

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Thirteenth Session
(Fourteenth Lok Sabha)

Gazettes & Debates Unit
Parliament Library Building
Room No. PB-025
Block 'B'

Acc. No. 24
Dated 15 Jan 2009



सत्यमेव जयते

(Vol. XXXIV contains Nos. 21 to 30)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

Price : Rs. 80.00

EDITORIAL BOARD

P.D.T. Achary
Secretary-General
Lok Sabha

R.K. Chadha
Joint Secretary

Hamam Dass Takker
Director

Vandna Trivedi
Joint Director-I

Prabhakar Mohanty
Joint Director-II

Rakesh M. Chandra
Editor

[Original English Proceedings included in English Version and Original Hindi Proceedings included in Hindi Version will be treated as authoritative and not the translation thereof.]

CONTENTS

[Fourteenth Series, Vol. XXXIV, Thirteenth Session, 2008/1930 (Saka)]

No. 21, Tuesday, April 22, 2008/Vaisakha 2, 1930 (Saka)

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
MEMBERS SWORN ...	1
REFERENCE BY THE SPEAKER	
Earth Day	1
WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS	
Starred Question Nos. 401 to 420	4-33
Unstarred Question Nos. 4010 to 4179	33-337
PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE	338-349
COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE	
16th Report	349
STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY	
25th and 26th Reports ...	349
STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR	
28th and 29th Reports ...	350
STANDING COMMITTEE ON RAILWAYS	
Statements ...	350-351
STANDING COMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES	
9th Report	351
OBSERVATION BY THE SPEAKER	
Business transacted during previous week ...	351-352
STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS	
(i) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the 178th Report of the Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment And Forests pertaining to the Department of Science and Technology, Ministry of Science and Technology	
Shri Kapil Sibal ...	353

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
(ii) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the 157th, 172nd and 179th Reports of Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests on Demands for Grants (2006-07) and (2007-08) respectively, pertaining to the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology Shri Kapil Sibal	354
(iii) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 68th, 72nd, 76th, 79th, 80th and 82nd Reports of Standing Committee on Commerce, pertaining to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry Shri Jairam Ramesh ...	355
CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE	
Situation arising out of subsidence of land in entire coal belt in Asansol, Jharia and Raniganj and action taken by the Government in this regard	
Shri Basu Deb Acharia	358
Shri Santosh Bagrodia	358
Shri Adhir Chowdhury	368
RE: REPORTED RESIGNATION BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF HOCKEY FEDERATION ...	377
RE: WORLD EARTH DAY ...	382-385
MATTERS UNDER RULE	
(i) Need to release the grants for the proposals submitted by Government of Karnataka under Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission Shri Iqbal Ahmed Saradgi ...	399
(ii) Need to grant Tribal status to the residents of Gir (West) Forest Area and to all their descendants Shri Jasubhai Dhanabhai Barad ...	399
(iii) Need to give special financial package for the socio-economic and overall development of SCs and STs in Chhattisgarh and other parts of the country Shri Punnu Lal Mohale	400

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
(iv) Need to ensure quality in construction of roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in Jalaun Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma	401
(v) Need to set up a Maritime University in Gujarat Shri P.S. Gadhavi	401
(vi) Need to introduce flight services to Ajmer in Rajasthan Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat ...	402
(vii) Need to extend loan-waiver scheme to the small and marginal farmers who have availed housing loans from Rajasthan State Cooperative Housing Society Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava ...	<u>403</u>
(viii) Need to implement the report on cadre-restructuring of staff in Survey of India Shri Swadesh Chakraborty ...	403
(ix) Need to open an LPG Agency within the limits of Municipal Corporation area in Salempur Parliamentary Constituency, Deoria, Uttar Pradesh Shri Harikewal Prasad	404
(x) Need to expedite the construction of building for Kendriya Vidyalaya in Mashrakh, district Saran, Bihar Shri Prabhunath Singh	405
(xi) Need to check the rising prices of Steel Shri Kinjarapu Yerrannaidu ...	405
(xii) Need to highlight the contributions made by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Shri P.C. Thomas	406

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL), 2008-09

Ministry of Defence

Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Tej Pal Singh Rawat	...	409
Shri Adhir Chowdhury		417
Shri Rupchand Pal ...		422
Shri Mohan Singh	429
Shri Ganesh Prasad Singh		435
Shri Ilyas Azmi		437
Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy	...	441
Dr. Rattan Singh Ajnala ...		446
Shrimati M.S.K. Bhavani Rajenthiran...		450
Shri C.K. Chandrappan ...		453
Shri Vijayendra Pal Singh		458
Shri K.S. Rao		461
Dr. K.S. Manoj	...	467
Shri Shailendra Kumar	...	470
Shri P.S. Gadhavi	473
Shri Manvendra Singh	476
Shri S.K. Kharventhan ...		479
Shri Suresh Prabhakar Prabh		482
Shri Avinash Rai Khanna	487
Shri J.M. Aaron Rashid ...		491
Prof. M. Ramadass		497
Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma		502
Dr. Karan Singh Yadav ...		504

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
Shrimati Jayaben B. Thakkar ...	507
Chaudhary Lal Singh	508
Shri Kiren Rijju ...	511
Shri A.K. Antony	513-532

ANNEXURE-I

Member-wise Index to Starred Questions ...	533
Member-wise Index to Unstarred Questions ...	534-540

ANNEXURE-II

Ministry-wise Index to Starred Questions	541-542
Ministry-wise Index to Unstarred Questions	541-542

OFFICERS OF LOK SABHA

THE SPEAKER

Shri Somnath Chatterjee

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Shri Charnjit Singh Atwal

PANEL OF CHAIRMEN

Shri Girdhar Gamang

Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya

Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan

Dr. Laxminarayan Pandey

Shri Balasaheb Vikhe Patil

Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan

Shri Arjun Sethi

Shri Mohan Singh

Shrimati Krishna Tirath

Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav

SECRETARY-GENERAL

Shri P.D.T. Achary

LOK SABHA

[Translation]

Tuesday, April 22, 2008/Vaisakha 2, 1930 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The Secretary-General may call out the names of Members who are to take oath or affirmation.

MEMBERS SWORN

Shri Hemant Khandelwal (Betul)

Shri Bhisim Shankar *alias* Kushal Tewari (Khalilabad)

Shri Akbar Ahmad Dumpy (Azamgarh)

11.02 hrs.

REFERENCE BY THE SPEAKER

Earth Day

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, as you are all aware, 22nd April is observed the world over as Earth Day to generate awareness for and affirm public commitment to the cause of environment. Environmental crisis is today a harsh reality confronting the human race. Let us, on this occasion, renew our pledge to ensure a safer, pollution free and healthier environment, and to leave a cleaner and greener world for generations to come.

[English]

Let us now take up Question Hour.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK (Unnao) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given a notice for adjournment of Question Hour for raising a very serious issue. I would like to urge that life has become miserable in Bundelkhand and Poorvanchal, which are the most backward regions of Uttar Pradesh. I may be permitted to make my point on this issue.

MR. SPEAKER : Brajeshji, I have given you opportunity to speak three times during the current session. Today also I will give you opportunity to speak, but speak after the Question Hour.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH VERMA (Sitapur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to request you to give an opportunity to Bahujan Samaj Party to express its view point on such an important issue. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have given a notice for the adjournment of the Question Hour, therefore I should be given an opportunity to speak on this serious issue. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am requesting you. You know that.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Do not record anything

... (Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I have said, I will definitely give you an opportunity to speak. Earlier also, I have allowed you three times. Today also, I will give you opportunity to speak.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Do not raise slogans; I will take action against those who are raising slogans.

*Not recorded.

Tell them not to raise slogans.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please take down the names of those hon. Members who are raising slogans.

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Rajeshji, please listen for a while.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You have come for the first time today itself and have started raising slogans. This is not a good image.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please listen. I will take action against those who will raise slogans. I am telling you to sit down.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please listen for once. I am on my legs. You please sit down.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have already allowed hon. Members to raise this issue on three occasions. I know the importance of this issue.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I know its importance. I have allowed the hon. Members to raise this issue on three occasions in this Session itself. I am prepared to give you another opportunity today. If you want a fuller discussion, I will allow that even. But please allow the Question Hour to go on. Now, it is already ten past 11. In another fifty minutes' time, I will give you an opportunity to raise this issue.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please listen. I accept the importance of Bundelkhand. I have never minimized its importance. On three occasions I have allowed the hon. Members to raise this issue. Therefore, if you want to discuss it once more, I will allow it.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have already announced that I will take action against those hon. Members who are raising slogans.

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Do not raise slogans.

[English]

You will be in trouble.

... (Interruptions)

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Revision of Present Syllabus

*401. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to revise the present syllabi of all classes to reduce load on the children;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) to (c) National Curriculum Framework (NCF) – 2005 aims to make education meaningful and relevant for the children while reducing the undue psychological, physical and transactional load. Based on NCF-2005, National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has already

developed syllabi in all subjects for all the stages of school education. The new syllabi focus on the appropriateness of topics and themes for the relevant stages of children's development. These emphasize linking knowledge with children's everyday experience. Based on the new syllabi, NCERT has developed textbooks for Classes I to XII in a phased manner. NCF-2005 has been implemented in all Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) affiliated schools in the country, where emphasis has been given to shift from rote learning to conceptual understanding. Also, CBSE has advised schools not to give homework to students of Classes I and II. It has directed schools to evolve a concept of Alternatives to Homework for the children of Classes III to V. It has also advised schools to restrict the number of prescribed textbooks to an optimum number, especially at the primary level.

All States have been advised to implement NCF-2005.

Import of Rice

*402. SHRI B. MAHTAB : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to import rice in order to curtail the rise in prices; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the quantity of rice proposed to be imported alongwith its value during the current year, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Exchange of Lists of Prisoners

*403. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA :
SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Border Security Force (BSF) and Pakistan Rangers have recently exchanged lists of prisoners languishing in the jails of the two countries for a long time as a step towards their early repatriation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by when these prisoners are likely to be repatriated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, lists of prisoners lodged in jails in India and Pakistan have been exchanged by the two Governments on 31/3/2008 in conformity with the recommendations of the India-Pakistan Judicial Committee set up pursuant to a bilateral understanding. India has provided a list of 133 Pakistani prisoners and 14 Pakistani fishermen lodged in various Indian jails while Pakistan has provided a list of 53 Indian prisoners and 436 Indian fishermen lodged in various Pakistani jails.

(c) No specific time-frame has been fixed for the repatriation of these prisoners.

Import of Raw Silk

*404. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of raw silk imported alongwith its value during each of the last three years and in the current year till date, country-wise;

(b) whether any anti-dumping duty is imposed on any of the above countries; and

(c) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years till date?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) A Statement indicating the total quantity of raw Silk imported alongwith its value during each of the last three years and in the current year till December 2007 (country-wise) is given as under:-

Country	2004-05			2005-06		
	Qty. MT	CIF Value Rs. in Lacs	CIF Price Rs./MT	Qty. MT	CIF Value Rs. in Lacs	CIF Price Rs./MT
Brazil	64.08	490.49	765434	40.2	327.44	814527
Taiwan	47.29	535.86	921675	26.99	282.82	973768
China P RP	4,917.1	37,995.7	772716	4,508.51	44,428.9	985447
Hong Kong	1.88	18.36	976596	2.98	43.21	1450000
Japan	333.39	2,301.09	690210	9.72	99.16	1020165
Korea RP	16.16	98.02	606559	19.07	162.9	854221
Switzerland	77.54	698.25	900503			
Tajikistan				3.09	24.98	808414
Thailand	8	67.66	845750			
UAE				15.2	97.34	640395
USA				0.07	0.78	1114286
Uzbekistan				18.03	119.08	660455
Vietnam Soc Rep				33.11	249.74	754274
Unspecified				0.2	2.87	1435000
Total	5465.51	42,105.4	770385	4,677.17	45,819.3	979637

Country	2006-07			2007-08 (April-December)		
	Qty. MT	CIF Value Rs. in Lacs	CIF Price Rs./MT	Qty. MT	CIF Value Rs. in Lacs	CIF Price Rs./MT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Brazil	72.03	921.3	1279050	34	313.357	921640
Taiwan						
China P RP	3,337.25	41,807.5	1252754	6,062.00	56,830.2	937484
Hong Kong	2.45	37.53	1531837			
Japan						

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Korea RP	9.01	97.2	1078801	8.96	81.44	908929
Switzerland	1.6	4.3	268750			
Tajikstan						
Thailand	3.6	56.52	1570000			
UAE						
USA						
Uzbekistan	82.7	544.81	658779	19	114.022	600118
Vietnam Soc Rep	8.65	67.79	783699			
Unspecified						
Total	3517.29	43,536.9	1237799	6123.96	57339.1	936307

(b) and (c) On the basis of an application received from the Central Silk Board alleging dumping of Mulberry Raw Silk Below 2A Grade (Not Thrown) from the Peoples Republic of China, the Designated Authority in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry initiated an Anti-Dumping investigation on 17.7.2002 in terms of Section 9A of the Customs Tariff Act 1975 as amended and Rules made thereunder. On the basis of the investigation carried out by the Designated Authority, Central Government imposed Provisional Anti-dumping Duty on 2.1.2003 and definitive anti dumping duty was imposed on 10.7.2003. The said duty was due to expire on 2.1.2008 after completion of five years from the date of its imposition. On the basis of an application received from Central Silk Board, on behalf of several federations and associations of silk growers and reelers in the silk growing states, the Designated Authority has already initiated a sunset review investigation in terms of Section 9A (5) of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 to examine the need for continued imposition of anti-dumping duty for a further period of 5 years. Consequent upon initiation of a sunset review investigation of the antidumping duty by the Designated Authority, vide notification No. 15/12/2007-DGAD dated the 14th December, 2007, the anti-dumping duty on mulberry raw silk has been extended by the

Central Government in terms of the above provisions, for a further period of one year, i.e. till 1st January, 2009, vide Customs Notification No. 01/2008-Customs dated 1st January, 2008.

Switching Over of Scientists to Private Sector

*405. SHRI HITEN BARMAN : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

- (a) whether a large number of scientists are switching over to the private sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check the trend?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) No, Sir. There is no large switching over of scientists from Government Research Institutions to the private sector. However, there are evidences indicating that some scientists are switching over from mission oriented institute like DRDO and industrial research organisation like CSIR to the private sector.

(b) The private sector engaged in technology driven manufacturing both in defence and non-strategic sectors offer better career opportunities for experienced scientists. Typically in organisation like DRDO the evidences reflect that around 5 to 7% of the total scientists seem to opt for mid-career switch over. However, DRDO has been able to recruit scientist through fresh induction and compensate for such indicative migration.

Therefore the current trend needs to be considered as a dynamics of change and is likely to increase the extent of production based on advanced technologies in emerging economy like India. Further the inter-sectoral migration of scientist/engineers will strengthen the public-private sector linkages in R and D.

(c) Government from time to time have taken several measures to encourage research scientists by providing various incentives. These include:-

- Induction of new and attractive fellowships;
- Creation of core groups of professionals with necessary modern facilities required for pursuing research in new and frontier areas of science;
- Creation of new scientific Departments/Organisations;
- Increase in the outlay for science and technology sector in successive Five Year Plan;
- Setting up of centres of excellence/advanced studies/incubation centres in the universities, academic institutions and laboratories;
- Manpower development training/re-training programmes through associate-ships/fellowships;
- Fast Track Scheme for Young Scientists;
- Better Opportunities for Young Scientists in Chosen Areas of Science and Technology (BOYSCAST) fellowship to visit international laboratories and institutions;

- Contact programmes to attract and motivate brilliant young scientists to take up R and D as a career;
- Scientists are given financial assistance to participate in international conferences and training programmes abroad;
- Invitation to distinguished men and women of Indian origin settled abroad for short term technical assignments to assist in frontier and emerging areas of S and T;
- Early Faculty Induction Programme, which aims at attracting bright and young undergraduate students in Engineering and Technology/Pharmacy/Architecture, etc. as a good career avenue; and
- Establishment of deemed university institution by the Department of Space and Department of Atomic Energy to ensure steady flow of young talent for carrying out research activities.

[Translation]

Nursery Class in Kendriya Vidyalayas

*406. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether nursery class has been introduced in all the Kendriya Vidyalayas;
- (b) if so, the monthly amount of fees being charged from the students of nursery classes under the head "School Development Fund";
- (c) whether the Government proposes to exempt the students belonging to the scheduled castes/scheduled tribes and poor sections from payment of this fees or reduce the amount of fees; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) No, Sir. Out of 975

functional Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs), only 170 Kendriya Vidyalayas are having pre-primary classes.

(b) No fee is charged from the students of pre-primary classes under the head "School Development Fund". However, a monthly fee of Rs. 400/- is charged.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Pre-primary classes are managed on self-financing basis and are not part of the formal education system of Kendriya Vidyalaya scheme.

[English]

Competition from Foreign Universities

*407. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the educational institutions are facing stiff competition from foreign universities in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) and (b) No such issue has come to the notice of the Government.

Flower Export Zones

*408. SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL :
DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL :

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up flower export zones in various parts of the country;

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

(c) the concessions/assistance proposed to be given for export of cut, loose and dried flowers in the global market; and

(d) the further steps taken by the Government to boost the export of flowers?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) and (b) There is no proposal with the Government to set up new Flower Export Zones in the country. However, six Agri Export Zones (AEZs) – 2 in Tamil Nadu and one each in Karnataka, Maharashtra, Sikkim and Uttaranchal have already been set up for promoting export of floriculture products.

(c) and (d) The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has been taking various measures to promote export of flowers. These include:—

- (i) Setting up of centers for perishable cargo at International Airports at Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Bangalore, Hyderabad and Thiruvananthapuram.
- (ii) Assistance for setting up wholesale market-cum-flower auction centres at Bangalore, Mumbai, Noida and Kolkata.
- (iii) Setting set up a Market Facilitation Center in Aalsmeer, Netherlands to assist the growers in marketing flowers in Europe.
- (iv) Setting up of AEZs for floriculture products.
- (v) Participation in international trade fairs.
- (vi) Financial assistance to its registered exporters under its schemes for financial assistance for Infrastructure Development, Market Development, Quality Development, Research and Development and Transport Assistance.

To overcome the disadvantage due to high freight in floriculture exports, flowers would now be eligible for an additional duty credit equivalent to 2.5% of FOB value of exports over and above the credit available under Vishesh Krishi and Gram Udyog Yojana (VKGUY).

Crimes Against Senior Citizens

*409. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether crimes against senior citizens in the

country including NCT of Delhi have been increasing during the last three years;

(b) If so, the total number of cases registered, gender-wise and crime-wise separately for each of the last three years;

(c) the total number of accused persons arrested and action taken against them as also action taken against the policemen for negligence in performance of their duties in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check such crimes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI) : (a) to (c) The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles and maintains age-wise, gender-wise data in respect of some crimes. Based on the available information compiled by NCRB till the year 2006, the details in respect of victims (aged 50 years and above), of murder and culpable homicide not amounting to murder for the year 2004 to 2006 is given in Statement-I enclosed. Specific data in respect of crimes against senior citizens, as such, is not being presently compiled.

In the National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi, there is a comprehensive programme for Senior Citizens (aged 60 years and above). Details regarding cases of various crimes against Senior Citizens registered during the last three years are given in Statement-II enclosed.

(d) Delhi Police has taken a number of steps for safety and welfare of senior citizens living in Delhi, which include identification of elderly people living alone; verification of antecedents of their employees, particularly domestic servants and drivers; periodic visits to the residences of elderly persons by the Beat Staff, Station House Officers and Division Officers; setting up of a Senior Citizen's Security Cell in the Crime Branch under an Additional Commissioner of Police (Crime); contacting the senior citizens by the officers of the Senior Citizen Security Cell both personally and on telephone to give them emotional support and to create a sense of security;

briefing the senior citizens about security devices and security related issues; making available telephone numbers of Helpline for use in case of emergency; advice about "Dos" and "Don'ts"; organising security awareness camps for the benefit of senior citizens; etc.

Statement-I

Details in respect of Victims (Aged 50 years and above), of Murder and Culpable Homicide not amounting to Murder in the Country during the year 2004, 2005 and 2006

(I) Murder

Year	Male	Female	Total
2004	2485	664	3149
2005	2571	644	3215
2006	2674	694	3368

(II) Culpable Homicide not amounting to Murder

Year	Male	Female	Total
2004	304	52	356
2005	277	56	333
2006	244	31	275

Statement-II

Details of the Cases of Crime against Senior Citizens in Delhi Registered during the years 2005, 2006, 2007 and upto 15th February, 2008.

(I) Murder

Year	Total No. of Cases	Male Victim	Female Victim	Person Arrested
1	2	3	4	5
2005	16	8	10	20
2006	12	7	7	19

1	2	3	4	5
2007	17	11	6	24
2008 (upto 15th February)	1	1	0	0

(ii) Attempt to Murder

Year	Total No. of Cases	Male Victim	Female Victim	Person Arrested
2005	5	4	1	9
2006	2	1	2	5
2007	1	1	0	1
2008 (upto 15th February)	0	0	0	0

(iii) Robbery/Dacoity

Year	Total No. of Cases	Male Victim	Female Victim	Person Arrested
2005	15	11	4	25
2006	10	4	6	17
2007	9	6	3	19
2008 (upto 15th February)	1	0	1	1

(iv) Hurt

Year	Total No. of Cases	Male Victim	Female Victim	Person Arrested
2005	23	19	4	42
2006	22	18	4	43
2007	13	11	2	15
2008 (upto 15th February)	1	1	0	1

**Minority Students under Sarva
Shiksha Abhiyan**

*410. SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the expenditure incurred under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) for the years 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08;

(b) the total number of students from minority communities enrolled under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, religion, gender, State and Union Territory-wise; and

(c) the details of teachers belonging to the minority communities recruited under SSA, religion, State/Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) The details of funds released by the Central Government under SSA for the year 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 upto December, 2007 are as under:-

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Releases made to States/UTs
2004-05	5113.14
2005-06	7517.70
2006-07	10837.20
2007-08	11445.32

(b) The information on muslim minority children was collected through District Information System on Education (DISE) from the States for first-time in September, 2006, of which the State-wise and gender wise details is given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) No separate data on religion of teachers recruited is maintained by the Central Government

		Statement		
Sl. No.	State Name	Enrolment of muslim children at elementary level (2006-07)		
		Boys	Girls	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar islands	1031	962	1993
2.	Andhra Pradesh	535385	561955	1097340
3.	Assam	745325	744191	1489516
4.	Bihar	700939	591536	1292475
5.	Chhattisgarh	13890	12808	26698
6.	Daman and Diu	22	29	51
7.	Delhi	71082	71896	142978
8.	Goa	3480	3482	6962
9.	Gujarat	160833	151322	312155
10.	Haryana	6835	5745	12580
11.	Himachal Pradesh	6813	5536	12349
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	541889	465564	1007453
13.	Jharkhand	238459	214768	453227
14.	Karnataka	523592	518755	1042347
15.	Kerala	171652	166049	337701
16.	Madhya Pradesh	179363	169999	349362
17.	Maharashtra	574700	536570	1111270
18.	Meghalaya	77	103	180
19.	Nagaland	54	60	114
20.	Orissa	180803	167650	348453
21.	Pondicherry	4828	4357	9185

1	2	3	4	5
22.	Punjab	2869	2042	4911
23.	Rajasthan	141759	114189	255948
24.	Tamil Nadu	192342	186167	378509
25.	Uttar Pradesh	1494834	1342609	2837443
26.	Uttarakhand	1879	1640	3519
27.	West Bengal	1668518	1739894	3408412

Research and Development for Tea Industry

*411. SHRI PRABODH PANDA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has decided to give a special thrust on human resource development and research and development work for the tea industry;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes which are being given special thrust in the Eleventh Plan period; and

(c) the funds allocated in the Eleventh plan period for rejuvenating the industry?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The outlay of the Human Resource Development Scheme has been enhanced to Rs. 50 crores during XI plan period as against a provision of Rs. 6.01 crore during the X plan period. The outlay for Research and Development has also been enhanced from Rs. 70 crore during X plan to Rs. 85 crore during XI plan period.

The scheme of Human Resource Development have provisions, interalia, for providing financial assistance to (i) health of tea plantation workers (ii) education of wards of workers (iii) training of farm workers, small growers, managers and organizing seminars, conferences to sensitize the stakeholders in better crop and managerial practices.

Under the scheme of Research and Development the focus is on technology upgradation, technology transfer,

product diversification, development of new processing technologies, making use of electronic devices for quick assessment of quality parameters, setting up of laboratories for testing of pesticides etc.

(c) An outlay of Rs. 800 crore has been made during the XI plan period for various plan schemes being administered by the Tea Board for development of tea industry.

India-Africa Conclave

*412. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether India-Africa Conclave was held in India recently to discuss deals worth over \$ 10 billion;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of export oriented projects discussed and signed therein?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) and (b) The 4th India-Africa Conclave on Project Partnership was jointly organized by Confederation of Indian Industry' (CII) and Exim Bank of India at New Delhi during March 19-21, 2008. As per the information made available by CII, 153 project opportunities worth US \$ 10.551 billion, in the areas of Auto and Auto Ancillaries, Construction, Roads and Bridges, Housing, Power and Energy, Water and Sanitation, Healthcare, Turnkey projects in the Core Sector, Turnkey manufacturing projects in the private sector, Tourism, Information and Communication Technology, Human Resources Development and Oil and Gas, were discussed between Indian and African delegates during the Conclave.

(c) Discussions on project opportunities were essentially exploratory in nature. However, the following key bilateral Agreements were signed at the Conclave :-

1. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Exim Bank of India and the African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank) under which a US \$ 30

million Line of Credit (LoC) would be extended to finance Indian exports to Africa.

2. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and the Ethiopian Ministry of Trade and Industry under which Indian industry would be invited to set up manufacturing and training facilities in Ethiopia, supported with access to land and fiscal incentives.
3. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between CII and the Ethiopian Leather Council with focus on technology transfer and research.
4. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between ILFS and South Africa in the field of Consultancy services.
5. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between CII and Benin Chamber of Commerce for mutual co-operation.

Export Target

*413. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL :
SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI :

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

(a) whether the Government has achieved the target fixed for exports for the year 2007-08;

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

(c) whether the Government has fixed any target for exports for the year 2008-09;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) and (b) India's exports during 2007-08 are over US \$ 155 billion as against a target of

US \$ 160 billion. While there is a minor shortfall in the achievement of target, exports performance during the year has shown great resilience despite appreciation of rupee, high interest rate, spiraling oil prices and general international economic slow-down in some of our major trade markets.

(c) and (d) The export target for the year 2008-09 has been set at US \$ 200 billion.

(e) Export promotion is an ongoing endeavour of the Government and initiatives are taken from time to time in accordance with the Foreign Trade Policy and its Annual Supplements. The initiatives under the Policy include setting up of Special Economic Zones (SEZ) under the SEZ Act 2005, implementation of the Focus Product Scheme, Focus Market Scheme, Vishesh Krishi and Gram Udyog Yojana, Duty Entitlement Passbook Scheme, Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme etc. Apart from the ongoing schemes, several new initiatives have been announced on 11th April, 2008 in the Annual Supplement to the Foreign Trade Policy, 2004-09. These initiatives, inter alia, include reduction in import duty under Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) Scheme for promoting manufacturing and services exports; extension of income tax benefit to 100 per cent Export Oriented Units (EOU); extension of Duty Entitlement Passbook (DEPB) Scheme; provision of subvention of 2% in the rate of interest on pre and post shipment credit in respect of all exporters from SME sector and 13 other sectors and additional subvention of 2% in respect of leather and other manufacturers, marine products, all categories of textiles including readymade garments and carpets (excluding man-made fibres) and handicrafts, incentive for promoting export of sports and toys items, fruits, vegetable and floriculture, etc.

[Translation]

Teacher-Student Ratio

*414. SHRI AJIT JOGI :

SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA :

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

(a) whether the C and AG Report has pointed out that out of 75884 primary schools in 15 States and UTs, 6647 schools in 7 States were without any teacher, and that the teacher-pupil ratio was as high as 1:80 in some States;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the current teacher-pupil ratio at the National level and State-wise; and

(d) the measures taken by the Government to recruit more teachers to redress these issues?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) to (d) The Performance Audit of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (C and AG) which covered the period from 2001-02 to 2004-05 reported 75844 schools with one teacher in 15 States/UTs and 6647 schools without teachers in 7 States and Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) as high as 1:130 in some States. The schools with no teachers are largely new schools opened where in there is a time lag between notification of new schools and recruitment of new teachers.

The PTR at national level as per District Information System for Education (DISE) data 2006-07 is 1:34 at elementary level. The State-wise details are enclosed as statement.

Under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan 11.30 lakhs teachers have been sanctioned upto 2007-08 to improve Pupil-Teacher Ratio.

Statement

Pupil-Teacher Ratio (2006-07)

State/UT	Elementary level
1	2
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	14.89
Andhra Pradesh	22.10

1	2
Arunachal Pradesh	21.55
Assam	24.53
Bihar	63.68
Chandigarh	23.37
Chhattisgarh	26.95
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	44.99
Daman and Diu	32.74
Delhi	25.04
Goa	24.07
Gujarat	34.82
Haryana	31.88
Himachal Pradesh	18.29
Jammu and Kashmir	15.98
Jharkhand	48.27
Karnataka	31.56
Kerala	26.65
Lakshadweep	19.38
Madhya Pradesh	38.08
Maharashtra	27.78
Manipur	20.41
Meghalaya	18.06
Mizoram	14.16
Nagaland	22.37
Orissa	32.70
Pondicherry	23.61
Punjab	31.75

1	2
Rajasthan	31.40
Sikkim	12.48
Tamil Nadu	27.12
Tripura	22.49
Uttar Pradesh	52.84
Uttarakhand	25.75
West Bengal	50.71
All States	34.37

[English]

Regulation of Private Television Channels

*415. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE :

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :

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

(a) whether the Government has succeeded in pushing through a content code to regulate private television channels in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of rules that are in vogue to keep tab of the operations of cable operators; and

(d) the extent to which the district and State-Level monitoring Committees have helped in checking the cable operators and misuse of TV Channels?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) and (b) A Committee was constituted for reviewing the Programme and Advertising Codes (Content Code) prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed there under to provide greater specificity to the provisions of existing Codes. The Committee has submitted its report to the Government on 05.03.2008

which is available on the website of the Ministry www.mib.nic.in under the heading Codes and Guidelines and sub-heading 'Self-Regulation Guidelines for the Broadcasting Sector (2008)'.

(c) and (d) The existing Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder are also available on the said website of this Ministry under heading 'Acts and Rules'. Local level Committees were expected to be constituted by State Governments as a follow up of this Ministry's order dt. 6.9.2005. However, most of the States did not report compliance. Consequently a fresh order dt. 19.2.2008 has been issued giving detailed guidelines for constitution and functioning of State/District level Monitoring Committees, which are expected to check the misuse of T.V. Channels by the Cable operators. The above guidelines are also available on the said website of the Ministry under heading 'Codes and Guidelines'.

Agri Export Zones

*416. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up four new agri export zones in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has evaluated the existing agri export zones;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) A peer evaluation of the existing AEZs was carried out with a view to ascertain the reasons for shortfall

in their performance and to suggest a remedial action plan. The review revealed that the AEZs were not able to make headway, mainly, owing to lack of :

- (i) Project orientation in their conceptual design;
- (ii) Awareness amongst the field functionaries about the concept of AEZs;
- (iii) Effective agency to coordinate with other implementing agencies and monitor the performance of the AEZs; and
- (iv) Effective public participation.
- (e) Does not arise.

Allotment of Iron Ore Mines

*417. SHRI RANEN BARMAN : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government is allotting iron ore mines to private sector companies on priority basis despite the opposition from Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs); and
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.

Assessment of Working of Small and Medium Enterprises

*418. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government has entered into an agreement with some Private Consulting and Rating Agencies for assessment of the working of Small and Medium Enterprises and the rating of their performance;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of Small and Medium Enterprises in respect of which assessment and rating has been carried out so far by these agencies; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government on the findings of these agencies?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises is implementing a scheme of Performance and Credit Rating for Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) since 2005-06. National Small Industries Corporation Ltd. (NSIC), a Public Sector Undertaking under the Ministry, is the nodal organisation for implementing the scheme. Seven rating agencies viz., CARE, CRISIL, ICRA, FITCH, Dun and Bradstreet, ONICRA and SME Rating Agency of India Ltd. (SMERA) have been empanelled for rating the MSEs. However, the MSEs are at liberty to select any of the above empanelled rating agencies. Under the scheme the Government provides subsidy upto 75% of the rating fees, subject to a ceiling of Rs. 40,000/-, for the first year only.

(c) A statement showing the number of Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) rated year-wise is given below:-

	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	Total
No. of MSEs rated	671	2170	3850	6691

(d) Government does not provide any direct assistance, other than the subsidy on rating fee, to the rated MSEs. Rather, the objective of the scheme is to encourage MSEs to get their Performance and Credit Rating done by a reputed Rating Agency to enable them better access to bank finance/credit and also help them in their marketing efforts. The Performance and Credit Rating provides the banks and other financial institutions with a trusted third party assessment about the strengths and credit worthiness of the rated MSEs. Some of the banks have also announced concessional interest rates for better rated MSEs. The rating obtained by an MSE also infuses a sense of confidence amongst the buyers and helps the rated MSE in the marketing of its products/services.

[Translation]

Activities of SIMI

*419. SHRI KIREN RIJUJU :

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some activists of the Student Islamic Movement of India (SIMI) have been apprehended recently;

(b) if so, the total number of SIMI activists arrested during each of the last three years and in the current year till date, alongwith the items seized from them, State-wise;

(c) whether these activists have joined hands with Laskar-e-Taiba and they are receiving financial assistance from foreign countries; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to check such nexus and to curb the activities of SIMI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per available information, State-wise, year-wise details of arrests of SIMI activists and items seized in different States since 2006 are as under:-

Year	State	Arrest	Seizure
1	2	3	4
2006	Gujarat	14	Arms, ammunition, cash, etc.
2006	Madhya Pradesh	73	-
2006	Kerala	05	Some incriminating literature.
2006	Maharashtra	24	Arms, ammunition, vehicles, explosive material, ammonium nitrate, detonators, etc.
2007	Madhya Pradesh	01	-

1	2	3	4
2008	Maharashtra	02	-
2008	Madhya Pradesh	54	Objectionable literature and documents, arms and ammunitions, gelatine sticks, mobiles, cash, computers, etc.
2008	Karnataka	7	Gelatine sticks, detonators, hand grenade, stolen motor cycles etc.
2008	Andhra Pradesh	01	-

(c) Investigations into a number of cases have revealed links of SIMI with various terrorist outfits, including Laskar-e-Taiba (LeT).

(d) The activities of all such organizations having an adverse bearing on peace, communal harmony and security of the country are under constant watch of the law enforcement agencies and requisite action is being taken on a continuing basis to prevent and check such activities, including ban under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967, as amended in 2004.

[English]

Export of Medicinal Herbs

*420. SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of medicinal herbs exported during each of the last three years and in the current year till date, quantity-wise, value-wise and country-wise;

(b) whether any special scheme has been formulated by the Government for the production and supply of the medicinal herbs in view of its increasing international demand;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the promotional measures being undertaken by the Government for exporting the medicinal herbs in the global market?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) The total quantity of medicinal herbs exported during the last three years are as under:—

Year	Quantity	Value
2004-05	44189.24MT	262.78 Crs.
2005-06	49157.87MT	315.70 Crs.
2006-07	44577.98MT	364.52 Crs.
2007-08 (Provisional)	50056.89MT	430.08 Crs.

The top ten countries to which Medicinal Herbs are being exported are USA, Pakistan, Germany, Indonesia, Japan, Spain, UK, Australia, China and Taiwan.

(b) to (d) Government has set up Medicinal Plants Board for co-ordination of all matters relating to medicinal plants, including drawing up policies and strategies for conservation, proper harvesting, cost-effective cultivation, research and development, processing, marketing of raw material in order to protect, sustain and develop medicinal plant sector. The Board has been implementing schemes for various promotional activities including survey, inventorisation, documentation, in-situ/ex-situ conservation, extension activities for increasing awareness, training of growers and collectors, research and development etc. in the field of medicinal plants.

Besides the Government has formulated the following promotional measures for schemes for production, supply and exporting the medicinal herbs during the 11th Plan :

(a) **Central Sector Scheme for conservation, development and sustainable Management of medicinal Plants**

Thrust areas proposed to cover under the scheme are in-situ conservation sustainable

management and augmentation of wild gene pool of Medicinal Plants for quality control and certification, creation of awareness, programmes for extension, capacity building and setting up of herbal gardens creation of database and setting up of herbaria/raw drug repository. An allocation of Rs. 360.07 crores is proposed during the Plan for this scheme.

(b) **Centrally sponsored Scheme for setting up of Medicinal Plants Processing Zones including cultivation, processing and marketing**

Thrust areas proposed to be covered under the scheme are Support cultivation of medicinal plants, Establishment of seed Centres and nurseries for supply of Certified Planting material, Establishment of MPPZs (Medicinal Plants processing Zones) and Management Support. Under this scheme, it is proposed to set up Medicinal Plant Nurseries, Plant Processing Zones in identified locations and commercial cultivation of important identified medicinal plants. An allocation of Rs. 630.00 Crores is proposed during the Plan for this scheme.

Film Institute in Assam

4010. SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal has been submitted by the Government of Assam to establish a Film Institute in line of Film and Television Institute of India;

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

(c) the time by when this Institute is likely to be set up in Assam?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) and (b) As a measure of implementation of clause 6 of Assam Accord,

Joyti Chitraban Film Studio (JCFS) at Guwahati has been modernized at a cost of Rs. 8.79 Crores. Government of Assam had submitted a proposal for further expansion of JCFS at a cost of Rs. 9.97 Crores. The Planning Commission had provided Rs. 10 Crores in the financial year 2006-07. Further, Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) have also sanctioned two projects namely Development and upgradation of Jyoti Chitraban Film and Television Institute, Guwahati and Bodoland Indigenous Tribal Art and Cultural Complex-cum-Film Studio, Kathalguri, Pt. II, Kokrajhar. The approved cost of these projects are Rs. 13.47 Crore and Rs. 4.95 Crore respectively. An amount of Rs. 4.24 Crores and Rs. 1.62 Crores respectively for the two projects have been released.

(c) The target date for completion of both the above mentioned projects sanctioned by DoNER is 31.12.2009.

Setting up of Special Security Zones

4011. SHRI M.K. SUBBA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had constituted a Committee headed by Soli Sorabjee to look into the issue of combating 'terror threats, insurgency and organized crimes;

(b) if so, the details of recommendations made by the said committee thereof;

(c) whether the Committee had also recommended for setting up of Special Security Zones (SSZs) across the country by bringing together contiguous areas divided by State boundaries; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) Ministry of Home Affairs had set up a Soli Sorabjee Committee to draft a New Police Act to replace the Police Act, 1861 which submitted to the Government a draft model Police Act.

(b) The salient features of the model Police Act, inter-alia, include setting up of a State Police Board, fixing of tenure of the Director General of Police of the State and other key police functionaries, setting up of Police Establishment Committees for the purpose of effecting transfers and postings of police officers, separation of investigation from law and order, establishment of Police Accountability Mechanisms at the State and District levels, service conditions of police personnel and Rural/Village policing, Metropolitan/Urban Policing, involvement of the community in policing etc.

(c) and (d) The Draft Police Act submitted by the Committee also makes provisions for policing in the context of Public Order and Internal Security challenges, including creation of Special Security Zones in specific areas, within states, which may be affected by insurgency or militant/terrorist activities, and for such areas falling in more than one States. A copy of the draft model Police Act has been sent to all the States for consideration and appropriate action as 'Police' is a State subject under the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution.

[Translation]

Trade with Pakistan along LoC

4012. SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has received a proposal from Pakistan for trading of several commodities across the line of control;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has accepted the said proposal; and

(d) if so, the details of such commodities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) to (d) During the India-

Pakistan technical level talks held in May 2006 in New Delhi for trade across LoC, both India and Pakistan have discussed trading across the line of control. The following developments have taken place in this regard :

(i) Both sides have exchanged lists of items to be traded across LoC;

(ii) India's list contained 14 items whereas Pakistan's list contained 15 items; Pakistan has subsequently added one more item in their list making it to 16.

(iii) The modalities and the items to be traded across LoC are yet to be finalized.

[English]

Amendment in Official Secrets Act

4013. SHRI K.S. RAO : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has constituted an Inter-Ministerial Group to consider amendment in the Official Secrets Act;

(b) if so, the details of recommendation made by the said Group;

(c) whether the Government has accepted all the recommendations;

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

(e) the nature of conflict observed between the Official Secrets Act and the Right to Information Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) to (e) An Inter-Ministerial Group has been constituted in the Ministry of Home Affairs to examine recommendation(s) of the Second Administrative Reforms Commission, relating to the recommendation(s) on the Official Secrets Act, as contained in its report "Right to Information - Master Key to Good Governance".

Status of Community Radio Stations

4014. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Community Radio Stations (CRSs) presently functioning in the country, State-wise and Union-Territory-wise;

(b) the number of applications received and cleared for setting up CRSs to nonprofit Organisations, till date; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for expansion of such radio stations all over the country including in backward and rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) The number of Community Radio Stations (CRSs) reported functioning in the country presently is 34. The State-wise and Union-Territory-wise details are as follows:—

Name of State	No. of CRS
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	2
Bihar	1
Delhi	5
Gujarat	2
Karnataka	2
Kerala	1
Maharashtra	3
Punjab	1
Rajasthan	3
Tamil Nadu	8
Uttar Pradesh	4

1	2
Chandigarh	1
Pondicherry	1

(b) The number of applications received and cleared for setting up CRS to Nonprofit Organisations till date are 114 and 18 respectively.

(c) The Government has taken steps to sensitize the scheme by arranging a number of consultations and workshops at regional and national level throughout the country where prospective organizations from rural and backward areas are also invited to participate. Letters have also been sent to Chief Secretaries of all the States and Union Territories to give sufficient publicity to the scheme in the print as well as audio-visual media.

Decentralised Teachers Training

4015. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has set up Block Resource Centres and Cluster Resource Centres for academic support to teachers for decentralized teacher training;

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

(c) whether there is also a proposal to set up more such centres in the near future; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) to (d) Under the erstwhile District Primary Education Programme and the present, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan centrally sponsored programmes, 6395 Block Resource Centres(BRCs) and 68352 Cluster Resource Centres(CRCs) have been set up to provide academic support to teachers and elementary schools as well as

to conduct regular in-service teacher training in a decentralized manner. State-wise details of BRCs and CRCs set up upto December, 2007 are given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	Block Resource Centres	Cluster Resource Centres
1	2	3	4
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	9	37
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1131	6953
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	84	201
4.	Assam	145	2473
5.	Bihar	533	4479
6.	Chandigarh	—	20
7.	Chhattisgarh	146	2169
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1	11
9.	Daman and Diu	2	7
10.	Delhi	9	—
11.	Goa	11	155
12.	Gujarat	224	3351
13.	Haryana	119	1487
14.	Himachal Pradesh	75	2103
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	118	1592
16.	Jharkhand	212	2049
17.	Karnataka	196	2684
18.	Kerala	152	1342
19.	Lakshadweep	3	10

1	2	3	4
20.	Maharashtra	406	5755
21.	Manipur	35	225
22.	Meghalaya	39	437
23.	Mizoram	22	159
24.	Madhya Pradesh	317	6330
25.	Nagaland	41	—
26.	Orissa	257	4140
27.	Pondicherry	6	8
28.	Punjab	141	1499
29.	Rajasthan	194	3074
30.	Sikkim	9	131
31.	Tamil Nadu	401	4088
32.	Tripura	40	332
33.	Uttar Pradesh	879	8249
34.	Uttarakhand	95	1001
35.	West Bengal	343	1801

[Translation]

Activities of HUJI in North Eastern States

4016. SHRIMATI KARUNA SHUKLA :
SHRI KIREN RIJU :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that terrorist outfit of Bangladesh (HUJI) has consolidated its position in North-Eastern States, especially in Assam;

(b) if so, whether HUJI has established its base camps in Assam and particularly in the districts of Dhubri and Bongaigaon;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check the activities of HUJI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI) : (a) to (c) No specific inputs are available to suggest that Bangladesh based Herkat-UI-Jehad-Islami (HUJI) has consolidated its position in North Eastern States and particularly in Assam nor there are any inputs to suggest that HUJI has established its base camps in Dhubri and Bongaigaon districts of Assam. However, there are reports that some insurgent groups from the North Eastern regions have links with Pakistan ISI and certain other fundamentalist/terrorist organizations from neighbouring countries such as Bangladesh based HUJI.

(d) The Government has been regularly taken up with Bangladeshi various security related matters including misuse of Bangladesh soil for activities inimical to India at different levels through diplomatic channels and institutional mechanisms existing between the two countries. In addition, efforts of the State Governments, who are primarily responsible for ensuring public order and security in their areas are being supplemented by the Central Government through various measures such as deployment of additional Central Security Forces to aid the State authorities with the objective of carrying out intensive counter insurgency operations and providing security for vulnerable institutions and installations based on threat assessment; vigilance and surveillance on the border, including construction of border fencing; sharing of intelligence, financial assistance for strengthening of the local Police Forces and intelligence agencies under the Police Modernization Scheme; Provision of assistance for strengthening various aspect of security apparatus and other aspects of anti-militancy operations by way of reimbursement of Security Related Expenditure; assistance to the States for raising of additional Forces in the form of India Reserve Battalions, etc.

[English]

Distance Education for Professional Courses

4017. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is considering to allow all educational institutions to offer popular courses like MBA and IT through distance and mixed education mode;

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether the three regulatory bodies i.e. UGC, AICTE and Distance Education Council (DEC) have jointly considered and decided to allow all educational institutions to offer distance education courses,

(d) if so, the courses likely to be provided under this scheme;

(e) the detailed guidelines issued by the Government to educational institutions in this regard, and

(f) the steps taken/being taken by Government to ensure that the quality of these courses is not degraded as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Programme/Courses approved by the respective statutory bodies of the Universities/Institutions and approved by the respective regulatory bodies for Technical/Professional programmes can be offered through distance mode provided these programmes are also recognized by the Distance Education Council. In order to cut short the delay in seeking multiple clearances for starting a Distance Education Programme, the three

regulatory bodies viz. UGC, AICTE and DEC have decided to provide a single window for considering proposals through a joint committee mechanism.

(e) and (f) The Government discharges its responsibilities of determining the standards in distance education through IGNOU's authority, DEC, which has communicated to Universities/Institutions to adhere to the Norms and Guidelines specified in the Handbook for recognition of DEC from time to time and trying to ensure quality of programmes through distance mode by providing guidelines and organizing workshops and seminars.

Moral Science as Compulsory Subject

4018. SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce moral science as a compulsory subject in the various schools of the country in view of the fast receding moral values among the youth of the country;

(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) National Curriculum-Framework (NCF) 2005 recommends introduction of 'Education for Peace' to nurture ethical development and inculcation of values, attitude and skills required for living in harmony with oneself and with others, including nature, and to develop respect for human rights, justice, tolerance, cooperation, social responsibility, commitment to democracy, non-violent conflict resolution and social justice. Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has included moral education as a component of value education integrated into the curriculum across disciplines, and not as a separate subject. Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations requires its affiliated schools to assess the students internally in "Education in Moral and Spiritual Values" upto class X.

Expansion Project of NALCO

4019. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated cost of expansion projects of NALCO and the policy adopted for mobilization of funds for the expansion;

(b) the total funds utilized so far alongwith the progress made on each component of the expansion; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to reduce the cost and time overrun of the projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI B. K. HANDIQUE) :

(a) The original estimated cost of ongoing 2nd phase expansion project of National Aluminium Company Ltd. (NALCO) was Rs. 4091.51 crore (at March, 2004 price level). The revised estimated cost at March, 2007 price level is Rs. 5003 crore. The project cost is funded mostly through internal resource generation.

(b) NALCO has informed that as of March, 2008, total commitment of Rs. 3729 crore has been made and expenditure of Rs. 1948.43 crore has been incurred. Overall expenditure and progress of expansion as of March, 2008 is given below:-

Sl. No.	Project segment	Expenditure (Rs. in crore)	Progress (in %)
1.	Mines and Alumina	618.99	72
2.	Smelter	683.18	69
3.	Captive Power Plant	646.26	80
Total		1948.43	

(c) The Company has engaged M/s. M.N. Dastur and Company as its consultant for time and cost

monitoring of the 2nd phase expansion project, who conducts reviews regularly and submits reports. The Company also conducts regular project review meetings at the units and corporate level to take remedial measures for any slippage in the milestone. The Company is confident that the project would be commissioned within the revised estimate of the cost. The Ministry also reviews the progress on quarterly basis.

[Translation]

**Export Promotion and Market Development
Welfare Scheme**

4020. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the programmes being implemented by the Government under the "Export Promotion and Market Development" welfare scheme alongwith the names of agencies and the States where the said programmes are being implemented during each of the last three years and in the current year, till date; and

(b) the details regarding the funds, grants, loans and other financial assistance provided to various States particularly, Rajasthan under the said scheme during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) Market Development Assistance (MDA) scheme, Market Access initiative (MAI) Scheme and Assistance to States for Creating Infrastructure for the Development and Growth of Exports (ASIDE) Scheme are being administered by the Department of Commerce. The MDA scheme is intended to provide financial assistance for a range of export promotion activities being implemented by the Export Promotion Councils and Industry and Trade Associations on a regular basis every year. MAI scheme is intended to provide financial assistance for medium term export promotion efforts with sharp focus on a country/product. Financial assistance is available for Export Promotion Councils, Industry and Trade Associations, Agencies of State Governments, Indian commercial Missions abroad and other eligible entities as may be notified. Under ASIDE scheme, funds are granted to all States/Union Territory Administrations including State of Rajasthan on the basis of approved allocation criteria.

(b) (i) State Government Projects funded under MAI Scheme during the last three years.

Sl. No.	State Government	Details of the Proposals	Amount Released (Rs. in Lakhs)	Year
1.	West Bengal	Proposal of Government of West Bengal for infrastructure study.	44.55	2005-06
2.	West Bengal	Proposal of Government of West Bengal for study on District-wise Export Potential survey in West Bengal.	2.62	2005-06
3.	Orissa	Proposal for assistance to aggressive International Marketing Project for promotion of Orissa Handloom and Handicrafts.	94.84	2006-07
4.	Rajasthan	The proposal of the State Government of Rajasthan for imparting training to exporters of Rajasthan.	10.00	2007-08

(ii) Details, of funds released to all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations under ASIDE scheme.

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	State Government/ Union Territory	Amount Released 2005-06	Amount Released 2006-07	Amount Released 2007-08
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1,545.00	1700.00	2,120.00
2.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00	0.00	0
3.	Bihar	0.00	0.00	0
4.	Chandigarh	320.00	175.00	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	500.00	550.00	435.00
6.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0
7.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0
8.	Delhi	265.00	145.00	283.51
9.	Goa	609.00	0	670.00
10.	Gujarat	4,338.00	4770.00	5,972.50
11.	Haryana	1,405.00	772.50	1,545.00
12.	Himachal Pradesh	553.00	600.00	600.00
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	525.00	580.00	580.00
14.	Jharkhand	0.00	275.00	275.00
15.	Karnataka	3,399.00	3740.00	4,262.00
16.	Kerala	1,069.00	1175.00	1,175.00
17.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0	0
18.	Madhya Pradesh	1,435.00	790.00	1,580.00
19.	Maharashtra	6,552.00	7210.00	8,200.00

1	2	3	4	5
20.	Orissa	693.00	765.00	892.00
21.	Pondicherry	0	0	0
22.	Punjab	1,217.00	670.00	670.00
23.	Rajasthan	1,320.00	726.50	1,453.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	3,919.00	4312.00	4,988.00
25.	Uttar Pradesh	2,100.00	1155.00	2,310.00
26.	Uttaranchal	527.00	0.00	0
27.	West Bengal	2,009.00	2,210.00	2,206.00
Total		34,300.00	32321.01	40,217.01

North Eastern Region

1.	Arunachal Pradesh	251.00	138.00	276.00
2.	Assam	1,257.00	691.50	1,383.00
3.	Manipur	206.00	227.00	227.00
4.	Mizoram	324.00	356.00	356.00
5.	Meghalaya	834.00	917.00	299.00
6.	Nagaland	200.00	220.00	220.00
7.	Sikkim	200.00	220.00	220.00
8.	Tripura	728.00	801.00	801.00
Total		4,000.00	3570.50	3782.00
Grand Total		38,300.00	35891.50	43999.01

Vocational Education

4021. SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has provided any Central assistance for vocational education to various State Governments and Union Territories including Andhra Pradesh;

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

(c) the details of the work done during the said period;

(d) whether there was undue delay in considering the proposals received from the States, particularly from Andhra Pradesh and many proposals are still pending; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) and (b) A statement showing the financial assistance provided to various State Governments and Union Territories under the Scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education in the last 3 years is enclosed.

(c) Under the scheme 9619 vocational schools and 20588 vocational sections have been sanctioned in the country so far.

(d) and (e) Some proposals were not approved for want of clarification from the State Governments. An amount of Rs. 500.55 lakh was released to Government of Andhra Pradesh as first installment during 2004-05. Thereafter, no claim was made by the Government of Andhra Pradesh for release of second installment.

Statement

*Grants released to States/UTs during 2005-06,
2006-07 and 2007-08*

(Rupees in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
1	2	3	4	5
1	Haryana	24.52	-	-
2	Manipur	20.12	-	-

1	2	3	4	5
3	Mizoram	538.00	-	-
4	Sikkim	454.05	250.00	-
5	Chandigarh	7.00	-	-
6	Pondicherry	50.00	15.53	-
Total		1093.69	265.53	-

[English]

Direct-to-Home Service

4022.SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to install Direct-to-Home sets free of cost to public institutions in the country;

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

(c) the number of DTH sets installed by the Union Government till date, State-wise, including Karnataka State?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) to (c) The details of schemes for providing DTH sets in various States/UTs are given in Statement enclosed.

Statement

DTH sets provided/envisaged to be provided in various States/UTs

I. DTH sets (10000 no.) installed by Doordarshan in various States/UTs - as part of Ku-band project :

Sl. No.	State/UTs	No. of DTH sets
1	2	3
1.	Chhattisgarh	528

1	2	3
2.	Gujarat	1253
3.	Madhya Pradesh	1942
4.	Karnataka	1500
5.	Rajasthan	2277
6.	Uttarakhand	300
7.	Himachal Pradesh	397
8.	Arunachal Pradesh	108
9.	Assam	333
10.	Manipur	108
11.	Meghalaya	108
12.	Mizoram	108
13.	Nagaland	108
14.	Tripura	108
15.	Sikkim	108
16.	Jammu and Kashmir	500
17.	At various AIR and DD stations (for monitoring purpose)	214

II. DTH sets (20000 no.) in Himachal Pradesh – as part of Ku-band project :

6926 DTH sets have already been handed over to Nodal officers appointed by the State Government. Installation of above DTH sets is to be carried out by the State Government.

III. DTH sets (alongwith TV sets - 25000 no.) in NE states – as part of NE Special package (Ph.-II):

Sl. No.	State/UTs	No. of DTH sets alongwith TV sets
1	2	3
1	Arunachal Pradesh	1730

1	2	3
2.	Assam	16820
3.	Manipur	2600
4.	Meghalaya	190
5.	Mizoram	800
6.	Nagaland	1990
7.	Tripura	750
8.	Sikkim	120

All 25000 TV sets and 24975 DTH sets have already been handed over to Nodal officers appointed by the respective state Governments. Installation of above sets is to be carried out by the respective state Governments.

IV. DTH sets (alongwith TV sets - 1000 no.) in Andaman and Nicobar Islands – as part of Special package for island territories :

These are to be handed over to Nodal officers appointed by the UT Administration. Installation of above sets is to be carried out by the UT Administration. Procurement action is in progress.

V. DTH sets (alongwith TV sets - 10000 no.) in Jammu and Kashmir – as part of Jammu and Kashmir Special package (Ph.-II) :

Supply of DTH sets and TV sets has commenced. These are to be handed over to Nodal officers appointed by the state Government. Installation of above sets is to be carried out by the state Government.

[Translation]

Hindi Language in Science and Technology

4023. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be

pleased to state the steps taken to make Hindi language competent in science and technology?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : The Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology (CSTT) was established in year 1961 and is a subordinate office under the Department of Higher Education. The CSTT is devoted to the evolution of scientific and technical terms in Hindi, defining them and also propagating the coined terms. The CSTT publishes reference material in Hindi in the subjects of Agriculture, Medicine and Engineering. The CSTT provides grants to Hindi Granth Academies to publish University level textbooks in Hindi that includes textbooks relating to science and technology.

[English]

Misuse of RAF Insignia

4024. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has received any complaint from the Central Reserve Police Force on the misuse of the Rapid Action Force (RAF) insignia by State police forces while deploying its Special Armed Police Squads to check violence and terrorism;

(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 HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) and (b) CRPF has informed that Specialised Armed Police wing of Kolkata Police has been seen using insignia and uniform similar to that of the RAF.

(c) CRPF has taken up the issue with Commissioner of Police Kolkata (WB) inviting attention to the directives of Ministry of Home Affairs dated 14.2.1997 regarding use of name of RAF and its uniform by State

Police Forces and has requested them to make suitable changes.

[Translation]

Helicopter to PMF

4025. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is considering to make helicopters available to the Para-Military Forces (PMF) including Sashastra Seema Bal for guarding the borders;

(b) if so, the time by when the said facility is likely to be made available and the likely impact of the same on the functioning of the said forces; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) to (c) Yes Sir, a proposal for procurement of helicopters for use by the Para-Military Forces (PMF) has been under consideration of the Government. Efforts are being made to take a final decision in the matter at the earliest. However, it would not be possible to indicated precise time frame at this stage.

[English]

Performance of Slow Learners in JNVs

4026. SHRI G. NIZAMUDDIN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the performance of the Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas as against the National average and Public Schools during the last three years; and

(b) the measures initiated to guide, improve and streamline the performance of slow learners in the Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas of the country particularly, Andhra Pradesh?

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

(a) The performance of the Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas

as against the average of Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) and Independent Schools during the last three years, based on the CBSE board results, is as under:—

Class	School Systems	2005	2006	2007
		Pass % age		
X	NVS	90.82	91.13	96.41
	CBSE	74.60	77.16	84.44
	Independent	85.87	85.94	91.81
XII	NVS	87.08	90.24	90.11
	CBSE	77.80	79.55	80.64
	Independent	81.28	82.35	82.29

(b) The following measures have been initiated to guide, improve and streamline the performance of slow learners in JNVs, including those in the State of Andhra Pradesh:—

1. Identification of weak students and assigning them to the teachers for their personal supervision.
2. In order to improve the language skill, viz, written, oral and listening skills are given adequate importance and individualized instructions are given to those students.
3. Slow learners are encouraged to taste the feeling of success in any one of the areas like participation in assembly programmes, co-curricular activities, art, music, sports and games, instrumental music, recitation etc.
4. Micro-level teaching and testing in remedial classes are done so that every child understands concepts developed in the lesson.
5. Parent-teacher interaction.
6. Continuous visit of the supervising officers to the Vidyalayas for monitoring progress.

Shortage of Staff in UTs

4027. SHRI DAHYABHAI VALLABHBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of posts lying vacant in various departments of the UTs of Daman and Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli, category-wise;

(b) whether the Government has received any request from these UTs administrations for filling up of these posts; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI) : (a) to (c) Category-wise number of posts lying vacant in various Departments of U.T. Administrations of Daman and Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli are as under:—

Category	A	B	C	D	Total
Daman and Diu	30	15	46	10	101
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	30	18	199	51	298

Administrator of these Union Territories as Administrator is competent to fill up the post under group A, B and C in consultation with UPSC/SSC.

Apart from the above, there are 16 sanctioned posts and 5 proportionate reserve posts of DANICS Cadre in these UTs of which 14 officers are presently posted. Besides, two officers are under suspension and one officer is on training. Hence, no post is lying vacant. As regards, 3 sanctioned posts of DANIPS Cadre, 5 officers have been posted. Hence, no post is lying vacant.

[Translation]

NHRC Report on Nandigram Violence

4028. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether human bones have been found in Nandigram as reported in "Navbharat Times" dated December 13, 2007;

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

(c) the details of the report submitted by the NHRC on Nandigram violence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) As per available information, a grave was found in a paddy field of Parul Bari village under PS Nandigram, West Bengal on 10.12.2007. This grave was dug on 12.12.2007 in the presence of a Magistrate, Central Bureau of Investigation and State Police Officers, and one dead body kept in a gunny bag was found therein.

(b) Further action in the matter falls within the domain of the State Government.

(c) NHRC in its Report dated 19.12.2007 recommended, Inter-alia, immediate steps for rehabilitation of all the villagers who have been displaced and whose houses are being damaged; continued deployment of CRPF till the completion of the Panchayat elections; maintenance of proper record of all medico-legal cases, proper treatment and diagnosis of female victims/patients, proper infrastructure and sufficient manpower to all the Government, hospitals etc.; welfare measures in the disturbed areas so as to regain the faith and confidence of the villagers; immediate and impartial comprehensive survey of the losses suffered by the villagers; free registration of criminal cases and immediate arrest of accused after impartial investigation; constitution of a special team to determine the actual number of missing persons and necessary steps to trace them; timely preparation of a comprehensive plan to maintain law and order during the Panchayat elections; reconsideration of the pros and cons of policy of acquiring fertile agricultural and cultivable lands from the farmers for setting up Special Economic Zone, etc. A separate Committee recommended certain suggestions regarding compensation for damage that occurred.

[English]

Virginia Tobacco

4029.SHRI RAMESH DUBE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the areas in the country where Virginia tobacco is produced;

(b) the total production and export of Virginia tobacco in the country during the last three years and the current year, till date, State-wise, year-wise; and

(c) the number of Virginia tobacco farmers helped by the Tobacco Board in different parts of the country during the above years, year-wise, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) In India majority of Flue Cured Virginia Tobacco is produced in different areas in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. A very small quantity is produced in the Orissa and Maharashtra.

(b) The total production and export of Virginia tobacco in the country during the last three years and the current year, till date, State-wise, year-wise are given below:-

(Quantity: in tons)

Year	Andhra Pradesh Crop		Karnataka Crop	
	Production	Export	Production	Export
2004-05	153000	64192	90340	41225
2005-06	145360	67764	82910	41811*
2006-07	171950	72293	96980	48007
2007-08 (Estimated)	167000	Not Available*	87660	Not Available*

* According to Tobacco Board, total FCV exports in 2007-08 are around 124525 tons.

(c) The number of Virginia tobacco farmers benefited by the various schemes operated by the Tobacco Board is given below:—

Year	Andhra Pradesh including Orissa and Maharashtra No. of beneficiary	Karnataka No. of beneficiary
2004-05	6907	16207
2005-06	6066	7120
2006-07	15150	2228
2007-08 (Provisional)	8046	7143

Export of Packed Flour

4030. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the demand of Indian packed flour has increased in the international market in the recent past;

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

(c) the quantity of packed flour exported to various countries alongwith its value during each of the last three years and in current year, till date, country-wise; and

(d) the name of the companies exporting such packed flour to various countries during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) and (b) As per the existing Foreign Trade Policy, the export of wheat and wheat products including wheat flour is prohibited till further orders under the Notification No.33 issued on 8th October, 2007.

(c) The country-wise quantity of export of wheat and Meslin flour (HS Code 11010000) during 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 (April to June) is given in the Statement.

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

Statement

Export Import Data Bank

Export :: Commodity-wise all countries

Commodity: 11010000 Wheat or Meslin Flour

Unit: KGS (Quantity in thousands)

Sl. No.	Country	2005-2006	2006-2007
1	2	3	4
1.	Australia	1,152.53	2,520.28
2.	Baharain IS	280.51	314.3
3.	Bangladesh PR	362	
4.	Belgium		30
5.	Bhutan	937	
6.	Botswana	42	84.58
7.	Brunei	174.13	149.2
8.	Canada	449.35	587.09
9.	Taiwan	30.2	0.07
10.	China PRP	72.9	93.7
11.	Comoros		120
12.	Congo P REP	2.58	0.1
13.	Cyprus		2.13
14.	Denmark		14
15.	Eritrea	0.7	
16.	France	2.8	17.5
17.	Gambia	13.5	14.5
18.	Germany	125.75	12.23

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
19. Ghana		0.05	10.3	45. New Caledonia			4
20. Guyana		3		46. New Zealand		313.18	709.21
21. Hong Kong		680.28	205.4	47. Niger			0.01
22. Indonesia		7,368.80		48. Nigeria		149	
23. Ireland			16	49. Norway		42	68.3
24. Israel		1.5	32.65	50. Oman		465.19	487.72
25. Italy			1	51. Panama Republic		6	12.9
26. Cote D'Ivoire			2	52. Philippines		452.52	341
27. Jamaica		0.5		53. Qatar		474.34	579.4
28. Japan		116.82	168.18	54. Reunion		1	2
29. Kenya		3.9	18.5	55. Saudi Arab		66.46	72.6
30. Kuwait		78.61	10S.5	56. Senegal		0.12	
31. Liberia		6.1	18.36	57. Seychelles		87.1	117.6
32. Macao		0.85	14	58. Sierra Leone			0.72
33. Madagascar		847.75	10	59. Singapore		2,164.34	2,617.61
34. Malawi		1,112.00	1.25	60. South Africa		166.55	244.5
35. Malaysia		1,046.61	666.49	61. Spain		28	63
36. Maldives		5,216.68	7,254.97	62. Sri Lanka DSR		636.6	334.1
37. Marshall Island			22	63. Swaziland			0.7
38. Mauritius		120	43.82	64. Switzerland		10.9	19.92
39. Mexico		0.5		65. Tanzania REP		22	1
40. Mozambique			0.88	66. Thailand		89.58	199.63
41. Namibia			1.5	67. Trinidad			0.1
42. Nepal		99.32	4,005.58	68. Turkey		0.9	
43. Netherland		23.25	835.68	69. Uganda		8.5	8.4
44. Netherlandantil			2.5	70. U Arab EMTS		2,087.47	2,116.07

1	2	3	4
71.	U K	4,049.00	5,789.77
72.	Ukraine		1.6
73.	U S A	5,070.46	6,490.49
74.	Uzbekistan		7
75.	Zambia	1.2	
Total		36763.89	37675.59

Sl. No.	Country	2007-2008 (Apr-Jun)
1	2	3
1.	Argentina	1
2.	Australia	525.95
3.	Baharain IS	74
4.	Belgium	
5.	Botswana	11
6.	Brunei	38.7
7.	Bulgaria	20
8.	Cameroon	1.9
9.	Canada	111.14
10.	Taiwan	
11.	China P RP	38
12.	Comoros	
13.	Congo PREP	
14.	Cyprus	
15.	Denmark	
16.	Finland	4.8
17.	France	8

1	2	3
18.	Gambia	1
19.	Germany	41
20.	Ghana	18
21.	Hong Kong	53
22.	Ireland	
23.	Israel	1.5
24.	Italy	2.3
25.	Cote D'Ivoire	
26.	Japan	24.15
27.	Kenya	0.62
28.	Korea RP	4
29.	Kuwait	18
30.	Liberia	3
31.	Macao	
32.	Madagascar	
33.	Malawi	
34.	Malaysia	134.01
35.	Maldives	1,850.54
36.	Marshall Island	
37.	Mauritius	
38.	Mozambique	
39.	Namibia	
40.	Nepal	59.65
41.	Netherland	7.76
42.	Netherlandantll	0.51
43.	New Caledonia	

1	2	3
44.	New Zealand	168.36
45.	Niger	
46.	Norway	20
47.	Oman	170
48.	Panama Republic	
49.	Philippines	48.89
50.	Poland	19
51.	Qatar	190.7
52.	Reunion	
53.	Russia	10
54.	Saudi Arab	17.8
55.	Seychelles	12.9
56.	Sierra Leone	
57.	Singapore	669.34
58.	South Africa	32.5
59.	Spain	1
60.	Sri Lanka DSR	87.8
61.	Swaziland	
62.	Switzerland	4
63.	Tanzania REP	
64.	Thailand	31.49
65.	Trinidad	
66.	Uganda	1.25
67.	U Arab EMTS	612.4
68.	U K	1,089.88
69.	Ukraine	

1	2	3
70.	U S A	1,638.91
71.	Uzbekistan	
Total		7874.75

**Violation of Terms and Conditions of
Mining Lease**

4031. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware of the growing violation of the terms and conditions of mining lease by several private owners in Orissa and other States thereby causing a huge loss of revenue to the State exchequer;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken against such mine owners?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICAL AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQU) : (a) Terms and conditions of a mining lease are given in the lease deed signed between the lessee and the State government and the concerned State Government undertakes monitoring of any violation of terms-and condition of the mining lease. As per available information, the Central Government is not aware of any violation of the terms and conditions of the mining lease which has caused huge loss of revenue to the State exchequer.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Immoral Acts Perpetrated by Media

4032. SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has witnessed instances of cultural, moral and human rights violation perpetrated by Media;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check such immoral acts perpetrated by Media?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) to (c) Numerous references are received from public complaining against scenes and articles in Print and Electronic media from time to time.

In the Electronic media, there is no provision of pre-censorship of programme telecast by Private Channels. However, all the Private Channels are required to adhere to the Programme and Advertisement Code prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and Rules framed thereunder. This Ministry has constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee for monitoring the violation of the Programme and Advertising Codes prescribed under the Act and Rules framed thereunder. Action is taken as per the provisions of the Cable Act whenever any specific violation is found. Government had constituted a committee to review the existing Programme and Advertisement Codes and the Committee has submitted its report to the Government which is available on the Ministry's website www.mib.nic.in.

As far as print media is concerned, the Government does not control and interfere with the contents published in the Print media. It has set up a specialized body for looking into the matters related to the Print media i.e. the Press Council of India (PCI). The PCI looks into the complaints with reference to the "Norms of Journalistic Conduct" framed by it and if satisfied that any violation has taken place takes action to warn, admonish or censure the publication/journalist concerned.

[Translation]

Sports in School Curriculum

4033. SHRIMATI RUPATAI D. PATIL :

SHRI HANSRAJ G AHIR :

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

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to include sports in the curriculum of Educational Institutions;

(b) if so, whether the Government has received any proposal from the States including Maharashtra in this regard;

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

(d) whether required number of physical education teachers are available in the schools for the purpose;

(e) whether the Government is considering to issue guidelines to the State Governments for including sports in the curriculum and appointing physical education teachers;

(f) if so, whether the Government is likely to fix a time-limit in this regard; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) National Curriculum Framework (NCF) – 2005 has conceptualized Health and Physical Education as an integral subject area. The syllabi of Health and Physical Education from Classes I to X, drawn up in light of NCF – 2005, incorporate sports and games as continuing activities at all stages of school education. Physical education including sports is an integral part of the core curriculum of Classes I to X in schools affiliated to Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) Several states also have Health and Physical Education as a compulsory subject upto secondary stage.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) As per the 7th All India School Education Survey (AISES), with reference date as 30.9.2002, 62% of secondary schools in the country had teachers for Physical Education, physical training or Yoga. CBSE gives affiliation only to those schools which have at least one qualified Physical Education teacher. Physical Education teachers

are available in adequate number in Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas.

(e) NCF-2005 recommends Health and Physical Education to be compulsory upto the secondary stage.

(f) No, Sir

(g) Does not arise.

[English]

**Development of Delhi-Mumbai
Industrial Corridor**

4034. SHRI HARILAL MADHAVJI BHAI PATEL :
SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD :
SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM :
SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR :

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

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has submitted a proposal for road development of various infrastructure linkages for the overall development of Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to set up manufacturing hub along DMIC; and

(d) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR) :
(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. M/s. Gujarat Infrastructure Development Board (GIDB), a Government of Gujarat entity has proposed improving 12 roads in Gujarat by 4/6 laning in the Delhi Mumbai Industrial Corridor.

(c) and (d) The Project envisages setting up manufacturing hubs in each of 12 Industrial Nodes in Phase-I of the Delhi Mumbai Industrial Corridor Project. Those hubs are envisaged for general manufacturing,

engineering, Auto and auto-components, marble, leather, textile, petrochemicals, chemicals, food processing and agro-processing.

Setting up of SAARC University

4035. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any suggestions have been received from the SAARC countries for setting up of the SAARC University in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by when the University is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, during the 13th SAARC Summit (Dhaka, 12-13 November 2005), the Prime Minister of India, proposed that a South Asian University (SAU) should be established. An agreement for establishing SAU was signed during the 14th SAARC Summit in New Delhi. It was agreed that the main campus of the University would be in India. The Government has already initiated action in this regard and the University is likely to start its first session from July 2009.

[Translation]

Increase in Crime Due to Unemployment

4036. SHRI GHANDRABHAN SINGH :
SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that the educated youths are entering into the world of crimes due to unemployment;

(b) If so, whether the Government has conducted any survey in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details and outcome of the survey?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) As per information compiled by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), a positive correlation between the growth in incidence of crime and the population of the country has been observed. The other factors influencing the crime situation at a particular place besides population could be growing urbanization leading to migration of population from neighbouring places, illegal settlements, diverse socio-cultural disparities, unemployment, economic inequality etc.

(b) and (c) The Union Ministry of Home Affairs is not aware of any such survey.

Integrated Infrastructure Development Centre

4037. SHRIMATI YASHODHARA RAJE SCINDIA :

SHRI CHHATTAR SINGH DARBAR :

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has received proposals from various State Governments/Union Territories including Madhya Pradesh Government regarding setting up of Integrated Infrastructure Development Centre; and

(b) if so, the action being taken thereon along with the time by when the said proposals are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises has received proposals from various State Governments/Union Territories including Madhya Pradesh Government regarding setting up of Integrated Infrastructure Development Centre. Out of the proposals received, 108 proposals (84 for new centres and 24 for upgradation of infrastructure) including 8 new centres in Madhya Pradesh have been approved, under the erstwhile Integrated Infrastructure Development (IID) scheme.

Pursuant to the announcement made in the Promotional Package for micro and small enterprises, the Integrated Infrastructure Development scheme has been subsumed under the Micro and Small Enterprises Cluster Development Programme (MSE-CDP) in October 2007. The guidelines of the MSE-CDP scheme are being revised. 17 proposals received in the recent past are under examination for consideration under the revised MSE-CDP scheme.

