

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Ninth Session
(Fourteenth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, December 19, 2006/Agrahayana 28, 1928 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

OBITUARY REFERENCES

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of three of our former colleagues, Shri Sukhendra Singh, Shri Krishna Singh and Shri Mahesh Dutta Misra.

Shri Sukhendra Singh was a Member of the Sixth and Ninth Lok Sabhas from 1977 to 1979 and 1989 to 1991, representing Satna Parliamentary Constituency of Madhya Pradesh.

Earlier, Shri Singh was a Member of the Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly from 1962 to 1967.

Shri Singh was a Member, Committee on Public Undertakings; Estimates Committee and Consultative Committees of Ministry of Shipping and of Ministry of Communications during the Ninth Lok Sabha.

An agriculturist and lawyer by profession, Shri Singh participated in India's freedom struggle. A committed social worker, he actively strove for the betterment of the poor and downtrodden.

Shri Sukhendra Singh passed away on 17 September, 2006 at Satna, Madhya Pradesh at the age of 81.

Shri Krishna Singh was a Member of the Eighth Lok Sabha from 1984 to 1989, representing Bhind Parliamentary Constituency of Madhya Pradesh.

Shri Singh was a Member of the House Committee during 1989.

An agriculturist by profession, Shri Singh served as a Member on the Board of Directors, Madhya Pradesh State Co-operative Union, Bhopal.

A sports enthusiast, Shri Krishna Singh was a member of Lokendra club, Datia. He also had keen interest in reading and photography.

Shri Krishna Singh passed away on 12 October, 2006 at Datia, Madhya Pradesh at the age of 78, after a prolonged illness.

Shri Mahesh Dutta Misra was a Member of the Third Lok Sabha from 1962 to 1967, representing Khandwa Parliamentary Constituency of Madhya Pradesh.

Earlier, Shri Misra was a Member of the Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha from 1952 to 1957. He was also a Member of the Land Reforms Committee in Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha.

A veteran freedom fighter, Shri Misra suffered imprisonment several times during the freedom movement.

A Gandhian to the core, Shri Misra was closely associated with Gandhiji for some time. He also served as a member of the First Sarvodaya Executive in 1948.

An educationist, Shri Misra was a faculty member of Jabalpur and Allahabad Universities.

A well-known social worker, Shri Misra was actively involved in constructive work, agricultural and rural uplift, Khadi and village industries and cultural activities.

A man of letters, Shri Misra authored books on elementary civics and social studies.

Shri Mahesh Dutta Misra passed away on 11 November, 2006 at the age of 91 at Harda, Madhya Pradesh.

We deeply mourn the loss of these friends and I am sure the House would join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved families.

The House may now stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed.

11.02 hrs.

(The Members then stood in silence for a short while.)

11.05 hrs.

REFERENCES BY SPEAKER

Congratulating Shri Naveen Jindal, MP on winning Silver Medal in Skeet shooting event

and

Indian Cricket Team for winning the Test Match

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: When I am on my legs, you should keep quiet.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, it gives me a great pleasure to inform the House that one of our young colleagues, Shri Naveen Jindal, has won a Silver Medal in the Skeet Shooting Event at the 50th National Shooting Championship held at New Delhi on 18th December, 2006. Shri Jindal has done us proud and I am sure the House would join me in congratulating him on this achievement.

Q.No.382, Shri Rewati Raman Singh.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Why are you saying sir, sir repeatedly.

[English]

What is your problem?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS (Palghat): Sir, the House should congratulate S. Sreesanth also.

MR. SPEAKER: I congratulate S. Sreesanth and the Indian Team also. We are very happy and congratulate the Indian Team for the great play. I also congratulate Sourav Ganguly, V.V.S. Laxman and Zaheer Khan.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You please sit down. What you are saying is not going on record.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): Mr. Speaker, Sir, you will be happy as well as sad to know that those rebellious and tainted. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not raise it now.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: All right, leave it and talk to me. I will tell you what is going to happen.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What is this happening, today is the last day.

11.07 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Rewati Raman Singh, Q. No. 382

Amendment in Criminal Laws

+

*382. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH:
SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the laws relating to crime were amended during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether several State Governments have reported difficulties in implementing those amendments; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table.

Statement

(a) and (b) Various provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 were amended through the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Act, 2005 (Act 25 of 2005) and through the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2005 (Act 2 of 2006).

Important provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Act, 2005 are (i) Prohibition of the arrest of a woman after sunset and before sunrise except in exceptional circumstances, (ii) Police to give information about the arrest of a person as well as the place where he is being held to anyone who may be nominated by him for sending such information, (iii) Mandatory judicial inquiry in case of death or disappearance of a person or rape of a woman while in the custody of the police. In case of death, examination of the dead body to be conducted within 24 hours of death, (iv) Mandatory provision that if the arrested person is accused of a bailable offence and he is indigent and cannot furnish surety, the court shall release him on his execution of a bond without surety, (v) An undertrial prisoner, other than the one accused of an offence for which death has been prescribed as one of the punishments, should be released on his personal bond with or without sureties when he has been under detention for a period extending to one half of the maximum period of imprisonment provided for the alleged offence, (vi) In no case will an undertrial be detained beyond the maximum period of imprisonment provided for the alleged offence, (vii) Bail and anticipatory bail provisions have been made stringent for hardened criminals, (viii) Bail jumping made a specific offence in the Indian Penal Code and (ix) The State Governments have been empowered to establish Directorate of Prosecution under the administrative control of the Home Department of the State.

Important provisions of the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2005 are (i) to introduce the concept of 'Plea-Bargaining', (ii) to provide for more scientific experts to give evidence in cases relating to fake currency notes, and (iii) to amend the Indian Penal Code, 1860 to provide punishment for threatening any person to give false evidence.

(c) and (d) Some representations from some Lawyers organizations, were received protesting against some of the provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Act, 2005. Their main objections were against amendment to section 438 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (anticipatory bail) and making the offence at section 324 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 (voluntarily causing hurt by dangerous weapons or means) non-bailable and compoundable. These amended provisions are yet to be made effective.

However, the Government of Tamil Nadu has forwarded to the Central Government a Bill namely "The Indian Penal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure (Tamil Nadu Amendment) Bill, 2006" proposing to amend certain provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Act, 2005 in respect of State of Tamil Nadu, seeking assent of the President to the Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your kind permission, I would like to say that the court has recently reopened some important criminal cases such as Priyadarshini Mattu case and Jassica Lal case. In both the cases, the accused have been sentenced. In view of it, I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs whether the Government are contemplating to amend the related laws so as to ensure a simple and responsive judicial system and provide speedy justice to people. Moreover, I would also like to know the number of such criminal cases pending in High Courts for the last ten years. ... (Interruptions) If that is not possible, he may, at least, furnish the details of such cases pending during the last one or two years.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I do not know whether the Minister has got the particulars.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, if the hon'ble Member goes through the reply laid on the Table of the House by me, he would come to know about the steps taken to simplify and speed up the judicial system. Besides, we propose to introduce in the House the Criminal Procedure Code and other criminal laws like I.P.C. Evidence Act with the purpose of amending them. For the kind information of the hon'ble

Member, I would like to say that the Bill which was introduced in the House in 1994 remained pending till 2005. After amending the Bill in 2005, it became a part of our statute. In addition to it, one more amendment Bill was introduced in 2005 and the third Bill will be introduced soon. For the information of the hon'ble Member, I would like to say that the Bills in this regard are drafted by the Ministry of Home Affairs. However, information in respect of the number of cases pending and disposed off so far will be furnished by the Ministry of Law. If he desires, I can furnish him the entire information collecting the same from the Ministry of Law.

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Minister is furnishing the information on his own behalf revealing that approx. 56 lakh criminal cases are pending in the courts. The Law Commission in one of its recommendations given in 1978 has suggested speedy appointment of judges in large numbers because in the absence of sufficient number of judges, criminal cases remain pending in courts for decades. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister whether the appointment of judges will be made in the same number as suggested by the Law Commission. Secondly, whether fast track courts will be set up to dispose off the cases within a year.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This is for the Law Minister.

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Sir, he would have to send the recommendations.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is true that the Law Commission had made a number of recommendations and some of the recommendations of the Law Commission have been implemented and others are yet to be implemented. However, the amendment in the Act is made here only. I would like to tell the House that the Central Government appoints the judges of the Supreme Court and the High Courts and the State Governments appoint district court judges, session court judges, civil judges and magistrates. There are approx. 1300 courts in our country but this number is inadequate. The number of judges is also far short of requirement. Therefore, State Governments have been directed to appoint more and more number of judges so that the cases can be disposed of early in sessions courts and lower courts. The judges of the Supreme Court and High courts are appointed by the Central Government. The hon'ble member has asked a very pertinent question. He intends to know how to curtail the delay in judicial process. The Government has taken many effective steps in this regard. New courts have been set up to speed up the work. Arbitration laws have also been enacted. Secondly, the Ministry of law is arranging for circuit courts also in which

the judges will have to move from one place to another. Judges will go to villages and arrange the courts to dispose of the cases there itself. The Government will provide requisite funds in this regard. Besides, there is a provision of plea-bargaining under the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Act which will help in reducing the number of cases.

Secondly; the Bill also contains a provision to compound the small cases which was difficult earlier. The third point in the Bill is to reduce the warrant cases the number of which was earlier more than the summary trials and also to dispose of the maximum number of cases through Summary trials. I would tell the hon'ble Member that the amendments made in 2005 and 2006 are praiseworthy. These amendments have been made by the committees constituted on the recommendations of the Law Commission and by the members of the committees constituted on the recommendations of the Supreme Court. If the hon'ble Member goes through these amendments, he will come to know how these Acts are helpful in deciding the cases as compared to the past. I would say that all his apprehensions will be removed to a great extent if not completely.

[English]

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Sir, a Committee on Criminal Justice Reforms had been constituted under the Chairmanship of Justice Malimath and they have given a comprehensive Report to the Government which is now being processed. Parts of this Report have been accepted.

My question, through you Sir, to the hon. Minister is, when parts have been accepted by the Government, why is it not implementing these parts till date? It is also very important to plug loopholes as many witnesses today turn hostile. Are you thinking of a witness protection programme to enable honest deposition by witnesses in cases?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: The Malimath Committee Report is quite a comprehensive one and we have accepted some of the recommendations given by the Malimath Committee. We have incorporated them into the Criminal Procedure Code and other laws also. We have asked the State Governments to see that those recommendations are implemented. One of the recommendations was that Plea Bargaining should be provided in the law and we have already provided it in the law. It was necessary for us to see that the Directorate of Prosecution should be there which can help in this respect. That has also been done. It is now for the State Governments to see that they issue directions and provide the wherewithal, which are required for doing justice as per the recommendations given by the Malimath Committee.

The second part of the supplementary relates to protection to be given to witnesses. The Third Amending Bill is likely to be introduced and in that Third Amending Bill to the Criminal Procedure Code and other criminal laws, it is provided as to how protection can be given to the witnesses. In that law, we are providing that the statement shall be recorded by the police on audio and video tapes. It is also provided that, in some cases, the statements shall be recorded by the Magistrate. It is also provided that if the prosecutor and the judge are suggesting that the witnesses should be given protection, that kind of protection will be given. It is also provided in that law that if it becomes necessary to give protection for a longer time, it can also be done. But this is a very difficult situation. Supposing we are giving security to all the witnesses and if we ask the State Governments to provide security to all the witnesses, then the burden which will be caused on the State Governments because of it will be enormous. We shall have to obtain their cooperation and only then, we can do it. But we are marching in the direction of providing protection to the witnesses also.

MR. SPEAKER: We have already taken 20 minutes for one Question.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am satisfied with the reply of the hon'ble Minister. However, I am only asking whether the Rajasthan Government has given any suggestions to them for crime control. If it is so the Government might have implemented them also, but if they have not been implemented, what are the reasons therefor?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a very omnibus question as to what suggestions have been given and what have not been given by them, however, as per my knowledge, like our Parliament, the states also have the power to amend the Criminal Law, Indian Penal Code, Criminal Procedure Code and Evidence Act because these are all in the Concurrent List. They are not exclusively on the State List or exclusively in the Union List. So, Rajasthan Government will not face any difficulties in doing what they want to do. However, if there is any contradiction between the laws made by the Central Government and the State Government — then there is a need to rectify it at the Central level. If he further clarifies his question then I will be able to reply.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Very exhaustive replies on all possible issues have been given by the hon'ble Minister.

Integrated Tribal Development Projects

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*383. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to State:

(a) the details of the funds allocated under Integrated Tribal Development Projects (ITDP) during the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether the Government has received proposals from various State Governments for providing grants under the said scheme;

(c) if so, the details and the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to achieve the ITDP objectives?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Integrated Tribal Development Projects (ITDP) and Integrated Tribal Development Agencies (ITDA) are administrative units of the State Governments in tribal areas of respective States to implement various schemes/programmes relating to tribal welfare. The Ministry of Tribal

Affairs does not have any specific scheme for funding of Integrated Development Projects. However, under Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan (SCA to TSP), the Ministry of Tribal Affairs since 2003-04 has started ITDP/ITDA-wise earmarking of funds, in the grants released to the respective State Governments. Details of funds earmarked for ITDPs/ ITDAs during last three years and current year is at Annexure-I.

(b) and (c) Submission of projects by State Governments under SCA to TSP is not insisted upon for release of funds as it is done in accordance with the allocation made to the State and submission of utilization certificate for the funds released during previous years as required under the Fiscal Responsibility & Budget Management Act, 2003. For 2006-07, funds have already been released to eligible States as per details given in the Annexure-II.

(d) The main function of the ITDPs/ ITDAs is to implement various programmes/ schemes for integrated socio-economic development of the tribal community. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs periodically reviews the implementation of its various programmes/schemes with the State Governments.

