Chairman, Sir, I want to raise a serious matter of public importance. Every year, people suffer a lot in all respects due to severe and continuous erosion in the Ganga basin areas in the country. Katwa, Kalna, Tamaghat, Dangapara, Kallnagar, Mayapur, Nawadwip, Agradwip, Khairamari at Balagarh are the worst affected areas in West Bengal.

The House may remember that I had raised the seriousness of erosion on the banks of Ganga during the last two Sessions, but no action has been taken so far. I would like to mention here that thousands of people have expressed anxiety and uncertainty for their lives and belongings in the presence of Shri Lalu Prasad Yadav, the hon. Minister of Railway and Shri Jai Prakash Narayan Yadav, the hon. Minister of State of Water Resources on 30 June 2007 at Katwa.

I have doubts when the Railway Ministry plans for doubling of the Bandel-Katwa Railway line, and some other works that are also in progress. How far will they succeed to complete the project when the entire Samudragarh and Kallnagar Railway Stations are dangerously on the verge of being wiped-off by erosion of Ganga.

Keeping in view the enormity and severity of the erosion of Ganga in the said areas and its associated burning problems, the Ministries of Railways and Water Resources, Government of India should jointly come

forward to treat this as a national problem and take immediate action to redress this threat.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned to meet on Thursday, the 16th August 2007 at 11 a.m.

19.33 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, August 16, 2007/Sravana 25, 1929 (Saka).

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