Industrial units set up by KVIC

4038. SHRI MITRASEN YADAV : Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of village Industrial units set up by the Khadi and Village Industry Commission during each of the last three years;

(b) the total number of employees engaged therein; and

(c) the number of registered rural units at present, State-wise and Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) does not set up village industry (VI) units of its own. VI units are set up under the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) by eligible entrepreneurs in rural areas, including small towns with population upto 20,000. For this purpose, margin money assistance is provided to the entrepreneurs by the Government through the KVIC and loans are made available by banks. The State/Union Territory-wise details of the VI units set up and additional employment generated under the REGP during 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 are given in the Statement-I enclosed.

(c) The State/Union Territory-wise details of the VI units set up under the REGP since the inception of the scheme from 1 April 1995 and upto 31 March 2007, are given in the Statement-II enclosed.

Statement-I

State/Union Territory (UT)-wise details of village industry units set up and estimated employment generated under the REGP during 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07

Sl. No.	State/UTs	Number of village industry units			Employment generated (Number of persons)		
		2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Chandigarh	8	3	2	188	36	50
2.	Delhi	9	15	13	144	112	267
3.	Haryana	1140	1058	869	35691	26541	28339
4.	Himachal Pradesh	469	650	803	12256	12276	17102
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	922	1402	1716	9406	18284	23274
6.	Punjab	864	440	1022	30665	16654	35604
7.	Rajasthan	1537	2133	1340	38287	59596	44168
8.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	6	598	127	93	4495	323
9.	Bihar	254	692	849	5049	11445	12334
10.	Jharkhand	240	217	221	6855	3756	7289
11.	Orissa	991	650	857	15241	9670	16311
12.	West Bengal	2584	2078	2290	36581	36853	42834
13.	Arunachal Pradesh	43	76	88	219	1857	2106
14.	Assam	1658	2229	1599	25768	49595	30912
15.	Manipur	102	65	139	1313	416	1881
16.	Meghalaya	146	206	165	3789	1962	2174
17.	Mizoram	162	365	990	5180	18255	16455
18.	Nagaland	151	316	156	3851	5549	3358
19.	Tripura	233	306	212	3994	5616	5851
20.	Sikkim	139	106	89	3227	1750	2208

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
21.	Andhra Pradesh	1988	2278	2113	66463	66050	59750
22.	Karnataka	934	1314	1689	19478	27129	42420
23.	Kerala	914	1217	912	16434	30586	30144
24.	Lakshadweep	0	26	0	0	292	0
25.	Pondicherry	7	56	164	146	187	854
26.	Tamil Nadu	925	1036	1075	19159	20055	25216
27.	Goa	138	136	104	1670	801	1389
28.	Gujarat	376	516	412	8581	17947	13520
29.	Maharashtra	1773	3120	2296	25040	30928	27182
30.	Chhattisgarh	656	551	691	18347	17348	17719
31.	Madhya Pradesh	1361	736	934	40539	15365	22332
32.	Uttarakhand	513	527	641	10471	10948	10962
33.	Uttar Pradesh	2210	1532	1509	64900	45322	51123
Grand Total		23453	26650	26087	530025	567676	595451

Statement-II

State/Union Territory (UT)-wise details of village industry units set up under the REGP since the inception of the scheme from 1, April 1995 and upto 31 March 2007

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	Number of REGP units upto 31 March 2007
1	2	3
1.	Chandigarh	161
2.	Delhi	256
3.	Haryana	8176
4.	Himachal Pradesh	3827
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	10674

1	2	3
6.	Punjab	11929
7.	Rajasthan	30907
8.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1147
9.	Bihar	2641
10.	Jharkhand	1496
11.	Orissa	5664
12.	West Bengal	24175
13.	Arunachal Pradesh	586
14.	Assam	7693
15.	Manipur	1044

1	2	3
16.	Meghalaya	3664
17.	Mizoram	2425
18.	Nagaland	5413
19.	Sikkim	481
20.	Tripura	1184
21.	Andhra Pradesh	19249
22.	Karnataka	17096
23.	Kerala	11470
24.	Lakshadweep	36
25.	Pondicherry	1176
26.	Tamil Nadu	8852
27.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0
28.	Goa	2679
29.	Gujarat	2402
30.	Maharashtra	27115
31.	Chhattisgarh	3029
32.	Madhya Pradesh	21554
33.	Uttaranchal	3475
34.	Uttar Pradesh	20766
Total		262442

[English]

FM Radio Stations

4039. SHRI VANLAL ZAWMA :

SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM :

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

(a) whether the FM radio stations of All India Radio, Aizawl in Mizoram and Jamnagar in Gujarat have been commissioned;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by when they are likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) to (c) 6 kW FM Transmitter at Aizawl (Mizoram) has been commissioned on 02.10.2007. Primary channel programmes of All India Radio (AIR), Aizawl are being relayed in the evening from 5.00 P.M. to 10 P.M. However, there is no proposal to set up AIR radio station at Jamnagar.

(d) Does not arise.

Research on Chemical Weapons

4040. SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has developed the facility to test chemical weapons in its own laboratories; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) No, Sir. However, Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (IICT), Hyderabad is in the process of getting designated by Organization for Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), as a Centre for offsite analysis of chemicals related to Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) of which India is signatory. A Centre for Analysis of Toxins (CACT) has been set up to take up work of that nature at IICT.

(b) Centre for Analysis of Toxins (CACT) is part of Analytical Division, IICT, Hyderabad. The Centre is participating in the official proficiency tests conducted by OPCW. The Centre is equipped with sophisticated

instruments to carry out these analyses. The Centre has performed admirably in proficiency testing conducted by OPCW and would become eligible for getting designated status by OPCW.

[Translation]

Special Economic Zone Act

4041. SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDALIKRAO GAWALI :
SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE :

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

(a) the proposals received under the Special Economic Zone Act; State-wise;

(b) the main objectives and provisions of the Act alongwith the names of the States which are not in agreement with the said Act;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereon;

(d) whether the Government has decided not to make any changes in the said Act in view of time constraints;

(e) if so, whether a uniform approach has been adopted in this regard;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) Since the coming into force of the Special Economic Zones Act, 2005, 453 formal approvals have been granted for setting up of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) spread over 22 States and Union Territories (UT). A statement giving the distribution of proposals received for setting up of Special Economic Zones (SEZs), which have been approved by the Board of Approvals under the SEZ Act, 2005 is enclosed as Statement.

(b) and (c) The objectives of the SEZ Act are (i) Generation of additional economic activity; (ii) Promotion of exports of goods and services; (iii) Promotion of investment from domestic and foreign sources; (iv) creation of employment opportunities and (v) development of infrastructure facilities. No State has indicated that they are not in agreement with the objectives and provisions of the Special Economic Zones Act (SEZs), 2005.

(d) to (g) There is no proposal to amend the provisions of SEZ Act, 2005, which is applicable to all States.

Statement

State	Formal approvals	In principle approvals	Notified SEZs
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	72	3	54
Chandigarh	2		2
Chhattisgarh	1	2	
Delhi	2		
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	4		
Goa	7		3
Gujarat	39	9	18
Haryana	38	17	16
Himachal Pradesh		2	
Jharkhand	1		1
Karnataka	41	10	20
Kerala	12	1	8
Madhya Pradesh	13	5	3
Maharashtra	88	37	24
Nagaland	2		
Orissa	9	4	4

1	2	3	4
Pondicherry	1		
Punjab	7	8	2
Rajasthan	8	9	4
Tamil Nadu	59	12	33
Uttar Pradesh	23	4	8
Uttaranchal	3		1
West Bengal	21	13	6
Grand Total	453	136	207

**Fire Fighting Equipments In Kendriya
Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas**

4042. SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether fire fighting equipments are not available in the Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas;

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

(c) whether the Government has issued certain guidelines to the State Governments for taking immediate steps to provide adequate fire-safety measures in all Schools/Colleges/Universities in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) and (b) Fire extinguishers have been provided in all Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas across the country.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. The Minister of Human Resource Development had written on 27.7.2004 to Chief Ministers of States to sensitize all educational institutions on safety

of student, keeping the buildings free of inflammable materials, ensuring adequate emergency exits, providing adequate water and sand for the purpose of fire fighting etc. Similarly, instructions have also been issued by National Disaster Management Division of Ministry of Home Affairs on 2.9.2004 and by Ministry of Human Resource Development on 5.11.2004.

[English]

**Killing of Persons by Blue Line
Buses and Trucks**

4043. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH :

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO :

SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of persons killed/injured by blue line buses and trucks in Delhi, gender-wise during 2007 and 2008 till date separately in comparison to Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai;

(b) the total number of such drivers and bus/truck operators arrested by the Government during the said period and action taken against them;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to amend the Motor Vehicle Act to make the punishment more stringent; and

(d) if so, the time by when the said amendment is likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI) : (a) and (b) The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) does not compile and maintain specific data on the persons killed or injured in the accidents by blue line buses. However, as per the latest reports, details of persons killed gender-wise by private buses and by Government and private trucks/lorries compiled by NCRB for the year 2005 and 2006 in respect of Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai are given in Statement enclosed. NCRB does not compile

and maintain data regarding number of drivers and bus operators arrested and action taken against them. As far

as NCT of Delhi is concerned, the requisite information is given below:—

Year	Type of Vehicle	Persons Killed		Seriously injured	
		Male	Female	Male	Female
2007	Blue Line Buses	136	27	301	22
	Trucks	285	20	636	39
2008 (upto 31st March)	Blue Line Buses	21	4	66	8
	Trucks	57	5	140	4

Year	Type of Vehicle	Persons arrested
1	2	3
2007	Blue Line Buses	518
	Trucks	618
2008 (upto 31st March)	Blue Line Buses	67

1	2	3
	Trucks	161

(c) and (d) With a view to enhance penalties provided for various traffic offences under the Motor Vehicle Act, 1988 to make them more deterrent, the Motor Vehicle (Amendment) Bill, 2007 has been introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 15.5.2007.

Statement

City	2005				2006			
	Truck/Lorry		Private Bus		Truck/Lorry		Private Bus	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Chennai	160	55	40	5	319	44	35	7
Delhi (City)	110	9	99	20	99	6	97	15
Kolkata	6	0	22	4	10	0	34	3
Mumbai	78	12	11	7	102	15	32	7

Flaws in Mid Day Meal Scheme

4044. SHRI UDAY SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether C and AG has recently found flaws in the functioning of the Mid-Day Meal Scheme in some States/Union Territories;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the corrective steps the Government proposes to take to check the flaws in the scheme for smooth implementation?

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

(a) and (b) The C and AG in their report for the year ended March, 2005 on the performance audit of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan had pointed out certain inconsistencies in the coverage of Mid-Day Meal Programme in Chandigarh, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh and Punjab. The matter has been taken up with the concerned State Governments/UTs for clarification.

(c) With a view to ensuring transparency and accountability in the implementation of the Mid-Day Meal Programme, the Central Government has issued instructions and is encouraging states to make arrangements for local level monitoring, involving representatives of Gram Panchayats, Members of Village Education Committees (VECs), Parent Teacher Associations (PTAs) etc. Local level monitoring would ensure regularity and wholesomeness of the meal served to children. In addition instructions have also been issued for suo-moto display of information under the Right to Information Act on the quantity of foodgrains, ingredients received and utilized. Officers of the State Governments periodically inspect schools and centres where the programme is being implemented. At the national level, regular meetings are conducted to review the progress of the programme.

[Translation]

Impact of FDI on Rural Development

4045. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD :
SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA :

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

- (a) whether Foreign Direct Investment is having an adverse effect on rural development;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether any survey has been conducted in this regard;
- (d) if so, the outcome thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF

INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR) :
(a) and (b) FDI is a means to supplement domestic investment for achieving a higher level of economic development and providing opportunities for technological upgradation as well as access to global managerial skills and practices. With forward and backward linkages and access to international quality goods and services, FDI brings in capital and also provides access to modern technology and best practice.

As per extant policy, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) upto 100% is permitted under the automatic route in most of the sectors/activities. Some sectors attract FDI caps.

(c) to (e) Government has commissioned a study to the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) on Growth linkages of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in India which would focus on the impact of FDI on rural economy.

Target under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

4046. RAMJI LAL SUMAN :
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

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

- (a) the targets set under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in the country during the Tenth Five Year Plan and achievement made, State and UT-wise; and
- (b) the total percentage of children of the age group 6 to 14 years enrolled in primary schools during the 2007-08 alongwith the percentage of target set for enrolment of these children by the end of Eleventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) :
(a) The targets set and achievements made under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) in respect of Additional Classrooms, Teachers and Opening of schools during 10th Five Year Plan are given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) The Gross Enrolment Ratios (GER) for 2007-08 are not available. However, GER for 2005-06 for Classes I-VIII (6-14 year age) was 94.92%.

Statement**Targets and achievements during 10th Five Year Plan under SSA**

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Additional Class rooms		Teachers		Opening of Schools	
		Sanction in Xth Plan	Progress in Xth Plan	Sanction in Xth Plan	Progress in Xth Plan	Sanction in Xth Plan	Progress in Xth Plan
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	143	54	63	46	13	7
2.	Andhra Pradesh	27224	26496	36300	36300	7011	8265
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1158	1154	2924	2166	1046	545
4.	Assam	39995	21401	5410	3871	0	0
5.	Bihar	87627	82444	184081	154863	23687	22449
6.	Chandigarh	94	14	785	240	16	6
7.	Chhattisgarh	7816	7932	50786	36242	15518	15518
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	256	243	750	665	120	57
9.	Daman and Diu	11	11	66	63	12	0
10.	Delhi	903	903	20	0	2	2
11.	Goa	136	41	195	186	8	5
12.	Gujarat	14270	13775	1848	1662	831	101
13.	Haryana	10126	11158	6104	6074	1993	1993
14.	Himachal Pradesh	7438	7183	2994	2670	998	890
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	5572	5086	16976	15660	6156	6302
16.	Jharkhand	30120	25115	83709	69385	24000	22919
17.	Karnataka	28390	28396	16395	13457	8483	5708
18.	Kerala	5778	5778	248	0	139	0
19.	Lakshadweep	10	0	13	0	6	0
20.	Madhya Pradesh	37052	35792	90477	80316	49990	38385

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
21.	Maharashtra	35450	33265	1236	1236	1163	685
22.	Manipur	698	371	123	0	164	0
23.	Meghalaya	1039	1018	6543	2500	3151	2560
24.	Mizoram	361	271	898	578	317	168
25.	Nagaland	2289	2324	168	0	56	0
26.	Orissa	15121	15095	64734	62483	12494	9174
27.	Pondicherry	264	0	30	0	40	0
28.	Punjab	13702	13394	3070	1868	1093	1093
29.	Rajasthan	40982	41064	86516	31433	37118	15342
30.	Sikkim	403	204	468	377	87	45
31.	Tamil Nadu	21922	21922	18866	8686	5160	4424
32.	Tripura	1251	1251	3311	3147	1348	1282
33.	Uttar Pradesh	175898	172916	233583	223787	28006	27634
34.	Uttarakhand	3734	3587	4532	4241	1724	1426
35.	West Bengal	75445	70784	87881	30333	8122	0
Total		692678	650442	1012103	794535	240072	186985

Capital Investment in Retail Sector

4047. SHRI SURAJ SINGH :

DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

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

(a) whether capital investment in the organised retail areas in the country is on the rise in the recent years;

(b) if so, the annual average rate of capital investment in the retail market during the last three years;

(c) the names of foreign and Indian industrial

houses which have invested in the domestic retail market till February, 2008; and

(d) the names of the cities other than the metropolitan cities, where they have established their outlets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR) :
(a) and (b) No centralised data is available on the total investment flows in the retail business of the country.

(c) As per extant policy, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is not allowed in retail trade except in retail trade of Single Brand products where FDI upto 51% is permitted

with prior Government approval. The details of the major international brands approved under this policy are given in the Statement enclosed.

There is no restriction on the entry of big corporate houses and other domestic investors into the retail sector. Reliance Industries, RPG Group, Aditya Birla Group are some of the major Indian industrial houses which have

invested in the domestic organised retail.

(d) Approvals for FDI in single brand retail products are not given for specific outlets. Location of retail outlets for single brand products is decided based on commercial considerations of the investor. No centralized data is maintained on retail outlets established by domestic investors.

Statement

Retail Trading Proposals

PROPOSALS RECEIVED IN 2006

Sl.No.	Name of the applicant	Name of the foreign investor	Brand
1	2	3	4
1.	M/s. Moja Shoes	M/s. Tano India Private Equity Fund V and or its subsidiaries	Nike Brand
2.	M/s. LV Trading India	M/s. Louis Vuitton Malletier	Louis Vuitton
3.	M/s. Lladro Commercial SA	M/s. Lladro Commercial SA	Lladro
4.	M/s. Fun Fashion India Pvt. Ltd.	M/s. Fendi International, SA	Fendi
5.	M/s. Sikora Aktiengesellschaft	M/s. Sikora Aktiengesellschaft	Rejected
6.	M/s. Damro Furniture Pvt. Ltd.	M/s. Damro Exports Pvt. Ltd., Sri Lanka	Damro
7.	M/s. La Moda Fashions Pvt. Ltd.	1. Damodar Lal Shewakramani 2. Ashok Shewakramani	Rejected
8.	M/s. Hassan Gems and Jewellery Pvt. Ltd.	Individual NRIs	Rejected
9.	M/s. RINO Greggio Argenterie, S.p.A	M/s. RINO Greggio Argenterie, S.p.A	RINO
10.	M/s. Mitsui Automotive Investment B.V.	M/s. Mitsui Automotive Investment B.V.	Toyota
11.	M/s. ERMENEGIL DO ZEGNA HOLDITALTA SPA	M/s. ERMENEGILDO ZEGNA HOLDITALTA SPA	ZEGNA
12.	M/s. Etamint, Belgium	M/s. Etamint, Belgium	ETAM
13.	M/s. Lee Cooper International Ltd.	M/s. Lee Cooper International Ltd.	Lee Cooper

1	2	3	4
14.	M/s. New Horizons Retail Private Ltd.	Starbucks Singapore Investment Pte. Ltd.	Starbuck Cafes-proposal withdrawn
15.	M/s. Fabindia Overseas Pvt. Ltd. Holdings	M/s. Fabindia Inc, USA M/s. WCP Mauritius	Fabindia
PROPOSALS RECEIVED IN 2007			
1	M/s. Socomec SA (Date of Receipt 01.02.2007)	M/s. Socomec SA, France	SOCOMECE
2	M/s. Grotto SPA 08.02.2007	M/s. Grotto SPA Italy	GAS
3	M/s. Mahtani Fashions Pvt. Ltd.	M/s. Sin Rong Pvt. Ltd.	VI-GA
4	M/s. M.K. Retail Pvt. Ltd.	M/s. Brand Marketing (I) Pvt. Ltd. M/s. Retail India Ltd. Mauritius	FCUK
5	M/s. MJ Retail Pvt. Ltd.	M/s. Brand Marketing (I) Pvt. Ltd. M/s. Retail India Ltd. Mauritius	JIMMY CHOO.
6	M/s. ML Retail Pvt. Ltd.	M/s. Brand Marketing (I) Pvt. Ltd. M/s. Retail India Ltd. Mauritius	"LA PERLA"
7	M/s. MC Retail Pvt. Ltd.	M/s. Brand Marketing (I) Pvt. Ltd. M/s. Retail India Ltd. Mauritius	CK/CALVIN KLEIN
8	M/s. MB Retailing Pvt. Ltd.	M/s. Brand Marketing (I) Pvt. Ltd. M/s. Retail, India Ltd. Mauritius	Build Bear
9	M/s. MT Retail Pvt. Ltd.	M/s. Brand Marketing (I) Pvt. Ltd. M/s. Retail India Ltd. Mauritius	"Tumi Brand"
10	M/s. Brand Marketing (I) Pvt. Ltd.	M/s. Retail India Ltd. Mauritius	Withdrawn by the applicant
11	M/s. Wan Luen Electronic Tools Co. Ltd.	M/s. Wah Luen Electronic Tools Co. Ltd. China	CT Brand
12.	M/s. Singer Sri Lanka	M/s. Singer Sri Lanka	Singer R
13.	M/s. Signature Kitchens India Pvt. Ltd.	M/s. Signature Kitchen, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	Signature Kitchen
14.	M/s. ATC Multiproducts Trading Pvt. Ltd.	M/s. Advance Trading Company Ltd., Kingdom of Cambodia	Withdrawn by the applicant.

1	2	3	4
15.	M/s. New Horizons Retail Private Ltd.	Mr. V.P. Sharma, NRI, Jakarta, Indonesia	Starbuck Cafes.
16.	M/s. Christian Dior Trading India – Private Limited	M/s. Christian Dior Couture, Paris, France	Christian Dior
17.	M/s. Kappi Machines (India) Pvt. Ltd	M/s. CMA, Italy and M/s. Mahlkonig, Germany	Withdrawn by the applicant.
18.	M/s. Forever New Apparels Pvt. Ltd. 08.05.2007	M/s. Forever New Clothing Pty. Ltd., Australia	Forever New
19.	M/s. Luxury Brand Retail Pvt. Ltd.	M/s. Brand Marketing (I) Pvt. Ltd. M/s. Retail India Ltd. Mauritius	GUCCI.
20.	M/s. Murjani Retail Pvt. Ltd.	M/s. Brand Marketing (I) Pvt. Ltd. M/s. Retail India Ltd. Mauritius	GUCCI
21.	M/s. Khanna Speciality Retail Distributors Pvt. Ltd.	Hermes International France	Hermes
22.	M/s. Hello Retail India Pvt. Ltd.	M/s. Sharaf Trading LLC, UAE	Sanrio
23.	M/s. Trio Sports Wear Pvt. Ltd.	M/s. Trio Selection Inc., Canada	Groggy
24.	M/s. Tod's Retail India Pvt. Ltd.	M/s. Tod's Hong-Kong Ltd. M/s. Tod's International BV	TOD
25.	M/s. Diesel Fashion India Arvind Pvt. Ltd.	Diesel International BV	Diesel
26.	M/s. Dolce Gabbana	M/s. Dolce Gabbana	D and G Dolce and Gabbana
27.	M/s. LA Sovereign Bicycles Pvt. Ltd.	M/s. LA Bicycles (Thailand) M/s. Indus Trading Co., Thailand	L A Sovereign
28.	M/s. Crystal Ball Fashions Pvt. Ltd.	M/s. Rene Derhy, France	Derhy
29.	Mr. Subhasis Misra	Venti Oeldi	Withdrawn
30.	M/s. Crocs Inc.	M/s. Crocs Inc. USA	Crocs
31.	M/s. Evinix Accessories Ltd.	Issue of GDRs to overseas public	Proposal rejected on file
32.	M/s. Richmond Services B.V.	M/s. Richmond Services BV	Cartier

1	2	3	4
33.	M/s. Towell Auto Centre LLC	M/s Towell Auto Centre LLC. Oman	Rejected
PROPOSALS RECEIVED IN 2008			
1.	M/s. Giordao Fashions (India) Pvt. Ltd.	Giordano Mauritius Ltd.	Giordano
2.	M/s. Power Plate India (Pvt.) Ltd.	Power Plate India Holdings Ltd.	Power Plate
3.	M/s. Zenica Cars India Pvt. Ltd.	1. Mr. Dabinder Singh Powar 2. Mr. Rashpal Singh Todd	Audi Cars
4.	M/s. Georgio Armani Holding BV	M/s. Georgio Armani Holding BV	Armani
5.	M/s. Towell Auto Centre LLC	M/s. Towell Auto Centre LLC	Hyundai Cars
6.	M/s. Pearle Europe	M/s. Pearle Europe, Netherlands	Vision Express

[English]

Centre-State Relations

4048. SHRI ANIL BASU :

DR. BABU RAO MEDIYAM :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Commission constituted to review Centre-State relations is working satisfactorily;

(b) if so, the number of sittings held so far alongwith the details of issues on which the Commission has concluded discussion and the action taken by the Government thereon;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by when the report of the said Committee is likely to be submitted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Commission has already held more than twenty meetings and has decided on the approach and

methodology to be followed and formulated a comprehensive plan of action. The Commission has also issued a Public Notice detailing its terms and conditions and inviting an initial response. Further, the Commission has circulated a draft Questionnaire to all the States/UTs, Union Ministries/Departments, major political parties, Constitutional experts and other stakeholders to make the question-formulation process participatory and transparent. The Commission has held its first regional workshop for initiating a structured process of consultation with stakeholders and their participation on specific themes/ subjects.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Commission, which has been set up vide Gazette notification dated the 27th April, 2007, has been mandated to submit its report within two years.

Committee on Terrorism

4049. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had constituted any Committee on terrorist since 1999;

(b) if so, the details of recommendations made by the Committee;

(c) whether these recommendations have been implemented; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) No Committee, as such, had been constituted on terrorism since 1999. However, there are a number of mechanisms at various levels which regularly monitor and study developments relating to various aspects of terrorism, in the light of which appropriate action and counter measures are determined and taken on a continuing basis.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of the above.

Supply of Food to Schools

4050. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Hon'ble Supreme Court had banned contractors from supplying food to the schools in 2004,

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether all the States have complied with the orders of the Supreme Court;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor, State-wise; 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) to (e) No such directions with respect to Mid-Day Meal Scheme have been given by the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

Water Ingress into Coastal Areas

4051. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that water ingress into the Coastal villages of the country including Andaman and Nicobar Islands is taking place very frequently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the National Cyclone risk-Management Project is being implemented in the coastal areas of the country including Andaman and Nicobar Islands; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The water ingress is noticed in Tamil Nadu in some places like Chennai, Cuddalore and Tiruchendur in August 2005 during spring tide (full/new moon day) which is believed to be due to near shore changes associated with the removal of sand caused by 2004 Tsunami. The recovery process subsequently took about a year or so and as such no reports of water ingress are received after 2006. However, Kerala reported frequent occurrence of water ingress during the pre-monsoon period (March) associated with swell waves coming from the South Indian Ocean.

Seasonal ingress of sea water into fresh water aquifers adjoining the banks of rivers/tidal estuaries/lagoons is also observed in coastal areas during the summer when the fresh water flow into these coastal ecosystems is diminished. Such a phenomenon has been observed from low lying areas of Corbyn's Cove, Saitankhari and Govindnager in Andaman and Nicobar, and along creeks on the coastline of India.

(c) and (d) The National Cyclone Risk Management

Project (NCRMP) has been drawn up with a view to address cyclone hazard risks in 13 cyclone prone coastal states/UTs, including Andaman and Nicobar Islands, with World Bank assistance. The project is coordinated by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA).

Revival Package for Plantations

4052. SHRIMATI C.S. SUJATHA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has sanctioned a revival package for plantations;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the number of plantations considered for the package, State-wise during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the Government has received separate proposals from the Government of Kerala for taking over of closed/abandoned tea plantations in the State; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) Yes, Sir, a rehabilitation package for closed tea gardens was announced in June 2007.

(b) The package provides for restructuring of the outstanding bank loans, waiver of Tea Board loans and extension of fresh working capital from banks with interest subsidy from Government and other admissible assistance under various Plan schemes of Tea Board. There were 33 closed tea gardens as on 01.4.2007. 11 of these have since opened.

(c) and (d) The proposals for revival of closed/abandon tea plantations received from the various quarters including the State Government of Kerala, were

considered by the Government before announcing the aforesaid rehabilitation package.

[Translation]

Decline in Food Production

4053. SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE .

SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE :

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

(a) whether there has been a decline in the production of certain food products in the country during the year 2007 and 2008 as on date;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these products are being exported;

(d) if so, the quantity exported during the said period, product-wise;

(e) the percentage of rise in the prices of these products during the above period; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to curb the rise in prices of these products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) Sir, except for a marginal reduction in wheat and sugarcane production, the 2nd Advance Estimates of production for 2007-08 shows that the production of essential commodities like rice, pulses, edible oil, etc. is expected to be higher when compared with 2006-07.

(b) The 2nd Advance Estimates of production for 2007-08 shows that the production of wheat in 2007-08 is expected to be 74.81 million tons against 75.81 million tons of production in 2006-07. For sugarcane it is expected to be 3403.22 million tons in 2007-08 as against 3555.20 million tons in 2006-07.

(c) and (d) There is a ban on export of non-basmati rice, wheat, pulses and certain edible oils. The export of certain essential commodities during the period is as under:-

(Quantity in 000 tons)

Sl. No.	Essential Commodities	2006-07	2007-08 (April-December'07)
1.	Rice	4745.52	4779.36
2.	Wheat	47.83	0.24
3.	Pulses	247.42	140.83
4.	Sugar	1636.31	2986.20
5.	Oilmeals	6591.86	4031.51

Source: DGCI and S.

(e) The percentage of rise in the prices of these products is as under:-

Sl. No.	Essential Commodities	Inflation rate on 22.3.2008	Inflation rate on 24.3.2007
1.	Rice	8.30	5.60
2.	Wheat	3.4	6.80
3.	Pulses	-2.3	12.60
4.	Sugar	-1.9	-12.5
5.	Edible oil	21.2	13.3

Source : Department of Consumer Affairs COS note dated 7.4.08.

(f) The Government has taken various measures to curb the rise in prices of essential commodities like banning exports, introducing Minimum Export Price, reducing/eliminating import duties, importing on Government account, introducing stock limits, etc.

[English]

Study on Modernisation of Police Force

4054. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS :

SHRIMATI C.S. SUJATHA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the modernisation of Police Force Scheme has been implemented since 2001;

(b) if so, the details of the progress made under the said scheme, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has made any study regarding the modernisation of police force in the country;

(d) if so, the details alongwith the outcome thereof; 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) Although 'Police' and 'Law and Order' are State subjects under the Constitution, the Central Government has been implementing a Non Plan Scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces (MPF) with the aim of supplementing the efforts and resources of the State Governments to modernize and upgrade their police forces. Details of the funds released to various States under the Scheme year-wise from 2000-01 to 2007-08 is given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) to (e) The Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR and D) had undertaken a study titled 'Modernization and Up-gradation of Police Infrastructure - A five year projection (2000)'. In this study, BPR and D projected the five year requirement of State Police Forces under various components, namely, buildings, housing, mobility, equipment and training keeping this in view and based on a mid-term review, the outlays under the Scheme have been progressively stepped up since 2005-06, as would be seen from the Statement enclosed.

Statement

Name of State	2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07		2007-08		
	Allocated	Funds released															
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Andhra Pradesh	72.02	72.02	77.2	77.2	81.32	81.32	69.46	69.46	79.93	79.93	101.41	101.41	88.12	88.12	87.34	87.34	87.34
Andhra Pradesh	1.15	1.15	4.45	4.45	5.20	5.20	724	724	9.13	9.13	7.00	7.00	11.53	11.53	10.70	10.70	10.70
Assam	36.58	36.58	38.59	38.59	16.50	16.50	36.52	36.52	41.37	41.37	56.68	56.68	52.18	52.18	87.82	87.82	87.82
Bihar	57.59	57.59	54	54	11.50	11.50	0.43	0.43	45.25	45.25	39.87	39.87	51.62	51.62	16.24	16.24	16.24
Chhattisgarh	20.57	20.57	21.97	21.97	16.70	16.70	17.47	17.47	32.72	32.72	40.74	40.74	57.06	57.06	41.72	41.72	41.72
Goa	2.02	2.02	2	2	2.00	2.00	1.40	1.40	0.28	0.28	1.06	1.06	1.00	1.00	2	2	2
Gujarat	59.76	59.76	50	50	50.00	50.00	42.21	42.21	39.54	39.54	39.85	39.85	45.52	45.52	51.9	51.9	51.9
Haryana	28.33	28.33	24.46	24.46	22.10	22.10	20.00	20.00	22.13	22.13	14.95	14.95	19.69	19.69	35.75	35.75	35.75
Himachal Pradesh	1.34	1.34	6.38	6.38	6.20	6.20	0.69	0.69	2.57	2.57	6.78	6.78	3.92	3.92	10.27	10.27	10.27
Jammu and Kashmir	30.83	30.83	28.5	28.5	28.50	28.50	25.00	25.00	110.89	110.89	109.22	109.22	88.13	88.13	115.34	115.34	115.34
Jharkhand	40.14	40.14	28.93	28.93	12.73	12.73	8.50	8.50	22.33	22.33	40.74	40.74	47.00	47.00	50.95	50.95	50.95
Karnataka	82.85	82.85	76.9	76.9	75.00	75.00	69.31	69.31	58.87	58.87	65.85	65.85	64.15	64.15	78.13	78.13	78.13
Kerala	29.28	29.28	31.16	31.16	25.13	25.13	22.00	22.00	26.55	26.55	18.84	18.84	24.53	24.53	40.01	40.01	40.01
Madhya Pradesh	54.49	54.49	53	53	51.33	51.33	48.24	48.24	42.27	42.27	31.65	31.65	43.24	43.24	57.88	57.88	57.88
Maharashtra	83.1	83.1	92.1	92.1	67.94	67.94	62.84	62.84	71.00	71.00	88.78	88.78	105.10	105.10	78.87	78.87	78.87

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Manipur	4.1	4.1	4.95	4.95	0.73	0.73	11.50	11.50	15.24	15.24	16.97	16.97	14.09	14.09	32.07	32.07
Meghalaya	1.54	1.54	5.19	5.19	0.55	0.55	5.29	5.29	7.58	7.58	6.57	6.57	8.59	8.59	15.44	15.44
Mizoram	4.95	4.95	5.5	5.5	5.50	5.50	8.47	8.47	7.45	7.45	6.00	6.00	10.48	10.48	11	11
Nagaland	2.84	2.84	13.46	13.46	9.95	9.95	21.00	21.00	13.09	13.09	17.52	17.52	22.68	22.68	30.72	30.72
Orissa	30.57	30.57	30.5	30.5	16.76	16.76	21.91	21.91	27.76	27.76	35.08	35.08	38.00	38.00	45.80	45.80
Punjab	35.76	35.76	32.1	32.1	32.10	32.10	19.34	19.34	21.79	21.79	20.31	20.31	15.00	15.00	34.94	34.94
Rajasthan	45.53	45.53	61.1	61.1	16.17	16.17	43.10	43.10	42.87	42.87	34.81	34.81	40.47	40.47	49.60	49.60
Sikkim	1.83	1.83	2.87	2.87	0.09	0.09	0.94	0.94	5.90	5.90	2.43	2.43	3.46	3.46	4.42	4.42
Tamil Nadu	76.5	76.5	68.1	68.1	68.10	68.10	54.98	54.98	56.78	56.78	65.51	65.51	61.65	61.65	75.74	75.74
Tripura	6.39	6.39	5.6	5.6	5.60	5.60	12.83	12.83	11.17	11.17	11.83	11.83	11.34	11.34	14.47	14.47
Uttar Pradesh	123.97	123.97	116.05	116.05	60.39	60.39	65.02	65.02	108.55	108.55	98.12	98.12	94.28	94.28	115.44	115.44
Uttarakhand	5.5	5.5	8.44	8.44	6.58	6.58	7.41	7.41	7.99	7.99	16.76	16.76	5.28	5.28	9.89	9.89
West Bengal	60.47	60.47	56.5	56.5	0.33	0.33	2.17	2.17	29.20	29.20	29.67	29.67	37.11	37.11	44.45	44.45
Total	1000	1000	1000	1000	695.00	695.00	705.27	705.27	960.00	960.00	1025.00	1025.00	1065.22	1065.22	1248.70	1248.70

Revival Package for Hindustan Copper Ltd.

4055. SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Union Government has evolved a revival package for the Hindustan Copper Ltd. (HCL);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Union Government proposes to grant Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) to the employees of HCL; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICAL AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of India has approved financial restructuring of HCL, which includes the following:-

- (i) Conversion of non-plan loan amounting to Rs. 50.00 crore into equity (Rs. 25 crore each released in 2005-06 and in 2006-07).
- (ii) Waiver of 7.5% non-cumulative redeemable preference share amounting to Rs. 180.73 crore and its adjustment against accumulated losses.
- (iii) Restructuring of capital through reduction of face value of equity share from Rs. 10 to Rs. 5 amounting to Rs. 382.21 crore and its adjustment against the accumulated losses.
- (iv) Restoration of superannuation age to 60 years to preserve skills and provide a breathing time to the organization for formulation of proper succession plan.
- (v) Creation of post of Director (Mining) to drive the growth agenda in the mining domain.

The above package is subject to HCL fulfilling the following:-

- (i) The Company will reduce its cost of production of Copper Cathode from Rs. 225989 per MT in 2005-06 to a level which will enable the Company to breakeven at LME price of US \$ 2700 per MT of Copper Cathode.
- (ii) The Company should spare no effort for reducing the cost of production and improving profitability by increased capacity utilization of Blister Copper/Copper Cathode and Copper Rod to a level of 100% and 95% respectively.
- (c) Not applicable.
- (d) and (e) No, Sir.

Use of Internet by Terrorists and Criminals

4056. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA :

SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the criminals and terrorists in the country are using internet for their various operations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether majority of the police forces across the country are not equipped with sophisticated computer networks to tackle the activities of the criminals and terrorists; and
- (d) if so, the details of the plans formulated by the Government to face such challenges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) and (b) There are reports of criminals committing economic frauds through phishing, e-mail scams, piracy, data theft and launching of denial of service attacks onto targeted

organizations, network infrastructures and countries, using internet services.

(c) and (d) 'Police' being a State subject, it is primarily the concern of the State Governments to modernize their police forces and to establish cyber police stations for cyber crime investigation. At the same time, the Ministry of Home Affairs is implementing a project called Common Integrated Police Application (CIPA) in all the States in a phased manner, under the Modernisation of State Police Forces (MPF) Scheme. It is envisaged to widen the scope of CIPA project in terms of the applications and by extending it from the police stations to the other higher level formations in the police hierarchy, and provide network connectivity. The Government has set up Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) to provide reactive and proactive support to the cyber incidents in India, besides introducing a Bill to amend the Information Technology Act, 2000, in the Lok Sabha on 15.12.2006 to provide for insertion of legal provisions to address various computer crimes.

Security Measure for NCR

4057. SHRI SUBRATA BOSE :

SHRI RANEN BARMAN :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the intelligence agencies have come to know that terrorists are hiding in the National Capital Region (NCR);

(b) if so, whether Delhi and adjoining areas are at the target of the terrorists;

(c) If so, whether the Government has taken any security measures;

(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) Intelligence inputs do not reveal information about hiding of terrorists in the National Capital Region (NCR). However, Delhi has remained a prime target of Pak-based Jehadi groups particularly JeM, LeT, HUJI and several such modules have been busted in the recent past.

(c) and (d) 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 Government, which involves measures to check infiltration from across the borders, development of central security forces in areas prone to terrorist violence, continuous vigilance and strengthening of security arrangements in vulnerable areas and around vital installations, sharing of intelligence, strengthening of State Police forces and up gradation 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 bilateral and multilateral 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. Moreover, Delhi Police has taken following steps to check the terrorist activities viz. wide publicity through media, installation of CCTVs in vital and important places, checking/frisking, installation of DFMD/HHMD, briefing of Hotel staff, Guest House staff, continuous audio/video announcements at public places i.e. Railway Stations, ISBTs, Airports etc. Checking of hideouts of suspected persons, checking of Cyber Cafes; checking/sensitization of STD/ISD booths, sensitization of second-hand car dealers, checking of Taxi Stands, tenant verification, joint checking of guest Houses/Hotels, Sarais, Cinema Halls, ISBTs, Railway Stations etc. Surveillance upon convicted persons, technical surveillance, strategic intelligence and risk assessments are other important measures.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Production of Diamond and Gold

4058. SHRI TEK LAL MAHTO : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government is laying special emphasis on the excavation exploration of diamond and gold, so as to reduce its import;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of diamond and gold imported and produced in the country during each of the last three year, till date, State-wise, Union Territory-wise;

(d) the number of employees working in Kolar Gold Mine till date; and

Super Group Commodity Name	Commodity Name and Unit	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07 (P)
Diamond	Diamond (Industrial) (CRT)	14705	12244	4503
	Diamond (Mostly cut) (CRT)	138786704	124743440	119625535
	Diamond Powder (TCA)	23372	47795	56848
Gold	KG	782864	723780	725817

State-wise production of gold is given below:-

State	(in Tonnes)		
	2005-06	2006-07 (provisional)	2007-08 (upto September) (provisional)
Karnataka	2.846	2.336	0.014
Jharkhand	0.201	0.154	1.495
Gujarat (as by product)	6.710	10.335	5.312
Total	9.757	12.825	6.821

(e) the number of employees granted Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICAL AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI R.K. HANDIQUE) : (a) and (b) Mining of minerals depends broadly on availability of mineral resources, economic viability, demand of the market etc. The Central Government has enunciated the new National Mineral Policy, 2008 which envisages streamlining and simplifying the procedures in grant of mineral concessions in order to attract investment into mining sector.

(c) Data on import of diamond and gold during the last three years are given below:-

Production of diamond was limited to one State and details are given below:-

State	(in carats)		
	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08 (April to December) (provisional)
Madhya Pradesh	44170	2179	481

(d) and (e) As per available information, Kolar Gold Mine was closed with effect from 1.3.2001 and all the production activities were suspended. 3580 employees were disengaged from the service. All the disengaged employees have been paid full and final settlement of amount under STBP (Special Terminal Benefit Package).

*[English]***Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana**

4059. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD :
 SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA :
 SHRI HEMMAL MURMU :
 SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI :
 SHRI ANIRUDH PRASAD ALIAS SADHU YADAV :

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to launch a new scheme in place of Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Yojana (PMRY);

(b) if so, the salient features of the new scheme;

(c) whether the Government has sought details from the regional offices of Khadi and Village Industries about the number of proposed projects in their areas with a view to launch the said scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which it is likely to be launched?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) The Government, in the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, has proposed to introduce a new scheme titled 'Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme' (PMEGP) by merging the existing scheme of 'Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana' (PMRY) with another scheme of this Ministry called 'Rural Employment Generation Programme' (REGP). People from rural as well as urban areas of the country are proposed to be benefited

under this proposed scheme. Under this scheme, financial assistance in the form of subsidy/margin money is to be provided for setting up of units costing upto Rs. 25 lakh with increased levels of subsidy for smaller value projects and those taken up by beneficiaries belonging to marginalized sections of society. The scheme has been proposed to be implemented through Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), State/UT Khadi and Village Industries Boards (KVIBs) and District Industries Centres (DICS) of state Governments.

(c) and (d) These details are under finalisation.

(e) The scheme is likely to be launched in the first quarter of 2008-09.

Export of Spices and Coffee

4060. SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of exports of spices and coffee alongwith its value during each of the last three years and in the current year, till date, State-wise;

(b) the production status of spices and coffee during the above period; and

(c) the special scheme covering the plantations in the country to boost production and export?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) The details of exports of Spices and Coffee alongwith its value during each of the last three years and in the current year are given below:-

Exports (Qty: MT - Value: Rs. crore)

Crops	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07		2007-08 (Apr-Feb)	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
Spices	348524	2350.51	350363	2627.62	373750	3575.75	377000	3785.40
Coffee	211765	1224.67	201555	1510.38	249030	2007.90	210000	1600.00

(b) The details of production of spices and coffee during the last three years are:-

(in tonnes)

Crops	Production		
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
Spices (major spices)	18,62,128	19,28,635	22,79,064
Coffee	2,75,500	2,74,000	2,88,000

(c) In order to boost the production/productivity and quality of spices and coffee produced in the country, the Government has launched a replantation/rejuvenation programme in the 11th Five Year Plan so as to replant old and unproductive tracts.

To boost the export of these commodities, special attention is being given to quality improvement by extending financial and technical assistance to the growers and other stakeholders. Other activities being undertaken to boost export earning of these commodities are: participation in trade fairs and exhibitions; organizing buyer-seller meets; financial assistance to exporters to participate in international fairs and exhibitions; brand promotion, public relation campaigns etc.)

[Translation]

Threat to Security along Indo-Bangladesh Border

4061. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the rivers along the Indo-Bangladesh border are making the border Porous from security point of view;

(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 HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI) : (a) The

riverine area along Indo-Bangladesh border is vulnerable to infiltration, smuggling and trans-border crimes, as erection of fencing is not feasible in this segment of International border.

(b) As intimated by BSF, the State-wise details of riverine border are as under:-

West Bengal	–	575,100 km.
Assam	–	119,100 km.
Tripura	–	147,650 km.
Mizoram	–	274.350 km.

(c) BSF is effectively dominating the riverine segment along Indo-Bangladesh border by maintaining constant surveillance, observation, patrolling and Nakas. Domination/patrolling is also carried out with the help of available boats, floating BOPs, watercrafts and water vessels etc.

Export of Onions

4062. SHRI GANESH SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has notified any agency to fix the minimum support price of onion for exports;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to notify the agency for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) to (c) There is no minimum support price of onion for exports. Export of onions is permitted without any quantitative restrictions subject to conditions of quality laid out by the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED) through NAFED and the following 12 designated canalising agencies.

- (i) Maharashtra State Agricultural Marketing Board
- (ii) Gujarat Agro Industries Corporation Ltd.
- (iii) The Spices Trading Corporation Ltd.
- (iv) The A.P. State Trading Corporation
- (v) The Karnataka State Co-operative Marketing Federation Ltd.
- (vi) The National Co-operative Consumers Federation of India Ltd.
- (vii) The North Karnataka Onion Growers Co-operative Society
- (viii) West Bengal Essential Commodities Supply Corporation Ltd.
- (ix) M.P. State Agro Industries Development Corporation, Bhopal
- (x) Karnataka State Produce Processing and Export Corporation
- (xi) Madhya Pradesh State Co-operative Oil Seeds Growers Federation Ltd.,
- (xiii) The Andhra Pradesh Marketing Federation.

NAFED allows export of onion against the Minimum Export Price fixed every month by it in consultation with the concerned Departments and the canalising agencies.

Import of Essential Commodities

4063. SHRI THAWARCHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the commodity-wise, year-wise and country-wise details of the import of essential commodities in the country during the last three years and in the current year, till date;

(b) whether the import of essential commodities has increased more than 11 per cent during the above period;

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

(d) whether due to increase in import of essential commodities consumers have been affected by price rise;

(e) if so, whether the Government is planning to rectify the same in the interest of consumers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) to (c) Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution monitors the prices of 14 essential food commodities. These items include Rice, Wheat, Atta, Gram Dal, Tur (Arhar) Dal, Sugar, Groundnut Oil, Mustard Oil, Vanaspati, Tea, Milk, Potato, Onion and Salt (iodised). Commodity-wise, year-wise and country-wise details of import of these items are given in publication, 'Monthly Statistics of Foreign Trade of India; Vol. II (Imports), Annual Number' published by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, which is available in the Library of the Parliament.

(d) to (f) Import of essential commodities would in fact tend to reduce the domestic prices. Foreign Trade Policy is modulated to ensure access of commodities which are essential for meeting the requirements of consumers in the country. Government has taken a number of steps to protect the consumers from increase in prices of essential food commodities. These steps, inter alia include:-

(i) Export of wheat, non-basmati rice, pulses (except kabuli-chana) and edible oils has been banned.

(ii) Import duty on wheat, rice, pulses and crude edible oils has been reduced to zero. Import duty on refined oils and that on hydrogenated vegetable oils has been reduced to 7.5%. The

import duty on butter and ghee has been reduced to 30%.

- (iii) Central Government has issued a Central Order under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 enabling State Governments to invoke stock limits in respect of wheat, pulses, edible oils, oilseeds and rice. The Order is valid upto 31.8.2008.

[English]

Trade Imbalance between India and Other Countries

4064. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there has been growing trade imbalances between India and other countries;
- (b) if so, the details during each of the last three years and the current year, till date and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to promote bilateral trade with those countries and to reduce the trade imbalance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) and (b) India has an adverse balance of trade with some countries during the last three years due to import of commodities like crude petroleum, pulses, gold, diamonds, aircrafts etc. Country-wise details of commodities exported and imported alongwith their value and quantity is posted on the website of Department of Commerce at <http://commerce.gov.in/>.

(c) Concerted efforts are being made by the Government to promote exports of Indian products by facilitating participations in trade fairs, holding buyer/seller meets, setting up of Joint Trade Committees, holding regular meetings of JTC's and devising strategies for country specific exports.

Trade between India and EU

4065. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government has held talks with EU on free trade agreement;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (c) the details of trade between India and EU countries during each of the last three years and in the current year, till date, country-wise and product-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Negotiations for an India-European Union (EU) broad based Trade and Investment Agreement commenced on 28.6.2007 at Brussels. The first round of negotiations was focused on discussing the framework for undertaking negotiations and exchange of ideas on the broad contours of the agreement in areas of Trade in Goods, Trade in Services, Investments, Sanitary and Phytosanitary measures, Technical Barriers to Trade, Trade Remedies, Customs Cooperation and Trade Facilitation. Based on these initial discussions, both sides discussed textual proposals in the 2nd and 3rd round of negotiations that were held during 1-5 October 2007 in New Delhi and December 2007 in Brussels.

(c) The details of India's trade with European Union is furnished below:-

(US \$ Million)

Year	Export	Import	Total trade
2004-05	19,673	25,621	45,294
2005-06	23,229	25,998	49,227
2006-07	26,863	34,781	61,644
2007-08*	26,346	35,468	61,814

*for April-December 2007.

Details of imports and exports with EU member countries and their product-wise/countrywise export-import details are available on the website of Ministry of Commerce which is <http://commerce.gov.in>

**Information and Communication
Facilities in Universities**

4066. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI :

SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD :

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

(a) whether a large number of universities and colleges still have no information and communication technology facilities for teaching and training purposes;

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

(c) the assistance provided for the purpose to the various universities during each of the last three years, university-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) to (c) The University Grants Commission (UGC) provides grants to eligible Universities/Institutions declared fit to receive central assistance under Section 12B of the UGC Act, 1956. The details of assistance provided to the eligible Universities for the establishment/Upgradation of Computer Centres during the years 2005-06 and 2006-07 is given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

Statement showing the Grants paid to Universities by the University Grants Commission for Establishing/Upgradation of Computer Centre during 2005-06 and 2006-07

(Rupees in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of the University	Grants approved during 2005-06	Grants released during 2005-06	Grants approved during 2006-07	Grants released during 2006-07
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Fakir Mohan University, Balasore, Orissa			38.80	31.04
2.	Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Pune			11.50	9.20
3.	Kannada University, Kamataka			35.00	28.00
4.	Kannur University, Kannur, Kerala			36.00	28.80
5.	Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati University			33.00	26.40
6.	National Academy of Legal Studies and Research University, Hyderabad			26.00	20.80
7.	Periyar University, Salem, Tamil Nadu			36.50	29.20
8.	Sri Chandrasekharendra Saraswati Viswa Mahavidyalaya Kanchipuram, T.N.			38.75	31.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	Tata Institute of Social Science, Deonar, Mumbai			20.00	16.00
10.	Vinoba Bhave University, Hazaribag			50.00	40.00
11.	Allahabad University, UP			21.75	17.40
12.	Anna University, Chennai			25.00	20.00
13.	Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar, Bihar University, Muzaffarur			20.00	16.00
14.	Bangalore University, Bangalore			40.00	32.00
15.	Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Pilani, Rajasthan			29.15	23.32
16.	Birla Institute of Technology, MESR : Ranchi			20.00	16.00
17.	Dayalbagh Educational Institute, Meerut, UP			15.00	12.00
18.	Delhi University, Delhi			33.00	26.40
19.	Devika Vishwavidyalaya, Indore, MP			20.00	16.00
20.	Gandhigram Rural Institute, Gandhigram, Tamil Nadu			24.00	19.20
21.	Gujarat Vidyapith, Ahmedabad			19.00	15.20
22.	Gulbarga University, Karnataka			19.00	15.20
23.	Indira Kala Sangit Vishwavidyalaya, Chhattisgarh			22.00	17.60
24.	Jai Narain Vyas University, Jodhpur			23.00	18.40
25.	Jamia Hamdard, Delhi			24.00	19.20
26.	Jiwaji University, Gwalior, MP			24.00	19.20
27.	Karnataka University, Dharwad, Karnataka			23.00	18.40
28.	Kuvempu University, Shimoga, Karnataka			18.50	14.80
29.	Maharshi Dayanand University, Rohtak-Haryana			28.00	22.40
30.	Mahatma Gandhi University, UP			24.00	19.20
31.	Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Thirunelveli, Tamil Nadu			23.00	18.40
32.	North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong, Meghalaya			20.00	16.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
33.	Punjabi University, Patiala, Punjab			23.00	18.40
34.	Rajiv Gandhi University, (Formerly runac hal University)			18.00	14.40
35.	Rashitriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, Tirupati, .P.			20.00	16.00
36.	Sri v inashilingam Institute for Home Sciecn and Higher Education for Women			23.00	18.40
37.	S.N.D.T. Women University, Mumbai			18.00	14.40
38.	Tamil University, Thenjavur, Tamil Nadu			18.00	14.40
39.	Jammu University, Jammu			12.00	9.60
40.	Mysore University, Karnataka			10.00	8.00
41.	Vidyasagar University, Midnapore: West Bengal			16.00	12.80
42.	Hyderabad University, Hyderabad	30.00	24.00		
43.	J.N. Technological, Hydearbad	25.00	20.00		
44.	c harya Nagarjuna University, Hyderabad	25.00	20.00		
45.	Sri Padmavati Mahila Vishwavidhyalaya, Tirupati, ndhra Pradesh	25.00	20.00		
46.	Sri Krishnadevarya, nanthapur, ndhra Pradesh	20.00	16.00		
47.	Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati	25.00	20.00		
48.	Maulana z ad National Urdu University, Hyderabad	25.00	20.00		
49.	Sri Satya Sai Instt. of Higher Learning, nanthapur, ndhra Pradesh	25.00	20.00		
50.	ndhra University, ndhra Pradesh	25.00	20.00		
51.	Tezpur University, s sam	20.00	16.00		
52.	Dibrugarh University, s sam	25.00	20.00		
53.	Patna University, Patna	25.00	20.00		
54.	Lalit Narayan Mithila University, Darbhanga, Bihar	25.00	20.00		
55.	Tilakamanji Bhalapur University, Maharashtra	22.00	17.00		
56.	K.S.D. Sanskrit University, Darbhanga, Bihar	15.00	12.00		

1	2	3	4	5	6
57.	Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University, Chhattishgarh	25.00	20.00		
58.	Guru Ghasidas University Bilashpur, Chhattisgarh	20.00	16.00		
59.	Shri Lai Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit University, New Delhi	25.00	20.00		
60.	GGI Indraprastha University, New Delhi	22.00	17.00		
61.	Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi	25.00	20.00		
62.	Goa University, Goa	20.00	16.00		
63.	South Gujarat University, Surat, Gujarat	22.00	17.00		
64.	Bhavnagar University, Bhavnagar, Gujarat	15.00	12.00		
65.	Saurashtra University, Rajkot, Gujarat	30.00	24.00		
66.	Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar, Gujarat	30.00	24.00		
67.	Hemchandra University, Patan, Gujarat	20.00	16.00		
68.	Guru Jambheshwar University, Hissar, Haryana	25.00	20.00		
69.	Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla	25.00	20.00		
70.	Mangalore University, Manglore	25.00	20.00		
71.	Kerala University, Thiruvanthapuram	30.00	24.00		
72.	Cochin Univ. of Sc. and Tech., Kochi	15.00	12.00		
73.	Rani Durgavati University, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh	15.00	12.00		
74.	Vikram University, Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh	15.00	12.00		
75.	M.G. Gramodaya University, Chitrakoot, Madhya Pradesh	25.00	20.00		
76.	Dr. H.S. Gour University, Sagar, Madhya Pradesh	20.00	16.00		
77.	Barkatullah Vishwavidhyalaya, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh	30.00	24.00		
78.	Shivaji University, Kolhapur, Maharashtra	25.00	25.00		
79.	North Maharashtra University, Jalgaon, Maharashtra	25.00	20.00		
80.	Mumbai University, Mumbai	20.00	16.00		
81.	Pune University, Pune, Maharashtra	35.00	28.00		

1	2	3	4	5	6
82.	Swami Ramanand Teerth University, Nanded, Maharashtra	20.00	16.00		
83.	M.G. ntaras htriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya, Wardha, Maharashtra	15.00	12.00		
84.	mrav ati University, mrav ati, Maharashtra	20.00	16.00		
85.	Dr. Babasaheb mbedk ar Marathwada University, urangabad. Maharashtra	25.00	20.00		
86.	Manipur University, Imphai, Manipur	30.00	24.00		
87.	Mizoram University, Mizoram	25.00	20.00		
88.	Nagaland University, Kohima	35.00	28.00		
89.	Utkal University, Bhubaneswar, Orissa	30.00	24.00		
90.	Berhampur University, Orissa	19.00	15.00		
91.	Sambalpur University, Orissa	20.00	16.00		
92.	Pondicherry University, Pondicherry	30.00	24.00		
93.	Guru Nanak Dev University, mrits ar, Punjab	30.00	24.00		
94.	Punjab University, Patiala, Punjab	20.00	16.00		
95.	Mohania Sukhadia University, Udaipur, Rajasthan	25.00	20.00		
96.	Iagappa University, Karaikudi, Tamil Nadu	25.00	20.00		
97.	Bharathiar University, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu	15.00	12.00		
98.	Tripura University, gartala	25.00	20.00		
99.	Dr. R.M. v adh University, Faizabad, Uttar Pradesh	35.00	28.00		
100.	D.D.U. Gorakhpur University, Uttar Pradesh	15.00	12.00		
101.	Iigarh Muslim University, Iigarh, Uttar Pradesh	25.00	20.00		
102.	VBS Purvanchal University, Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh	25.00	20.00		
103.	Gurukul Kangri University, Haridwar, Uttaranchal	25.00	20.00		
104.	Jadavpur University, Kolkata	15.00	12.00		
105.	Calcutta University, Kolkata	20.00	16.00		

1.	2	3	4	5	6
106.	Burdwan University, Burdwan, West Bengal	20.00	16.00		
107.	Vishwa Bharati University, Shantiniketan, West Bengal	20.00	16.00		

[Translation]

Direct-to-Home Service

4067. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA :
SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV :

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

(a) whether Doordarshan has provided the TV Channel operators to broadcast its channels free of cost through Direct-to-Home (DTH) service;

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

(c) whether these operators are charging money from the public for showing these channels;

(d) if so, the reasons for providing DTH facility free of cost to the operators; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) and (b): Doordarshan has informed that all its channels are free-to-air only. No monthly subscription is required to be paid for receiving TV channels through DD DTH platform. However, DTH operators shall carry or include their DTH service the TV channels which have been notified for mandatory and compulsory carriage as per the provisions of Section 8 of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 as amended.

(c) The private DTH operators can charge fee from subscribers to cover the costs of operation, maintenance etc. as they are not providing any stand-alone service consisting of Free to Air channels of Doordarshan. Further private operators are paying license fee @ 10% of gross

revenue to the Government in terms of clause 3 of License Agreement.

(d) and (e) Doordarshan a public service broadcaster through its DTH service called DD Direct Plus is made available free of cost to all viewers in the country and also to cover all uncovered areas where terrestrial signals are not available. Doordarshan thus ensures 100% coverage of the area and population of the country.

[English]

Skill Assessment Survey

4068. SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has carried out the Skill Assessment Survey to determine the expected shortfall of trained manpower in the next 20 years;

(b) if so, the findings of the Government thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) to (c) No such survey has been conducted by the Ministry of Labour and Employment or the Ministry of Human Resource Development.

Strengthening of Security in Gujarat

4069. SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI :
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :
SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to strengthen security in the border State of Gujarat;

(b) if so, whether the Gujarat Government has requested the Union Government to grant special funds in this regard;

(c) If so, whether the Government has granted the funds; and

(d) the total funds allocated and released during the current year, till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) to (d) "Police" and "law and order" is a State Subject as per the VII Schedule to the Constitution of India and as such it is primarily the responsibility of the State Government to modernize and adequately equip its police forces for meeting the challenges to law and order, internal security and to supplement the efforts of the State Governments in modernizing their police forces, the Central Government is implementing a Non-plan Scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces. Funds are released to the State Governments on the basis of Annual Action Plans received from the State and approved by the Ministry. Assistance under the Scheme is also extended to Gujarat for meeting the specific policing requirements in the Desert Areas as well as of Mega city of Ahmedabad.

During the current financial year 2008-09, no funds have been released to Gujarat so far. However, during the last financial year, 2007-08, out of Central allocation of Rs. 40.00 crore to Gujarat under the Scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces (MPF Scheme), an amount of Rs. 39.66 crore was released to the State, after deducting the unspent an amount of Rs. 0.34 crore pertaining to previous years i.e. upto 2005-06, which remained unutilized with the State Government. In addition to Rs. 39.66 crore, an additional amount of Rs. 12.25 crore was also released to Gujarat during the year 2007-08 for modernization of police forces.

Subsidy to Students for Higher Professional Courses

4070. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is considering to subsidize the interest component on loans given to students for higher professional courses during the moratorium period;

(b) if so, whether the Government is preparing a plan to the tune of Rs. 4,000 crores;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government is also planning to extend some concessions to families whose annual income is less than Rs. 2.5 lakh; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) to (e) A proposal to introduce a scheme for providing interest subsidy during the moratorium period on the educational loans taken by students having lower than a specified parental income, for pursuing professional education in India under the revised Model Educational Loan Scheme formulated by the Indian Banks' Association, is under consideration of the Government. A provision of Rs. 4000 crore has been made in the XI Plan for this proposed scheme.

[Translation]

Schools Run by NDMC

4071. CH. MUNAWAR HASSAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the schools being run by the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC);

(b) the level of education being imparted in each school;

(c) the number of posts sanctioned for each category alongwith the number of persons working therein; and

(d) the number of boys and girls studying in each school separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI) : (a) to (d)

A Statement-I indicating the details of schools run by the New Delhi Municipal Council, the level upto which education is being imparted in them and the number of boys and girls studying in them is enclosed in Statement-I. The number of posts of various categories sanctioned for the schools run by the New Delhi Municipal Council and the number of persons working against these posts are given in the Statement-II enclosed.

Statement-I

Details of schools run by the New Delhi Municipal Council, the level upto which education is being imparted in them and the number of boys and girls studying in them

Serial Number	Name of the school	The level up to which education is being imparted	Number of students	
			Boys	Girls
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Nagar Palika Co-Ed. Senior Secondary School, Ansari Nagar	Class XII	579	223
2.	Nagar Palika Boys Senior Secondary School, Mandir Marg	Class XII	963	0
3.	Nagar Palika Bengali Girls Senior Secondary School, Gole Market	Class XII	0	1572
4.	Nagar Palika Girls Senior Secondary School, Gole Market	Class XII	0	815
5.	Nagar Palika Co-Ed. Senior Secondary School, Moti Bagh	Class XII	729	370
6.	Nagar Palika Co-Education Secondary School, Tilak Marg	Class X	389	239
7.	Nagar Palika Co-Education Secondary School, Lodhi Estate	Class X	503	350
8.	Nagar Palika Co-Education Secondary School, Laxmibai Nagar	Class X	417	268
9.	Nagar Palika Girls Secondary School, Babu Dham	Class X	28	380
10.	Nagar Palika Boys Secondary School, Babu Dham	Class X	296	0
11.	Nagar Palika Co-Ed. Secondary School, Aurangzeb Lane	Class X	420	318
12.	Nagar Palika Girls Secondary School, Havelock Square	Class X	181	427
13.	Nagar Palika Co-Ed. Middle School, Babar Road	Class VIII	356	279
14.	Nagar Palika Co-Ed. Middle School, Sangli Mess	Class VIII	276	231

1	2	3	4	5
15.	Nagar Palika Boys Middle School, Lodhi Road	Class VIII	589	0
16.	Nagar Palika Girls Middle School, Lodhi Road	Class VIII	0	402
17.	Nagar Palika Co-Ed. Middle School, Kidwai Nagar	Class VIII	355	279
18.	Nagar Palika Co-Ed. Middle School, Nauroji Nagar	Class VIII	293	124
19.	Nagar Palika Co-Ed. Middle School, Netaji Nagar	Class VIII	186	148
20.	Nagar Palika Girls Middle School, Netaji Nagar	Class VIII	0	193
21.	Nagar Palika Co-Ed. Middle School, Kitchner Road	Class VIII	245	180
22.	Nagar Palika Girls Middle School, Gole Market	Class VIII	0	446
23.	Nagar Palika Co-Ed. Middle School, Balmiki Basti	Class VIII	40	183
24.	Nagar Palika Primary School, Tilak Marg	Class V	152	159
25.	Nagar Palika Primary School, Pandara Road	Class V	150	126
26.	Nagar Palika Primary School, Kaka Nagar	Class V	198	135
27.	Nagar Palika Primary School, Model No. 1, Kidwai Nagar	Class V	257	231
28.	Nagar Palika Primary School, Model No. 2, Kidwai Nagar	Class V	249	184
29.	Nagar Palika Primary School for Boys, Lodhi Road	Class V	342	0
30.	Nagar Palika Primary School for Girls, Lodhi Road	Class V	0	326
31.	Nagar Palika Primary School, No. 3, Kidwai Nagar	Class V	201	170
32.	Nagar Palika Primary School, Tuglak Crescent	Class V	58	44
33.	Nagar Palika Primary School, No. 1, Iganj	Class V	160	139
34.	Nagar Palika Primary School, No. 1, 'B' v enue, Sarojini Nagar	Class V	248	241
35.	Nagar Palika Primary School, No. 2, 'B' v enue, Sarojini Nagar	Class V	135	86
36.	Nagar Palika Primary School, No. 3, Babar Road	Class V	174	175
37.	Nagar Palika Primary School, No. 4, Babu Market, Sarojini Nagar	Class V	170	125
38.	Nagar Palika Primary School, DG Block, Sarojini Nagar	Class V	73	82
39.	Nagar Palika Primary School, No. 3, Babu Market, Sarojini Nagar	Class V	153	139

1	2	3	4	5
40.	Nagar Palika Primary School, No. 2, Nauroji Nagar	Class V	141	115
41.	Nagar Palika Primary School, Netaji Nagar	Class V	194	152
42.	Nagar Palika Primary School, No. 4, Moti Bagh	Class V	169	117
43.	Nagar Palika Primary School, Moti Bagh	Class V	174	201
44.	Nagar Palika Primary School, Sanjay Gandhi Camp	Class V	83	86
45.	Nagar Palika Primary School, s hoka Hotel	Class V	57	59
46.	Nagar Palika Primary School, Duplex Lane	Class V	102	89
47.	Nagar Palika Primary School, No. 1, R.K. s hram Marg	Class V	266	158
48.	Nagar Palika Primary School, No. 1, Hanuman Lane	Class V	134	55
49.	Nagar Palika Primary School, Pataudi House	Class V	120	100
50.	Nagar Palika Nursery School, Babar Road	Nursery	58	57
51.	Nagar Palika Nursery School, Pandara Road	Nursery	49	54
52.	Nagar Palika Nursery School, Kidwai Nagar	Nursery	61	59
53.	Nagar Palika Nursery School, Lodhi Road	Nursery	106	89
54.	Nagar Palika Nursery School, Model No. 1, Kidwai Nagar	Nursery	90	69
55.	Nagar Palika Nursery School, Model No. 2, Kidwai Nagar	Nursery	90	60
56.	Nagar Palika Nursery School, Lodi Estate	Nursery	68	53
57.	Nagar Palika Nursery School, 'B' v enue, Sarojini Nagar	Nursery	105	90
58.	Nagar Palika Nursery School, Babu Market, Sarojini Nagar	Nursery	54	43
59.	Nagar Palika Nursery School, Nauroji Nagar	Nursery	67	48
60.	Nagar Palika Nursery School, ns ari Nagar	Nursery	36	25
61.	Nagar Palika Nursery School, Netaji Nagar	Nursery	66	57
62.	Nagar Palika Nursery School, Babu Dham	Nursery	57	61
63.	Nagar Palika Nursery School, Duplex Lane	Nursery	60	46
64.	Nagar Palika Nursery School, liganj	Nursery	50	35
65.	Nagar Palika Nursery School, Panchkulyan Road	Nursery	63	51

1	2	3	4	5
66.	Nagar Palika Nursery School, Havelock Square	Nursery	57	51
67.	Nagar Palika Nursery School, R.K. Ashram Marg	Nursery	72	43
68.	Nirmal Primary	Class V	196	146
69.	R.M. Arya Girls (M) School	Class V	0	253
70.	R.M. Arya Girls (E) School	Class V	0	152

Statement-II

The number of posts of various categories sanctioned for the schools run by the New Delhi Municipal Council and the number of persons working against these posts

Category	Number of posts sanctioned	Number of persons working
1	2	3
Principal	5	5
Vice-Principal	12	12
Head Master Middle	11	11
Lecturer	79	66
TGT Gen (Hindi)	84	71
TGT Gen (Urdu)	3	3
TGT Science-A (Hindi)	49	55
TGT Science-A (Urdu)	1	1
TGT Science-B (Hindi)	35	30
TGT Science-A (Urdu)	2	2
TGT Hindi	40	32
TGT Sanskrit	33	29
TGT Urdu	4	4

	1	2	3
TGT Punjabi		2	1
TGT Bengali		1	1
Drawing Teacher		20	10
Music Teacher		34	34
Domestic Science Teacher		20	16
PET Teacher		44	39
Yoga Teacher		40	45
Work Experience Teacher		23	18
Dance Teacher		1	1
Senior Librarian		12	12
Junior Librarian		11	7
Lab Assistant		27	26
Head Assistant		12	6
Senior Assistant		12	8
Junior Assistant		3	1
Head Master Primary		26	23
Assistant Teachers		530	473
Head Master Nursery		12	18
Nursery Teachers		107	117

1	2	3
Assistant Teachers (Urdu)	46	40
Peon	64	64
Safai karamchari	50	50
Chowkidar	74	74
Balsahaika	80	64
Safai Karmachari (Part time)	18	18

Training of State Police Personnels

4072. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) The total funds provided by the Union Government to the States for the training of Police personnel in their respective States during each of the last three years alongwith the details of the funds allocated/utilised, State-wise separately;

(b) whether several States have started the process of training their Police personnel on the lines of the Army and Para Military Forces (PMF) as well as to integrate them with the national level intelligence network;

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

(d) whether the Bihar Police personnel are being

trained in jungle warfare and anti-terrorist operation in the State:

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken by the Government to train the police forces and intelligence machinery of all the States in anti-terrorist and anti-naxalite operations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) to (f) The details of Central Funds allocated/released to States during the last three years during 2005-06 to 2007-08 under the Non Plan scheme of Modernization of Police Forces (MPF Scheme) are given in the enclosed Statement. The funds are being provided under the scheme, inter-alia, for creating Police training infrastructure, procuring related training equipments and for items such as construction of police stations, police nousing, communication equipments, mobility, etc. Police being a State subject, training of State Police personnel is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. Training facilities are being made available to various State Police Forces including Bihar at training institutions of the Central Police Forces. Besides this, training is also being provided to State Police personnel including such personnel from Bihar through various courses run by the Indian Army for various operations including, counter Naxal Operations.

Statement

Name of State	2005-06				2006-07				2007-08	
	Allocated	Funds released	Amount spent	Unspent amount	Allocated	Funds released	Amount spent	Unspent amount	Allocated	Funds released
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Andhra Pradesh	101.41	101.41	101.41	0.00	88.12	88.12	68.22	19.90	87.34	87.34
Arunachal Pradesh	7.00	7.00	0.62	6.38	11.53	11.53	11.53	0.00	10.70	10.70
Assam	56.68	56.68	48.86	7.82	52.18	52.18	NA	NA	87.82	87.82
Bihar	39.87	39.87	35.63	4.24	51.62	51.62	NA	NA	16.24	16.24
Chhattisgarh	40.74	40.74	35.45	5.29	57.06	57.06	8.51	48.55	41.72	41.72

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Goa	1.06	1.06	0.00	1.06	1.00	1.00	0.86	0.14	2	2
Gujarat	39.85	39.85	39.85	0.00	45.52	45.52	N	N	51.9	51.9
Haryana	14.95	14.95	14.95	0.00	19.69	19.69	17.12	2.57	35.75	35.75
Himachal Pradesh	6.78	6.78	6.78	0.00	3.92	3.92	3.51	0.41	10.27	10.27
Jammu and Kashmir	109.22	109.22	104.38	4.84	88.13	88.13	84.27	3.86	115.34	115.34
Jharkhand	40.74	40.74	40.73	0.01	47.00	47.00	31.18	15.82	50.95	50.95
Karnataka	65.85	65.85	65.85	0.00	64.15	64.15	46.16	17.99	78.13	78.13
Kerala	18.84	18.84	18.84	0.00	24.53	24.53	17.85	6.68	40.01	40.01
Madhya Pradesh	31.65	31.65	31.65	0.00	43.24	43.24	35.31	7.93	57.68	57.68
Maharashtra	88.78	88.78	85.15	3.63	105.10	105.10	N	N	78.87	78.87
Manipur	16.97	16.97	16.97	0.00	14.09	14.09	14.09	0.00	32.07	32.07
Meghalaya	6.57	6.57	6.57	0.00	8.59	8.59	8.59	0.00	15.44	15.44
Mizoram	6.00	6.00	6.00	0.00	10.48	10.48	10.48	0.00	11	11
Nagaland	17.52	17.52	17.52	0.00	22.68	22.68	22.68	0.00	30.72	30.72
Orissa	35.08	35.08	34.85	0.23	38.00	38.00	22.80	15.20	45.80	45.80
Punjab	20.31	20.31	20.31	0.00	15.00	15.00	14.36	0.64	34.94	34.94
Rajasthan	34.81	34.81	34.80	0.01	40.47	40.47	38.95	1.52	49.60	49.60
Sikkim	2.43	2.43	2.15	0.28	3.46	3.46	3.14	0.32	4.42	4.42
Tamil Nadu	65.51	65.51	65.51	0.00	61.65	61.65	56.90	4.75	75.74	75.74
Tripura	11.83	11.83	4.60	7.23	11.34	11.34	3.20	8.14	14.47	14.47
Uttar Pradesh	98.12	98.12	98.12	0.00	94.28	94.28	79.29	14.99	115.44	115.44
Uttarakhand	16.76	16.76	16.76	0.00	5.28	5.28	5.00	0.28	9.89	9.89
West Bengal	29.67	29.67	29.67	0.00	37.11	37.11	N	N	44.45	44.45
Total	1025.00	1025.00	983.98	41.02	1065.22	1065.22	604.00	461.22	1248.70	1248.70

The figure of 2007-08 is an unaudited figure.

Note : The figures of amount spent by the State Government and the unspent balance available with them for 2007-08 is not available as the financial year ended recently.