Annexure-I

Details of funds earmarked to ITDPs/ITDAs during 2003-04 to 2006-07 under Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan (SCA to TSP)

(Rs in lakh)

S.No.	Name of the State	No. of ITDPs/ ITDAs	Funds earmarked to ITDPs/ ITDAs			
			2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8	899.70	899.70	899.70	1065.210
2.	Assam	19	2331.60	2331.60	2331.60	2655.000
3.	Gujarat	9	2916.03	2916.03	2916.03	3503.887
4.	Himachal Pradesh	5	278.96	278.96	278.96	428.669
5.	Jammu and Kashmir**	-	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Karnataka	5	98.55	98.55	98.55	176.34
7.	Kerala	7	183.22	183.22	183.22	205.77
8.	Madhya Pradesh	31	4309.91	4309.91	4309.91	5390.185
9.	Maharashtra	16	1341.39	1341.39	1341.39	1341.390
10.	Manipur	5	635.86	635.86	635.86	738.07
11.	Orissa	21	3942.07	3942.07	3942.08	4518.819

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
12.	Rajasthan	5	1430.83	1430.83	1430.83	1835.703
13.	Sikkim	4	91.88	91.88	91.88	111.518
14.	Tamil Nadu	9	92.78	92.78	92.78	46.390
15.	Tripura	3	741.42	741.42	741.42	854.647
16.	Uttar Pradesh	1	9.88	9.88	9.88	0.00
17.	West Bengal	12	954.47	954.47	954.45	1092.982
18.	Uttaranchal**	-	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
19.	Bihar**	-	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
20.	Chhattisgarh	19	3177.46	3177.46	3202.96	3668.696
21.	Jharkhand	14	4506.11	4506.11	4506.12	4506.120
22.	Goa*	-	NA	NA	NA	0.00

* In 2006-07, for the first time fund has been provided to Goa.

** No ITDP/ ITDA have been identified in the States of Jammu & Kashmir, Bihar and Uttaranchal.

Annexure-II

Release of funds under Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Plan during 2006-2007 (as on 15.12.2006)

(Amount Rs. in lakh)

S. No.	Name of the State	Amount released
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2912.00
2.	Assam	1588.00
3.	Bihar	0.00
4.	Chhattisgarh	4769.00
5.	Goa	110.00
6.	Gujarat	4251.00
7.	Himachal Pradesh	890.00
8.	Jharkhand	6131.00
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	1088.00
10.	Karnataka	1242.00
11.	Kerala	277.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	8817.00

1	2	3
13.	Maharashtra	3888.00
14.	Manipur	398.00
15.	Orissa	6701.00
16.	Rajasthan	4214.00
17.	Sikkim	118.00
18.	Tamil Nadu	0.00
19.	Tripura	1080.00
20.	Uttar Pradesh	0.00
21.	Uttaranchal	50.00
22.	West Bengal	2270.00
Total		50774.00

SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister through you on one point. Is it a fact that some State Governments are lagging behind in achieving the targets of ITDP and as a result thereof, tribals are at the receiving end? If so, whether the Government propose to monitor the programmes constantly and the real objectives of ITDP are fulfilled in every State?

SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH: The ITDP concept has been a very good concept in the sense that it would bring through

that agency, through that project agency the kind of concentrated socio-economic development of the tribals. Now, these details are given in my answer. They are the administrative units of the State Governments. I know that, for some time, there has been declining importance of the ITDP and ITDA as it happened in Orissa. But, at the same time, from the State Governments we did try to be more focused by getting the funding through the ITDP. It is one way of improving their development, their functioning. But, so far, we have not been able to do that. There is a negative response from the Finance Ministry and the Planning Commission. But, at the same time, I recognize what the hon. Member has said that we must strengthen the ITDP and the ITDA agents.

SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: My State of Orissa is facing severe constraint of funds to complete the projects under ITDP due to inordinate delay in releasing the grants every year. In view of the above, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the hon. Minister would like to direct his Ministry to release the funds at the beginning of the financial year so that the money earmarked to the State can be spent in time.

SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH: My concern is that the ITDP should function more effectively. But we do not fund them directly. We have to fund them through the State Government. If the hon. Member can inform me in what way the ITDP is not functioning, I could help him by taking it up with the State Government but we cannot have direct funding. It is for the State Government to be more pro-active.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: His question was just to release funds.

MR. SPEAKER: He was complaining about non-release of grant in time.

SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH: It is for the State Government to do that.

[Translation]

SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the hon'ble Minister towards diversion of funds allocated for ITDP project in Gujarat to other schemes. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister about the steps being taken by the Government to check misuse of funds allocated for ITDP project.

[English]

SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH: Well, to be very frank, I do not have any protest, any complaint. But, as I said earlier, we cannot by-pass the State Government. There are sets of

schemes or projects which are very important to perform. But whatever we can do from our side, if the hon. Member can inform me in a very specific manner, I can assure him that I will take steps in my own way.

[Translation]

SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, a number of projects have been launched by the Central as well as State Governments for the development of tribal people, however, the benefit of these projects are not reaching the tribal people living in inaccessible forest and hilly areas. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister whether the Government have any information in this regard and if so, the steps being taken by the Government for the development of tribal people living in forest and hilly regions and to ensure that the benefits of these schemes reach them.

[English]

SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH: We are working hand in hand with the State Government. The only way that we do is that we release funds through the Special Central Assistance to strengthen the Tribal Sub-Plan.

This is being done on the basis of the population ratio of that State and in relation to the entire population of the country. We are requesting the State Governments to take up schemes which are laid down. We have plenty of schemes for the purpose of improving the living standard of the tribal people in the field of education and so on. Primarily there are two basic schemes through which we help the States. One is through the Special Central Assistance to the Tribal Sub Plan and the other one is through article 275 (1) of the Constitution in which we give assistance to States. These are the two basic ways of channelising the funds to them and then the State Governments can take up the schemes. Then, we do have amendment of the system at the ITDP level.

SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that there are instances of deaths due to starvation in different tribal areas of the country in spite of having many schemes under the Integrated Tribal Development Programme. If so, I would like to know the reasons for that.

MR. SPEAKER: This is very vague.

SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH: Sir, this is a very general question. It is not related to the main question.

MR. SPEAKER: So, you have no such information!

SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH: Yes, Sir. I have no such information.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Minister in this written reply to part (d) of the main question has stated that the main objective of ITDP/ITDA is to implement various programmes/schemes for the integrated socio-economic development of the tribal community.

A large number of tribal people live mainly in three districts of Maharashtra viz – Amrawati, Thane and Dhule. There are also some more districts like Garhchiroli and Chandrapur having tribal population. But the context in which I am talking of is that the number of child deaths due to malnutrition has been constantly on the rise in these districts of Maharashtra over the years. The main reason is poverty. In this context the High Court of Mumbai has instructed the State Government to take measures to check such child deaths. In this context, the Chief Minister of Maharashtra has stated that there are several schemes to control malnutrition deaths in the tribal settlements. The Chief Minister of Maharashtra has announced that more Anganwadi Centres will be set up in those areas, so that, those children may get nutritious food through those centres. I would like to know whether the Central Government have received any proposal from the State Government regarding setting up of Anganwadi centres as announced by the Chief Minister and if so, what steps have been taken by the Central Government in this regard?

MR. SPEAKER: How to deal with if you ask such a long question.

[English]

SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH: Sir, it is a long question. But I agree with the hon. Member about the importance of focusing attention on the livelihood and welfare of the tribals. I agree with him entirely, but so far, the State Government has not brought any such programme to my attention. That is the position at the moment.

MR. SPEAKER: That is enough.

SHRI VANLAL ZAWMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister stated in his written answer that the four tribal States of the North East namely, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh are not included in the ITDP and ITDA schemes. Then, for the Special Central Assistance to the Tribal Sub Plan also, these four States of the North Eastern Region are not included.

Sir, the hon. Minister himself is from Meghalaya. I do not know what is the reason that these four tribal States are not included in this sub-plan.

SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH: Sir, it is a very good question. There are States in the country, which are pre-dominantly tribal States. Mizoram is a tribal State; Meghalaya is a tribal State; Arunachal Pradesh is a tribal State; and Nagaland is a tribal State. These are mainly the tribal States. Therefore, they just need a special plan. The entire plan is a Tribal Plan. It is more than 50 per cent and in the case of Mizoram it is about 70 per cent to 80 per cent.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: The hon'ble Member should speak in brief. We give long preface.

[English]

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Mr. Speaker Sir, the Integrated Tribal Development Projects and ITDS are the administrative units of the State Governments for the welfare of the tribal people.

Since 2003-04, the Government of India, under the Tribal Sub-Plan, is sending funds to the ITDS. But the funds are being diverted by the State Governments to other schemes. I would like to know whether the hon. Minister has any information in this regard, if so, what are the steps the Government of India has taken in this regard?

Sir, it came in the newspapers. We are directly releasing the funds for the tribal welfare, but the State Governments are diverting those funds to other schemes. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You do not have to repeat.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Sir, the State Governments are diverting the funds to other schemes. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There is no necessity to repeat.

SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH: Sir, there is no such information that we know of.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDASATHAWALE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the tribal welfare schemes are being implemented by the Government of India and the State Governments for several years, however, no specific programme is being run for lifting them above poverty line. The Government of India have also formulated the Tribal Sub-Plan. As per the Census 2001, tribal people comprise 8.2 percent of the total population of the country. The budget allocation for the previous year was Rs. 5,63,000 crore. A provision of at least Rs. 50 thousand crore was required to be made for the tribals. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister as to how much was allocated in budget 2006-2007 for tribals and the efforts being made

by the Ministry to allocate 8.2 percent of the total budget that is Rs. 50 thousand crore in the next budget for tribal population.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: He wants more money.

SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH: Sir, this is a question for the future. We will take the suggestions of the hon. Member in order to increase the allocation of funds in the Eleventh Plan.

MR. SPEAKER: Very good.

[Translation]

Industrial Parks

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*384. SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI:
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:

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

(a) the details of the industrial parks set up in the country during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government is contemplating to set up more industrial parks in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the industrial parks have lost their relevance after the introduction of new schemes launched for industrial development; and

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

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR):
(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The details of the Industrial Parks approved & set up under the Industrial Park Scheme 2002, during each of the last three years, State-wise are given in the Annexure.

(b) and (c) The Industrial Park Scheme 2002 is an ongoing scheme. Under the Scheme, Income Tax benefits under Section 80, IA of the Income Tax Act 1961 are available to undertakings which are engaged in the business of developing, operating & maintaining of Industrial Parks. The benefits are available uptill March, 2009. Applications are being continuously received and are considered, as per the scheme.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. The Scheme provides for deductions, in calculating the tax payable, under the Income Tax Act 1961, on profits from industrial undertakings or enterprises, engaged in infrastructure development for a period of ten consecutive years, in a block of fifteen assessment years after the commencement of business. As the scheme envisages promoting quality industrial infrastructure, which is an essential component of industrialization, it is being found attractive by the developers.

Annexure

State-wise No. of Industrial Parks approved and functional during the last 3 years

Sl. No.	State	No. of Industrial Parks approved under the Industrial Park Scheme during the last 3 years	No. of Industrial parks functional during the last 3 years
1	Andhra Pradesh	20	6
2	Chandigarh	1	1
3	Gujarat	4	1
4	Haryana	2	1
5	Karnataka	39	20
6	Maharashtra	56	23
7	Punjab	1	-
8	Rajasthan	63	5
9	Tamil Nadu	10	2
10	Uttar Pradesh	5	3
11	Uttaranchal	5	-
12	West Bengal	7	4
Total		213	66

[Translation]

SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Industrial Park Scheme Policy formulated by the Central Government has been in vogue since 1977 and has also been extended upto March, 2009. It is the scheme of Industrial Park which is in the interest of the nation, the State, the industries and the labourers. The State Governments have also took much interest in it. Some States have made efforts to set up industrial parks on their own and have also made efforts to set up industrial parks by way of signing MoUs with foreign countries. Through you, I would like to

know from the hon'ble Minister the total number of proposals of Industrial Parks submitted to the Central Government by the Gujarat Government and the number of proposals out of them approved by the Central Government.

[English]

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Sir, the Industrial Park Scheme is one of the schemes that is being run by the Government of India in our Department. It has proved to be a highly successful scheme because it relates to the development of quality infrastructure. I have placed the information in the reply.

As far as Gujarat is concerned, the number of industrial parks approved under the Scheme is four, and those which are functioning in the last three years in the State of Gujarat is one.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Its answer has been given in the reply.

SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI: These are the approved ones, I would like to know as to how many have been started?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: How many are pending? Have you got the necessary information?

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: In all, there are 157 proposals from all over the country which are pending. From Gujarat, as far as my information is concerned, as per this chart, in the last three years, none is pending, but as far as Gujarat is concerned I will get the information more elaborately and give it to the hon. Member.

[Translation]

SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, under the Industrial Park Scheme the State Government of Gujarat has sent a labour oriented Industrial Park Ordinance to the Government of India for its assent. The said Ordinance has been lying pending for approval for a very long time. When the Government of India will give its assent to the ordinance sent by the State Govt. of Gujarat?

[English]

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: This is not covered by the Question. I will get the information. It pertains to a particular State. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are right.

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: I will get the information and give it to the hon. Member.

[Translation]

SHRI MAHESH KANODIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from hon. Minister-whether any time-limit has been framed for implementation of Industrial Park Scheme? If so, what are the details thereof and in case of violations of time limit whether there are any penal provisions.

[English]

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Sir, this Scheme was originally to expire in 2006. It has, now, been extended till 2009. It is implicit in the time-limit for the operation of the Scheme that the parks have to come up as soon as possible for the simple reason that it is only thereafter that the developer can get the returns by allocating it or selling it to the units concerned. Although there is no specific time duration but it is being monitored very closely by the Department. In case of any inordinate delay, action is taken and the developer is called.

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, from the statement tabled by the hon. Minister, 10 industrial parks are approved by the Government of India, and more so, only two industrial parks are functioning. May I know from the hon. Minister, through you, Sir, the special reasons for non-functioning of the remaining eight industrial parks?

Sir, Madurai is the second biggest city in Tamil Nadu. South Tamil Nadu is economically and industrially backward. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether any application for starting the industrial park in South Tamil Nadu is pending. If not, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will introduce further fillip to start industrial parks in south Tamil Nadu.

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Sir, this Scheme is not a State specific. It does not arise out of this Question. But I can, for the satisfaction of the hon. Member, tell him that whenever any proposal is received from any State Government, it is favourably considered provided it is within the normal parameters of eligibility.

MD. SALIM: Sir, the hon. Minister has rightly given the a cumulative figure for three years in respect of the sanctioned strength of the industrial parks, and how many are functional. That was the main Question. My question is this. The Minister has replied to the first part of the Question and said that it is a continuous process, every time they are receiving the applications and accordingly, they are sanctioning it. A huge number of parks – more than two-thirds – have been sanctioned but not functional. What is the number of applications, year-wise, that you are

receiving? For example, this year and last year, how many have been sanctioned? If you give these details, then we can find out how many are not functioning after they are sanctioned. After the SEZ rule — the main question was that and the Minister has avoided that — finalised in February 2006, is it still attractive? Your figures will show that.

MR. SPEAKER: I do not think the Minister has avoided it.

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Sir, it is a very relevant question. I will attempt and answer. First of all, this has no correlation to SEZ because SEZ is an entirely different Scheme. It is related to exports. This is for quality infrastructure. It is true that there is a gap between what is sanctioned and what has become functional.

It is for this reason that we have now started a review of the scheme with a view to bridging whatever are the inadequacies; and we are ensuring that whatever is sanctioned, actually gets started on the ground. That is why we have circulated a note in the Ministry of Finance, which is one of the key Ministries, and we are going soon to amend the scheme with a view to ensuring that whatever is sanctioned gets on the ground.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this scheme envisages promoting quality infrastructure. But we find that the result, which has been shown in the statement, is very much dismal and discouraging. Within three years, the figures of only 12 States have been made available. Then, about the project, the number of industrial parks approved is 213 whereas the number of functional industrial parks is only 66. It is not covering all the States of the country.

So, why are the other States not coming forward? What is the difficulty? Is the scheme not very much encouraging? In my view, some more incentive is required to be given for all these schemes. So, I would like to know as to what is the perception of the Government. What are they doing, because the result is very much dismal and discouraging? The figures of other States are not available. What is happening with the other States? Why are they not coming forward? I want to know an answer from the hon. Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: Okay. You need not repeat. You have asked your question. Asking a question three times, does not make it a stronger.

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Sir, why a particular State is more active than the other is for the State Governments to say; and for those inactivities, it is for them to explain.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, that is right.

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: As far as the scheme is

concerned, we are determined to go out of the way to promote the development of quality infrastructure not only under this scheme but under various schemes that pertain to quality infrastructure. But as I have said in my reply to the earlier questions, whatever has been the noticeable shortcoming, either in the implementation of the scheme or in coordinating with various State Governments and various stakeholders, will be addressed through an ongoing process of review.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Shri Ram Kripal Yadav. You have to ask a relevant question.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Ask relevant question only.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Sir, I will ask relevant question only. The hon. Minister, in his reply, has given a chart showing details of the industrial parks approved during the last three years. According to that these parks have been approved in 12 states. I would like to tell the hon. Minister that there are several states where there is rampant poverty, backwardness states like Bihar. I would like to ask whether there is any proposal so far received from Bihar. If not, whether the Government propose to set up such parks in Bihar so that its backwardness and poverty are alleviated.

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would request the hon. Member to come forward with any proposal but it should meet eligibility criteria. We would be glad to set up parks in Bihar. But so far last three years are concerned no such proposal has been received from Bihar.

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Sir, through you, I would like to draw attention of the hon. Minister to the fact that Maharashtra is a developed State from industrial point of view. In his reply, the hon. Minister has stated that 56 proposals have been received from Maharashtra and out of them, 23 proposals have been implemented during the last 2-3 years. I would like to ask the hon. Minister, the reason for not granting approval to the remaining 33 proposals and the time by which they are likely to be given approval. I would also like to know the names thereof.

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, so far as the names are concerned, I would provide him the information, but so far as reasons for non-approval are concerned, I would like to say that there may be specific reasons for the approval of each park. So, I will have to find out specifically. I would find out the reasons and apprise the hon. Member of it.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Q.No. 385: Shri Iqbal Ahmed Saradgi — not present.

Q. No. 386: Shri Adhalrao Patil Shivajirao — not present

Shri Anandrao V. Adsul.

Patenting of Indian Herbs and Plants

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*386. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

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

(a) whether some developed countries and multinational companies have recently got various Indian herbs and medicinal plants/compositions based on properties of certain herbs/medicinal plants patented in their name;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR):
(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Herbs and medicinal plants, existing in nature, do not normally meet the criteria of patentability, viz., novelty, inventiveness and industrial applicability. However, patents have reportedly been granted on compositions, based on properties of certain herbs/medicinal plants.

(b) and (c) No such information is maintained as patents are granted by various countries, according to their respective patent laws and are effective only in the country of grant.

When information is received about patents being obtained on certain items, which are not considered patentable and which adversely affect Indian interests, possibilities are explored by the affected person to challenge it under the patent laws of the country concerned, e.g., a patent granted in the United States of America on the use of turmeric for wound healing was challenged and the said patent was got cancelled.

In order to protect bio-resources, the Patents Act, 1970, as amended last in 2005, contains provisions for mandatory disclosure of source and geographical origin of the biological material used in an invention, while applying for patents in India. As per Section 3 (j) of the Patents Act, 1970, plants and animals, in whole, or any part thereof, other than micro-organisms but including seeds, varieties and species and essentially biological processes for production or propagation of plants and animals, are not patentable. Provisions

in Sections 10, 25 and 64 of the Act have been incorporated to include the non-disclosure or wrongful disclosure of source and geographical origin of the biological material as grounds for opposition and for revocation of a granted patent.

To protect traditional knowledge from being patented, provisions have been incorporated in Section 3 of the Patents Act that an invention which, in effect, is traditional knowledge, or which is an aggregation or duplication of known properties of traditionally known component or components, is not patentable. As per provisions in Section 25 of the Act, anticipation of invention by knowledge, oral or otherwise, available within any local or indigenous community in India or elsewhere, is one of the grounds for opposition to the grant of a patent. Similar grounds are provided in Section 64 of the Act for revocation of a granted patent.

Government has also undertaken the development of a Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) for Ayurveda, Unani and Siddha systems of medicine in patent application format to prevent patenting of inventions based on such knowledge.

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Sir, medicinal plants and herbs are the traditional monopoly of our country, and so many Ayurveda Acharyas have written books on herbs and medicinal plants composition. Nowadays, it is competing with the Allopathy by quality, good packing with good marketing. But it is observed that so many multinational companies have purchased medicinal plants and are selling the products on their own patents. What steps has the Government taken to prevent it?

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Sir, it is true that in the past, certain cases have been noticed where foreign patent offices, particularly in the US and Europe, have granted patents to certain of our geographical indicators or biodiversity products like Neem, Turmeric and Basmati. But as soon as these had been brought to our notice, the concerned organizations took up the case; they had applied for revocation of the cases; and I am happy to report to this House that in the case of Turmeric, Neem and Basmati, we were successful in having the patents wrongfully granted, withdrawn.

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Sir, as reported in the National Herald dated 1.10.2006, India will soon put on internet, the names of 1,07,000 traditional knowledge belonging to the country, which cannot be patented by any one in the world. Definitely, I would congratulate the Government. But if it is so, what are the steps which the Government is willing to take in regard to patents which have been issued in the past by multinational companies of other countries?

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Sir, as the hon. Member rightly said, we have put out what is known as Traditional Knowledge Digital Library, where 1,60,000 instances of traditional knowledge have been earmarked for the benefit of foreign registries so that under any ignorance, patents are not granted. As I said, in the past, specific cases have been brought to our notice particularly, relating to Basmati, Turmeric, Neem, Brinjal and Jamun. We have successfully challenged these wrongful patents, and have got them revoked in four cases. Wherever such wrongfully granted patents and information thereto are brought to our notice, we will do everything possible to protect our traditional knowledge and biodiversity.

DR. SUJAN CHAKRABORTY: Sir, it is a very important question where India is having the highest biodiversity in the world. It ranges from Himalayas to Sunderbans; all of us know. The traditional use of herbs and medicinal plants is also huge in our country. Every village in our country has some sort of traditional knowledge; all of us know it. But most unfortunate part is that in the last few years, the patents on medicinal plants, herbs, part thereof and its use are manifold in the USA and China than in India. Roughly it is 60 to 70 times more than what is there India.

My view is that the Government should be more serious on this issue. In the written answer it is mentioned:

"When information is received about patents being obtained in certain items, which are not considered patentable and which adversely affect Indian interests, possibilities are explored by the affected person to challenge it under the patent laws."

This gives an impression as if it is the affected persons for whose interest the patent and patentability are to be seen. It should be a national interest; and from that end, it should be seen.

My question is that since in spite of TKDL, there are traditional knowledge in the villages, whether the Government is going to formulate and develop a compendium on the traditional knowledge. From that end, the Government as a national interest should take up the issue of patent as the most serious one.

MR. SPEAKER: What is your question?

DR. SUJAN CHAKRABORTY: I want to know whether the Government is going to formulate and develop a compendium on traditional knowledge and thereby patent applications as well as the patentability should be the responsibility of the Government as a national interest. It is not just the responsibility of the affected person.

MR. SPEAKER: The Government only grants patents.

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): Sir, the Government has taken many steps in this regard.

The Doha Ministerial Declaration acknowledges the necessity of examining the issues relating to traditional knowledge. India, along with Brazil, Colombia, Cuba, Pakistan, Thailand and Tanzania, has moved the WTO-please remember this-on 29th of May 2006 for the amendment of TRIPS to make it mandatory requiring disclosure of origin. This is a step we have taken on 29th May. There has to be a disclosure of traditional knowledge and disclosure of origin. We are taking this up very strongly. That apart, it is our endeavour and we shall be attempting that whenever the Doha Round move is over. This, which we will attempt, also gets somewhat amplified so that further protection is available at a multilateral international level.

[Translation]

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Sir, as it is clear from the question, MNCs have got India's gene pool patented abroad for latter's medicinal properties. I would like to ask the hon. Minister specifically about their number. Further, what steps the Government have taken to counter it and also the problems being faced by the Government in countering them?

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: As I have stated, I have given information about wrongful patenting and have taken appropriate action to revoke the said patents. So far as the issue of turmeric, neem and basmati is concerned, most important thing is, as the hon. Minister has just said, that we have taken initiative at Doha Round and besides that through Sections 3, 10, 25, 26 and 60 of Patent Act, 2005 we have provided that such information should be made available to the people abroad and even to the foreign registrars so that wrongful patenting is checked. If one obtains patent by not disclosing traditional knowledge of biodiversity, that can be revoked through provision relating to non-disclosure under Patent Act, 2005. We are making every effort to check wrongful patenting. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No, I would not allow this please. No, this is not a cross-question answer session.

[Translation]

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR: Certain disputes with regard to patenting of herbs and medicinal plants have come to the notice. In case of certain plants, we lagged behind and some countries and MNCs tried to get them patented. I would like to know the total number of such cases pending and number of cases wherein we pleaded but failed alongwith the number of cases decided, so far?

[English]

This is a major question.

[Translation]

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: As I have stated in my reply earlier that foreign companies submit applications abroad in their registries. And since these registries have no proper details, they grant patents on such applications. Though we do not have full details, yet, whatever we get information about wrongful patenting, we protested and got them revoked, especially in case of turmeric and basmati rice.

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Sir, in spite of India very rich in biodiversity, we are lagging behind many other countries with similar wealth. One of the constraints facing the entrepreneurs in the Indian medicine is the absence of an appropriate pharmacopoeia. Is the Government, along with TKDL, engaging any expert body for the preparation of such a dependable pharmacopoeia?

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: From time to time, we are engaging with our scientific and research establishments. The CSIR has been particularly active, and all avenues are being explored, including a regime of pharmacopoeia. We will be able to let the House know much better as and when the Mashelkar Committee recommendations are forthcoming.

Export of Vegetables/Fruits

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*387. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN:
SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV:

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

(a) the details of the quantity and value of vegetables and fruits particularly mango exported from the country, during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government has received representation from the exporters about the difficulties being faced by them in the export of these items; and

(c) if so, the efforts being made by the Government to address those problems and promote export of such items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) (i) The quantity and value of fruits and vegetables exported during the last three years are given below:

(Quantity in Metric tons; Value in Rupees in Crores)

2003-04		2004-05		2005-06	
Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
12,91,307	1457	12,96,530	1364	14,65,040	1659

(source: DGCI&S)

(ii) The quantity and value of mango exported from the country during the last three years is given below:

(Quantity in Metric tons; Value in Rupees in Crores)

2003-04		2004-05		2005-06	
Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
60,551	111	53,480	90	69,607	128

(source: DGCI&S)

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The redressal of the grievances of the exporters and efforts to boost the export of fruits and vegetables is an ongoing process. Steps in this direction include provision of cargo handling facilities for perishables at international airports, financial assistance to its registered exporters by Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority under its schemes on Market Development, Infrastructure Development, Transport assistance and Quality Development, Research & Development, setting up of Agri Export Zones and measures for streamlining of procedures for export of perishable agri produce.