*[English]***Road Rage**

4073. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the incidents of road rage have considerably increased in the metro cities of the country;

(b) if so, the number of persons killed/injured due to road rage separately in Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata in the last one year, city-wise; and

(c) the steps being contemplated to check road rage in the metro cities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) does not maintain data on cases of 'road rage'. However, Delhi Police has provided the following data relating to 'road rage' cases in Delhi:—

Year	Cases registered
2005	18
2006	27
2007	27
2008 (upto 31.3.2008)	12

(b) According to Delhi Police, one person was killed in 'road rage' in Delhi during 2007. Such data in respect of Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata is not available.

(c) 'Road rage' is basically an attitudinal problem. Delhi Police has taken the following measures to control 'road rage':—

- (i) Proper regulation and control of traffic, particularly during the peak hours to ensure hassle free movement of traffic and reduction in journey time;
- (ii) enforcement of traffic laws and rules and

regulations to check traffic violations and to bring road discipline amongst drivers;

- (iii) education of motorists and other road users to observe road safety norms and to give due regard and respect to other road users;
- (iv) vigilance on roads by Traffic Police, Police Control Room (PCR) and Mobile Teams; and
- (v) strict legal action against the aggressors involved in road rage.

Duty Free Imports from African Countries

4074. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any agreement has been signed between India and African countries regarding duty free imports;

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

(c) whether the Government has assessed its impact on import of prominent items and prices of domestic produces including Cocoa, Cotton etc.; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) to (d) No Sir, India has not signed any Agreement with African countries regarding duty free imports. However, the Prime Minister has announced on 8 April, 2008, on the occasion of the India-Africa Forum Summit in New Delhi, a Duty Free Tariff Preference (DFTP) Scheme for Least Developed Countries (LDCs). Under the said Scheme, India would provide preferential market access on 94% of India's tariff lines for exports from all the 50 LDCs, including the 34 African LDCs. The Scheme will form part of the integrated development assistance to African countries.

[Translation]

**Higher Education to Economically
Weaker Sections**

4075. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the arrangements made by the Government for imparting higher education and training to the socially and economically weaker students;

(b) the measures taken by the Government to upgrade the level of their education and expertise during each year from 2004-05 to 2007-08; and

(c) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) to (c) Several initiatives have been taken by the Government since 2004-05 in the higher education sector which broadly as well as specifically address the needs of students belonging to the weaker sections.

- (1) Constitution has been amended to incorporate Article 15(5) for the advancement of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Socially and Educationally Backward Classes of citizens in so far as their admission to educational institutions is concerned.
- (2) A Central law has been brought into force for reserving seats in admissions for the SCs, the STs and the Other Backward Classes in educational institutions, established, maintained or aided by the Central Government.
- (3) Budgetary allocations in respect of higher and technical education has been substantially increased during the years since 2004-05 in order to expand existing capacity well as to establish new institutions.

- (4) New Indian Institutes of Management, new Indian Institutes of Technology, new Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research, new Indian Institutes of Information Technology, new polytechnics, new Central Universities as well as universities aiming at world class standards, have been included in the 11th Plan proposals approved by the National Development Council (NDC). An Indian Institute of Management at Shillong and Indian Institute of Science Education and Research at Kolkata and Pune have been established during the period.
- (5) Every state in the North East region now has a Central University – Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh Universities were made Central Universities during this period and a Central University was established in Sikkim during this period.
- (6) Indira Gandhi National Tribal University with headquarters at Amarkantak has also been conceived and a legislative proposal enacted during the period.
- (7) In order to raise Gross Enrolment Ratio for weaker sections including the minorities, 370 districts have been identified for sensitizing State Governments for setting up one College of Excellence in each of such districts.
- (8) The UGC continued its scheme for remedial coaching for SC/ST and backward minorities during the period. The Commission also operationalized Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowships on behalf of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- (9) A scheme for subsidizing interests burden on educational loans availed by students belonging to weaker sections has been included in the 11th Plan as approved by the NDC

- (10) In addition Indira Gandhi Post Graduate Scholarship Scheme for the single girl child can be availed by eligible girl students belonging to weaker sections.

[English]

Cheap Imports from Singapore

4076. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

- (a) the total quantity of imports alongwith its value from Singapore during each of the last three years and in the current year, till date;
- (b) whether cheap imports from Singapore have affected the domestic industry;
- (c) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (d) whether the Government is considering to make changes in the Indo-Singapore Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) The total quantity of imports alongwith its value from Singapore during each of the last three years and in the current year is as follows:-

(Value in US \$ Million)

Year	Exports	Imports	Total	Trade Balance
1	2	3	4	5
2004-05	3795.51	2582.16	6377.67	1213.35
2005-06	3366.19	1789.76	5155.95	1576.43
2006-07	6,021.06	5,470.16	11491.22	550.90

	1	2	3	4	5
2006-07 (Apr-Dec)		4,780.40	4,187.06	8967.46	593.34
2007-08 (Apr-Dec)		5,133.64	5,620.01	10753.65	-486.37

(b) No, Sir

(c) Does not arise

(d) and (e) A Protocol for Amendment of India-Singapore Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) was signed on 20.12.2007 in New Delhi for additional tariff concessions to Singapore on 539 tariff lines. Ministry of Finance has notified the amendment on 15.01.2008 to give effect to the additional tariff concessions on 539 items.

B.Ed. Compulsory for Teachers

4077. SHRIMATI MANORAMA MADHAVRAJ : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) has been made compulsory for the teachers working in junior colleges;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the teachers working in junior colleges of various States are protesting against this decision; and
- (d) if so, the response of the Union Government in this matter?

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

(a) and (b) The National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) has not prescribed any qualification specifically for teachers in Junior Colleges. However, it is understood that many States treat +2/Senior Secondary as Junior College/Intermediate level.

As per the NCTE (Determination of Minimum Qualifications for Recruitment of Teachers in Schools) Regulations, 2001, B.Ed. has been prescribed as one of the minimum qualifications for recruitment of teachers at Senior Secondary/PUC/Intermediate level. The qualifications prescribed is as under :-

Senior Secondary/PUC/Intermediates

Master's Degree in the relevant subject with Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) or its equivalent.

OR

Two years' integrated M.Sc.Ed. Course or an equivalent course.

The above said Regulation of 2001 was notified about seven years back, and Clause 4 of the Regulations enjoins upon all the States/Union Territories to modify their Recruitment Rules for appointment of teachers within a period of three years so as to bring it in conformity with the qualifications prescribed in the Schedule to the Regulations. However, many States have not yet modified their Recruitment Rules in accordance with the provisions of the Regulations.

(c) and (d) Protest by teachers against the aforesaid Regulations has not come to notice of the Government in recent past.

[Translation]

Power Supply to out Posts of SSB

4078. YOGI ADITYA NATH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation frequently cut off the power supply to the Sasrastra Seema Bai (SSB) outposts on Indo-Nepal border in Uttar Pradesh due to non-payment of electricity dues by the said organisation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by when the pending electricity bills are likely to be paid by SSB?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) to (c) Power supply to any of the Border Out Posts of SSB has not been disconnected.

SSB for the units temporarily located in a part of the campus of the Fertilizer Corporation of India (FCI), Gorakhpur, has been regularly paying for its power consumption, totalling to Rs. 6.70 crore as on date. However, the Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation Limited has on a few occasions disconnected power supply to the campus on account of an outstanding amount of Rs. 3.31 crore (including surcharge and interest) against the FCI. The matter has been taken up with the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers and the FCI to clear their dues.

[English]

Reservation for Appointment of Lecturers

4079. SHRIMATI JHANSI LAKSHMI BOTCHA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Universities are not following reservation policy in the appointment of Lecturer posts;

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

(c) the action taken by the Government against such Central Universities which are not following the reservation policy in the letter and spirit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) No, Sir. Except Aligarh Muslim University, which has been declared as a minority institution by the Central Government, all Central Universities are following reservation policy in the matter of appointment to the posts of Lecturer.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Karnataka Molasses Regulation Bill, 2004

4080. SHRI M. SHIVANNA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether "The Karnataka Molasses Regulation Bill, 2004" is pending with the Union Government for approval;

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay; and

(c) the time by when this Bill is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) State Legislations are examined from three angle viz. (i) repugnancy with Central Laws (ii) deviation from National or Central Policy and (iii) legal and constitutional validity. In the case of Karnataka Molasses Regulation Bill, 2004, there are policy issues, which need to be sorted out and therefore, no time-frame can be fixed for achieving the same.

[Translation]

Multi Purpose National Identity Card

4081. SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE :
SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI :
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD :
SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the pilot project of Multi-Purpose National Identity Card has been completed as reported in *Dainik Jagran* dated April 4, 2008 and *Hindustan Times* dated April 5, 2008;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has drawn up any scheme for issuing identity cards in the entire country and carrying out census in the year 2011;

(d) if so, whether the work relating to issuance of identity cards has been completed in some of the States; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) to (e) Yes Sir, the first phase of the implementation of the pilot project on Multi-purpose National Identity Cards (MNIC) has been completed on 31.3.2008. More than 12 lakh identity (smart) cards have been issued to those of 18 years and above in the pilot areas in 12 States and one Union Territory in the country. 20 MNIC Centres set up one in each tehsil/ block of the pilot areas, with remain functional till 31.3.2009 for maintenance and updating of database. Besides, they will be providing services to the identity card holders as well as those who could not be verified in the first phase. No area in the State of Maharashtra was covered in the pilot project.

2. The Planning Commission has accorded 'in principal approval' to the scheme for preparation of National Population Register (NPR). The scheme envisages collection of information on specified items of each individual at the time of population enumeration during census 2011.

[English]

Women Study Centres

4082. SHRIMATI JYOTIRMOYEE SIKDAR :
SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY :

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

(a) the status of proposals received from the various Universities by the University Grants Commission for setting up Women Study Centres, University-wise;

(b) the numbers of Women Study Centres being run by U.G.C. in the country as on date and the targets fixed for opening such centers, University-wise;

(c) the funds allocated to such centers during the last three years, year-wise and University-wise;

(d) whether provision for Women Study Centres also exist in State Universities and Deemed Universities;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether Women Study Centres in certain universities have stopped operating since the last one year;

(g) if so, whether the Government has reviewed the scheme; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) to (h) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), at present 67 Women's Study Centres are being run by the UGC. 123 proposals, 32 from universities and 91 from colleges are pending with UGC for setting up of such Centres. The provision of Women's Study Centres exists in Central and State Universities. However, Allahabad Agricultural Institute, a deemed university, was approved for financial assistance in the X Plan as a special case. 150 new Women's Study Centres are proposed to be opened by the end of XI Plan.

The funds allocated under the scheme during the last three years are as under:-

Year	Amount allocated
2005-2006	Rs. 5,56,54,409/-
2006-2007	Rs. 2,95,57,500/-
2007-2008	Rs. 5,40,86,126/-

Computer Education in KVs

4083. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has any plan to introduce computer education as a subject from the first standard instead of class III onwards in Kendriya Vidyalayas;

(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) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Before exposing the child to computers, it is necessary to allow his/her natural faculties to be developed.

Involvement of NGOs in Secondary Education

4084. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRAKUMAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has formulated any scheme to involve Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and other registered societies for expansion of secondary school education; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the incentives offered in this regard?

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

(a) and (b) It has been decided to implement a scheme to set up 6000 high quality model schools, at the block level. Some of these schools are envisaged in the Public Private Partnership mode by involving, inter-alia Non-Governmental Organisations, trusts and societies. Besides, some of the existing centrally sponsored schemes in secondary education sector, such as Integrated Education for Disabled Children (IEDC), also provide for involvement of Non-Governmental Organisations in their

implementation. The objective of the IEDC scheme is mainstreaming education of children with special needs in normal school. Under the scheme, assistance is provided for appointment of special teachers, removal of architectural barriers, setting up of resource rooms, provision of assistive devices, training of teachers and orientation of principals and educational administrators, etc.

[Translation]

Review of TV Programme and Advertising Codes

4085. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has taken any steps on the recommendations made by a Committee which was constituted for reviewing TV Programme and Advertising Codes prescribed under the Cable TV Network (Regulation) Act, 1995;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) to (c) Further consultation with the various stakeholders, i.e., Indian Broadcasting Foundation (IBF), News Broadcasters Association (NBA), etc. is being made on the issue of Self-Regulation mechanism in the light of the Report submitted by the Content Reviewing Committee and the representations received in this regard.

[English]

Traffic Rules and Environmental Study in Syllabus

4086. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to include basic information on traffic rules and environment study in the school syllabus at the primary level; 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) Environmental Studies has been included as a subject of study at primary level in Classes III to V. In Classes I and II, environmental concerns are integrated with the study of Language and Mathematics. Basic information on traffic rules is also provided by way of suggested activities to be conducted in the schools.

Allocation of Funds for setting up of IITs, IIMs and Central Universities

4087. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the financial allocation made by the Government for setting up of new Central Universities, Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research, Indian Institutes of Technology, Indian Institutes of Management and Indian Institutes of Information Technology in the country during 2008-06, separately;

(b) whether any target has been fixed in this regard; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to achieve the above target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) The financial allocation made by the Government for setting up of new Central Universities, Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research (IISERs); Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) and Indian Institutes of Information Technology (IITs) in the country during 2008-09, is given below:-

(Rs. in crores)

Institutes	Plan	Non-Plan	Total	Remarks
Central Universities	1632.00	1326.81	2958.81	The provision relates to the existing and new Central Universities
IISERs	150.00	—	150.00	The provision relates to the existing and new IISERs
IITs	50.00	—	50.00	—
IIMs	10.00	—	10.00	—
IIITs	30.00	—	30.00	—

(b) and (c) While IISERs at Kolkata, Pune and Mohali are already functioning, IISERs at Bhopal and Thiruvananthapuram will be operative with 75 students each from the academic session of 2008-09. The State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar and Rajasthan have been requested to make available suitable building/ space for starting IIT classes from the academic session of 2008-09 with an initial student intake of 120 each on the basis of the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE), 2008. IIM at Shillong has already been established and will commence its academic session from 2008-09 with an initial intake of 60 students on the basis of the Common Admission Test (CAT), 2007.

Impact of Global Warming on Agriculture

4088.DR. K.S. MANOJ : Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has conducted any study on the impact of global warming on agriculture production in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any assessment has been made by the Government with regard to food security in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Study on the impact of global warming and climate change on agricultural production in the country has been carried out by Ministry of Earth Sciences. Projected climate change scenarios have been used as inputs to the crop simulation models for assessing the impacts of possible climate change on growth, development and yield of crops in some regions of the country. Results of these preliminary studies indicate that the future impacts of climate change on agriculture lead to increase in Carbon dioxide concentration which is likely to be beneficial to several crops. But due to projected warming and increased rainfall variability the crop yields are going to be negatively impacted.

Results of studies on rice crop indicate that the rice yields in India may be favorably impacted due to increase in Carbon dioxide concentration of the atmosphere. Temperature rise adversely impacts the crop yield due to shortening of crop duration. The favourable impact of Carbon dioxide is nullified due to increase in temperature by 2°C. Rise in temperature beyond 2°C may adversely impact the crop yield.

Simulation experiments under projected climate change scenarios for wheat crop indicate that an increase of 3°C rise in temperature cancelled out the positive effect of elevated Carbon dioxide. The adverse impacts of likely water shortage on wheat crops would be minimized to a certain extent under elevated Carbon dioxide levels.

Simulation experiments Soybean crop in Central India showed that a 3°C rise in surface air temperature almost cancels out the positive effects of doubling of carbon dioxide concentration resulting in reducing the total duration of the crop (and hence productivity) by inducing early flowering and shortening the grain fill period. Soybean crops in Central India are found to be more vulnerable to increase in maximum temperature than in minimum temperature.

(e) Ministry of Earth Sciences has proposed to set up a Centre for Climate change at Pune that will do an in-depth analysis on impact studies for different sectors due to varied climate change.

Patents in Energy and Automobile Sector

4089. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of patents granted by the Government in the field of energy and automobile sectors during the last two years; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken for using such inventions for the all-round development in energy and automobile sectors in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) The details of patents granted in India in the field of energy and automobile sectors during the last two years are as under:—

Field of invention	2006-07	2007-08
Energy (solar, wind, industrial waste, nuclear, hydraulic engine, thermal power, non-conventional sources, gas turbine)	438	1457
Automobile (automobile, vehicle, engine)	235	551

(b) Patents are granted for inventions in all fields of technology. The patent rights are private rights and normally it is for the holders of the patents to take steps to utilise the technologies. The applications filed and the information about the patents granted are published in the Patent Office Journal, which is available on the website of the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks, namely, <http://www.ipindia.nic.in>. Interested parties can obtain photocopies of various patent related documents by making payments prescribed in the Patents Rules, 2003. The number of patents granted in energy and automobile sectors in recent years show an increasing trend and this knowledge can be used by interested parties to improve on the technologies, obtain licences, etc. to promote growth and development in these sectors.

[Translation]

Setting up of SEZs

4090. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :
SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK :

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

(a) whether certain State Governments have asked the Union Government to reconsider setting up of Special Economic Zones in their States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether the Government is formulating any scheme so that these zones are not thrust upon the States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) and (b) A communication has been received from the Government of Goa withdrawing the recommendations granted by them for setting up of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in Goa, including the three notified Zones.

(c) and (d) Proposals for setting up of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) are received from State Governments, State Government enterprises, private enterprises and joint ventures and only those proposals which are recommended by the respective State Government are considered by the Board of Approval (BoA). Further, nominees of the State Governments are duly represented in the BoA for SEZs where all decisions for setting up of SEZs are discussed and approved as per the provisions contained in the Special Economic Zones Act, 2005 and Special Economic Zones Rules.

[English]

Criteria for Setting up Private Universities

4091. SHRI K.S. RAO : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Government and private universities currently functioning in each State and Union Territory;

(b) the policy of the Government regarding the criteria and procedures for the private sector to set up university for imparting higher education;

(c) whether the Government proposes to formulate a policy to encourage private sector to set up universities including specialized private universities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) The number of Government and Private Universities (including institutions 'deemed-to-be-universities') currently functioning in each State and Union Territory as on March 31/2008 is enclosed as Statement.

(b) to (d) Private Sector participation in higher education is by way of private universities established by State Legislatures and by way of institutions 'deemed-to-be-universities' as declared by the Central Government under section 3 of the University Grants Commission (UGC) Act 1956. Both private universities and institutions 'deemed-to-be-universities' are regulated by the UGC.

Statement

State-wise details of Universities as on March 31, 2008

Sl. No.	States/UTs	No. of State Universities	No. of Central Universities	No. of Deemed Universities		No. of Private Universities
				Government	Private	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	20	3	1	3	-
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	1	1	-	-
3.	Assam	4	2	-	-	-
4.	Bihar	13	-	1	1	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
5.	Chhattisgarh	8	-	-	-	2
6.	Goa	1	-	-	-	-
7.	Gujarat	17	-	-	2	3
8.	Haryana	7	-	2	1	-
9.	Himachal Pradesh	3	-	-	-	1
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	6	-	-	-	-
11.	Jharkhand	4	-	1	1	-
12.	Karnataka	16	-	3	7	-
13.	Kerala	7	-	1	-	-
14.	Madhya Pradesh	14	1	2	-	-
15.	Maharashtra	19	1	5	15	-
16.	Manipur	-	2	-	-	-
17.	Meghalaya	-	1	-	-	1
18.	Mizoram	-	1	-	-	1
19.	Nagaland	-	1	-	-	1
20.	Orissa	10	-	-	2	-
21.	Punjab	7	-	1	1	1
22.	Rajasthan	14	-	-	7	1
23.	Sikkim	1	1	-	-	1
24.	Tamil Nadu	19	-	1	19	-
25.	Tripura	-	1	-	-	1
26.	Uttar Pradesh	19	4	3	6	5 ⁺
27.	Uttarakhand	5	-	1	2	5
28.	West Bengal	15	1	-	1	-
29.	NCT of Delhi	1	4	9	2	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
30. Chandigarh		1	-	1	-	-
31. Pondicherry		-	1	-	-	-
32. Andaman and Nicobar Islands		-	-	-	-	-
33. Lakshadweep		-	-	-	-	-
34. Dadra and Nagar Haveli		-	-	-	-	-
35. Daman and Diu		-	-	-	-	-
Total		231	25	33+70=103		23

Change of Names of Cities

4092. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposals from various State Governments regarding change of names of towns and cities are pending with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken by the Government thereon, State-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by when these proposals are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is attached. Such proposals are examined in terms of the existing policy guidelines and in consultation with the concerned Ministries/Departments. A final decision on the proposals will depend on the comments received from these Ministries/Departments.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No time limit can be set up for this purpose.

Statement

St. Details of the Proposal
No.

Karnataka

1. Change of names of the following cities.

"Bangalore" as "Bangaluru"

"Mangalore" as "Mangaluru"

"Bellary" as "Ballary"

"Bijapur" as "Vijayapura" or "Vijapura"

"Belgaum" as "Belajavi"

"Chikmagalur" as "Chikkamagaluru"

"Gulbarg" as "Kalaburgi"

"Mysore" as "Mysoru"

"Hospet" as "Hosapete"

"Shimoga" as "Shivamogga"

"Hubli" as "Hubballi"

"Tumkur" as "Tumakuru"

Jobs in Mining Sector

4093. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to create additional jobs in the mining sector;

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

(c) the time by when the new jobs are likely to be created;

(d) whether some differences have arisen on the utilization of iron ore between steel and mining sectors;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to resolve the differences between them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE) : (a) to (c) The Government has enunciated the new National Mineral Policy, 2008. The new Policy envisages streamlining and simplifying the procedures in grant of mineral concessions in order to attract investment into mining sector stimulating growth in the sector. This is likely to generate additional job opportunities in mining sector. No time frame can be assessed at this moment.

(d) to (f) There were some differences on the issue of export of iron ore and allocation of captive mines to steel makers, which have been considered and appropriately addressed by the Government before the enunciation of the National Mineral Policy, 2008.

Naxal-hit Districts

4094. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has identified the Naxal-hit districts in the country;

(b) if so, the details of such districts, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government is planning to lay particular emphasis on the development of the above districts by providing additional funds; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) and (b) Under the Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Scheme, Ministry of Home Affairs reimburses security-related expenditure in respect of specified items to the concerned State Governments for dealing with naxalite activities. 76 districts in 9 States are included under this scheme :

Andhra Pradesh : 16; Bihar : 14; Chhattisgarh : 8; Jharkhand : 16; Madhya Pradesh : 3; Maharashtra : 4; Orissa : 9; Uttar Pradesh : 3; and West Bengal : 3.

(c) and (d) Special attention is being given on planning, implementation and monitoring of development schemes in naxalite affected areas. Under the Backward Districts Initiative, which covered 147 districts, an amount of Rs. 45 crore per district had been allocated on a non-lapsable basis. This has now been replaced by the Backward Regions Grant Fund, in 250 districts. National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme, which was originally being implemented in 200 districts, and was extended to 330 districts in April 2007, is now being extended to all districts in the Country, having regard to the need to universalise this demand-driven programme for wage-employment. These schemes are in addition to various income-generating, public-utility and social-security schemes of different Ministries like Rural Development, Agriculture, Health and Family Welfare, Youth Affairs and Sports, Panchayati Raj and Tribal Affairs.

An Inter Ministerial Group under Additional Secretary (Naxal Management) in the Ministry of Home Affairs oversees effective implementation of development schemes in naxalite affected areas for accelerated socio-economic development.

Empanelment of Producers

4095. SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has formulated any new guidelines for the empanelment of producers in Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether few locals from places like Kohima, Tura and Itanagar could apply due to little relaxation for experience;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to provide relaxation in the field of experience alongwith representation from the North Eastern Region?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) and (b) Prasar Bharati have informed that new Guidelines have been formulated and are available on Doordarshan's website at <http://www.ddindia.gov.in>.

(c) to (e) Prasar Bharati have informed that North Eastern and Kashmir Guidelines were specially formulated keeping in mind the availability of local private producers in the respective Regions. As such, five years of experience was sought for empanelment for North Eastern Stations/Channel. Prasar Bharati have further informed that exemption for any past experience has been granted to candidates who have Degree/Diploma from Film and Television Institute of India, National School of Drama, Satyajit Ray Institute of Film and TV or any other Government recognized Institute or Government recognized courses. As a result of these Guidelines, 18 local producers each have been empanelled for DDK Itanagar and DDK Kohima and 6 have been empanelled for DDK, Tura.

Involvement of Mothers in Mid Day Meal Scheme

4096. SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has asked the State Governments for mass mobilisation of mothers in regard to mid-day meal scheme; and

(b) if so, the reaction of each State in this regard?

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

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Though the overall responsibility to ensure all logistic and administrative arrangements for regular serving of wholesome, cooked mid day meal in every eligible school, EGS/AIE Centres lies with the State Government/UT Administration, the Central Government had issued an advisory to States in December, 2005 to involve mothers of the school children to oversee and supervise the feeding of the children. In the Guidelines of Mid Day Meal Programme issued in 2006, States have also been advised to solicit the support of the community members, including mothers' groups to ensure that children wash their hands with soap before eating, use clean plates and glasses, avoid littering and wastage of food, and clean their plates, rinse their hands and mouth after eating etc. No difficulty in implementing the above advisory has been reported by any State/UT.

[Translation]

Modernisation of Police Forces in Rajasthan

4097. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total funds provided by the Union Government to Government of Rajasthan during the tenth five year plan for the reorganization and modernization of police force;

(b) whether the Government of Rajasthan has achieved the target by fully utilizing the funds during the said plan;

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

(d) whether the Government of Rajasthan has requested for additional financial assistance from the Union Government for modernisation and reorganization of police force in the State;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken by the Government in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) to (f) Central assistance is provided to States under the Non-plan Scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces (MPF Scheme) to strengthen and modernize their police forces. Funds are released to the State Government on the basis of Annual Action Plan under MPF Scheme received from the State and approved by the Ministry. Under this Scheme, funds have been provided to the State of Rajasthan during the period 2002-03 to 2000-07 for strengthening/modernizing its police forces, broadly covering the above mentioned areas, including for desert policing (which became effect from 2005-06). The details of Central funds released to Rajasthan during the period under the MPF Scheme are as under:-

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Total Central funds released	Utilization reported by the State
2002-03	16.17	16.17
2003-04	43.10	43.08
2004-05	42.67	42.56
2005-06	34.81	34.80
2006-07	40.47	38.95

During the last financial year 2007-08, out of Central allocation of Rs. 40.00 crore to Rajasthan under the Scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces (MPF), an amount of Rs. 39.57 crore was released to the State, after deducting the unspent amount pertaining to previous years, i.e. upto 2005-06 which remained unutilized with the State Government.

Besides the normal Central allocation of funds under the MPF Scheme to Rajasthan during 2007-08, an additional amount of Rs. 10.03 crore was also released to the State during the same period for modernization of police forces.

[English]

Norms for Assistance by KVIC

4098.SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY : Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the conditions stipulated to provide financial assistance by Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) to eligible entrepreneurs are being strictly implemented;

(b) if not, the number of complaints received by the Government in this regard during each of the last three years for violation of these conditions;

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether any mechanism is available with KVIC to enforce the conditions stipulated for the sanctioning of such financial assistance;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to further strengthen the mechanism?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) The Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) is imple-

mented by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) with due regard to the conditions stipulated for providing financial assistance to eligible applicants.

(b) and (c) Two complaints during the year 2006-07 and one complaint during the year 2007-08 have been received by KVIC regarding irregularities and misutilisation of margin money assistance which are under examination in KVIC.

(d) to (f) In order to ensure that the assistance due under REGP is available to only eligible applicants, field offices of the KVIC or the State/Union Territory Khadi and Village Industries Boards concerned scrutinise the proposals of applicants before forwarding them to the banks for sanction of loan. In addition, the financial (margin money) assistance provided by the KVIC is kept with the relevant financing branch of the bank as a fixed deposit in the name of each beneficiary for a period of two years. This amount is credited to the loan account of the beneficiary only after verification of establishment of the unit.

[Translation]

Disturbances at Indo-China Border

4099. SHRI KIREN RIJU : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indo-Tibet Border Police Force (ITBP) has informed the Government about the frequent crossborder activities of the Chinese Army during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and in the current year as on date; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI) : (a) to (c) Reports about cross-border activities on the Indo-China border are received regularly. Such activities are carefully

monitored and appropriately responded to keeping in view India's strategic interests.

[English]

Militancy in North Eastern Region

4100. SHRI M.K. SUBBA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons killed and injured by the militants in Assam and other States in the North Eastern Region during 2001-2008 so far;

(b) whether any hidden foreign hand has been identified behind the continuing militancy and terrorist attacks in the North Eastern Region;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons attributed for the same; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check such activities in North Eastern Region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI) : (a) Details of violent incidents and casualties by militant outfits as also militants killed/arrested/surrendered in the North Eastern States including Assam during the year 2001-2008 (upto 31.3.2008) are given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) to (d) There are no confirmed reports to suggest involvement of any hidden foreign hand behind the continuing militancy and terrorist attacks in the North Eastern Region. However, there are reports that some insurgent groups from the North Eastern region have links with Pakistan ISI and certain other fundamentalist/terrorist organizations from neighbouring countries such as Bangladesh based HUUJi. Available inputs also indicate that some Indian insurgent Groups (IGs), active in the North Eastern region, have been using the territory of Bangladesh and Myanmar.

(e) The Government has regularly taken up with

Bangladesh and Myanmar various security related matters including misuse of Bangladesh and Myanmar territory for activities inimical to India at different levels through diplomatic channels and institutional mechanisms existing between the two countries. In addition, efforts of the State Governments, who are primarily responsible for ensuring public order and security in these areas, are being supplemented by the Central Government through various measures such as deployment of additional

Central Security Forces including Army; sharing of intelligence; financial assistance for strengthening of the local Police Forces and Intelligence Agencies under the Police Modernisation Scheme; provision of assistance for strengthening various aspects of security apparatus and other aspects of anti-militancy operations by way of reimbursement of Security Related Expenditure; raising of additional forces in the form of India Reserve Battalions; etc.

Statement

Details of violent incidents and casualties by militant outfits as also militants killed/arrested/surrendered in the North Eastern States including Assam during the year 2001-2008 (upto 31.3.2008)

Year	ARUNACHAL PRADESH			ASSAM			MANIPUR		
	No. of incidents	No. of persons including SFs killed	No. of cadres of various militant outfits arrested/killed/surrendered	No. of incidents	No. of persons including SFs killed	No. of cadres of various militant outfits arrested/killed/surrendered	No. of incidents	No. of persons including SFs killed	No. of cadres of various militant outfits arrested/killed/surrendered
2001	46	23	57	458	328	0759	265	091	0754
2002	54	11	72	405	219	0532	268	114	0537
2003	50	08	81	358	194	3380	243	077	0365
2004	41	08	74	267	211	1007	478	124	0772
2005	32	04	57	398	180	0544	554	208	1186
2006	16	-	23	413	196	0752	498	124	1097
2007	35	17	53	474	314	0759	584	169	1443
2008 (upto 31.3.2008)	08	02	07	152	062	0293	153	062	0368
Total	282	73	424	2925	1704	8026	3043	969	6522

Year	MEGHALAYA			MIZORAM			NAGALAND		
	No. of incidents	No. of persons including SFs killed	No. of cadres of various militant outfits arrested/ killed/ surrendered	No. of incidents	No. of persons including SFs killed	No. of cadres of various militant outfits arrested/ killed/ surrendered	No. of incidents	No. of persons including SFs killed	No. of cadres of various militant outfits arrested/ killed/ surrendered
2001	70	44	102	01	-	001	128	17	204
2002	84	42	142	01	-	002	208	19	281
2003	85	42	160	03	01	001	199	16	189
2004	47	25	150	03	01	041	186	42	145
2005	37	01	108	04	02	210	192	29	138
2006	38	06	112	05	-	848	309	31	203
2007	28	10	085	02	02	021	272	45	211
2008 (upto 31.3.2008)	03	-	024	-	-	-	067	15	162
Total	392	170	883	19	06	1124	1561	214	1533

Year	TRIPURA		
	No. of incidents	No. of persons including SFs killed	No. of cadres of various militant outfits arrested/ killed/surrendered
2001	370	273	950
2002	292	196	425
2003	394	246	654
2004	212	113	608
2005	115	039	212
2006	087	028	196
2007	094	020	303
2008 (upto 31.3.2008)	031	002	056
Total	1595	917	3404

Details of persons injured not being maintained centrally.

[Translation]

Opening of New Schools

4101. SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to open new schools in different categories during the 11th Five Year Plan;

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

(c) the details of the schools opened during 2007-08 in this regard, State and Union Territory-wise?

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

(a) to (c) Under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), new primary and upper primary schools are proposed by States/UTs based on habitation-wise planning through the mechanism of district-wise Annual Work Plans and Budgets, every year. A statement showing State/UT-wise details of new schools sanctioned in 2007-08 under the programme is enclosed.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of States/UTs	New schools sanctioned during 2007-08	
		Primary	Upper Primary
1	2	3	4
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2	-
2.	Andhra Pradesh	173	429
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	298	17
4.	Bihar	2753	3722
5.	Chandigarh	8	4

1	2	3	4
6.	Chhattisgarh	399	446
7.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	16	-
8.	Delhi	4	-
9.	Haryana	-	308
10.	Himachal Pradesh	-	140
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	4225	711
12.	Jharkhand	1	1482
13.	Karnataka	655	370
14.	Kerala	124	2
15.	Lakshadweep	3	2
16.	Madhya Pradesh	0	1119
17.	Maharashtra	3384	59
18.	Manipur	265	100
19.	Meghalaya	267	-
20.	Mizoram	55	67
21.	Orissa	933	708
22.	Pondicherry	10	0
23.	Punjab	9	1
24.	Rajasthan	2108	6800
25.	Tamil Nadu	210	338
26.	Tripura	-	38
27.	Uttar Pradesh	813	5512
28.	Uttarakhand	343	211
29.	West Bengal	-	1600

[English]

Rehabilitation of Tobacco Growers

4102. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether India is a signatory to the WHO's Convention on eliminating tobacco cultivation in phases;

(b) if so, whether the Government has initiated steps to rehabilitate the tobacco growers by helping them to switch on to alternate crops; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) Yes, Sir. India is a signatory to the WHO Framework Convention 01. Tobacco Control.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Government has asked the Tobacco Board to prepare a rehabilitation package, in consultation with all the stakeholders, Agricultural Universities and the State Governments, for the tobacco farmers who move their lands away, permanently, from tobacco cultivation.

National Institute of Flood Management

4103. DR. M. JAGANNATH :

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to set up a National Institute of Flood Management;

(b) if so, the details alongwith the location identified for setting up of such Institute; and

(c) the time by when the above Institute is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI) : (a) to (c) The guidelines on 'Management of Floods' issued by National Disaster Management Authority (NOMA) in January, 2008 have suggested the setting up of a National Flood Management Institute (NFMI) by the Ministry of Water Resources by the end of December, 2010 for the purpose of imparting training to the engineers and administrators of the Central Government and State Governments in all fields of flood management. The guidelines also mention that till then the National Water Academy (NWA) Pune under the administrative control of the Ministry of Water Resources will undertake these activities in addition to its current functions. The Ministry of Water Resources are of the view that the proposed training courses on flood management can be started by utilizing the existing infrastructure of NWA, which could be strengthened further.

Financial Assistance to Tackle Naxal Menace

4104. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has extended any financial help to different States to tackle the naxal menace during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the naxal activities has reduced in the recent past;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

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

(b) The Central Government provides assistance to the concerned State Governments by various means, which include assistance for strengthening of the State Police and Intelligence agencies through the Scheme for

Modernization of State Police Forces, re-imbusement of security-related expenditure under the Security Related Expenditure Scheme and assistance in development works through various income-generating, public-utility and social-security schemes of different Ministries like Rural Development, Agriculture, Health and Family Welfare, Youth Affairs and Sports, Panchayati Raj and Tribal Affairs.

Details of assistance provided under the Scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces and the Security Related Expenditure Scheme of Ministry of Home Affairs are given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) to (f) Details of naxalite violence during the last 5 years are given below:-

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Incidents	1597	1533	1608	1509	1565
Casualties of security forces	105	100	153	157	236
Casualties of civilians	410	466	524	521	460

Maintenance of law and order lies primarily in the domain of the concerned State Governments. The Central Government also closely monitors the situation and

provides assistance by various means to the concerned State Governments, as mentioned in the reply to part (b) of the question.

Statement

(Rs. in crore)

State	Scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces			Security Related Expenditure Scheme		
	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Andhra Pradesh	101.41	88.12	87.34	13.16	6.10	10.79
Bihar	39.87	51.62	16.24	4.35	0.04	2.30
Chhattisgarh	40.74	57.06	41.72	10.85	9.68	10.45
Jharkhand	40.74	47.00	50.95	6.06	14.72	17.25
Madhya Pradesh	31.65	43.24	57.68	1.08	2.51	1.70
Maharashtra	88.78	105.10	78.87	2.72	5.26	4.62
Orissa	35.08	38.00	45.80	2.55	7.17	12.16
Uttar Pradesh	98.12	94.28	115.44	1.96	0.00	0.80
West Bengal	29.67	37.11	44.45	2.27	1.50	2.88
Total	506.06	561.53	538.49	45.00	46.98	62.95

[Translation]

Nexus between Naxalites and Nepal Maoists

4105. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR :

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Naxalites active in various States are having links with the Maoists of Nepal;

(b) if so, whether these Naxalites are receiving huge quantity of weapons through Nepal;

(c) whether the Nepali Maoists have set up their base/hide-outs in the forests of Uttarakhand; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) and (b) There is no specific evidence available to indicate such operational links.

(c) There are no specific inputs available to suggest this.

(d) Government discharges its sovereign functions by taking measures as necessary in respect of trans-border issues. Steps as appropriate are continuously taken for strengthening border management and for bilateral and multi-lateral cooperation in areas of mutual assistance in criminal matters.

[English]

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

4106. SHRI B. MAHTAB :

SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO :

SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG :

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

(a) the details of the benefits accrued due to the implementation of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan;

(b) the number of children benefited so far, State-wise and Union Territory-wise;

(c) the total funds allocated and spent during each of the last three years as on date alongwith the reasons for unspent funds State and Union Territory-wise; and

(d) the efforts made to ensure that more children are covered in the years to come?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) to (d) The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme is being implemented in all districts of the country to achieve the goal of universalisation of elementary education in a time bound manner, in mission mode. Consequently, the number of Out of School Children (OoSC), which was 320 lakh in 2001-02, has come down to 75.97 lakh in 2007-08, as per State reports.

For "hard to reach" category of children, context specific interventions such as bridge courses, learning centres with flexible timings, seasonal hostels, home based education and mobile schools have been taken up under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. In order to encourage States/UTs to implement such context specific interventions, the Government of India has undertaken orientation and capacity building workshops with States/UTs with illustrative case studies of good practices.

A Statement-I showing increasing trend of enrolment at primary and upper primary level during years 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 is enclosed. State-wise Government of India (GoI) releases and expenditure under SSA for the years 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 is given in Statement-II. The unspent balances remaining with a State/UT at the end of a financial year, are adjusted in grants payable in the next financial year.

Statement-I*Enrolment: Source SES* 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Primary			Upper Primary		
		2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7975659	7692411	7391922	3502469	3643030	3731018
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	180253	184673	195590	57374	59670	64071
3.	Assam	3232547	3510665	3550745	1338210	1389755	1463177
4.	Bihar	9471186	10042119	10525321	1815562	2208989	2384485
5.	Chhattisgarh	3397795	3405502	3167668	1158587	1209994	1184885
6.	Goa	107875	106828	104512	73465	73446	71570
7.	Gujarat	6551770	6553022	6556986	2453001	2473535	2491631
8.	Haryana	2010659	2073939	1997491	1089747	1184814	1159836
9.	Himachal Pradesh	666938	670807	660960	419878	418802	410860
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	950296	969479	1134528	429229	456897	479336
11.	Jharkhand	3140252	3446984	3827742	847119	924259	986383
12.	Karnataka	6267825	5883907	5757779	2896719	2946302	2886290
13.	Kerala	2492430	2543422	2545323	1662436	1628030	1601297
14.	Madhya Pradesh	8830733	10351093	11274071	3122698	3826948	4253269
15.	Maharashtra	11175756	11385483	11557676	6087790	6188552	6311169
16.	Manipur	339110	348897	360055	132910	137300	141691
17.	Meghalaya	360907	467955	508205	122027	136840	153689
18.	Mizoram	127057	123705	162302	51096	51514	74332
19.	Nagaland	210410	224246	224715	76539	85620	92271
20.	Orissa	4918067	5218568	4701176	1428256	1840933	1601607
21.	Punjab	1979294	1901408	1872162	1038388	1042094	1063612
22.	Rajasthan	9479755	9329792	9411874	2837004	3156811	3360529

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
23.	Sikkim	76799	86149	90687	24802	28683	31983
24.	Tamil Nadu	6591113	6403416	6378319	3600870	3697858	3633616
25.	Tripura	451731	461209	500284	186651	187590	197186
26.	Uttar Pradesh	24080867	24579638	25186552	6948243	7098022	7271947
27.	Uttarakhand	1164485	1191505	1196510	542742	552252	560892
28.	West Bengal	10327725	9881352	9150073	3818261	3622026	3624219
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	40388	40274	37601	22448	23429	22769
30.	Chandigarh	68034	62908	67416	39036	37716	37229
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	32912	33624	35915	11719	11857	12509
32.	Daman and Diu	16222	16321	16204	8120	8160	8778
33.	Delhi	1442259	1460714	1786811	831791	822492	888260
34.	Lakshadweep	7161	7053	7474	4553	4110	4354
35.	Pondicherry	102021	103999	106069	67258	67096	66421
	India	128266291	130763067	132048718	48746998	51245426	52325161

Statement-II

Gol Releases/Expenditure incurred by State/UT during 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 under SSA

(Rupees in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	2004-2005		2005-2006		2006-2007	
		Gol Releases	Expenditure*	Gol Releases	Expenditure*	Gol Releases	Expenditure*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	28000	33757.22	37999	55816.48	46245.56	72236.73
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3009	1812.5	4442.51	5750.8	7143.74	9978.27
3.	Assam	20654	22399.8	13850	24803.64	51464.72	42389.70
4.	Bihar	31970.56	34131.87	32399.56	46675.91	107744.39	155708.97

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5.	Chhattisgarh	20786.76	29565.56	30184.39	42766.88	50182.2	64341.50
6.	Goa	0		728.12	497.39	724.12	1405.29
7.	Gujarat	14072	18632.5	15084.84	23983.13	14806.97	28102.88
8.	Haryana	12881.55	11359.08	10196.55	19858.58	25647.12	30388.70
9.	Himachal Pradesh	6144	8418.94	7614.66	9929.608	6250.75	10057.88
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	7747.18	8160.52	18530.65	20830.69	22083.37	31624.72
11.	Jharkhand	16568.5	29250.33	28568.5	37759.9	51515	64639.24
12.	Karnataka	26280.7	34456.15	28303.78	40422.99	54206.98	70192.82
13.	Kerala	8939	9383.78	5939	10329.19	6382	10159.20
14.	Madhya Pradesh	44608.919	60513.25	77173.12	104047.48	110879.68	148894.45
15.	Maharashtra	35489.79	38955.71	50235.31	60458.5	52158.56	78115.07
16.	Manipur	1225	1354.93	3208.44	2051.96	9.24	1799.78
17.	Meghalaya	2930.81	2150.33	1921	2356.34	4294	7181.86
18.	Mizoram	3300.24	4478.66	2559.15	3573.86	3441.69	4760.32
19.	Nagaland	2088.49	2751.24	2323.01	2879.4	2315.2	230.86
20.	Orissa	21807.27	28060.7	32792.5	38438.92	44010.95	65778.72
21.	Punjab	3040	9636.55	14683.89	21890.86	12879.92	15805.66
22.	Rajasthan	23549.397	39590.65	60313.43	75884	75809.82	111679.04
23.	Sikkim	1000.25	723.72	1062.5	964.64	402.14	863.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	26517	36638.68	35329.53	47961.241	37329.65	55760.67
25.	Tripura	4703.96	5113.2	7070.19	8163	5330.01	8705.50
26.	Uttar Pradesh	87761	125166.08	182799	223373.86	206654	265381.00
27.	Uttaranchal	9144.705	9695.48	10004	14687.32	16934	20527.05
28.	West Bengal	46024.36	50950.4	34199.79	48221.52	61736.8	94214.72
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	272.58	272.08	163	448.59	419.62	586.28

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
30. Chandigarh		447.95	604	350	125.81	300	708.00
31. Dadra and Nagar Haveli		111.91	10.45	0	379.22	100	310.75
32. Daman and Diu		0	0	111.91	58		26.19
33. Delhi		0	854.67	1100	2557.13	4230.24	4958.20
34. Lakshadweep		12.03	0	0	0.91	87.47	8.85
35. Pondicherry		225.53	265.85	529.4	568.79		407.82
Total		511314.441	659114.88	751770.73	998516.539	1083719.9	1477929.69

*Expenditure includes State share and Opening balances.

Inclusion of Languages in Eighth Schedule

4107. SHRI HITEN BARMAN :

SHRI SUBRATA BOSE :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had considered the report of Sitakant Mohapatra Committee for inclusion of 37 languages including Bhotia and Lepcha in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by when these languages are likely to be included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) to (d) The Sitakant Mohapatra Committee, which was set up, inter-alia, to evolve a set of objective criteria for inclusion of more languages in the Eighth Schedule, submitted its report and the same is under examination in consultation with the concerned departments of the Central Government. No time frame can be fixed for consideration of the demands for inclusion of more languages including Bhotia and Lepcha in the Eighth Schedule as it involves

a lot of consultation with the concerned departments of the Central Government.

[Translation]

Delhi High Court Direction on High Rise Buildings

4108. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Delhi High Court had issued any direction for disconnecting electricity and water connections of all the buildings in Delhi which are more than 15 metres high but failed to make necessary fire safety measures in their buildings;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of owners of buildings who have not followed the directions issued by the Delhi High Court as on date separately; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure proper implementation of fire safety measures in all these buildings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The directions issued by the Hon'ble Delhi High Court in their Order dated 29.5.2003 in the case titled B.L. Wadhera Vs. Government of NCT of Delhi included, among others, a direction that essential supplies i.e. electricity and water connections be disconnected of all high rise building that fail to make necessary fire safety provisions as per Delhi Fire Prevention and Fire Safety Act.

(c) and (d) In all, 2377 buildings have been inspected by Delhi Fire Service as per the directions of Delhi High Court. Out of which, for non-compliance of fire safety norms, electricity and water disconnection orders have been passed in 715 cases, 697 cases have been referred for height verification, orders for re-disconnection of essential supplies issued in 18 cases, show cause notices for re-disconnection after Court order issued to 2 buildings, 2 buildings sealed by Delhi Fire Service/Municipal Corporation of Delhi, 1 building demolished by Municipals Corporation of Delhi, 455 buildings declared low-rise and 4 cases are sub-judice. Delhi Fire Service has stated that that every building does not have the name of the owner and as per records of Delhi Fire Service, these buildings are known by their plot number/address.

[English]

Religious Conversions

4109. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether religious conversions have been reported from some States;

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

(c) the steps taken to stop religious conversions by force in the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) (a) No specific reports have been received from the States in this regard. Reports do appear, from time to time, regarding religious conversions in the media.

(b) Does not arise, in view of the above.

(c) 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects as per the Constitution of India, and hence prevention, detection, registration, investigation and prosecution of crimes are primarily the concerns of the State Governments/UT Administrations. Action is taken as per existing laws by the law enforcing agencies whenever instances of violation come to notice.

Law and Order in Delhi

4110. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether policemen are not posted at the prominent bus stands in the NCT of Delhi resulting in traffic congestion, increasing incidents of molestation and chain snatching etc.;

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

(c) the details of various crimes reported, crime-wise in Delhi including molestation, chain snatching during each of the last three years, till-date;

(d) the total number of accused persons arrested during the said period and action taken against them; and

(e) 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) and (b) Police men are posted at important and prominent bus stands in the NCT of Delhi for ensuring proper regulation of traffic and passenger discipline at bus stands with an objective to remove and control the traffic congestion. Police personnel including women police officials are deployed in uniform as well as in plain clothes in and around bus stands and at vulnerable points including Educational Institutions/Schools and Colleges to check the incidents of molestation, chain snatching etc.

(c) The requisite information is given in Statement enclosed.

(d) The requisite information are given below:-

Total persons arrested	268755
Challaned	195797
Convicted	51817
Acquitted	3561
Pending Trial	140419
Investigation in progress	60311

(e) The steps taken by Delhi Police to control crime and improve law and order situation in Delhi include improvement in the beat system of patrolling; identification of Police Stations with high rate of crime and provision of additional manpower and motor cycle patrols to such Police Stations; rationalizing the timing for patrolling to maximize its effectiveness; development of intelligence about movement of desperate criminals; multi-tasking of Police Control Room Vans; establishment of Crime against Women cell; setting up of Rape Crises Intervention Centres in all the nine Police Districts; deployment of staff in plain cloth at vulnerable places; starting of dedicated 'Women Helpline' in the Police Control Room; constitution of 'Women Mobile Team' to attend to distress calls from women on round-the-clock basis; setting up of 'Senior Citizens Security Cell' at the Police Headquarters; closer interaction with the Residents Welfare Associations; and establishment of Mobile Crime Team equipped with sophisticated equipment and its round-the-clock deployment in each District.

Statement

Crime Head	No. of cases reported			
	2005	2006	2007	2008 (upto 31st March)
1	2	3	4	5
Dacoity	27	14	34	2

	1	2	3	4	5
Murder	455	485	495	134	
Robbery	510	541	557	135	
Rape	658	635	598	107	
ATT. to Murder	467	513	530	119	
Snatching	1136	1282	1243	271	
Hurt	1814	1810	1736	479	
M.V. Theft	8862	9369	8874	2244	
Molestation of Women	762	718	868	202	
Total IPC	56065	57978	56065	12241	
Local and Special Laws	26573	30357	20994	1516	

Single Window Clearance for SEZs

4111. SHRI PRABODH PANDA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has summoned several States to ascertain whether they have put in place a single window service to expedite implementation of SEZs that have received approvals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these States have been able to provide land to SEZ developers who have received in principle approvals;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER

(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) and (b) A meeting was organised by Ministry of Commerce and Industry with the representatives of State Governments and Development Commissioners to discuss issues relating to Special Economic Zones, including Single Window clearance at State and Central level.

(c) to (e) Land/land usage is a State subject. Central Government grants formal approval only in those cases where the developer is in possession of the minimum required land and which is duly recommended by the concerned State Government. The State Governments have also been informed 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.

National Police Memorial

4112. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL :

SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI :

SHRI SUGRIB SINGH :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to shift the National Police Memorial to Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) Complex as reported in "Times of India" dated March 16, 2008;

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

(c) the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) A part of the earlier structure, after dismantling, has been shifted to the SSB Complex at Ghitorni incurring expenditure on its transportation.

[Translation]

SCs/STs/OBCs in Cottage and Small Scale Industries

4113. SHRI AJIT JOGI : Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) the State-wise and category-wise total number of OBCs, SCs and STs employed in Cottage and Small Scale Industries in the country during each of the last three years as on date;

(b) the State-wise total number of Cottage and Small Scale Industries in the country, separately;

(c) whether the Government has chalked out/propose to chalk out any scheme for promotion of such industries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) The State/Union Territory-wise and category-wise details of Other Backward Classes (OBCs), Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) having benefited from employment opportunities generated under the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) of the Government implemented through Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), during 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 are given in the Statement I, II and III respectively. Similarly, the State/Union Territory-wise and category-wise details of employment of OBCs, SCs and STs in micro and small enterprises, as estimated on the basis of Third All India Census 2001-02 during 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 are given in the Statement IV enclosed.

(b) The State/Union Territory-wise details of the village industry units set up under the REGP since the inception of the scheme from 1 April 1995 and upto 31 March 2007 are given in the Statement V enclosed. Similarly, the State/Union Territory-wise distribution of micro and small enterprises during 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 are given in the Statement VI enclosed.

(c) and (d) The development of cottage and small scale industries is primarily the responsibility of the respective State/Union Territory (UT) Governments/Administrations. The Government (in the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) however, supports and supplements the efforts of the State Governments/UT Administrations through various schemes/programmes relating to credit, infrastructural development, technology upgradation, marketing, entrepreneurial development, etc. The steps taken in this direction include the implementation of the following schemes, in the country:—

- (i) Credit Guarantee Fund Scheme has been launched to provide guarantee cover upto 75% of the collateral free credit (terms loan and working capital loan) extended by banks and financial institutions to new and existing micro and small enterprises on loans upto Rs. 50 lakh. The scheme is administered by the Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises.
- (ii) Micro and Small Enterprises Cluster Development Programme (MSECDP) has been launched with the aim of holistic development of industrial clusters, i.e., agglomerations of micro and small enterprises producing the same or similar types of products in a specific geographical area. The development needs of such cluster are identified through a diagnostic study. Action plan is prepared for development of the cluster in respect of the felt needs in areas like technological upgradation, marketing and export promotion, skill development, establishment of common facility centre, etc.
- (iii) Credit Linked Capital Subsidy scheme has been launched with the objective to facilitate technology upgradation by providing 15 per cent upfront capital subsidy on loans upto Rs. 1 crore for technology upgradation to micro and small enterprises, earlier known as small scale industrial units, on institutional finance availed by them. The capital subsidy is also provided

to eligible units in khadi, village and coir industry sector.

- (iv) ISO 9000/ISO 14001 Certification Reimbursement Scheme has been launched with the objective to improve the marketability of the micro and small enterprises products by enhancing their quality. Under this scheme, cost of obtaining ISO 9000 certification by micro and small enterprises is reimbursed to the extent of 75 per cent or Rs. 75,000/-, whichever is lower.
- (v) Entrepreneurship and Skill Development Programme – EDPs/MDPs are conducted with a view to enable the unemployed youth to acquire requisite skills so as to be self-employed. 22.5 per cent of the seat in the courses are reserved in favour of the weaker sections of the society.
- (vi) Scheme of Product Development, Design Intervention and Packaging (PRODIP) has been launched in order to diversify and develop products under Khadi and Village Industries and also to improve the packaging of the various KVI products.
- (vii) Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI) has been launched in October, 2005 for regeneration of traditional industries in 118 identified clusters in khadi, village industries and coir sectors.
- (viii) Rural Industries Service Centres Scheme (RISC), through the KVIC, for setting up of common facility centres (CFCs) to provide infrastructural support and services to such industries.
- (ix) Financial assistance for participation in national and international exhibitions.
- (x) "Rajiv Gandhi Udyami Mitra Yojana" has been recently launched to provide financial assistance to selected lead agencies for promoting and supporting establishment of micro, small

and medium enterprises through handholding of first generation entrepreneurs who have undergone entrepreneurship/skill development training of at least two weeks' duration or have undergone vocational training from it is.

The details of the new schemes under consideration for promotion of village and small scale industries are given in the Statement VII enclosed.

Statement-I

State/Union Territory-wise details of QBCs estimated to have benefited from employment opportunities under the REGP during 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07

(number of persons)

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Delhi	0	15	55
2.	Haryana	8565	6369	1372
3.	Himachal Pradesh	3049	731	1289
4.	Jammu and Kashmir	212	4388	326
5.	Punjab	1080	3996	3013
6.	Rajasthan	10111	17757	13395
7.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	28	1078	55
8.	Bihar	1262	2746	5238
9.	Jharkhand	1713	901	3225
10.	Orissa	3810	2320	4403
11.	West Bengal	9145	7739	1810
12.	Assam	5033	11902	8346
13.	Manipur	37	99	12

1	2	3	4	5
14.	Meghalaya	0	18	13
15.	Tripura	770	1013	1549
16.	Sikkim	901	0	0
17.	Andhra Pradesh	16261	10934	13712
18.	Karnataka	4869	6510	11453
19.	Kerala	3944	7340	17113
20.	Lakshadweep	0	224	0
21.	Pondicherry	0	105	472
22.	Tamil Nadu	5245	5934	6965
23.	Goa	504	188	98
24.	Gujarat	1975	4307	1903
25.	Maharashtra	6583	7384	9106
26.	Chhattisgarh	4577	4352	3874
27.	Madhya Pradesh	17490	3687	8726
28.	Uttarakhand	508	432	338
29.	Uttar Pradesh	15022	10973	15484
Total		122694	123442	133345

Statement-II

State/Union Territory-wise details of SCs estimated to have benefited from employment opportunities under the REGP during 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07

(number of persons)

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Chandigarh	0	0	15

1	2	3	4	5
2. Delhi		0	0	15
3. Haryana		4996	3184	176
4. Himachal Pradesh		1829	1651	2689
5. Jammu and Kashmir		458	2194	710
6. Punjab		782	1998	1370
7. Rajasthan		4558	3500	4953
8. Andaman and Nicobar Islands		0	539	17
9. Bihar		60	1373	117
10. Jharkhand		209	450	180
11. Orissa		1981	1160	2446
12. West Bengal		5121	5527	5304
13. Assam		2042	5951	4636
14. Manipur		24	49	0
15. Meghalaya		420	0	0
16. Mizoram		448	0	0
17. Tripura		294	430	414
18. Sikkim		236	0	0
19. Andhra Pradesh		9310	1693	4205
20. Karnataka		2921	3255	6363
21. Kerala		2465	3670	498
22. Pondicherry		0	24	64
23. Tamil Nadu		2543	2582	3110
24. Goa		32	0	0
25. Gujarat		304	2153	652

1	2	3	4	5
26. Maharashtra		3513	3672	5997
27. Chhattisgarh		139	702	417
28. Madhya Pradesh		1495	1843	494
29. Uttarakhand		565	451	387
30. Uttar Pradesh		8401	5406	1459
Total		55146	53437	46688

Statement-III

State/Union Territory-wise details of STs estimated to have benefited from employment opportunities under the REGP during 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07

(number of persons)

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Haryana	2498	1857	0
2.	Himachal Pradesh	853	203	824
3.	Jammu and Kashmir	202	1279	899
4.	Punjab	20	1165	70
5.	Rajasthan	2151	1663	2408
6.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	314	13
7.	Bihar	0	801	17
8.	Jharkhand	180	262	29
9.	Orissa	1066	676	1223
10.	West Bengal	2524	2579	610
11.	Arunachal Pradesh	1219	1857	2106
12.	Assam	1495	3471	2318

1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
13.	Manipur	374	28	286	22.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
14.	Meghalaya	3148	1569	2042	23.	Tamil Nadu	1159	1157	1532
15.	Mizoram	2673	18255	16455	24.	Gujarat	264	1256	45
16.	Nagaland	3851	5549	3358	25.	Maharashtra	1622	2120	3700
17.	Tripura	630	553	583	26.	Chhattisgarh	64	231	324
18.	Sikkim	389	1750	2208	27.	Madhya Pradesh	449	1075	213
19.	Andhra Pradesh	4320	550	423	28.	Uttarakhand	225	254	29
20.	Karnataka	1363	1899	3181	29.	Uttar Pradesh	3768	3144	0
21.	Kerala	1068	2141	0	Total		37575	57658	44896

Statement-IV

State/Union Territory-wise details of employment of SCs, STs and OBCs in micro and small enterprises during 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 (estimated on the basis of 3rd Census)

(number of units)

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	2004-05			2005-06			2006-07		
		SC	ST	OBC	SC	ST	OBC	SC	ST	OBC
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Jammu and Kashmir	19231	5495	7731	20054	5730	8062	20901	5972	8402
2.	Himachal Pradesh	46626	4367	18023	48620	4554	18794	50675	4746	19588
3.	Punjab	237026	17499	277893	247165	18248	289780	257609	19019	302025
4.	Chandigarh	1503	134	1158	1567	139	1207	1633	145	1258
5.	Uttarakhand	36653	11016	51994	38221	11487	54218	39836	11973	56509
6.	Haryana	90119	6191	191088	93974	6456	199262	97945	6728	207681
7.	Delhi	44393	16412	77073	46292	17114	80370	48248	17838	83766
8.	Rajasthan	138785	43827	455780	144722	45702	475276	150837	47633	495358
9.	Uttar Pradesh	612536	97396	1944236	638737	101563	2027401	665727	105854	2113068

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10.	Bihar	114752	14734	834356	119661	15364	870046	124717	16014	906809
11.	Sikkim	183	209	453	191	218	473	199	227	493
12.	Arunachal Pradesh	278	843	245	290	879	255	302	916	266
13.	Nagaland	4998	56856	1192	5212	59288	1243	5432	61793	1296
14.	Manipur	237	93929	2982	247	97947	3110	257	102086	3241
15.	Mizoram	284	23661	327	296	24673	341	308	25716	355
16.	Tripura	9815	6464	23157	10235	6741	24148	10667	7026	25168
17.	Meghalaya	930	53538	166	970	55828	174	1011	58187	181
18.	Assam	37751	28746	81489	39366	29976	84974	41029	31242	88565
19.	West Bengal	405515	117327	166859	422861	122345	173996	440728	127515	181348
20.	Jharkhand	40977	64379	154802	42730	67133	161424	44535	69969	168245
21.	Orissa	113284	309615	340917	118130	322859	355500	123121	336501	370521
22.	Chhattisgarh	78685	124497	291924	82050	129823	304412	85517	135308	317274
23.	Madhya Pradesh	218495	117544	815519	227841	122572	850403	237469	127751	886336
24.	Gujarat	209341	202767	330885	218296	211441	345038	227520	220375	359618
25 & 26.	Daman and Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2142	8586	2505	2233	8953	2612	2328	9331	2723
27.	Maharashtra	230211	113331	660348	240058	118179	688595	250202	123172	717691
28.	Andhra Pradesh	187799	83905	1237104	195832	87494	1290022	204107	91191	1344531
29.	Karnataka	185023	82400	1026982	192937	85925	1070911	201090	89556	1116182
30.	Goa	470	730	2120	490	761	2210	511	794	2304
31.	Lakshadweep	15	1424	61	16	1485	64	16	1548	67
32.	Kerala	105286	23525	700362	109789	24532	730321	114428	25568	761180
33.	Tamil Nadu	290940	44223	1542215	303385	46115	1608184	316205	48063	1676137
34.	Pondicherry	4382	130	28541	4570	136	29762	4763	141	31019
35.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	681	3405	28	711	3550	29	741	3700	30
Total		3469346	1779105	11270515	3617749	1855210	11752617	3770614	1933598	12249215

Statement-V

State/Union Territory (UT) – wise details of village industry units set up under the REGP since the inception of the scheme from 1 April 1995 and upto 31 March 2007

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	Number of REGP units up to 31 March 2007
1	2	3
1.	Chandigarh	161
2.	Delhi	256
3.	Haryana	8176
4.	Himachal Pradesh	3827
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	10674
6.	Punjab	11929
7.	Rajasthan	30907
8.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1147
9.	Bihar	2641
10.	Jharkhand	1496
11.	Orissa	5664
12.	West Bengal	24175
13.	Arunachal Pradesh	586
14.	Assam	7693
15.	Manipur	1044
16.	Meghalaya	3664
17.	Mizoram	2425
18.	Nagaland	5413
19.	Tripura	1184
20.	Sikkim	481

1	2	3
21.	Andhra Pradesh	19249
22.	Karnataka	17096
23.	Kerala	11470
24.	Lakshadweep	36
25.	Pondicherry	1176
26.	Tamil Nadu	8852
27.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	8
28.	Goa	2679
29.	Gujarat	2402
30.	Maharashtra	27107
31.	Chhattisgarh	3029
32.	Madhya Pradesh	21554
33.	Uttaranchal	3475
34.	Uttar Pradesh	20766
Total		262442

Statement-VI

State/Union Territory-wise details of distribution of micro and small enterprises during 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07

(number of units)

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Jammu and Kashmir	82547	86064	89726
2.	Himachal Pradesh	87194	91596	95572
3.	Punjab	413762	427401	441797

1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
4.	Chandigarh	24739	25653	26612	29.	Karnataka	740967	772234	804811
5.	Uttarakhand	123524	130140	137618	30.	Goa	8101	8401	8654
6.	Haryana	245370	254028	263308	31.	Lakshadweep	616	644	675
7.	Delhi	196215	203336	210905	32.	Kerala	507313	524969	542610
8.	Rajasthan	498035	518371	538728	33.	Tamil Nadu	922118	962854	1006684
9.	Uttar Pradesh	1938524	2027020	2116791	34.	Pondicherry	10301	10724	11120
10.	Bihar	582167	605049	629509	35.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	3756	3902	4032
11.	Sikkim	437	455	474	<hr/>				
12.	Arunachal Pradesh	1458	1516	1578	Total		11858820	12341475	12843774
13.	Nagaland	16824	17772	19024	Statement-VII				
14.	Manipur	53173	55115	57171	1. Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme: This scheme is going to be a comprehensive proposal which seeks to merge the major employment generation schemes viz. Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana and Rural Employment Generation Programme.				
15.	Mizoram	12895	13554	14335	2. Setting up of 7 new Tool and Training Centres: With a view to foster the growth of the MSME sector in the country, in addition to the 10 state-of-the-art Tool and Training Centres which are equipped with precision machine tools and allied equipments to design and manufacture moulds, dies, jigs and fixtures etc. used to produce high precision parts and components of a product or the product itself, setting up of 7 new Tool and Training Centres is proposed during XI Plan.				
16.	Tripura	27054	28063	29141	<i>[English]</i>				
17.	Meghalaya	25846	27153	28591	Royalty Rates for Minerals				
18.	Assam	218487	226890	235576	4114. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE :				
19.	West Bengal	856178	887697	921221	DR. M. JAGANNATH :				
20.	Jharkhand	149697	156091	163220	SHRI SUBRATA BOSE :				
21.	Orissa	434498	450948	468468	SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY :				
22.	Chhattisgarh	293468	304003	315118	Will the Minister of MINES be please to state :				
23.	Madhya Pradesh	898650	937183	976981					
24.	Gujarat	600569	624346	646379					
25.	Daman and Diu	2800	4389	4579					
26.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1397	0	0					
27.	Maharashtra	909385	948028	989254					
28.	Andhra Pradesh	970755	1005889	1043512					

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to hike the royalty rates for various minerals;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the criteria adopted, mineral-wise;

(c) whether some State Governments, including Orissa Government have requested the Union Government for fixation of royalty rates for iron-ore on ad valorem basis and benchmark price of chrome ore on the basis of the rate fixed by Orissa Mining Corporation (OMC) and National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC);

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise alongwith the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(e) whether the Union Government also proposes to give the rights for awarding mining leases and fixation of royalty rates for minerals to the concerned State Governments as demanded by them;

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of the Government in this regard; and

(g) the extent to which the New Mineral Policy is likely to redress the shortcomings in the Mining Sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE) : (a) and (b) As per Section 9 of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (MMDR Act, 1957) a lessee of mining lease has to pay royalty in respect of any mineral removed by him, at the rate specified in the Second Schedule to the said Act in respect of that mineral. In order to revise the rates of royalty as per this provision a Study Group was set-up that submitted its recommendations to the Government, which is under consideration of the Government.

(c) and (d) The suggestions of the State Governments have been appropriately taken into account and addressed

by the Study Group, which included mineral rich States as members.

(e) and (f) State Governments are the owners of the minerals and grant mining lease. Prior approval of the Central Government is required only in cases of minerals mentioned in the First Schedule of the MMDR Act, 1957. To maintain uniformity in rates of royalty in the country, Central Government notifies rates of royalty for non-fuel, non-coal major minerals. State Governments are empowered to notify rates of royalty in respect of minor minerals. There is no proposal to change the said scheme.

(g) The National Mineral Policy, 2008 seeks to streamline and simplify the procedures for grant of mineral concessions in order to attract investment into the mining sector.

Shifting of Fencing in Jammu and Kashmir

4115. SHRI RANEN BARMAN :

SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the shifting of fencing in Jammu and Kashmir is in progress;

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

(c) the total cost likely to be incurred alongwith the details where the fencing is being shifted and distance of reference, State-wise; and

(d) the time by when the work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Initially, alignment of fence in certain stretches totalling 38.015 km in Jammu and Kashmir State was kept much behind the India-Pakistan International Border due

to heavy firing from Pakistan side and was constructed at distances varying from 400 meters to 1500 meters away from the International-Border. Immediately after the ceasefire with effect from 26th November, 2003, it was decided to erect the fence close to the International Border for better domination of areas and also to keep maximum

cultivable land on the home side of the border fencing.

(c) The total cost of shifting of fencing totaling 38.015 km in Jammu and Kashmir is Rs. 2834 lakh. The details of stretches where fencing is being shifted from the International Border are as under:-

Sl. No.	Place	Length proposed for realignment (in km)	Distance of proposed realignment of fencing from IB
1.	BOP Beliazmat to BT Fwd (BP No. 736/1 to 772)	5.400	Varying from 30 mtrs to 150 mtrs
2.	BOP Nawapind to Jugnechak (BP No. 943 to 950)	2.700	-do-
3.	BOP Suchetgarh to BOP Kararotana Khurd (BP No. 899 to 903)	1.400	-do-
4.	BOP Khatmarian to Abdullian (BP No. 843 to 867)	2.800	-do-
5.	BOP Kotkubba to Chinaz (BP No. 1035 to 1054)	6.000	-do-
6.	BOP Tent Guard to Pindi (BP No. 60 to 62)	1.550	-do-
7.	BOP Majra to Kandrai (BP No. 15 to 26)	5.400	-do-
8.	Washed away stretch in area BOP Maluchak near BP No. 13	0.660	-do-
9.	BOP Katao (BP No. 115 to 122)	0.800	-do-
10.	BOP Manguchak (BP No. 134 to 152)	2.400	-do-
11.	BOP Khora (BP No. 152 to 169)	2.730	-do-
12.	BOP Galar (BP No. 67 to 61)	2.081	-do-
13.	BOP Tent Guard (BP No. 13 to 19)	1.700	-do-
14.	BOP Pansar (BP No. 19 to 42)	3.425	-do-
15.	BOP Chorgalil (BP No. 42 to 48)	0.550	-do-

Further, 22.588 km of border fencing in Punjab is also being shifted close to the India-Pakistan border.

completed by the end of 2010-11.

Mobile Phone Racket

(d) The work, in Jammu and Kashmir which has already commenced, is expected to be completed by the end of 2009-10. The work in Punjab is expected to be

4116. SHRI UDAY SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Delhi police has recently unearthed a racket in mobile cloning;

(b) If so, the details of the *modusoperandi* in this regard;

(c) the total number of such cases registered and the accused persons arrested during each of the last three years alongwith the action taken against them; and

(d) the effective measures taken by the Government to check such cases in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI) : (a) to (d) Delhi Police has registered a case on 5th March, 2008 on a complaint alleging illegal use of some cloned numbers of a Communication Company and four persons have been arrested in this connection. The total number of such cases registered and the accused persons arrested during 2005, 2006, 2007 and upto 10th April, 2008 are given below:-

Year	No. of cases registered	No. of accused persons arrested
2005	4	11
2006	2	8
2007	Nil	Nil
2008 (upto 10th April)	1	4

All the four cases registered in 2005 are pending trial. In the other cases registered in 2006 and 2008, investigations are in progress.

In addition to taking immediate legal action on receipt of the complaints, Delhi Police has taken various steps in this regard which include developing local intelligence; keeping a watch on shopkeepers dealing with the sale, purchase and repair of Mobile phones; etc.

[Translation]

Funds for Internal Security

4117. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD :

SHP! HARISINH CHAVDA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total funds released/utilised on internal security during each of the last three years; separately;

(b) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding misutilisation on funds on internal security during the said period;

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

(d) the officials found responsible by the Government in this regard alongwith the action taken against them so far; and

(e) the measures taken by the Government for proper utilization of funds in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) The details of Central funds allocated/released to States during the last three years from 2005-06 to 2007-08 under Non Plan Scheme of Modernization of Police Forces (MPF Scheme) for supplementing efforts of State Governments for marinating internal security are given in the Statement.

(b) to (d) No complaint has so far been received regarding mis-utilization of funds released to States under the MPF Scheme.

(e) For monitoring the Scheme, the State Governments are periodically advised to ensure optimum utilization of funds, furnishing of utilization certificates in regard to the Central funds released during previous year(s) which is a pre-requisite for release of funds during next financial year(s). Besides this the matter regarding optimum utilization of funds under the MPF Scheme is discussed in High Power Committee (HPC) meetings with States, from time to time.

Statement*Statement in Reply to Part (a) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4117 for 22-04-2008 (Rs. in Crores)*

Name of State	2005-06				2006-07				2007-08	
	Allocated	Funds released	Amount spent	Unspent amount	Allocated	Funds released	Amount spent	Unspent amount	Allocated	Funds released
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Andhra Pradesh	101.41	101.41	101.41	0.00	88.12	88.12	68.22	19.90	87.34	87.34
Arunachal Pradesh	7.00	7.00	0.62	6.38	11.53	11.53	11.53	0.00	10.70	10.70
Assam	56.68	56.68	48.86	7.82	52.18	52.18	NA	NA	87.82	87.82
Bihar	39.87	39.87	35.63	4.24	51.62	51.62	NA	NA	16.24	16.24
Chhattisgarh	40.74	40.74	35.45	5.29	57.06	57.06	8.51	48.55	41.72	41.72
Goa	1.06	1.06	0.00	1.06	1.00	1.00	0.86	0.14	2	2
Gujarat	39.85	39.85	39.85	0.00	45.52	45.52	NA	NA	51.9	51.9
Haryana	14.95	14.95	14.95	0.00	19.69	19.69	17.12	2.57	35.75	35.75
Himachal Pradesh	6.78	6.78	6.78	0.00	3.92	3.92	3.51	0.41	10.27	10.27
Jammu and Kashmir	109.22	109.22	104.38	4.84	88.13	88.13	84.27	3.86	115.34	115.34
Jharkhand	40.74	40.74	40.73	0.01	47.00	47.00	31.18	15.82	50.95	50.95
Karnataka	65.85	65.85	65.85	0.00	64.15	64.15	46.16	17.99	78.13	78.13
Kerala	18.84	18.84	18.84	0.00	24.53	24.53	17.85	6.68	40.01	40.01
Madhya Pradesh	31.65	31.65	31.65	0.00	43.24	43.24	35.31	7.93	57.68	57.68
Maharashtra	88.78	88.78	85.15	3.63	105.10	105.10	NA	NA	78.87	78.87
Manipur	16.97	16.97	16.97	0.00	14.09	14.09	14.09	0.00	32.07	32.07
Meghalaya	6.57	6.57	6.57	0.00	8.59	8.59	8.59	0.00	15.44	15.44
Mizoram	6.00	6.00	6.00	0.00	10.48	10.48	10.48	0.00	11	11
Nagaland	17.52	17.52	17.52	0.00	22.68	22.68	22.68	0.00	30.72	30.72
Orissa	35.08	35.08	34.85	0.23	38.00	38.00	22.80	15.20	45.80	45.80
Punjab	20.31	20.31	20.31	0.00	15.00	15.00	14.36	0.64	34.94	34.94
Rajasthan	34.81	34.81	34.80	0.01	40.47	40.47	38.95	1.52	49.80	49.80

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Sikkim	2.43	2.43	2.15	0.28	3.46	3.46	3.14	0.32	4.42	4.42
Tamil Nadu	65.51	65.51	65.51	0.00	61.65	61.65	56.90	4.75	75.74	75.74
Tripura	11.83	11.83	4.60	7.23	11.34	11.34	3.20	..14	14.47	14.47
Uttar Pradesh	98.12	98.12	98.12	0.00	94.28	94.28	79.29	14.99	115.44	115.44
Uttarakhand	16.76	16.76	16.76	0.00	5.28	5.28	5.00	0.28	9.89	9.89
West Bengal	29.67	29.67	29.67	0.00	37.11	37.11	NA	NA	44.45	44.45
Total	1025.00	1025.00	983.98	41.02	1065.22	1065.22	604.00	461.22	1248.70	1248.70

The figure of 2007-08 is an unaudited figure.