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Sir, as per the written answer submitted by the hon. Minister, the Government of India is proposing to establish agri-export zones to develop export of fruits and other perishable agri-products. I want to know whether the Government of India is having any proposal to set up one such agri-export zone in Dindigul district of Tamil Nadu which is known for vegetables and fruits.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, over the last three years about 60 agri-export zones have come up in different parts of the country. These agri-export zones have come up as a result of a collaborative venture between the Central Government, the State Governments and private entrepre-

neurs. About Rs. 800 crore worth of investment has gone into these AEZs and roughly about Rs. 5,000 crore worth of exports are also coming about as a result of these.

The specific question from the hon. Member relates to a mango-related agri-export zone in Dindigul district. No such proposal has actually come from the State Government. Right now we have frozen the expansion of the AEZs till we make the current generation of AEZs fully operational. We have set aside some money under the Infrastructure Development Scheme of the Ministry of Commerce to kick-start some of the more attractive of these AEZs and if in the opinion of APEDA the AEZ in Tamil Nadu for mangoes is found to be attractive from the export point of view, I am sure, it will be taken up as well.

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Sir, India is the world's biggest mango producer accounting for nearly half of the global production. A large quantity of export variety of mangoes are produced in Natham which forms part of my constituency. But the agriculturists are facing so many problems for storage of mangoes and are not getting fair price. I want to know whether the Government of India will set up a cold storage at Natham in Dindigul district, Tamil Nadu for helping the mango growers.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, we have had a breakthrough in mango exports this year. Japan, which had banned the import of mangoes from India for almost 20 years, has now allowed six specific varieties of mangoes to be imported from India—Alphonso, Banganpalli, Chousa, Kesar, Langda and Mallika. These six mango varieties can now go to Japan. We are now negotiating with America, Australia and New Zealand for expanding mango exports. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: It is welcome. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, I thought the applause was for mango exports. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Sir, the hon. Minister felt that the Members are clapping hands as he made a mention of Mangoes. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Sir, he wasted the time of the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: What is this going on? You may take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, we are actively ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mangoes and Lalooji both are sweet.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister is answering a very important Question.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Athawale, I will remember; next Session no chance to you.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, I am sure, as a result of our efforts, export of mangoes from Bihar also will benefit and we are getting new markets in Japan and in America and I would like to assure the hon. Member that we will set up cold storage facilities and pack-house facilities wherever it is possible to export mangoes.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Anjan Kumar Yadav ji, you ask your question in brief.

SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask whether the Government have held talks with farming community during the last two years with regard to export of vegetables and fruits? If so, what decisions have been taken in this regard?

[English]

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, the APEDA has taken up the task of setting up vapour heat treatment facilities and irradiation facilities to facilitate the export of mangoes from Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Bihar, West Bengal and UP. This is an on-going process. As and when more export markets are opened up, I am sure the facilities will expand. But APEDA has taken up these facilities as a matter of national priority.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Implementation of Reservation Policy

*385. SHRI IQBALAHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has assessed the infrastructure required to be created and expenditure likely to be incurred for implementing the proposed reservation for OBC's in higher educational institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the funds required for creation of additional infrastructure have also been assessed;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which requisite infrastructure is likely to be created?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (e) The policy of reservation for OBC candidates in admissions to the Centrally aided /maintained /established higher education institutions, would be implemented, subject to the coming into the force of the proposed Legislation, which is before the Parliament. Empowered Committees have been constituted by the Government to approve proposals from Central Educational Institutions in respect of their infrastructure and other requirements for enhancing their respective capacities.

[Translation]

Violation of Official Language Act

*388. DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:
SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the guidelines laid down by the Government to implement the Official Language Act;

(b) whether the targets set to implement the official language policy had not been met by various Government organizations/departments;

(c) if so, the details of organizations/departments which have not been able to achieve the said target in the year 2005-06;

(d) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding violation of official language policy during each of the last three years;

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken against them; and

(f) the concrete steps taken by the Government to implement the official language policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) In the Annual Programme issued every year by the Department of Official Language directions are given for compliance of section 3(3) of the Official Languages Act.

(b) Many Government organisations/departments have not been able to achieve the targets fully. However, utmost efforts are made by them to achieve the targets set in the Annual Programme issued every year by the Department of Official Language for transacting the official work of the Union in Hindi.

(c) As per the information available with the Department of Official Language, a list of those Ministries / Departments, Public Sector Undertakings, Banks etc.; who could not achieve the main targets for the year 2005-06, is enclosed as statement.

(d) Yes Sir, as many as 58 complaints have been received during the last three years (2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06).

(e) These complaints mainly relate to the advertisements not being issued bilingually, letter heads, rubber stamps, forms etc. not being made bilingual, reply to Hindi letters being given in English etc. These complaints were taken up with the concerned Ministries/Departments/Offices and were asked to take corrective measures.

(f) With a view to reviewing the official work done in various Government offices and to work more efficiently Committee of Parliament on Official Language, Kendriya Hindi Samiti, Hindi Salahakar Samities in Ministries/Departments, Central Official Language Implementation Committee, Official Language Implementation Committees and Town Official Language Implementation Committees have been constituted. Besides this, the Quarterly Progress Reports relating to the use of Hindi received from the Ministries, Departments, Offices are reviewed and inspections regarding Official Language are also carried out. The concerned offices are given directions to make up the deficiencies found in the implementation of Official Language Policy. As the policy of the Government is to increase the use of Official Language Hindi through inspiration, incentives and goodwill, therefore, many incentive and award schemes have also been implemented by the Government.

Statement

Sl.No.	Ministry/Department	Compliance of Section 3(3)	Letter received in Hindi & replied to in Hindi	Position of training in Hindi typing	Position of training in Hindi Stenography	Bilingual Code Manuals	Holding the official Language implementation committee meetings
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Department of Space	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
2.	Department of Ayush	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
3.	Department of Economic Affairs	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
4.	Department of Steel	Yes	Yes	No	No	*	Yes
5.	Department of Consumer Affairs	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
6.	Department of Fertiliser	Yes	No	Yes	No	*	Yes
7.	Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
8.	Department of Company Affairs	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
9.	Department of Personnel & Training	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
10.	Deptt. of Agriculture Research & Education	Yes	Yes	No	No	*	Yes
11.	Department of Agriculture & Cooperation	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
12.	Ministry of Coal	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
13.	Department of Food & Public Distribution	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
14.	Min of Food Processing & Industries	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
15.	Ministry of Mines	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
16.	Ministry of Home Affairs	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
17.	Ministry of Rural Development	Yes	Yes	No	No	*	Yes
18.	Ministry of Tribal Affairs	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
19.	Ministry of Water Resources	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
20.	Department of Posts	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
21.	Department of Telecommunication	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
22.	Department of Atomic Energy	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
23.	Department of Tourism	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	*	Yes
24.	Ministry of Environment & Forest	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
25.	D/o Animal Husbandry, Dairy	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
26.	Department of Supply	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
27.	D/o Admin Reforms & Public Grievances	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
28.	Department of Biotechnology	Yes	Yes	No	No	*	Yes
29.	Banking Division	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
30.	Election Commission of India	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
31.	Department of Heavy Industries	Yes	Yes	No	No	*	Yes
32.	Department of Wasteland Development	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
33.	Cabinet Secretariat	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
34.	Department of Ocean Development	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
35.	D/o Women & Child Development	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
36.	D/o Secondary & Higher Secondary Edn.	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
37.	Ministry of Sports & Youth Affairs	Yes	No	No	No	*	Yes
38.	Planning Commission	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
39.	Department of Defence Production & Supply	Yes	Yes	No	No	*	Yes
40.	Ministry of Defence	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
41.	Department of Chemical & Petrochemical	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
42.	Department of Revenue	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
43.	Railway Board	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
44.	Ministry of Small Scale Industries	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	*	Yes
45.	Department of Public Enterprises	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	*	Yes
46.	Ministry of Textiles	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
47.	Department of Science & Technology	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
48.	Ministry of External Affairs	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
49.	Ministry of Power	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
50.	Department of Legislative	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
51.	Department of Legal Affairs	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
52.	Department of Expenditure	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
53.	M/o Urban Employment & Poverty Alleviation	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
54.	Union Public Service Commission	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
55.	Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
56.	Ministry of Culture	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
57.	Ministry of Road Transport & Highway	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
58.	M/o Statistics & Programme Implementation	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
59.	Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
60.	Ministry of Information & Broadcasting	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
61.	Ministry of Health & Family Welfare	Yes	Yes	No	No	*	Yes

Note : No - Who have not achieved their target

Yes - Who have achieved their target.

* Not applicable

Sl.No.	Undertakings	Compliance of Section 3(3)	Letter received in Hindi & replied to in Hindi	Position of training in Hindi Stenography/typing	Bilingual Code Manuals	Holding the official Language implementation committee meetings
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Undertakings of the D/o Atomic Energy	No	No	No	No	Yes
2.	Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd., Kolkata	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
3.	NEPA Ltd., Nepanagar (M.P)	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
4.	Andrew Yule & Company Ltd., Kolkata	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
5.	Heavy Engineering Corpn. Ltd., Ranchi	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
6.	Hindustan Salts Ltd.,	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
7.	Scooters India Limited., Lucknow	No	No	No	No	Yes
8.	Richardson & Cruddas (1972) Ltd., Mumbai	No	No	Yes	No	No
9.	Hindustan Newsprint Limited, Kottayam, Kerala	Yes	No	Yes	No	No
10.	Bharat Wagon & Engg. Company Limited (BWEL)	No	No	No	Yes	Yes

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11.	Trivani Structures Limited (TSL)	No	No	No	No	No
12.	Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Company Limited (HPF)	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
13.	Tyre Corporation of India Limited (TCIL)	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
14.	Bharat Pumps & Compressors Ltd.	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
15.	Defence Undertakings, Offices of ISO	No	No	Yes	No	Yes
16.	Defence Undertakings	No	No	Yes	No	Yes
17.	N.B.C.C.	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
18.	Indian National Cooperative Housing Organisation	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes

Note: No - Who have not achieved their target.

Yes - Who have achieved their target.

Sl.No.	Nationalised Banks	Compliance of Section 3(3)	Letter received in Hindi & replied to in Hindi	Position of training in Hindi Stenography/typing	Bilingual Code Manuals	Holding the official Language implementation committee meetings
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	State Bank of India, Corporate Centre, Mumbai	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
2.	State Bank of Hyderabad	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
3.	United Bank of India	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
4.	Allahabad Bank	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
5.	Bank of India	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
6.	UCO Bank	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
7.	SIDBI	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
8.	State Bank of Saurashtra	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
9.	Indian Bank	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
10.	Central Bank of India	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
11.	Bank of Maharashtra	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
12.	NABARD	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
13.	State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
14.	State Bank of Travancore	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
15.	Andhra Bank	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
16.	Punjab & Sind Bank	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
17.	Corporation Bank	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
18.	IDBI	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
19.	Indian Overseas Bank	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
20.	The I.F.C.I Ltd.	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
21.	State Bank of Indore	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
22.	Dena Bank	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
23.	Indian Industrial Investment Bank Ltd.	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
24.	Reserve Bank of India	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
25.	Canara Bank	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
26.	Vijaya Bank	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
27.	Bank of Baroda	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
28.	State Bank of Patiala	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
29.	Syndicate Bank	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
30.	Union Bank of India	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes

Note: No - Who have not achieved their target.

Yes - Who have achieved their target.

[English]

Trade Negotiations

*389. SHRIMATI ARCHANA NAYAK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of the country's trade with Gulf/West Asia/African Countries;

(b) whether the Government proposes to negotiate with the Gulf Cooperation Council on Free Trade Agreement and with West Asian and African countries on investment promotion agreement;

(c) if so, the details of benefits likely to be accrued as a result of these agreements; and

(d) the concrete steps taken by the Government to materialize these agreements?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) As per the data bank of DGCIS, Kolkata, value of India's trade with the Gulf/ West Asia/ African

countries amounted to \$36856.94 million during the year 2005-2006.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and Bilateral Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement (BIPA) are facilitative mechanisms for promotion of two way flow of trade and investment.

(d) One round of negotiations between India and the Gulf Cooperation Council on the proposed FTA has already been held. Correspondence has been exchanged with Algeria, Ethiopia, Ghana, Iran, Iraq, Kenya, Lebanon, Mozambique, Nigeria, South Africa, Syria, Tanzania, Tunisia and United Arab Emirates in furtherance of negotiations with them on BIPA.

Development and Growth of Mining Sector

*390. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR:

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the measures being taken by the Government for the growth and development of mining sector in the country;

(b) whether the Mineral Advisory Council (MAC) meeting held at New Delhi recommended measures for further development and growth of mining sector in the country; and

(c) if so, the details of the issues discussed therein alongwith the reaction of the Government on the recommendation of MAC?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) Some of the measures taken by the Ministry of Mines for the growth and development of mining sector in the country are as follows:-

- (i) Enunciated the National Mineral Policy in 1993.
- (ii) Opened up the non-fuel and non-atomic mineral sector for private sector investment, including foreign direct investment (FDI).
- (iii) Introduced the concept of reconnaissance permit (RP) as a stage distinct from and prior to actual prospecting operations.
- (iv) Delegated further authority to State Government.

In order to promote further growth in the mining sector, a High Level Committee (HLC) under the chairmanship of Shri Anwarul Hoda, Member, Planning Commission was constituted to review the National Mineral Policy and recommend possible amendments in the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 to give a fillip to private investment in the sector. The Committee has submitted its report to the Central Government.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. There was a meeting of Mineral Advisory Council in which Chief Ministers of States Governments were invited and those Chief Ministers who could not attend the meeting sent their Mines Ministers. Mines Secretary of the State Governments also participated in the meeting of the Council. State Governments, Central Ministries/Departments, Industry and other members of the Mineral Advisory Council expressed their views on the recommendations of the HLC.

Foreign Investments

*391. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Policy;

(b) whether the Government proposes to bring those foreign investors who had already established their business in the country prior to the new policy, within the purview of the new FDI Policy; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Government has put in place a liberal and transparent Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy. The details of the extant FDI policy are given in the statement enclosed.

(b) and (c) FDI policy is presently incorporated in the Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer or Issue of Security to Persons Resident outside India) Regulations, 2000 (FEMA) notified by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), in pursuance of the powers conferred under section 6(3) of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (FEMA, 1999). Prior to this enactment, establishment of places of business in India by persons resident outside India was governed by Section 29 of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 (FERA), which has been repealed. In terms of Section 49(5) (a) of FEMA, 1999, actions taken under FERA are deemed to have been taken under the corresponding provisions of FEMA, 1999.

Statement

Policy on Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)

I. Sectors prohibited for FDI

- i. Retail trading (except Single Brand Product retailing)
- ii. Atomic energy
- iii. Lottery business
- iv. Gambling and Betting

II. All Activities/ Sectors would require prior Government approval for FDI in the following circumstances:

- i. where provisions of Press Note 1 (2005 Series) are attracted;
- ii. where more than 24% foreign equity is proposed to be inducted for manufacture of items reserved for the Small Scale sector.

III. In Sectors/Activities not listed below, FDI is permitted up to 100% on the automatic route subject to sectoral rules/ regulations applicable.

IV. Sector-specific policy for FDI

S. No.	Sector/Activity	FDI Cap/Equity	Entry Route	Other conditions	Relevant Press Note issued by D/o IPP
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Airports				
a.	Greenfield projects	100%	Automatic	Subject to sectoral regulations notified by Ministry of Civil Aviation	PN 4/2006
b.	Existing projects	100%	FIPB beyond 74%.	Subject to sectoral regulations notified by Ministry of Civil Aviation	PN 4/2006
2.	Air Transport Services	49%- FDI; 100%- for NRI investment	Automatic	Subject to no direct or indirect participation by foreign airlines. Government of India Gazette Notification dated 2.11.2004 Issued by Ministry of Civil Aviation	
3.	Alcohol - Distillation & Brewing	100%	Automatic	Subject to license by appropriate authority	PN 4/2006
4.	Asset Reconstruction Companies	49% (only FDI)	FIPB	Where any individual investment exceeds 10% of the equity, provisions of Section 3(3)(f) of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 should be complied with.	
5.	Atomic Minerals	74%	FIPB	Subject to guidelines issued by Department of Atomic Energy vide Resolution No. 8/1(1)/97-PSU/1422 dated 6.10.98.	
6.	Banking - Private sector	74% (FDI+FII)	Automatic	Subject to guidelines for setting up branches/ subsidiaries of foreign banks issued by RBI.	PN2/2004
7.	Broadcasting				
a.	FM Radio	FDI +FII investment up to 20%	FIPB	Subject to Guidelines notified by Ministry of Information & Broadcasting	PN 6/2005
b.	Cable network	49% (FDI+FII)	FIPB	Subject to Cable Television Network Rules (1994) Notified by Ministry of Information & Broadcasting	

1	2	3	4	5	6
c.	Direct-To-Home	49% (FDI+FII). Within this limit, FDI component not to exceed 20%	FIPB	Subject to guidelines issued by Ministry of Information & Broadcasting	
d.	Setting up hardware facilities such as up-linking, HUB, etc.	49% (FDI+FII)	FIPB	Subject to Up-linking Policy notified by Ministry of Information & Broadcasting	PN 1/2006
e.	Up-linking a News & Current Affairs TV Channel	26% FDI+FII	FIPB	Subject to guidelines issued by Ministry of Information & Broadcasting	PN 1/2006
f.	Up-linking a Non-news & Current Affairs TV Channel	100%	FIPB	Subject to guidelines issued by Ministry of Information & Broadcasting	PN 1/2006
8.	Cigars & Cigarettes-Manufacture	100%	FIPB	Subject to industrial license under the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951	PN 4/2006
9.	Coal & Lignite mining for captive consumption by power projects, and iron & steel, cement production and other eligible activities permitted under the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973.	100%	Automatic	Subject to provisions of Coal Mines (Nationalization) Act, 1973	PN 4/2006
10.	Coffee & Rubber processing & warehousing	100%	Automatic		PN 4/2006
11.	Construction Development projects, including housing, commercial premises, resorts, educational institutions, recreational facilities, city and regional level infrastructure, townships.	100%	Automatic	Subject to conditions notified vide Press Note 2 (2005 Series) including: a. minimum capitalization of US\$ 10 million for wholly owned subsidiaries and US\$ 5 million for joint venture. The funds would have to be brought within six months of commencement of business of the Company.	PN2/2005 & PN 2/ 2006

1	2	3	4	5	6
				<p>b. Minimum area to be developed under each project -10 hectares in case of development of serviced housing plots; and built-up area of 50,000 sq. mts. in case of construction development project; and any of the above in case of a combination project. [Note: For investment by NRIs, the conditions mentioned in Press Note 2/2005 are not applicable.]</p>	
12.	Courier services for carrying packages, parcels and other items which do not come within the ambit of the Indian Post Office Act, 1898.	100%	FIPB	Subject to existing laws and exclusion of activity relating to distribution of letters, which is exclusively reserved for the State.	PN 4/2001
13.	Defence production	26%	FIPB	Subject to licensing under industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951 and guidelines on FDI in production of arms & ammunition.	PN 4/2001 & PN 2/2002
14.	Floriculture, Horticulture, Development of Seeds, Animal Husbandry, Pisciculture, aqua-culture, cultivation of vegetables, mushrooms, under controlled conditions and services related to agro and allied sectors.	100%	Automatic		PN 4/2006
15.	Hazardous chemicals, viz., hydrocyanic acid and its derivatives; phosgene and its derivatives; and isocyanates and diisocyanates of hydrocarbon.	100%	Automatic	Subject to industrial license under the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951 and other sectoral regulations.	PN 4/2006

1	2	3	4	5	6
16.	Industrial explosives-Manufacture	100%	Automatic	Subject to industrial license under Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951 and regulations under Explosives Act, 1898	PN 4/2006
17.	Insurance	26%	Automatic	Subject to licensing by the Insurance Regulatory & Development Authority	PN 10/2000
18.	Investing companies in infrastructure/ services sector (except telecom sector)	49%	FIPB	Foreign investment in an investing company will not be counted towards sectoral cap in infrastructure /services sector provided the investment is up to 49% and the management of the company is in Indian hands.	PN2/2000 & PN 5/2005
19.	Mining covering exploration and mining of diamonds & precious stones; gold, silver and minerals.	100%	Automatic	Subject to Mines & Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 Press Note 18 (1998) and Press Note 1 (2005) are not applicable for setting up 100% owned subsidiaries in so far as the mining sector is concerned, subject to a declaration from the applicant that he has no existing joint venture for the same area and/ or the particular mineral.	PN 2/2000, PN3/2005, & PN 4/2006
20.	Non Banking Finance Companies - approved activities				
(i)	Merchant banking	100%	Automatic	Subject to:	PN 2/2000
(ii)	Underwriting			a. minimum	PN 6/2000, &
(iii)	Portfolio Management Services			capitalization norms for fund based	PN 2/2001
(iv)	Investment Advisory Services			NBFCs - US\$ 0.5 million to be brought upfront for FDI up to 51%; US\$ 5 million to be brought upfront for FDI above 51% and up to 75% and US\$ 50 million out of which US\$ 7.5 million to be brought upfront and the balance in 24 months for FDI beyond 75% and up to 100%	
(v)	Financial Consultancy				
(vi)	Stock Broking				
(vii)	Asset Management				
(viii)	Venture Capital				
(ix)	Custodial Services				
(x)	Factoring				
(xi)	Credit Reference Agencies				
(xii)	Credit Rating Agencies				
(xiii)	Leasing & Finance				

1	2	3	4	5	6
(xiv)	Housing Finance				
(xv)	Forex Broking			b.	minimum capitalization norms for non-fund based NBFC activities- US\$ 0.5 million
(xvi)	Credit card business			c.	foreign investors can set up 100% operating subsidiaries without the condition to disinvest a minimum of 25% of its equity to Indian entities subject to bringing in Under Secretary 50 million without any restriction on number of operating subsidiaries without bringing additional capital.
(xvii)	Money changing business			d.	joint venture operating NBFC's that have 75% or less than 75% foreign investment will also be allowed to set up subsidiaries for undertaking other NBFC activities subject to the subsidiaries also complying with the applicable minimum capital inflow.
(xviii)	Micro credit			e.	compliance with the guidelines of the RBI
(xix)	Rural credit				
21.	Petroleum & Natural Gas sector				
a.	Other than Refining and including market study and formulation; investment/ financing; setting up infrastructure for marketing in Petroleum & Natural Gas sector	100%	Automatic	Subject to sectoral regulations issued by Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, and in the case of actual trading and marketing of petroleum products, divestment of 26% equity in favour of Indian partner/public within 5 years	PN 1/2004 & PN 4/2008
b.	Refining	26% in case of PSUs 100% in case of Private companies	FIPB (In case of PSUs) Automatic (in case of private companies)	Subject to Sectoral policy	PN 2/2000

1	2	3	4	5	6
22.	Print Media - Publishing of newspaper and periodicals dealing with news and current affairs	26%	FIPB	Subject to Guidelines notified by Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.	
a.					
b.	Publishing of scientific magazines/ specialty journals/ periodicals	100%	FIPB	Subject to guidelines issued by Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.	PN 1/2004
23.	Power including generation (except Atomic energy), transmission, distribution and Power Trading.	100%	Automatic	Subject provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003	PN 2/1998, PN 7/2000, & PN 4/2006
24.	Tea Sector, including tea plantation	100%	FIPB	Subject to divestment of 26% equity in favour of Indian partner/Indian public within 5 years and prior approval of State Government for change in land use.	PN 6/2002
25.	Telecommunication				
a.	Basic and cellular, Unified Access Services, National/International Long Distance, V-Sat, Public Mobile Radio Trunked Services (PMRTS), Global Mobile Personal Communications Services (GMPCS) and other value added telecom services	74% (including FDI, FII, NRI, FCCBs, ADRs, GDRs, convertible preference shares, and proportionate foreign equity in Indian promoters/ Investing Company)	Automatic up to 49%. FIPB beyond 49%	Subject to guidelines notified in the PN 5/2005 Series	PN 5/2005
b.	ISP with gateways, radio-paging, end-to-end bandwidth.	74%	Automatic up to 49%. FIPB beyond 49%	Subject to licensing and security requirements notified by the Department of Telecommunications	PN 4/2001
c.	ISP without gateway, infrastructure provider providing dark fibre, electronic mail and voice mail	100%	Automatic up to 49%. FIPB beyond 49%	Subject to the condition that such companies shall divest 26% of their equity in favour of Indian public in 5 years, if these companies are listed in other parts of the world. Also subject to licensing and security requirements, where required.	PN 9/2000

1	2	3	4	5	6
d.	Manufacture of telecom equipments	100%	Automatic	Subject to sectoral requirements.	PN 2/2000
26.	Trading				
a.	Wholesale / cash & carry trading	100%	Automatic	Subject to guidelines for FDI in trading issued by Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion vide Press Note 3 (2006 Series)	PN 4/2006
b.	Trading for exports	100%	Automatic		
c.	Trading of items sourced from small scale sector	100%	FIPB		
d.	Test marketing of such items for which a company has approval for manufacture	100%	FIPB		
e.	Single Brand product retailing	51%	FIPB		
27.	Satellites - Establishment and operation	74%	FIPB	Subject to Sectoral guidelines issued by Department of Space/ISRO	
28.	Special Economic Zones and Free Trade Warehousing Zones covering setting up of these Zones and setting up units in the Zones	100%	Automatic	Subject to Special Economic Zones Act, 2005 and the Foreign Trade Policy,	PN 9 / 2000; PN 2 /2006; & PN 4/2006

Vocational Training Centres

*392. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Vocational Training Centres (VTC) set up in tribal areas under the Central Sector Scheme of vocational training including the number of tribal youths trained, State-wise;

(b) whether more VTCs are proposed to be set up in the country particularly in Assam;

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

(d) whether the functioning of such VTCs particularly in Assam have been hampered due to non release of grants-in-aid since year 2004-05.

(e) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the time by which the requisite fund are likely to be released; and

(f) the steps being taken for the timely release of grants to such centres?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) A statement showing the number of Vocational Training Centers sanctioned to various State Govts./NGOs with number of trainees during last three years is at attached.

(b) and (c) Vocational Training Centers for Scheduled Tribes are sanctioned to the State Governments/UT Administrations/NGOs subject to the availability of funds and based on proposals sent by the States/UTs/NGOs to this Ministry at the locations proposed by them. Assam already has been sanctioned 26 VTCs. No more VTCs have been proposed by the State Govt.

(d) and (e) Funds amounting to Rs. 62,53,800/- and Rs. 65,37,300/- were released to the State Govt. of Assam in respect of 10 ongoing VTCs, during the years 2004-05 and 2005-06.

(f) Grants are released to States/UTs on receipt of complete proposals including utilization certificates and physical progress reports in respect of the funds released in previous years, subject to availability of funds.