Note : The figures of amount spent by the State Government and the unspent balance available with them for 2007-08 is not available as the financial year ended recently.

**Recommendation of J.C. Pant
Committee on KVS**

4118. DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL :

SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA :

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

(a) whether the J.C. Pant Committee has given any recommendations on the functioning of Kendriya Vidyalayas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these recommendations have been implemented; and

(d) if so, the success achieved by the Government as a result thereof?

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

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A summary of recommendations of J.C. Pant Committee, constituted in December, 2001 to review the management structure and operating mechanism of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS), is enclosed as Statement.

(c) KVS has already implemented several of these recommendations in various forms.

(d) Based on the recommendations of the Pant Committee Report, certain policy decisions like amendment in transfer guidelines, admission policy, recruitment policy etc. have been successfully implemented.

Statement

**SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE
REVIEW COMMITTEE SET UP FOR REVIEW OF
THE MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE AND
OPERATING MECHANISM OF KVS
[PANT COMMITTEE REPORT]**

**I. REVIEW OF ADMISSION POLICY AND NEED FOR
EXPANSION**

(a) 10% of new admissions to be made on merit basis each year in Class II onwards

For admission in Class XI, the provision of minimum 80% marks to be relaxed to 75% for students coming from other schools if number of such students is less.

(b) (i) Sale of registration forms and registration

should be commenced from 1st December to 31st January.

- (ii) Last date of receipt of the forms should be 31st January.
 - (iii) Display of admission list by 15th February.
 - (iv) Admission upto 1st March.
 - (v) Last date for fresh admission-31st July.
 - (vi) In exceptional cases the Chairman, VMC may permit admission before the half yearly examination.
- (c) (i) Children of ex-servicemen with less than 15 years of service to be kept in category II.
- (ii) The children of employees of Central Autonomous Bodies to be kept in separate block for admission on paid seat basis.

■ **STRUCTURAL CHANGES IN SANGATHAN: WHETHER IT SHOULD CONTINUE TO GROW WITH EXISTING STRUCTURE OR SOME STRUCTURAL CHANGES LIKE CONSTITUTION OF REGIONAL STRUCTURES MAY BE MADE**

- (a) Creation of additional regions to ensure 28-30 Kendriya Vidyalayas under one region.
- (b) Creation of 05 Notional Zones with each having 06 Regions for the purpose of recruitment of staff, their posting and transfers etc.
- (c) The post of Education Officer and Principal of a Kendriya Vidyalaya to be made interchangeable.
- (d) Grading of each Kendriya Vidyalaya to be done for different fields of activities. The duties of Education Officers and the Vice-Principal of the Kendriya Vidyalaya need to be specified in order to make them more accountable for the performance of a Kendriya Vidyalaya.

- (e) Each Kendriya Vidyalaya to evolve a local objective keeping local, cultural and environmental concerns in its view besides 04 broad objectives of KVS.
- (f) Inter-linking of KVS [HQ] and Regional Offices through computers.

■ **REVIEW OF THE EXISTING RECRUITMENT AND TRANSFER POLICY OF TEACHING AND NON-TEACHING STAFF OF KVS**

- (a) With the introduction of the proposed Notional Zonal reorganization, the process of seeking options and preferences from the staff of KVS to be initiated.
- (b) KVS (HQ) will make recruitment for each Zone according to the vacancies available. The selection of TGT level to be made for recruiting them purely on the basis of their performance as PRT and for promotion to PGT, a proficiency test to be made compulsory.
- (c) The notional zonal system to be made effective only for the TGT level for transfer and initial posting purposes whereas at the level of PGT and above, the existing All India character of staff to be maintained. A staff member requesting for a change of zone to lose his/her seniority on the request of being granted
- (d) The existing transfer policy to be retained. Its application, however, to be made on a Notional Zonal basis for the PRTs and TGTs only.
- (e) Executive Committee of the KV may recruit teachers on contractual basis even without B. Ed. qualification in remote areas.
- (f) Spouse working in KVS to move together as far as possible.
- (g) Posting at PGT level on direct recruitment or on promotion to be done outside the zone where he/she is working. All other teachers on

promotion to TGTs or HM to be posted outside their present station within the zone where they are working.

IV NEED FOR PROPER ADMIX OF THE EXAMINATION-ORIENTED EDUCATION WITH ALL-ROUND DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN AND SUGGESTIONS FOR CHANGES

Class-wise quiz or elocution or other forms of self-expression should be organized once every month.

Academic inspections should be revitalized by making them more comprehensive, educative and result oriented. There should be a single report card for each student for class I to V, VI to VIII, IX to X, and XI to XII. The achievement of good teachers both in academics and extra-curricular activities should be suitably recognized. The annual results of the Board classes alone should not be the criteria for determining the performance of the Principal and teachers. The results of other classes specially VI, IX and XI should also be analyzed by the Eos at the Regional Office level. Improvement in language learning and expression. Introduction of half-an-hour Shramdan for all students and teachers everyday at the closing time of the school. Social awareness of students to be awakened. Teachers should overstay for an hour every school day to plan the teaching programme of the next day with particular reference to the learning needs of the slow-learners

V PROMOTION OF SPORTS, YOGA AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION, AND LANGUAGE LEARNING

The school should have proper infrastructure for creating appropriate ambience to hold Yoga classes. Special budgetary provision should be made for development of infrastructural facilities for sports and yoga. All the students should compulsorily participate in all sports activity and they should be graded according to their competence.

Mass PT should be revived in all Kendriya Vidyalayas. Physical well-being and posture etc. of the students

should be looked after properly by the PETs and Yoga instructors.

VI ANY OTHER MATTER RELATING TO EITHER ACADEMIC OR MANAGEMENT REFORM

Vice-Principal or the Assistant Supdt. of the Vidyalaya can act as Bursar-cum-caretaker in each Kendriya Vidyalaya to assist the Principal in routine administrative matters, to enable him to get adequate involvement in academic matters.

A standard work execution contract form to be developed by KVS (HQ) to facilitate maintenance and repair of works.

Authority to engage vocational staff should be delegated to the Chairman, VMC.

Subject-wise workshops for teachers to be organized at the regional level to improve their teaching skills.

A professional approach to make the teacher accountable for the development of the child needs to be evolved.

The system of supervised studies to improve the performance of low achievers needs to be strengthened beyond schools hours.

Vocationalization of school education. The nomenclature of vocational courses should be changed to professional or foundation courses in class XI.

Counseling of parents regarding the potential of their wards needs to start from Class VI onwards.

Affiliation of Kendriya Vidyalayas in states with examination boards other than CBSE.

Sex Racket in NCT of Delhi

4119. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :
SHRI SURAJ SINGH :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether sex rackets have been busted in the National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi recently;

(b) if so, whether the Government has conducted any raid during each of the last three years, till-date;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the total number of accused persons arrested and action taken against them, separately, police station-wise;

(d) whether some police personnel have been found guilty of releasing such accused persons without any verification; and

(e) if so, the total number of such police personnel arrested and action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Delhi Police has busted several sex rackets in operation in Delhi and the raids were conducted by the Police in all these cases.

(c) The requisite information is given below:-

Year	Total number of cases registered	Persons arrested
2005	89	372
2006	76	291
2007	31	145
2008 (upto 31st March)	5	28

The details of action taken against persons arrested, police station-wise, during 2005, 2006, 2007 and upto 31st March 2008 are given in the Statement enclosed.

(d) No police personnel has been found guilty of releasing such accused.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement

Year-2006

Sl. No.	FIR No.	Police Station	Persons arrested	Status of the Case
1	2	3	4	5
1.	9	Preet Vihar	2	Pending Trial
2.	27	Preet Vihar	1	Pending Trial
3.	31	Preet Vihar	3	Pending Trial
4.	24	Geeta Colony	3	Pending Trial
5.	71	New Ashok Nagar	7	Pending Trial
6.	255	Mandawali	7	Pending Trial
7.	301	Gandhi Nagar	6	Pending Trial
8.	45	Connaught Place	2	Pending Trial
9.	530	Connaught Place	5	Pending Trial
10.	28	Chankya Puri	1	Pending Trial
11.	46	Chankya Puri	4	Pending Trial
12.	96	Chankya Puri	3	Pending Trial
13.	52	Seemapuri	4	Pending Trial
14.	283	Welcome	32	Pending Trial
15.	50	New Usmanpur	8	Pending Trial
16.	50	Bhajanpura	13	Pending Trial
17.	512	Sarai Rohilla	4	Pending Trial
18.	197	Kamla Market	2	Pending Trial
19.	359	Kamla Market	3	Pending Trial
20.	489	Kamla Market	3	Pending Trial
21.	558	Kamla Market	2	Pending Trial
22.	714	Kamla Market	5	Pending Trial

1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
23.	105	Prasad Nagar	4	Pending Trial	49.	297	Rohini	2	Pending Trial
24.	249	Hauz Kazi	7	Pending Trial	50.	299	Rohini	3	Pending Trial
25.	160	Paharganj	5	Pending Trial	51.	33	Rohini	3	Pending Trial
26.	262	Paharganj	3	Pending Trial	52.	306	Rohini	3	Pending Trial
27.	433	Saraswati Vihar	8	Pending Trial	53.	447	Rohini	3	Pending Trial
28.	634	Saraswati Vihar	4	Pending Trial	54.	472	Rohini	2	Pending Trial
29.	656	Saraswati Vihar	7	Pending Trial	55.	525	Rohini	4	Pending Trial
30.	277	Prashant Vihar	3	Pending Trial	56.	650	Rohini	4	Pending Trial
31.	284	Prashant Vihar	3	Pending Trial	57.	681	Rohini	3	Pending Trial
32.	535	Prashant Vihar	3	Pending Trial	58.	681	Rohini	3	Pending Trial
33.	728	Prashant Vihar	2	Pending Trial	59.	838	Kalkaji	3	Pending Trial
34.	762	Prashant Vihar	3	Pending Trial	60.	848	Kalkaji	4	Pending Trial
35.	794	Prashant Vihar	3	Pending Trial	61.	232	Lodhi Ciy	3	Pending Trial
36.	795	Prashant Vihar	4	Pending Trial	62.	47	Lajpat Nagar	5	Pending Trial
37.	795	Prashant Vihar	3	Pending Trial	63.	124	Lajpat Nagar	9	Pending Trial
38.	809	Prashant Vihar	3	Convicted.	64.	784	Lajpat Nagar	3	Pending Trial
39.	150	Jahangir Puri	3	Pending Trial	65.	788	Lajpat Nagar	4	Pending Trial
40.	248	Jahangir Puri	2	Pending Trial	66.	865	Lajpat Nagar	2	Pending Trial
41.	68	Shalimar Bagh	2	Pending Trial	67.	901	Lajpat Nagar	4	Investigation in Progress
42.	439	Shalimar Bagh	6	Pending Trial					
43.	716	Shalimar Bagh	3	Pending Trial	68.	526	Sri Niwas Puri	6	Convicted
44.	746	Shalimar Bagh	4	Pending Trial	69.	719	Sri Niwas Puri	4	Pending Trial
45.	1077	Shalimar Bagh	2	Pending Trial	70.	96	Hauz Khas	4	Pending Trial
46.	107	Rohini	3	Pending Trial	71.	546	Hauz Khas	3	Pending Trial
47.	123	Rohini	3	Pending Trial	72.	156	Malviya Nagar	4	Pending Trial
48.	193	Rohini	3	Pending Trial	73.	629	Malviya Nagar	4	Pending Trial

1	2	3	4	5
74.	480	Mehrauli	2	Pending Trial
75.	17	CR Park	5	Pending Trial
76.	378	CR Park	5	Pending Trial
77.	43	Ambedkar Nagar	4	Pending Trial
78.	36	Uttam Nagar	4	Pending Trial
79.	200	Patel Nagar	2	Pending Trial
80.	447	Patel Nagar	2	Pending Trial
81.	708	Punjabi Bagh	4	Pending Trial
82.	79	Vikas Puri	4	Pending Trial
83.	244	Vasant Kunj	1	Pending Trial
84.	250	Vasant Vihar	4	Pending Trial
85.	39	Kapashera	3	Pending Trial
86.	329	Vasant Vihar	8	Pending Trial
87.	307	Vasant Vihar	2	Pending Trial
88.	391	Delhi Cantt	3	Pending Trial
89.	621	Najafgarh	9	Pending Trial

Year-2006

Sl. No.	FIR No.	Police Station	Persons arrested	Status of the Case
1	2	3	4	5
1.	307	New Ashok Nagar	4	Pending Trial
2.	697	Preet Vihar	3	Pending Trial
3.	543	Preet Vihar	2	Pending Trial
4.	845	Preet Vihar	1	Pending Trial
5.	4	Parliament Street	2	Pending Trial

1	2	3	4	5
6.	505	Mandir Marg	2	Pending Trial
7.	138	Chankya Puri	2	Pending Trial
8.	230	Bhajanpura	4	Pending Trial
9.	329	Bhajanpura	3	Pending Trial
10.	404	Bhajanpura	7	Pending Trial
11.	464	Welcome	2	Pending Trial
12.	158	MS Park	7	Pending Trial
13.	292	MS Park	8	Pending Trial
14.	917	Gokalpuri	6	Pending Trial
15.	244	Dilshad Garden	3	Pending Trial
16.	355	Dilshad Garden	4	Pending Trial
17.	445	New Usmanpur	3	Pending Trial
18.	47	Kamla Market	3	Pending Trial
19.	609	Kamla Market	3	Pending Trial
20.	616	Kamla Market	2	Investigation in Progress
21.	781	Kamla Market	3	Pending Trial
22.	818	Kamla Market	6	Pending Trial
23.	494	Desh Bandhu Gupta Road	4	Pending Trial
24.	155	Saraswati Vihar	5	Pending Trial
25.	1452	Saraswati Vihar	2	Pending Trial
26.	34	Mukherjee Nagar	3	Pending Trial
27.	198	Mukherjee Nagar	7	Pending Trial
28.	650	Mukherjee Nagar	4	Pending Trial
29.	247	Mukherjee Nagar	4	Pending Trial

1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
30.	295	Prshant Vihar	4	Pending Trial	53.	905	Lajpat Nagar	5	Pending Trial
31.	278	Prshant Vihar	3	Pending Trial	54.	391	Hazrat Nizamuddin	14	Pending Trial
32.	493	Prshant Vihar	5	Pending Trial	55.	397	Hazrat Nizamuddin	4	Pending Trial
33.	265	Jahangir Pur	4	Investigation in Progress	56.	401	Hazrat Nizamuddin	3	Pending Trial
34.	282	Jahangir Pur	3	Pending Trial	57.	810	Hazrat Nizamuddin	4	Pending Trial
35.	261	Shalimar Bagh	4	Pending Trial	58.	861	Malviya Nagar	3	Pending Trial
36.	748	Sultanpuri	2	Pending Trial	59.	231	Greater Kailash	2	Pending Trial
37.	978	Sultanpuri	2	Pending Trial	60.	254	CR Park	2	Pending Trial
38.	1300	Sultanpuri	2	Pending Trial	61.	260	CR Park	5	Pending Trial
39.	639	Badli	5	Pending Trial	62.	1166	Rajouri Garden	2	Pending Trial
40.	802	Badli	5	Pending Trial	63.	225	Patel Nagar	6	Pending Trial
41.	457	Mangol Puri	6	Pending Trial	64.	318	Patel Nagar	3	Pending Trial
42.	620	Rohini	2	Pending Trial	65.	767	Patel Nagar	3	Investigation in Progress
43.	707	Rohini	5	Pending Trial	66.	792	Patel Nagar	0	Case Canceled
44.	691	New Friends Colony	4	Pending Trial	67.	308	Moti Nagar	3	Pending Trial
45.	368	Kalkaji	8	Pending Trial	68.	689	Paschim Vihar	3	Investigation in Progress
46.	763	Kalkaji	1	Pending Trial	69.	189	Vikas Puri	4	Pending Trial
47.	1304	Kalkaji	3	Pending Trial	70.	676	Sarojini Nagar	2	Pending Trial
48.	1316	Kalkaji	3	Pending Trial	71.	382	Vasant Vihar	6	Pending Trial
49.	1185	Sarita Vihar	2	Pending Trial	72.	435	Vasant Kunj	3	Pending Trial
50.	624	Lajpat Nagar	7	Pending Trial	73.	474	Vasant Kunj	3	Pending Trial
51.	633	Lajpat Nagar	4	Pending Trial	74.	351	Vasant Vihar	5	Pending Trial
52.	775	Lajpat Nagar	4	Pending Trial	75.	310	Sarojini Nagar	6	Pending Trial
					76.	25	RK Puram	3	Investigation in Progress

Year 2007

Sl. No.	FIR No.	Police Station	Persons arrested	Status of the Case
1	2	3	4	5
1.	69	Preet Vihar	2	Pending Trial
2.	82	Preet Vihar	2	Pending Trial
3.	84	Mandawali	5	Pending Trial
4.	169	Shakarpur	3	Pending Trial
5.	137	Anand Vihar	4	Pending Trial
6.	168	Mandawali	6	Pending Trial
7.	581	Shakarpur	4	Pending Trial
8.	558	Preet Vihar	10	Pending Trial
9.	472	Mandawali	4	Pending Trial
10.	69	Chankya Puri	2	Investigation in Progress
11.	310	Seemapuri	8	Pending Trial
12.	216	Seemapuri	7	Investigation in Progress
13.	451	Seelampur	5	Pending Trial
14.	160	Kamia Market	2	Convicted
15.	58	Hauz Kazi	2	Pending Trial
16.	172	Prasad Nagar	4	Pending Trial
17.	72	Rajender Nagar	4	Pending Trial
18.	66	Paharganj	9	Pending Trial
19.	468	Saraswati Vihar	5	Investigation in Progress
20.	127	Model Town	2	Investigation in Progress

1	2	3	4	5
21.	103	Rohini	8	Pending Trial
22.	226	Sarita Vihar	6	Pending Trial
23.	615	Badarpur	5	Pending Trial
24.	806	Badarpur	1	Pending Trial
25.	215	Defence Colony	6	Pending Trial
26.	330	Lajpat Nagar	4	Pending Trial
27.	757	Lajpat Nagar	6	Pending Trial
28.	251	Maiya Nagar	4	Pending Trial
29.	269	Rajouri Garden	5	Pending Trial
30.	150	Sarojini Nagar	6	Pending Trial
31.	30	RK Puram	4	Pending Trial

Year-2008

Sl. No.	FIR No.	Police Station	Persons arrested	Status of the Case
1	2	3	4	5
1.	70	Seelampur	9	Investigation in Progress
2.	35	Karawal Nagar	4	Investigation in Progress
3.	33	New Usmanpur	6	Pending Trial
4.	29	Prasant Vihar	3	Investigation in Progress
5.	86	Defence Colony	6	Pending Trial

Secondary Education

4120.SHRI SURAJ SINGH :

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN" :

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

(a) whether the Government has decided to improve and expand the secondary education system during the coming years;

(b) if so, the number of students between the age group of 15 to 16 years likely to take admission in secondary schools in the country by the end of the 11th Plan; and

(c) the number of such students in the urban and rural areas, separately?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A Committee of Central Advisory Board of Education on "Universalisation of Secondary Education" in their report (June, 2005) has estimated enrollment of 4.66 crore for secondary stage (Grades IX-X) by the end of 11th Five Year Plan (2011-12) based on 100% success of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and 3.42 crore based on 75% success of SSA. Separate projections for rural and urban areas are not available.

[English]

Techno-Entrepreneurship Parks

4121. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has set up Techno-Entrepreneurship Parks in various States;

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

(c) whether the Government is considering to set up more such parks in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, UT-wise including Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands; and

(e) the time by when these are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has set up Technology Entrepreneurship Parks in various States under different programmes and schemes of various Departments and Ministries. The Department of Science and Technology has promoted Science and Technology Entrepreneurs Parks (STEPs) established in academic institutions having R and D base. The Department of Biotechnology has promoted Biotechnology Parks. The State-wise list of STEPs and Biotechnology Parks are given in Statement-I and II respectively. The Department of Information Technology under Ministry of Communication and Information Technology has promoted Software Technology Parks of India (STPIs) with a view to offer single window clearance to software technology units. The State-wise list of STPIs is given in Statement-III enclosed.

(c) to (e) The proposals for setting up Science and Technology Entrepreneurship Parks (STEPs) and other similar Parks are periodically received by different Ministries and Departments concerned and are considered in accordance with the stipulated guidelines. No such proposal has been received from Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Statement-I

State-wise Distribution of Science and Technology Entrepreneurs Parks (STEPs)

Promoted by Department of Science and Technology

Sl.No.	State	No. of STEPs	Location
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	International Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy and New Materials, Hyderabad

1	2	3	4
2.	Gujarat	1	- NSIC Technical Services Centre, Aji Industrial Estate, Bhav Nagar Road, Rajkot
3.	Jharkhand	1	- Birla Institute of Technology, Mesra, Ranchi
4.	Himachal Pradesh	1	- H.P. University, Shimla.
5.	Karnataka	3	- SJ College of Engineering, Mysore - National Institute of Technology - Karnataka, Surathkal - Basaveshwar Engineering College, Bagalkot
6.	Madhya Pradesh	1	- Maulana Azad National institute of Technology, Bhopal
7.	Maharashtra	1	- University of Pune, Pune
8.	Punjab	2	- Guru Nanak Dev Engineering College, Ludhiana - Thapar Institute of Engineering and Technology, Patiala
9.	Tamil Nadu	2	- National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirappalli - PSG College of Technology, Coimbatore
10.	Uttar Pradesh	1	- Harcourt Butler Technological - Institute, Kanpur
11.	Uttarakhand	1	- Indian institute of Technology, Roorkee.
12.	West Bengal	1	- Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kharagpur
Total		16 STEPs	

Statement-II*States-wise Distribution of Biotechnology Parks Promoted by Department of Biotechnology*

Sl. No.	State	Location
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Shapoorji Pallonji Biotech Park (SPBP), Genome Valley, Turkapally, A.P.
2.	Kerala	Kerala Biotechnology Park, Kalamassery, Kochi

1	2	3
3.	Uttar Pradesh	Biotech Park, Lucknow, U.P.

Statement-III*Software Technology Parks of India Promoted by Department of Information Technology*

Sl. No.	State	STPI Centres
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad

1	2	3
2.		Tirupati
3.		Vijayawada
4.		Vizag
5.		Warangal
6.		Kakinada
7. Assam		Guwahati
8. Chhattisgarh		Bhilai
9. Gujarat		Gandhinagar
10. Himachal Pradesh		Shimla
11. Jammu and Kashmir		Srinagar
12.		Jammu
13. Jharkhand		Ranchi
14. Karnataka		Bangalore
15.		Hubli
16.		Mangalore
17.		Manipal
18.		Mysore
19. Kerala		Thiruvananthapuram
20. Madhya Pradesh		Indore
21. Maharashtra		Aurangabad
22.		Nagpur
23.		Nasik
24.		Navi Mumbai
25.		Kolhapur
26.		Pune
27. Manipur		Imphal

1	2	3
28. Orissa		Bhuvaneshwar
29.		Rourkela
30. Pondicherry		Pondicherry
31. Punjab		Mohali
32. Rajasthan		Jaipur
33.		Jodhpur
34. Sikkim		Gangtok
35. Tamil Nadu		Chennai
36.		Coimbatore
37.		Madurai
38.		Thirunelveli
39.		Trichy
40. Uttar Pradesh		Kanpur
41.		Lucknow
42.		Noida
43.		Allahabad
44. Uttarakhand		Dehradun
45. West Bengal		Kolkata
46.		Durgapur
47.		Kharagpur
48.		Siliguri

Flood Relief

4122.SHRIMATI C.S. SUJATHA :
DR. K. DHANARAJU :
SHRI M. APPADURAI :
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH :
SHRI CHANDRABHAN SINGH :

SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA :
 SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI :
 SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD :
 SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL :
 SHRI CHANDRA DEV PRASAD RAJBHAR :
 SHRI P.C. THOMAS :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government has received reports from various States regarding damage to crops due to natural calamities during the last six months till date;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and crop-wise including mango and wheat;
- (c) whether the Government has made any assessment of its own regarding crop losses; and
- (d) if so, the details of relief given or proposed to be given to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI) : (a) to (d) Information is being collecting and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion

4123. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD :
 SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI :
 SHRI ANIRUDH PRASAD ALIAS SADHU YADAV :

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the National Institute of ocean Technology (NIOT) had initiated a Rs. 35.25 crore pilot project titled Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion in June, 1998;
- (b) if so, the details and the preset status of the project;
- (c) whether the C and AG has given same remarks on this project;

- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has conducted any inquiry in this regard;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the corrective measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), an autonomous institute under the Ministry undertook a pilot project of one Mega Watt (1 MW) floating Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC) Plant under 'Jal Vigyan' Mission. The plant was set up on a barge named 'Sagar Shakti', for deployment in open sea having a depth of over 1000 meters off Tutocorin. The 1 MW OTEC Technology Demonstration project was initially approved as one of the Mission Projects of the NIOT in September 1998 at the total cost of Rs. 35.25 Crore for a period of two years from 1998-99. In this project, an intake pipe of one meter diameter and 1000 meter length was used. However, due to rough weather any inadequate technical support this intake pipe could not be supported and resulted in its loss. The Ministry further approved Revised Cost Estimates (RCE) of Rs. 61.13 Crores and extension of the project upto 31st December 2002 on 22.02.02. There was once again the loss of intake pipe. An expert committee was appointed for failure analysis. Based on its analysis, a revised project proposal was prepared for completion of the project. The proposal was referred to Ministry of Finance for their approval. Ministry of Finance recommended for winding up of the project and the project was accordingly discontinued.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The C and AG observed that NIOT did not ensure the expertise of the contractors who were to undertake deployment of cold water pipe and the existence of infrastructure required for deployment like vessels with

Global Positioning System, winch, etc. Poor planning and deficient project management led to unfruitful expenditure besides non achievement of the stated objectives of generation of power from ocean thermal energy.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. An Expert committee chaired by Dr. S.C. Gupta, Retired Director, Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre, Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) Trivandrum analysed the cases of failures. The Committee suggested various measures to avoid failures.

(g) The proposal for generating energy from ocean using the principle of OTEC was attempted for the first time in the country. The deployment of the pipe required to bring the cold water on the Barge Sagar Shakti from a water depth of 1000m was not successful. Subsequently, the pipe was successfully deployed upto 700m depth (which have also been recorded in the C and AG para) after analyzing the previous failures as a part of the Low Temperature Thermal Desalination (LTTD) Pilot Project. NIOT has successfully deployed these pipes on 3 occasions and no loss of pipe has taken place.

Out of School Children

4124.SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT pleased to state :

(a) whether there is considerable decline from 6.6% in 2006 to 4.2% in 2007 in the percentage of out of school children in the age group of 6-14;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present status of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) in Andhra Pradesh regarding the funds allocated and utilised;

(d) whether any misuse of funds are reported in Andhra Pradesh under SSA during the last three years; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and 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) and (b) As per reports from States/UTs the number of out of school children in the 6-14 years age group, have come down from 5.3% in 2006 to 3.8% in 2007.

(c) Government of India has released Rs. 281 crore during 2007-08, under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme to Andhra Pradesh.

(d) and e) 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/Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) had been diverted to unauthorized bank accounts by the Assistant Accounts Officer of SSA Society, Andhra Pradesh. An FIR was lodged by the SSA office with the City Central Crime Station on 02.04.2007. Subsequently, the State Government transferred the case to CID for further investigation. The Government of Andhra Pradesh also has on 25.05.2007 appointed a retired Judge of the High Court as Commission of the 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 SSA for the period from 200-01 till date through the Andhra Pradesh State Accountant General (Audit) to ascertain the veracity of accounts.

[Translation]

Measures to Check Militancy on Maharashtra and Karnataka Border

4125.SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some special teams have been constituted by the Government to check the increasing

activities of militants and naxalites along the border of the States of Maharashtra and Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government for the security of the families residing in militancy and naxal affected areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) and (b) State Governments conduct need-based Inter-State joint police operations. At the Central level, a Task Force has been set up under Special Secretary (Internal Security) in the Ministry of Home Affairs, consisting of senior officers of intelligence agencies, State Police forces and Central Paramilitary forces. It deliberates upon the operational steps needed to deal with the naxalite activities and brings about coordination between police forces of different States. It also holds interactions with small groups of States with reference to the specific Inter-State coordination requirements in different areas relating to Joint police operations.

(c) Maintenance of law and order lies primarily in the domain of the concerned State Governments. The Central Government also closely monitors the situation and supplements their efforts and resources by various means, which include deployment of Central Paramilitary forces to assist the State Police, sanctioning of India Reserve battalions, assistance for strengthening of the State Police and intelligence agencies, re-imbursment of security-related expenditure, assistance in training of the State Police forces, sharing of intelligence, facilitating Inter-State coordination and assistance in development works through a range of schemes of various Ministries.

[English]

Measures to Check Cross-Border Terrorism

4126. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH :

SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether steps have been taken by the Government to stop cross-border terrorism;

(b) if so, the achievement made in this regard during the last three years;

(c) whether there is a need to lay greater emphasis to stop cross-border terrorism altogether; and

(d) if so, the details and the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) to (d) The Government pursues a comprehensive and multi-pronged policy and strategy to deal with cross border terrorism and possible infiltration of terrorist elements into the country. This includes, deployment of specific forces on different borders to ensure focused and coordinated action in respect of each border; continuous vigilance/surveillance and intensive patrolling; regular sharing of intelligence and coordination between the security agencies and the State authorities; and fencing and flood lighting on the Indo-Pakistan and Indo-Bangladesh borders. In addition, action is being taken at the international level, through bilateral and multilateral fora and mechanisms, such as Home Secretary level Talks, Joint Working Groups, Mutual Legal Assistance Treaties, and various other agreements, to check and contain activities of terrorist groups. The Strategy and action at various levels is reviewed and further measures, as necessary, taken from time to time, on a continuing basis.

National Merit Scholarship Scheme

4127. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has launched the National Merit Scholarship Scheme in the country;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) whether the Government has made any assessment of the performance of the said scheme;

- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the details of funds allocated to each State and Union Territory under the scheme during 2007-08; and
- (f) the number of scholarships given under the scheme till date in each State and Union Territory?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) and (b) Finance Minister in his Budget Speech on 28.02.2007 has announced a National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme for students studying in Classes IX to XII. The scheme envisages award of one lakh new scholarships every year at the rate of Rs. 6000 per annum based on a selection test.

(c) No, Sir. The implementation of the scheme has not started.

(d) to (f) Do not arise.

National Commission for Enterprises in Unorganised Sector

4128. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganised Sector (NCEUS) is finalizing another report on unorganized sector;

(b) if so, whether the report will be finalized and submitted to the Government after holding discussions with all stakeholders;

(c) whether the NCEUS has earlier presented two reports on financing of enterprises in the unorganized sector;

(d) if so, the details of the recommendations made; and

(e) the time by when these recommendations are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) Reports on

Labour Reforms, Skill formation and Employment strategy in Unorganised Sector are being finalised by the National Commission for Enterprises in Unorganised Sector (NCEUS).

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) The National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganised Sector (NCEUS) has submitted two reports to the Ministry of MSME on 5th November, 2007, namely, 'Financing of Enterprises in the Unorganised Sector' and 'Creation of a National Fund for the Unorganised Sector (NAFUS)'. The first report has made recommendations relating to revision in the priority sector lending guidelines, providing adequate safety nets to the banks, strengthening delivery points and micro financing, rationalizing cost of lending, etc.

The second report has proposed creation of a National Fund for the non-farm unorganized sector to cater to the developmental needs of the unorganised sector through assistance in areas of credit, marketing, skill development, technology upgradation, common infrastructure development etc.

No time frame has been fixed for the implementation of these Reports.

Construction of Road along Indo-China Border

4129. SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has started the work of construction of road links in the border areas along the Indo-China border in the States of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Home Affairs has taken a comprehensive project of construction of 27 roads on Indo-China border. The detailed progress and the status of roads is enclosed as Statement.

Statement

Sl. No.	Roads	Area	Progress/Status
1	2	3	4
1.	All weather road over Marsimik La	Jammu and Kashmir	Detailed Project Report is under preparation. Forest/wildlife clearance awaited.
2.	Karzok - Chumar	Jammu and Kashmir	Cost estimates approved by Technical Committee and High Level Empowered Committee. Forest/wildlife clearance awaited.
3.	Chartse to Point 4433	Jammu and Kashmir	Detailed Project Report submitted by the executing agency. Cost estimates to be considered by the Technical Committee shortly. Forest/wildlife clearance awaited.
4.	Koyul - Photi La - Chisumle - Zarear	Jammu and Kashmir	Detailed Project Report submitted by the executing agency. Cost estimates to be considered by the Technical Committee shortly. Forest/wildlife clearance awaited.
5.	Chitkul to Dumpti	Himachal Pradesh	Cost estimates approved by Technical Committee and High Level Empowered Committee. Forest/wildlife clearance awaited.
6.	Thangi to Charang	Himachal Pradesh	Cost estimates approved by Technical Committee and High Level Empowered Committee. Forest clearance awaited.
7.	Namgia - Shipki La (Chappan - Shipki La)	Himachal Pradesh	Detailed Project Report submitted by the executing agency. Cost estimates to be considered by the Technical Committee shortly. Forest clearance awaited.
8.	Sugar Point - Lapcha	Himachal Pradesh	Cost estimates approved by Technical Committee and High Level Empowered Committee. Forest clearance awaited.
9.	Sugar Point - Pong - Point 4840	Himachal Pradesh	Detailed Project Report submitted by the executing agency. Cost estimates to be considered by the Technical Committee shortly. Forest clearance awaited.
10.	Ghastoli - Rattakona	Uttarakhand	Cost estimates approved by Technical Committee and High Level Empowered Committee. Forest clearance awaited.

1	2	3	4
11.	Ghamsali – Geldung (Niti-Geldung)	Uttarakhand	Cost estimates approved by Technical Committee and High Level Empowered Committee. Forest clearance awaited.
12.	Sonam – PDA	Uttarakhand	Cost estimates approved by Technical Committee and High Level Empowered Committee. Forest/wildlife clearance awaited.
13.	Sumna – Rimkhim	Uttarakhand	Detailed Project Report is under preparation. Forest clearance awaited.
14.	Naga – Jachang	Uttarakhand	Detailed Project Report submitted by the executing agency. Cost estimates to be considered by the Technical Committee shortly. Forest/wildlife clearance awaited.
15.	PDA to Sumla	Uttarakhand	Cost estimates approved by Technical Committee and High Level Empowered Committee. Forest/wildlife clearance awaited.
16.	PDA to Mendi	Uttarakhand	Cost estimates approved by Technical Committee and High Level Empowered Committee. Forest/wildlife clearance awaited.
17.	Munsiyari – Milam	Uttarakhand	Detailed Project Report submitted by the executing agency. Cost estimates to be considered by the Technical Committee shortly. Forest clearance awaited.
18.	Sela – Tedang (New Sobla – Sela – Tedang)	Uttarakhand	Detailed Project Report submitted by the executing agency. Cost estimates to be considered by the Technical Committee shortly. Forest/wildlife clearance awaited.
19.	Gunji – Kuthi – Jolingkong	Uttarakhand	Detailed Project Report is under preparation. Forest/wildlife clearance awaited.
20.	Rama Sapper – Mago – Chuna	Arunachal Pradesh	Detailed Project Report is under preparation. Forest clearance awaited.
21.	Zimithang – Survasamba – Khinzemane	Arunachal Pradesh	Cost estimates approved by Technical Committee and High Level Empowered Committee. Forest clearance awaited.
22.	Shungatsar – Kharsang La	Arunachal Pradesh	Cost estimates approved by Technical Committee and High Level Empowered Committee. Forest clearance awaited.

1	2	3	4
23.	Yarlung – Lamang	Arunachal Pradesh	Cost estimates approved by Technical Committee and High Level Empowered Committee. In principle forest clearance received. The work of construction has since started.
24.	Bona to Gelling	Arunachal Pradesh	Cost estimates approved by Technical Committee and High Level Empowered Committee. In principle forest clearance received. The work of construction has since started.
25.	Dombang – Gora La	Sikkim	Cost estimates approved by Technical Committee and High Level Empowered Committee. Forest clearance awaited.
26.	Thangu – Muguthang	Sikkim	Cost estimates approved by Technical Committee and High Level Empowered Committee. Forest clearance awaited.
27.	Giagang – Kerang (Black topping of existing Op tracks)	Sikkim	Cost estimates approved by Technical Committee and High Level Empowered Committee. Forest clearance awaited.

Enrolment of Foreign Students

4130. SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the number of foreign students enrolled in the country for higher education during the last three years, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : As per information furnished by the Association of Indian Universities (AIU), 13, 267 foreign students were enrolled in the country for higher education during the academic year 2004-05. Country-wise details are enclosed as Statement.

AIU has not compiled information regarding foreign students enrolled for higher education for the years (2005-06) and (2006-07).

Statement

International students in India during the academic year 2004-05 – Country-wise

Sl. No.	Name of the Country	Number of students
1	2	3
1.	China	34
2.	Hong Kong	9
3.	Japan	63
4.	Korea	242
5.	Mongolia	38
6.	Taiwan	5
7.	Tibet	178

1	2	3	1	2	3
8.	Bahrain	382	34.	Brunei	2
9.	Iraq	16	35.	Combodia	22
10.	Israel	3	36.	East Timor	6
11.	Jordan	76	37.	Indonesia	51
12.	Kuwait	302	38.	Laos	7
13.	Lebanon	5	39.	Malaysia	108
14.	Oman	646	40.	Myanmar	31
15.	Qatar	256	41.	Philippines	5
16.	Saudi Arabia	419	42.	Singapore	76
17.	Syria	68	43.	Timorleste	1
18.	Turkey	7	44.	Thailand	293
19.	UAE	1500	45.	Vietnam	210
20.	Yemen	345	46.	Australia	9
21.	Afghanistan	35	47.	Fiji	37
22.	Banaladesh	940	48.	New Zealand	5
23.	Bhutan	286	49.	Papua New Guniea	2
24.	Iran	1120	50.	Tonga	2
25.	Kazakhstan	5	51.	Algeria	2
26.	Kyrgyzstan	12	52.	Egypt	6
27.	Maldives	60	53.	Libya	5
28.	Nepal	1352	54.	Morocco	3
29.	Pakistan	1	55.	Sudan	150
30.	Sri Lanka	582	56.	Cote D'Lvoire (Ivory Coast)	4
31.	Tajikistan	8	57.	Ghana	17
32.	Turkmenistan	4	58.	Liberia	3
33.	Uzbekistan	38	59.	Mali	1

1	2	3	1	2	3
60.	Nigeria	114	86.	South Africa	35
61.	Djibouti	48	87.	Denmark	2
62.	Eritrea	36	88.	Finland	1
63.	Ethiopia	226	89.	Ireland	1
64.	Kenya	418	90.	Lithuania	1
65.	Malawi	2	91.	Norway	1
66.	Mauritius	527	92.	U.K.	47
67.	Mozambique	16	93.	Niue Island	2
68.	Reunion	1	94.	Austria	1
69.	Rwanda	75	95.	Belgium	1
70.	Seychelles	14	96.	France	11
71.	Somalia	62	97.	Germany	20
72.	Tanzania	123	98.	Netherlands	1
73.	Uganda	70	99.	Switzerland	2
74.	Zambia	11	100.	Czech	2
75.	Zimbabwe	6	101.	Hungary	1
76.	Angola	1	102.	Latvia	1
77.	Cameroon	1	103.	Poland	11
78.	Congo	3	104.	Romania	2
79.	Senegal	1	105.	Russia	6
80.	Zaire	3	106.	Ukraine	4
81.	Botswana	9	107.	Belarussia	1
82.	Burundi	2	108.	Greece	1
83.	Lesotho	4	109.	Italy	6
84.	Madagascar	1	110.	Portugal	1
85.	Namibia	5	111.	Slovenia	1

1	2	3
112.	Spain	8
113.	Serbia	42
114.	Canada	163
115.	USA	398
116.	Antigua	1
117.	Guatemala	1
118.	Mexico	2
119.	Trinidad and Tobago	8
120.	West Indies	1
121.	Bolivia	1
122.	Brazil	6
123.	Chile	1
124.	Guyana	8
125.	Surinam	2
126.	Venezuela	1
127.	Miscellaneous*	587
Total		13,267

*Palestine.

Gaza strip, PIO Tibet

Coastal Police Stations in Andhra Pradesh

4131. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of coastal police stations approved and functioning at present in the State of Andhra Pradesh to prevent smuggling of explosives, infiltration, etc., through coasts;

(b) the manner in which the Coast Guard is coordinating and imparting training to the personnel of coastal police;

(c) whether Rs. 330 crores has been allocated for coastal police; and

(d) if so, the share of Andhra Pradesh and utilisation of the funds thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI) : (a) Six Coastal Police Stations (CPSs) have been approved and made operational under the Coastal Security Scheme for the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) The Coast Guard does the coordination and all Technical advice is provided by them. Coast Guard also organizes a 4-week training programme for the Coastal Police personnel. A part of the training is conducted on-board in Coast Guard vessels.

(c) and (d) The total Capital Outlay for the scheme for whole country including 9 States and 4 UTs is approved as Rs. 400 crores. It is for construction of CPSs, outposts, check posts, barracks, etc. and for purchase of vessels, jeeps and bikes. Rs. 151 crore for recurring expenditure has also been approved for fuel, maintenance and repair of vessels, and training of personnel.

The approved capital outlay for the State of Andhra Pradesh is Rs. 32.67 crores, out of which an amount of Rs. 74.10 lakhs has been released to the State of Andhra Pradesh during 2005-06 and Rs. 130.80 lakhs during 2006-07. While the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has furnished Utilization Certificate for the entire amount released during 2005-06, Utilization Certificate for the year 2006-07 has not been furnished so far.

[Translation]

Seizure of Smuggled Items

4132. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether recently several persons were arrested in the country particularly, in Bihar with fake currency, arms made in foreign countries, opium and other drugs;

(b) if so, the number of such incidents detected in the country during each of the last three years and in the current year, till date, State-wise; and

(c) the measures being taken by the Government to check such instances of smuggling?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) As per information received by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) from the State Crime Records Bureau, Bihar, 9 persons have been reported arrested under 2 incidents of seizure of fake Indian currency notes during 2008 (till date). NCRB does not maintain information relating to seizure of arms made in foreign countries and opium and other drugs. According to the Narcotics Control Bureau, the number of cases of seizures, exclusively of narcotic drugs in the Bihar, during 2005 to 2008 were as under:-

Year	No. of cases
2005	1
2006	2
2007	Nil
2008 (upto March, 2008)	Nil

(b) As per information compiled by NCRB on the basis of reports from the States/UTs, the State/UT-wise details relating to the number of incidents and persons arrested in connection with seizure of counterfeit Indian currency notes during 2005 to 2007 and upto March, 2008 are given in Statement-I.

(c) The measures taken by various Government agencies to check such crimes have been indicated in the Statement-II enclosed.

Statement-I

Sl. No.	State/UT	2008 (Upto March 2008)	
		No. of Incidents	No. of persons arrested
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0
3.	Assam	0	0
4.	Bihar	2	9
5.	Chhattisgarh	0	0
6.	Goa	8	2
7.	Gujarat	15	7
8.	Haryana	0	0
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0
11.	Jharkhand	0	0
12.	Karnataka	1	0
13.	Kerala	5	7
14.	Madhya Pradesh	0	0
15.	Maharashtra	13	14
16.	Manipur	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	0	0
18.	Mizoram	1	7
19.	Nagaland	0	0
20.	Orissa	0	0
21.	Punjab	4	7
22.	Rajasthan	0	0

1	2	3	4
23.	Sikkim	0	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	60	9
25.	Tripura	0	0
26.	Uttar Pradesh	0	0
27.	Uttarakhand	3	6
28.	West Bengal	4	0
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0
30.	Chandigarh	0	0
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0
32.	Daman and Diu	0	0
33.	Delhi	4	6
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0
35.	Pondicherry	0	0
Total (All India)		120	74

Statement-II

- (i) CBI has been nominated as the nodal agency to monitor investigation and tackling of the crime of FICN. CBI holds periodical meetings with the Ministries/Departments, police authorities, law enforcement and other security agencies. CBI also coordinates with the State level nodal officers on collection of information as well as for action against FICN.
- (ii) Round the clock surveillance of the borders by carrying out patrolling (on foot, by boats and vehicle mobile), laying nakas (border ambushes) and by deploying observation posts all along the International Border (IB).
- (iii) Upgradation of intelligence network and coordination with sister intelligence agencies.

- (iv) Conduct of special operations, along the borders.
- (v) Introduction of modern surveillance equipment including night vision devices.
- (vi) Erection of fencing along the IB.
- (vii) Increase in the number of Border Observation Posts and deployment on the IB.
- (viii) Deployment of vessels/water crafts of BSF water wing in the riverine segments of IB.
- (ix) Instructions have also been issued to all State Governments particularly border States, to be more vigilant in this regard.

Steps taken by Ministry of Finance to curb circulation of FICN

Additional security features have been incorporated in Indian bank notes making counterfeiting extremely difficult. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has set up in its Central Office a separate Division for collection of data and analysis thereof on counterfeit notes for taking appropriate steps in combatting the problem. All commercial Banks have also formed Forged Note Vigilance Cells as per instructions of RBI. RBI has instructed the Banks to lodge FIRs with Police authorities in respect of counterfeit notes detected at their counters. Banks have been advised to improve their mechanism for not only detection of counterfeit notes but also for gathering intelligence but also for gathering intelligence and pass on such information to the RBI, Central Office/State Police. Currency chests branches of banks are equipped with Note Sorting Machines to detect counterfeit notes and pull them out of circulation. RBI has also initiated public awareness campaign to widely publicize the security features of banknotes in the print and electronic media to help the people to detect fake notes.

Steps taken by Narcotics Control Bureau to prevent illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs

- (i) Strict surveillance and enforcement at import and export points.

- (ii) Intensive preventive and interdiction efforts along known drug routes.
- (iii) Improved coordination between the various drug law enforcement agencies in order to impart greater cohesion to interdiction.
- (iv) Strengthening of international liaison to improve the collection analysis and dissemination of operational intelligence.
- (v) Increased international co-operation for exchange of information and investigative assistance in administering control over the movement of precursor chemicals.
- (vi) Conducting training programmes for law enforcement officials for upgrading their skills to combat drug trafficking.
- (vii) Implementing a scheme of monetary rewards for information leading to seizures of Narcotics drugs to informants and officers.
- (viii) Financial assistance being provided to eligible States for strengthening their narcotic Units.

[English]

**Diversion of Funds under Sarva
Shiksha Abhiyan**

4133.SHRI ASADUDDIN OWASI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether some cases of diversion of funds by State Governments under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) has come to the notice of the Union Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during each of last three years, State-wise and UT-wise;
- (c) whether the State Governments have recouped the SSA fund after instruction of the Union Government;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to ensure that SSA fund is not diverted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) :
(a) to (e) The report on the Performance Audit of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), submitted by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India 2005-06 for the period 2001-02 to 2004-05 has classified an amount of about Rs. 6.8 crore in Assam, Rs. 15.8 crore in Bihar, Rs. 22.9 crore in Gujarat, Rs. 4.7 crore in Karnataka, Rs. 0.2 crore in Madhya Pradesh and Rs. 0.5 crore in Tamil Nadu as expenditure not covered under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) guidelines. The State Project Director SSA Andhra Pradesh informed that an amount of Rs. 14.98 crore of District Primary Education Programme (DPEP)/SSA had been diverted to unauthorized bank accounts by an assistant account officer of SSA Andhra Pradesh.

Government of India has issued instructions to the States/UTs to refund the above mentioned amount to States SSA account. Rs. 5.57 crore from Assam, Rs. 1.44 crore from Bihar, Rs. 22.92 crore from Gujarat and Rs. 2.43 crore from Karnataka have been recouped.

In Andhra Pradesh, an FIR has been lodged and the matter referred to the CID for further investigations by the Government of Andhra Pradesh. The State Government has also suspended three account officials and transferred another three out of the State Project Office of SSA/ DPEP.

The States/UTs have already been strictly instructed to avoid recurrence of such instances in future. Govt. of India is monitoring the use of SSA funds through annual State/UT audits, independent concurrent financial reviews and field monitoring through 41 independent Monitoring Institutions.

**Vacant Posts of Teachers under
Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan**

4134.SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of posts of teachers lying vacant under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) in Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) the steps taken to fill-up these vacant posts;
- (c) the number of children out of school in Uttar Pradesh; and
- (d) the action taken to ensure that all the children are enrolled?

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

(a) and (b) According to the information furnished by State of Uttar Pradesh, there is no vacant post of teacher sanctioned under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA).

(c) and (d) The State has also reported about two lakh out of school children in the age group of 6-14 years, for whom various interventions during 2008-09 under SSA have been provided for their coverage.

Accommodation for Regional Offices of NVS

4135. SHRI G. NIZAMUDDIN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the present status of construction of permanent building to accommodate the National Head Quarters for NVS in New Delhi;

(b) whether the Regional Offices of Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti across the country are functioning from rented accommodations;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount of rent being paid in each region; and

(d) the time by when permanent buildings to accommodate these Regional Offices are likely to be constructed?

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

(a) The Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti has acquired a piece of land at NOIDA (Uttar Pradesh) for its Headquarters

Office building. The construction work has been entrusted to Central Public Works Department (CPWD), which has commenced pre-construction activities.

(b) The Regional Offices of Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti at Bhopal, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Lucknow, Patna, Pune and Shillong are functioning from rented accommodation. The Regional Office of NVS at Chandigarh is functioning from its permanent building.

(c) The details of rent being paid per month in each region is as under:-

Name of Region	Rent per month
Bhopal	Rs. 26,062/-
Hyderabad	Rs. 40,250/-
Jaipur	Rs. 44,150/-
Lucknow	Rs. 34,275/-
Patna	Rs. 18,000/-
Pune	Rs. 83,115/-
Shillong	Rs. 42,672/-

(d) No decision has been taken on construction of permanent buildings for these Regional Offices.

Enrolement under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

4136. SHRIMATI JYOTIRMOYEE SIKDAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the impact of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Mid-Day-Meal on the overall enrolment of children during each of the last three years, State and UT-wise;

(b) the number of out-of-school girl children in the country as on date, State-wise and UT-wise;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to improve the school enrolment especially in the rural areas of the country under these flagship schemes; and

(d) the achievements made in this regard?

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

(a) to (d) The implementation of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) and Mid-Day-Meal programme has seen significant increase in enrolment and decrease in number of out-of-

school children. A statement showing increase in enrolment during 2003-04 to 2005-06 and number of girls who are out-of-school children as on 1.4.2007 is enclosed.

Similarly the dropout rate at primary level which was 31.47 in 2003-04 has come down to 25.47 in 2005-06.

Statement

Sl. No.	State/UT	Enrolment at level Primary			Out of School Girls Children (6-14 years) as on 1.4.2007
		2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7975659	7692411	7391922	137281
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	180253	184673	195590	16158
3.	Assam	3232547	3510665	3550745	154820
4.	Bihar	9471186	10042119	10525321	1063626
5.	Chhattisgarh	3397795	3405502	3167668	64053
6.	Goa	107875	106828	104512	3915
7.	Gujarat	6551770	6553022	6556986	72305
8.	Haryana	2010659	2073939	1997491	125483
9.	Himachal Pradesh	666938	670807	660960	3176
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	950296	969479	1134528	61862
11.	Jharkhand	3140252	3446984	3827742	111331
12.	Karnataka	6267825	5883907	5757779	85679
13.	Kerala	2492430	2543422	2545323	10251
14.	Madhya Pradesh	8830733	10351093	11274071	148085
15.	Maharashtra	11175756	11385483	11557676	68290
16.	Manipur	339110	348897	360055	27118
17.	Meghalaya	360907	467955	508205	16791
18.	Mizoram	127057	123705	162302	2521

1	2	3	4	5	6
19	Nagaland	210410	224246	224715	17929
20	Orissa	4918067	5218568	4701176	261641
21	Punjab	1979294	1901408	1872162	108304
22	Rajasthan	9479755	9329792	9411874	89167
23	Sikkim	76799	86149	90687	1440
24	Tamil Nadu	6591113	6403416	6378319	52001
25	Tripura	451731	461209	500284	7758
26	Uttar Pradesh	24080867	24579638	25186552	393049
27	Uttarakhand	1164485	1191505	1196510	11549
28	West Bengal	10327725	9881352	9150073	656880
29	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	40388	40274	37601	64
30	Chandigarh	66034	62908	67416	2792
31	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	32912	33624	35915	1161
32	Daman and Diu	16222	16321	16204	95
33	Delhi	1442259	1460714	1786811	13500
34	Lakshadweep	7161	7053	7474	76
35	Pondicherry	102021	103999	106069	146
India		128266291	130763067	132048718	3790297

**National Science and Social Science
Foundation**

4137. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government is planning to set up a National Science and Social Science Foundation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) and (b) As per information furnished by the Planning Commission, the National Knowledge Commission has recommended the setting up of a National Science and Social Science Foundation. The matter is being examined by the Planning Commission.

**Implementation of Conditional
Access System**

4138.DR. K.S. MANOJ : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any survey regarding the Effectiveness of Conditional Access System (CAS);
- (b) whether the Government proposes to establish Conditional Access System (CAS) throughout the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the State Governments have furnished their views in regard to extension implementation of CAS in the remaining part of the metros country; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has got two surveys conducted on quality of service and non-set top box (STB) House-holds in Conditional Access System (CAS) areas to assess the success of CAS.

(b) to (f) Yes, Sir. Conditional Access System (CAS) as been implemented in the notified areas of Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai. Government is in the process of evaluating the implementation of CAS in the 3 metros and Chennai metro area. TRAI has recommended the extension of CAS in the balance area of 3 metros on mandatory basis. TRAI has also forwarded a report of the Group formed of members from different segments of the broadcasting and cable sector to suggest options and roadmap for voluntary introduction of CAS and digitalization in cable television in the country on voluntary-cum-mandatory basis. The Group has recommended a voluntary-cum-mandatory approach to introduction of CAS in fifty five cities which include all the cities with a million plus population, some cities located in the proximity of the existing CAS cities and it has also included all the State

capitals which could not come under any of the above criteria. Recommendations of the Group are being deliberated. The issues arising out of the implementation of CAS in the first phase and the strategies to be evolved for its smooth and successful implementation in the next phase of implementation have been discussed by Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in a meeting on 08.4.2008 with the concerned State Government officials, TRAI, Nodal Officers and various stakeholders including consumers. The Government is inclined to speed up the process of digitalization and introduction of addressability by extending the CAS notified areas. The Government also wants it to be done in a manner which adequately protects consumer interest and leads to their empowerment. The details of further extension are being finalised. No time limits could be given on such policy issues.

Computerised Version of Books

4139.SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government has decided to introduce computerised version of books of some classes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether this decision would deprive students belonging to weaker sections of the community who are not having computers at home; and
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has made available the new textbooks for different classes on its website with provision for free downloading.

(c) No, Sir. This will not adversely affect any student as all the textbooks published by NCERT are in print form.

- (d) Does not arise.

**Charging of High Fees by Self Financing
Engineering Colleges**

4140. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that many of the Self-Financing Engineering Colleges in the country are charging more than the prescribed amount as fees;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the AICTE has asked for details from those colleges regarding their fee structure;

(d) if so, the details of compliance thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) and (b) As per information furnished by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), some of the AICTE approved technical institutions are charging more than the prescribed fee.

(c) to (e) The complaints received in this regard are sent to the concerned technical institutions asking for their explanation. Based on the information received and after conducting necessary inquiries through Expert Committees, necessary action is initiated by the AICTE against such institutions.

Counselling Centres in All Universities

4141. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Counselling Centres are functioning in all the Universities in the country;

(b) if not, whether the Government has any proposal to set up such Centres in all the Universities to promote

employment opportunities among the educated youths students in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the Counselling Centres are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) to (d) While Counselling Centres are already functioning in a few Universities, the University Grants Commission is finalising a Scheme, namely, Introduction of Career and Counselling Cell in Universities for the XIth Plan.

CBFC in North Eastern Region

4142. SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a Regional Office of Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) in the country including North Eastern Region;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken proposed to be taken by the Government to help the film makers in getting censor certificate without bureaucratic hassle?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) to (c) Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) has its regional offices in Mumbai, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Chennai, Thiruvananthapuram, Kolkata, Delhi, Cuttack and Guwahati. The Regional Office in Guwahati, Assam covers Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura. There is no proposal to open any more Regional Offices of CBFC.

(d) In view of the large increase in the work of certification of films with the CBFC in the last couple of

years, officers and staff from other media units under the Ministry have been temporarily provided to CBFC to facilitate its smooth functioning.

[Translation]

**Funds for Micro, Small and
Medium Enterprises**

4143. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL : Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the various schemes programmes being implemented for setting up of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises;

(b) the details of the loans, grants and subsidy provided to each State Union Territory including Rajasthan during the Tenth Five Year Plan, year-wise;

(c) the number of persons provided employment in these enterprises at present; and

(d) the funds provided for these enterprises during each year of the Tenth Five Year Plan period indicating the amount spent out of it?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) The details of some of the schemes programmes being implemented by the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) for the promotion and development of MSMEs are given in the Statement-I enclosed.

(b) The schemes programmes implemented by the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises do not envisage grant of loan, grants or subsidies to States Union Territories for the implementation of these schemes.

(c) The estimated number of persons employed by micro and small enterprises as on 31 March 2007 is 312.52 lakhs.

(d) The Ministry of Micro Small and Medium Enterprises was formed after 9 May 2007 (i.e. during the

11th Plan) with the merger of the erstwhile Ministry of Small Scale Industries (SSI) and the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries (ARI). The allocation for the Ministry of SSI and the Ministry of ARI for the implementation of various schemes and programmes during each year of the Tenth Five Year Plan and the expenditure are given in the Statement-II enclosed.

Statement-I

1. Credit Guarantee Fund Scheme

This schemes provides guarantee cover upto 75% of the collateral free credit (term-loan and working capital loan) extended by banks and financial institutions to new and existing Micro and Small Enterprises on loans upto Rs. 50 lakh. The scheme is administered by the Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE).

2. Micro and Small Enterprises Cluster Development Programme (MSECDP)

This programme aims at holistic development of industrial clusters, i.e. agglomerations of Micro and small Enterprises producing the same or similar types of products in a specific geographical area. The development needs of such cluster are identified through a diagnostic study. Action plan is prepared for development of the cluster in respect of the felt needs in areas like technological up-gradation, marketing and export promotion, skill development, establishment of common facility centre, etc.

3. Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme

The objective of this scheme is to facilitate technology upgradation by providing 15% upfront capital subsidy on loans upto Rs. 1 crore for technology upgradation to Micro and Small Enterprises, earlier known as Small Scale Industrial Units, on institutional finance availed by them. The capital subsidy is also provided to eligible units in Khadi, Village and Coir Industrial sector.

4. ISO 9000/ISO 14001 Certification Reimbursement Scheme

Cost of obtaining ISO 9000 Certification by micro and small enterprises is reimbursed to the extent of 75% or Rs. 75000 -, whichever is lower. The objective of the scheme is to improve the marketability of the micro and small enterprises products by enhancing their quality.

5. Entrepreneurship and Skill Development Programme

EDPs MDPs are conducted with a view to enable the unemployed youth to acquire requisite skills so as to be self-employed. 22.5% of the seat in the courses are reserved in favour of the weaker sections of the society.

6. Mahila Coir Yojna

Under the Mahila Coir Yojna Scheme of the Coir Board, rural women in the state are provided training on spinning coir yarn with stipend. On completion of training, financial assistance is given to successful

trainees for procurement of spinning rats. The training is provided through self-help groups, non-governmental organizations and State Government agencies.

7. Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojna (PMRY)

Under PMRY, assistance is provided to educated unemployed youth in setting-up their ventures all over the country. Under PMRY, all economically viable activities are permissible including agriculture and allied activities, but excluding direct agricultural operations like raising crops, purchase of manure, etc.

8. Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP)

Under the REGP, entrepreneurs can establish village industries in rural areas and small towns with a population upto 20,000 by availing of margin money from KVIC and loan from public sector scheduled commercial banks, selected regional rural banks, cooperative banks, etc. for projects with a maximum cost of Rs. 25 lakh.

Statement-II

Xth Plan Budget Utilisation of Ministry of SSI

(Rs. in crore)

Item	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A. SIDO						
BE	313.00	298.31	315.55	360.69	381.71	1669.26
RE	256.85	301.45	312.40	356.34	396.31	1623.34
EXP.	249.30	294.27	307.05	349.32	396.31	1596.25
						(98 %)
B. MoSSI (proper) including NCEUS						
BE	32.00	40.00	40.00	42.00	44.95	198.95
RE	28.00	40.00	40.00	41.00	44.95	193.95

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
EXP.	25.65	38.13	33.87	41.80	44.95	184.40 (95%)
C. NSIC						
BE	11.15	11.69	10.45	9.57	43.27	86.13
RE	11.74	8.94	9.85	11.57	24.97	67.07
EXP.	8.61	7.21	9.98	9.83	24.97	60.60 (90%)
Total MoSSI (A+B+C)						
BE	356.15	350.00	366.00	412.26	469.93	1954.34
RE	296.59	350.39	362.25	408.91	466.23	1884.36
Exp.	283.56	339.61	350.90	400.95	466.23	1841.25 (98%)

Xth Plan Budget Utilisation of Ministry of ARI

(Rs. in crore)

Scheme	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A. KVIC						
BE	394.67	392.00	437.00	587.00	592.93	2403.60
RE	394.67	444.75	462.00	560.82	592.93	2455.17
EXP.	340.55	423.60	480.99	558.56	592.93	2376.63
B. COIR BOARD						
BE	15.80	18.00	18.00	23.00	23.00	97.60
RE	15.80	15.85	18.00	35.51	23.00	107.96
EXP.	13.77	14.52	16.80	35.43	23.00	103.52
C. PMRY*						
BE	169.73	170.00	219.00	219.00	325.10	1102.83
RE	169.73	169.40	219.00	273.69	250.00	1081.82
EXP.	168.10	168.01	218.19	272.54	250.00	1078.84

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
D. SFURTI**						
BE	-	-	100.00	30.00	25.97	155.97
RE	-	-	1.00	1.50	25.97	28.47
EXP.	-	-	-	1.50	25.97	27.47
TOTAL - MINISTRY OF ARI						
BE	580.00	580.00	774.00	859.00	967.00	3760.00
RE	580.00	630.00	700.00	871.52	891.90	3673.42
EXP.	522.42	606.13	695.98	868.03	891.90	3584.46

*It includes NPRI.

**SFURTI was introduced on 3 October, 2005.

(English)

**Development of Militancy Affected
Districts of Assam**

4144. SHRI M.K. SUBBA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has directed the Government of Assam to prepare an action plan for speedier development of the five militancy affected districts of the State;

(b) if so, the details of the plan submitted by Assam Government; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) While the State Government is in the process of preparing the required plans, it has been informed by the State Government that funds have already been provided in the State plan for the year

2008-09 for development of infrastructure in the border districts.

Preparation of Waiting List of Students

4145. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is mandatory for institutions to maintain a waiting list of successful students admitted and if any student leaves the institution before commencement of the session, then that seat has to be filled with a waitlisted student;

(b) if so, whether many colleges institutions are flouting the above instructions; and

(c) if so, the remedial steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) to (c) According to the University Grants Commission, they have not issued any regulations on this subject. Every University has its own set of rules on admission of students.

HIV/AIDS Study Programme by IGNOU

4146. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL :

SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI :

SHRI SUGRIB SINGH :

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

(a) whether the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) has any plan to launch several courses and formal study programmes on social work and HIV AIDS as reported in "Times of India" dated March 11, 2008;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the academic year from which such courses and formal study programmes are likely to be started by the IGNOU in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) to (c) The Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) has informed that it has launched following programmes on HIV AIDS:-

- (i) Six month certificate programme on HIV AIDS and Family Education (CAFE) from academic year 2002;
- (ii) One year diploma programme on HIV AIDS and Family Education (DAFE) from Academic year 2003; and
- (iii) Bachelor in Social Work (BSW) with three compulsory courses on HIV AIDS, Family Education and Substance Abuse from academic year 2004.

The University has decided to offer Master's in Social Work (MSW) with an elective course on HIV AIDS: Stigma, Discrimination and Prevention and optional papers on HIV AIDS, Family Education and Substance Abuse in all its Under Graduate programmes, namely BA B.Sc. B.Com, with effect from July 2008. It also has a plan to offer one course each on HIV AIDS and on Adolescence and Family

Education in its Teacher Training Programme (B.Ed) sponsored by MHRD and UNICEF.

[Translation]

**Deployment of Security Forces to
Check Activities of ULFA**

4147. SHRI AJIT JOGI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of defence personnel deployed by the Union Government to check ULFA activities in North Assam;

(b) whether defence personnels have been deployed on all the borders of the country;

(c) whether the Government has fixed any tenure for those personnel deployed in North Assam; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI) : (a) Concerted and sustained Counter Insurgency (CI) operations continue in Assam against various militant outfits including United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA). The entire States has been declared as 'disturbed area' under the provisions of Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958. A Unified Headquarter has been functioning since 1997 for coordinated CI operations. Central Security Forces Army formations are made available to assist the State Government. Deployment of security forces Army formations for conduct of Counter Insurgency operations in North Eastern States is done based on operational requirements of establishing a grid in various sectors. Details of deployment of security force personnel army formations cannot be provided in public interest.

(b) Security Forces have been deployed for guarding of India's International borders with Pakistan, Bangladesh, China, Nepal, Bhutan, and Myanmar.

(c) and (d) No fixed tenure for deployment of Security Forces along the international border including North

Assam has been laid down. However, the troops deployed in Counter Insurgency operations in Assam have tenure of two to three years after which they are turned over as per the policy issued by the Army Headquarters.

[English]

Coverage of FM Station in Maharashtra

4148. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the details of FM stations in Maharashtra and other states alongwith the percentage of area covered by FM radio station in the State;

(b) the details of proposals received to extend FM coverage to other areas of Maharashtra and other states during each of the last three years and till date; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) 170 FM Transmitters of All India Radio (AIR) including 16 in Maharashtra are working in the country. AIR FM Coverage in the State of Maharashtra is 24.3% by area and 44.15% by population. As regards, private FM, 211 radio channels have been operationalised including 23 channels in Maharashtra.

(b) and (c) Proposals to extend FM coverage are received from time to time from various quarters and these are taken into consideration while formulating the plans for expansion of FM service of All India Radio. On the basis of such proposals, the Government has approved 65 AIR FM Transmitters countrywide and 100 numbers of 100 W AIR FM Transmitters in the North-East.

Mosquito Proof Coolers

4149. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the scientists have developed mosquito-proof cooler;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the manner in which it is likely to help fight vector-born diseases; and

(d) the time by when such coolers are likely to be made available in the market?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) to (d) The information is being compiled and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Mahatma Gandhi Institute for Rural Industrialisation

4150. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has set up the Mahatma Gandhi Institute for Rural Industrialisation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the various courses training programmes devised for imparting training to set up village industries by the Institute so far?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) The Government has set up the "Mahatma Gandhi Institute for Rural Industrialisation (MGIRI)" at Wardha, Maharashtra by completely overhauling and revamping the then existing MGIRI, which had come into existence in 2003 after the erstwhile Jamnalal Bajaj Central Research Institute, was rechristened as MGIRI. The MGIRI, Wardha is registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1960 and seeks to provide high quality scientific, technological and management inputs to strengthen rural industrialization and to enhance opportunities of meaningful and productive employment in rural areas in the khadi and village industries (KVI) sectors. The MGIRI is presently being run

in project mode in technical collaboration with Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi under a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The promotion of rural industrialization would be helped greatly through capacity-building and technology upgradation in KVI, generating more employment opportunities in rural areas with higher productivity and incomes for artisans. The specific objectives behind setting up MGIRI are to:-

- (i) set up a strong two-way linkage between itself and the rural industrialists and technical experts in professional institutes so as to facilitate quick availability of modern science, technology and management inputs for rural industrialisation,
- (ii) create a science and technology hub for KVI sector by developing strong linkages and interface with other institutions in the field of rural industrialisation,
- (iii) build a database of technologies available in KVI sector,
- (iv) facilitate setting up of rural industrial estates and clusters with necessary infrastructural facilities like power, specialised tool rooms, testing and marketing facilities,
- (v) undertake and sponsor projects capable of giving substantial fillip to larger and increased market penetration to selected products of village industry,
- (vi) conduct specialised human resource development programmes in generic areas such as Total Quality Management, creativity and innovation, rural entrepreneurship development,
- (vii) provide training to trainers of the training centres of KVIC and Khadi and Village Industries Boards of State Union Territory Government, and to
- (viii) promote innovation through pilot studies and field trials through research, extension, education and training,

(c) The following programmes courses have been conducted by MGIRI for dissemination of technology development under village industries:-

- (i) Quality assurance for Khadi Technologies.
- (ii) Designing different craft items out of handmade paper.
- (iii) Improved Kilns and Power operated Potters Wheel.
- (iv) Decorative Pottery making and Value addition.
- (v) Bio-manure Microbial Diagnosis.
- (vi) Bio-mass briquetting and its utilization.
- (vii) Quality control of value added food and herbal products.
- (viii) Conversion kit for Biogas Engine.
- (ix) Soap and Detergent testing.

[Translation]

Prices of Iron Ore

4151. SHRI KIREN RIJU :

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the prices of iron ore is increasing constantly;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether iron ore producers do not agree to decrease the price of iron ore;
- (d) if so, the percentage of increase in the price of iron ore during each of the last three years, till-date; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to check the rise in prices of iron ore in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE) : (a)

and (b) As per available information, prices of iron ore are increasing in domestic market due to hike in rail freight as well as road transportation charges and not due to any supply constraints.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Agricultural Workers

4152.DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL :

SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA :

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has launched any scheme to provide additional employment opportunities to the agricultural workers by setting up industries in the rural areas:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which the agricultural workers are likely to be benefited?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) to (c) The Government (in the Ministry of Micro, Small and medium Enterprises) has been implementing a number of schemes throughout the country. Of these the most important are the two credit-linked subsidy schemes, namely, the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) and the Prime Minister's Rojgar Yojana (PMRY), for creation of off-farm employment opportunities by assisting individual entrepreneurs, educated unemployed youth, self help groups, etc., including agricultural workers, in setting up village industries, including related business/service enterprises. REGP is implemented in rural areas and small towns with population below 20,000 while PMRY is implemented in both rural and urban areas.

The Government (in the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) proposes to promote the agro and rural industries through a new scheme called "Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme" (PMEGP),

proposed to be formulated by the merger of REGP and PMRY, with the proposed allocation of Rs. 823.00 crore (BE) for 2008-09 to enable generation of an estimated 6 lakh employment opportunities through setting up of around 1 lakh self employment ventures/units in the remaining years of Eleventh Plan.

Registered Small and Medium Units

4153.SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN" :

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of registered small and medium industrial units are lesser in comparison to unregistered ones in the country;

(b) if so, the number of units in both categories during each of the last three years separately;

(c) the basis on which the estimated number of unregistered units are determined by the Government; and

(d) the average investment made in the country in registered and unregistered units separately?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Based on the results of the Third All India Census for SSIs (2001-02), the estimated number of registered and unregistered micro and small enterprises in the country during 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 is given in the table below. The information on number of medium enterprises is not available.

Year	Estimated number of micro and small enterprises (lakh Nos.)		
	Registered	Unregistered	Total
2004-05	18.24	100.35	118.59
2005-06	19.30	104.12	123.42
2006-07	20.32	108.12	128.44

(c) Alongwith 3rd All India Census of registered micro and small enterprises, a sample survey of unregistered units was also conducted. As per the results of the sample survey, the number of unregistered micro and small enterprises in the country as on 31.03.2002 were estimated to be 91,46,216.

(d) The details of estimated fixed investment made by the micro and small enterprises (both registered and unregistered) during 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 are given in the table below:-

Year	Estimated fixed investment (Rs. Crore)		
	Registered	Unregistered	Total
2004-05	120133	68660	188793
2005-06	126814	71237	198050
2006-07	133329	73978	207307

[English]

Industrially Backward UTs

4154. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of industrially backward Union Territories in the country and the reasons for their backwardness;

(b) whether the Government has promulgated any national action plan for their development; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, alongwith the total funds provided, Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Various studies in the past have sought to identify industrially backward regions in the country. More recently, with a view to focus on district specific cases of industrial backwardness, inter-departmental meetings have been held and the relevant data available is being analysed to

finalise and implement concrete policy decisions to address purposively the causes of industrial backwardness in various districts in a calibrated manner. The action plan will be finalized in consultation with State Governments/Union Territories.

Students Going Abroad

4155. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD :

SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI :

SHRI ANIRUDH PRASAD ALIAS SADHU YADAV :

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

(a) whether the Government is spending a huge amount every year on students who are going abroad for obtaining higher education as reported in "Navbharat Times" dated March 18, 2008;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of recommendations/suggestions made by the ASSOCHAM in regard to admission of students in foreign countries; and

(d) the action taken/likely to be taken by the Government on the suggestions of ASSOCHAM?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) While the suggestions reportedly made by the ASSOCHAM have not been received in this Ministry, the Xth Plan for higher and technical education approved by the National Development Council includes the setting up of 8 new Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), 7 new Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs), 3 new Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research (IISERs), 2 new Schools of Planning and Architecture (SPAs), 16 Central Universities and 14 world class Universities which together aim at enhancing the capacity of Indian higher education system.

Setting up of New Design Institutes

4156. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has finalized the locations for setting up of four new design institutes on the pattern of National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad;

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

(c) whether the State Government of Orissa has requested the Union Government to set up one such institute in Bhubaneswar; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to set up these institutes at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR) :

(a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) The Government of Orissa had requested in March 2007 for opening of a branch of National Institute of Design (NID) at Bhubaneswar. The State Government had indicated its willingness to provide necessary infrastructure like land for this purpose.

(d) The National Design Policy envisages raising of Indian design education to global standards of excellence. The Action Plan for implementation of the Policy involves setting up of new design institutes. The number of such institutes and their locations have not been finalized.

Vacancies in Doordarshan and AIR

4157. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether staff for newly opened Doordarshan (DD) and All India Radio (AIR) have been sanctioned by the Ministry of Finance;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by when these vacancies are likely to be filled up?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No staff has been sanctioned for the newly opened DD Kendras and AIR stations pending manpower review and full implementation of ERC recommendations.

(d) For reasons aforesaid, such posts cannot be presently filled.

Commercialisation of Education

4158. SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of schemes undertaken by the Government to prevent commercialisation of education;

(b) the details of guidelines/directions issued to the State Governments in this regard; and

(c) the extent to which the efforts made by the Government have proved successful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) to (c) As per the UGC Act, 1956, the Commission has been empowered to take steps to ensure that no candidate secures admission to any course of study by reason of economic power and thereby prevents a more meritorious candidate from securing admission to such course of study. The UGC Act provides that no college shall accept, whether directly or indirectly, any payment otherwise than by way of fees; or any donation of gift (whether in cash or kind), from, or in relation to, any student in connection with his admission to, and prosecution of, any course of study. According to the information furnished by the UGC, the State

Governments have constituted Committee for regulating admission and fee structure in respect of the private and self financed colleges located in their respective jurisdiction.

All India Council for Technical Education have also formulated regulations for the purpose of charging of fee by technical institutions. As per these regulations State level fee committee have been constituted by the concerned State Governments which will prescribe fee to be charged by technical institutions and also monitor the implementation.

Indian Universities Abroad

4159. SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Indian Universities operating in foreign countries;

(b) whether the Government is planning to establish more universities outside of India; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) According to the University Grants Commission, the following 'deemed-to-be-universities' are having approved off-shore campuses:—

Sl. No.	Name of Deemed University	Name of Country
1.	Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Pilani, Rajasthan	Dubai
2.	Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Meera	Oman
3.	Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Manipal	Malaysia, Dubai and Oman
4.	Vinayaka Mission's Research Foundation, Salem, Tamil Nadu	Thailand

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Duty Entitlement Pass Book Scheme

4160. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is considering extension of the exporters flagship tax refund scheme Duty Entitlement Pass Book (DEPB) Scheme for another year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has appointed an expert committee to work out a feasible alternative to the DEPB scheme which has come under the WTO scanner;

(d) if so, whether the said committee has submitted its recommendation to the Government; and

(e) if so, the time by when a final decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) and (b) Government has extended Duty Entitlement Pass Book (DEPB) Scheme till 31.05.2009 at the time of announcement of Annual Supplement to Foreign Trade Policy 2008-09 on 11.04.2008;

(c) to (e) Government constituted an Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Shri Anwarul Hoda to work out a feasible alternative to the DEPB Scheme. The Committee submitted its report in February, 2007. No final decision has been taken in the matter.

Performance of Various Departments

4161. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the C and AG, in its latest report has highlighted the performance of various departments and autonomous bodies of Government of NGT of Delhi;

- (b) if so, the salient points of the report thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The salient points are enclosed as Statement.

(c) The report has been tabled in the Delhi Legislative Assembly on 31.3.2008. The concerned departments of Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi take necessary follow up action on the recommendations of the report of C and AG.

Statement

Salient Points of Performance Audit of Various Departments

1. Implementation of Industrial disputes Act, 1947 and Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970.

- (a) The conciliation and dispute redressal machinery envisaged in the industrial disputes Act was not fully constituted and activated.
- (b) There was delay in commencement of the conciliation proceedings by the Conciliation Officers.
- (c) The Success rate of resolving or settling the disputes at the level of Conciliation Officers was only 9 to 11 per cent.
- (d) The number of cases pending at the adjudication level was 24008 at the end of December 2005.
- (e) There were delays in publication and implementation of awards.
- (f) The status of enforcement of Awards and recovery of dues from the employers of workmen was far from satisfactory.

(g) The enforcement of Contract Labour Act was weak.

2. Information Technology Audit of the Directorate of Education.

- (a) The application development process, planning, security and testing were poorly managed.
- (b) Feasibility study was not conducted.
- (c) Audit trail was not incorporated in the application.
- (d) Input controls were inadequate and issues relating to authorization were not adequately addressed.
- (e) Inadequacy of the implementation of the business rules resulted in irregular payments.

3. Water Management System in Delhi.

- (a) Against the projected demand of 1050 million gallon per day (MGD), the actual production of potable water in Delhi was only 780 MGD resulting in a shortfall of 25 per cent.
- (b) There is considerable inequitable distribution of water in different parts of Delhi.
- (c) Delhi has distribution losses of 40 per cent of total water supply which is abnormal and significantly higher than the acceptable norms of 18 per cent.
- (d) Delhi Jal Board has lost Rs. 173.77 crore during 2003-07 due to its failure to rectify meters timely.
- (e) About 56 per cent of the total water supplied in Delhi during last five years did not fetch any revenue resulting in loss of Rs. 1990.84 Crore.
- (f) A significant amount of Rs. 368 crore was in arrears for collection against outstanding bills.
- (g) Monitoring of projects for rain water harvesting

with DJB's financial assistance was not done effectively.

4. Operational Performance of Indraprastha Power Station.

- (a) The Indraprastha Power Station was incurring losses continuously and the losses increased from Rs. 5.02 crore in 2003-04 to Rs. 61.51 crore in 2006-07.
- (b) Low Plant Load Factor resulted in lower generation estimated at Rs. 367.68 crore for the period 2002-2007.
- (c) Forced outages resulted in non availability of plant for 177.39 hours resulting in generation loss of 1091.67 Million Units valuing Rs. 201.01 crore.
- (d) Increase in Auxiliary consumption resulted in excess consumption of 89.134 MU valuing Rs. 18.05 crore.
- (e) Delay in repair of rotor, non-procurement of new rotor and completion of overhauling works due to non availability of spares resulted in loss of 429.986 MU valuing Rs. 86.65 crore.
- (f) Deficiency in operation of ash evacuation system led to collapse of Electro Static precipitator hoppers of Unit No. 3 resulting in loss of generation of 30.60 MU valuing Rs. 6.24 crore.
- (g) Heat consumption per unit of electricity generated increased from 3443.36 to 3791 K. Cal/ Kwh resulting in excess consumption of coal worth Rs. 89.47 crore and Light Diesel Oil worth Rs., 4.58 crore during 2002-03 to 2006-2007.

Children with Special Needs

4162. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA :

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO :

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

(a) whether any criteria has been fixed for selection of children with special needs under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds allocated for this programme during each of the last three years including Karnataka, State-wise and UT-wise;

(d) the States where this programme is not being implemented successfully;

(e) the reasons therefor;

(f) whether action on such proposals received from State Governments is taken after considerable delay; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) to (g) The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) guidelines specify that every child with special needs in the 6-14 age group, irrespective of the kind, category or degree of disability, is provided education in an appropriate environment. State-wise funds released under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan as share of Central Government during last three years, is enclosed as Statement. All State and Union Territories are participating in the SSA programme and funds are released by the Central Government towards its share, once the annual work plans and budgets of the State/UT are approved. Adhoc releases of central share in the first month of the new financial year are also done in order to maintain the momentum of the SSA implementation.

Statement

(Rupees in lakhs)

Sr. No.	Name of the State/UT	Funds Released under SSA (Central Share)		
		2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	37999	46245.6	28100

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	4442.51	7143.74	11043.55
3.	Assam	13850	51484.7	28903.62
4.	Bihar	32399.6	107744	135417.64
5.	Chhattisgarh	30184.4	50182.2	46787.76
6.	Goa	728.12	724.12	899.57
7.	Gujarat	15084.8	14807	22658.26
8.	Haryana	10196.6	25647.1	16115.58
9.	Himachal Pradesh	7614.66	6250.75	7638.3
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	18530.7	22083.4	20063.27
11.	Jharkhand	28568.5	51515	80748.99
12.	Karnataka	28303.8	54207	40604.78
13.	Kerala	5939	6382	8323.42
14.	Madhya Pradesh	77173.1	110880	86769.94
15.	Maharashtra	50235.3	52158.6	45729.96
16.	Manipur	3208.44	924	1850.95
17.	Meghalaya	1921	4294	9359.63
18.	Mizoram	2559.15	3441.69	4212.02
19.	Nagaland	2323.01	2315.2	4596
20.	Orissa	32792.5	44011	62853.68
21.	Punjab	14683.9	12879.9	10493.88
22.	Rajasthan	60313.4	75809.8	101307.2
23.	Sikkim	1062.5	402.14	1036.25
24.	Tamil Nadu	35329.5	37329.7	53125.09
25.	Tripura	7070.19	5330.01	4178.49
26.	Uttar Pradesh	182799	206654	204758

1	2	3	4	5
27.	Uttarakhand	10004	16934	13162.8
28.	West Bengal	34199.8	61736.8	90571.68
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	163	419.62	187.1
30.	Chandigarh	350	300	934.95
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	-	100	418.54
32.	Daman and Diu	111.91	-	-
33.	Delhi	1100	4230.24	2339.38
34.	Lakshadweep	-	87.47	-
35.	Pondicherry	529.4	-	577.07

Organic Coffee

4163. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of Organic Coffee produced and exported by each State alongwith its value during each of the last three years and in the current year till date, country-wise;

(b) whether the Government has any proposal to develop Organic Coffee Hub in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by when the Organic Coffee Hubs are likely to be developed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) The estimated certified organic coffee production for the period 2004-05 onwards is as under:-

Year	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Production of Coffee (in metric ton)	600	1,129	1 125	Not yet compiled

The database on export of coffee is being maintained grade-wise and there is no segregation of state-wise export of coffee. The export of organic coffee has been very small hence the exclusive data was not being captured in the past and the same is included within the specialty coffee segment. The details of export of specialty coffee for the period 2004-05 onwards are as follows:—

Year	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Quantity (in metric ton)	8,997.00	9,095.00	9,476.00	Not Available
Value (in Rs. Lac)	5,921.00	8,090.70	9,168.50	Not Available

(b) to (d) Though there is no proposal to convert any particular region as a hub for organic coffee, Coffee Board promotes the cultivation of organic coffee. The Board provides technical and financial assistance for expansion of coffee, raising of mixed shade, construction of drying yards, purchase of pulpers and market support to this segment of coffee growers in order to make organic coffee cultivation a sustainable way.

Proposal of SAIL to Set up SEZs

4164. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has any proposal to set up Special Economic Zones (SEZs) at the Salem Steel Plant;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by when it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) to (c) Formal approval has

been granted by the Board of Approval for setting up of a sector specific SEZ for Steel sector in Salem by SAIL Salem SEZ Private Limited over an area of 112.34 hectares. The letter of approval granted to a Developer shall be valid for a period of three years, within which time effective steps shall have to be taken by the Developer to implement the project.

Rajiv Gandhi Indian Institute of Management

4165. SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the time by when the Rajiv Gandhi Indian Institute of Management in Shillong is likely to start functioning;

(b) the funds allocated to IIM, Shillong during the last three years;

(c) the total number of teaching staff and non-teaching posts sanctioned; and

(d) the details of course including short-term courses likely to be offered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) The Institute is likely to start functioning from the coming academic session 2008-2009.

(b) The funds allocated to RGIIM, Shillong during last three years is as under:—

(Rs. in Lakhs)

2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
NIL	501.00	1000.00

(c) Eleven (11) Faculty and sixteen (16) Non-faculty posts have been created.

(d) To begin with, RGIIM, Shillong will conduct the following programmes:—

- Post-graduate Diploma in Business Management (PGDBM)

- Fellowship Programme in Management (FPM)
- Management Development Programmes (MDPs)

Besides above, the Institute would conduct short-term courses on subject of local relevance like tourism, horticulture, hydel power etc.

Import of Asbestos

4166. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL :
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH :
SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI :

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

(a) whether asbestos is being imported into the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and in the current year, till date alongwith its value, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) and (b) A Statement indicating the details of Asbestos imported during the last three years and during April - August, 2007 of the last financial year, i.e. 2007-08, value-wise, country-wise is enclosed.

Statement

252400 Asbestos

Sl. No	Country	Value in Rs. Lacs			
		2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-08 (Apr.- Aug.07)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Afghanistan TIS		11.86		
2.	Australia			50.89	
3.	Belgium			117.47	
4.	Brazil	4681.58	6236.62	9486.18	6653.57
5.	Canada	7881.93	6406.91	10689.75	5045.11
6.	China PRP	12.76	0.10	57.55	7.83
7.	Dominica	8.56			
8.	Greece	218.36			
9.	Italy	50.83			
10.	Japan		0.04		
11.	Jordan			22.26	
12.	Kazakhstan	2663.51	2538.78	4597.78	1127.71

1	2	3	4	5	6
13.	Kenya	15.92			
14.	Malaysia	3.23			
15.	Mozambique		17.74	70.57	48.72
16.	Poland	73.51	41.68	422.92	80.06
17.	Russia	9567.34	18175.29	18107.03	10113.77
18.	Saudi Arab	2.39			
19.	South Africa	424.44	519.67	971.62	300.55
20.	Switzerland	5.51			
21.	Sri Lanka DSR			52.49	
22.	U Arab EMTS			2.71	
23.	U K		30.41	10.22	
24.	Ukraine	65.96			83.12
25.	U S A		9.34	79.97	
26.	Zambia		149.14	49.16	
27.	Zimbabwe	1313.60	7361.70	7122.72	2621.88
28.	Unspecified	184.12			65.84
Total		27173.54	41499.27	51911.29	26148.16

Source DGCI and S.

Survey of Farmers Displaced by SEZs

4167.DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to carry out a survey of all farmers displaced by SEZs; and

(b) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) and (b) No such proposal is under consideration.

[Translation]

Restriction on Export of Rice

4168.SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN" :

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

- (a) whether the Government has put some restrictions on the export of rice from the country recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether export of rice is taking place on a large scale despite the restrictions; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to bring down the prices of rice in the domestic market and to check export of rice from the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Vide DGFT Notification No. 38 (RE-2007)/2004-2009 dated 15th October 2007, export of non-basmati rice was prohibited. However subsequently through another Notification No. 45 (RE-2007)/2004-2009 dated 31st October 2007, export was permitted subject to a Minimum Export Price (MEP) of 425 USD/PMT FOB basis. The MEP was subsequently revised from time to time and through Notification No. 89(RE-2007)/2004-2009 dated 27th March 2008, it was raised to USD 1,000/T FOB. Finally, Notification No. 93(RE-2007)/2004-2009 dated 1st April 2008, banned export of non basmati rice. As far as Basmati rice export is concerned, export is permitted subject to an MEP of 1200 USD PMT FOB as stipulated under Notification No. 93 (RE-2007)/2004-2009 dated 1st April 2008.

(c) Sir, the initial ban lasted only 23 days between 9-31st October 2007 and later export was permitted subject to different levels of minimum export prices. The details of rice exports during 2007-08 are as follows:-

(Qty: Lakh MTs) (Value: Rs. Crores)

	2007-08**(from Apr. to Dec. 07)	
	Qty.	Value
Basmati Rice	7.4321	2408.17
Non-Basmati Rice	40.3615	4694.48
		(@ Rs. 40=1USD)

**Provisional subject to change

(d) The Government, in order to bring down the prices of rice in the domestic market and to check export of rice, has prohibited the exports of non-basmati rice and the export of basmati rice is permitted only if the minimum export price is US \$ 1200 per ton or Rs. 48,000 per ton. Further for monitoring the exports Government has introduced the system of registration of contracts of rice with Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA). The Government has also withdrawn DEPB benefit on rice exports.

Policy to do away with Inspector Raj

4169.SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government proposes to formulate a new policy to do away with inspector raj;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by when this policy is likely to be formulated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR) : (a) to (c) The Government of India has undertaken a number of reform-measures on continuous basis to address the issues of procedural hurdles including inspector raj and remove them. Some of the reforms include e-Governance, MCA-21, Investment Policy liberalization, Single Window Systems by States Governments, Taxation Reforms including online filing; large tax payers unit, single window for payment of income tax and corporate tax, ICE-Gate for online filing of custom and excise documents, Right to Information Act 2005 and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Act 2006.

[English]

Additional Employment under Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana

4170.SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY : Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to create extra job opportunities in non-farm sector under the Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana (PMRY);

(b) if so, the details thereof state-wise particularly in Karnataka during each of the last three years; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) to (c) Two employment generation programmes viz. Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) and Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) being implemented by this Ministry are being merged to form a new scheme namely Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP). As such PMRY in its present form is not being implemented w.e.f. 2008-09. The merged scheme which is under approval is expected to create extra job opportunities in both rural and urban areas. The details of job opportunities created during each of the last three years State-wise including Karnataka, under PMRY, are given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

State/UT-wise Estimated Employment Generated under PMRY during last three years

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	2004-05 Estimated employ- ment generated	2005-06 Estimated employ- ment generated	2006-07 Estimated employ- ment generated
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Haryana	11633	14415	17028
2.	Himachal Pradesh	4280	4523	5220
3.	Jammu and Kashmir	959	816	1092
4.	Punjab	12558	12213	12530
5.	Rajasthan	19379	21764	22829

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Chandigarh	309	161	72
7.	Delhi	1229	1050	882
8.	Assam	12384	9621	7007
9.	Manipur	581	683	387
10.	Meghalaya	852	852	696
11.	Nagaland	164	3569	1467
12.	Tripura	2621	3209	4010
13.	Arunachal Pradesh	660	693	491
14.	Mizoram	213	750	1160
15.	Sikkim	48	47	57
16.	Bihar	15594	18204	12008
17.	Jharkhand	7206	6990	7325
18.	Orissa	17009	21396	20898
19.	West Bengal	5694	7031	5229
20.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	213	230	177
21.	Madhya Pradesh	30983	31898	32807
22.	Chhattisgarh	4914	5550	6192
23.	Uttar Pradesh	63801	60069	64683
24.	Uttaranchal	9956	11376	10757
25.	Gujarat	9609	9554	9021
26.	Maharashtra	32729	36017	31878
27.	Daman and Diu	6	21	6
28.	Goa	68	65	32
29.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	33	36	9

1	2	3	4	5
30. Andhra Pradesh		33813	33246	25425
31. Karnataka		20897	29066	29195
32. Kerala		24630	32261	32361
33. Tamil Nadu		25353	29576	33216
34. Lakshadweep		6	8	0
35. Pondicherry		494	552	504
Not Specified		1346	2096	1329
All India		372396	409599	397974

Source : RBI data.

Recognition of Degrees

4171. SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether several countries are refusing to recognise the degrees obtained from Indian Universities due to deteriorating standards of education in India; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : (a) The Government is not aware of any such information.

(b) Does not arise.

Release of Funds under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

4172. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a delay in the release of installments of funds under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan to the States;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the late release of installment has hampered the implementation of SSA; and

(d) if so, the efforts being made by Government to release the installment of SSA in time?

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

(a) to (d) Under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) an ad-hoc installment of Government of India (GoI) share is released to States/Union Territories (UTs) at the beginning of each financial year. Thereafter once the size of the Annual Work Plan and Budget for SSA of each State/UT has been decided, GoI releases the balance funds towards 50% of its total share due to the State/UT for the year. During the course of the year, after the State/UT has expended at least 50% of funds and made available the State share of the funds due, GoI releases the next and final instalment to the State/UT concerned. The furnishing of due utilization certificates by State/UTs, is also taken into regard by GoI. In the year 2007-08 due to revision of Centre-State funding pattern in SSA, in September 2007, GoI releases had to be adjusted as per the new pattern.

Dumping of Chinese Goods

4173. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA : Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether dumping of Chinese goods in Indian markets is causing loss to Indian Small Scale Industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check the same?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) No data are available on the loss to Indian Small Scale Industries on account of dumping of Chinese goods in Indian markets.

(c) Directorate General of Anti-Dumping and Allied Duties (DGAD), initiates anti-dumping investigations on the basis of applications filed by domestic industries, small scale or otherwise, supported by evidence of dumping, injury and causal link between dumped imports and alleged injury to the domestic industry. On the basis of such investigations, anti-dumping duty is imposed so as to protect the interest of domestic industries, including small scale industries. As per the available information, DGAD has initiated anti-dumping investigations in 215 cases involving various countries since 1992, out of which, 109 cases involve China.

Tax Free Import of Various Products

4174. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has permitted tax free import of various products particularly, vegetable oils during each of the last three years and in the current year, till date;

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

(c) whether this is causing financial losses to the domestic industry;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reasons for not adopting uniform tax policy for the industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) and (b) Details of customs

duty rates made 'NIL' since June, 2006 in respect of edible oils and certain other commodities are as under:-

- Pulses: Basic Customs Duty reduced from 10% to NIL on 08.06.06, valid upto 31.3.2009;
- Sugar: Basic customs duty was reduced from 60% to NIL on 23.6.2006, which was valid upto 30.9.2006.
- Wheat: Basic Customs duty was reduced from 60% to 5%, which was further reduced to NIL, which was valid upto 28.2.2007. NIL rate on wheat was again extended after 30.3.2007 and is now valid without time limit;
- Maize: Basic Customs duty was reduced from 60% to NIL on 25.1.2007 valid upto 31.12.2007. Customs duty on maize has again been reduced to Nil w.e.f. 1.4.2008 under TRQ of 5 lakh MT.

Further changes made after Budget 2007 are as follows:-

- (1) Semi-milled and wholly milled rice from 70% to Nil for imports made on or before 31.3.2009;
- (2) Soya bean oil (crude) from 40% to Nil;
- (3) Crude Palm oil (including crude palmolein) from 20% to Nil;
- (4) All other miscellaneous edible oils (crude) such as coconut oil, ground nut, etc. to Nil;

(c) and (d) As regards financial losses to the domestic industry, no such report has been received.

(e) Tax policy across the commodities depends on various factors including the international and domestic prices, the interests of the consumers, the impact on domestic producers, administrative feasibility of collection and revenue and hence it cannot be uniform across the board.

Trade Talks under WTO

4175. SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of road blocks in WTO talks with India; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to conclude the current round of trade talks under the aegis of WTO?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) The multilateral trade negotiations in the World Trade Organisation (WTO) under the Doha Work Programme, which were launched in November 2001, are still in progress. These negotiations have not yet concluded mainly due to gaps in the positions of WTO Members, particularly in respect of market access and domestic support issues in agriculture and market access issues in non-agricultural products. On 08 February 2008, the Chairpersons of the WTO's Committee on Agriculture (Special Session) and the Negotiating Group on Market Access brought out the Revised Texts on Draft Modalities on Agriculture and Non-Agricultural Market Access (NAMA) respectively. The WTO Members are currently holding negotiations on these Revised Draft Modalities texts on Agriculture and NAMA and also on other issues covered by the Doha Work Programme, such as Services, Rules including Fisheries Subsidies, etc.

(b) Throughout the negotiations, India has been working constructively with coalition partners in developing country groupings in the WTO, such as the G-20, the G-33 and NAMA 11 and also with developed country Members with a view to achieving an outcome that would appropriately reflect the development dimension of the Doha mandate.

Credit Guarantee Fund Scheme

4176. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAIISI : Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of proposals received and sanctioned by the Union Government during each of the last three years under Credit Guarantee Fund Scheme, State and Union Territory-wise;

(b) whether the Government has chalked out any strategy for the Eleventh Five Year Plan to give more incentives and credit facilities to small and medium industries; and

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

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) The number of proposals alongwith loan amount approved for guarantee cover under Credit Guarantee Fund Scheme during each of the last three years is given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) supplements the efforts of the respective State/UT Governments (who are primarily concerned with the development and promotion of Micro, small and medium enterprises) by putting in place a number of supportive measures/schemes in areas of credit, technological upgradation, marketing and infrastructural upgradation. Further, the 'Package for Promotion of Micro and Small Enterprises' announced in the Parliament in February, 2007, inter alia, contains provision for providing to the micro and small enterprises (MSEs) support in the areas of credit, technological upgradation, marketing and infrastructure. Besides, to enhance the competitiveness of the MSMEs, a ten-point initiative has been announced under the National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme (NMCP) for implementation during Eleventh Plan Period in industrial clusters in the Public Private Participation (PPP) mode.

Statement

*State/UT-wise details of proposals and loan amount approved for guarantee cover under
Credit Guarantee Fund Scheme for Micro and Small Enterprises*

(Amount in Rs. lakh)

Sl. No.	State/U.T.	2005-06		2006-07		2007-08	
		Proposals approved	Loan Amount	Proposals approved	Loan Amount	Proposals approved	Loan Amount
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2	6.30	13	25.35	9	16.78
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1475	1685.07	3323	2610.01	1156	3465.23
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	22	17.10	105	110.71	31	79.03
4.	Assam	356	660.86	1252	2147.52	943	2543.90
5.	Bihar	344	368.98	1416	2229.28	891	2182.48
6.	Chandigarh	47	316.16	60	387.41	93	631.84
7.	Chhattisgarh	379	1737.33	180	1328.16	333	1856.59
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1	12.00	4	32.28	10	145.85
9.	Daman and Diu	5	17.00	8	97.50	9	79.61
10.	Delhi	108	949.44	79	738.74	176	1456.18
11.	Goa	52	167.50	69	314.88	51	334.33
12.	Gujarat	334	2775.76	816	5482.09	1295	8070.97
13.	Haryana	451	1300.44	1085	1567.83	859	1696.32
14.	Himachal Pradesh	254	451.42	503	744.88	299	1021.18
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	201	179.61	182	246.47	427	366.64
16.	Jharkhand	459	1250.85	232	839.58	470	2312.96
17.	Karnataka	1649	6909.09	1748	9221.50	2340	15668.90
18.	Kerala	3459	4908.74	3867	5936.36	4298	8422.98
19.	Lakshadweep	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
20.	Madhya Pradesh	769	1892.87	1038	2491.20	1446	4101.17
21.	Maharashtra	518	3177.82	447	3631.50	732	6042.61
22.	Manipur	48	59.23	24	53.76	1	1.97
23.	Meghalaya	12	74.55	226	541.95	66	143.23
24.	Mizoram	41	45.85	189	287.74	67	193.31
25.	Nagaland	8	10.58	44	75.58	65	139.55
26.	Orissa	707	1311.56	2319	3565.37	2557	3757.75
27.	Pondicherry	26	41.04	137	179.33	81	266.98
28.	Punjab	324	1064.51	322	1457.46	620	2544.05
29.	Rajasthan	230	809.72	1457	1408.12	1984	2179.79
30.	Sikkim	14	39.54	21	51.13	42	91.55
31.	Tamil Nadu	1713	6193.59	3607	10782.97	5793	21319.53
32.	Tripura	43	32.37	73	123.99	117	155.27
33.	Uttar Pradesh	1055	2672.30	1109	3636.91	1539	5166.15
34.	Uttarakhand	39	129.38	106	622.24	121	830.39
35.	West Bengal	1139	4921.14	1396	7484.23	1365	8299.44
Total		16284	46189.70	27457	70454.03	30285	105584.51

[Translation]

FTA with ASEAN Countries

4177.DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :
SHRIMATI KARUNA SHUKLA :

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

(a) whether the Government is making any efforts to sort out the differences on free trade agreement with ASEAN countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the ASEAN countries have included several Indian products in the sensitive category so as to curtail their access to the market;

(d) the details; of these products; and

(e) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) and (b) The negotiations for India-ASEAN Comprehensive Economic Cooperation

Agreement are ongoing and both sides are discussing various aspects of the proposed Agreement. Negotiations for Trade in Goods Agreement are at an advanced stage and only a few issues remain to be resolved.

(c) to (e) Both India and ASEAN Member Countries have tabled Sensitive Lists which are under negotiation.

[English]

Assistance to Sea Food Exports Association

4178. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Orissa has requested the Union Government for assistance for infrastructure development for the Sea Food Exports Association of India, Bhubaneswar;

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

(c) whether the Government has examined the proposal; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) to (d) Government of Orissa has sought a special allotment of Rs. 4.25 crores as grant under the ASIDE Scheme of the Department of Commerce, to the Seafood Exporters Association of India, Orissa Region, Bhubaneswar for setting up a common cold storage at Bhubaneswar through M/s. Eastern Cold Chains Limited. The request is under process.

[Translation]

Export of Granite

4179. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO :
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :

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

(a) the details of the quantum of Granite reserves in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the foreign exchange earned through export thereof during the last three years alongwith the prices at which it has been exported;

(c) whether the granite based industries have suffered huge losses and even closed due to granite export policy of the Government; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) Details of state-wise recoverable reserves of Granite is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) Details of export of granite and granite products from India in terms of quantity and value from 2004-05 to 2006-07 are as under:-

Year	Quantity (in kg.)	Value (in US \$ million)
2004-05	2608539246	571.90
2005-06	2641047722	788.30
2006-07	3291803627	1043.47

This Department does not have data on the export price of the different types of granite. However, the export price depends on quality of the product as well as the quantity delivered i.e. for executing bulk orders price would be quoted on a lower side than the price quoted for small quantities booked by foreign importers.

(c) Since there has been a substantial increase in export of granite during the last three years, the granite export policy does not seem to have adversely affected the granite industry though the profit margin of the exporters has been affected by the appreciation of the Indian rupee.

(d) Government of India encourages export of granite and granite based products by giving necessary support like sponsoring visits by exporters from the sector to different countries, by inviting importers from abroad in reverse buyer-seller meets organized through Chemicals and Allied Products Export Promotion Council (CAPEXIL), by permitting modernization of the industry through Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme, grant of Duty Entitlement Passbook credit etc.

Statement

State-wise recoverable reserves of granite

State	Quantity (in thousand cubic metre)
All India	1027421
Andhra Pradesh	2300
Assam	205520
Bihar	19105
Gujarat	23560
Haryana	13600
Karnataka	202986
Kerala	544
Maharashtra	326561
Orissa	7588
Rajasthan	201692
Tamil Nadu	20340
West Bengal	3621

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned till 12 noon.

11.08 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till
Twelve of the Clock.*

12.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at
Twelve of the Clock.*

[Mr. SPEAKER in the Chair]

. . . (Interruptions)

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Rock Mechanics, Kolar Gold Fields, for the year 2006-2007, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Rock Mechanics, Kolar Gold Fields, for the year 2006-2007.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 8554/08]

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Outcome Budget (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises for the year 2008-2009.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 8555/08]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : I beg to lay on the Table:-

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Children's Film Society, India, Mumbai, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Children's Film Society, India, Mumbai, for the year 2005-2006.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 8556/08]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Children's Film Society, India, Mumbai, for the year 2006-2007, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Children's Film Society, India, Mumbai, for the year 2006-2007.

(4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 8557/08]

(5) 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 National Film Development Corporation Limited, Mumbai, for the year 2006-2007.

(ii) Annual Report of the National Film Development Corporation Limited, Mumbai, for the year 2006-2007, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 8558/08]

(7) A copy of the Indian Broadcasting (Engineers) Service (Amendment) Rules, 2008 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 187 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th March, 2008, under proviso to article 309 of the Constitution.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 8559/08]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : I beg to lay on the Table:-

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Orissa Primary Education Programme Authority, Bhubaneswar, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Orissa Primary Education Programme Authority, Bhubaneswar, for the year 2005-2006.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 8560/08]

(3) A copy of the NCTE, Stenographer Grade 'C' Recruitment Rule, 2008 (Hindi and English

versions) published in Notification No. F.5-5/2007/NCTE/Estt. in *Gazette of India* dated the 21st February, 2008 under section 33 of the National Council for Teacher Education Act, 1993.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 8561/08]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Notification No. S.O. 780 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in *Gazette of India* dated the 28th March, 2008 containing Presidential Order making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1937 (E) dated the 14th November, 2007 so as to appoint Dr. Sanjiv Mishra as Member of the Finance Commission vice Dr. Abusaleh Shariff under clause (1) of article 280 of the Constitution.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 8562/08]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR) : I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the Newsprint Control (Amendment) Order, 2008 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 40(E) in *Gazette of India* dated the 8th January, 2008 issued under section 18G of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 8563/08]

- (2) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs, Trade Marks, Mumbai, for the year 2006-2007.
- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 8564/08]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions):-

- (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the India Trade Promotion Organization and the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, for the year 2008-2009.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 8565/08]

- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the State Trading Corporation of India Limited and the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, for the year 2008-2009.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 8566/08]

- (iii) Memorandum of Understanding between the P.E.C. Limited and the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, for the year 2008-2009.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 8567/08]

- (2) A copy of the Outcome Budget (Hindi and English versions) of the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, for the year 2008-2009.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 8568/08]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) : I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Sant Longowal Institute of Engineering and Technology, Longowal, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts.

[Shrimati D. Purandeswari]

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Sant Longowal Institute of Engineering and Technology, Longowal, for the year 2005-2006.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.
- [Placed in Library. See No. LT 8569/08]
- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Board of Apprenticeship Training (Southern Region), Chennai, for the year 2006-2007, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Board of Apprenticeship Training (Southern Region), Chennai, for the year 2006-2007.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.
- [Placed in Library. See No. LT 8570/08]
- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Board of Practical Training (Eastern Region), Kolkata, for the year 2006-2007, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Board of Practical Training (Eastern Region), Kolkata, for the year 2006-2007.
- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing

reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

- [Placed in Library. See No. LT 8571/08]
- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the North-Eastern Regional Institute of Science and Technology, Itanagar, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the North-Eastern Regional Institute of Science and Technology, Itanagar, for the year 2005-2006.
- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.
- [Placed in Library. See No. LT 8572/08]
- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Jharkhand Education Project Council, Ranchi, for the year 2006-2007, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Jharkhand Education Project Council, Ranchi, for the year 2006-2007.
- [Placed in Library. See No. LT 8573/08]
- (10) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Malaviya National Institute of Technology, Jaipur, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Malaviya National Institute of Technology, Jaipur, for the year 2005-2006.

- (11) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (10) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 8574/08]

- (12) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Technology, Warangal, for the year 2006-2007, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Technology, Warangal, for the year 2006-2007.

- (13) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (12) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 8575/08]

- (14) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Technology, Kurukshetra, for the year 2006-2007, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Technology, Kurukshetra, for the year 2006-2007.

- (15) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (14) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 8576/08]

- (16) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirappalli, for the year 2006-2007, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the

working of the National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirappalli, for the year 2006-2007.

- (17) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (16) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 8577/08]

- (18) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Visvesvaraya National Institute of Technology, Nagpur, for the year 2006-2007, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Visvesvaraya National Institute of Technology, Nagpur, for the year 2006-2007.

- (19) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (18) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 8578/08]

- (20) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Technology, Rourkela, for the year 2006-2007, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Technology, Rourkela, for the year 2006-2007.

- (21) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (20) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 8579/08]

- (22) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute

[Shrimati D. Purandeswari]

of Technology, Calicut, for the year 2006-2007, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Technology, Calicut, for the year 2006-2007.
- (23) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (22) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 8580/08]

- (24) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, for the year 2006-2007.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, for the year 2006-2007, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, for the year 2006-2007.
- (25) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (24) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 8581/08]

- (26) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, for the year 2006-2007.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute

of Technology, Kharagpur, for the year 2006-2007, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (iii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, for the year 2006-2007.
- (27) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (26) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 8582/08]

- (28) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Technology, Silchar, for the year 2006-2007, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (29) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (28) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 8583/08]

- (30) 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 Educational Consultants India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2006-2007.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Educational Consultants India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2006-2007, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (31) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (30) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 8584/08]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Disaster Management (National Disaster Response Force) Rules, 2008 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 87 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 14th February, 2008, under section 77 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 8585/08]

12.01 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID
ON THE TABLE

16th Report

[English]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia) : I beg to present the Sixteenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table and Minutes relating thereto.

12.1½ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

25th and 26th Reports

[English]

SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT (Mumbai North East) : I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English Versions) of the Standing Committee on Energy:-

- (1) Twenty-fifth Report on Demands for Grants (2008-09) of the Ministry of Power, and
- (2) Twenty-sixth Report on Demands for Grants (2008-09) of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.

12.02 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR

28th and 29th Reports

[English]

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY (Nalgonda) : I beg to present the following reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Labour:-

- (1) Twenty-eighth Report of the Standing Committee on Labour on the Demands for Grants for the year 2008-2009 of the Ministry of Labour and Employment; and
- (2) Twenty-ninth Report of the Standing Committee on Labour on the Demands for Grants for the year 2008-2009 of the Ministry of Textiles.

12.2½ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON RAILWAYS

Statements

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : I beg to lay on the Table the Statements (Hindi and English versions) showing further action taken by Government on the recommendations/observations contained in Chapter I and final replies in respect of recommendations/observations in Chapter V of the following Action Taken Reports of the Standing Committee on Railways:-

- (1) 2nd Report, 14th Lok Sabha on 'Ongoing and Pending Projects';
- (2) 23rd Report, 14th Lok Sabha on 'X Five Year Plan of the Railways';
- (3) 26th Report, 14th Lok Sabha on 'Demands for Grants - 2006-07 of the Ministry of Railways'; and

[Shri Basu Deb Acharia]

- (4) 29th Report, 14th Lok Sabha on 'Railway Production Units, Workshops and Maintenance of Rolling Stocks'.

12.03 hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON WATER
RESOURCES**

9th Report

[English]

SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO (Guntur) : I beg to present the Ninth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Water Resources on Demands for Grants (2008-2009) of the Ministry of Water Resources.

12.04 hrs.

OBSERVATION BY THE SPEAKER

Business Transacted During Previous Week

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, for your information, I want to briefly recapitulate the main items of business transacted by the House during the last week.

During Question Hour, out of the 60 Starred Questions which were listed, only 16 could be answered orally. The replies to the remaining Starred Questions alongwith the replies to 612 Unstarred Questions for the same period were laid on the Table.

The House discussed for about 6 hours and 52 minutes a Short Duration Discussion under Rule 193 regarding situation arising out of continued rise in the prices of essential commodities and steps taken by the Government in regard thereto.

As regards Financial and Legislative Business, the House took up for discussion the Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget (Railways) for 2008-2009. The discussion, which took 4 hours and 27 minutes, concluded with the reply of the Minister of Railways. All the Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2008-09 were voted in full and the related Appropriation Bill was passed.

As regards the Private Members' Business, 2 Private Member's Resolutions were discussed during the week. Resolution regarding Free and Compulsory Education up to Higher Secondary level by Shri Ram Kripal Yadav was discussed on 17th April, 2008 for about 2 hours and 21 minutes before being negatived. Another Resolution regarding Legislation for the overall development of persons belonging to Denotified tribes and Nomadic tribes by Shri Haribhau Rathod was also taken up for discussion on 17th April, 2008 for about 3 minutes and remained part-discussed.

Three Statements were made by the Ministers on important subjects in the House.

During the week, Members raised as many as 19 matters of urgent public importance. Also, 20 matters were raised under Rule 377.

The Departmentally-Related Standing Committees presented thirty eight Reports during the week.

While we lost 5 hours and 52 minutes due to interruptions and adjournments last week, the House sat late for 4 hours and 52 minutes to compensate the lost time.

Though we have had lost some valuable time of the House, yet I take this opportunity to convey my sincere thanks to the hon. Members for the cooperation and support generally extended to the Chair in the smooth conduct of the proceedings.

12.05 hrs.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

- (i) **Status of Implementation of the recommendations contained in the 178th Report of the Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forest pertaining to the Department of Science and Technology, Ministry of Science and Technology.***

[English]

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : With your permission, I am laying this Statement on the status of implementation of the recommendations pertaining to Department of Science and Technology in the One Hundred Seventy-Eighth (178th) Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee (PSC) on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests on the direction of the Hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha, in pursuance of the provisions of Rule 389 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Lok Sabha issued vide Lok Sabha Bulletin-Part-H dated September 1, 2004.

The Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests laid their One Hundred Seventy-Eighth (178th) Report on 27th November, 2007 in the Lok Sabha. In all, there were 10 (ten) recommendations in the 178th Report of the Committee. The present status of implementation is detailed in the appended Annexure which may be allowed to be laid on the Table of the House.

*Laid on the Table and also Placed in Library. See No. LT 8586/08.

12.06 hrs.

- (ii) **Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 157th, 172nd and 179th Reports of Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests on Demands for Grants (2006-07 and 2007-08) respectively pertaining to the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology.***

[English]

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : Sir, I am laying this Statement in pursuance of Direction 73A of Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha under rule 389 of the Rules of procedure and conduct of Business in Lok Sabha (Eleventh Edition), to inform the esteemed House about the status of implementation of the recommendations made by the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests in its 157th, 172nd and 179th Reports.

2. The 157th Report relates to the consideration of the Demands for Grants of the Department of Biotechnology for the financial year 2006-07. I have made Statement on 25.08.2006 and 24.08.2007 and informed the House regarding the status of implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee in its 157th report. The present statement gives the latest status pertaining to recommendations made in Para 56. The details are at Annexure-I, which is laid on the Table of the House.

3. The 172nd Report relates to the consideration of the Demands for Grants of the Department of Biotechnology for the financial year 2007-08. I have made Statement on 24.08.2007 and informed the House

*Laid on the Table and also Placed in Library. See No. LT 8587/08.

[Shri Kapil Sibal]

regarding the status of implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee in its 172nd report. The Action Taken Report on the recommendation made in 172nd Report was considered by Parliamentary Standing Committee and the Committee vide its 179th Report has desired present status in respect of 10 recommendations of the 172nd Report. The present statement gives the latest status pertaining to these 10 recommendations made in Paras 3.2, 3.4, 3.6, 3.8, 3.10, 8.4, 14.6, 17.4, 18.5 and 20.3. The details are at Annexure-II, which is laid on the Table of the House.

12.07 hrs.

- (iii) **Status of Implementation of recommendations contained in the 68th, 72nd, 76th, 79th, 80th and 82nd reports of the Standing Committee on Commerce***

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : Sir, the Department-related Parliamentary Committee on Commerce in its 68th Report on Export of Tea had made 24 recommendations/observations. In respect of recommendation at para 3.4, Ministry of Water Resources has to take action. Action is partially complete in respect of four recommendations at para nos. 4.1, 8.2, 16.8 and 17.V. Action in respect of three recommendations at para nos. 6.4, 19.11 and 20.5 is pending. Action in respect of remaining 16 recommendations is complete. A copy of the implementation report is laid on the Table of the House.

[Placed in the Library. See No. LT 8588/08]

Sir, the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce in its 72nd report on the problems of coffee growers had made 22 recommenda-

*Laid on the Table.

tions/observations. The Action Taken Report on 72nd Report was sent to Rajya Sabha Sectt on 13.2.2006. Out of these, on 5 recommendations/observations, the Committee made further observations which were incorporated in the 79th Report. All other recommendations/observations were accepted. Action has also been completed on the 5 five recommendations. A modified/revised Action Taken Report on the observations/recommendations contained in the 72nd and 79th Report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce on problems of Coffee growers, is laid on the Table of the House.

[Placed in the Library. See No. LT 8589/08]

The Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce in its 76th Report made 11 recommendations. 7 recommendations have been implemented. Implementation of one recommendation each is under consideration in the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation and the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority. The Department of Commerce is coordinating with the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation for the implementation of these remaining two recommendations.

[Placed in the Library. See No. LT 8590/08]

The Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce in its 80th Report Functioning of the Spices Board has made 45 recommendations/observations. 2 recommendations are under consideration. A copy of the implementation report is also laid on the Table of the House.

[Placed in the Library. See No. LT 8591/08]

The Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce in its 82th Report had made 72 recommendations/observations. The Action Taken Report on 82nd Report was sent to Rajya Sabha Secretariat on 16.08.2007. A modified/revised Action Taken Report on the observations/recommendations contained in the 82nd Report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on

Commerce on Demands for Grants 2007-08, is laid on the Table of the House.

[Placed in the Library. See No. LT 8592/08]

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, we come to Calling Attention. Shri Basudeb Acharia.

. . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK (Unnao) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to speak on a very serious issue. . . .(Interruptions)
You have not given me an opportunity to speak. . . .
(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH VERMA (Sitapur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir this is a very serious issue. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This is not fair. I have told you that you will be given an opportunity to speak.

. . .(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH VERMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very serious issue. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Let me listen the speech of your leader.

. . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please speak from your seat.

. . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing should be recorded.

. . .(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH VERMA : Since we are not being heard, we walkout from the House.

*Not recorded.

12.08 hrs.

At this stage Shri Rajesh Verma and some other hon'ble Members left the House.

12.08½ hrs.

**CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF
URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE**

**Situation Arising out of Subsidence of Land in
Entire Coal Belt in Asansol, Jharia and
Raniganj and Action Taken by the
Government in this Regard**

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : We have only two hon. Members for Calling Attention. We shall come to the other important matter later on.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Coal to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon :

"Situation arising out of subsidence of land in entire coal belt in Asansol, Jharia and Raniganj and action taken by the Government in this regard."

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Minister, you can lay the Statement on the Table of the House.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA) : Sir, I have a Statement here. I can lay the Statement on the Table of the House.

*Sir, the incidents of fire and land subsidence in old mined out areas of Jharia coalfield of Jharkhand and Raniganj coalfield of West Bengal are caused due to 200 years of un-scientific mining carried out by the erstwhile mine owners during pre-nationalization period. These are being addressed by the Government and the coal companies continuously.

*. . .*Laid on the Table and also Placed in Library. See No. LT 8593/08.

[Shri Santosh Bagrodia]

The population on the old mining areas has increased many times over the years, though these areas became unsafe for habitation and declared so from time to time by the authorities. Keeping the significance of the issue in view, Government of India had constituted a High Level Committee in December, 1996 under the chairmanship of the then Secretary, Ministry of Coal (MoC) with representatives from other departments, coal companies and the State Governments of West Bengal and Bihar to deal with the problem in a comprehensive manner. Based on their recommendations, a Master Plan to deal with the problems of fire and subsidence control and related rehabilitation was formulated covering areas under the jurisdiction of Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) and Eastern Coalfields Ltd. (ECL) in 1999 for implementation of the same in a phased manner.

Ministry of Coal has taken up implementation of some schemes identified under the Master Plan through budgetary support simultaneously. Two demonstration schemes for rehabilitation were also approved in 1998 for relocation of people from endangered areas both in BCCL and ECL. For BCCL the demonstration scheme for Rs. 61.09 crores involved construction of 4600 houses comprising of 1500 houses for BCCL employees and 3100 houses for private persons. Out of this, 344 houses for BCCL employees have been constructed and 204 families have been shifted. Construction of 1156 number of houses is being tendered. For non-BCCL people 900 houses for private persons are nearing completion and construction of 1452 houses are under progress. Action is underway for construction of remaining houses. Rs. 21.30 crores have been spent for this scheme at BCCL.

For ECL areas a demonstration scheme for rehabilitation (1123 houses, Rs. 32.52 crore) covering four locations in ECL area has been taken up by Asansol Durgapur Development Authority (ADDA). In addition, because of urgency a new site namely Sanctoria Village has also been taken up for rehabilitation.

Apart from the above two rehabilitation schemes, 33 schemes (29 for subsidence control and four for fire control) were taken up in BCCL and ECL areas. Out of the above 17 schemes have been completed and 16 schemes are in progress. Rs. 58.62 crores have been spent for these schemes till date.

The Master Plan initially provided for stabilization of certain endangered areas. As per the directives from Hon'ble Supreme Court a study was conducted in 2005 by a Committee including the Director General of Mines Safety as a member which opined that stabilization is not a permanent solution for the endangered areas and evacuation is the only solution for the safety of people and property. The Master Plan has been thus revised in August, 2006 providing for rehabilitation of people from unstable locations, dealing with fire and diversion of railway lines and road within a time span of ten years instead of earlier proposed 20 years. Expenditure estimated for Raniganj and Jharia Master Plans is Rs. 2300.42 crore and Rs. 6358.45 crore respectively.

The components of Master Plan were submitted to Jharkhand and West Bengal Governments in November, and December, 2006 respectively for expeditious consideration. Committee of Secretaries considered the Master Plan for BCCL and ECL in its meeting held on 9.8.07 and directed that Ministry of Coal should go ahead to obtain approval of State Governments of Jharkhand and West Bengal on the Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R and R) package in the Master Plan. While Government of West Bengal has conveyed their acceptance to the proposed R and R package with some modifications, the acceptance of State Government of Jharkhand for the proposed R and R package is awaited. Master Plan for Raniganj Coalfield is being processed at the Ministry for obtaining approval from competent authority.

The Master Plan proposed is involving huge rehabilitation plan. A total of 98,134 houses in BCCL area and 33,196 houses in ECL area are to be rehabilitated. The affected population is proposed to be resettled in 4 to 5 satellite townships each for Raniganj and Jharia on non-

coal bearing areas along the periphery of Jharia and Raniganj Coalfields. Suitable rehabilitation package has been worked out in consultation with local authorities of the respective State Governments.

Jharia Rehabilitation and Development Authority (JRDA) in Jharkhand and Asansol Durgapur Development Authority (ADDA) in West Bengal have been identified for implementation of the programme and coal companies will provide all the technical support required by these organizations for implementing the schemes.

The outlay for the scheme is proposed to be funded by the Central Government and Coal India Limited.

The Government is fully aware of the situation in these areas and is taking step to alleviate the problem with the help of the two State Governments. Effective implementation of the Master Plan would require active involvement of the respective State Governments and local authorities.

I am grateful to the Hon'ble Speaker for giving me this opportunity to place on record the action being taken by the Government and also to the Hon'ble members for their concern about the matter of subsidence and related issues.*

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have not given me an opportunity to speak. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : According to rules, it is not possible. It will take 15-20 minutes.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you said that you will give me the opportunity to speak. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : That time I did not remember that today is the day for taking up Calling Attention.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Kindly take up this matter after zero hour. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, subsidence and fire in the Jharia and Raniganj coal mines area is a national disaster. It is a national problem. It is not a problem pertaining to a particular area. A lot of people are involved in it. People are spending sleepless nights because in every week, some incidents take place in that area. Last year, I visited one area near Dhanbad, Gidhore colliery. At 12 o'clock in the night, there was a subsidence and 25 houses belonging to the contract workers, who were engaged by BCCL in its mines, went inside the ground. Five persons were killed and hundreds were rendered homeless by this. This is not a single incident. A few months back, near Nimche~~s~~ colliery, in Eastern Coal Fields in West Bengal, there was subsidence and deaths were also reported. One year back, there was subsidence in National Highway no. 2. Traffic was suspended for a few days. The entire area was affected due to unscientific mining done under private management. Sand-stowing was also not properly done, particularly in BCCL managed area. Contractors got their bill, but without doing the sand stowing. Even, a number of incidents have taken place in these areas. The Government is quite indifferent. The Calling Attention regarding this was to be taken up on 5th September, 2007. Then, it could not be taken up because the House was adjourned. On that day also, a statement was circulated and today also – although a new Minister has taken over the Ministry now – the same statement with same words, same commas and same full stops has been circulated.

MR. SPEAKER : They cannot be going on changing the statements.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : This shows how the Government is indifferent. So, for nine months, there have not been any steps.

MR. SPEAKER : This is a very elaborate statement. Put your questions now. Please put your clarifications now.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : They have not taken any steps. A number of Committees were constituted starting from Gugnani Committee and Bagchi Committee. Then, in 1999, for the first time, a comprehensive Master Plan was prepared.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You put your question.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : I am coming to the question. This is a very serious situation.

MR. SPEAKER: Rules are also very specific regarding this.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : I know only two Members are there and this is a question of lakhs of people.

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Leaders of parties are waiting to raise very important matters. I cannot make them wait for long.

SHRI. BASU DEB ACHARIA : In 1999, for the first time, a Comprehensive Master Plan was prepared and 77 sites were identified in BCCL.

Some sites were also identified in ECL, but no action was taken by the Government on the Master Plan. Then, that Master Plan was updated in 2004 and as there was no perceptible action taken by the Ministry of Coal, that Master Plan was again updated in 2006. This covers two aspects dealing with fire which includes identification of fire, prioritisation for implementation and assessment of tentative earth requirement and also rehabilitation and resettlement of the affected people from the areas affected by fire and subsidence including identification of resettlement sites.

MR. SPEAKER : Please put your question now.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : But even after updating the Master Plan in 2006 there was no perceptible action taken by the Government.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Acharia, if you do not put your specific questions, I will not allow any Call Attention in future. The Minister has given a very elaborate statement. Please come to the question.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, I am coming to the question. The situation prevailing in those areas is very serious.

MR. SPEAKER : I have allowed this because it is serious, but you cannot go on speaking without putting your questions.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : The Eastern Coalfields Limited has already submitted its Master Plan a few days ago, but the Minister has not mentioned it in his statement. The Government of West Bengal has cleared the Master Plan, but the Government of Jharkhand is yet to clear the Master Plan.

Sir, as the situation is very grave and as the Ministry has already received the updated Master Plan from ECL, I would like to know from the Minister whether the Government will take prompt action to implement the recommendations and suggestions contained in the Master Plan for tackling subsidence and fire in coal mines area of ECL.

Secondly, I would also like to know whether the Government of India will take up the matter with the Government of Jharkhand to get the BCCL's Master Plan cleared expeditiously so as to earnestly tackle the fire and subsidence both in Jharia and Raniganj coal mines area.

Sir, there are two major towns in that area.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Acharia, I am sorry I have to remind you again that the rules are very clear that you can only put questions.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, this is my last question.

Sir, Jharia has a population of four to five lakhs and Raniganj also has a population of four to five lakhs. Both these towns are very old and important towns. The 'Save

Jharia Committee' is struggling for the last few years to save the town of Jharia. So, I would like to know whether effective steps would be taken by the Government to save these two towns by sand stowing and by not allowing extraction of coal in these two towns. So that the huge population of these two towns is not required to be rehabilitated.

My last point is that one German company. . . .
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No please. I will not allow this. Only these three questions and no more!

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, one German company has submitted a proposal to tackle the fire without dislocation of the population. They have already submitted their proposal. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No, sorry. I will not allow this. Do not record it.

. . .(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I am very sorry. You are misusing the opportunity.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, I would like to know whether the Government will consider their proposal so that some area may be identified. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will have to very seriously consider whether I should allow any Call Attention in future.

. . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Acharia, please cooperate.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, I would like to know whether the Government will consider their proposal to tackle the fire. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No, this is not being recorded. Do not record it.

. . .(Interruptions)*

*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER : I am sorry, I have to remind all the hon. Members here. Many of them are very senior Members. The rule categorically provides for only clarifications. This is not a discussion. There shall be no debate on such statement at the time it is made, but each Member, in whose name the Item stands in the List of Business, may, with the permission of the Speaker, ask a clarificatory question and the Minister shall reply at the end to solve such questions. Everybody knows this.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, I have asked only clarifications.

MR. SPEAKER : No, clarification does not mean that you can give a speech for ten minutes. Please see that it has gone on for 20 minutes. Please cooperate. Shri Adhir Chowdhury, you are a very law abiding citizen, you should follow the rules.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY (Berhampore, West Bengal) : Sir, but I should not be given step-motherly treatment. . . .(Interruptions)

Sir, the hon. Minister has given a very elaborate statement.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, I think, a very elaborate statement has been given by the hon. Minister.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY : Sir, it is a well known fact that sub-terrainian fire has been raging in the Jharia and Raniganj coal field areas over the years. Even the fire has been leaping out on the ground. It has been threatening the Kolkata-Delhi Railway line, National Highway - II and even Indian Oil Corporation pipeline.

Sir, the hon. Member, Shri Basu Deb Acharia, in spite of his full knowledge, has cleverly skipped the issue of illegal mining. Illegal mining has been continuing on with impunity in the Eastern Coal Field area and Jharkhand area also. . . .(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : That part will be deleted. That part will not be recorded. Please come to the question or

*Not recorded.

otherwise, I will stop the matter. I will discontinue it. You have to put a question, please.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY : Sir, the other day also I was denied to ask the supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Chowdhury, it is very easy to make allegation.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY : Sir, the reason is that a Task Force has been set up in both the States.

MR. SPEAKER : Anybody can make allegations.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY : But, it is also a fact that illegal mining has been continuing and that has become a major problem to restrict the subsidence and fire.

MR. SPEAKER : Put your question.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY : Sir, the hon. Minister has not defined the area which is vulnerable for subsidence and fire.

MR. SPEAKER : Very well, no Call Attention in future.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY : Sir, there is also no mention of the number of population which has been affected by the subsidence and fire.

Sir, earlier also the Standing Committee has suggested a closer plan for those mines which are abandoned.

MR. SPEAKER : If you do not put a question, I will discontinue this matter.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY : Sir, I would like to know whether that closer plan has been implemented or not.

Sir, I have found some discrepancies in the statement. Can I refer them?

MR. SPEAKER : Please refer them in the form of a question. You are allowed to ask one question, but you may put two questions.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY : Sir, you also kindly see the Statement. It says:

"For BCCL, the demonstration scheme for Rs. 61.09 crore involved construction of 4,600 houses comprising of 1,500 houses for BCCL employees and 3,100 houses for private persons. Out of this, 344 houses for BCCL employees have been constructed and 204 families have been shifted. . . ."

There is a serious discrepancy which occurred between the construction of houses and shifting of families.

Secondly, for ECL area, no figure has been provided to know about the actual number of houses shifted.

Sir, the Master Plan, which has been referred to here, had been prepared long ago, since the Gugnani Committee Report. At that time it was suggested to divert the railway line and also to shift the entire habitation areas. But till date, the progress is going on in a very lackadaisical manner. That is why, the demonstration programme and other measures have not been able to yield a tangible result. My pointed question to the hon. Minister is this. How much population and how much area in West Bengal have become vulnerable due to subsidence of land and fire?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, what I find is that my hon. Colleagues, Shri Basu Deb Acharia and Shri Adhir Chowdhury have not only asked questions but they have also replied to those questions themselves. They are very conversant with the whole problem, and I appreciate that. I can elaborate everything further but I will try to be precise.

What is 'subsidence'? Mining is taking place for more than 200 years. Shri Basu Deb Acharia himself mentioned that unscientific mining was done by people before the nationalization of these companies. Now, those mining will naturally attract subsidence. Sir, I have got a complete plan, and I can show it to Shri Basu Deb Acharia, and I can take him to my office and explain to him further on this. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You take both Shri Basu Deb Acharia and Shri Adhir Chowdhury.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA : Sir, I do not want to take the time of the House. At the time of mining, when the corridors were made, the places were vacant. You may try to stabilize every corridor by putting sand in it but there is no scientific method by which we can make this stabilization possible. After all these efforts, it has been decided that stabilization could not be taken for granted. It is for this reason the Government has now made this Master Plan. Under the Master Plan, evacuation is the only choice.

Shri Basu Deb Acharia has himself mentioned that the Government of Jharkhand has not approved this in six months. What do we do? Our hon. Prime Minister has himself talked to the Chief Minister and still the approval has not come. The West Bengal Government has already approved it, and we have already started taking action. There is no shortage of funds. We are willing to make enough funds available for this evacuation. There are more than 90,000 houses. This is under the Master Plan. I would request the hon. Ministers to help us. . . .
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA : Thank you, Sir. I would request the hon. Members to help us. We are taking the help of NGOs and we are taking the help of all the leaders in the area for motivating the people who have been affected. I fully agree that they are living in a very dangerous situation. When this mining was done, at that time nobody was living there. After that, when population increased, people started building houses. With the pressure on land, population has come there. From our side, we can only give them new houses. In the new place we are willing to build up the entire infrastructure — schools, colleges and roads.

But the first important thing is that these people should be motivated to leave their places, which they are not doing, and on which we have no control. The

Government is very, very sensitive on this issue. On humanitarian basis, we do not want them to be there.

The other point, which the hon. Member, Mr. Acharia mentioned was about the updated plan, which the ECL has received. That plan has been received; there is no problem. He also mentioned about the safe Jharia town. Let me inform the hon. Member that as far as the Jharia town is concerned, there is no risk involved in it. All these problems are on the periphery, around the Jharia town. So, there is no risk in the Jharia town.

So, you can relax, Mr. hon. Member.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : What about Raniganj?

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA : I am talking about Jharia town.

About Raniganj, of course, you did not ask the question by the way. But now, since you are asking, I would reply to you.

MR. SPEAKER : It is all right.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : I had asked about both Raniganj and Jharia.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA : As regards Raniganj, the problem is the same, which I mentioned. Raniganj would definitely take care of. Mining has been done below the Raniganj town. The problem is there. But we are willing to shift all of them. If you can help us, if you can motivate these people who are living there, we would be grateful. You know what is their mindset. They do not want to shift.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, you have mentioned it in your written statement also.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA : I have definitely given a very elaborate statement so that less questions probably come into reference. . . .(Interruptions)

Sir, it is very easy to say 'shift them'. We are willing to shift them. As I said, there is no shortage of funds. But can you shift even one man? Let me inform the hon.

[Shri Santosh Bagrodia]

Members that 344 houses have been actually built. Would you believe that we could fill up only 204? There are still 140 houses, which have not been used. We are concerned about the safety of those houses if people do not shift there.

You fix up as to who are the people who are going to shift. We would make arrangements for them.

Sir, as far as the question of fire is concerned, which Mr. Acharia had mentioned as to why does fire take place. The moment there is subsidence, there is a crack; and when the crack is there, the wind goes in. With the combination of wind and crack, there can be a natural fire. Once the fire takes place, it becomes very difficult to identify the level of fire, the fire goes upto what depth, upto what distance. It is for this reason that the only choice is evacuation. The only choice is rehabilitation. And, we have a very large plan.

MR. SPEAKER : Thank you.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA : Our Prime Minister is very sensitive to this. He wants the safety of people. We do not want to lose even a single citizen of our country. Those days are over when the lives of the citizens were considered very cheap. Today, our Government considers the life of every citizen very valuable. We will not let them die.

But as far as we are concerned, we are willing to help. Please come forward. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It is his maiden performance. We do not disturb a Minister giving his maiden performance. Please follow the tradition. Generally, that is the custom here.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA : Sir, whatever help you want, we are willing to help.

Sir, Mr. Chowdhury wanted to know about fires. Let me inform him that there were totally 67 fires, which we inherited when the mines were nationalized. After that, we had 10 more fires. Seven fires have been completely

defused; 67 fires are still going on but we have contained them. The risk is minimal. I would not say that there is no risk; the risk is still there. That is why again the question of evacuation comes in there.

Sir, Mr. Chowdhury also wanted to know about Eastern Coalfield.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY : How much area would be there? . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No Supplementary is allowed. Mr. Minister, do not ask for further Supplementary, please.

. . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA : I am not asking, Sir. I am only trying to reply. . . .(Interruptions)

The salient features of the master plan are fillings, fires, subsidence, rehabilitation in the leasehold of ECL, which was updated as on August, 2006 on the agenda. The number of sites proposed to be rehabilitated including ongoing schemes is 139; the number of houses to be rehabilitated is 33,196; the number of houses proposed to be rehabilitated in phase-I including the ongoing houses is 18,136; the number of houses proposed to be rehabilitated in phase-II is 15,060. The total number of such houses is 33,196.

The estimated land required for rehabilitation is 896.29 hectares. Timeframe for implementation is 10 years. It was 20 years. It has been brought down to 10 years.

MR. SPEAKER : You said that you would invite them and give all those information. You invite the hon. Members.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as you say, I invite not only both of them but I also invite every individual in the House.

MR. SPEAKER : Every hon. Member in the House.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA : If any of the hon. Members comes, I will, on top priority, meet him and give

all the explanation about these problems which we are facing in the coalfields.

MR. SPEAKER : I compliment you on your maiden intervention.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA : Thank you very much, Sir.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY : How much is the area in West Bengal?

MR. SPEAKER : No, do not reply further.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, let us come to important issues. Shri Prabhunath Singh.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : (Maharajganj, Bihar) : Sir, I would like to raise a very important issue before you. As you know hon'ble Members of this House raise important questions through Calling Attention and questions. In the year 2007, during the Lok Sabha session the Government had given 1,086 assurances in reply to questions and Calling Attention motions. But only 149 i.e. 14 per cent assurances have been implemented. It shows that this Government is Government of assurances. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You please speak about your issue.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Sir, I am coming to the issue. The real issue is related to this.

Sir, on 18th December, 2006 through Calling Attention we had demanded to include Bhojpuri language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution and in the reply, hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs had assured that there was no hurdle in including the language to the Schedule and that action was being taken to include Bhojpuri and Rajasthani languages in the Eighth Schedule of the

Constitution and a bill would be passed in the coming session. This was his assurance. There have been five sessions of Lok Sabha since he gave that assurance.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I would request the Government to take note of this and make a statement on this. I have given the instruction.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Sir, on 14th March, 2008 when I had raised this question during zero hour, you had told us that you would request the Government to clear the position regarding inclusion of Bhojpuri and Rajasthani languages in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. You had said this. Again on 19th March, 2008, when I raised this issue in House again then, Sh. Priyaranjan Dasgupta, who was then Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and who no longer holds the post now had assured us that inclusion of Bhojpuri language was on priority and would always be there.

MR. SPEAKER : Probably this might have been the reason behind his removal from this Ministry.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : They had assured that the language would be included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution at the earliest. I request you that you should kindly request the Government to implement their assurance. You have the authority to maintain discipline in the House but whether it is only for people like us. Why don't you use this authority to force the Government to implement their assurances?

MR. SPEAKER : I have just been told this thing.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : If you permit us, we can move privilege motion tomorrow, you hear it and send Minister of Home Affairs to Jail for giving false assurances.

MR. SPEAKER : It will further delay the matter.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : We want same to be implemented. It is certain that sooner or later Bhojpuri

[Shri Prabhunath Singh]

would be included in the Constitution so it is only the matter of time, but the chair and the House should take it seriously as injustice is being done with 20 crore Bhojpuri speaking people. I request you that this Bill should be introduced in this House in the current session.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhansharpur) : Sir, this is a very important issue. The House should give priority to it. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Not only Shri Devendra Prasadji, I believe, the entire House also associates with him.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : The Government should give a statement in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER : O.K. I have already observed.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : The Government should give a statement in the House on non-implementation of assurances.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I would request the Government to take note of it seriously and make a statement on this.

Now, Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra. He is also raising an important matter.

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Sir, what happened to demand.

MR. SPEAKER : I have given the instructions.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Sir, you should give direction to the Government to introduce a bill during the current session itself.

MR. SPEAKER : You have not heard what I said.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Sir, Government should be given a time limit for this.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : In the light of his assurance, Government may bring a bill to include the Bhojpuri and Rajasthan languages in the VIIIth Schedule of the Constitution.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have requested the Government to let the House know what is the position. That would include everything.

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we want to associate with it.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Sorry, this system cannot be implemented.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have now requested Prof. Malhotra to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna) : You gave directions on the matter raised by the hon'ble Member. But the Government is not giving any Statement. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Whatever you are saying is not being recorded.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : You are also in the favour of Bhojpuri.

MR. SPEAKER : I am in favour of Bhojpuri, Rajasthan

and all other languages spoken in the country. I am also in favour of Maithili.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Maithili has already been included in the VIIIth Schedule of the Constitution. Bhojpuri and Rajasthani are yet to be included.

MR. SPEAKER : We all want Bhojpuri as well as Rajasthani. Ram Kripalji also wants their inclusion.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Let us do some work.

[Translation]

It is also an important topic.

... (Interruptions)

12.41 hrs.

RE: REPORTED RESIGNATION BY THE
SECRETARY-GENERAL OF HOCKEY
FEDERATION

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I am allowing this matter although the Government directly has nothing to do, but it relates to the country's image and prestige. Therefore, I allowed.

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring into the kind notice of the August House a very unfortunate incident. A most disturbing news has come that the General Secretary* of the Hockey Federation has been found taking bribe.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Do not mention any name.

*Not recorded.

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : He has been alleged of taking bribe of 5 lakh rupees. . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : That is the allegation.

[Translation]

It is an allegation.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : We cannot pass judgement here. Let us not overreact.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN' (Begusarai) : The allegation itself is shameful.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : This allegation has brought a bad name and disgrace to the country. It's alright that he has resigned from his post but that's not enough. This episode should be enquired and if found guilty, criminal proceedings may be initiated against him so that an example could be set before the others. Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have told that the Government is not directly involved in it but I would like to submit that there is an observer of the Government over every federation. The Government appoints Arjun awardee in the selection committee. Thereafter he is given the training. After the initiative of Sport Authority of India and Selection Committee Government itself taken steps to send the Secretary abroad. It is very necessary to have the intervention of the Government in it which surely is there. I would like to say that both the Government and IOA should hold a meeting together. It should be ensured that such incidents do not recur in future so that no person could defame the whole sports arena. It is laid down by the IOA in the guidelines that if somebody gets tainted like this, he has no place in the sports arena and he should

[Prof. Vijay Kumar Maithotra]

be displaced from there immediately. So, the Government should take necessary action after conducting the enquiry into the whole incident. The Government and IOA should together enquire the matter and take stern action against the guilty.

MR. SPEAKER : Yogi Adityanathji associates himself with it.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) : We also associate with it. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please send your names.

SHRI KIREN RIJUJU (Arunachal West) : I also associate myself with this topic.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhansi) : It is a question of the prestige of the nation.

MR. SPEAKER : It is alright. I have given the permission due to this only.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Bribe of 5 lakh rupees has been taken and no action has been taken against the guilty.

MR. SPEAKER : We got the news and the notice today itself.

MR. SALIM (Calcutta-North East) : Strict action should be taken in this regard so that other people could learn from it.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The observations of those hon. Members who are speaking without my permission are not being recorded.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYA NATH (Gorakhpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir,

*Not recorded.

whatever hon'ble Mr. Maithotra have said about the General Secretary of Hockey Federation, constitutes a very serious matter. If any country or a player of any team goes to play anywhere, he does not remain an individual nor he plays only for himself but he represents the whole country and plays for the country. For sometime India is experiencing shameful defeat in Hockey, our team was defeated in Asiad and we could not even qualify for the upcoming Olympics. The tradition of taking bribes for the selection of national and international teams is very disgraceful. And with yesterday's incident Hockey Federation has added another black chapter of bribe to its history. It is a disgrace to the nation and amounts to treason. Such people should be sued who are mortgaging their nation's pride in such a way.

I would like to request through you that this matter may be taken very seriously. Whenever we take such a matter lightly and make them merely a matter of discussion, it results in continuance of unlawful activities by such people and it brings disgrace to the nation. Through you, we strongly demand that action should be taken against the present or the former officials engaged with the hockey federation and found at fault. Dhanraj Pillai has alleged that the General Secretary of the Federation selected a player in 2004 after taking bribe. This is a very serious matter. It should also be examined. The working of other federations should also be discussed and an arrangement should be made to monitor all these things closely.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Md. Salim, please do not give a long speech.

MR. SALIM : Yes, Sir. The issue has already been mentioned.

[Translation]

Sir, we have our own tradition with hockey. But this is just not the case of hockey. This federation selects our national team. But when our players play at international.

level, our national feeling are there with them. Government has no law or control to monitor their activities there. You direct the Sports Minister to come here and make a statement particularly about the hockey federation issue as to what action the Government is taking.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I agree with the Deputy Leader of Opposition on the question raised by him today. This is very regrettable that the national sport of India is not being taken seriously. Earlier when our team did not qualify for Olympics, then, it was said that all these organizations were autonomous and independent. The Government of India has no direct involvement in that. I think by giving such a statement, the Government has given full autonomy to these organizations to do wrongs.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Nobody will accept it.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : If the Government today has no right to interfere in such matters. Then Government should bring a Bill in the House so that whenever allegations of corruption and misconduct are made, the Government should have a right to interfere.

This is the House where members were subjected to expulsion in the wake of sting operation involving bribe of Rs. 5,000 to 10,000 only. Allegations involving the bribe amounting to Rs. five lakh were captured under sting operation and I am in no way in support of sting operation.

MR. SPEAKER : We are not entitled to interfere with their operation.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Irrespective of your control over them it had been decided by this House unanimously.

MR. SPEAKER : I am allowing you.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : This supreme institution has every right to interfere in such affairs and I would like to request the Union Government to initiate criminal proceedings against such people.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the feelings expressed by the deputy leader of BJP in the House, I am of the opinion that if the Government doesn't have the right to exercise restraint upon such activities, it may derive powers from this August House. The way the importance of national game has been undermined by taking bribes in Federation, it has brought disrepute to the nation. On behalf of all the honourable members of the House, I request the Government to take effective steps to rein in such activities, be it with the introduction of bill or otherwise, the Government should take effective measures by deriving power to interfere from this House.

SHRI ILYAS AZMI (Shahabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, associating myself entirely with the views expressed by Shri Vijay Kumar Malhotra, I would add that Hockey is our national game and every Indian citizen takes pride in the game of Hockey. However, the reasons for deterioration witnessed in Hockey can largely be attributed to the prevalence of bribe culture across the board. Taking serious note of such incidents severe punishment should be awarded. Even if we are to enact a new legislation, the entire house will unanimously be prepared for such legislation. Those who have inculcated a mindset to earn money from national sports be executed in broad day light so that nobody dares to play with the sentiments of the nation at large.

12.50 hrs.

RE: WORLD EARTH DAY

[English]

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE (Idukki) : Thank you, Sir. Today is World Earth Day. The United Nations has declared 2008 as the International Year of Planet Earth. Our planet is only 4.5. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You know that I have mentioned the matter today. You can associate with it.

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE : Yes, Sir. But now, we have reached a stage where the whole humanity, in fact,

[Shri K. Francis George]

every living organism is threatened by global warming and climate change.