Statement

Grant in aid released to the State Govts. under the scheme of VTC during last three years

Sl.No. States	2003-04		2004-05		2005-06	
	Center	Beneficiaries	Center	Beneficiaries	Center	Beneficiaries
1. Andhra Pradesh	9	900	0	0	09	900
2. Assam	0	0	10	500	10	500
3. Gujarat	13	1300	13	1415	0	0
4. Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0	0	1	50
5. Karnataka	0	0	10	1000	10	1000
6. Kerala	0	0	3	300	0	0
7. Madhya Pradesh	0	0	0	0	10	500
8. Maharashtra	15	779	0	0	0	0
9. Mizoram	5	500	0	0	5	500
10. West Bengal	0	0	0	0	4	400
11. Chhattisgarh	0	0	12	1200	0	0
12. Sikkim	3	100	0	0	10	300
Total	45	3579	48	4415	59	4150

Grant in aid released to the NGOs (State wise) under the Scheme of VTC

Sl. No.States	2003-04		2004-05		2005-06	
	Center	Beneficiaries	Center	Beneficiaries	Center	Beneficiaries
1. Assam	2	200	2	200	3	300
2. Karnataka	1	100	2	200	0	0
3. Madhya Pradesh	2	200	1	100	1	100
4. Maharashtra	1	100	0	0	0	0
5. Meghalaya	1	100	1	100	1	100
6. Orissa	3	300	0	0	0	0
7. Tamil Nadu	1	100	0	0	0	0
8. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1	100	0	0	0	0
9. Delhi	0	0	0	0	1	30
Total	12	1200	6	600	6	530

[Translation]

Utilisation of Education Cess

*393. SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE:
SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL:

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

(a) the amount allocated to each State from the funds mobilized from education cess, State-wise;

(b) whether special assistance is proposed to be provided from this fund to the States having literacy rate lower than the national average particularly Madhya Pradesh; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c) The proceeds of Education cess are utilised exclusively for the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) and Mid-Day Meal scheme (MDM) of the Government. Allocations to States are not being made separately against the Education cess. Assistance to them is released under individual schemes of SSA and MDM as per the respective guidelines and budgetary allocations of these schemes.

Ban on Meat Export

*394. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of meat exported to various countries and the foreign exchange earned during each of the last three years and the current year, country-wise;

(b) whether the Government has received any requests/suggestions from various quarters to ban the export of meat; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The Country-wise data on export of meat products for the last three years is given in the statement enclosed.

The detailed country-wise quantity of export of meat products for the current year is not available at present. However, the total value of export of meat and preparations for April-August, 2006 was Rs. 1190.57 Crores.

(b) and (c) Representations from organizations like Maharaja Kumarapal Jeevodaya Trust, Chennai, Jain Social Group, Akola, Maharashtra and Animal Rights International, New Delhi, Animal Protection Trust, Ahmedabad have been received for imposing ban on export of meat. As per current Foreign Trade Policy, export of beef and bone in meat of buffaloes, sheep and goat is prohibited. However, export of other meat is freely allowed.

Statement

Export of Meat of Buffalo, Sheep and Goat, Poultry and Swine

Qty. in Mts		Value in Rs. Lakhs				
		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06
	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Malaysia	82741.39	38239.69	65529.69	35593.80	82337.98	49939.08
Saudi Arabia	5406.12	4234.16	28273.87	18687.14	41140.72	27950.85
Philippines	50774.01	21489.84	35624.74	17889.08	48917.88	26927.75
U.A.E.	25220.90	14462.12	21909.58	13177.30	34733.37	22029.50
Jordan	37882.88	16899.11	20130.37	11010.11	39044.18	21984.91
Angola	30949.66	11706.06	24690.52	11969.74	39794.41	21963.33
Kuwait	11224.90	6256.97	14352.93	8306.95	34320.84	21785.87

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Iran	7878.34	3339.75	7876.60	3885.56	16986.48	8390.31
Vietnam	577.00	403.62	2215.59	1298.20	11917.45	7317.19
Georgia	22906.95	9035.36	9349.40	4885.43	13997.10	7240.60
Oman	10509.82	5756.39	8069.77	5031.28	11106.79	7148.59
Congo	4993.17	1882.99	6609.30	2964.54	10994.16	5702.96
Azer-Baijan	1062.80	519.41	2092.50	1127.12	8277.10	4794.52
Senegal	1242.51	474.47	1504.18	746.21	6865.50	3741.81
Gabon	3962.24	1535.57	3501.21	1593.74	7354.00	3394.21
Ivory Coast	2467.00	912.72	2434.50	1101.66	6351.00	3037.58
Pakistan	0.00	0.00	72.70	31.41	5232.55	2587.42
Qatar	2245.59	1362.81	3277.22	2052.26	3598.90	2512.68
Yamen Arab Repulic	3934.21	1415.81	2489.50	1250.55	4310.00	2000.56
Korea Republic	4228.00	1689.80	7974.08	3895.08	4137.00	1983.96
Greece	1109.00	439.19	2938.70	1351.91	3875.60	1951.61
Mauritius	3158.30	1536.92	2578.38	1515.28	3081.50	1913.83
Bahrain	2647.32	1509.32	2179.66	1389.42	4174.61	1839.46
China	1581.01	678.58	855.50	354.92	2913.50	1712.93
Afghanistan	320.80	139.13	1666.70	780.99	3297.00	1685.19
Uzbekistan	742.00	311.18	3416.90	1809.94	2812.00	1400.00
Hong Kong	1519.09	798.05	2183.75	1274.96	2043.68	1265.48
Ghana	584.32	207.53	1205.55	444.98	3166.60	1208.40
Turkey	1545.00	711.18	1731.03	932.99	1205.50	732.27
Ukraine	1.55	2.13	322.50	156.20	1354.00	665.80
Iraq	323.00	123.88	3073.50	1653.84	1051.00	603.24
Armenia	1454.85	593.44	3178.70	1540.73	1012.05	536.89
Belgium	27.13	12.62	799.00	168.84	2089.00	467.42
Equatorial Guin	111.00	42.17	330.40	144.30	784.00	374.89
Comoros	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	627.91	353.31
Albania	479.00	206.32	414.53	207.70	500.00	278.14
Paraguay	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	479.00	268.81
Maldives	112.06	62.79	203.06	131.92	371.20	247.66

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Mozambique	0.00	0.00	100.50	47.23	448.50	221.13
Liberia	56.00	22.09	165.50	67.00	420.00	193.02
Russia	0.00	0.00	926.00	271.35	556.50	146.01
Singapore	4297.33	1952.02	420.00	221.33	270.71	138.53
Sierra Leone	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	220.00	117.07
Tajikistan	78.00	37.12	110.50	52.78	200.00	106.86
Germany	6393.27	2698.79	3734.87	1889.10	155.59	62.82
Guinea	374.00	154.43	195.00	91.78	89.60	59.36
Thailand	283.72	120.78	28.00	14.21	82.50	48.00
Lebanon	5262.52	2600.24	673.40	356.95	56.00	39.65
Cyprus	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	54.00	31.64
U.K.	289.44	134.43	43.64	41.60	36.00	29.75
Seychelles	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	40.00	29.00
U.S.A.	2055.37	891.27	126.50	75.20	28.75	27.32
Cameroon	56.00	24.16	0.00	0.00	51.00	26.53
Egypt	155.90	65.87	0.00	0.00	25.00	19.28
Gambia	28.00	10.30	0.00	0.00	28.00	17.20
South Africa	279.20	113.66	3.76	2.95	28.00	14.72
Uganda	51.58	22.37	0.00	0.00	26.00	13.75
Australia	14.00	1.62	0.11	0.08	19.00	13.58
France	647.63	264.13	247.10	138.23	10.30	12.49
Netherlands	3362.80	1356.13	2252.50	1100.61	24.00	10.99
Sri Lanka	662.77	295.03	32.00	20.95	17.15	6.77
Bangladesh	9.62	13.83	6.00	2.85	6.13	5.50
Nepal	22.15	16.26	16.00	10.44	4.72	5.07
Jamaica	101.37	40.21	0.00	0.00	4.69	5.01
Bosnia-Hrzgovin	9.23	6.53	0.65	0.58	3.95	3.84
Spain	290.99	147.79	22.50	23.45	2.50	3.80
Maynmar	6486.96	3163.98	3416.11	1994.11	9.00	3.15
American Samoa	0.00	0.00	1.20	1.05	3.10	2.48
Eritrea	1.30	0.85	2.25	1.89	1.55	1.42

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Ireland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.50	0.97
Brazil	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.75	0.65
Tanzania	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.23
Indonesia	346.03	161.55	364.00	176.20	0.08	0.05
Togo	40.00	21.74	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Reunion	79.99	24.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Nigeria	219.01	89.68	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Central African	0.00	0.00	28.50	6.72	0.00	0.00
Niger	28.00	6.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mali	57.01	27.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Guinea-Bissau	83.50	29.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Malta	1454.78	583.65	1051.05	546.61	0.00	0.00
Newzealand	545.02	254.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Portugal	50.00	39.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Italy	875.28	328.65	230.50	95.44	0.00	0.00
Denmark	135.00	49.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Korea Dem. Rep.	1253.81	504.82	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00
Chinese Taipei	263.54	156.36	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Finland	0.00	0.00	84.00	42.04	0.00	0.00
Syrian Arab Rep.	0.00	0.00	102.00	42.42	0.00	0.00
Switzerland	1.00	0.86	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Estonia	0.00	0.00	984.00	429.61	0.00	0.00
Latvia	476.00	189.00	728.00	368.80	0.00	0.00
Lithuania	256.00	97.39	4531.00	2172.59	0.00	0.00
Panama Canal Zo	4.36	3.58	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Macedonia	50.02	14.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Morocco	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.38	0.00	0.00
Poland	0.00	0.00	763.18	401.12	0.00	0.00
Kenya	28.67	13.57	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Japan	446.19	213.72	9.00	5.06	0.00	0.00
Puerto Rico	420.00	177.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Netherland Anti	214.62	66.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Haiti	27.00	7.95	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dominican Republic	3.70	2.86	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bahamas	41.39	19.37	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Colombia	28.00	10.86	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bolivia	180.00	99.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Argentina	77.98	26.31	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Canada	20.64	4.69	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Papua New Guine	28.00	11.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	364926.61	166381.73	316455.94	171068.80	469181.13	271356.65

Source: DGCIS

[English]

**Registration of Cases
by NHRC**

*395. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:
SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cases registered with the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) including cases against military, para-military and police during each of the last three years;

(b) the number of cases wherein the NHRC has taken up the cause of persons accused to be involved in terrorist activities;

(c) whether the NHRC has given decision in all the cases registered with them;

(d) if not, the total number of cases finalised by NHRC so far and the average time consumed by NHRC in the disposal of cases; and

(e) the effective measures taken by NHRC for the early disposal of these cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) The total number of cases, including cases against military, para-military and police, registered with National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) during the last three years, are as under:

Year	No. of complaints registered with NHRC
2004-2005	74,401
2005-2006	74,444
2006-2007 (upto 30.11.2006)	54,654
Total	203,499

(b) The NHRC has registered 14 cases during the period 2004-2005 to 2006-2007 (upto 31.10.2006) pertaining to persons accused to be involved in terrorist activities.

(c) The NHRC has disposed off 1,84,561 cases out of 2,03,499 registered with it during the last three years (upto 30.11.2006) which is ninety percent of the total cases.

(d) The NHRC generally dispose of complaints wherein case is prima-facie not found maintainable in accordance with the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993 and regulations. The time taken by the NHRC for disposal of matter where reports have been called for, depends upon the expeditious receipt of response from the concerned authorities. Hence, non receipt of reports do give rise to delay.

(e) The effective measures taken by the NHRC for the speedy disposal of cases include issue of notices, reminders, d.o. reminders at the level of Registrar (Law), Director General (Investigation) and Secretary General, NHRC. In case of non receipt of reports even after issue of d.o. reminders, conditional summons or summons are issued to the State functionaries including Chief Secretary and

Director General of Police and Prisons. The Chairperson and Members of the NHRC during their visits to the States/ Union Territories, always emphasize upon State functionaries the need to submit reports within the due date. The Commission from time to time, while disposing of cases also makes appropriate recommendations to State authorities for early submission of the reports.

Assistance to States under ASIDE Scheme

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

(a) the details of funds allocated under Assistance to States for Developing Export Infrastructure and other Allied Activities (ASIDE) Scheme to various States, State-wise;

(b) the criteria fixed for allocation of funds to various States under the Scheme;

(c) whether there has been any requests from the States for allocation of funds for software services under ASIDE scheme; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Details of allocations made to the States/UTs, are given in the statement enclosed.

(b) According to the existing policy, 50% of the ASIDE funds is allocated to the States/UTs on the basis of export performance and the remaining 50% on the basis of growth of exports over the previous year.

(c) and (d) ASIDE funds are utilized also for development of infrastructure for export related software services.