Global warming is already wrecking havoc with nature. It is said that most plants and animals are affected as the change is occurring too quickly for them to evolve. Globally, 30 per cent of the earth's species could disappear if temperature rises 4.5°F, and up to 70 per cent if it rises to 6.3°F. The hardest hit will be plants and animals in colder climate in higher elevations. In the long run, every species will be affected.

A study by the reputed international agency Greenpeace called 'Blue Alert' says that global temperature will rise by about 4.5°C in the course of the century, and that South Asian Region should. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is being misunderstood. The purpose of mentioning this is being misunderstood. Long statements are being read out. We have decided about it.

. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE : Sir, I am concluding.

MR. SPEAKER : Please do it.

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE : Nearly, 130 million people from India, Pakistan and Bangladesh live in low-elevation coastal zones, which are at an average of less than 10 metres above average below sea-level. Mumbai and Kolkata have an average elevations of between 2 metres to 10 metres. It is said that 125 million people will be displaced. It is a very serious scenario. Even if we contain global warming below 2°C, the number of migrants will be five million people. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please associate with this issue. I cannot allow you to go on like this.

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE : I would request, through the high office that you occupy and through the medium of this House, that you should send a message to the

nation that we should realize the urgency of the situation. We should also bring about an attitudinal change among the people. The public should come forward to conserve and make the earth a better place to live, and save the planet earth from impending destruction.

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in Orissa we call it Ghatoli Day. Today is World Earth Day, which was first celebrated in April 1970 as a means of sensitizing people about the environment. As the spectre of global food scarcity raises new questions about the environment more so with climate change, the reality today is that the rise in temperature has threatened mankind's future. As the climatic patterns are threatening production, farmers are not sure when to sow and when to reap, and few countries can afford to ignore the consequences. It is the developing countries that suffer the most when there is a global food crisis.

Climate change is getting nasty. The climate change policies rolled-out by the European Union make it clear(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please associate with it. This is not a matter of speech. I earnestly request you to please cooperate.

SHRI B. MAHTAB : Sir, this is an important issue.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, we know about it, and I had allowed a discussion on it. I am prepared to give another discussion on it. You are also aware that we have formed a Forum on this issue.

SHRI B. MAHTAB : Sir, I am raising it because today is a special day, and you have yourself mentioned the importance of this issue in the morning.

MR. SPEAKER : But kindly see that we are running against time. Therefore, please cooperate with me.

SHRI B. MAHTAB : Sir, I am concluding in half-a-minute. The carbon emission curbs being enforced by the European Union and western countries are our concern. The developing countries – faced with a choice of spurring

faster growth even at the cost of environmental pollution – have understandably favoured growth over environment.

I urge upon the Government to strive for collective action on environment at the global level, and insist on a fair distribution of emission control anchored in a per capita approach.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Just mention the matter; it cannot be a speech on every issue.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, prior to 23.11.97 when Prasar Bharti came into existence, Akashvani and Doordarshan used to function as Government departments. Now a days both are functioning under Prasad Bharti Corporation. There are three cadres of employees working in this department namely engineering, programme and administration. As per an order issued by Prasad Bharti on 25.2.99 employees belonging to engineering and programme cadre were given enhanced pay scales and they were given more cash incentives than those recommended by the Fifth pay commission. These benefits have not been extended to the employees belonging to administrative cadre functioning in this department. Since the year 1999 the employees belonging to the administrative cadre have been repeatedly making submissions to Government in this regard. After a long gap of nine years last time when the said employees met the hon'ble Minister of Information and Broadcasting, an assurance was given by the Minister that soon they would be provided with enhanced emoluments, but even after repeatedly making requests, they were not provided with the said benefits. The employees belonging to the administrative department are observing a hunger strike today at the Akashvani premises. About 6000 employees are on a pen-down strike. My request is that the Government should fulfil the commitment expressed by

it in this regard and keep the promise they have made in the House.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Basu Deb Acharia, please associate yourself.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, the members of Akashvani and Doordarshan Administrative Staff Association have started fast unto death consequent on the conversion of AIR and Doordarshan into an autonomous Corporation named Prasar Bharati. The Engineering and Programme Employees were granted upgraded pay-scales for getting absorbed into Prasar Bharati. The Administrative Staff, who are doing a very vital function in Doordarshan as well as Akashvani, have been given an assurance. I met the hon. Minister a number of times. In fact, on 1st April, on his own initiative, the Minister called the representatives of the Association and assured them that on 3rd April, when a Group of Ministers would meet, their case would be considered and they would also be granted upgraded pay-scales. But on 3rd April, 2008, when the Group of Ministers met, their case was not considered.

Sir, time is running out and they are agitating throughout the country. I would urge upon the Government, as a Group of Ministers has been formed, to consider their demand. I demand that the genuine demand of the Administrative Staff Association of AIR and DD should be considered and upgraded pay-scales should be granted to the Administrative staff of AIR and Doordarshan.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (Midnapore) : Sir, I associate with what the hon. Member has stated. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH (Allahabad) : Sir, through you, I would like to inform the entire House that we have certain obligations as a Member of Parliament but I feel that we are utterly unable to fulfil those obligations. An M.L.A. is provided an amount of Rs. 5 crore in the name of development. They can get 250 hand

[Shri Rewati Raman Singh]

pumps installed. We had represented to the Prime Minister under the leadership of Shri Ramgopalji but one month has passed since then and no decision has been taken in that regard. We cannot inaugurate a road, lay a foundation stone and cannot get a hand pump installed. I would like to urge that an amount of Rs. 2 crore being provided to each M.P. should be stopped. Not a single penny should be provided. It is my demand to which all Members of Parliament would agree with it like me.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please send your names. There would be no speech.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The name of Shri Shankendra Kumar be associated with Shri Rewati Raman Singh.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The speech of Sumitraji only will go on record.

... (Interruptions)*

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) : What is your opinion?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The interventions will not be recorded. If you want to know about my decision, you will not be happy. My decision is that it should be abolished immediately.

... (Interruptions)*

13.00 hrs.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Mohan Singhji, please take your seat.

... (Interruptions)

*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER : You may bring a Motion.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Only Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan's statement will be recorded.

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You are not Sumitra Mahajan. Please sit down.

... (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore) : I would like to raise a very important matter in the House. It is necessary that the people sitting in the House who have reached the stage of grand parents and their children are also in schools and all political parties should unitedly think over the role of sex education. There is a proposal to impart sex education in the schools from the sixth standard in the name of Adolescent Education Programme. A programme has already been issued by the Ministry of Human Resource Development. It was issued last year and only some pictures have been withdrawn. I would like to submit to all the Members that it is not the duty of a teacher to impart sex education.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Difference of opinion are there.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Small children are being educated for AIDS Control and this education is imparted for the control of AIDS, teaching of Biology, Moral Sciences, Social Sciences is a different thing. The justification of teaching civics, if it is taught, is understandable but in this way how the NACO has come into the picture? They have funds to the tune of crores of rupees and so they are throwing that into it.

MR. SPEAKER : What happens when we watch dances on the T.V.?

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : I would like to appeal to all the hon'ble Members that T.V. and the other forms of Media are busy in corrupting our children. It can play a havoc if sex education is introduced in schools. The Government must perceive it and withdraw the proposal forthwith. It is my submission to all of you that human beings die if there is a famine of foodgrains but it is the humanity itself which dies if there is a famine of 'Samskaras' (morality). It may happen in near future. I would, therefore, request all of you to strongly oppose the above proposal so that the evil can be nipped in the bud immediately.

SHRIMATI RANJEET RANJAN (Saharsa): Obscene films should be banned.

SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR (Vadodara): I associate myself with Sumitra Mahajanji.

SHRIMATI KARUNA SHUKLA (Janjgir): I associate myself with Sumitra Mahajanji.

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR (Sagar): I associate myself with Sumitra Mahajanji.

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO (Bolangir): I associate myself with Shrimati Sumitra Mahajanji.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Chhewang Thupstan comes from a difficult area and he has got his problems.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Do you want to associate? If you want to associate, please send your slips to associate yourself.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is controversial in nature.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : There is nothing controversial in this. Sex education is not necessary. How can it be a controversial issue?

MR. SPEAKER : Well, there are different opinions on this issue.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI CHHEWANG THUPSTAN (Ladakh) : Sir, through you, I would like to raise a matter of urgent public importance.

The Nubra Valley is strategically the most sensitive and important region of Ladakh District of Jammu and Kashmir State which borders both China and Pakistan including the famous Siachen Glacier. The Nubra Valley is connected to rest of Ladakh by a road-crossing through Khardongla which is considered to be the highest motorable road in the world. The road remains blocked during the winter and early spring due to heavy snowfall and strong wind conditions making the use of the road very dangerous and which often gets blocked and remains so for months together.

It has been the long pending demand of the people of Nubra Valley to construct a multipurpose tunnel across Khardung La which will have this important road link for most period of the year, even during winter. The construction of the tunnel will also help to divert water from north side of Leh Town which faces an acute shortage of irrigation water. Also, the water so diverted could be used for generation of hydroelectricity. Some feasibility study was already carried out and the proposal is pending with the Government.

I would urge upon the Government of India to very kindly consider the construction of a tunnel across Khardung La which will not only ensure road connectivity but will also help generate electricity and provide supplementary water for irrigation to Leh Town. I was personally stuck in Nubra Valley for more than a week during my recent visit. The road was blocked and I had to be airlifted to Chandigarh by a Service aircraft. This tells a very sorry story of our defence preparedness as strategically very important border points like Karakoram and Siachen are not approachable by road hampering defence movements. I hope that the Government of India

[Shri Chhewang Thupstan]

will take this request with seriousness that it deserves and sanction a multipurpose tunnel to be built across Khardung La.

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH (Udhampur) : Sir, I associate myself with this issue, Sir.

DR. COL. (RETD.) DHANI RAM SHANDIL (Shimla) : Sir, I associate myself with this issue.

SHRI KHAGEN DAS (Tripura-West) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to a matter of urgent public importance. The Reserve Bank of India's Handbook of Statistics on the Indian Economy 2006-07 shows that there were 30,639 rural branches of Scheduled Commercial banks in 2007. That means that 4,750 rural bank branches have closed down in fifteen years since 1993. That is an average of 26 branches shut down each month or one every working day. When agrarian economy is in crisis, the poor farmers are under severe pressure, and with the reduction of rural branches they are forced to rely on moneylenders leading to increased financial distress and farmer suicides. In the circumstances, I strongly demand that immediate steps be taken to reverse the trend and increase the number and reach of the rural bank branches.

SHRIMATI JHANSI LAKSHMI BOTCHA (Bobbili) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Regional Rural Banks play an important role in dispensing credit in rural areas. The operations of these banks help in revitalization of rural economy by providing access to rural credit and reducing dependency on the non-institutional sources of finance such as moneylenders and micro-finance institutions.

Achieving the objective of providing credit at affordable rates of interest is becoming increasingly difficult in the context of rising interest rates scenario. The RRBs face constraints such as restricted area of operation, limited opportunities to achieve benefits of cross-subsidisation and competition with sponsor banks in both raising resources and lending, which after their ability to provide

credit at low interest rates. Increase in refinance rates by NABARD has also affected the cost of funds.

The consequence of such increase in lending rates in respect of rural population is quite disastrous and is contrary to the objective of financial inclusion. It is the responsibility of the Government and the banking industry to prevent rural distress caused by high cost of credit.

I request the Finance Ministry to establish a corpus to provide funds to the RRBs at low cost immediately to facilitate these institutions to lend in rural areas and ameliorate the interest burden on rural poor.

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY (Nalgonda) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of this august House the dispute about the money of the erstwhile Hyderabad State. Mr. Mir Osman Ali Khan, the last Nizam of Hyderabad, had transferred one million pounds to the National Westminster Bank of London in 1948 to buy one lakh 303 rifles. However, before Nizam could get his rifles, the then Union Government had launched police action and dethroned the Nizam. The Nizam then changed his stance and said that the money was transferred to the Bank without his knowledge by his Finance Minister. It is the money of the State and not his personal property. India has claimed that the money belongs to the nation and Nizam has no right whatsoever to it. Six decades later, the money is still lying in the London Bank. That amount of one million pounds has now grown to 31.9 million pounds. That is approximately Rs. 250 crore. It is said that Pakistan is also claiming the money and the Nizam's heirs are also fighting for a share of this money. This money belongs to the people of the erstwhile State of Hyderabad. This wealth was created by the blood and sweat of the people of the region.

MR. SPEAKER : Hyderabad is part of India.

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY : The Indian Government has to take care of this and settle the matter to use this money for the development of parts of Maharashtra, Karnataka and Telangana regions, which were parts of the old Hyderabad State.

Telengana needs this money for its development. I would request the Government of India to settle this issue and bring back this money and spend it for the development of the region of the erstwhile Hyderabad State.

SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL (Parbhani) : I want to associate with this issue, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : All right. Your matter is a State matter, Shrimati Ranjeet Ranjan.

SHRIMATI RANJEET RANJAN : No, Sir. It is not a State matter.

MR. SPEAKER : Not 'State' matter. You are overruling me! All right, I will allow you.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI RANJEET RANJAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank you apart from begging your pardon. At present there are 15 lakh scavengers and sweepers who clean the gutters in the entire country. Recently, I read about it in the 'Outlook'. It is a shameless thing that a legislation seeking to ban it is under process for the last few years but every year it is extended further and today it is really surprising that a very senior leader from Gujarat has made a statement that in his dream the God has told the scavengers that they should continue this work as this also is a very good work. I would appeal to those people who say such things that they should go to those streets and Railway tracks and stand there for just two minutes for once and see the people who do the work of scavenging. I would like to know only this from you whether any survey has been undertaken by the Government to see how many people engaged in manual scavenging have fallen sick and how many of them died and how many are suffering from diseases? Now the foreign countries like Netherland, Poland, Norway and Britain are opposing this practice in India and they are demanding that the practice of manual scavenging in India should be stopped. I am surprised that India which has been inspiring people to live and let live and teaching the lesson of humanity to

other countries is not able to enforce the law seeking to ban this inhuman act. I would like to remind you that the target of eliminating it by 2000 should be achieved at the earliest, as it is a very cruel inhuman treatment and travesty of those people. It should be banned as early as possible. In addition, I would like to speak a few words of appreciation for Shri Bindeswari Pathak of the Sulabh International who has taken initiative to include those people in the social mainstream and has given employment to many of them by weaning them away from this act. The Government should take full responsibility of their rehabilitation after liberating them from this practice.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The matter raised by you is a good and important matter.

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE (Aurangabad, Maharashtra) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, a number of students from Maharashtra appearing in All India Engineering Entrance Examination i.e. A.I.E.E.E. have been allotted the centre of examination out of the State. Where will the students go from Maharashtra? Will the students from Maharashtra go to Bhopal or Andaman and Nicobar Islands to appear in the examination? Will they be provided reservation facility for going to other places to appear in the examination as the examination takes place on 27th. I had written a letter also to the Hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development in this regard telling him that there were only three centers of the said examination in Maharashtra namely - Mumbai, Pune and Nagpur, whereas the students were forced to go out of State i.e. upto the Andaman and Nicobar Islands to appear in the examination. Therefore, I would like to say, through you, that the students appearing in the examination should be allotted centre of examination in their respective States only. How is it possible for the students to go to far-flung places after passing the XII standard examination? Therefore, through you, I would like to request the

[Shri Chandrakant Khaire]

Government to issue directions to the Directorate of Technical Education in this regard asking it to allot the examination center students from Maharashtra within the State at Mumbai, Pune and Nagpur and at Sambhaji Nagar – Aurangabad in Maharashtra region. Rules should be there in this regard. Similarly, the examinations of the AIEEE should be conducted on the same pattern in other States of the country also. This is my request to the Government.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have already allowed 15 Members.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha) : I am just trying to draw the attention of the House over the very serious disease which is spreading in the country. Its name is Schizophrenia. Young population has become a victim of this and I am told that nearly one per cent of the population of this country is suffering from this disease. Specialty, the young boys and girls become the victims of this disease. Very little facilities are available to treat this disease. It is only the National Institute of Mental Health and Sciences, Bangalore is located far away from a number of parts of this country. Some other facilities are available in Delhi and other parts of the country. I strongly demand that in Western region an institute like VIMHANS can be started either in Ahmadabad or Gandhinagar. This disease must also draw the attention of the Government to take serious note of it. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It should also be established in other States.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY : I would be very happy if it is established in any other State. Nonetheless, very little attention has gone into such diseases of which the young population is becoming victim partly because of the habit, study or the burden that they carry in their young age. They mainly go in a depression and due to the depression they face this disorder.

SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR (Vadodara) : Sir, I associate with it.

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI (Kutch) : Sir, I also associate with it.

MR. SPEAKER : All right. Their names may be associated with it.

[Translation]

SHRI KIREN RIJU (Arunachal West) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, please give me time to speak.

MR. SPEAKER : You would be given this opportunity tomorrow.

. . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Other matters will be taken up at the end of the day or you have to give fresh notices. I have already allowed 17 matters to be raised.

. . .(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil) : As early as in 1957 when Shri E.M.S. Namboothiripad was the Chief Minister, the Kerala Assembly. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You have been so cooperative. You know that I am your admirer.

. . .(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : The Kerala Legislative Assembly early in 1957, when late Shri E.M.S. Namboothiripad was the Chief Minister, unanimously adopted a Resolution towards the establishment of a Bench of the Kerala High Court at Trivandrum, the State Capital. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This is not fair. What is this? Can you rise at any time and say something? There is no notice, nothing, what in this?

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Subsequently, when the present Defence Minister Shri A.K. Antony was the Chief Minister, the Kerala Legislative Assembly again unanimously adopted a Resolution towards the establishment of a Bench of the Kerala High Court at Trivandrum. The present Government in their turn have provided sufficient funds for the establishment of a Bench in the current year's Budget. There is also a Private Members' Bill towards the establishment of this Bench before the House but still the Government is not taking action. Even the Chief Justice of India. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Judiciary has to take action first. Learned Judges have to decide.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : The Chief Justice of India has claimed that it is for the Central Government to make a precedent to issue Notification under the provisions of the States Reorganisation Act.

MR. SPEAKER : Government must agree. Judges must agree.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : There is one option before the Government. Either the Government must accept the Private Members' Resolution or they must make a declaration before the House that they will issue Notification. For three months the hunger strike by lawyers is going on in Trivandrum and the Government is quite inactive. The State Government has already recommended it. . . .(Interruptions) I would also be forced to resort to action. Before this House I will have to take action and request the Government to act in this matter. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : All hon. Members from Kerala are associating with it.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : I would request the Government of India and the President of India to issue a Notification towards the establishment of the Bench. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : All hon. Members, even those who are farthest from Trivandrum are also associating.

. . .(Interruptions)

SOME HON. MEMBERS : No, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : Even your Kerala Members are opposing it.

. . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is over now. You have made your point very forcefully.

. . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : There will be no luncheon recess today. We are going to begin the discussion on the next item of the Agenda.

. . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What is this?

. . .(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : There is no such provision anywhere. . . .(Interruptions) Judiciary has taken a stand, whenever the word 'consult' is used, they have interpreted it as 'consent'. . . .(Interruptions) Whenever the word 'consult' is used, it reveals 'consent'. So, you must be doubly cautious. Whenever you pass any statute, do not use the word 'consult' hereafter because that will be taken as consent and we would not be able to implement the Act itself. Such is the situation in the country. In the Chamber's Dictionary or any other dictionary used in any part of the world where English is spoken you find words 'consult' and 'consent'.

MR. SPEAKER : Let the Government start thinking. Unless you finish, how can they start thinking?

. . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister of Law and Justice is not present here.

13.20 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*

MR. SPEAKER : Matters under Rule 377 may be treated as laid on the Table of the House.

- (i) **Need to release the grants for the proposals submitted by Government of Karnataka under Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission**

[English]

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI (Gulbarga) : The Government of Karnataka have submitted the following two important proposals under Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission to the Rural Development Ministry:-

- (i) Release of grants amounting to Rs. 2700 Lakhs for 15 schemes in 7 districts submitted on 25.04.2007 to tackle water quality problem. It is necessary to commission the approved on-going schemes within the approved/revised cost, to avoid probable escalation in the estimated amount.
- (ii) Release of 2nd instalment of ARWSP funds amounting to Rs. 12286 Lakhs for all 27 districts, with a request to release the allocated grants together with the additional grants of Rs. 50 crore to achieve the target set under Bharat Nirman Programme.

As these proposals are very important, I request the Centre to kindly consider releasing the grants early.

- (ii) **Need to grant Tribal status to the residents of Gir (West) Forest Area and to their descendants.**

[Translation]

SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD (Junagarh) : The Gir (West) forest area in Gujarat was categorized as wood A, B and C by the Forest Settlement Commissioner during

the years 1960 to 1965 that comprises of three wards A, B and C. all the forest dwellers living in this forest area prior to 1956 who do not settle there these days are treated as tribal people and they as well as their descendants have to obtain the certificate of Tribal Caste from the Taluka Tehsildar by getting a documentary proof to this effect from the concerned Range Forest Officer.

The problem is that only one family member of the families living there prior to 1956 is treated as a descendant of the family concerned after the death of the persons living there prior to 1956 and no other member of the family concerned is treated as a descendant. The Range Forest Officers don't issue them the certificates to this effect as a result of which they are not able to get certificate of a tribal caste.

I request you to grant such forest dwellers and their descendants, who may be one or more than one, the status of being their descendants. The Ministry and the department dealing with this issue may be issued guidelines to take appropriate action in this regard.

- (iii) **Need to give special financial package for the socio-economic and over all development of SCs and STs in Chhattisgarh and other parts of the country**

SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE (Bilaspur) : A special drive should be launched by providing them the facilities of health care, roads, electricity, potable water, housing as well as giving them advantages of drug de-addiction and daughters marriage schemes and preventing of child marriage Act and introduction of the scheme related to prevention of the atrocities against SCs/STs, building of Ambedkar Awas, Balmiki Awas, provision of medical facilities to the suffering lot, turning the shrines into tourist sites, introduction of scheme related to cultural development, building of hostels for the students, arrangement for hostel for matriculates, provision of employment to the unemployed youth for the socio-economic, educational and vocational development of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The funds provided for the development

*Treated as laid on the Table.

of the SCs and STs is very meagre. This condition has not at all improved though we have ushered in 21st century. The funds being provided in the name of development is mostly utilized for official purposes.

Therefore, the Union Government is requested to provide additional special package of Rs. 3000/- crore to each of the States of Jharkhand, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Chhattisgarh which is a state dominated by the above categories and their overall development be ensured by launching a drive.

(iv) Need to ensure quality in construction of roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in Jalaun Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA (Jalaun) : The roads being constructed under the Pradhan Mantri Sadak Yojana in my Lok Sabha Constituency, Jalaun (Uttar Pradesh) are those on which the P.W.D. Uttar Pradesh has got the construction work done 6 months earlier and so there are certain roads on which the construction work has very recently started but tenders have been floated under the Pradhan Mantri Sadak Yojana in this regard. These roads are (i) Mothh to Mandore (2) Mothh to Samathhar (1) Sikandra to Samathhar (1) Samathhar to Peeprikalan. Also, the construction work on other roads is not being got done keeping in view the quality of the work.

I demand the Union Government to look into the irregularities and take action against the erring officers in this regard.

(v) Need to set up a Maritime University in Gujarat

[English]

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI (Kutch) : Gujarat State is having longest coastline of 1600 kms. in which there is one major port and 40 minor ports. State of Gujarat handles 25% of the total cargo handled in India and Gujarat Ports except Kandla, handled 80% of the cargo of all minor ports. By end of 11th Plan, it has a plan to achieve 450 million tons

port capacity as per GOI overall plan of capacity increase. Nearly 6000 ships per year call on Gujarat Ports. The requirement of manpower is, therefore, very high.

With a view to make available marine manpower to be deployed in the Sector, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Gujarat had written a D.O. Letter dated 27.1.2004 to Hon'ble Minister of Shipping, GOI for establishment of Maritime Training Institute in Gujarat. The purpose of establishing of Maritime University is to impart education to the students willing to join maritime sector after graduate and post graduate levels as this University would cater to various courses in Port Management, Marine Engineering and Nautical Science. Government of Gujarat vide its letter dated 2.7.2006 had already approached The National Maritime Academy, Chennai for putting this item in the agenda of their Governing Body for establishment of a Maritime University in Gujarat. Till now, there is no progress in this regard.

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to issue necessary directions to the concerned Department for clearing this proposal as immediately as possible.

(vi) Need to introduce flight services to Ajmer in Rajasthan

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : The city of Ajmer has very great importance from the historical, cultural, archaeological and educational point of view. From the religious point of view, the Sharif Dargah and the Pushkar city are famous worldwide. The city is also well connected with the National Highways and the Railways due to its geographical condition but despite repeated assurances given and surveys conducted to provide flight services to the city, the city still lacks this service. Consequently, the foreign as well as domestic tourists have to face a lot of inconvenience. It takes a lot of time and energy of the tourists to first come to Jaipur by air and then to reach Ajmer by road. Over the previous years, the airports have been set up in various big and small cities

[Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat]

and they have been connected with air service but a city like Ajmer having historical, cultural educational and tourist importance is still deprived of facilities of airport and air services.

Therefore, the Union Government is requested to connect Ajmer with the air the earliest and set up an airport there by keeping in view the overall development of the city and for maintaining its importance.

- (vii) **Need to extend loan-waiver scheme to the small and marginal farmers who have availed housing loans from Rajasthan State Cooperative Housing Society**

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, loans upto Rs. 50,000 of rural farmers have been waived off in the Central Budget 2008-09 by the present Union Government but it does not include the cooperative housing loans. As a result the employees of Rajasthan State Cooperative Housing Society are in trouble because objective of this society is to provide housing loans at affordable rate of interest to the rural farmers, people belonging to Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribes, and economically and socially backward class. Thus Co-operative Housing Society has made important contribution in the rural development of the State by providing housing loans in the rural areas of Rajasthan State.

I demand to include the cooperative housing loans of the rural poor, the small and marginal farmers in the loan waiver budgetary announcement so that small and marginal and Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe farmers may get the benefit of loan waiver of Rs. 50 thousand in real term.

- (viii) **Need to implement the report on cadre-restructuring of staff in Survey of India**

[English]

SHRI SWADESH CHAKRABORTY (Howrah) : The cadre restructuring of staff of Survey of India is pending

for implementation since last four years. Aimed at abrupt downsizing in the Department of Survey of India, the Department was reorganized in 2003 by dispensing with the erstwhile Circles/Directorates and introducing Geo-Spatial Data Centres (GDCs). The question of Cadre Restructuring had automatically come into being. Instead the Surveyor General went for a Second Cadre Review and got nod from the Ministry of Science and Technology. The cadre restructuring of officers were carried out during 2003 raising their number from 22 to 65. But the question of restructuring of staff was kept unresolved and pending. The non-implementation of cadre restructuring of staff is causing serious resentment and discontentment among the staff. The Restructuring Committee had submitted a favourable report to the Surveyor General of India and the staff side members were assured of its implementation. Hence, I urge upon the Government to implement cadre restructuring of staff of Survey of India and do justice to their cause.

- (ix) **Need to open an LPG Agency within the limits of Municipal Corporation area in Salempur Parliamentary Constituency, Deoria, Uttar Pradesh**

SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD (Salempur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, about 40 thousand families live in the urban area of my parliamentary constituency and 15 thousand families out of them are associated with Government service. There is not a single LPG agency in the Salempur City Panchayat area and as a result people living in this area are facing lots of difficulties for LPG facility. There is an LPG agency in the rural area of Salempur tehsil where a gas cylinder is being sold at rupees five hundred because gas cylinders are not supplied in time. The rules of LPG supply are being openly flouted.

I request, through this House, to review the work of gas agencies functioning in rural areas of Salempur tehsil and open an LPG gas agency in the Municipal Corporation area of Salempur.

(x) Need to expedite the construction of building for Kendriya Vidyalaya in Mashrakh, district Saran, Bihar

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Central Government has set up a Kendriya Vidyalaya in Mashrakh, district Saran, in Bihar. But Mashrakh Kendriya Vidyalaya still do not have its own building. The Vidyalaya has been functioning in the Mashrakh college building for the last five years due to which various difficulties are being faced by students and teachers and their studies are being adversely affected. The number of students has considerably increased during the last few years but they are facing difficulties in their studies due to non-availability of building, whereas the State Government has transferred the land for vidyalaya building.

The construction of the building of Mashrakh Kendriya Vidyalaya has been sanctioned and the responsibility to construct the building has been assigned to CPWD but CPWD has still not prepared the DPR due to which the tender for the construction of vidyalaya building has not been floated. The construction work of the building has not started due to inaction on the part of CPWD, Students and teachers of both the Vidyalaya and school are getting affected due to the functioning of the Vidyalaya in the building of college.

I demand from Government to issue instruction to CPWD to expedite the construction of building for Kendriya Vidyalaya located at Mashrakh in district Saran, Bihar.

(xi) Need to check the rising prices of Steel

[English]

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam) : Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Hon'ble Minister of Steel to the persistent rise in prices of steel and raw material. Iron and steel prices have shot up 27 per cent. Hike in iron ore prices announced by National Mineral Development Corporation (NDMC) have raised iron ore

prices by 47.5 per cent since 1 October, 2007. Steel companies have increased the prices of steel thrice by 20-24 per cent since December, 2007. The wholesale prices index-based inflation rate has touched an all time high of 7.28 per cent, despite efforts by the Government to bring it down to a comfortable level.

The cost of construction has risen by about 20 per cent due to rise in cement and steel prices. The price hike of TMT bars has affected construction work considerably. Currently, the cement price is hovering around Rs. 270 for a 50 kg. bag and it is likely to go up further. Increase in price of steel, cement and iron ores would have very adverse impact on the common man in the entire country.

Under the circumstances, I strongly urge and demand the Government to include steel under Essential Commodities, lower the import duty and excise duty and impose export duty on steel immediately which would pave way for the availability of steel for all. The Central Government should also make efforts to suspend 'future trading' in steel to tame rising prices.

I, therefore, plead with the Central Government that it should set up a regulatory mechanism to ensure and facilitate regulation of prices of steel in the country, and initiate measures to contain exorbitant hike in prices of steel and raw material.

(xii) Need to highlight the contributions made by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha) : Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, whose contributions to our nation are second to none is not being honoured in the most befitting manner. His statues should be erected in front of all public offices of the Centre and the States. A legislation in this regard and other ways to honour him should be thought of. The Government should also take steps to start Ambedkar chairs in all Universities so that the messages of this great person can be disseminated throughout the nation

[Shri P.C. Thomas]

more about Ambedkar should be included in the CBSE syllabus and other secondary education levels.

13.21 hrs.

**DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL),
2008-09 – contd.**

Ministry of Defence

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now we come to a very important discussion. We shall take up Item No. 21 regarding discussion on the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Defence. We have allotted four hours for this

and there will be no luncheon recess so that the Members can get time to discuss it.

Now, I would request Shri T.P.S. Rawat to speak. This is his maiden intervention.

Motion moved :

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the Fourth column of the Order paper be granted to the President of India, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2009, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the Second column thereof against Demand Nos. 19 to 26 relating to the Ministry of Defence."

Demands for Grants – Budget (General) for 2008-2009 submitted to the vote of the Lok Sabha

No. and Name of Demand	Amount of Demands for Grants on Account voted by the House on March 14, 2008		Amount of Demands for Grants submitted to the Vote of House	
	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
Ministry of Defence				
19 Ministry of Defence	1292,83,00,000	167,78,00,000	6484,14,00,000	838,90,00,000
20 Defence Pensions	2593,96,00,000	–	12989,78,00,000	–
21 Defence Services – Army	6276,96,00,000	–	31384,81,00,000	–
22 Defence Services – Navy	1250,28,00,000	–	6251,40,00,000	–
23 Defence Services – Air Force	1881,14,00,000	–	9405,68,00,000	–
24 Defence Ordnance Factories	1108,99,00,000	–	–	–
25 Defence Services – Research and Development	568,83,00,000	–	2844,12,00,000	–
26 Capital Outlay on Defence Services	–	7996,02,00,000	–	39980,08,00,000

LT. GEN. (RETD.) TEJPAL SINGH RAWAT (Garhwal) :
Sir, thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to present my views on the Defence Budget.

13.22 hrs.

[SHRI MOHAN SINGH *in the Chair*]

My first observation is on the very basis of allocation of the Defence Budget. If we have a look at the allocations made in the last five years, it was 2.41 per cent of GDP in 2004-05 which amounts to Rs. 90,928 crore; in 2005-06 – 2.25 per cent of GDP which amounts to Rs. 1,00,960 crore; in 2006-07 – 2.06 per cent of GDP which amounts to Rs. 1,10,251 crore; in 2007-08 – 1.97 per cent of the GDP was allocated which amounts to Rs. 92,500 crore; whereas in 2008-09 – 1.99 per cent of GDP allocation was made which amounted to Rs. 1,05,600 crore. It will be seen that in terms of GDP allocation, there has been a downward trend in the last five years, that is, from 2.14 per cent in 2004-05 to 1.99 per cent in 2008-09.

It is evident that the allocation is based on a statistical allocation catering for general rise in prices in each year. This unfortunately is not the right approach as it will have an adverse impact on our defence preparedness and our ability to achieve matching capabilities against our potential adversaries. Thus, the very basis of allocation is being challenged.

The question is what are our expectations from the Defence Forces? What should be their reach? For what duration we want them to sustain in battle? There are a host of such questions which remain unanswered and untackled, the most important being what are our national objectives and national interests? Do we have a national security doctrine?

Whilst making allocations to our Defence Forces, we need to consider the amount that our potential adversaries are spending on Defence and for what purpose? What is their state of preparedness and capability? A quick look at the defence spending of Pakistan and China for the year

2008-09 would show that their enhancement of capabilities is much higher than ours.

Pakistan spends 3.5 per cent of the GDP on Defence in the year 2008-09 whereas China has allocated 4.3 per cent of GDP for Defence and this has been the general pattern over the past several years. Pakistan today has developed matching capabilities against India. It has developed a nuclear arsenal with no holds barred on a first strike action. It provides bases, funds and all other support to insurgents to operate in India so as to destabilize and possibly wean away Jammu and Kashmir from it.

China has developed a Blue Water Navy. It has developed an anti-missile system which can destroy incoming missiles in the air and can achieve a nuclear strike in any part of our country.

It has developed several launching pads by land, sea and air to strike at our country. It is well in its way to attain a second strike nuclear capability. Our potential adversaries are watching our allocation and keeping a tag on our military capabilities so that they can follow an aggressive Defence Policy keeping us on the defensive and be able to bring political pressures for achievements of their goals. Today China is illegally occupying 38,000 sq. kilometres of our territory and laying claim to 90,000 sq. kilometres of Arunachal Pradesh. What are we doing about it? Pakistan occupied our territories in Kargil and forced us into a Kargil conflict. It still remains in possession of PoK.

China today has occupied Tibet and the Maoist are playing havoc in Nepal, signalling an impending threat on our borders and States adjacent to Nepal. A Maoist led Government in Nepal will toe the Chinese line and can create problems for us. A reasonable number of our States are combating insurgency and naxal problems, while there is a potential threat to others in the future. Our very Parliament, where we are seated had to face an unfortunate incident.

[Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Tejpal Singh Rawat]

India has a turbulent neighbourhood, persistent boundary disputes, cross-border terrorism, internal security challenges, energy and trade security and increasing regional responsibilities. India is too large and too significant to depend on allies. We have always been non-aligned. Aren't all these events sufficient enough to give us a "Wake up Call"? One fails to understand as to what are we waiting for. I suppose a repeat of the 1962 debacle.

Our Defence Forces are facing several problems. There is a shortage of officers in all the three Services. The Army is still holding obsolete Air Defence Equipment and needs to make its deficiencies to manageable levels. The Air Force is much below its minimum holding of 39.5 Squadrons of aircraft. It needs to replace its MIG aircraft, commonly known as the 'flying coffins'. The Navy is at a low of 131 ships against a minimum holding of 140. It has serious deficiencies in long and short range maritime aircraft. It needs to replace its aircraft carrier which was to be de-commissioned in 2006. The Coast Guards are down to 35 per cent of their authorisations.

Besides these, in the three Services there is a dilution in their intake of leadership material due to large shortages. They face a retention problem, as a large number would like to leave the Forces for greener pastures. What are we doing about it? To further aggravate the situation, the Sixth Pay Commission has not done justice to the Defence Forces. The anomaly is that the more difficult the service conditions, the more danger is to life and disturbance to family, the less you get paid. The expectations from the Forces are so much that when everyone fails, the country turns to the Defence Forces to bail them out. The canvas is so wide extending from battlefield combat to rescuing a child who is trapped in a well. You want them to be honest but you pay them so marginal that they should become dishonest.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Budget allocations should be based on Defence Planning, the formulation of policies and strategies that will govern the allocation of funds and

acquisition to fulfil them. Defence policy has to evolve from the identification and acceptance of national interests and objectives. We still do not have a clearly enunciated National Security Policy or a Defence Policy Document. Defence planning process suffers due to absence of a National Security Doctrine. Thus, Defence Planning and Budgeting remain two separate identities without any correlation between them. In the absence of such a relationship there is adhocism in Defence planning and hence the allocation of a flat Budget which has hardly any relevance to our objectives and interests.

Amongst various shortcomings in Defence Planning there is no organisation available to deal with inter-service plans to deal with inter-scheme priorities. Each Service is, therefore, on its own drawing its own modernisation plans without any relevance to inter-Service support of satisfying a Combined Defence Strategy or Doctrine.

There is a need for a perspective plan covering a period of minimum 15 years from which Five Year Plans and Annual Plans can be drawn. The perspective plan should be based on an analysis of the threat scenario, challenges likely to be faced in the future and evaluation of options and alternatives. It should be integrated covering R and D and Defence Production also to meet the Defence needs. Perspective planning can best be done at Integrated Defence Headquarters where military, technical and R and D experts take an integrated view of future threats and challenges. These have to be based on future battlefield scenario, evaluation of strategic options and force mixes, analysis of potential technical and industrial capabilities. Thus, defence planning is more about force planning and capability building rather than just acquisitions. The aim of defence planning should be to achieve cost-effective force mix to meet the operational requirements now and in the future.

The military force structure that is existing today has evolved out of the perspective plans of each Service, prepared on the basis of their organisational interests. Some defence experts advocate a shift to Capability Based Planning model, as opposed to threat-based planning so

as to give ability to the Forces to perform a set of tasks. This system would provide the right blend of plans, people, equipment and activity to optimize the capacity of our military forces to perform assigned roles. Financial resources would be a major factor in determining the capabilities we can actually possess.

The Government at the Centre may feel happy by saying that the Defence Forces are not able to fully utilise whatever allocations are made to them and each year, there is a surrender of funds. Our surrenders, during the last five years, have been nearly 20 per cent in 2003-04, 5 per cent in 2004-05, 6 per cent in 2005-06, 8 per cent in 2006-07 and 10 per cent in 2007-08.

The situation is very clear. The present organisation and acquisition procedures are not able to handle larger defence budget efficiently. The 'Tehelka episode' and accusations of kickbacks have made everyone chary of seeking any deep interest in defence deals and hesitate to put their dhobi mark in processing proposals. Formulations of staff quality requirements or projection of specifications of weapons and systems are time-consuming. Further, once a prototype is made or an equipment has to undergo trials, that takes considerable time which may be inevitable in some cases. The cumulative impact is that modernisation suffers.

Besides the aforesaid the acquisition procedures and movement of files between Service Headquarters and various Ministries follow a ping-pong game. Several approvals and sanctions cause considerable delays triggering a blame game. In short, the Service Headquarters and the Ministries struggle to utilise the budget ending up with unspent amounts at the end of the financial year. In such a situation, enhancements of budget by itself would not be beneficial.

The problem is our faulty acquisition plans and system where a lot of reforms are necessary. Our very budget based on annual allocation seems to be faulty. We need to change the system by adopting a roll-on or multi year allocation plan with a non-lapsable budget.

Sir, defence material is generally not available on the shelf. The gestation period from the time a QR is made and approved to acquisition is a very long process and sometimes takes years and even decades. Moreover, technological advances are quite rapid and often, by the time an equipment or weapon system which is being acquired is received, it gets outdated when it actually arrives.. Thus, its effectiveness or usage gets marginalised.

The first case in point is the introduction of Arjun Tanks in the Army. Project was approved in March, 1974 and 34 years have passed. A couple of Tanks are likely to roll out at the end of this year, after 34 years.

The second case in point is about the Navy. Viraat aircraft carrier which was to be decommissioned by 2006, but its life has been extended to 2008 because Admiral Gorshkov, the aircraft carrier which is supposed to relieve and replace it, will not be ready the end of 2012. Similarly, in the case of Air Force the LCA has taken decades. The aircraft production has still not materialised and it is likely to be inducted by the year 2010-11. So, these are the delays which are taking place in the actual induction plan of various weapon system in our forces.

Defence acquisitions have, therefore, to be planned far in advance taking into consideration our planned capabilities and modernisation plans 15 to 25 years ahead, if not more. There is, therefore, a need to completely overhaul the existing system and adopt the best practices and smart acquisition procedures evolved by countries like France, UK and Australia.

As regards self-reliance in critical military technology and production of advanced weapon systems are concerned, despite years of efforts our self-reliance index stands at 30 to 35 per cent against the set target of 70 per cent by the end of the Tenth Plan. This has led our forces to remain import-dependant. The reason is that our ordnance factories which form an integrated base for indigenous production of defence hardware and equipment with the primary objective of self-reliance do not possess the requisite Budget support for expansion and

[Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Tejpal Singh Rawat]

modernisation. Moreover, they need to undergo organisational and functional reforms to be able to undertake joint ventures with private or foreign corporations and DPSUs to make them more effective.

Our R and D constitutes a mere 6.1 per cent of the Defence Budget. Out of this, a mere eight to ten per cent is spent on fundamental research, whereas the bulk goes in the import of foreign technologies.

The DRDO which is a premier scientific and technical organisation in the country has been assigned a mission to design, develop and assist in the production of state of the art weapon systems, platforms and allied equipment. The Organisation is fully involved in progressive enhancement of self-reliance in defence systems, state of the art technologies and R and D infrastructure and capability of the country. Its basic aim is to make the country independent of foreign technologies in critical spheres. Due to Budgetary constraints, the DRDO is not able to fulfil its basic role of developing base technologies, and fundamental research. Moreover, it suffers a retention problem of its highly qualified and experienced staff who are lowly paid. An enhancement in the Defence Budget would assist in the allocation of additional resources to meet their growing demands and taking the country towards greater self-reliance.

The more power our adversaries accumulate, the more provocative and aggressive their posture will be to humiliate us. Our efforts should be to offset or neutralise such power imbalances by building our defence capabilities and allocating adequate Budget. India being often termed as a "Soft State" stems from our weaknesses and lack of developing matching capabilities. Chinese have always proclaimed that "Power flows from the barrel of a Gun" and over the years they have steadily improved their capabilities to adopt a bullying attitude against their weak neighbours. Slowly and steadily they will further strengthen their growing influence in Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Pakistan and South Asian countries forcing us to accept

their claims or face the consequences. A careful analysis makes it very evident that India has been surrounded by Chinese-influenced countries. The basic intention is to choke India economically and militarily for larger political and expansionist gains.

Finally, I would say that there should be a comprehensive Defence Review based on "Threat Perception". What we need to do to counter the threat, what force structure should be built and what deterrent and preparedness we should have, all that should be considered to work out our Defence Budget. Thus, from an input-based Budget we should adopt a programme-based Budget, encompassing all aspects like enrolment, training, equipment, weapon systems and the capabilities that we wish to acquire as also R and D and defence production to meet the defence needs.

An integrated approach where all those involved in the entire gambit of procurement and planning should form a committee and evolve a system for planning and acquisition bringing greater professionalism and expertise for better results. Defence planning is more about force planning and capability building than just about acquisitions. Financial resources will be a major factor in determining the capabilities we can actually possess to live in honour.

The overall approach to defence planning should be to create a common framework in which methods of strategic, programmic and operations planning could be integrated. Thus, Budget allocation should assist in executing capability and force planning and not merely based on financial commitments. Our concern, therefore, is not only allocation, but its speedy expenditure for modernisation.

In view of what I have said, it is recommended that from the current allocation of Defence Budget which is nearly two per cent of GDP, we should initially upgrade it to 2.5 per cent of GDP for a couple of years within which we should reform our acquisition systems and then take it to three per cent of GDP which should form a benchmark

for future allocations so that we develop matching capabilities against our adversaries and, at the same time, develop a deterrent to prevent any opportunist action by them. This will enable us in the future to talk or negotiate from a position of strength as also assist in fulfilling the role of regional power status.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Thank you. It was your maiden speech in this House. You expressed many thoughtful and experienced views. I congratulate you.

[English]

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY (Berhampore, West Bengal) : Mr. Chairman, Sir I rise to support the Demands for Grants placed by our hon. Minister.

Sir, it is a well-known fact that India cannot compromise on the security of our nation. In spite of all our adversities and adversaries, still we make our position in the comity of nation as a strong and a great country of the world.

Sir, heads of expenditure are neither programme nor Defence objectives but are objects of expenditure. It needs to be logically restructured and budgeted to meet the security objectives of the country. Our Defence policy and mechanism are following this path. As such the political security objective of India is to deter war. We have to put our emphasis on security and deterrence. The military security objective is to prepare the country to strike at one front and to hold the other front. The ability of the Defence Services to plan in a coherent and cogent manner hinges on a promised budgetary support from the Government. I think that this Government is very much liberal in providing adequate fund to our Defence Services.

Sir, if we go to the Defence Budget 2008-09, we will find that the total Budget has been estimated to the tune of more than Rs. 1,00,000 crore. It is Rs. 1,05,000 crore. This is the first time since the Independence of our country that the Defence Budget has crossed the rupees one lakh

crore mark. A sum of Rs. 1,05,600 crore has been estimated for this year's Defence Budget.

It is true and I am very much in agreement with the hon. Member from the Opposition that the percentage of our Defence Budget to GDP has declined. In percentage terms, the share of revenue and capital allocation comes to 54.54 per cent and 45.46 per cent respectively. Under the capital acquisition/modernisation Budget, which is a sub-head of Capital Budget, an amount of Rs. 37,482.77 crore has been earmarked which works out to 78.07 per cent of the capital allocation. So, the concern which has been expressed by various corners is being met by this Government also, which is amply indicated by the capital acquisition programme of the Defence Budget.

Current year's allocation to Defence reflects a growth of 10 per cent over the Budget Estimate of 2007-08 which was 7.87 per cent higher over the Budget Estimate of 2006-07. Then, the average growth during the Tenth Defence Plan also had been 10.38 per cent. The share of Services and Departments is also the same as that of the previous financial year, not much change has been effected in Services, Departments' respective share in the overall Defence allocation. While as a percentage of GDP – I have already referred to it – the Defence allocation works out to 1.99 per cent, a more realistic measure of judging Defence expenditure can be made by assessing it as a share of Central Government expenditure. At that point, the current year's Defence expenditure constitute about 14.06 per cent to total Central Government expenditure which is almost at par with the average share of 14.39 per cent during the Tenth Defence Plan Period.

We need huge sums for our modernisation programme. We are gradually progressing to that end. Defence Budget is part of a Non-Plan Budget. It constitutes about 20.81 per cent of the total Non-Plan expenditure. Under the revenue and capital heads, it constitutes 12.85 per cent and 81.17 per cent respectively of the Non-Plan revenue and capital expenditure. The expenditure does not include allocation for Ministry of Defence (Civil) which

[Shri Adhir Chowdhury]

stands at Rs. 2370.82 crore net and also Defence Pension which is Rs. 1564 crore. Ministry of Defence (Civil) caters to Coast Guard, Ministry of Defence Secretariat, Defence Accounts Department, Director-General of Defence Estates, Canteen Stores Department and Defence PSUs.

The major component of the net capital expenditure is very important in the discussion of the Defence Budget especially. The major components of the net capital expenditure of Rs. 37,705 crore are, for land Rs. 52.75 crore, for works Rs. 4725.97 crore; for aircraft, Rs. 11255.39 crore; for heavy and medium vehicles Rs. 1657.64 crore; for other equipment, it is Rs. 10994.45 crore; for naval fleet, Rs. 5858.47 crore, for naval dockyards, Rs. 725.38 crore, for machinery and equipment for ordnance factories Rs. 24.40 crore, for R and D Rs. 2184.66 crore and for other items Rs. 225.85 crore. What I suggest is that India is a sovereign country and it will follow its Defence policy in view of its own dynamics. We cannot blindly imitate the Defence Budgets of our neighbouring countries. More often than not, a reference to China is being eluded here. First of all, we have to consider that unlike China, we are running a democratic country where we are responsible for the welfare of the common people. It is true that Defence Budget of China is more than the Defence Budget of India in terms of GDP. Similar is the case with Pakistan's Budget. But that does not mean that we have to follow the path that China is pursuing because we are not a country ever accused by any other power as an aggressor. We have to see that within our wherewithal, we are able to defend our borders and our people. Our defence policy is based on this and we are quite competent that we are able to, our great soldiers, our great Defence Services including Army, Navy and Air force, are quite capable to thwart any conspiracy or aggression made by any hostile power in the world. Gone are those days of 1962! At that time, India was a nascent democracy and we were emerging from the scratch. But now India is a strong nation with 1.1 billion

strong Army which is not afraid of any enemy or any adversary. They are ready to sacrifice their lives to defend our country which has been proved in the hills of Kargil where in spite of all adversaries, in spite of all kinds of conspiracies, in spite of all types of collusions made by various countries, we had been able to recapture our lost grounds, we had been able to prove to the world, the power of our brave army men. Therefore, we need not be sceptical; we need not be timid unnecessarily to see the quantum of Defence Budgets of our neighbouring countries. It is true that we are being surrounded by various countries which are not following the democracy as is being followed in our country. But however being a sovereign and democratic country, we are also extending all our cooperation based on mutual respect, mutual dignity, mutual understanding and mutual support to all our neighbouring countries.

That is why the Chinese Premier and the Chinese President visited our country. We had also signed a protocol with the Chinese Government. We are developing our relations with neighbouring countries while maintaining our concerns and misgivings with those countries. I must appreciate that our Defence Minister who had visited Arunachal Pradesh against all kinds of hue and cry made by some power. Even the officials of the Chinese Government had made some sort of criticism when our Prime Minister visited Arunachal Pradesh, but our Defence Minister was bold enough to visit the Tawang area of Arunachal Pradesh which is being claimed by the Chinese Government as their own territory. That means we are firm on our stand and we are firm on our own convictions and we know the boundary of our country.

Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Defence Minister that in the year 1988-89, the defence expenditure as percentage of the Central Government's expenditure was 17.81 per cent and the defence expenditure as percentage of GDP was 3.16 per cent. But now in the Budget Estimates of 2008-09, what I am observing is that the defence expenditure as percentage of the Central Government's expenditure has been

reduced to 14.06 per cent and the defence expenditure as percentage of GDP has been reduced to 1.99 per cent. This is the first time that the defence expenditure as percentage of GDP has been reduced to below 2 per cent while our experts are demanding to raise the defence expenditure vis-a-vis our GDP to 3 per cent.

Sir, the percentage share of capital acquisition in the Capital Budget since 2006-07 is as follows and I would like to draw the attention of the Minister to that also. The total capital expenditure in the year 2006-07 was Rs. 33,825.80 crore, in 2007-08 it was Rs. 37,705.00 crore and in 2008-09, it is 48,807.00 crore. Out of this total capital expenditure, committed liabilities are to the tune of Rs. 23,904.06 crore and the allocation for new schemes is Rs. 13,578.71 crore.

I would say that in view of the changing global scenario where we are preparing ourselves to become a blue water force, we need more upgradation, more acquisition and more induction. Further, we have to learn the modern warfare technologies because today in the world of technological warfare, we have to keep abreast of all those technological revolutions and more precisely military technological revolutions which have been taking place in the world.

14.00 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Some sort of concern has been expressed in regard to the Indian Air Force that Indian Air Force is authorized for 39.5 fighter squadrons. The long-term perspective plan of the Indian Air Force envisages that this force level should be achieved by the end of Thirteenth Plan of 2022. I would request the hon. Minister to allay the apprehension expressed by various Members in regard to the depletion of our Air Force squadrons.

During the Ninth and Tenth Plan periods, the allocation of resources has brought the present Indian Air Force fighter fleet to 32 squadrons. In the next 15 years,

two-thirds of the existing fighter fleet will also be phased out. So, naturally, it will generate some sort of apprehensions. To arrest the forced depletion, induction of 30.5 squadrons is planned in the next 15 years; induction of eight squadrons in the Eleventh Plan; 13.5 squadrons in Twelfth Plan and nine squadrons in the Thirteenth Plan. Of these, 11 Sukhoi-30, MKI squadrons 230 aircraft have already been planned to be inducted. Additionally, six squadrons of medium multi-load combat aircraft, six squadrons of light-combat aircraft and four squadrons of fifth generation fighter aircraft are at various stages of their planned induction. That means, the Government is serious to acquire or to induct the modern aircraft.

As we know, due to the cumbersome procedure, it becomes sometimes difficult to induct the equipment as desired by us. Therefore, the Government has framed up very clearly and distinctly the procurement policy, an integrated, fair off-set policy so that the Tehelka episode could not be repeated and our stature could not be humiliated. Therefore, the Government's defence policy is always to maintain a transparency and integrity. We must appreciate the efforts of the present Government.

However, I would request the Government to expedite the acquisition process so that there should be no shortage of any equipment in terms of tanks, aircraft, battleships, etc. and we are always kept ready for any type of conflict.

In the *Pancharatna*, it was said that of all gifts that a King can deliver, it is not the gift of gold, it is not the gift of cow, it is not the gift of land, but what is most important is the gift of security. I hope, our Government will provide all kinds of security to the people of India.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly) : Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence. While supporting the Defence Budget, I have a few comments to make.

The first one is about the allocation, of course. There may be a feeling that it should have been more or it could

[Shri Rupchand Pal]

have been more. But the hon. Finance Minister has stated that if needed, more can be provided. Immediately after the presentation of the Budget, the hon. Defence Minister has welcomed it and he stated that he was happy with the Budget.

Taking that to be the situation, I will continue to add a few more comments that the under-utilisation in the Defence Ministry has become a chronic feature, particularly, in the last fiscal year, the under-utilisation is being accounted for failure to continue or execute some big ticket purchases.

For various reasons, it could not be completed. This is not the only thing. There should be a perfect match between the Budget allocation and the Budget requirement. There has to be a practical approach. Our problem is that sometimes the requirement is made on an ad hoc basis. Our Perspective Plan has to take into account security environment, our size, situation prevailing or developing in our neighbourhood and also the international situation.

In the Common Minimum Programme we have stated that unlike the previous NDA Government we want to pursue an independent foreign policy. It has been stated categorically that with regard to defence and security, the delay in procurement is a matter of grave concern, and the UPA Government should address those issues. But we do find that this has not been done, not only in respect of gadgets but also in respect of weaponry, research, personnel, filling up the shortage, upgradation and acquiring the latest technology. The overall picture is that our National Security Council, till now, lacks proficiency. I am constrained to make this observation.

There is a mismatch in different areas of Defence. I am not commenting on which are these areas, and it is not proper also. What is our goal? We should achieve self-reliance. Many Parliamentary Committees had recommended that we should acquire the stature

of self-reliance as fast as possible and as best as possible.

Our Defence Forces are doing an excellent job. Our DRDO is doing an excellent job. But to our dismay we do find that the provision to DRDO is not only too meagre but it is also less than the projected amount. I would like to ask the hon. Defence Minister as to how does he propose to address one issue – about 55 per cent of our scientists in DRDO are leaving and joining the private sector. What have you proposed to do? Some of them are the best in the scientific community. If that be so, what is your programme to retain them? Later on I shall come to the issue of grievances expressed by the scientific community in general and particularly scientists who are working in the DRDO and Defence establishments. I would like to know what the Government proposes to do not only with regard to the Report of the Sixth Pay Commission but also with the issues of promotion, justice. A large number of scientists are leaving the job. A good number of them are ultimately going to appeal to the High Court. Today, the hon. Defence Minister has observed that we need to have an Armed Personnel Tribunal so that these cases relating to the issues of promotion, justice and other issues can be settled. . . .

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please address the Chair.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Only today I find that the Minister has said that promotion in the Services should be fair, and I do not know whether it is objectively reported or not but this has come out. The Defence Forces in various areas are contributing not only towards our security but also contributing towards development of our nation, in our economy, in our social coherence and in other areas also. They are sometimes working as a model. But what is the attraction to our youth?

We have plan and programme to attract the talented youth so that they can join the Defence Forces. We find that in the Air Force, there is a severe shortage. In the

Navy also, there is a shortage of officers and men. In the Army also, there is shortage. This shortage is continuing.

I would like to know from the hon. Defence Minister as to how does the Government propose to fill the gap of a large number of shortages. There is a deficiency of officers in the Army to the tune of 24 per cent. From Lieutenant Colonel and below, there is a shortage of 11,153 officers in the Army. If you look at the figures of officers in the Navy, there is a shortage of 1,403 officers and 3,829 sailors. If you look at the IAF, the number of additional sanctioned posts is 12,676 at different levels. But we find that there is a severe cadre shortage.

Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Defence Minister as to what does the Government propose to do with regard to these shortages. It is not a simple question. It is not a question of developing technologies by which you would say that this technology or that technology would have to come, it would take time, and that is why there is a delay in acquisition, etc. We know why there is a delay. I shall come to that. The reason for this delay is that we have a problem in our Defence philosophy. First, it relates to our self-reliance, and then, again there is a continued embarrassment. Look at, what has happened to the Barak Deal. It is not only the question of some Tehelka expose. Even day before yesterday, the Naval Chief commented that the End Use Agreement with the US will be a disaster. We know the story of US Trenton, what is known as Jalashya in our Indian nomenclature that a condemned ship, which was condemned in as early as 2003, was purchased by the Government. Accidents have taken place; sailors have died. It was all known that there was a leakage of the gas. There is an End Use clause that you cannot use it for combat or offensive purpose. Then, what for you have purchased it? This is not the only one example.

These observations were made by the Naval Chief only two-three days back. It is a serious commentary on how the Government is progressing, which has been critical about the NDA Government that they were

considering the US as a natural ally, who were recklessly proceeding to subjugate themselves as a secondary partner by joining the Defence Missile Initiative, by doing so many other joint exercises and training etc.

We expected this Government to be different. We knew that this Government has taken an independent Foreign Policy Initiative in their NCMP. But to our amazement what did we find in the June, 2005 Defence Framework? We did not know it earlier. We came to know about it only afterwards, after the July, 2005 Statement, primarily known as the Indo-US Civilian Nuclear Deal, that it was not a simple, isolated Civilian Nuclear Deal and that it contained so many things alongwith the June, 2005 Defence Framework. That was also a continuation of the BJP initiative, which was taken to make India a secondary partner in Asia in their Asian Goal of building up a Asian NATO.

If I analyse these four components, which are there in the Agreement, I find that they are disasters. The number one point of the Agreement says that in the multinational operations, India will be a partner.

Which is the multinational operation without any reference to the United Nations as it happened in the case of Iraq? They had pressurised India that our forces must join the US forces for invasion of Iraq. We, on the floor of this House, had come out with a Resolution condemning that invasion of Iraq. What do they say in the agreement? We want to know that. What is this missile defence? That is a continuation. Then, what about the training? What about the Joint Exercises? . . . *(Interruptions)* I am coming to the Budget. This is a continuation of your philosophy. I am criticizing that so that they should not follow you. Otherwise, they will follow you. What has happened to you?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Rupchand Palji, please address the Chair and not the individual.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : I am not responding to him. I am coming to my point . . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Silence please. Do not make running commentary.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : In that Joint Exercise, they named the US ship. That had reached there, and there was a Joint Exercise. This is good because ultimately after our Government had done it, Australia had publicly declared that they are not joining.

But India is still now silent. Till now, India has not taken any position. It is disastrous. It will isolate us from our friends. It is not only the US goal of combating and isolating China, but it is, unfortunately, allowing us also. Knowing full well the track record of the US, how can we enter into such an agreement? We do not know. But we have done it, and the Government owes an explanation about the logistics agreement also.

We know that at the time of Chandrasekhar's Government once the American ship wanted to quell on the Indian soil, the whole nation had protested. Now, you are agreeing. Being the UPA Government, committed to the independent foreign policy and supported by the Left, you cannot do it. We have told you. Our leaders and our Parties have written to you that you cannot do it. This is one area that gradually the acquisition and purchase is being determined by factors other than genuine national security consideration.

There is a political joke continuing that 123 is not 123; 123 is also 126. The Government understands what I mean. Beginning from those days of the 10 billion dollars purchase of fighter aircraft till recently, we have been doing purchases from Russian sources only because we know the track record of the US. They will use it as a political tool to pressurize us, to toe their political line and to toe their Asian line. You knew it. I do not know. Perhaps, after this technical field trial in April, it is going to happen sometime in 2009 as the biggest ever purchase. This is the biggest ever purchase not only with regard to this helicopter but also in doing the earlier deal. That was almost matured with the European producers.

Now, we have decided to allow 49 per cent FDI in defence production. Why? Are you so poor? Are you so dependent? Is it not a fact that the Parliamentary Committee has repeatedly cautioned you that you support our scientists; you support our R and D; and you support our 39 ordnance products and others? Our *Navaratnas* are there. BEL is there. BEML is there. HAL is there. They are doing excellent jobs. If they get the proper support from the Government, they will continue to do excellent jobs. I think this FDI is going to cause immense harm to our defence production.

One more thing is that we are told – and the hon. Minister can clarify this – that there was an offset clause in the Defence Purchase Agreement, 2006. The US producers and suppliers are pressurizing this Government to undue or dilute this offset clause.

In a purchase of 30 billion dollars, it will be a huge amount. It will be a serious case of denial of transfer of technology. I urge upon the Government that on the floor of this very House the Government should assure the nation that nothing like that, dilution of the offset clause, is going to happen even after tremendous pressure by the American producers and suppliers.

I, now, come to two more points and I conclude. One is about the Sixth Pay Commission. If officers of the rank of Brigadier and other seniors get more, I have no objection. But among the officers in the ranks of Colonel, Lt. Colonel and down below and up to the Ranks, there is a serious grievance. A good number of officers have left their jobs. There is a serious demoralisation.

I know there is a Committee set up in this regard. I know the Cabinet Secretary is chairing that Committee. Even yesterday the hon. Prime Minister has commented that justice must be done. We want an assurance from the hon. Minister of Defence on the floor of this House when he replies to the discussion on the Demands for Grants that justice will be given to our bright, young men, officers who are defending the borders of our country,

protecting our security for whom we are all proud of. It is the minimum. It should also be done in the case of the scientists to attract them, to stop attrition, to encourage self-reliance, to encourage their research, to support the DRDO and others.

My last point is about the ex-servicemen. It was a commitment given in the Common Minimum Programme on Defence and I am reading it. "New Department of Ex-Servicemen's Welfare to be set up. Long pending one-rank-one-pension issue to be re-examined". These are the two points where commitments are there. I would like to know from the hon. Minister of Defence as to how much progress has been made in this regard so that the ex-servicemen, who at the prime of their youth, during the best period of their life, have rendered excellent service to our nation should feel that justice is done to them.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for providing me an opportunity to participate in budget discussion related to defence matters. The security of the nation is such an issue which cannot be a political issue. It is the primary duty of all the citizens of India to protect the borders of the country and cooperate in protecting the pride of the country. Any country in the world is recognized by its defence preparedness. The biggest criterion of the strength of any nation is now decided by its protective strength. India is a big country and the stability of South Asia depends upon strategic preparedness of India to a large extent. I think that entire defence policy of India after independence has been very much defensive and not aggressive. If we go through the four-five thousand old entire history of India, which is a written one, we find that our country has always been subject of aggression. A few kings of South ventured out as aggressors in South-East India on a very small scale and captured certain areas there, otherwise our history has been a history of defensive battle and preparation of defensive war. Even after Independence we resolved to repeat the same history. But if we want to maintain friendly

relations with our neighbours, that relation is also acceptable to them if they recognize our strength.

The defence budget which we prepare in India is increased every year and now Government of India has made 10 per cent increase in it. It has been increased to Rs. 105600 crore from Rs. 96000 crore. It is said that increase has been 10 per cent. But all the standing committees of Ministry of Defence have recommended that we should at least spend 13 per cent of our GDP on defence and when we assess this budget keeping in view our GDP it hardly accounts for 2 per cent of our GDP. Last year we had given Rs. 96 crore to the Department of Army but Rs. 4.5 crore out of that remained unspent. Some objectives and difficulties cropped up in the orders placed for purchasing defence material due to certain technical reasons due to which Rs. 4.5 crore remained unspent. So out of Rs. 105600 crore, 4.5 thousand crore is the amount lying with them of the previous year. So we have only increased defence budget by rupees two thousand or two thousand and half crore. I think this is meagre especially when we see our neighbours as how much percentage of GDP they spend on their defence. Our neighbouring country Pakistan has its own serious economic crisis. It is facing starvation, destitution and other kinds of hardship. Since, the country has been under dictatorship, the Government did not fulfill its social responsibilities. Defence is its prime responsibility. Therefore, it spends more than 5 per cent of its GDP on defence. Another country in our neighbourhood is China and we are always in competition with them. If our Government does not pay attention to what China does, it is like turning the face away from truth. China spends more than 7 per cent of its GDP on defence preparation, and this year it has presented its defence budget provision of which is about two and a half times more than what we have provided in our defence budget, as presented in the Parliament.

We cannot compare America with India because we are committed to protect our borders, but America is a country that bothers about the entire world. Therefore, we

[Shri Mohan Singh]

cannot compare its defence budget to ours. This year the Bush Government has presented its defence budget to the US Congress which has a provision of 551 billion dollars to be spent on Pentagon. It is approximately more than 21 times of our defence budget. On Iraq and Afghanistan wars, America made a provision of 7500 billion dollars which is approximately 2.5 times more than India's annual defence budget. If the justification made by America before its people is gone through, it can be seen that it spent trillion dollars only to teach Iraq a lesson. This budget is equal to India's one years G.D.P. Therefore, we cannot compare America's defence preparations with India's preparations because America bears upon it the responsibilities of the entire world whereas India has the responsibility to protect its own borders only. But we have to be careful about China particularly. There is no need to take it wrongly as some of our colleagues tend to worry at the mention of China. In case there is a joint military exercise with America. India's foreign policy is taken to be lagging behind. But in case of a similar joint military exercise with China, India's foreign policy is termed as progressive. Such double standards should not be adopted by the Government of this country.

We can clearly say that if we have any main adversary in our neighbourhood as on date, it is none else but China. Despite all efforts by the Government of India, to find out a solution to the border dispute with China which include holding of 21 meetings in this connection nothing has been achieved. When the Prime Minister of our country visited Tawang in the border State of Arunachal Pradesh, China objected to it by claiming that the area belonged to them and why did Indian Prime Minister visited there? I am not saying Government of India to declare for a war. I don't believe in war and those who participate in war suffer a loss. So all the matters should be resolved through discussions which is an ideal situation. But how the discussion is successful? Mercy is for powerful. The great national poet who was a member of the Parliament Dinkarji wrote that only that snake can forgive who

possess the power to kill with its venom. The snake which is toothless, and poison less, how it can boast of forgiving others? Therefore, India should prepare herself in such a way that in time of need it should not face the situation like 1962 when our soldiers were not equipped with even shoes and snow-coat to wear in Uttung hills of Himalayas to fight a war. I appeal the Government of India to make preparation for its defence. Secondly, the scientists of DRDO who are also engaged in defence programmes of our country may get four to five times the salary they get in DRDO, if the condition for working at least 8-10 years on Joining the DRDO is not there they would have left the job after one or two year. Fighter pilots of our Air force get approximately Rs. 35,000/- p.m. as salary. If he joins even Air India today he may get 2.5 lakh rupees as a salary. In such a scenario to say that we should sacrifice our personal interests for protecting the country and this is our duty, is not enough. I appeal that Government of India should take steps for the betterment of our officers engaged in the defence of India.

Recently after the recommendations of pay commission an alarming news was published in news papers that senior officers of the Armed Forces are willing to resign. I appeal to the Government not to include Defence Services alongwith other services. As we are discussing Defence Budget in this House I would like to request the Government of India that a separate pay commission should be constituted for soldiers from top to bottom. We demand that this pay commission should only be confined to Defence personnel for providing them the perks comparable to that are being availed by the Defence personnel of other countries.

The third point is about one rank-one pay. A new Government came into power in this country in the year 1989-90. They had made a promise in their election manifesto and since then we have been hearing about it. That Government had also declined to fulfill the said promise. Many successive Governments came into power at the centre. Not a single government was formed to comply with this principle. The Government of India and

the army department have 22 sainik schools. They have been allotted Rs. 440 crore. Besides it, there are some other sainik schools like the sainik school of Lucknow. The responsibility of maintenance of the said school lies with the Government of Uttar Pradesh but the Government of Uttar Pradesh is not providing facilities to the said school.

The students belonging to Sainik school, Lucknow have essayed a huge role in Indian army, they are occupying very high posts in the forces. Now its condition is very pitiable. I would like to request the hon'ble Minister of Defence that Government of India should take steps to nationalize the sainik school, Lucknow thereby taking the number of Sainik schools to 23 which is at present 22 and such move will be a right step towards making improvements in the said school's present condition.

Sir, NCC is an integral part of the military and while preparing the military budget, the most powerful medium to impart partial military training to the youths of the country is NCC. But a budget of Rs. one crore is earmarked to each district for of NCC that too with a great difficulty, one battalion is formed, its branches are set up in two-three degree colleges and when a higher officer makes a visit, as a customary practice guard of honour is presented to him by arranging some boys and thus concludes everything. I would like to put a demand before the Government of India that NCC training should be made compulsory in all the universities and in every institute of higher education and recruitment should be made among the boys belonging to NCC itself because they say that there is a shortage of eleven thousand five hundred officers' in military services. Why is such a shortage there because as on date we have opened up our economy, as a result there are many other good opportunities available for the educated eligible youth of the country. In such a scenario joining the army as officers has become the last priority. In this condition, the trained educated NCC youth can act as a very big medium for the recruitment of officer level candidates in armed forces. Hence NCC training should be made compulsory at the graduate level.

Sir, with these few suggestions, I would like to make another appeal to the Government of India. Every year the reputation of military is tarnished in the cases of acquisition of defence equipments. Governments come and go, every Defence Minister and the Defence and Army officers holding higher posts and having excellent background face CBI enquiry after their retirement and CAG reports are also brought out mentioning their names. Being the member of PAC and on the basis of CAG report, I can say that PAC committee receives appropriate reply from the departments to which it sends intimation of the para of CAG. However, I am sorry to say that the officers of Indian Army do not give reply to any para of CAG since they feel giving reply is the greatest challenge to their capability. But at the time of their retirement CBI registers cases against them. The Indian Army has its glorious history. Whenever India has faced a situation of crises, Indian Army has done a commendable work by ensuring safety and security of the country, with the same spirit, Indian military should make some arrangements to maintain its own dignity.

Sir, my suggestion is that whatever Defence deal takes place and whatever acquisition of defence equipment is made, military officers should not be involved in the same. For this purpose, a Regulatory Authority should be set up consisting of Retired military officers and renowned scientists. In my opinion, the decision of acquisition in respect of defence deal should be made collectively and not individually. Whenever we talk about the issue like this or single and individual decisions take place, it leads to factionalism within the Army. If an officer files any complaint against his senior officer because of his involvement in a matter, he is brought under court marshal. — senior officer turns against him.

Sir, military officers should not investigate the charges related to the cases of corruption. There should be a separate system in this regard within the military set up, so that honest officers are not punished because of their junior status and senior officers are not left untouched. Military should consider about adopting this system. I feel

[Shri Mohan Singh]

that the reputation of military will increase if this system is adopted. With these words, I conclude my speech. Thank you.

SHRI GANESH PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you have given me an opportunity to speak on Demand for Grants in respect of the Ministry of Defence, and I express my gratefulness for it. Today, we are discussing a topic which relates to protection of our national glory, dignity, freedom and autonomy. Besides, the officers and personnel of all the three wings of Armed Forces perform their social duties, too. The question is whether the provision of funds made in defence budget which is increasing at the rate of 10 per cent per annum, is sufficient and whether we are satisfied with this provision or there is a need to increase it. This must be considered seriously. Keeping in view the warning and threats being posed by the neighbouring countries, we must also consider whether there is a need of more funds for modernisation of existing arms and equipments so as to make the armed forces of India more strong.

Sir, our Hon'ble Member Shri Mohan Singh was stating that we are spending comparatively less money than China on defence as per the GDP but a number of people and newspapers report that more allocation has been made for defence budget than the budget for all other departments. In view of the present circumstances, I would like to say that this budget allocation is much less and this should be increased. Pakistan, China, Tibet, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh are our neighbouring countries. The present situations in these countries are posing a threat to our country. This is also a threat to our defence which may cause heavy losses. Despite such budget provisions, we are having 20-25 year old fighter planes which were procured from Russia and other countries, and now there is a need to seriously consider whether these planes are required to be replaced by planes equipped with modern techniques. If there is any such need we should provide more funds to the Department of Defence. We have to

replace traditional rifles of infantry with state-of-the-art rifles. For this purpose, we should sign agreements with developed countries for transfer of technology on joint technique basis so that they can be modernised to a greater extent.

Sir, our boarders are under continuous threat. Sometimes, there are the cases of infiltration and sometimes a country poses danger of war. There is a long pending dispute with China. It is an illegal occupation of our land areas by intruding into them, which we have not been able to get vacated till date. It is right that we want to have friendly relations with our neighbouring countries, but even after lapse of so many years there has been no effort on our part to bring about an amicable solution to the land dispute with China through dialogue with them. It is a very serious question. The frontiers of our country run along those of Pakistan, Tibet and China. Do the Jawans of our armed forces, whether belonging to the Air Force or the Army or the Navy in the Indian Ocean deployed to defend our frontiers need to be equipped with state-of-the-art ships and planes more powerful than the ones they presently have, or they do not need to be so equipped?

I am repeatedly saying that the situation, which prevails today, needs money to be overcome. An amount of rupees one lakh and five thousand crore is not very much. If we want to sustain the economic prosperity of our country, we will have to spend more money on our defence also. Pakistan is one-sixth part of India, but it incurs full expenditure on defence, and makes full preparations for its defence. Why then are we lagging behind? It is right that we do not have an aggressive policy, but it is needed for our self-defence. Recently in a period of three to four years a modern fencing wall has been constructed on the border. We have seen it too at some places. This wall prevents to some extent, enemies of the country from entering our country. There is a need to extend it so that our country and its independence remain intact.