Statement

(Rs. in Lakh)

S.No.	State	Amount Allocated 02-03	Amount Allocated 03-04	Amount Allocated 04-05	Amount Allocated 05-06	Amount Allocated 06-07
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Andhra Pradesh	1,200.00	1,300.00	1,385.00	1,545.00	1700.00
2	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	220.00
3	Bihar	300.00	650.00	200.00	200.00	220.00
4	Chandigarh	100.00	200.00	200.00	320.00	350.00
5	Chhattisgarh	400.00	400.00	500.00	500.00	550.00
6	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	150.00	300.00	200.00	200.00	220.00
7	Daman and Diu	150.00	300.00	200.00	200.00	220.00
8	Delhi	100.00	200.00	265.00	265.00	290.00
9	Goa	600.00	600.00	373.00	609.00	670.00
10	Gujarat	1,400.00	1,500.00	3,578.00	4,338.00	4770.00
11	Haryana	600.00	600	849.00	1,405.00	1545.00
12	Himachal Pradesh	700.00	750	500.00	553.00	600.00
13	Jammu and Kashmir	600.00	600.00	500.00	525.00	580.00
14	Jharkhand	400.00	400.00	500.00	500.00	550.00
15	Karnataka	1,800.00	1,900.00	2,414.00	3,399.00	3740.00
16	Kerala	1,100.00	1,200.00	930.00	1,069.00	1175.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
17	Lakshadweep	200.00	200.00	200.00	200	220.00
18	Madhya Pradesh	2,000.00	1,100.00	1,435.00	1,435.00	1580.00
19	Maharashtra	1,600.00	3,400.00	5,709.00	6,552.00	7210.00
20	Orissa	450.00	1000.00	605.00	693	765.00
21	Pondicherry	300.00	300.00	200.00	200	220.00
22	Punjab	900.00	1000.00	968.00	1,217.00	1340.00
23	Rajasthan	1,200.00	1,300.00	1,320.00	1,320.00	1453.00
24	Tamil Nadu	2,800.00	3,000.00	3,919.00	3,919.00	4312.00
25	Uttar Pradesh	2,000.00	2,100.00	1,259.00	2,100.00	2310.00
26	Uttaranchal	400.00	400.00	500.00	527.00	580.00
27	West Bengal	1,000.00	1,100.00	1,491.00	2,009.00	2210.00
Total		22,650.00	26,000.00	30,400.00	36,000.00	39600.00

North Eastern Region

1	Arunachal Pradesh	100.00	125.00	251.00	251.00	276.00
2	Assam	400.00	500.00	1149.00	1,257.00	1383.00
3	Manipur	200.00	250.00	200.00	206.00	227.00
4	Mizoram	100.00	250.00	200.00	324.00	356.00
5	Meghalaya	200.00	250.00	572.00	834.00	917.00
6	Nagaland	100.00	125.00	200.00	200.00	220.00
7	Sikkim	50.00	125.00	200	200.00	220.00
8	Tripura	300.00	375.00	828.00	728.00	801.00
Total		1450.00	2000.00	3600.00	4000.00	4400.00
Grand Total		24,100.00	28,000.00	34,000.00	40,000.00	44000.00

Smuggling of Drugs and Arms

*397. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL:

SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has stepped up surveillance and devised new system to combat drug trafficking and smuggling of arms;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the various types of such cases reported during 2006 and persons apprehended thereof;

(d) the States which are mostly used as major transit points for smuggling; and

(e) the measures the Government proposes to check smuggling of drugs and arms from other countries?

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

(b) Government have taken a number of steps in this regard which, inter-alia include (i) deployment of security forces and strict surveillance at borders, airports, check posts etc., (ii) intensive preventive and interdiction efforts along known drug routes, (iii) Improved coordination between

various law enforcing agencies, (iv) increased international cooperation and liaison for exchange of information, (v) building of electronic data base of offenders and suspects, (vi) training of law enforcement officials for upgrading their skills etc.

(c) As per available information, the position in 2006 (up to Nov., 2006) is as under:

	Drugs	Arms
Cases reported	12,202	122
Persons apprehended	14,051	85

(d) As per available reports, States of Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Punjab, J&K, Tripura, Manipur, Mizoram and UT of Delhi are having vulnerable transit points for illicit trafficking in drugs. As regards smuggling of arms, all States along the Eastern and Western land borders are reportedly vulnerable.

(e) Government have also undertaken the construction of fencing, flood lighting and roads along India-Pakistan and India-Bangladesh borders in order to curb infiltration, smuggling and other anti-national activities from across these borders. The Government have also decided to deploy hi-tech electronic surveillance equipment on the borders of the country to act as force multiplier for effective management of the borders. Security is also being upgraded to tighten vigil on the coastal areas.

Activities of Naga Outfits

*398. DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidents of extortion by National Socialist Council of Nagaland (NSCN-IM) has come to the notice of the Government;

(b) If so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether NSCN (IM) has been found recruiting people for their cadres;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the progress made so far towards the settlement of Naga issue consequent upon ceasefire and several rounds of talks between the Government and NSCN (IM)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) There are reports of extortion by underground groups including NSCN (IM). The Government has taken a number of steps to check the extortion which inter alia includes payment of salaries

by cheques, execution of large projects by established organizations, having larger labour component in the development projects, improving the security and safety on the National Highways and major roads and strengthening security forces' presence in major towns in order to improve security environment in these areas.

(c) and (d) There are some reports that NSCN(IM) has been recruiting fresh cadres. However, there is no firm data in this regard.

(e) A Group of Ministers has been constituted to hold talks with NSCN(IM) on the Naga issue. The latest round of talks between Government of India team led by Shri Oscar Fernandes, Union Minister of State for Labour (Independent Charge) and NSCN(IM) leaders took place between 4-6 December 2006 at Amsterdam. The talks are inconclusive and it has been agreed to resume discussions early next year.

Replanting of Coffee

*399. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the area of land on which coffee is being presently grown in the country;

(b) whether the Government proposes to extend the area under coffee cultivation by replanting coffee; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the financial package being considered for replanting coffee?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The area of land under coffee presently is about 3.81 lac hectares.

(b) The Government has been encouraging replanting by replacing old unproductive coffee bushes to increase productivity of existing plantations and by new planting in non-traditional areas.

(c) Incentives for re-plantation of coffee is one of the components of Support to Small Growers Sector (SSGS) in the Xth Plan. This Scheme has also been extended to the growers having 10 to 20 Ha. For replantation, subsidy is being given to the extent of 20% of the total cost, subject to a maximum of Rs. 20,000 per ha. The Coffee Board have included planting of 90,000 ha. of senile coffee blocks with high yielding varieties in its XIth Plan proposals.

[Translation]

Closure of Textile Mills

*400. SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of running textile mills in the country, State-wise;

(b) the details of the textile mills closed during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether some of those mills had been closed due to their indebtedness; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken by the Government for the revival of such mills?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) As on 31st October 2006, there were 1334 functioning cotton/man made fibre textile mills (Non SSI) in the country. Their state-wise number is as below:-

S.No.	State	Spinning	Composite	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	66	0	66
2	Assam	1	0	1
3	Bihar	1	1	2
5	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	4	2	6
6	Daman and Diu	1	0	1
7	Goa	1	0	1
8	Gujarat	28	24	52
9	Haryana	50	2	52
10	Himachal Pradesh	18	0	18
11	Jammu and Kashmir	1	0	1
12	Jharkhand	1	0	1
13	Karnataka	31	3	34
14	Kerala	22	4	26
15	Madhya Pradesh	33	6	39
16	Maharashtra	96	32	128
18	Orissa	3	0	3
19	Pondicherry	8	2	10
20	Punjab	65	4	69
21	Rajasthan	26	8	34
22	Tamil Nadu	726	19	745
23	Uttar Pradesh	24	2	26

1	2	3	4	5
24	Uttaranchal	3	0	3
25	West Bengal	14	2	16
Total		1223	111	1334

(b) The details of cotton/man made fibre textile mills (Non SSI) closed during each of the last three years, state wise is given below:

Name of the state	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
Tamil Nadu	39	5	3
West Bengal	2	1	1
Maharashtra	9	1	2
Uttar Pradesh	2	2	4
Gujarat	0	4	0
Punjab	0	0	0
Total	52	13	10

(c) and (d) The reasons for closure of these mills are mainly financial problems, labour problem/strike and power cut etc. Government seeks to foster a policy regime, which facilitates growth and development of Indian industry. It has taken a number of steps for revival of sick industrial units which, inter-alia, include, guidelines of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to banks, amalgamation of sick units with healthy units, setting up of BIFR under the Sick Industrial Companies (Social Provisions) Act, etc. The RBI has been issuing from time to time elaborate guidelines covering all areas of industrial rehabilitation viz. detection of industrial sickness at incipient stage, identification of sick/weak units, carrying out viability study of the units then extending relief and concessions to only viable units, co-ordination among banks and financial institutions and banks themselves, norms for promoter's contribution, extended period for repayment/rescheduling of loans, conversions and waivers of penal rate/compound interest etc. BIFR has been set up with a view to arranging the timely detection of sick and potentially sick companies and for the speedy determination of preventive, ameliorative and remedial measures, which need to be taken in respect of such companies. It appoints operating agencies for preparation of rehabilitation proposals in respect of potentially viable units. It takes decision on rehabilitation on the basis of its findings.

[English]

Growth of Paper Industry

*401. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shortage of raw materials required for manufacture of paper;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to sustain the growth of the country?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There is a shortage of good quality cellulosic raw material required for manufacture of paper. At present, the raw material base for manufacture of paper in the country is wood (30%), agro-residue (32%) and recycled fibre (38%). There is inadequate supply of wood and recycled fibre for manufacture of paper. Consequently, 0.38 million tons of wood pulp and 1.76 million tons of recycled fibre were imported during the financial year 2005-06.

(c) The steps taken by the Government to sustain the growth of the paper industry inter-alia include; rationalization of duty structures, funding of Research & Development projects, de-licensing of the paper industry, permitting 100% FDI through the automatic route, etc.

[Translation]

Land Use Conversion

3765. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any conversion in land use is permissible in Chandigarh;

(b) if so, the details of procedure prescribed; and

(c) the number of cases of conversion in land use have been permitted in Chandigarh during the last three years?

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

(b) The lessees/owners/GPA holders or tenants (with the consent of the owners) may make an application to the Designated Agency i.e. Chandigarh Housing Board in the prescribed proforma alongwith conversion fee in the shape of Demand Draft/Pay Order to be drawn in favour of the Designated Agency. The Agency would then process the cases for conversion and convey its decision within 15 days from the date of receipt of the application subject to the completion of all formalities and objections, if any, raised by the Estate Office and other Departments.

(c) 17 cases have been permitted since the launching of the Scheme in 2005.

Marketing and Publicity KVIC

3766. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:
SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA:

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria laid down for purchase of items to be marketed by KVIC and for their publicity;

(b) whether any instance has come to the notice of the Government wherein items were purchased and were publicised in violation of the laid down criteria; and

(c) if so, the action taken by KVIC in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) The criteria adopted by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) for purchase of items from registered khadi and village industry (KVI) institutions and units established under Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP), for sale through its Departmental Sales Outlets, are as under:

- (i) Quality of goods should be acceptable and they should be received in saleable condition.
- (ii) The purchase is on consignment basis. Items left unsold are liable to be returned to the producing units.
- (iii) Sale of products not produced by registered KVI institutions or units set up under the REGP is discouraged by the Departmental Sales Outlets.

Generally, publicity of KVI products is made in the local media. External agencies are also engaged for publicity at the time of special sales, exhibitions, etc. The publicity of a particular item produced by a particular unit is, however, not undertaken by KVIC.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Recognition to self financed Colleges by NCTE

3767. SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Council of Teacher's Education (NCTE) is giving recognition to self financed PTC Colleges during the last three years without the NOC of the concerned State Government;

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

(c) the details of S.F.I., P.T.C. colleges that have been granted recognition by NCTE in the last three years State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) As per Regulations dated 13/11/02, the applications from institutions seeking recognition for a course in Teacher Education were required to be accompanied by a 'No Objection Certificate' from the concerned State Government/UT Administration. Applications without NOC/endorsement of the State Govt./UT Administration were not processed by the concerned Regional Committees of the NCTE. The provisions regarding NOC were partially relaxed in January, 2004 for institutions which were already conducting Secondary Teacher Education courses. These institutions were allowed to apply for Elementary Teacher Education programmes or training in pre-school or nursery teacher education without NOC from State Government/UT Administration.

As per clause 7 of NCTE Regulations, 2005 which was gazetted on 13.01.2006, the NCTE Regional Committee is now required to send a written communication along with a copy of the application form submitted by the institution concerned to the State Government/UT Administration. On receipt of this communication, the State Government/UT Administration concerned shall furnish its recommendations on the application to the NCTE Regional Committee within 60 days from receipt. If the recommendation is negative, the State Government/UT Administration shall provide detailed reasons/grounds thereof, which could be taken into consideration by the Regional Committee concerned while deciding the application. If no communication is received from the State Government/UT Administration within the stipulated 60 days, it shall be presumed that the State Government/UT Administration concerned has no recommendation to make. The said Regulations do not provide for a specific 'No Objection Certificate' from the State Government/UT Administration.

(c) Information is being collected from the Regional Committees of the NCTE and will be furnished as soon as received from the RCs.

[Translation]

Removal of Army from Sir Creek

3768. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:
SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK:
SHRIMATI RUPATAI D. PATIL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to remove army from Sir Creek;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of talks held with Pakistan in this regard and outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) The Army is not deployed in Sir Creek area which is guarded by the Border Security Force (BSF).

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Import of Wheat from Australia

3769. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether wheat imported from Australia based AWB company should not be procured as it is not as per prescribed standards;

(b) if so, whether State Trading Corporation (STC) has again accepted AWB tenders in the newly invited tenders;

(c) if so, the reasons for again accepting AWB tender despite sub-standard supply of wheat; and

(d) whether the Government will conduct any inquiry into this wheat import deal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. State Trading Corporation (STC) accepted the tender of AWB (Geneva), SA on competitive terms as it conformed to the prescribed standards.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Reservation to OBC's

3770. SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has sought the report of the Standing Committee on the issue related to the reservation of the OBC in higher educational institutions by issuing an order in this regard;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(d) whether the details pertaining to collection of data has been provided to the Court; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) and (c) A legislative proposal for effecting reservation for the weaker sections including Other Backward Classes is before Parliament for its consideration

(d) and (e) A reply has been filed in the Supreme Court and the matter is sub judice.

[English]

Private M.Ed. Colleges

3771. SHRI K. C. PALLANI SHAMY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria laid down for providing approval/recognition to Pvt. M.Ed. Colleges in the country;

(b) the number of such colleges to which approval has been given by the National Council for Teacher Education so far, State-wise;

(c) the number of applications are pending as on date, State-wise; and

(d) the time by which the rest of the colleges in the country likely to be given approval?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) University Departments and other recognized Institutions running B.Ed. Programmes are eligible to offer M.Ed. courses provided that they have adequate instructional and infrastructural facilities, including, inter alia, land, building, library, laboratories and qualified faculty as prescribed by NCTE.

NCTE has prescribed separate provisions for (a) M.Ed. courses on full time basis, (b) M.Ed. courses on part time basis and (c) M.Ed courses through distance learning. Separate norms have been prescribed for each category of course. The details of the norms are available on the NCTE website www.ncte-in.org.