Sir, the sacrifice of an army jawan affects not only his family but society also. But the salary which he gets in lieu of this sacrifice is too meager. There has been a hue and cry about implementing the recommendations of the Sixth Pay Commission which has nothing wonderful to offer by way of facilities to the army personnel at lower levels. We do keep saying that they will be rehabilitated and employment will be provided to their wives and children. But these remain mere announcements. There are a large number of such families of jawans who have nobody to look after them. Their families are moving from pillar to post on account of negligence. The Government should not adopt such a heartless policy. The Government should conduct a survey to get to know the condition of the families of those jawans who sacrificed their lives during war. What is their economic condition? What is the educational condition of their children? The Government should go by what the survey has brought out.

Secondly, those who are discharged after serving the army, do not get CGHS card, when they are afflicted with disease, they do not get any kind of medical facility. They should also be entitled to get medical facility. Besides this, the soldiers who are in the service of army for ten years, should certainly get some allowance if not the whole pension. If the Government is unable to do such kind of works, the idle soldiers trained in the army will be involved in criminal activities, and they will harm the society instead of benefiting it. Hence, there is also a need to think about them.

While concluding, I would like to say that there is an urgent need of modernization of army for the defence of the country. I fully support the demand for the defence presented by the minister. With these words, I conclude my speech.

SHRI ILYAS AZMI (Shahabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to present my views on the budget of the Ministry of Defence.

I have been in the Standing Committee of the Ministry of Defence. There has been an increase of ten per cent

in its budget and it has reached rupees one lakh and five thousand crore. I have to say not much on this. The Minister of Defence understands the need of the army better and when it is needed there should not be any paucity of funds in case of the Ministry of Defence. Whatever amounts are felt to be requested for spending out the defence of the country, should not be desisted from being spent. I wholeheartedly support and recommend for this.

My brother Mohan Singhji indicated that in our country a lot of emphasis is put in the buying deal of defence especially in buying material from abroad. The shoes and dress etc. of our country are exported to foreign countries, but the authorities, which are entrusted with buying for our army do not think it better to purchase from within the country itself, rather shoes and dress are bought from foreign countries and imported to the country. Is there any plausible answers to it other than the commissions involved in the deals? Corruption has crossed its limits, I would like that the Minister of Defence, who has a good image, must pay special attention. This will be the biggest service of the nation, if the Ministry of Defence achieves success in reducing the level of corruption if not in eradicating it in the buying of arms and other material, I think that the nation will remember this tenure of yours.

When I was in the Standing Committee, I found that there was a unimaginable difference in the life standard of soldiers and officers in our army. This difference is so wide that I feel a pinch of shame while discussing it. The Minister of Defence is present here, I would like that he should bridge this difference. I do not say that the soldiers as well as officers should lead an equal life, but there should be some decrease in this big difference in their lives, this will certainly be a great service to the nation and the army and there will be no ill-will among our people. If this difference is not brought down, there will emerge such problems after sometime, that it will be very difficult for us to tackle them. Very bad news are being heard, there has been a great scarcity of officers in the army and the officers who are presently working there, are planning to

[Shri Ilyas Azmi]

take pre-mature retirements. The Recommendations of the Sixth Pay Commission have recently come out, though I do not have much information about that, yet after going through the newspapers it seems to me that there is unrest in the army with regard to recommendations of the Commission. This should also be solved. I wholeheartedly agree with what Mohan Singhji has said that there should be a separate commission for the army.

With due apologies, I would like to raise certain points that if we go down the annals of our history one would find that during every era, be it the Mughal era or even the British era, our forces represented every part; sect, community or religion of the country in a proportionate manner. Over a long period of time untouchables were not recruited in the army as our social system did not permit it, however, the untouchables, now known as Dalits were recruited in a large number in the British army so much so that the Messiah of this country Baba Saheb Bhim Rao Ambedkar was also born in the army cantonment, Mhow.

Regretfully, I have to submit that when Britishers left India for Indian in August 1947 and transferred power into the hands of their old confidants then the inheritors of power started recruitment in the army as per their own mindset. It was our weakness which we have not been able to overcome till date. Being a true Indian and with the full spirit of national integration and unflinching loyalty I wish to put it on record that today all the communities, and followers of all religions do not find a proportional representation in our forces. The representation of Muslims is despicably low in the army. The present Government had set up Sachar Committee to identify the representation of Muslims in the country and when Shri Sachar tried to identify the representation in the army, a very despicable fact came to light that before 15 August 1947 the ratio of Muslims in our army was nearly 40 per cent, however, it is not even one per cent now. I feel it is regretful. What was the reason that the then Minister of Defence Shri Pranab Mukherji, a Cabinet Minister of the

Government which set up the Sachar Committee wanted to hide facts. He tried to bring Justice Sachar under duress lest he should reveal the percentage of Muslims in the army. What was that that the Cabinet Minister wanted to hide and even no one knows the authentic figures of Muslims in the army. As per the estimates their number is less than one per cent of total strength whereas the ratio of population of Muslims is 13 per cent. Our Minister of Defence belongs to Christian minority community. Muslims are also in minority. However, there is no question of minority or majority community, it is a question of representation and a sense of belongingness Army is one of the most important institutions of our society. I am not asking you to recruit only Muslims, however, if any Government order was issued out of bitterness in the post partition phase restricting the recruitment of Muslims to one or two per cent, then I would request the hon. Minister of Defence to replace it, making provisions to the effect that no community feels that their loyalty is under cloud given the fact that Muslims from the level of Brigadier Usman to Hawaldar Abdul Hamid, half a per cent Muslims are serving in the army. They have proved it during the Kargil war. The ratio of Muslims in the army during Kargil war was one per cent whereas casualties were ten per cent as per the statement of the then Minister of Defence. No one should bear this feeling that there is discrimination on the basis of caste, creed or religion in any wing of the society. So, I would request the hon. Minister of Defence to allay this sense of insecurity gradually so that proportional representation is given to every community in the next 5-10 years. Recruitment in the army is becoming an issue. If it is implemented you will get rid of that problem too. The time has changed. I know the circumstances due to which the population of Muslims gradually receded from 40 per cent to One per cent. I do not blame anyone, however, the time has changed now, the mindset of the society has changed, past bitterness is gone which is a welcome point. I would request the hon. Minister of Defence to pay some attention towards it. Not saying much I would request the hon. Minister of Defence if you can minimize the corruption in the

procurement of defence equipments which are imported, it would be a great service to the country.

With these words I conclude.

[English]

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I stand here to support the Defence Budget tabled by the hon. Defence Minister.

Sir, India pursued a military policy which is defensive in nature and its military capabilities are designed to safeguard the country's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity. The entire country always stands united in support of the Defence Forces. We are proud of the achievements and contributions of our *jawans*.

15.00 hrs.

The Budget allocation for 2008-09 is estimated to Rs. 1,05,600 crore in the Defence sector against a fiscal outlay of Rs. 96,000 crore in 2007-08 which was revised to Rs. 92,500 crore later. However, Defence spending continues to be below 2 per cent of the GDP. This is in spite of experts and also in spite of persistent demands from the Standing Committee of Defence for making it minimum 3 per cent of the GDP. Incidentally, China and Pakistan has been spending more than 4.5 per cent of the GDP for Defence. The present allocation in the Defence Sectors account for 14 per cent of the Government's total spending during this Fiscal year. This allocation has increased 10 per cent from the last year's Budget, in spite of the fact that the Ministry has failed to spend Rs. 4,217 crore in the last Fiscal. There has been a slow growth in the modernisation of the Defence forces and this painfully slow process continues to be constricted as ever. Defence Procurement Manuals and policies have come and gone but the required speed is not there. Experts from the National Security Advisory Council had recently stated that India still lacks the wherewithal for what may be called the "modern warfare". Defence modernisation, indeed the Defence Budgeting is closely

linked to indigenous strength and we are still wanting in this respect. It is now that we should end the negative consequences of import of Defence equipment and the need of the hour is to build a strong research and development base which can take on the projects with accountability and deliver on time with all performance parameters. While Defence Production and DRDO has achieved modest success with development and production of defence equipment and on missile technology, there are several major weapon platforms and projects that requires improvement. A Study has been conducted by the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry, which says that the country's military equipment imports would go up fourteen fold by 2012. Now the need is to spend more money on DRDO and production of indigenous equipment and R and D.

DRDO was established with the objective of enhancement of self-reliance in defence sector and research and development of infrastructure of the country with a vision to promote the corporate strength and to make the country independent of foreign technology in critical spheres. Although there is growth of actual share of DRDO during the last several years, but percentage-wise the share of DRDO in Defence Budget has not increased. In the present Budget the DRDO has been allocated only Rs. 33 billion. About 411 projects are in the hands of the DRDO, i.e. 2007 with the total cost of these projects is about Rs. 17061.97 crore. Now this figure will be much more. I want to know when would all these projects be completed and when the Government would provide the entire money for the cost of the projects? Now the introspection is necessary about the achievements and success of DRDO after 50 years of its inception.

Our country is no doubt obliged to our team of scientists of DRDO although we are still depending more on outside sources and import to meet our defence requirements. For example, the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) like Tejas is the requirement for the Indian Air Force, the Indian Navy and the Indian Army. This Light Combat Aircraft was planned to be acquired with Kaveri engine

[Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy]

integration by October, 2007. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to whether this project has been completed or not and whether the design of this engine has been finalised or not. As regards Kaveri engine programme, both the design and the preparedness are very much disappointing. This project has taken more than 18 years and there is an enhancement of the project cost by eight times than the original cost. We do not know as to when this project will be completed.

Coming to strategic missile family, India's credible second strike capability deterrent Agni-III missile should have delivered a one tonne warhead some 3500 kilometres away. But Defence sources said that the launch was successful but results are still being awaited. It is not yet analysed. Agni-III is comparable with Pakistan's Ghauri-III and China's Dong Teng though the latter has progressively evolved into a full-fledged ICBM programme and it is currently being tested to develop the Deng Teng-41 with an effective range of 14,000 kilometres. Agni-III had purportedly been ready for launch for at least the last 30 months but it was delayed because of hectic diplomatic activity with Washington over the civilian nuclear deal.

So far as External Research (ER) and Intellectual Property Right (IPR) are concerned, 75 IPRs from 13 foreign countries were filed with foreign technologies for defence requirements and 40 patents were granted and 50 were accepted for grants. Four copyrights and one design were registered by 2007 but what is the programme to enlarge the ER scheme? Has this Government taken any decision to enlarge the ER scheme?

Coming to another area where our DRDO is suffering, most of our scientists are not getting good remuneration, not very attractive allowances and are leaving the Organisation. That is why, DRDO is suffering in one way. Is the Government taking steps in that regard because the recommendation of the Sixth Pay Commission is not attractive for them? They are complaining that, in

comparison with the private sector and other foreign countries, the remuneration and other allowances which we are providing to our scientists are not matching with those of other countries. That is why, most of our scientists are leaving the Organisation. It will be difficult for us to get good and experienced scientists in future. What is the Government's programme to keep our scientists with the DRDO? This is not the case with the scientists alone. This is the case with the entire Defence Forces.

The overall deficiency of officers in the Army alone is around 24 per cent. Presently, there is a shortage of 11,153 officers mainly in the ranks of Lt. Colonel and below. This is the reply which the hon. Minister has given in the House. So, this is the shortage in the Army.

There is a good number of officers' shortage in the Navy and Air Force also. In the present scenario, in the era of globalisation, service in the private sector is more attractive. The multi-national companies are offering more remuneration and perks, which are more attractive. That is why the young people are not very much attracted to join the defence services. The shortfall in the officers of the three services is largely due to changes in the socio-economic scenario of the country. So, what is the Government doing to get better and brilliant boys in the defence forces?

The three services had presented a joint memorandum to the Pay Commission. After the publication of the Report of the Pay Commission, they had made a representation to the Raksha Mantri. They are dissatisfied over the recommendations of the Pay Commission. I would like to know whether the Government is actively considering to have a better revision with regard to their pay scales that have been recommended by the Pay Commission. Are you going to pay much more with respect to their demands?

The Ministry of Defence's approach towards audit observations is very shocking. The Parliament's PAC had mandated that the Minister of Defence must submit Action Taken Report on every Audit Report within four months of

its tabling in the Parliament. The latest CAG Report lists 90 audit observations since 1996, for which the Minister of Defence has not bothered to send the Action Taken Report. Now, the Minister of Defence must respond to the PAC on the CAG's Report.

The CGDA also prepares the annual consolidated accounts of the defence services and acts as the Principal Accounts Officer. It functions as an internal auditor to the services. But when the CAG conducted sample checks of the internal audit done by the DAD, they observed a lot of discrepancies, deficiencies and irregularities in the management of the Department in regard to the accounting and audit. This is the most serious thing because the entire House has always stood in support of the Defence Budget. They never put any question and Parliament also rarely discusses the Defence Budget. The entire Parliament and the entire country is always in support of the Defence Budget. But there must be transparency in the defence accounting and accountability should be fixed for the default.

With the introduction of Integrated Financial Advisor Scheme in the Ministry of Defence from August 1983, the Defence Account Department came under the administrative jurisdiction of the Ministry of Defence. The DAD is managing with 26 per cent less employees over the last fifteen years. They are also having 26 per cent less employees. How will they manage to do the accounting of such a huge Ministry which is now having Rs. 1,05,000 crore of Budget?

Despite the instructions from the CAG and the repeated instruction of the PAC, the Ministry is not listening. So, my earnest request is that they should listen to them and do the needful according to the requirement of the CAG and the PAC.

Now, I come to the issue of Sainik Schools which is a basic necessity for the recruitment of boys for further military training. We have to make it attractive for the Defence Forces. A sum of Rs. 440 crore has been

provided in this year's Budget as far as Sainik Schools are concerned. . . .(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU) : Rs. 44 crore has been provided for Sainik Schools.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri) : So, my demand is that the Government should also think of enlarging these Sainik Schools in different parts of the country and more money should be provided for these Sainik Schools. It is also necessary to enroll and bring girls into the Sainik Schools and women also should be recruited in the Defence Forces.

*DR. RATTAN SINGH AJNALA (Taran Taran) : Thank you, Deputy Speaker Sir, for giving me the opportunity to speak on the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of Defence for 2008-09. Many Hon. Members have expressed their opinion on matters pertaining to the Ministry of Defence. By and large, there is unanimity among members that the money provided for the Ministry of Defence is not enough. Times have changed. The needs of the armed forces have also changed. They have to be fulfilled.

The armed forces have always helped the people of India, whether prior to independence or after the independence. When the British ruled over India, even at that time, our armed forces fought valiantly in World War I and World War II alongwith the British forces. They were second to none as far as valour and bravery is concerned. Our armed forces are renowned throughout the world for their glorious tradition and for their achievements.

After independence, the Indian Government extended the hand of friendship to our neighbours. When I was studying in college, there was an environment of camaraderie with our biggest neighbour China. Slogans of 'Hindi-Chini Bhai-Bhai' (Indians and Chinese are

*English translation of the Speech originally delivered in Punjabi.

[Dr. Rattan Singh Ajnala]

brothers) rent the air. However, in 1962, the Chinese stabbed us in the back. At that time, our armed forces were ill-prepared. They could not take on the well-equipped Chinese army. We lost large parts of our country in Ladakh and Arunachal Pradesh, which were occupied by the invading Chinese army.

Sir, I have completed more than 4 years of my term as M.P. in the present Lok Sabha. I am distressed to note that no Defence Minister of India has announced in this august House that China has occupied our land and we should get it vacated.

The Chinese are browbeating us on the matter of Arunachal Pradesh. They are intruding into our territory. But, the Government is silent on this issue. It is afraid to take on the might of China.

Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, we must keep an eye on the security environment around our country. If our armed forces are weak, we cannot defend our borders. Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty. At the time of the Chinese invasion in 1962, the army was hit by a scandal pertaining to the purchase of army jeeps. The defence preparedness at that time was nil. So, Sir, I agree with the suggestion of Hon. Member Mohan Singh that there should be a separate committee to purchase weapons and weapon systems for the army. There should be transparency in all such purchases. There should be accountability in the army. I hope, the Hon. Defence Ministry will look into this matter.

Sir, physically fit young men should be included in the army. Unfortunately, the recruitment policy of the army is flawed. The present policy entails that only a fixed per cent of youth can be recruited in the army from each state. The army can recruit only 2% soldiers from Punjab. Prior to independence, the Punjabis formed 26% of the Indian army. Now, their recruitment has been drastically cut down to just 2%. Those who hail from the martial races are not being recruited. If you recruit cowards and weak people in the army, how will the army win wars and secure our

borders? Those who are poor but physically fit should be recruited in the army. The present recruitment policy is deeply flawed. Or else, you should provide reservation in the army. Able-bodied poor people should be provided reservation in the army on the pattern of reservations for the Scheduled Castes. . . .(Interruptions)

I support the recruitment of physically-fit poor people in the army. What is wrong with my demand?

Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, the 6th Pay Commission report has dampened the spirit of our armed forces. It has come as a big disappointment to our armed forces. Print and electronic media has ably highlighted the deep resentment among the officers and personnel of the armed forces. If pea-nuts are granted as salaries, resentment is justified. Those who lay down their lives fighting against terrorists and secessionists should be given a better pay-packet. The armed forces deserve more. The officers in the army, navy and air-force are seeking voluntary retirement. The private sector pays them better salaries. Corporate houses are weaning away our officers from the armed forces. The Government must rise from its deep slumber and hike the salaries of our soldiers and officers. Not only this, the Government must look after the educational and health needs of the families of our soldiers and officers.

Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, the security environment in our neighbourhood is not good. We have fought three wars against Pakistan in 1948, 1965 and 1971. We tried our best to develop friendly relations with Pakistan. But, Pakistan has always stabbed us in the back. Sir, we must solve all our disputes through negotiations. But, we must speak from a position of strength. No one listens to a weakling. Only a strong country can deal properly with aggressive neighbours.

Sir, in Siachen, and in Kargil, the Pakistani troops took advantage of our decency and occupied vantage positions on the higher reaches of the mountains. Our armed forces suffered heavy casualties in trying to evict the invaders. So, I urge upon the Government to strengthen our armed forces and remain vigilant.

Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, I hail from a border area. The soldiers take over the fields of the farmers during times of war. Even during times of peace, the army conducts exercises. It lays landmines in the fields of the farmers. The poor farmers are not provided with any compensation. I urge upon the Government to provide adequate compensation to the poor farmers.

Sir, the people of the border areas provide all help to our troops during times of crisis. Our women even cook food for the soldiers during times of war. Soldiers keep our borders secure. We must take good care of them.

Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, drugs, narcotic substances and intoxicants are being smuggled into the country through our porous borders. It is a threat to the present and future generations. The armed forces and the paramilitary forces should be vigilant enough to foil the nefarious designs of the enemies of our country.

Sir, there is a long-pending demand of the ex-servicemen pertaining to 'One rank, One pension'. I have raised this matter in this august House time and again for the last 4 years. However, the Government has only given false assurances in this matter. This is a genuine demand of the armed forces. The Government must put an end to the injustice being meted out to the ex-servicemen.

Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, more money should be provided to the Ministry of Defence in the Budget. There are a lot of challenges before us. The security environment in our neighbourhood has been vitiated. In such a scenario, we must strengthen our armed forces to meet any eventuality.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (RAO INDERJIT SINGH) : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir. Hon'ble, Member has used unparliamentary word.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will see it.

SHRIMATI M.S.K. BHAVANI RAJENTHIRAN (Ramanathapuram) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I thank you immensely for the opportunity given to me to participate in the discussion on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence on behalf my DMK Party headed by our revered leader Dr. Kalaignar M. Karunanidhi.

15.32 hrs.

[SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN in the Chair]

Sir, I support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence for the year 2008-09, but at the same time I would like to express some of my views about the condition of our Armed Forces personnel in the country. At the outset, I would specially like to record in this august House that under the successful regime of Dr. Kalaignar M. Karunanidhi, only peace and prosperity prevails in the State of Tamil Nadu. I feel very proud that I come from the land of peace, that is, Tamil Nadu, but I doubt whether the same condition is there in all the States of India.

Sir, our great Tamil poet Thiruvalluvar told a couplet about the good army as follows:

*"Tharthangi selvadhu thanai thalaivantha
porthangum thanmai arinthu"*

The meaning of this couplet is: 'On an appreciation of the disposition of the enemy forces, a good army is always on the offensive keeping the enemy on the run'. Our Armed Forces are also exactly like this couplet. But at the same time, I doubt whether all welfare and protective measures have been taken for the personnel of our Armed Forces in our country. So, I demand that some protective measures should be taken for the welfare of our Defence personnel.

At this juncture, I would like to inform this august House about a sad incident happened in my house. After a long gap I came to Delhi only yesterday evening with my lady servant. When I went to my house, I was shocked to see that all the doors were broken by some thief and some things have been taken away. If this is the condition of protection given to an hon. Member of Parliament in this

[Shrimati M.S.K. Bhavani Rajenthiran]

country, how can the poor common people be given protection? So, I would urge upon the Government that some good protective measures should be put in place around the residences of all Members of Parliament, especially around the residences of women Members of Parliament.

Sir, we should give encouragement to our Armed Forces personnel. Then only they will be very cheerful, they will be very careful and they will do service to the country with full involvement.

We should do more things for the Defence personnel because the Defence personnel are under-paid for the noble service that they are doing by daring the enemies and that too at the cost of their lives.

We all know that so much of criticism has come in the newspapers that the Sixth Pay Commission has neglected the increments of senior lots of POW and officers who are the actual force fighting for the country. The number of intake of officers at the NDA and direct commissioning has reduced due to lesser perks and stagnation in promotions. So, this point should be given more concentration by the Ministry of Defence.

More than 95 per cent of the Defence personnel are not encouraging their children to join the Defence forces due to hard postings and lesser perks as we see that average students with computer skills are getting handsome salaries, whereas the Defence forces, which are doing hard work for the protection of the country, have tougher selection criteria than any other organisation and despite that they are paid less also.

We should be ashamed of this pathetic fact that the maximum number of suicides are in Defence Services only because of the binding regimental rules, less pay and perks and increased work pressure. The military service pay is too less for them. Comparatively, the net increment for a soldier for rendering a service of 15 to 20 years is only Rs. 4,000. It is a very meagre amount when you

calculate the same scale for the next ten years till the Seventh Pay Commission is set up.

So, I would insist that all the Defence personnel should be exempted from the income tax, at least, if no increment is thought of. Lesser we pay, lesser will be the motivation and less will be the quality of influx of the officers and men. We should also see the conditions of the Defence personnel in the Western countries where the men have pride in serving the Defence Services, whereas in our country, an individual feels shy to reveal to outside world that he is in Defence because of the poor pay that he is getting.

The Defence people can buy things from the Military Canteen at lesser price. Why do we not allow the Defence people to get things free of cost when you are giving them less pay? So, you can give them this facility. Free houses should be provided to the retired Defence personnel. That is more important.

The Defence people are mostly mentally upset because of hard postings and such other reasons. We should provide them Yoga training and protect their health. I read it somewhere that the uniforms that are provided to the Defence personnel are in poor condition and they have to go to the market to buy the uniforms, which fit them. The case is that they work for the country, but they are under less care. So, we should take all the protective measures for the Defence people.

Sir, the great Tamil Poet Thiruvalluvar has beautifully mentioned in Tamil that a good Government should be as follows:

*"Iyatralum Iethalum Kathathalum Kaakka
Vaguththalum Vallatharasu"*

That means, 'A great King will be able to acquire wealth, develop and guard it for equitable distribution on State expenditure at public good'. So, the UPA Government, under the leadership of the eminent Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh and under the great leadership of Madam Sonia Gandhi, is doing all sorts of good things

for the country. We have also waived loans worth Rs. 60,000 crore of the farmers and we are trying hard to reduce the price rise. We are taking all sorts of measures to achieve that.

Of course, the hon. Defence Minister is a very nice, eminent, able and a senior person and he is doing all sorts of good things for the development of Defence people.

At the same time, these conditions, both physical and mental, of the Defence people and their lives should be taken care of seriously, and all the welfare measures in respect of our Defence people should be undertaken because the Defence people are taking care of all the protective measures of our country, the great India.

I would like to point out that the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Dr. Kalaignar, is doing all sorts of good things and welfare schemes for all the people in Tamil Nadu. It is for peace and prosperity. So, as has been done by the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, all the welfare schemes especially for the Defence people, who are the heart of our country, should be undertaken.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak.

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN (Trichur) : Sir, we support the Demands for Grants in respect of the Ministry of Defence. I think, the House always supports the Defence Budget with great enthusiasm because we are extremely proud of the performance of our Army, of our Defence Forces in securing our Independence and freedom, and also in securing the borders of our territory.

The Defence Budget, of course, is nearly two per cent of the total GDP of our country. There is a clamour that it should go up to three per cent. But if you look at the performance of the Government in spending the allotted budget, we see that the performance is not up to the mark. It could not spend a lot of money, and it did not even support a proposal made by the Standing Committee that a Non-lapsable Fund should be created. I do not know why it did not support this proposal. When so much of

funds provided to the Ministry are lapsing because it could not spend, then this proposal should have been seriously considered but the Ministry did not respond to that.

I do not think that we should compete with our neighbouring countries in Defence spending. Firstly, we are a country dedicated ourselves to peace and development. So, what is required is perhaps that the allotted fund should be spent more effectively, more meaningfully so that the Defence Forces are kept under alert and in a good condition. So, I do not think that we should enter into any kinds of arms race or anything, and it is not welcome for India. But some of the policy issues need a little elaboration from the Minister.

Now, you take the recent naval exercise in the Bay of Bengal which evoked a lot of protest in the country, and even the world looked at it with suspicion. The simple reason is that the military exercises used to take place on the Indian shores or on the shores of other countries in cooperation with various countries.. That is a normal thing, which the Navy does. But in this particular case, for the first time, we have been doing a naval exercise in the Bay of Bengal, and not only that; we have been doing it in collaboration with U.S., Australia, Singapore and Japan. This has been described by China as the emergence of southern NATO. I do not say that they are correct but why we have gone in for that. What is the need? I am not against the naval exercises that India is doing with other countries but not in a manner and with a group of countries that would give a different meaning of that exercise to the whole world.

So, I think, that needs a little explanation on the part of the Government.

Sir, another important aspect is the Defence production. There also, a policy matter is involved. The Defence production is an area, which was exclusively reserved for the public sector in the olden days of Pandit Nehru, Shrimati Indira Gandhi and all that. Later, it got changed. The public sector allowed the private sector also to come in. Now, we are opening up by allowing big FDI investment

[Shrimati M.S.K. Bhavani Rajenthiran]

in the Defence production sector. You are allowing the trans-national companies to enter into the Defence production, where our security, to that extent, is in danger. We know the recent experiences of various countries. Various articles and books have been written about it when the Government of Chile was overthrown by the CIA intervention. The trans-national companies in the telephone sector played a very vital role. There were many articles and books written about it. Even the CIA people said, 'yes, it was involved.

Now, we are playing this game in a more dangerous field, in the Defence sector. In the Defence sector, we are allowing the FDI, which is now 26 per cent. I think, you are allowing it to enhance further. So, some explanation is required on this.

There is one more aspect, which I would like to bring before this august House. As I said in the beginning, Defence is an area where the whole country is united; there is hardly any difference over that. But then, how it is administered is more important. There are lots of corruption cases and scandals going on. It is not that in your period, it has happened. In relation to military purchases during the Kargil War, the notorious coffin deal happened. Then, we know about the old case of Bofors. These are the cases, which are pending for a long time. Why should they be pending for such a long time? Therefore, I want the Government to inquire and dispose them of. If the case is not genuine, dispose it of. If the case is serious, and criminals are found out, punish them. But this is something very bad that the cases are hanging on fire for decades and decades together.

Another important aspect is the findings of the CAG Report. It speaks about the inefficiency of spending money, the inefficiency of dealing with the properties of the Defence. I am not going into the details. All of you might have read the CAG Report. In keeping its own property proper, some of the lands were illegally being kept by various agencies including a club. About six to 30 years,

the case is going on and nothing has happened. The land is with a club; the land is with some educational institution. The CAG wondered as to why this is happening. It speaks obviously of inefficiency or nepotism. Whatever it is, it is not a very ideal thing.

Another equally important aspect, which various hon. Members have spoken and on which our Minister is also concerned, is the suicides by the Army personnel.

There are people committing suicide. It is not just psychological aberration or something like that as some people tried to describe it. There may be an administrative reason. In some cases, the officers are shot and killed. The explanation given was that he had asked for leave; he was in dire condition; and the requirement of the leave was very important for him. The officer took an unsympathetic and inhuman view and he has killed the officer. It is not that it should happen like that. But such things are happening. You can always say that millions of people are there in the Army. The suicide may be one per cent or less than one per cent. But it is a black mark. The attempt should be not to explain it away but to find out why it is happening, especially at the lower level of jawans and wipe out that slur from the face of the defence forces. I read in a newspaper that after Mr. Antony has assumed office, he had a discussion with the officers and set up some mechanism. I would like to know whether that mechanism works or not.

Now, there is a question of gender inequality. There is some sad case. The Minister over there is also nodding her head. Some of the officers, obviously, women raised complaint against the treatment but they were not fairly treated. That is how we understand when we read it because Army is surrounded with a veil of secrecy. So, we will understand what is written in the Press. But I would request the Minister to look into that matter very seriously because this is an important thing that there should not be any gender oppression or any treatment smacks of gender inequality in the Army. It is not a healthy development.

Then, I think the Members mentioned about some of the performances. They are there in the Report of the Standing Committee about the deal of Admiral Gorshkov, an aircraft carrier, which is to be re-modelled or refashioned and to be brought from Russia. We thought that it will be in waters when Admiral Viraat is being decommissioned by 2008. The decommissioning of Viraat is certain. Unless the Government's latest promise is fulfilled that they will give a fresh lease of life, it will not be there. About the other ship which was supposed to come, you now say that you may get it in 2010. But whether it is sure or not, nobody knows. So, one should come to know what exactly is happening. It is a serious matter.

Along with that, you should take note of the fact that in Cochin Shipyard, you are constructing an air defence ship. It was expected to have been commissioned during some of these days. But it seems it is also getting delayed. What does it mean? If this delay is condoned and our Admiral Viraat ship is decommissioned, then that would mean we may have to compromise with our naval defence. It is expected that one ship will be in the Bay of Bengal and the other ship will be in the Indian Ocean. That is what the defence people have told us but what is happening is that we are facing a condition where neither of these two ships will be there. The Viraat ship that is there will be decommissioned. So, I think that also needs some kind of an explanation.

Now, the Coast Guard is a good instrument of the Army, and it is guarding our long coast. It does commendable service.

There is no doubt it. We are all happy about the work of Coast Guard. But some of the recent reports, especially about Kerala are worrying. Two kinds of reports have appeared. One is that the LTTE has successfully managed to enter Kerala through Tamil Nadu. It is not any slur on Tamil Nadu. They came naturally through Tamil Nadu and they are operating on the Kerala coast, near Cochin, in Wypin Island. They are having their shipyard with the help of the local boat-building people. This is something very surprising. With all our defence preparedness and

everything, and especially in that region after the LTTE menace became serious, how could these people sneak into there? They entered into deals with boat-building people, not ship-building yard. . . .(Interruptions)

Sir, I am concluding now. It is a very important matter in which you are also interested. The LTTE should not get this opportunity to sneak into our coastal area and connive with our boat-building people to have their boats commissioned for military purposes. Somehow, we could not do something there what we should have done.

Lastly, I am now concluding, the Sixth Pay Commission Report has come out. Today a very welcome speech was made by the hon. Prime Minister who assured the Defence forces, both civil as well as military people, that their interests will be taken care of. It is very good if the hon. Prime Minister assures that. I feel that assurance will be implemented.

But the present condition of the Defence Forces regarding their pay is not at all very appreciable. Take the case of the pensionary benefits. There are 20 lakh ex-servicemen and 4.6 lakh widows of ex-servicemen. Their condition, at present, is very pitiable. Various types of pension facilities are there. I must say all types of facilities should be seriously looked into with a little more humane and considerate approach and their problems also should find solutions.

Sir, these are some of the things I would like to bring out in this discussion. I wish the Government well. I hope our Defence Forces' interests will be taken care of and the country's too.

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH (Bhilwara) : Sir, I stand to speak on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence. It is a coincidence that today is also the Earth Day and I would like to commend the Navy and the Coast Guard who do a great work to keep our coastline clean. They have others to do, but this is also one of the parts of the job that have been given to them. On the Earth Day I really commend them that they keep our coastline, which is such a long coastline, unpolluted and clean.

[Shri Vijayendra Pal Singh]

Sir, much has been said and I must say here that in the 60 years of Independence that we have enjoyed, the Defence Forces had a great contribution to that and we are proud of the Defence Forces and along with that we must also say that the paramilitary forces, the Defence Forces have done a great and commendable job and we are really proud of that fact.

Coming on to the issues, most of the issues have been taken up earlier by the speakers who spoke before me. One of the issues is the Sixth Pay Commission report which every hon. Member has mentioned. Let me mention here and I am happy to note that the hon. Prime Minister has intervened and said that it must be reviewed. We must look into it that the Defence Forces are such an important institution, which must be cared for.

16.00 hrs.

At the same time, I would like to put forth to our Defence Minister that he must convey to the Prime Minister that today the Review Committee, which is being talked about, is going to be of bureaucrats again and they would like some sort of representation of theirs. If it is again of bureaucrats, then I would like to submit that the tilt – I would not like to say much – would always be of bureaucrats because they are the people who are doing it and who are the main people who had put forth the Sixth Pay Commission. So, let us have a bigger participation in this. I would like to submit that a Colonel today, after 15 years of service, is getting only Rs. 15,000 more than the salary at which he had started his job. When he becomes an officer, he gets Rs. 30,000 and after 15 years of service, he is getting Rs. 45,000 only. If that is how things are, then it is a sad thing and we must correct it.

Today everything has changed. We have a warfare which is not conventional, which is not what it used to be and in the fourth generation of warfare that we have come to, things are different from the conventional warfare. You need real technology, you need the best of armoury and you need armaments so that a small group can control

a lot of people. In doing that, the thinking of the officers is also required. If the thinking of the officers is required, we need thinking officers and if we need thinking officer, we need to pay them well. That is what I wanted to put forth here.

Sir, the Defence Budget is good, but let us not talk only about two per cent or three per cent of GDP which is being spent on Defence, if we cannot spend it. When we cannot spend this two per cent or three per cent of GDP, even if we make it five per cent and it remains unspent, which has been talked about, that has to be looked into. If you are trying to look into that, one of the issues is that we had the Bofors issue 25 years ago. I am here not to talk about who took the money, where the money went and who is Quattrocchi. I am not interested in all that, but the shadow of the Bofors issue is still looming on us. That is the reason that we have not been able to spend the money. That is a worrying factor that even after 25 years, people in the international world and the international sellers shy away from India because they feel that there will be inquiries, there will be re-tendering and all those things. Why do you not put this correctly that we need to rectify the whole system? All the nations do a lot of buying. India is a big buyer of armaments. When we have so much money being spent on armaments, why do we not have a system which we can copy from Australia or other countries which are also buying so that we have a system which is transparent as well as better? Otherwise, we will be lagging behind. With all that money that we have, we have not been able to get the equipment. That is a very big issue and needs to be looked into.

Sir, I must say that there are middlemen in this business all over the world. There are companies and Governments who make lot of money in this. If they are making a lot of money in this, we can also have a representation system, like we have in other spheres, subjects or Ministries. We have such a system in Ministry of Power and all that. Why do we not have this system here, and why do we not recognise people, where they can come and do this?

Otherwise, the international players in this business do not want to do business with the Indians. Hence, we do not get the best equipment. This issue has to be looked into.

Another issue is with regard to the Chief of Defence Services (CDS). Today, all the countries have gone in for the CDS system. Why should we not also get into this system? If we have the CDS system, then it is very important in the integrated warfare. If cooperation from one Department or one agency is not there with the others, say, the Navy is not cooperating with the Air Force and the Army, then there are problems. We have seen this when we had faced Tsunami. We had a CDS system in Andaman and Nicobar Islands, and I must commend and mention that he did a great work because the CDS system was there in that small island. If it was not a CDS system, then I think that we would not have been able to achieve what we have achieved after the Tsunami in Andamans.

I do not really wish to mention it, but the selection of the Chief today has also been in a lot of controversy. It is not right to mention it here, and I will not take their names. But there have been statements by the Chief, and he has been saying that they are not bothered about what is happening in Pakistan and all that. I must say that we have to get the best person, and we must have the best system. Today, I find that because of some discrepancy or anomaly in the system where for the accounting purpose one can have the person retiring on such and such a date to retire at the end of the month, but what really happened in the selection is that there was a retirement and instead of following the accounting system you retired a person who was the number one in the Sword of Honour in the IMA and who had the merit in the NDA.* . . .

SHRI K.S. RAO (Eluru) : Sir, I support the Demands for Grants of the Defence Budget. I would like to begin by saluting the defence forces for the sacrifices that they

are making to secure our independent sovereignty and territorial integrity.

We cannot measure the services that are being rendered and sacrifices that are being made by them in terms of money. I am of the opinion that the pay-scales of the defence services have to be increased substantially. I have seen the provision in the Budget. The increase in the salaries also is less than 10 per cent. We know that the price rise and living standards and costs are very substantial in reality, though the index does not reflect it, more particularly, in the expenditure of the middle-class and the fixed-pay people.

It is also visible when the hon. Minister himself made a statement that there is shortage of officers of 11,000 and odd people, and not many are coming forward to join the defence forces, which was not the case earlier. We used to feel proud to join the Army in the earlier days. But today everybody thinks that better life can be had in corporate sector than in the defence forces. Obviously, it means that motivation is not there. It is not the amount of Rs. 1,05,000 crore that he has allocated to the Defence that ensures the security of our Independence. The feeling or the burning desire must be there among the people that they must also be a party or a member and they must contribute to the might of the defence forces in this country to protect the hard-earned Independence and sovereignty. That is possible only when an effort is made, particularly at the students' level.

When we were students, almost everybody was a student of the NCC (National Cadet Corps). But today we do not find that many students in the schools interested in joining the NCC; even the number is too little. My humble request to the hon. Minister is that particular attention must be given to this aspect. I am also of the opinion that if it is possible it must be made compulsory for every citizen of the country, male citizens at least, if not female citizens, to take training in the defence and be prepared to protect in case there is a need. It is not that they will all work in the Army, but they must be prepared.

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

[Shri K.S. Rao]

During their lifetime, they must work in the defence for at least two years minimum. When a country like America and European Countries are observing this policy, why can it not be followed in India?

Sir, the person who is willing to sacrifice his life in defence is troubled by not being able to make his both ends meet, while a person in the corporate sector is making tonnes of money. What is the justice? Should there not be parity? What is the kind of sacrifice which the soldier is making for the nation and what is the kind of sacrifice the corporate man is making for the nation? That must be weighed and then substantial reward must be given. I want the hon. Minister to take this aspect into account.

Basically, I am of the opinion right from my childhood that most of the defence expenditure is incurred while taking into account our neighbouring countries. It is not America or the European Union that we take into account to decide our defence expenditure. We will only see what kind of situation we will be facing from the neighbouring countries. It is mostly Pakistan which has become the basis for deciding our expenditure because the other countries, be it Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Nepal or any other country, are not going to have any effect on the increase of defence expenditure in this country. Some of the countries are supporting Pakistan for all these years by giving a lot of modern defence equipment, and then the nature of their Governments is such that in order to retain their own political positions, they provoked quarrels between these two countries by creating suspicion and animosity. All those things were there and that was our experience. Keeping that in our mind, we were increasing our defence expenditure. Now, the relations are improving; they are better and tilting towards the positive side. I wish the hon. Minister to think in terms of reducing our expenditure on defence by increasing diplomacy and our relations with our neighbouring countries. If that can be done, the same money can be utilized for developmental

activities. If it were done earlier, we would have excelled and would have overtaken even America a long time back.

I want the hon. Minister to focus more on this aspect and utilise the Ministry of External Affairs' services to improve our relations particularly with the neighbouring countries so that our defence expenditure can be reduced further. It is not that I want him to reduce the expenditure right now but we can reduce it after the relations are improved.

I have seen the Finance Minister allocating about Rs. 44 crore to the 22 Sainik Schools in the country. It was once a matter of prestige to get admission into a Sainik School. However, nobody talks about them now. I understand that the responsibility of maintaining the Sainik Schools is in the hands of the State Governments. I want each State Government to ask for more and more Sainik Schools to be set up. We should increase awareness among the students and maintain high standards of education. One of the reasons why I particularly stress this is that the values are going down day by day in general life. There is no sense of discipline. The thought of sacrifice for the nation is not there. The spirit of service is forgotten. All these things are found in abundance in defence services. So, one way of developing ethical values, improving moral values among the people is to see that every citizen becomes a member of the Defence Services at least for sometime. I want the Defence to be used in this respect also.

In regard to Border Roads, we have visited some border roads recently as Members of the Public Accounts Committee. It is a horrible situation in which the defence people travel to the extreme ends of the country because there is no communication facility and road facility in those areas. I understand all these days it was being done by the Border Roads Organisation of the Defence Services. When the Government is thinking in terms of privatising many things, why cannot the Ministry think in terms of taking the services of the corporate sector in this regard

and increasing the facilities overnight? We do not need to spread our targets over hundred years if we take the help of the corporate sector. Once you make a road, for years together that can be used. While a neighbouring country of ours has laid even a railway line up to our border, can we not think in terms of doing the same thing to facilitate our own defence people to be more comfortable and be able to reach the border areas more easily in order to secure them? I wish the hon. Minister to think in terms of improving the Border Roads Organisation by taking the services of the private sector.

Most of the equipment purchased in the Defence now is imports. Why cannot the Ministry think in terms of asking the Indian manufacturers to start such industries here? If that is done, we can provide employment to our unemployed youth, we can increase the economic activity, and we can reduce the cost of equipment. How long should we depend on imports? Should it be a permanent feature? Our people are intelligent. We can allocate more funds to our Defence Research Organisation. We have proved that we can do much better than most of the developed countries given the opportunity and resources. We are not short of manpower. I want the hon. Minister to allocate more funds to the research and development activity; encourage setting up of industries in the country; think in terms of encouraging the corporate sector to start defence industries. Even the developed countries are permitting their private sector to enter into their defence sector. This will reduce Governmental expenditure and increase the economic activity.

I understand that about two lakh acres of land is there with the Cantonment Boards. Where is that? It is not located in villages; it is located in the heart of cities. The value of these lands runs into millions of crores of rupees. If those lands can be utilised in the manner the Cantonment Boards feel fit, it will result in increased economic activity. That would result in increase in the resources of Defence Services. That land can be used for common purposes in the cities. So, instead of leaving such lands vacant for decades together without putting

them to any use, I want the hon. Minister to think concretely to utilise cantonment lands also.

We admire the services of the Army personnel, particularly during the natural calamities and in the critical positions of law and order. We appreciate that. Can there be a separate division by itself so that it need not be linked to other activities and their services would be readily available? They would also be made more talented and more trained in that regard and the concerned State people would also feel comfortable and they can utilise the services every minute and hour, particularly those people who are in the natural calamity affected areas.

I have seen the capital outlay that is made for the last year. I understand that it was not put to use even today, to the extent of, 70 per cent. As my colleague has stated, whatever allocations have been made, must be put to use. In the inflationary economy, the money which is allocated is not used will lose its value. So, I also want that to be taken care of by the hon. Minister. . . . (Interruptions) I have seen surprisingly that the allocation that has been made by the USA is US Dollar 550 Billion, while in India, it is US Dollar 26 Million. Once again, I appreciate that we are not interested in arms race like America nor we have any desire to occupy anybody's land. We are a peace loving country. We require arms more for defence than offence. I agree that we do not require so much money but instead of purchasing these equipment from America, etc., where many a time it is questioned about the transparency. Lot of doubts crop up, which may be real or unreal. But with this Minister, nobody can suspect about it. Even if somebody raises an issue, nobody believes it also. But I want this transparency to be there in promotions of officers also. Many a time, it is felt that it is not transparent. Be it the punishments given to officers or promotions, some doubts have always come up about these things. I wish the hon. Minister to make transfers and promotions also transparent. I wish during the tenure of our hon. Minister, Shri A.K. Antony, the Defence Ministry would gain better reputation and it would improve the efficiency of the Armed Forces, its motivation and then the economy, and

[Shri K.S. Rao]

by his insistence also to the effect that the External Affairs Ministry to improve relations with the neighbouring countries over a period, we can reduce the expenditure and utilize the funds for the development of the country.

DR. K.S. MANOJ (Alleppey) : Sir, I rise to participate in the discussion on Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence. I begin with paying homage to the Defence personnel who have sacrificed their lives while safeguarding our country. I also salute the Defence personnel who are safeguarding our country. My previous speaker from my Party has already made some of the general observations on the Demands of Grants of the Defence Budget. Hence, I will not go into such details. I have two or three points of concern. One is regarding the attrition of manpower in Defence Forces. In all the Services, there is attrition of manpower. In Navy alone, it is around 4,500, both including sailors and officers. So also in Air Force and Army. With the presentation of the Sixth Pay Commission Report, I fear that the attrition rate would increase further.

Even though the hon. Minister has sought support from all walks of life, the Sixth Pay Commission did not pay much attention to the uniform personnel. There is a growing resentment among not only the Defence personnel but also among the police constables and IPS Officers. The defence of the country would be at stake if not some attention is paid to the Pay Commission. It is learnt that the Government has instituted a Committee comprising of all the Secretaries. I am of the opinion that though the Committee of Secretaries would submit its Report, a Group of Ministers should look into the recommendations of the Sixth Pay Commission. Uniform personnel both in the Defence force and Home Affairs should be taken care of and should be adequately paid.

Another point of concern is the area of research. DRDO and Defence PSUs are actually the pride of our nation. DRDO has made wonderful contributions in the field of research and development. But I suspect some

sort of coming against the DRDO. We find a series of negative reports in the newspapers with respect to it. Nobody is highlighting the wonderful work done by the DRDO. Even in the Budget only 75 per cent of the projected amount has been given to the DRDO. More than 24 per cent, which comes to around Rs. 2,300 crore, of the projected amount for the DRDO is curtailed by the Ministry. This should be looked into. I would rather suggest that instead of the projected amount, more amount should be given to the DRDO as we are moving forward for the indigenisation of the Defence Forces.

We depend on foreign countries for our Defence procurements as a result of which there is time and cost over-run and ultimately in certain cases we have to discard the project also. So, more research and development activities involving even the private entrepreneurs within the country should be promoted.

As per our Defence procurement policy, we allow 26 per cent FDI in Defence procurement with an offset clause. It is learnt that this offset clause is not met. I fear some sort of conspiracy because foreign entrepreneurs want to hike the amount. Some reports say that this may be enhanced to 49 per cent. This offset clause is not met even in case of 26 per cent FDI which we have allowed in Defence procurement. So, they are actually compelling or pressurising the Government to hike the FDI in Defence sector. This should not be allowed. The Government should rather promote our own public sector units engaged in Defence production.

Our HAL, BEL, BEML and others are doing very well. If you take the revenue details of all these defence public sector undertakings, they are earning profits. So more investment should be made in these national public defence units and also more amount should be provided for the DRDO and other research activities in the country.

The importance of Coast Guard is gaining momentum because of the threat through sea but the allocation for the Coast Guard is not enough and its human resource should also be encouraged. I come from a coastal village.

I would like to say that the coastal folk have got some inherent capacity but the percentage of coastal folk in the Coast Guard and Navy is very meagre. We are not promoting these people who are living in coastal areas. So, there should be some recruitment campaign in the schools and colleges of the coastal areas. They should be promoted to join Coast Guard and Navy.

As regards welfare of the ex-servicemen, a rehabilitation and reemployment programme is there. The Director-General of Resettlement have issued some directions to the public sector enterprises. Mostly, they have got security jobs.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude now. I have given you double time.

Hon. Members, those who want to lay their speeches, may do so.

DR. K.S. MANOJ : The ex-servicemen are employed as security guards. In Kerala, BSNL was employing the security guards. But now they are taking away the chances of these security men and they have given this job to some outside agency in the guise of house keeping. They are not giving this job to the DGR sponsored security agencies. But it is being given to the outside private agencies. I have already written to the hon. Defence Minister and also to the Minister of Information Technology requesting that this should not be allowed. They are getting only the security job in the public sector companies. If that too is denied, where will the ex-servicemen would go? They are retiring from service at a very young age and these are the only jobs where they could be accommodated. There is a recommendation of the Standing Committee on Defence in this regard.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude.

DR. K.S. MANOJ : Sir, I am the last speaker from my Party.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Why do you not complete your speech and sit down?

DR. K.S. MANOJ : Recently, we have got several complaints from the service personnel who have been terminated from Defence Forces. After the Police verification, it has been stated that during their youth hood, they have worked for the Left Parties. Now the UPA Government is supported by the Left Parties. But under the guise that during their young age, they have worked for the Left Parties, they have been terminated from the Defence Forces. That should be looked into. The only thing is that they have worked for the Left Parties. The hon. Minister should look into the matter and some corrective measures should be taken. They may not be re-recruited but some pension benefit should be given to them.

Sir, there is gender inequality in the Defence Forces. It is just not only gender inequality, there is gender discrimination also. Military nurses are the only female employees in the Forces. After taking nursing training, they are given certificates by the President of India. Now their uniforms have been changed and also their designations also have been changed. They also are facing harassment in their work fields. This aspect should be looked into. They should be considered as part of the Forces. As like in the Western countries, the Government should think of constituting an Army Nurse Corps.

Sir, owing to paucity of time I would conclude my speech here. I support the Demands for Grants for the Ministry of Defence.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to participate in the discussion on Demands for grants for the year 2008-2009 relating to the Ministry of Defence. I rise to support it. Many hon'ble Members have made very good suggestions. I associate myself with them and would like to add some more things to those suggestions.

We are proud of the officers and jawans of our forces for keeping the unity and integrity of the country in tact. They are now posted in diverse climatic conditions and

[Shri Shailendra Kumar]

circumstances to preserve the unity and integrity of the country. We have the Navy, the Army and the Air Force in our country. It should be our endeavour that our defence mechanism becomes stronger and particularly our defence budget to be at par with the defence budget of our neighbouring countries whether it is China or Pakistan, because India has always been a leading light as an apostle of friendship, peace and harmony. We enjoy excellent relationship with our neighbouring countries and nothing should be there to prove us weaker in comparison to these nations.

As far as defence equipments are concerned, if they fail to conform to standard criteria, dignity of our country will be lowered. Defence equipments also include uniforms or clothing of soldiers as well as other equipments of warfare. They should possess both quality and quantity. We should not make any compromise on that. I would like to request the hon'ble Minister of Defence that a Joint Parliamentary Committee should be constituted when we purchase defence equipments from other countries. There have been allegations relating to defence deals against previous Governments in this very House. I would like to suggest that Defence Budget should be presented separately like the Rail-Budget and the General Budget. We should show respect to the Defence Budget also like the General Budget and the Rail Budget. Dearth of officers in the Forces is a matter of great concern. It is frequently reported in the newspapers that a lot of resentment is prevalent among officers and soldiers. It is a matter of deep concern. Recommendations of the Sixth Pay Commission have been presented. We have observed that a large number of officers and jawans have taken voluntary retirement and are now working in the private sector. Private sector pays more than the Ministry of Defence. It has caused resentment among them. It warrants special attention.

What are the reasons of frequent crashes of our fighter planes. Lives of our qualified pilots are being lost

in these crashes. We should be concerned about this as it is lowering the prestige of the country.

When I was studying in the Government college, NCC cadets of Air wing used to participate in it with great interest. What are the reasons that this wing is becoming weak in all Degree Colleges. No student is interested in it. I would like to raise a demand that the NCC Air Wing should be made compulsory, from class IX to B.A. so as to inspire well educated youths to join the defence forces.

There was a reference here to the Soldier schools. I would like to demand that a quota in admission for us should be fixed so that we can recommend for admissions of talented children who can play an important role in defending the country after having been admitted to such schools.

At the same time, I would like to draw your attention to the problem of my constituency. Most of the areas of Allahabad district in Uttar Pradesh come under defence area. Bamroli Airport is the Air Base. There is an Air Force Station and a cantonment area. A large number of youths are in the Army from our area. Bamroli an Assembly segment falls particularly under my constituency where there are frequent disputes over path ways. I have raised this matter a number of times in the House and talked to the officers there. You have set up the Air Base after acquiring land of those people. It is a matter of concern if those very people have to face the problem of path ways. I would like that a way out of this problem of path way should be found in consultation with the local MLA and the MP. It has been found that employees and officers of the Airforce put up sign-boards on the land of farmers in the vicinity of Bamroli Airport and say that the land has been acquired but it is not so. We are the elected representative. This problem can be solved if people of the Air Force have a meeting with us. The entire village of Umri has become Air Base. People have to face problem regularly there. Similarly a path way leads to my constituency via Happy Home which has now been closed.

It is causing problem to the general public. You can close it from the point of view of security during a war but normally that path way should be opened. Two airlines operate their aircrafts at the airport of airforce base, one from the Air India and the other from the jet. Private Aircrafts remain always cancelled on the pretext of a problem of night landing. It is causing immense inconvenience to the people. I would conclude with a suggestion. At least the local MLA or the M.P. should be made special invitees in the cantonment Board so that all the problems of the cantonment Board are addressed. They can make good suggestions. There is a village called Neevan in my area which is connected by a path-way passing through the cantonment area. It also remains always closed. It leads to disputes with the army men. You have made some centers of the Recruitment Board. I would demand that special recruitment drives should be launched at Tehsil and Block levels. Kosambi district comes under my area. A Recruitment Board should be established there. I know that the army will be strengthened if worthy youngmen are recruited from my constituency. Lance Naik Suryabali was a soldier in my area. He sacrificed his life fighting for the nation. Six months have passed. No facility has been extended despite a lot of correspondence in this regard. I want that a monument should be constructed in the villages of those soldiers who lay down their lives for the nation and their families should be provided facilities. Like the freedom fighters whose monuments are constructed at Tehsil and Block levels and epitaphs are installed in their memory, epitaphs should also be constructed in the memory of martyrs of the army so that today's youth can draw inspiration from them. With these words, conclude.

[English]

*SHRI P.S. GADHAVI (Kutch) : Sir, I express my views on demands for grants for ministry of defence for the period of year 2008-2009.

I. N.C.C – The National Cadet Corps was formed on 16th July, 1948 and as we all know that NCC is one of

*Speech was laid on the Table.

the very important wing for giving training to our youths which will prepare disciplined citizens for our country but I am sorry to say this is given lesser priority. I request hon'ble minister to pay more attention for improvement of this is very important wing.

II. Sainik School

Similarly I urge hon'ble minister to see that more and more sainik schools should be opened particularly one in each district of country so that in future shortage of officers in army can be met with.

III. Marine Engg. Institutions

As we have got very vast sea coast and therefore, on coastal areas marine training institutions such as marine engineering schools and colleges also requires to be established by our navy so that we can get fully trained personnel required by our navy. Here I would like to refer explanatory notes on defence services estimates for the year 2008-2009, given on pages 61-63 and 65.

In Explanatory Notes on Major Head 2077 : It has been mentioned that the Indian navy consists of ships such as aircraft carrier, cruisers, destroyers, frigates, mine-weepers, submarines etc. and shore establishments, such as training institutions, dockyard, storage depots and other miscellaneous, technical and administrative establishments. It also has a separate Aviation wing consisting of Naval Air stations and a fleet requirement unit. The training establishments cater to the training of new entry sailors, apprentices and boys as well as for specialized training of officers and men in mechanical and electrical engineering, gunnery, communication, navigation, anti-submarine and naval aviation etc. There are also schools for training in seamanship, physical culture, supply and secretariat, etc.

Minor Head 101 : The Provision made under this minor head covers expenditure on pay and allowances of the services personnel of the Navy including Cadets, Boys, Apprentices, etc. undergoing courses of training prior to their Commission/Regular engagement in the Navy.

[Shri P.S. Gadhavi]

The provision for the pay and allowances of the personnel of the Defence Security Corps serving with the Navy and Army Officers and personnel deployed in Military Engineer Service.

Explanatory Notes – Minor Head 104 : The Provision made under this head covers expenditure on pay and allowances of the civilian personnel of the navy.

Minor Head 104 (A) : The provision under this head covers pay and allowances of the civilians employed in various training establishments of the Navy, viz., Electrical and Mechanical Engineering Training Establishment, the Shipwright Training School, the Dockyard Apprentice School, Combined Schools, etc.

Minor Head 104 (B) : This head provides for pay and allowances of the civilians employed in the stores depots (other than Armament stores Depots) of the Navy.

IV. Aircraft Engg. Institutions : Similarly more and more training institutions to train our boys for aircraft engineering and such training should be in every state of our country so that in future shortage of qualified staff in Air Force can be met with.

V. Defence Production Units in Gujarat : The Defence Equipment Production requirement for our forces is also requires to be strengthened and span of ordinance factories requires to be widen. Sir, here I would like to bring it to the notice of hon'ble minister that though the state of Gujarat is considered to be one of well developed industrial state and it has got very vast sea coast, one of the important naval base at Jamnagar and Porbander and also it has very important Air Force Bases at Jamnagar, Bhuj and Naliya, inspite of all these, I am sorry to say that Gujarat is not having any ordinance factory though there were all positive survey reports on its potentiality for having important ordinance factory in Gujarat. I, therefore, request hon'ble minister that if there are positive reports for having an ordinance and production units required by our Air Force. Please see that

one big unit and naval ship building unit be established in Gujarat.

VI. Night Landing Facility at Bhuj Airport : Sir, I would like to invite the attention of hon'ble minister that at present the control of bhuj airport is with air force and bhuj is a district head quarter.

At this airport there is a night landing facility but as air force is not allowing service planes to land there after sunset, by which civilians air passengers are facing much difficulties for night landing. I request hon'ble minister to examine this matter and please see that night landing service to planes be allowed.

VII. Border Fencing : On this project, in budget provision on Rs. 608 crores have been made. Sir here I would like to invite the attention of hon'ble minister that this work is being carried out mechanically without application of mind to the requirement terrain in which such border fencing is to put. I can say that if wire and steel border fencing we put in Rann of Kutch over where vast span of salt is spread over that area and due to atmosphere over there steel and wire fencing is going to be rusted within very short period and all expenditure incurred over it would go waste.

In this area some experts suggested to have Ditch-Cum-Canal instead of wire fencing or cement concrete wall. I, therefore, request hon'ble minister to consider the appropriate alternatives steel and wire fencing as per the requirement of that particular area.

SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH (Barmer) : Thank you Mr. Chairman for the time given to me.

I must first support what my colleague Shri Shailender Kumar has just now said about recognising the contribution and the sacrifices of our brave soldiers. All such departed soldiers must be recognised in every part of the country.

I have been given time by you for participating in this discussion on Demands for Grants of the Ministry of

Defence. My intervention has both brickbats and bouquets. I will start with the brickbats and then come to bouquets.

It is most disturbing that the capital expenditure was reduced last year in the Revised Estimates from what was cleared. It is disturbing, it is worrisome and it is dangerous. I cannot highlight this fact more than what my colleagues have already highlighted. I do not need to repeat or stress on the points any more. What is indeed worrisome is that this is alter the new procurement procedures have been instituted, new procurement policies have been instituted. Through you, I would request that the Ministry of Defence and the hon. Minister pay greater attention to this.

It happens especially in the field of defence which has a long process of selection, trials, induction, and evaluation. Such delays cause very worrisome situations for the country. I do hope that this does not happen again in the future. Last year, it was a very strange and disturbing phenomenon. This is a reflection of some planning flaws. The same flaws are reflected in how our expenditure outlays are being designed. We seem to be working on a 'one-and-half-front-war-situation' rather than on a 'two-front-war-situation' as we have been always told that the Army, the Navy and the Air Force are structured for or designed for or prepared for. It has to be a 'two-front-war-situation'.

Due to these planning flaws what we are seeing today is our structures, our planning, our expenditure are not catered to the 21st century threats. They are essentially for outdated pre-partition or pre-1947 scenarios. If you look at the 21st century threats, the principal threat comes from the oceans. This has been an area where India has always been vulnerable. It disturbs me to repeat as it has been repeated earlier that our outlays, our planning, our preparation as far as the Navy is still very inadequate, insufficient and also incomplete. The Navy has the principal responsibility for our future, both in a security sense and in an economic sense. From the Red Sea to the South China Sea, the Navy has a responsibility to

maintain trade routes, sea lines of communication, social rescue, disaster management, disaster relief and also aid to friendly countries should it arise at any given time.

Through you, I would request the Ministry of Defence to have a re-think, to have a re-look at the preparation of the Navy because of the three services, the Navy is the one that requires the maximum lead time for design, development, construction and induction of vessels. Today the situation is such that it is not only the hardware but also the man power which is going to bring us security, which is going to bring us safety and keep India a safe and secure country. The most important aspect is the man power. The point of manpower shortage has been repeated time and again. So I would not stress on that. The Sixth Pay Commission matters have been repeated by my senior colleagues and again I would not like to dwell on that.

Sir, the little bouquet that I have for the hon. Minister of Defence on this matter is that after a long time, thinking has gone into paying greater attention to Sainik Schools. Some budgetary provisions have been made for Sainik Schools. I cannot welcome it and say that it is enough. But I would like to say that it is a great step. But, unfortunately, that is not enough. We know what is the Sainik Schools' situation in the country. The State Governments have to contribute their bit. That contribution is lacking. I would go further and request the hon. Minister of Defence, through your intervention, that the Sainik Schools and military schools which were designed and which were created in order to bring out services, the best manpower available both in terms of officers and soldiers should be supported. I wish greater stress was paid on that. Like the military schools are run by the Ministry of Defence, if the Sainik Schools can be taken over more in a day-to-day running sense, change the management, change the entire model of the Sainik Schools, it would be good. Today I am given to believe that the Sainik School students are only about 22 per cent of our induction in the officer corps. That is an insufficient figure. I wish this figure was raised and the Ministry of Defence took over

[Shri Manvendra Singh]

Sainik schools to a greater degree than what it is today. I am sure this critical shortage of officers that we keep talking about could be overcome in the long run.

Sir, I want to leave two points with you and both are sort of a warning of an impending disaster that is facing us. The first one is concerning land and my colleague, Shri Shailendra Kumar, has mentioned some points. I would like to ask the hon. Minister of Defence that in 1947 when India became independent how much land area of the country was Ministry of Defence land and how much is it now. There has to be a rationalisation of land acquisition and land use by the Ministry of Defence. It should be unrestrained acquisition of land without any logic, without 21st century technology availability which is an unhealthy sign because that alienates people.

My second and last point is that it seems strange that when the world is going and heading towards joint operations, joint planning and joint doctrines, the Indian Defence structure retains its old pre-1947 structure, pre-1947 planning and pre-1947 thinking. We continue to exist as if Army's threat is an Army's threat and Navy's threat is Navy's threat. The future of operations is joint operations and joint structures have to be created. But I see no progress in that direction.

So, I would request your intervention and request the hon. Minister of Defence to pay a greater attention to that. That is an immediate requirement. It is not a future requirement, but it is a requirement of today.

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN (Palani) : Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of Defence for 2008-09.

First of all, I want to congratulate our hon. Ministers, Shri A.K. Antony and Shri M.M. Pallam Raju, They are taking personal keen interest upon the welfare of the Army men in this country who are rendering very valuable service for this nation.

Our Indian Army is the second largest army in terms of military personnel. It is a voluntary service.

Sir, in the 2008-09 Budget, the Ministry of finance has allocated Rs. 1,05,600 crore for Defence sector. It is ten per cent over the last year's allocation of Rs. 96,000 crore. If we compare with China and Pakistan it is lesser. Our Army is having strength of 1.3 million men and they are getting Rs. 36,270 crore.

The allocation for the Indian Air Force has increased by 4.6 per cent. The Navy has got a hike of Rs. 329 crore more. If we compare the Defence Outlay, this year's allocation is very high. During the year 2002-03, it was only Rs. 65,000 crore; in 2003-04, it was raised to Rs. 65,300 crore; in 2004-05, it was Rs. 77,000 crore; in 2005-06, it was Rs. 83,000 crore; in 2006-07, it was Rs. 89,000 crore and in 2007-08, it was Rs. 96,000 crore. In the current year, it is Rs. 1,05,600 crore.

In the same manner, the unspent money by the Defence Ministry for the past years is huge. It is alarming. Since 2002, the total amount unspent by the Defence Ministry is Rs. 22,517 crore. I want to mention the unspent and lapsed amount and give the particulars here. In the year 2002-03, it was Rs. 9,000 crore; in 2003-04, it was Rs. 5,000 crore; in 2005-06, it was Rs. 1,300 crore; in 2006-07, it was Rs. 3,000 crore. Hence, I would request the hon. Defence Ministers to look into this and spend the money at least for the welfare of our army men who are serving in the border areas. Even though we are allocating huge amount and spending more money, it does not reach the army men working in the border areas of this country.

I want to make certain points now. It is with respect to the leave facility of the army men. A few months back, there was an article published in a weekly magazine about HIV AIDS. I am sorry to state that about 50 young Indian army men, went to Mumbai. They were all taken to the Blood Donation Camp. They all gave blood. Out of the 50 persons, about 19 persons' blood was rejected because the blood was infected by HIV AIDS. This is the situation. The reason is that for two or three years, they are not

allowed to go on leave. They work continuously. So, at least, once in a year, leave has to be granted. They have to live with their family members.

I now come to another important thing. We select certain officers for the three Services. We are deputing them to foreign countries. In nearly four or five countries, they are working for the development of the Army. For example, in Tajikistan, our army officials are working there for the development of the Army in that country. Out of the four countries, in respect of the remaining three countries, the officials are permitted to take their wives and families. Tajikistan is an exception. The army officials working in Tajikistan have to spend their pocket money to take their wives and children. So, it has to be followed in a uniform manner.

Next, I come to Border Roads Organisation. On the 12th of this month, one of our members in the Border Roads Organisation by name Shri Govindasamy who was from Tamil Nadu, was killed in Afghanistan. Such cases are there. So, the Government of India, the Defence Ministry has to allocate more funds for the welfare of the family members of the army personnel.

I want to mention another important point. It is about NCC. To encourage NCC, it was established in the year 1948 under the NCC Act. The NCC's presence is extended to 607 districts covering 8514 schools and 5255 colleges.

... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude.

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN : I want five more minutes. It is a very important point about NCC.

MR. CHAIRMAN : There are many hon. Members to speak.

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN : Please give me two more minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I cannot agree with you. Please conclude.

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN : We are giving so many facilities for the students. The Defence Ministry is having the Short Service Commission. Under the NCC Special Entry Scheme, NCC cadets with the 'C' Certificate with 50 per cent marks are eligible to appear for the Short Service Commission. I would humbly request the hon. Defence Minister to direct all the State Governments to give job opportunities for the students having NCC Certificates.

The next thing is with respect to the Sixth Pay Commission. The recommendations of the Sixth Pay Commission are in no way helping the army men. They are working in the border areas. They are rendering a valuable service for this country. For example, out of the 1.1 million strong Indian Army, about 45,000 are only officials.

17.00 hrs.

The rest of them are the soldiers. As per the Pay Commission's recommendations, the soldiers will get only Rs. 1000 per month as military service pay. Officers will get Rs. 6000 per month. Those who are sitting in the air-conditioned rooms are getting Rs. 6000 and those who are dying for this nation are getting only Rs. 1000. It is a pathetic situation.

Our hon. Minister of Defence, Shri A.K. Antony, also took various steps in this regard, but this issue has not been resolved. With respect to allowance, the present officers are getting Rs. 7000 per month as Siachen allowance whereas a soldier gets Rs. 4667 per month. Under counter-insurgency allowance, an officer gets Rs. 3150 to Rs. 3900 per month while a soldier gets Rs. 1500 to Rs. 2700 per month. There is a big variation in disability and family pension also. Things have to be rectified. The money that we are having should be allocated for welfare of the soldiers, especially those working in the border areas and far-off places. These are my suggestions.

SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU (Rajapur) : When we were young we used to think that Defence

[Shri Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu]

expenditure as a part of the total Government expenditure is causing distortions in terms of development priorities of the country. We used to think that because a lot of money is getting diverted to Defence, enough money is not available for rural development, education and health care, etc. If you look at the figures now, the GDP is growing at a very fast rate – we have already crossed a trillion dollar mark – but the percentage of the Defence expenditure in the GDP is falling year after year. It has already fallen to less than 2 per cent now. Therefore, it is a matter of serious concern that all our borders are becoming very insecure. The threat perception is rising and the dimension of threat is changing. The seriousness of it is not being felt in terms of increasing the Defence expenditure that is required. Therefore, it is a very serious matter that on the one hand we realize that we have to have more people looking after Armed Forces and we realize that we need more equipment, but on the other hand, we are trying to lose a lot of it. The expenditure is not good enough to determine as to what extent we are actually investing in our Armed Forces. What is required is the quality of that expenditure. If I am incurring the expenditure for the betterment of the people or modernization, I can understand it. If I incur expenditure just to justify that I am incurring expenditure, it is not a good point to score. I would think, over a period of time, the Army will protect land; the Navy will protect sea and the Air Force will protect the air. But the threat perception is changing so dramatically that we really need to make sure not to confine ourselves just to these three limited areas, but we should go beyond it. Now, let me deal with Defence equipment. This is something which we should really be ashamed of.

17.03 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

All the time, we talk about India going to become a super power – only time will prove if we become a super power or not. But today we want to be super power. Who

is going to protect that super power status? All the imported equipments are going to protect us, that we are going to buy from all over the world! Can we become a super power with imported equipment to protect our Defence Forces? The most important thing is to note as to how we modernize our Defence factories, not because they can acquire just technical know-how, but how we can use that know-how – domestic as well as from outside – to make equipments in India. Rather than becoming a net importer of Defence equipment, we should become an exporter of Defence equipment. Today, we are using our limited Defence Budget to support the economies of other countries of the world. When we import Defence equipment, this is actually what we are doing. Every time, we see that a President or a Prime Minister of any country comes to visit India, he is always accompanied by companies which sell Defence equipment. Now-a-days, we see more of them coming to India. I, sometimes, wonder whether they are coming here as representatives of those countries or to help us strategically or to sell equipments. So, my request to hon. Defence Minister would be that we must make sure that modernization of Defence equipment takes place in a manner that we do not depend on imported equipment to actually maintain our borders.

Sir, in 1958, exactly 50 years ago, we created the DRDO. We are proud of their record in many ways. They have done a good job. But I think 50 years is not a short time. So, whatever learning curve was there, it is already completed. Now, I think, the DRDO should really try to compete with the best defence research organisations in the world in terms of research and development. We should benchmark them because whatever new equipment we are going to make and the new technologies that we are going to develop should be able to match with the best available in the world. Therefore, I would request the Defence Minister to create this Global benchmark related aspirations for the DRDO which should really be able to meet our future challenges in terms of domestic production and not just depend on imported equipment.

The other issue that is always plaguing the Defence Ministry is that all Defence Ministers are shy of buying equipment. If we do not buy, there is a problem of shortage of equipment and if we buy, it becomes a controversial issue. So, my request to the Defence Minister is that he should come out with a procedure which should facilitate early disposal of all these issues and at the same time we should be able to procure, but we should not be shrouded with secrecy and controversy.

The other important issue is the people themselves because the intake is falling dramatically and people are just leaving the Army. Even our Air Force pilots want to join Jet Airways and other private commercial airlines. My submission is that we must strengthen our catchment areas from where we get new recruits into the Armed Forces. The Sainik Schools and the NCC should really be modernised in such a way that these institutions are actually able to work as catchment institutions to get more people. Then, we must also sensitise our people. We must bring some sort of glamour to the Armed Forces so that people are attracted to join our Armed Forces. Today, the private sector is offering such incentives that it is impossible for the Army to compete with that. So, I would request the Defence Minister to use the mass media to bring in some glamour for the Armed Forces so that people are attracted to join the Armed Forces.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please conclude.

BHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU : Sir, I am the only speaker from my party. I have just started. So, please give me some more time.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The time of your party is over.

[English]

BHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU : Sir, please give me some more time.

When we talk about people leaving the Armed Forces, in the last few years we have seen a huge exodus of people from the Armed Forces. Therefore, we really need to make sure that we provide them with good incentives rather than keep on recruiting new people and training them only to lose them to the private sector. So, how to retain them is also a challenge for us which we should try to meet successfully.

There is a peculiarity in the Armed Forces that we like people to leave the Army so that young blood can come in and that is a very sensible thing. But when you want people to leave, it is the responsibility of the Armed Forces to give them enough training in a manner that they will acquire such skills which will help them to carry on with their lives outside the Armed Forces without wearing uniform. That is what we should really try to do.

Then, the morale of the Armed Forces is something which is an extremely important issue. I think we must make sure that we keep it at a high level. To do that, we must provide proper promotions and give rewards to them in a proper way. Whatever the Armed Forces have done for our country, we are proud of them, but if we give them proper promotions and incentives, they would be able to do a much better job. Then, we should not use our Armed Forces at random for controlling any civil disorders that take place in our country. They should be used only in exceptional circumstances.

I would like to make only two more points. The first one is about intelligence. I think we really need to strengthen our intelligence base of the Armed Forces in a very significant way. Now the dimension of the threat and the perception of it is changing so dramatically that the challenge before the Armed Forces is that they should get advance information. Before the others act, we should be able to know who is going to act so that we can act before them. So we really need to strengthen the intelligence set up of our Armed Forces. For that, we really need to bring in a lot of synergy between our various intelligence institutions. Therefore, we need more technology, but at

[Shri Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu]

the same time we also need more human capital to make this happen. I hope we do that.

My last point is about strategic thinking. I would like to submit to the Defence Minister that we need a strategic thinking on many issues. Now, I know, as often happens, Government necessarily is not the best place where the original ideas emanate anywhere in the world. It is because the Government, by definition, is busy in doing so many things. So, we must encourage formation of think-tanks in India, which should be supported by the Government and who offer them ideas, who will be actually a sounding board for some of the ideas that the Government will ask them to apply. I think, we should try to do this part and if it is done then I think, we will be able to really do a greater service to the Armed Forces.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I would like to request the hon. Members to please conclude their speeches within five minutes before I call next hon. Member to speak.

SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA (Hoshiarpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you have given me an opportunity to offer my suggestions and express my views on a very significant subject for which I would like to extend my gratitude to you. Already a lot has been said about it. It is fresh in my memory that a few days ago while replying to a question, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence, Shri Palkam Raju had stated in the Parliament that about fifteen thousand posts of officers were lying vacant in the Army. He had attributed various reasons to it, like better prospects of salary or more respects in private sector. Several such reasons were cited. There is also tough change in career performance in army and service conditions. Subsequently I had met the Minister and told him that perhaps the Government had ignored the natural feeding centers and natural feeding States and had concentrated on the recruitment done by the army. For

example, most personnel were recruited to army from Punjab always. Even in Punjab, most personnel were recruited to army from a part called Kandi in my parliamentary constituency. In my opinion, there is not even a single family in Kandi area which does not have at least one member serving in armed forces.

Sir, today that feeding station has been ignored. There have been various reasons behind this development. Earlier Punjab and Himachal Pradesh constituted a single State. Himachal Pradesh comes under hilly areas. On account of it being a hilly area the said State used to be given relaxation in this regard. When Punjab and Himachal Pradesh were separated, relaxation in this regard continued to be granted to Himachal Pradesh, but relaxation to Punjab has been withdrawn. For this purpose some certificates will have to be produced like the dogra certificate. Today situation in Punjab is such that father of a dogra who is in army do possess dogra certificate, but if his son wishes to join army, he does not possess such dogra certificate. This phenomenon has affected the recruitment in army to a great extent. Hence, through you, I would like to make a submission to the Minister that if given an opportunity all the posts lying vacant at present in the army can be filled in by recruiting persons from my constituency alone within a year. This is also a challenge which I am throwing before him.

Sir, the most disciplined force in the country is the army. They have to encounter many problems while they are serving in the army and even after retirement when they come to the Plain, their problems remain. The term 'ex-servicemen' is used only to denote the army men. Hence I would like to make a submission that if you want to bring discipline among all walks of life, if you want to bring discipline in every nook and corner of the whole country then compulsory army training for at least one year should be made mandatory to everybody.

If this happens, it will create a new environment in the country, people will be disciplined and the level of indiscipline will come down wherever it exists.

Sir, today a new trend of committing suicide by armed forces personnel has started. It is a matter of grave concern. A man went from home to guard the country but instead of facing bullets of the enemy, he kills himself. There are a number of reasons behind it. In my view if the problem is not solved by counselling, and hearing them personally, this tendency will continue to increase. Their job is very tough. They are living far away from their families. When they need leave to attend their domestic problems, they are not granted leave. Due to this they become mentally disturbed and get frustrated with their own life and despite their will to fight with the enemy till death, they end their own life by committing suicide. We must check this trend.

Sir, one most important issue which has not attracted the attention of the Government. A number of people who while protecting the country, are languishing in foreign jails as prisoners of war. But the Government are not willing to accept this fact, please talk to members of their families. You will find that their families are still worrying about their beloved ones, may be one's husband, son or friend who went to serve the country is in prison in another country. Government should take steps for the release of such prisoners.

Second thing raised is about modernization. I would submit that the Government have done a lot for all the three wings of the army, there are front line tanks, UAB missiles, new infantry weapons, steel warships and submarines but 136 multi role combat for Air Force is in waiting list. I also submit that there is a great need to pay attention on saving the trained pilots who are killed in day to day MIG crash.

Sir, Rs. 440 crore have been provided for 22 Sainik schools. As I have told you that there is no Sainik school in feeding stations of the army. There are 600-700 villages in my parliamentary constituency, where you can find persons from soldier to officer. But there is not even a single Sainik school here. Sir, in the event of opening a Sainik school in Ropar it will make up the scarcity of

manpower in the army and we can provide good education to their children. Education and health is the main concern for everybody and same is the concern of the Army Personnel.

We have set up a health center for the families of ex-servicemen or army personnel. But there is no hospital from Chandigarh to Jalandhar. A new Army hospital should be opened between Chandigarh and Jalandhar, so that ex-servicemen of the army could be benefited.

There is a provision of canteen for ex-servicemen. But these canteens are situated at far flung areas. So availing canteen facilities by people residing in remote or hilly areas is very difficult. Therefore, if we start mobile canteens, we can render canteen facilities to ex-servicemen. The matter of concern is that whenever a new Government comes to power it promises to give one rank one pension. I believe that this is a core issue of every army man. Whenever we talk to them, they say every Government promises one rank one pension but no Government has done it. During the session, when discussion on this issue was started, the Government made a commitment. At that time Mr. Pranab Mukherjee was the Defence Minister and a Committee was constituted under his Chairmanship. Then it was said that no Committee would be constituted further and we would give one rank one pension. But nothing has come out before the soldiers about one rank one pension so far. They are waiting. You will give them a lot. But their grievance is about one rank one pension only. I wish you could decide it at the earliest.

Sir, I would like to say one thing before I conclude. The matter regarding air base has come before us. These have been used for civilians. The Adampur air base, as there is no threat, is a very peaceful area and it has great potential. The Civil Aviation Ministry has given its approval but the Ministry of Defence is not acceding to it. I would request you that if the Adampur air base is allowed to be used by civilians after fulfilling your conditions the Government as well as the public can be benefited by it.

[Shri Avinash Rai Khanna]

At the end, I would like to say that the ex-servicemen are planning to organize a rally in the country against the Sixth Pay Commission on 26th April. Kindly stop that rally. If a disciplined forces sits on dharna, it would not be beneficial for the country. I would also request to take a decision on it before 26th April so that some solution to the problem can come out.

[English]

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID (Periyakulam) : Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am very much thankful to you for giving me this opportunity to speak on the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Defence for the year 2008-09.

The requirement is Rs. 96,000 crore where as in 2002-03 during NDA's regime it was only Rs. 56,000 crore. I am happy to note that the introduction of Defence Procurement Policy during 2006 has achieved success in procurement activities in a transparent manner; and further process to identify some schemes under MAKE category is underway. The Ministry of Defence, with the help of Integrated Defence Services, is also able to identify the areas at two levels, namely, micro level examination within the three Services and macro level identification of areas involving Defence Services where the wasteful expenditure could be avoided. It is hoped that no wasteful expenditure would be incurred on any account by the Government.

Introduction of Armed Forces Tribunal will definitely help to solve the cases in a shorter duration. In my opinion the Coast Guards should be given more incentives. Full protection should be given to their families and those families of Coast Guards, who are put up at a very long distance; they should be given shelter at a distance of nearly 20 to 25 kilometre near the coastal areas so that the Guards do not feel that they are away from their families, which would not lead them to go on leave for months together. The retired Defence personnel, war widows and war disabled should be rewarded more.

Those who are willing to serve should be given a chance and the State Governments should also take care of them by providing them jobs in Police, Vigilance and other Departments like VAO and Revenue, whichever deems fit to them.

Full medical facilities should be extended to the war widows and their families as also the retired personnel and their families.

The recommendations of the Sixth Pay Commission should be implemented immediately. In this regard, our hon. Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh has already told that the Sixth Pay Commission will be implemented immediately, for which I am very much thankful to him.

Sir, a number of Air Force pilots are leaving the Service and going to the private sector to get better salary. This should be stopped.

With regard to the educational facilities to the wards of Ex-Servicemen, I extend my sincere thanks to our Prime Minister for introducing Prime Minister's Merit Scholarship Scheme. This time, they are giving scholarship for 4000 children only. But my humble suggestion is that the total number of children and the amount should be increased. This scheme should be extended to more persons including children of the war widows' families and also the children of the retired personnel. Also, the NCC should be made compulsory to all, be it a boy or a girl in the schools.

I also welcome the efforts that are taken by the Ministry of Defence for creation of a Non-Lapsable Defence Modernization Fund, and the decision to obtain utilization certificate from State Governments with regard to the disbursement of money for rehabilitation. Creation of this head is very necessary as modernization will always be needed.

Respected Sir, Periyakulam, is my Parliamentary constituency in Tamil Nadu, and in Theni District, the number of persons employed in Defence and allied

services like Paramilitary Forces, like BSF, CISF and ITBP is quite appreciable. Theni District and Thirunelveli District of Tamil Nadu have given more military personnel. But it pains me to see that a large number of Defence Personnel from different parts of India, including these two Districts, are losing their lives in safeguarding our country and discharging their duties for the sake of their motherland. I visit their homes to share their sorrow and to console them. I always visit their homes to share their sorrows and to console them in these Districts. The Central Government and the Tamil Nadu Government are helping them. I am thankful to our hon. Chief Minister for giving help. But this is not adequate. My humble submission is that the family of the deceased should be taken care of in such a way that the burden of sorrow is reduced within a month by giving a job immediately to a member of the deceased family.

It is very heartening to note that the number of minorities is very less in the Defence Services compared to their population in the country. Since it is a disciplined service, more chances should be given to the minorities in Defence services and Paramilitary Forces.

They should not feel that they are neglected. It would send a right signal to the minorities since they are also part and parcel of the main stream.

Regarding Sainik schools, there are only 22 schools all over India. The number of schools should be increased.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Rest of your speech can be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID : I will conclude within two minutes.

[English]

Based upon the strength of the Defence employees, it would be more appropriate to open two or three

schools in each district of India, particularly in the Theni District of Tamil Nadu, there is a hill station called Meghamalai.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You lay your remaining speech, Mr. Minister will give reply.

[English]

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID : Sir, transfer of class-IV employees to distant places should be avoided. These employees are low-paid employees. Their transfer to other cities in the Northern part of India will definitely affect their families. A case has come to me. An Attendant has been transferred to the Northern part of India. Where will he go and live in the Northern part of India? He does not even know the language. It will affect their monetary capacity. Hence, this should please be avoided.

A small country like Israel is selling defence products all over the world. Our country is considered as one among the Super Powers. Our country is being master-mind in software, IT, and the world has acknowledged our technical and modern innovations. With the recent increase in the domestic deposit level in the banks and the foreign exchange level, we should embark upon an aggressive marketing strategy and enhance export of defence products so that we are able to meet a certain percentage of import of advanced defence products.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Thank you.

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID : I have got one more page. It is very important.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You can lay it on the Table of the House. I agree with you, you also agree with me and lay your speech.

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID : It is one-and-a-half page.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : That will go on record. Rest assured that will come on record.

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID : Thank you, Sir. I am laying rest of my speech.

***Problems faced by the Ex-Servicemen**

1. **Job Reservation** : Central Government, has reserved 10% in Group 'C and 20% in Group 'D' job's for Ex-Servicemen. But this percentage is not being adhered to in many cases of in the Public sector under takings, mainly because this scheme is not having any statutory backing. For. e.g. In the recent recruitment of village Administrative Officers (VAO), Drivers and conductors in Tamil Nadu there were no sufficient allotments to the Ex-Servicemen and their wards.

Even in the case of any opportunity to the Ex-Servicemen it becomes a dear reality and only the affordable people could get the benefits. Further in the case of recruitment by the private establishments it remains as an eye wash, in as much as the continuance of an Ex-Servicemen in a job is indirectly disturbed to replace with open market persons on lesser salary. Thus the private employers are pretending to follow the Government, orders on recruitment of Ex-Servicemen. Therefore, provision of jobs to Ex-Servicemen is a stalemate and needs a 'STATUTORY BACKING' for a meaningful implementation of this scheme. The Ex-Servicemen are not given any preference by the private establishments and treated on par with others. Even in Government jobs-seniority is not observed and only the affluent juniors grab the opportunity.

2. **Medical Attendance** : In case of medical facility to Ex-Servicemen living in remote and rural areas ESCHS authorizes some private hospitals. These hospitals are more than 50 kms. away and the ailing people are struggling to visit

such far away hospitals. These hospitals are to be re-imbursed the cost by the ESCHS to the such private hospitals. When this contribution is not regularly coming to the private hospitals, the Ex-Servicemen are denied treatment For e.g. The Apollo hospitals authorized by the ESCHS at Madurai is about 80 kms. away from my Periakulam constituency. The ailing Ex-Servicemen or his family have to return back without medical treatment after travelling 80 kms., as the Hospital is not re-imbursed the expenses in time. This sort of ordeal to the Ex-Servicemen who sacrificed for the Nation is really a matter for concern and the Government, should take action to mitigate the sufferings of the Ex-Servicemen living in the remote and rural areas by making arrangements to provide the medical facility within a reasonable distance (less than 50 kms.) of the residences of the Ex-Servicemen.

3. **Supply of liquor** : The Ex-Servicemen are entitled for 10 bottles and 6 bottles of liquor at a subsidized rates, for higher cadre and lower cadre respectively. When there was a demand from the family pensioners for similar supply, the quota meant for the lower cadre was cut by 2 bottles and issued to the family pensioners. This is felt as an injustice done to the lower cadres and demand for the restoration of 6 bottles supply system. Thus the Home and Defense department instead of making fresh quota to the family pensioners, has added fuel to the burning problems of the Ex-Servicemen. This simple issue requires immediate attention of the authorities of the Defense Department.
4. **Family Pension** : In civilian service the family pension is automatically paid to the family of the deceased pensioner. Where as in the case of Ex-Servicemen, the family has to undergo various official processes and procedures and has to spend years before getting their family

* This part of the Speech was laid on the Table.

pensions after experiencing undue hardship. Therefore, it is requested to simplify and make easy the Rules governing the family pension to the Ex-Servicemen.

5. **Free Land :** Allotment of 5 Acres of land earmarked for Ex-Servicemen free of cost is not being implemented in its entirety in Tamil Nadu whereas the Ex-Servicemen in other States are enjoying this Government benefits with out any problem. This scheme is provided under defense rules and accepted by the Government of India.*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, I request Prof. Ramadass. You please take only four to five minutes.

PROF. M. RAMADASS (Pondicherry) : Sir, I am the only speaker from my Party.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Even otherwise, your Party has been given two minutes.

PROF. M. RAMADASS : Then, I will not speak. It is such a vast subject that I do not have the ability to suppress all my ideas in two minutes.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You can speak for four or five minutes.

PROF. M. RAMADASS : I am not a great person like you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please continue.

PROF. M. RAMADASS : I do not know why it happens. Every time I rise to speak, this is happening.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Your party has very little time, I am helpless.

PROF. M. RAMADASS : Then, better I will not speak.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please continue. I will see.

You please continue.

PROF. M. RAMADASS : Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence for the year 2008-09.

I understand that there are six Demands, namely Demand No. 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 and 26 for which an amount of Rs. 1,05,600 crore will be spent. This quantum jump represents an increase of 10 per cent against the budgeted estimates of 2007-08, and 14.16 per cent against the Revised Estimates of 2007-08. Defence expenditure, this year, would constitute about 14 per cent of the total expenditure and it would account for 1.99 per cent of the GDP of this country.

Now, one remarkable feature of this Budget is that about 47 per cent of the total Defence expenditure will be on capital outlays or capital expenditure. It would be about Rs. 48,000 crore that will be spent on the capital expenditure. In 2000-01, this capital expenditure was only Rs. 12,000 crore. But this year we will be spending about Rs. 48,000 crore, which represents four-fold increase in capital expenditure. This shows the earnestness of this UPA Government to equip the country with latest and modern sophisticated weapons for which this capital expenditure is required. This Government is showing all sincerity in equipping the country with modern equipment.

17.29 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

The Defence Forces in this country are playing a vital role in providing security to the nation, providing protection to the smoother economic development in the country, protecting our borders and protecting our lines of communication. They are helping us to combat terrorism, militancy and also Naxalism in various parts of the country.

The handiwork of China in Tibet as well as in Arunachal Pradesh also calls for vigilance. Therefore, all these strategic concerns require lot of expenditure. Therefore, we support the demand for Rs. 1,05,600 crore required by the Ministry of Defence. Of course, there is a

[Prof. M. Ramadass]

section of the society which feels that this amount of expenditure may not be adequate in view of the defence preparedness that is required for the country. There may be an element of truth in this statement. But, however, we have to feel that out of the resources available for other purposes, for economic development, we are giving so much of money for the defence purposes. Therefore, we should be able to utilise this amount to achieve optimal benefit for the country's development and security.

While supporting the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence, I would also like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to some of the essential points that are required. Maybe, because in the past years we have not been able to utilise the total amount that has been given for the Defence Budget, that this Budget has not been increased. For example, during the Tenth Five-Year Plan, out of the total expenditure given, about Rs. 60,474 crore which represents 14.46 per cent of the total budgetary outlay has not been spent sufficiently. In the last year 2007-2008, about Rs. 5,000 crore have not been spent. Therefore, we should have a proper planning process of spending the money on the capital expenditure and thereby we are able to optimise. Also, we should be able to know the ways and means of curbing wasteful expenditure in the Defence Forces so that all the money that has been saved can be used profitably for modernisation of resources.

Sir, today the country needs to have a greater capability through sophisticated equipment. Now a question is raised whether India should be self-reliant in the defence production. Naturally, we have to be, because we cannot depend on the import substitution of these equipments for the simple reason that our import bill will go up. Secondly, in case of ourselves producing these goods and services, the amount of money that we are going to spend will circulate within the economy and we will be able to provide employment opportunities and also produce those equipments which are required for the country.

MR. SPEAKER : Please conclude.

PROF. M. RAMADASS : Therefore, self-sufficiency in defence production should be a priority area for the Government. For this purpose we have to develop our research capabilities. We say that the country has the third largest reservoir of technical and scientific manpower. We do not know why we should not be able to produce this. If money is a constraint, we can even go in for increasing the foreign direct investment in defence sector. At present 26 per cent cap is there. We can raise it to 49 per cent so that we get both investment resources as well as the technology resources.

Sir, there is a deficiency of officers in the Armed Forces. About 24 per cent is the shortage and this must be filled up by various methods that the Government has already done. The Government also should come out with an outcome budget. Although the outcome budget is exempted for the Ministry of Defence, since we are going to spend more than Rs. one lakh crore we should be able to find ways and means of preparing this outcome Budget and make all the operations of the defence forces transparent to the people. We should upgrade the training curriculum and give more orientation towards the service quality in the education rather than the academic orientation.

There is an unrest among the Armed Forces with respect to the recommendations of the Sixth Pay Commission and this unrest must be addressed by the hon. Minister. Welfare of ex-servicemen should also be taken into account. It is heartening to note that the hon. Minister of Finance is going to employ about one to two lakh of ex-servicemen in the banking sector for financial inclusion activities. Likewise, we should be able to permit the lateral entry of ex-servicemen in the paramilitary forces so that it can be a source of employment.

The educational facilities to the wards of ex-servicemen must be taken care of. In order to provide scholarship to them, the Ministry itself should create a fund

through which it should be able to provide the educational facilities to them. Five per cent of the seats in the educational institutions should be earmarked for the children of the ex-servicemen.

In each and every State there should be a Sainik School so that they will be able to provide the leadership for the defence of the country.

I would raise two important local issues here. The fishermen in Tamil Nadu venture into the sea and they go unmindfully into the hands of the Sri Lankan borders where they are caught and they are captured by the Sri Lankan Army and Navy.

There are lot of hardships which are being faced by them and there are frequent incidents of such kind. I would request the hon. Minister of Defence that the coastal security in the Indo-Sri Lankan border must be strengthened and our fishermen must be guarded against falling in the hands of the Sri Lankan forces. We had given Kutchatheevu in the larger interest and this has to be retrieved now. The time has come when we have to retrieve it in the interest of the livelihood of the fishermen there.

In Sri Lanka, today we find that a large number of atrocities are being committed against the Tamils. We should be able to protect them. Under no circumstance, the Government of India should supply any equipment to the Government of Sri Lanka which would be used in the offensive against Sri Lankan Tamils. They are our own people and we should be able to protect them. The Ministry of Defence should not be a party to any such thing being done against them.

Finally, more than defending the country, we should be able to bring about a harmonious relationship with all our neighbours because the harmonious relationship is the surest way of defending the country rather than depending on our equipment. Our peace process with all the neighbouring countries is an imperative need and towards that end, the Ministry of Defence should work.

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, we have exhausted the time allotted for discussion. I have got six more names. If each hon. Member takes three minutes, I can accommodate. Otherwise, I will call the hon. Minister.

[Translation]

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA (Jalaun) : Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to take part in the debate being held on the Demands for grants of the Ministry of Defence.

Sir, Ministry of Defence is an important Ministry of our country. We know it well that our nation will definitely gain in strength if the army, farmers and scientists are active on their respective fronts. A great diplomat of our country Chanakya has said that we wish to live with peace, we must always be prepared for a war. Only those countries that are ready for war can live with peace. We see that none other than our soldiers bear this responsibility on their shoulders. Military personnel are not at all happy with the recommendations of the Sixth Central Pay Commission and as Khannaji has just said, they are going to launch a nation wide protest on 26th April. The Government should certainly be concerned so that they do not launch a movement. Those who sacrifice their lives for the country and stay along the borders round the clock to face bullets must receive such wages that may enable them meet their family expenses. When an army personnel comes back home on retirement after serving for seventeen years he does not get sufficient pension to run his family. The Central Government should must be concerned for it. They should be absorbed in services against vacancies in both private and public sectors, wherever applicable. In case of not being absorbed they stay idle and inactive as is witnessed in the rural areas. There is a Madhogadh assembly constituency in my Parliamentary constituency of Jalaun. Thousands of people are working in the army from there. I have personally witnessed when these army personnel return home after retirement they either sit idle at home or engage themselves in cultivation. An instruction should be

[Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma]

issued to the State Governments to issue arms licenses to the army personnel after their returning home after retirement. They will thus easily find jobs of guards etc. and will be able to receive a handsome salary.

There is a sainik school for the wards and children of Military personnel in my constituency. The responsibility of taking care of these schools rests with the State Government. I would like the Central Government to take up expenditure etc. in respect of these sainik schools within its own control. Moreover, the Central Government should set up a sainik school every year in some or the other State. If these schools are set up everywhere, wards and children of the defence personnel will find it convenient to get themselves admitted into such schools and thus they will have an easy access to quality education.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You have raised very good points, but I am sorry that I am asking you to conclude as there is no time left.

[Translation]

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA : In NCC, training is imparted to the students from Higher Secondary to B.A. level. Students having 'C' certificate should immediately be inducted into defence forces. We have witnessed that a large number of students having 'C' certificate stay back jobless at home. Which is why the students having 'C' certificate should be recruited in the army on priority basis.

MR. SPEAKER : You have made advanced good suggestions – but time is short. So, please conclude in brief.

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA : There is a cantonment area in Jhansi under my constituency. As things stand today land is being sold by private people

in that area – while land in those areas can be sold only after approval of the competent authority. Therefore, please look into it and take steps to cancel the registration of those land in that areas which has been done unlawfully. I have already taken up the matter with hon'ble Minister, so it is incumbent upon you to look into the state of affairs, identify false registrations and take steps for their cancellation.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I would like to compliment you for your speech as you have made very good suggestions. But I am sorry that I could not give you more time to speak. Perhaps, it could be done next time.

The next speaker is Dr. Karan Singh Yadav. Please try to conclude within four minutes.

[Translation]

DR. KARAN SINGH YADAV (Alwar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would submit the facts point-wise only. We are debating the demands for grants of the Ministry in respect of the military personnel. Our soldiers work in the other sectors as well, besides defence. Be it terrorist activities or whether somebody is drowning in sea or some prince is to be rescued out of a hole, the services of army is always sought. There prevails such situation in the country today that nobody is willing to join even the post of an officer rank against the vacancies lying vacant there. Earlier, people would readily join defence services. As on today more than 11,000 posts of officers are lying vacant in the army. It calls for a serious thinking as to what to do to attract the youths of the country to join the Army. So many Committees have already been put in place and there has been a number of meetings in this regard. I told that wherever this issue is forwarded to Bureaucracy or to the officers belonging to civil services, they happen to equate both Army and Civil officials. They think, in case more benefits are given to the defence personnel, and more corpus given to their pension funds, the civil service employees will also raise similar demands for similar

facilities somewhere down the line. To my mind, they will have to be bi-furcated and their issues will have to be considered afresh. As per earlier recommendations only middle level army officers were allowed to take IAS, IPS exams.

[English]

Today, the Department of Personnel and Training does not allow them to appear in IAS and IPS examinations. They do not have access to get into other lateral positions in various Government services and other areas. Those things need to be taken care of.

The other thing that I want to mention is about 'One Rank, One Pension'. This demand has been made time and again by the people. This has been mentioned in the Common Minimum Programme also. On the 26th of this month, a large number of ex-Army people are going to demonstrate all over the country and also at the India Gate. I think it is time that something concrete is done about it. Few measures were taken at the lower level, that is, Sepoy and Havaldar, and the officers are a bit comfortable, but the middle-ranking officers in the Army, the non-commissioned officers have not got that benefit. I think this needs to be taken care of.

In the pre-independence era, the Army units were named as Jat Regiment, Sikh Regiment, Gorkha Regiment, Maratha Regiment, Gujjar Regiment, Dogra Regiment and what not. The Ahirs were a valiant community; they have always been in the forefront in the Army positions. Rao Tularam, the warrior from Haryana was one who fought against the Britishers. Probably, during those times, the Britishers raised all community regiments, but did not allow an Ahir Regiment to be raised. I know that it might be difficult at this time to raise a regiment in the name of the community, but it can always be raised in the name of the area. We have this region known as 'Ahirwal' area which falls partly in Rajasthan and partly in Haryana. Hence, either an Ahir Regiment or an Ahirwal Regiment should be raised in the Army.

I would also like to make a request that the Armed Forces Medical Corps needs to be strengthened up. We have one of the best establishments in the form of Armed Forces Medical College in Pune; we have a very good establishment of Research and Referral Hospitals in the Cantonment areas. There are good super-specialty doctors, good neurologists, and good respiratory physicians. Hon. Speaker, Sir, you have access to the treatment in Army's RR Hospitals and you know how good they are. It is these hospitals which need to be strengthened. In fact, Delhi needs an Armed Forces Medical College very much. In fact, we have just one College in Pune. I think, a proposal is pending somewhere. It is time that we think about it and create another good institution like that. Pune Medical College is a great institution and if a similar institution can be established here in Delhi or in some part of North India, it will be good. If land is a problem, my own constituency, Alwar is very close-by, nearby. There is a big Army establishment, and there is plenty of land available. The hon. Minister could consider establishing it in that area.

I come from an area which has a large number of serving Army people, and there are also a large number of martyrs of China War or Pakistan War; and also more than two dozens martyrs of Kargil War. I think, in my area, we need one or two ECHS dispensaries. That is my personal request. We have a hospital in Alwar which is an Army hospital. It needs to be strengthened; the building needs to be renovated; and more specialists need to be engaged in the Alwar Army Hospital.

MR. SPEAKER : Your area and my area.

DR. KARAN SINGH YADAV : You have a certain scheme through which you do educational work for the dependents of the Army people. In my area, there is a constituency called 'Behrod' where the sons and daughters of a large number of Army personnel are studying. If you have a provision, I would request you for the construction of a Girls' Hostel in Behrod Sub-Division where a large number of girl students are studying. The

[Dr. Karan Singh Yadav]

daughters of working Army personnel cannot go and live at far off places. If there is a provision, and I know that there is some Budget allocation for such a thing, then money should be allocated for that purpose.

With these few words, I thank you, hon. Speaker, Sir, for giving me the time.

MR. SPEAKER : Well, I can vouch for the excellence of the Army Hospital; I agree with you.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR (Vadodara) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak. Defence Forces are the glory of any country. The officers and soldiers of Airforce, Navy and Army are the pride of the nation. This year rupees one lac five thousand six hundred crore have been allocated for the defence budget, which is two per cent of our GDP, whereas the allocation for defence in our neighbouring countries Pakistan and China is five and seven per cent respectively. We should also assert and pay attention towards it and I would like to appeal to the Government that we should also think about the armed forces personnel who are serving the country and provide more facilities to make them stronger.

The Sixth Pay Commission has made some surprising recommendations and officers and soldier of defence forces who are serving the country are unhappy with recommendations of Pay Commission. Government must pay attention to that why the people who are disciplined and doing exemplary service are not happy, Armed forces personnel, who never complain and never speak without reason expressed their unhappiness on the recommendations of the Sixth Pay Commission. Attention should be paid to address their grievances since we have already failed in making these services more attractive. Now a days youngster are drawing very attractive salaries and respect in it sector, but the people serving the country

in all difficult and adverse situations are not being offered respectable salary. Government must pay attention to it and find out some solution.

My third point is regarding ordinance factories as a suggestion. I would like to say that if we want to walk along the rest of the world we must give greater autonomy and flexibility to ordinance factories in their functions. In this way we can become self-reliant and strengthen India. There is a need to strengthen the ordinance factories for making them vibrant and efficient by conferring upon them the status of a company or a joint venture.

In our armed forces people retire very young, this is recommended in view of their work load, however, we can employ them in paramilitary forces border security, and in many States facing terrorism and extremism. I do not want to go in detailed figures but we can employ only limited number of retired personnel in such services. Government should consider about it and frame such rules for accommodating retired personnel so that they may do something for themselves. Today they are running from pillar to post after retirement. And they put their energy in road toll plaza . Somewhere or other places, States which are along the border face problems. Allocation for coast guard is decreasing. It should be increased and we should pay attention for the security of our borders by increasing their resources provided to a force.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I am sorry for not being able to give more time, Shrimati Jayaben B. Thakkar.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Lal Singhji you will be given four minutes. Please be brief and talk to the point.

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH (Udhampur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise in support of Demands for Grants in respect of the Ministry of Defence with your permission. The army is the pride of our country. The armed forces have

sacrificed their lives for decades and they have never thought about their families while on duty. They have always sacrificed their lives for the sake of the country. So, it is very necessary to pay attention to their benefits. Especially, the matter regarding one rank-one pension is lying pending for a long time. We have not been able to settle it till now. It is required to pay special attention to this matter. As you are aware that people belonging to 'Dogra' community of our area have sacrificed their lives greatly for the country. The army has increased the frontiers of our country resulting in our borders upto Tibet and Khurd. Our brave soldiers have fought big battles. Consequently, the borders have been created some of our integral parts have gone in possession of Pakistan and China. It has been stated that the majority of such and such people is low or high in these parts. Even the religion has been involved in this regard. We should look forward to the priorities of the country. People join army in order to serve the Nation. Why are the posts of officers in army lying vacant? Today, the zeal to sacrifice lives for the country is diminishing because money is involved in it. I would like to quote a small example from the period of rule under Maharaja Gulab Singh. When the battle was going on, General Bhoop Singh was leading the army. In those days, Maharaja himself used to give war uniform to the General and it had not been provided to the General for a long time. He was fighting the battle. The war uniform of the General torn completely and on seeing his condition, Maharaja felt sorry. He showed him his sword which had no rusts and his shield which had no marks on it. Maharaja became happy and told him to take home some of the wealth he had accumulated. He replied that he just could not think of doing so since the country, the State and the Kingdoms needed good weapons and horses at that time. So, he did not require anything. He needed sugar, gur and grams on his way back to this place. The question is related to rousing the spirit of patriotism but now a days, it is fast deteriorating. Earlier, there was a three per cent quota for hilly areas, whether the people belonged to Garhwali, Dogra or other

communities. The question of caste does not arise in this regard. The garhwal rifles and these dogra people had raised their voices against the, British for the first time. So, the three per cent reservation in respect of these people should be restored. The height for recruitment in army was five feet four inches for these people. They used to get relaxation in rules in this regard. The height of Gorkha people was measured in 'Pinny'. Now, these are the things of the past.

A number of people belonging to the three districts of Kathua, Samba and Jammu in our area serve in the Army.

18.00 hrs.

The State made a legislation to this effect that the people belonging to these three districts should have the minimum qualification of matriculation for recruitment as constable whereas for other districts this qualification was VIII class pass for recruitment to the same post. This is the case when maximum Army personnel belong to these three districts. I would like to say that proper care should be taken at the time of making the legislation and the interests of the people belonging to a particular area should not be ignored.

At last, my submission is that our area has borders and that maximum people have been left out due to the ditch made over here and compensation of land fixed here. Meanwhile, the construction of a bridge has been sanctioned here. It is a very big bridge which will link the area with Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and Vasauli, Bambhadwakisthwar. I would like to tell the Hon'ble Minister that this prestigious road is required to be constructed keeping in view the security aspect.

The Kisthwar cantonment is to be established here. The people have handed over 98 per cent of total land. So, I intend to say that it should be constructed here and inaugurated at the earliest.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : It is 6.00 o'clock now. The House will continue until the business for the day is over.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Rijju, the time allotted to your party is over.

[English]

Since you come from North-East, I would give you four minutes to speak.

SHRI KIREN RIJJU (Arunachal West) : I would wish to speak for 15 minutes but it is not possible now.

MR. SPEAKER : Your name is last in the list of speaker from your Party. What can I do?

SHRI KIREN RIJJU : First of all, I rise here to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence. I would like to make a few suggestions.

Any Defence establishment is based on its infrastructural capability. If we really look at the infrastructure in the border areas, it is in a very-very pathetic condition. When the hon. Defence Minister visited the border areas facilities were created for him but when he went back those facilities do not remain with the jawans. You should ensure that the facilities that you see during your visit remain throughout the year, particularly during the winter season when there is heavy snow fall. Our Himalayan region, right from Siachin to Arunachal Pradesh is full of high mountains, less oxygen and heavy snow fall.

I must compliment and put it on record that the Minister of State of the Ministry of Defence Shri Pallam Raju, who is looking after BRO, is a very effective Minister. He interacted with the local leaders, with me, with people there very encouragingly. After his visit there was a lot of encouragement and the work also picked up. Last week only I visited those areas and complimented the BRO officers of VERTAK and BRTF 14,44,756. They have done a commendable job. I am sorry I cannot now compliment

the hon. Defence Minister because he has not yet invited me or not yet has shown me the results. Maybe, in future I will compliment him.

Shri Jaswant Singh Rawat, who was killed in 1962 war, was given Mahavir Chakra. I would request the Ministry to review this and give him the highest gallantry award, the Param Veer Chakra because if you see the role he had played during the war, you will say that he deserves to get the Param Veer Chakra. I wish to put this on record.

My State, Arunachal Pradesh does not have even one Sainik School. Sainik School is an important institution where we produce the future leaders of Indian Army. I would request the hon. Minister to immediately sanction a Sainik School in my State.

Finally, I would like to invite all the hon. Members of this House to the border areas. Please visit the border areas. Once you are there in the border areas you will understand what nationalism is. You do not see nationalism in a city like Delhi. When you go to the border areas and interact with the Army people, you know what nationalism is. You felt nationalism only at the time of Kargil.

MR. SPEAKER : You mean patriotism!

SHRI KIREN RIJJU : Yes, nationalism and patriotism both. You will get the sense of nationalism and patriotism only when you visit and see the condition of our armed people, including the people living in the border areas.

Finally, there should be civil-military cooperation. It is very important. At times, there are conflicts between them. I have seen some incidents in my State also. The military and the civil people were at conflict and even the local people were involved. The civil-military cooperation must be given a lot of importance and it must be given a new dimension. I know military people organise AIDS camps, medicinal camps, health *melas* and all these things need to be enhanced further so that the Indian Army continues to win the hearts of the people, particularly the people of the border areas.

With these words, I support the Demands for Grants for this Ministry.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all, I would like to express my thanks on behalf of the Armed Forces and also our scientists and those civilians who are working in the various defence establishments. The all round and unanimous support extended by this House for the cause of our Defence as well as for the welfare of those people who are working in the various wings of Defence would give them encouragement. Pay and equipment are all important but for the Armed Forces and scientists, I feel more than anything else, the support of the people and the countrymen gives more encouragement and increases the morale. That support is reflected in the unanimous support and appreciation extended by all the Members of this august House.

MR. SPEAKER : The Chair also joins wholeheartedly.

SHRI A.K. ANTONY : The Chair is always supportive of Armed Forces.

This year the allocation for Defence is Rs. 1,05,600 crore. I also feel in the emerging scenario this amount may not be enough but considering the present day availability of funds, the Government has given a reasonable amount for the Defence. The Finance Minister declared in the House itself that if a need arises, he will provide more funds for the Armed Forces.

The Defence includes our Armed Forces and their equipment but, they are not alone. Various Defence PSUs and ordnance factories are also part of Defence. Along with that, our scientists and medical services are also part of Defence. Apart from this official force, the territorial army and NCC are our reserve forces at times of crisis. According to us, they are also part of Defence. Even though, now the ex-servicemen are not officially part of Defence but at times we may need them in future. So, we cannot ignore the aspirations of ex-servicemen also.

All the speakers have unanimously expressed their support for the welfare of our Armed Forces and especially there is an all round concern about the recent recommendations of the Pay Commission.

Sir, luckily, before this discussion started, outside Parliament House, our hon. Prime Minister himself expressed his concern and sympathy to the Armed Forces and he also declared that Government will do its best to give a fair deal to the Armed Forces. Considering the work of other Services in the Government, the Army needs special attention. Out of 11,00,000 Army personnel, about 9,00,000 are persons below the rank of officers (PBOR). They are retiring after 17 years of service. They are not retiring after 30 years of service voluntarily, but after 17 years they are compulsorily made to retire from Service and this is because of our own stipulations. After 17 years means, these people are retiring at the age of 35 years, or 38 years or maximum at the age of 40 years. Their plight is miserable. The PBORs, the Army people and scientists and PSU people, everybody needs more support from all of us. Luckily, today, all of you, without any reservation stated your support for them. I am sure, the Committee appointed by the Government under the Cabinet Secretary will look into the anomalies of the Pay Commission. They will give a serious thought to the opinion expressed by the Members in the House.

Sir, before I react to some of the suggestions and criticisms of the hon. Members, I would like to mention a few salient features in the Ministry of Defence. All of you have expressed your concern about the Sixth Pay Commission and the Government also has expressed their willingness to find a solution to the anomalies. That is a commitment by all of us. I would like to inform the House that the present Government has always tried to take care of the welfare of our Armed Forces. After the UPA Government took over, we took many decisions that will improve the living conditions and service conditions of the Armed Forces. After our Government took over we took a decision that all officers including those in the Short Service Commission are now eligible to hold substantive

[Shri A.K. Antony]

rank of Captain, Major and Lieutenant Colonel after 2 years, 6 years and 13 years of reckonable service respectively. Government also has issued orders to make the tenure of the Short Service Commission officers extendable to 14 years. A total number of 750 posts of Lieutenant Colonel have been upgraded to Colonel.

Sir, the Parliament passed the Tribunal Bill in the last Session. After about 22 years of anxiety we have been able to draft a somewhat reasonable Bill and I am glad to say that within the next few months we will be able to operationalise the provisions as contained in the Armed Forces Tribunal Act. A number of cases in the High Courts and the Supreme Court are increasing. Nearly, 14,000 cases are pending in the courts. Once the Tribunals are operationalised, I am sure there will be a solution to these pending cases and also in future, the Armed Forces will be able to get redressal of their grievances at the earliest in a fair manner.

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not allow too many lawyers there.

SHRI A.K. ANTONY : This Lok Sabha passed the Cantonment Board Bill. This has become an Act now. For the first time, majority of the members of the Boards would be elected and also people belonging to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities and women also are going to get reservation. Elections to these Boards are going to take place next month. In 59 cantonments we are going to have elections.

We have also enhanced the high altitude allowance for all those Army jawans serving in Siachen, Nathu La and other difficult areas as hon Members have suggested. We have changed the leave policy of the Service personnel. Now the Army people can get leave thrice a year. Earlier, it was only twice a year.

We have one more additional free railway warrant to the Army men working in the border areas and other

distant areas. A chartered flight is provided for movement of troops in selected routes in J and K and North-East. And 50 new passenger reservation centres has been newly given with the help of my hon. colleague, the Railway Minister. The number of seats reserved for the Defence personnel is increased in 20 fast moving trains and the major decision is, restriction of 1450 kilometres for availing all-India LTC is removed. These are minor things but these are all long pending demands for the Service personnel who are working in far-flung areas. It is not only with the Pay Commission but from the beginning, this Government is trying to improve the living and service conditions of the Armed Forces.

We have also decided to construct nearly two lakh residential quarters for the Armed Forces in a four-phased manner. The first phase is almost completed. In 2009, the first phase will be over. Planning for the second phase has already been started. Within five or ten years, we will be able to give two lakh more quarters to the Armed Forces. That will help them to a certain extent to find a solution to family problems.

As regards one-rank-one-pension scheme, it is not accepted by any Pay Commission. But our Government, last time, improved the pension benefit to some extent and I am sure the Committee, under the Cabinet Secretary, will try to find a more fair solution to the pension problem.

Regarding air safety, in the past, accidents had been a common thing. In the last few years, because of the consistent effort of the Air Force, accident rate has come down substantially. In 2004-05, 17 accidents took place and now, it has come down to nine. So, there is substantial reduction in the rate of accidents. The serviceability of aircraft has increased. Now, it is 70 to 80 per cent. A few years back, it was 50 per cent only. So, improvement is there in these areas in the Air Force.

Many hon. Members were expressing anxiety about the depleting force level in the Air Force. I am glad to inform the House that Government took certain important

decisions. One decision is to have another addition of 140 Sukhoi aircraft to the Indian Air Force. Now, already we have issued RFPs for 126 multi-role combat aircraft. We have already entered into inter-Governmental agreement with Russia for the production of the fifth generation aircraft.

SHRI K.S. RAO : Is it in India?

SHRI A.K. ANTONY : It is 50 per cent in India and 50 per cent there. So, as far production and procurement are concerned, instead of decline in the Force level, I am sure, within a few years, we will be able to restore the force level of the Air Force. In the Army also, wherever possible, we are trying to produce items in our country. Otherwise, whenever Army wants, we are importing. There is no alternative.

For the Navy also, through our own PSUs and through Indian defence industries, we are trying to give them most modern equipment. But our shipyards are not modernised. So, we have to still depend on foreign suppliers. So, modernisation of the Army, the Navy and the Air Force is one of the top most priorities for the present Government. This year's allocation for modernisation is the highest one for the Armed Forces. We have provided Rs. 37,482 crore for the modernisation of the Armed Forces. So, this Government is giving top most priority for the modernisation of Armed Forces.

For modernisation, the main instrument is our own defence PSUs. I can inform the House with pride that all our eight defence PSUs are running on profit. Out of those, two defence PSUs, HAL and BEL, are Navratna Companies. Out of 39 ordnance factories, most of them are running on profit. So, we have a sound defence production sector in India.

Many hon. Members were voicing their concerns about indigenisation. Indigenisation can come through only if we have a strong industrial base in our country. One of the bases is our defence PSUs. The other is the ordnance factories. Along with that, we are now allowing private

sector participation in the defence sector. Participation of the private sector means, 100 per cent participation of the Indian private sector. Along with that, FDI is also allowed in the defence sector. The FDI is not to the extent of 49 per cent, but to the extent of 26 per cent only.

If our defence industries want to improve their efficiency, they need strong R and D support. The DRDO is the main organisation which is providing that R and D. Our first Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru was the founder of the DRDO. It is the fiftieth year of the inception of the DRDO. There may be some failures here and there. But the DRDO, over the years has produced many world class equipment. It has given technology to our defence PSUs, ordnance factories and private sector also to produce many world class defence equipment. Recently, in several areas the DRDO is showing special capabilities, especially in the area of missiles. In the last six months, one by one, it has shown only success stories.

Agni III Missile is the latest one. It was successfully launched on 12th April, 2007. It was a breakthrough for India. As regards Akash Missiles, earlier the Air Force was sceptical about this Missile. But now the Air Force has accepted it. They say that it is 100 per cent success. The Air Force has now agreed to induct two squadrons of Akash Missiles in the Air Force. Similarly, Astra Missile is also a success story. Brahmos Missiles are in great demand not only in India but also in other countries. But we are selective because it is a joint venture with Russia. Only with the consent of both countries, we can export it. Brahmos is ready for induction for Army and Navy. In the missile area, it has produced a lot of success. In many other areas also it is successful. Especially in the electronic warfare the DRDO is showing success.

Then I come to unmanned UAVs. Our own production units are producing world class UAVs which are acceptable in the Army or Navy. Now, they are producing them. In certain sectors there is some delay. Many of my colleagues have mentioned about LCA. I can tell you that we are not going to abandon the LCA project. LCA project

[Shri A.K. Antony]

is now successful, but with the present engine beyond a certain altitude we cannot fly. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri) : We have not completed the project since last 18 years. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI A.K. ANTONY : It is not 18 years; it is more than that. It started in 1974. Now we are nearing a breakthrough. In 2012, we hope that we will be able to start the production. But for higher altitude, we need high quality of engine. Our Kaveri engine is still not a reality. So far we are trying to have a joint venture with some foreign collaboration. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : What about Cauvery?

SHRI A.K. ANTONY : Cauvery is not yet succeeded. You are right. That is why for Cauvery, we are now trying for a joint venture with some foreign collaborations.

What I am telling is that our Armed Forces are now ready. We are trying to give them better equipment and for that, mainly we are dependent still on our own Defence PSUs, our own Ordnance Factories. But of late, during the last few years, the Government is now involving private sector also, mainly the Indian private sector and foreigners only upto 26 per cent. For the success of these PSUs and also Indian private industries, we need scientific support. We are successfully extending that scientific support in many areas to PSUs as well as to our Indian private sector.

Some of the hon. Members have raised general issues. I will react to them first and then I will cover some of the individual issues.

My colleague brought the point about the sad incident of killing of two BRO persons in Afghanistan. The Government took immediate action to bring their bodies and already we have given some temporary relief. As far

as all other benefits that are due to them are concerned, the Government, at the earliest, will give all those benefits. So, there is no worry at all on this aspect.

Many hon. colleagues have expressed their views about CDS. Actually, when my senior colleague, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, was the hon. Minister of Defence, he also consulted various political parties. Till now we are awaiting the response of the most of the political parties. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Is it on CDS? What is it?

SHRI A.K. ANTONY : It is Chief of Defence Staff. So unless there is some kind of consciousness, the Government do not want to proceed on that. That is why it is still delayed.

Some of the colleagues have raised the question of INS Jalashwa. The allegation was it is an abandoned ship and without any verification we have purchased it. That is not correct and it is unfair. This was purchased on the basis of a report of an inspection team led by one of our Vice-Chiefs of our Naval Staff who went there. The delegation also sailed on the ship and after that they said that this ship is old, but for another ten years this can be operational. So, we bought it.

MR. SPEAKER : Old is gold also.

SHRI A.K. ANTONY : About the status of the Air Defence ship at Cochin, some concerns were expressed. But I can tell you that work is going on as per schedule. We hope that delivery of the ship will be in 2012.

About One-Rank One-Pension, I have already expressed my views. So far, all the Pay Commissions are rejecting the proposal. But the present Government is more anxious to find a reasonable and fair solution to meet the aspirations of the ex-Servicemen. That is why, in the last few years, we tried to increase the pension so that the gap between the ranks can be reduced. I am sure, the Committee appointed by the Cabinet under the Cabinet Secretary will also go through this problem. They

will also come with some *via media* so that we can find a solution to the aspirations of the ex-Servicemen.

Some of the friends expressed their views about the Cantonment Boards saying that in the Cantonment Boards, MLAs and MPs were not there. As per the old Act, they were not there. But, as per the present, new Act, MPs and MLAs will be there as *ex-officio* Members. It is an Act of Parliament. This House only passed that Act. As per that Act, after the new election, MLAs and MPs will be invited to participate. So, all the issues concerning the Cantonment land and problems of the people who are living in the Cantonment areas can be discussed and sorted out in the new Cantonment Boards.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, we have seen that in the Zilla Parishads. They hardly attend it.

. . .(Interruptions)

SHRI A.K. ANTONY : Opening up of Sainik Schools is actually as per the Agreement. For the opening of a Sainik School, the State Governments must provide land, infrastructure and certain recurring commitments. So, the Central Government alone cannot take the initiative to start a Sainik School anywhere. So, again, I am with you. In Arunáchal Pradesh, in the North-East and in all the States, we need at least one Sainik School. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI KIREN RIJJU : I will give free land. I am prepared to give my own land. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI A.K. ANTONY : I think if the hon. Member can convince his State Government, if it can give it in writing, they will support the Sainik School. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have no such land as you have. I will give the State Government land if he does it in my constituency!

[Translation]

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA : Will the Government open a Sainik School there if the State

Government allots land particularly in view of the fact that the land belonging to Army is also lying vacant?

[English]

SHRI A.K. ANTONY : The Government took a policy decision years back that hereafter there would be no more military schools. Now, we have only the Sainik Schools. We are now starting only Sainik Schools. At the moment, we have 22 Sainik Schools. Wherever the State Governments are willing to give land, they assure infrastructure and meet the recurring expenditure, I assure you, we will take a serious interest – especially in the North-East and in other areas – and give topmost priority in sanctioning the Sainik Schools.

MR. SPEAKER : He has a lot of money. He can give you regular money.

. . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir the Government has to provide infrastructure, what will they provide. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, please continue. He is speaking unauthorisedly.

[Translation]

Your speech has been recorded.

[English]

SHRI A.K. ANTONY : Infrastructure development in the border States is a real problem. Whatever may be the reasons, in the past, I also admit that we were not able to give proper attention to the infrastructure development of our border States whether it is in Sikkim or Arunachal Pradesh.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO (Kalahandi) : To Orissa also.

SHRI A.K. ANTONY : I am telling about the border States.

MR. SPEAKER : He is telling about the littoral States.

SHRI A.K. ANTONY : Border States means States which are in the border areas.

MR. SPEAKER : He is taking it as the sea border!

SHRI A.K. ANTONY : Mainly, regarding Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, the States bordering Myanmar, Jammu and Kashmir, the Government took a decision that we must have infrastructure. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : He said, the States bordering Myanmar.

SHRI A.K. ANTONY : We have identified 72 roads to be taken up on a priority basis. I agree with the view that many Members have expressed that across the border, a lot of developments are taking place. Most modern roads, railway lines, air fields are on their territory, but, we ignore our border areas. Now, the present Government took a decision that on an emergency basis, we must also develop air fields, roads and railways in our border areas. Arunachal Pradesh will get topmost priority in this. Then, some of my colleagues expressed concerns about joint exercises. Joint exercises are now an order of the day, as far as all the countries are concerned. In 1992, for the first time, Indian Navy and US Navy held a joint exercise off the coast of Goa. That was known as Malabar exercise. So, the first Malabar exercise started in 1992, that is, 16 years ago. After that, it has been continuing. Now, Indian Army, Indian Navy and Indian Air Force – all the three forces have joint exercise with various countries. We have joint exercises with the US, Russia, the UK, France, Singapore, Malaysia, and Vietnam and with many of the Middle Eastern countries. This year, for the first time, the Indian Army had a joint exercises with China. This was held in China. I am glad to inform the House that towards the end of this year, the Chinese Army will come to India for a Joint Exercise with the Indian Army. So, we are not having

a joint exercise with a particular country, but our Army, Navy and Air Force are having joint exercises with almost all the important countries of the world. It is not against any country. India is having Defence relations now with many countries; almost all the important countries are having Defence relations with India. Russia, US, France, UK, Saudi Arabia, Vietnam, Israel, Singapore, China – with all these countries, we are having Defence cooperation agreement. These are Defence cooperation agreements. But, I can assure the House that as far as we are concerned, we will not indulge in any kind of military alliance or military cooperation with any country. We are also concerned with our independent foreign policy. After all, for this country, who got the independent foreign policy first? It was Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru and our first Government, at that time, who started this policy. Based on that, we have been following an independent foreign policy and that policy we will maintain in future also. The world is changing. In the present day world, there are no power blocs. Now, we are trying to have Defence cooperation with almost all the countries. It is not against anybody. This cooperation will increase the strength of our own Armed Forces. Some of my colleagues were telling about logistics agreement that we have. Discussions are going on, but we have not entered into any logistics agreement. I can assure you that we will not include any clause in it that will go against the interests of the Indian sovereignty. As far as protecting the sovereignty of the country is concerned, we are all one on that. As I said earlier, more than anything else, more than pay or achievement, the unity of the country and moral support of the people is the main source of inspiration for our Armed Forces.

We are developing a strong and modern Armed Force not to fight with any other country, but to protect our land, our sea borders and for our security. For that, Government is now giving priority. Luckily our economy is also growing fast. That is why, in the last few years we have been able to provide more money to the Armed Forces, but as has been mentioned by some hon. Members, in some areas

we were not able to spend all the money. Why? What is the reason for that? I would like to take this House into confidence. Can we spend all the money just for the sake of spending? In some of the defence deals, in the last stage we find some lacuna. Some people mentioned about the anti-aircraft gun. Everything was going on smoothly. In the last stage, in the trial something funny happened. Then we thought that we could not encourage foul play. So, the Government cancelled that contract and then we have gone for a fresh tender.

Sir, in respect of the gun system with BAE Systems, the trial was successful. It is true that the DRDO has not been able to produce the best gun for the last 20 years. But because of that, can we accept a gun which is not as per the quality requirement? So, we cancelled that contract. In respect of some of the other items also, when we find that some allegations are there or when the CBI inquiry is going on, we want to ensure that our contract must not endanger the ongoing CBI investigation, like the Barak missile deal. We have purchased many equipment from Israel. But on one or two things we took a decision that since the CBI inquiry is going on, we should stop the purchase. On the Barak missile deal, we decided to get the legal opinion and we decided that we should not go ahead with full speed. That is why, we were not able to spend all the money on procurements. But even before that, the Finance Ministry effected a cut of about Rs. 4,000 crore. It is not because of surrendering the money by us. They, on their own, due to various reasons unilaterally effected the cut. On the remaining amount, I think we have spent almost 99 per cent during the year which just ended and I am sure we will get more money this year from the Finance Ministry.

Sir, I can assure the House that with all your cooperation and with the support of the whole country, we are trying to build a strong and modern Army. Our Armed Forces are not provocative and we are not trying to enter into any confrontation with any country. On the contrary, the policy of the present Government is that, as far as possible, we must develop friendly relations with all

countries, especially our neighbouring countries like China and Pakistan. We are trying to improve our relations with all our neighbours. But at the same time, eternal vigilance is necessary. So, I can assure the House that our Armed Forces are prepared to face any eventuality at any time. I thank all the hon. Members for the wholehearted support that they have extended for the cause of the Armed Forces. Now I would request the House to pass the Demands for Grants.

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to ask a question to the hon. Defence Minister.

SHRI KIREN RIJU : Sir, I also want to ask a question.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, I would like to seek a clarification.

MR. SPEAKER : This cannot be a free for all, I am sorry.

Mr. Minister, are you prepared to answer some clarificatory questions?

SHRI A.K. ANTONY : Yes, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : You may note down them and you can answer them together at the end.

[Translation]

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH : I said that metric qualification is fixed for our three districts and for remaining districts, it is under matriculation. I would like to ask the Hon'ble Minister whether he will rectify it.

[English]

SHRI KIREN RIJU : Sir, with your permission, now I compliment the hon. Minister with the condition that he fulfils the promises he has made.

Sir, I have written three letters to the hon. Defence Minister and to the earlier Defence Minister also on the missing link, the road in Kameng sector from Tawang to Subansiri, then upper sector near McMahon Line. The

[Shri Kiren Rijiju]

reply, to all the three letters I got, is that it is not in the plan and the Defence Ministry is not planning to construct road in that area.

The hon. Prime Minister has given a package for the lower region, but not for the upper region. If the hon. Minister cannot give the answer right now, my request is that he should take it up as I have written three letters.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, in the course of my speech, I have made two important points. One was, there are reports that there is a move to dilute the offset clauses in the purchase of equipment. May I know from the hon. Minister whether there is any such move and what is the stand of the Government?

The second point was about the commitment in the CMP that a separate ex-Servicemen's Department would be set up. What is the Government's decision with regard to that?

SHRI B. MAHTAB : Sir, I have two questions to ask. One is relating to the deputation of Indian Armed Forces being deputed by United Nations in different parts of the world on certain payments, though that payment is not coming forth from the United Nations. It is long pending case before the United Nations, today.

My question is, when are you going to stop deputing Indian Armed personnel through United Nations on payment? The United States, the United Kingdom and even France and China do not deploy their Armed Forces through United Nations. So, why should we be at par with Pakistan or Bangladesh?

The second is the recruitment that is taking place through different recruitment centres throughout the country. Specific height and measurement of chest, etc. is not the same for the Army throughout the country. Orissa has been clubbed with Bihar and Central Province earlier, now it is Madhya Pradesh and Poorvanchal where the height is more in comparison to Andhra Pradesh. Would the hon. Minister consider taking Orissa along with Andhra

Pradesh?

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO : Sir, after 17 years of service, an Army personnel retires when his age is about 36 to 37 years. He is still a young person and when this human resource comes to the civilian sector, how can its services be put to the use of the nation? There are no labour laws, no recruitment laws in the civilian sector on in the PSU sector or even the private sector.

MR. SPEAKER : He has mentioned it.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO : Sir, I would like a clarification from the hon. Minister, will the Defence Ministry coordinate with other Ministries for their employment or will the Government take a decision to engage this young force because the pension that they get is very less?

MR. SPEAKER : He has mentioned it.

DR. SUJAN CHAKRABORTY (Jadavpur) : Sir, the organizations of DRDO are really doing very good research and development activities in different parts of the country. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what is the plan of the Ministry for sharing these effective R and D activities by the general R and D organizations of the Science and Technology Department.

LT. GEN. (RETD.) TEJPAL SINGH RAWAT : Sir, I have a few clarifications to ask. My first question is what action has the Government taken as far as having a role on plan for the Army or a multi-year allocation of Budget so that whatever funds are not utilized in that particular year are carried forward to the next year.

Secondly, there is no war memorial of the Defence Forces so far. Is there a plan by the Government to have a war memorial so that the names of the people, who have died and sacrificed their lives after 1947, can be included in that?

MR. SPEAKER : Too many clarifications!

LT. GEN. (RETD.) TEJPAL SINGH RAWAT : Thirdly, there is a dichotomy in the thinking of the Government.

On the one hand, the hon. Minister has said that there is no limit as to the quantum of funds that can be made available to the Government for purchases by Defence. On the other hand he is saying that a sum of Rs. 1,05,600 crore has been allocated, and if he feels that more money can be made available, then that money should have been made available earlier.

MR. SPEAKER : That is not a clarification. I am sorry.

Now, Prof. Chander Kumar.

PROF. CHANDER KUMAR (Kangra) : Hon. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether a Group of Ministers has recommended certain pensions to the persons below the officer's rank. Now, the Anomalies Committee is looking into the matter of 'one-rank-one pension'. What is the difference between the recommendations made by the Group of Ministers and the Anomalies Committee? The Anomalies Committee may give this 'one rank one pension'. But what about the difference between the recommendations of the Committee which has been constituted by the Government of India and the recommendations of the Anomalies Committee? Are they going to remove that 'one-rank-one pension'?

MR. SPEAKER : I am sorry. That is much beyond a clarification. You need not bother about that now. Now, I would allow the last Member, Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy.

All the 20 Members cannot ask clarifications. This cannot be done.

The hon. Minister has given a very candid and a very exhaustive answer.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, C and AG had made certain observations, and the Public Accounts Committee needed certain clarifications and some rectifications. The observations have not yet been

complied with, and the Ministry has not given the Action Taken Report. So, what is the real position?

MR. SPEAKER: This is not a clarification.

Now, I would request the hon. Minister of Defence to give a brief reply to the clarifications, if he chooses to, and I cannot compel him.

SHRI A.K. ANTONY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all, I would like to answer to the clarification put by my colleague from Arunachal Pradesh. The hon. Member himself knows that the present Government is taking more interest in the development of the North-East as a whole and especially, Arunachal. You are going to get more roads, more airfields and even rail links. About a particular road, I cannot say anything off-hand. But I can assure you that whatever is possible for the development of infrastructure in Arunachal, we will give maximum priority.

Regarding the Off-set Policy, only the present Government introduced the Off-set Policy for the first time in 2006 when Shri Pranab Mukherjee was the Defence Minister. Now, because of various complaints, the Government has, for the first time, introduced a comprehensive Defence Procurement Policy. The Off-set Policy is also a part of this policy. As per this Policy, 30 per cent is the off-set rate now for any contract above Rs. 300 crore. But in the Policy itself, there is a provision that in every two years it has to be renewed; it has to be updated. That process is going on. We have not taken a decision. That review is to take place to give more transparency and also more speedy procurement. So, whatever is the best for our country, for our Armed Forces – we will not be influenced by any kind of influence from any foreign powers – we will make amendments. That will be applicable to all countries and not a special thing for any country.

Regarding the Non-lapsable Fund, it has been examined by various Governments at various times, and the Finance Ministry came to a conclusion that because of a lot of complications, it was not practicable. But they

[Shri A.K. Antony]

assured us that in future they would allot reasonable fund for the Defence Ministry. That is how we will be able to meet our requirements. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI K.S. RAO : For capital equipment. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI A.K. ANTONY : Yes, for capital equipment.

Regarding induction of ex-servicemen, it is one of the priority areas of our Government. That is why, as per the recommendation of the Standing Committee, the present Government. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : New Welfare Department. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI A.K. ANTONY : I am coming to that. The present Government, for the first time, has already formed Ex-servicemen Welfare Department. One new Secretary is there. So, that demand is fulfilled.

Now, what we are trying is to persuade both public sectors and private industries to induct more Ex-Servicemen because in the Ex-Servicemen, there is a trained, committed and disciplined role of officers.

Therefore, this year, in a large scale, we are trying to induct more Ex-Servicemen in various Forces, in the Central Government Establishments, in the private sector units etc. Wherever possible, we are trying to induct more and more Ex-Servicemen.

About the Army Recruitment Rally, it is taking place in almost all the Districts. Induction in the Armed Forces is almost proportionate to various States. There is a certain formula. So, no injustice would be done to any State. Orissa also would get its due share.

LT. GEN. (RETD.) TEJPAL SINGH RAWAT : Sir, what about the War Memorial?

SHRI A.K. ANTONY : About the War Memorial, I agree with you that it is a sentimental issue for the Armed Forces. The Ministry of Defence is also pursuing it. But the Delhi Vista Committee and the Delhi Urban Arts Commission are not still convinced about our proposal. So, we are at it. We are pursuing it.

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Defence to the vote of the House.

The question is :

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the Fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President of India, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 2009, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the Second column thereof against Demand Nos. 19 to 26 relating to the Ministry of Defence."

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again tomorrow, the 23rd April, 2008 at 11 a.m.

18.57 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, April 23, 2008/
Vaisakha 3, 1930 (Saka)*

ANNEXURE-I

Member-wise Index to Starred Questions

Sl. No.	Member's Name	Question Number
1	2	3
1.	Dr. Agarwal, Dharendra	408
2.	Shri Athawale, Ramdas	406
3.	Shri Barman, Hiten	405
4.	Shri Barman, Ranen	417
5.	Shri Chowdhury, Adhir	401
6.	Shri Dhindsa, Sukhdev Singh	403
7.	Dr. Jagannath, M.	418
8.	Shri Jogi, Ajit	414
9.	Shri Karunakaran, P.	407
10.	Shri Khaire, Chandrakant	415
11.	Shri Mahtab, Bhartruhari	402
12.	Shri Panda, Prabodh	411
13.	Dr. Pandey, Laxminarayan	419
14.	Shri Patel, Kishanbhai V.	413
15.	Shri Rajagopal, L.	404
16.	Shri Rao, Rayapati Sambasiva	416
17.	Shri Rathod, Haribhau	420
18.	Shri Reddy, M. Raja Mohan	403
19.	Shri Renge Patil, Tukaram Ganpatrao	408
20.	Shri Rijju, Kiren	419
21.	Shri Sai, Nand Kumar	413
22.	Shri Saradgi, Iqbal Ahmed	415

1	2	3
23.	Shrimati Satheedevi, P.	410
24.	Shri Siddeswara, G.M.	414
25.	Shri Vallabhaneni, Balashowry	412
26.	Shri Yerrannaidu, Kinjarapu	409

Member-wise Index to Unstarred Questions

Sl. No.	Member's Name	Question Number
1	2	3
1.	Dr. Agarwal, Dharendra	4118, 4152
2.	Shri Ahir, Hansraj G.	4033, 4085
3.	Shri Ajaya Kumar, S.	4076, 4126
4.	Shri Appadurai, M.	4122
5.	Shri Athawale, Ramdas	4108
6.	Shri Barad, Jasubhai Dhanabhai	4018, 4034, 4066, 4069, 4096
7.	Shri Barman, Hiten	4107,
8.	Shri Barman, Ranen	4057, 4115,
9.	Shri Basu, Anil	4048
10.	Shri Bhakta, Manoranjan	4051, 4121, 4154
11.	Shri Bhargava, Girdhari Lal	4024, 4102
12.	Shri Borkataky, Narayan Chandra	4010, 4082, 4095, 4142, 4165
13.	Shri Bose, Subrata	4057, 4107, 4114
14.	Shri Budholiya, Rajnarayan	4012
15.	Shri Chaure, Bapu Hari	4061, 4125
16.	Shri Chavda, Harisinh	4045, 4117

1	2	3	1	2	3
17.	Dr. Chinta Mohan	4046, 4047	40.	Shri Krishna, Vijoy	4087, 4122
18.	Shri Chowdhary, Pankaj	4106	41.	Shri Krishnadas, N.N.	4054
19.	Shri Darbar, Chhattar Singh	4037	42.	Shri Kumar, Nikhil	4056
20.	Smt. Deo, Sangeeta Kumari Singh	4043, 4162, 4179	43.	Smt. Botcha Lakshmi, Jhansi	4079
21.	Dr. Dhanaraju, K.	4122	44.	Sr. Libra, Sukhdev Singh	4086
22.	Shri Dhotre, Sanjay	4041	45.	Shri Madam, Vikrambhai Arjanbhai	4039, 4083, 4137
23.	Shri Gadhavi, P.S.	4066	46.	Smt. Madhavraj, Manorama	4077
24.	Shri Gaikwad, Eknath Mahadeo	4059, 4081, 4122, 4123, 4155	47.	Shri Mahato, Narahari	4055, 4115
25.	Shri Gamang, Giridhar	4019, 4106	48.	Smt. Shri Maheshwari, Kiran	4042
26.	Smt. Gandhi, Maneka	4050	49.	Shri Mahtab, B.	4106
27.	Shri Gangwar, Santosh	4025, 4105	50.	Shri Mahto, Tek Lal	4058
28.	Smt. Gawali, Bhavana P.	4041	51.	Prof Malhotra, Vijay Kumar	4105
29.	Shri Gehlot, Thawar Chand	4063	52.	Dr. Manoj, K.S.	4088, 4138
30.	Ch. Hassan, Munawar	4071	53.	Shri Masood, Rasheed	4028
31.	Dr. Jagannath, M.	4103, 4114, 4150, 4167	54.	Dr. Mediyam, Babu Rao	4048
32.	Dr. Jatiya, Satyanarayan	4075	55.	Shri Meghwal, Kailash	4020, 4097, 4143, 4189
33.	Smt. Jayaprada	4056	56.	Shri Mohale, Punnu Lal	4036
34.	Shri Jindal, Naveen	4035, 4122	57.	Shri Mollah, Hannan	4122
35.	Shri Jogi, Ajit	4113, 4147	58.	Shri Mondal, Abu Ayes	4040
36.	Shri Kariodia, Mahesh	4069	59.	Shri Murmu, Hemlal	4059, 4072, 4132
37.	Shri Khaire, Chandrakant	4114, 4148	60.	Shri Naik, Shripad Yesso	4090
38.	Shri Kharventhan, S.K.	4014, 4092, 4103, 4140, 4163	61.	Shri Nayak, Ananta	4031, 4109
39.	Shri Koshal, Raghuveer Singh	4023, 4101	62.	Shri Nizamuddin, G.	4026, 4135
			63.	Shri Owaisi, Asaduddin	4017, 4133, 4160, 4172, 4176

1	2	3
64.	Shri Panda, Prabodh	4111
65.	Dr. Pandey, Laxminarayan	4090, 4151, 4177,
66.	Shri Patel, Dahyabhai Vallabhbai	4027
67.	Shri Patel, Hanilal Madhavji Bhai	4034,
68.	Shri Patel, Kishanbhai V.	4112, 4146, 4166
69.	Smt. Patil, Rupatai Diliprao Nilangakar	4033
70.	Shri Patle, Shishupal N.	4053, 4081
71.	Shri Pingle, Devidas	4053, 4081
72.	Shri Prabhu, Suresh Prabhakar	4068, 4130, 4159, 4171, 4175,
73.	Shri Prasad, Anirudh Alias Sadhu Yadav	4059, 4123, 4155
74.	Shri Prasad, Hanikewal	4045, 4117
75.	Shri Rajagopal, L.	4094, 4145 ,
76.	Shri Rajbhar, Chandra Dev Prasad	4122
77.	Shri Ramakrishna, Badiga	4070, 4131
78.	Shri Ramesh Dube	4029
79.	Shri Rana, Kashiram	4179
80.	Shri Rao, K.S.	4013, 4091
81.	Shri Rao, Rayapati Sambasiva	4104, 4106, 4149
82.	Shri Reddy, G. Karunakara	4022, 4098, 4157, 4170, 4174,
83.	Shri Reddy, K.J.S.P.	4060, 4124
84.	Shri Reddy, M. Raja Mohan	4129, 4158

1	2	3
85.	Shri Rijju, Kiren	4016, 4099, 4151
86.	Shri Sai, Nand Kumar	4112, 4146, 4166
87.	Shri Saradgi, Iqbal Ahmed	4128
88.	Smt Scindia, Yashodhara Raje	4037
89.	Smt. Sen, Minati	4049
90.	Shri Shakya, Raghuraj Singh	4059
91.	Shri Shivanna, M.	4080
92.	Smt. Shukla, Karuna	4016, 4177
93.	Shri Siddeswara, G.M.	4089, 4139, 4162, 4173
94.	Smt. Sikdar, Jyotirmoyee	4082, 4136
95.	Shri Singh, Chandrabhan	4036, 4122,
96.	Shri Singh, Dushyant	4064, 4126
97.	Shri Singh, Ganesh	4062
98.	Shri Singh, Prabhunath	4043, 4134, 4161
99.	Shri Singh, Rewati Raman	4073
100.	Shri Singh, Sugrib	4030, 4112, 4146, 4166
101.	Shri Singh, Suraj	4047, 4119, 4120
102.	Shri Singh, Uday	4044, 4116
103.	Shri Singh, Rajiv Ranjan "Lalan"	4120, 4153, 4168
104.	Shri Solanki, Bhupendrasinh	4069
105.	Shri Subba, M.K.	4011, 4100, 4144
106.	Shri Subbarayan, K.	4032
107.	Shri Sugavanam, E.G.	4015, 4034, 4093, 4141, 4164

1	2	3
108.	Smt. Sujatha, C.S	4052, 4054, 4122
109.	Shri Suman, Ramji Lal	4046, 4119, 4153, 4168
110.	Smt. Thakkar, Jayaben B.	4034
111.	Shri Thomas, P.C.	4074, 4122
112.	Shri Tripathy, Braja Kishore	4065, 4114, 4127, 4156, 4178
113.	Shri Vasava, Mansukhbhai D.	4067, 4118, 4152
114.	Shri Veerendrakumar, M.P.	4084

1	2	3
115.	Shri Yadav, Anjan Kumar M.	4021
116.	Shri Yadav, Giridhari	4067
117.	Shri Yadav, Mitrasen	4038
118.	Shri Yashni, Madhu Goud	4059, 4081, 4122, 4123, 4155
119.	Shri Yerrannaidu, Kinjarapu	4110
120.	Shri Yogi, Aditya Nath	4078
121.	Shri Zawma, Vanlal	4039

ANNEXURE-II

Ministry-wise Index to Starred Questions

Commerce and Industry	402, 404, 408, 411, 412, 413, 416, 420
Earth Sciences	
Home Affairs	403, 406, 410
Human Resource Development	404, 406, 407, 410, 414
Information and Broadcasting	415
Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises	416
Mines	417
Science and Technology	405

Ministry-wise Index to Unstarred Questions

Commerce and Industry	4012, 4013, 4020, 4029, 4030, 4034, 4041, 4045, 4047, 4052, 4053, 4060, 4062, 4063, 4064, 4065, 4074, 4076, 4089, 4090, 4102, 4111, 4154, 4156, 4160, 4163, 4164, 4166, 4167, 4168, 4169, 4174, 4175, 4177, 4178, 4179
Earth Sciences	4051, 4088, 4123
Home Affairs	4011, 4016, 4024, 4025, 4027, 4028, 4036, 4043, 4048, 4049, 4054, 4056, 4057, 4061, 4069, 4071, 4072, 4073, 4078, 4080, 4081, 4092, 4094, 4097, 4099, 4100, 4103, 4104, 4105, 4107, 4108, 4109, 4110, 4112, 4115, 4116, 4117, 4119, 4122, 4125, 4126, 4129, 4131, 4132, 4144, 4147, 4161
Human Resource Development	4015, 4017, 4018, 4021, 4023, 4026, 4033, 4035, 4042, 4044, 4046, 4050, 4066, 4068, 4070, 4075, 4077, 4079, 4082, 4083, 4084, 4086, 4087, 4091, 4096, 4101, 4106, 4118, 4120, 4124, 4127, 4130, 4133, 4134, 4135, 4136, 4137, 4139, 4140, 4141, 4145, 4146, 4155, 4158, 4159, 4162, 4165, 4171, 4172
Information and Broadcasting	4010, 4014, 4022, 4032, 4039, 4067, 4085, 4095, 4138, 4142, 4148, 4157
Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises	4037, 4038, 4059, 4098, 4113, 4128, 4143, 4150, 4152, 4153, 4170, 4173, 4176
Mines	4019, 4031, 4055, 4058, 4093, 4114, 4151,
Science and Technology	4040, 4121, 4149.

INTERNET

The original version of Lok Sabha proceedings is available on Parliament of India Website at the following address :

<http://www.parliamentofindia.nic.in>

LIVE TELECAST OF PROCEEDINGS OF LOK SABHA

Lok Sabha proceedings are being telecast live on Lok Sabha T.V. channel. Live telecast begins at 11 A.M. on everyday the Lok Sabha sits, till the adjournment of the House.

LOK SABHA DEBATES ON SALE

Printed copies of Lok Sabha Debates of Original version, English version, Hindi version and indices thereto, DRSCs reports and other Parliamentary Publications and Souvenir items with logo of Parliament are available for sale at the Sales Counter, Reception, Parliament House, (Tel.Nos. 23034726, 23034495, 23034496) New Delhi-110001. The information about all these publications and items is also available on the website mentioned above.

© 2008 By LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

Published under Rules 379 and 382 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha
(Eleventh Edition) and Printed by The Indian Press, G.T. Kamal Road, Delhi-110033.