Applicant institutions are required to apply to the

concerned Regional Committee, of NCTE in prescribed proforma. After the Regional Committee concerned has satisfied itself that the applicant institution has adequate financial resources, accommodation, library, qualified staff, laboratory and that it fulfills conditions for running a course in teacher education, it will pass an order granting recognition to the applicant institution, if it is of the opinion that such institution does not fulfill the prescribed requirements it will pass an order refusing recognition. Before passing an order refusing recognition to an institution, the Regional Committee shall provide a reasonable opportunity to the concerned institution for making a written representation.

(b) and (c) The information with regard to number of private M.Ed. College who applied for recognition and the detail of those granted such recognition is being collected.

(d) The norms for processing application are contained in Clause-7 of the NCTE (Recognition of Norms & Procedure) Regulations 2005, published in Gazette of India on 13.1.2006. The Regulations are available on the official website of NCTE.

According to these regulations the completed applications are processed by the concerned Regional Committee within 30 days of receipt of the relevant applications. The time limit prescribed for receipt of the recommendation of the State Government is 60 days. The time period allowed to the institution to correct their deficiencies is 90 days. The inspection with regard to preparedness of the institution to conduct the programme is carried out within 30 days of the completion of processing of the application.

[Translation]

Self Employment to Weavers

3772. SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the financial assistance provided to the craftsmen and weavers to start self employment during each of the last three years; State-wise and

(b) the details of the craftsmen and weavers benefited during the above years; State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN): (a) The Schemes of the Government for the development of Handicrafts Sector are not aimed to provide self-employment directly. One of the major schemes Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana, which is implemented through Handicrafts Development Corporations/Societies/NGOs for the integrated development of the craft cluster indirectly encourages self-employment amongst the artisans. In the Handloom

Sectors, the Government is implementing; a number of schemes to enhance the income and socio-economic status of weavers by upgrading their skills and providing infrastructural inputs and marketing support through main developmental schemes, Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana, Integrated Handloom Training Project, Marketing Promotion Programme, Mill Gate Prince Scheme, etc. The detail of State-wise Financial Assistance provided to various Implementing Agencies under AHVY Scheme during the last three years i.e. 2003-04 to 2005-06 is as per

statement-I. The details of Financial Assistance extended to weavers under different Plan and Non-Plan Schemes being implemented by the Government in the Handlooms Sector during the last three years i.e. 2003-04 to 2005-06 is enclosed as statement-II and III.

(b) The State-wise data of craftpersons benefited under AHVY during the last three years i.e. 2003-04 to 2005-06 is enclosed as statement-IV. The State-wise details of weavers benefited during the last three years i.e. 2003-04 to 2005-06 is enclosed as statement-V.

Statement-I

*The State wise assistance provided under AHVY during each of the last three years;
State-wise and Union Territory-wise*

S.No.	Name of State/UT	2003-04 Amount Released/ Expenditure incurred	2004-05 Amount Released/ Expenditure incurred	2005-06 Amount Released/ Expenditure incurred
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1,47,19,882	1,77,42,483	2,67,74,169
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	27,15,572	27,70,751	27,56,467
3.	Assam	1,51,53,420	3,26,39,754	3,42,24,013
4.	Bihar	5,45,000	15,63,000	13,76,500
5.	Chhattisgarh	17,91,867	19,33,600	11,24,000
6.	Delhi	32,56,192	33,60,318	16,31,376
7.	Goa	2,50,000	-	1,00,000
8.	Gujarat	69,40,979	1,08,03,579	3,29,61,000
9.	Haryana	25,14,058	31,71,519	36,56,551
10.	Himachal Pradesh	53,91,622	1,25,02,753	96,79,853
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	40,61,168	54,18,259	1,15,14,111
12.	Jharkhand	6,46,000	10,91,040	17,99,500
13.	Karnataka	38,70,696	40,95,909	65,36,785
14.	Kerala	74,63,947	44,31,514	94,17,669
15.	Madhya Pradesh	66,23,241	69,73,483	70,72,925
16.	Maharashtra	23,64,716	33,04,386	18,78,430
17.	Manipur	20,01,220	17,73,514	76,37,276
18.	Meghalaya	4,57,870	000	1,50,000
19.	Mizoram	15,82,250	16,58,500	37,500

1	2	3	4	5
20.	Nagaland	30,11,325	12,03,500	40,06,000
21.	Orissa	79,13,837	76,78,523	2,07,47,866
22.	Pondichery	-	16,905	-
23.	Punjab	41,61,579	15,12,250	56,96,700
24.	Rajasthan	64,69,404	88,01,206	58,59,061
25.	Sikkim	000	-	-
26.	Tamil Nadu	33,44,689	31,14,809	93,75,986
27.	Tripura	34,97,284	49,08,529	36,76,317
28.	Uttar Pradesh	1,64,25,535	2,61,06,197	3,63,47,707
29.	Uttaranchal	59,78,205	21,13,500	40,12,521
30.	West Bengal	78,14,680	1,66,41,449	1,20,16,684
Total		14,09,66,238	18,73,31,230	26,20,66,967

Statement-II

*Details of releases made during the year 2003-2004,
2004-05, 2005-06 under different Handloom
Plan Schemes*

(Rupees in lakhs)

S.No.	Name of States	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	20.76	122.25	397.00
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1784.14	848.21	829.44
3.	Assam	762.86	489.33	409.12
4.	Bihar	12.62	-	-
5.	Chhattisgarh	46.63	18.70	19.72
6.	Goa	-	-	-
7.	Gujarat	64.18	22.55	50.42
8.	Haryana	35.26	69.71	32.10
9.	Himachal Pradesh	173.32	110.59	82.13
10.	Jharkhand	-	-	38.22
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	40.76	63.41	31.13
12.	Karnataka	451.40	472.18	1140.59
13.	Kerala	821.84	706.53	372.42

1	2	3	4	5
14.	Madhya Pradesh	45.23	61.22	83.52
15.	Maharashtra	11.66	60.73	43.85
16.	Manipur	115.79	480.70	486.17
17.	Mizoram	32.19	27.74	24.74
18.	Meghalaya	3.91	3.97	26.56
19.	Nagaland	1114.22	903.13	1239.91
20.	Orissa	78.03	250.33	276.97
21.	Pondicherry	-	-	-
22.	Punjab	-	5.33	-
23.	Rajasthan	122.14	124.66	88.19
24.	Sikkim	-	-	-
25.	Tamil Nadu	2619.46	3978.96	4910.25
26.	Tripura	35.98	54.16	32.13
27.	Uttar Pradesh	1070.08	1366.90	1407.76
28.	Uttaranchal	10.13	62.31	21.54
29.	West Bengal	180.45	961.26	440.39
30.	Delhi	112.00	115.43	15.73
Grand Total		9765.04	11360.29	12500.00

Statement-III

Details of releases made during the year 2003-2004, 2004-05, 2005-06 under different Handloom Plan Schemes

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of States	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-
2.	Andhra Pradesh	949.46	253.89	582.55
3.	Assam	114.90	625.40	368.41
4.	Bihar	97.80	-	-
5.	Chhattisgarh	-	-	15.29
6.	Goa	-	-	-
7.	Gujarat	14.16	108.30	48.58
8.	Haryana	-	179.19	77.80
9.	Himachal Pradesh	-	71.21	35.06
10.	Jharkhand	-	-	-
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	-	112.07	147.43
12.	Karnataka	266.03	245.60	55.80
13.	Kerala	294.19	731.58	215.97
14.	Madhya Pradesh	42.80	7.20	6.23
15.	Maharashtra	-	-	-
16.	Manipur	33.00	-	-
17.	Mizoram	11.13	3.05	150.62
18.	Meghalaya	0.10	-	-
19.	Nagaland	-	-	-
20.	Orissa	158.89	416.15	623.49
21.	Pondicherry	-	13.49	27.87
22.	Punjab	-	10.23	-
23.	Rajasthan	11.72	61.53	76.04
24.	Sikkim	-	-	-
25.	Tamil Nadu	560.85	695.42	572.84
26.	Tripura	12.05	19.13	-

1	2	3	4	5
27.	Uttar Pradesh	193.62	656.43	705.20
28.	Uttaranchal	6.98	-	-
29.	West Bengal	356.16	338.06	253.31
30.	Delhi	-	25.00	-
Grand Total		3123.84	4572.93	3962.49

Statement-IV

Details of Handicrafts Artisans Benefitted under AHVY during each of the last three years State-wise

S.No.	Name of the State/UT	2003-04 No. of artisans	2004-05 No. of artisans	2005-06 No. of artisans
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11010	323	3952
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	120	000	500
3.	Assam	1238	1790	2356
4.	Bihar	550	1034	1070
5.	Chhattisgarh	000	265	000
6.	Delhi	100	120	400
7.	Goa	500	000	200
8.	Gujarat	5950	8266	16600
9.	Haryana	500	350	520
10.	Himachal Pradesh	1071	1315	296
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	550	1710	2090
12.	Jharkhand	200	600	300
13.	Karnataka	2790	373	1660
14.	Kerala	2490	570	585
15.	Madhya Pradesh	2000	982	1684
16.	Maharashtra	2883	190	000
17.	Manipur	417	700	3405
18.	Meghalaya	000	000	300
19.	Mizoram	000	165	75
20.	Nagaland	220	695	1330

1	2	3	4	5
21.	Orissa	200	555	550
22.	Pondicherry	000	000	000
23.	Punjab	100	133	133
24.	Rajasthan	500	475	750
25.	Sikkim	000	000	000
26.	Tamil Nadu	300	3530	630
27.	Tripura	350	840	513
28.	Uttar Pradesh	3185	3441	33620
29.	Uttaranchal	550	000	100
30.	West Bengal	450	2150	1615
Grand Total		38224	30572	45234

Statement-V

State-wise number of weavers assisted under various handloom schemes during last three years (2003-04 to 2005-06)

S.No.	State	No. of weavers assisted
1	2	3
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	21616
2.	Assam	812719
3.	Andhra Pradesh	295196
4.	Bihar	824
5.	Chhattisgarh	4663
6.	Delhi	2823
7.	Gujarat	24262
8.	Haryana	745
9.	Himachal Pradesh	6525
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	2570
11.	Jharkhand	11260
12.	Karnataka	116891
13.	Kerala	61895
14.	Madhya Pradesh	8651
15.	Manipur	20291

1	2	3
16.	Maharashtra	7936
17.	Meghalaya	1071
18.	Mizoram	240
19.	Nagaland	36477
20.	Orissa	100379
21.	Punjab	12700
22.	Rajasthan	42235
23.	Tripura	2027
24.	Tamil Nadu	949062
25.	Uttar Pradesh	73701
26.	Uttaranchal	5790
27.	West Bengal	62236
28.	Other Agencies	2995
Total		2687780

*[English]***Bamboo**

3773. SHRI HITEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bamboo is a source of sustainable livelihood in the rural sector and West Bengal has great potential in this sector;

(b) whether Government proposes to help and encourage the cash strapped State of West Bengal to boost its growth to improve the rural economy of the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government (in the Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation) has approved the launching of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Bamboo Mission (NBM) in 28 States (including West Bengal) at a total cost of Rs. 568.23 crore, including an outlay of Rs. 91.37 crore for 2006-07.

*[Translation]***Post Graduate Courses**

3774. SHRI CHANDRABHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to start any scheme for Post Graduate Courses in the fields of land and water conservation, Agricultural Bio-technology, forestry, Environmental Science and Technology, Dairy and Seed Technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is considering any proposal for the development of South Campus of Banaras Hindu University (BHU);

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether under the said scheme a fund of rupees 192 crore has been proposed to implement educational schemes for Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (f) Universities are free to design and introduce academic courses at all levels. The Banaras Hindu University has proposed to start the following Post Graduate (PG) courses at its South Campus from the Session 2007-08:-

- (i) Soil and water Conservation
- (ii) Biotechnology for Agriculture
- (iii) Agro-forestry
- (iv) Environmental Science and Technology
- (v) Dairy Technology
- (vi) Seed Technology

The Banaras Hindu University has recently submitted a proposal for development of its South Campus at Barkachha, Mirzapur, involving an expenditure of Rs. 192.00 crore spread over a period of five years. Besides development of infrastructure, the proposal includes introduction of several new courses in the said Campus, which are likely to benefit students from the surrounding areas covering parts of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Chhattisgarh. The University Grants Commission (UGC) has approved an amount of Rs. 16.00 crore for the purpose during the current financial year out of which Rs.12.00 crore have already been released. The UGC has been advised to include the remaining in its XIth Plan proposals.

[English]

Anti India Activities

3775. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Bhutan has agreed to eliminate anti-Indian militants activities from their territory;

(b) if so, the details of anti-Indian militants activity in Bhutan; and

(c) the progress so far made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) The operations against Indian Ir.surgent Groups (IIG), conducted by the Royal Bhutan Army in December, 2003 had proved effective. A bilateral institutional mechanism has been set up between India and Bangladesh to discuss border management and security related issues.

(b) and (c) There are no reports to indicate any anti-India activity by Indian Insurgent Groups from within Bhutan territory.

The Fourth meeting between India and Bhutan to discuss border management and security related issues was held at Thimpu between 22-23rd September, 2006. In this meeting both sides agreed that there is a critical need to maintain vigil and share intelligence to prevent IIG activities.

Growth of Poles

3776. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposals received by the Government for geographical locations for formation of growth poles; and

(b) the status thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) The Government has not yet received from the National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganised Sector any proposal for establishment of growth poles.

(b) Question does not arise

Employment Generation by KVIC

3777. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the target set and achievements made by KVIC in employment generation under CBC, DSEP, BDP Schemes during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the reasons for not achieving the target; and

(c) the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) to (c) No separate employment target was set under the Consortium Bank Credit (CBC) Scheme. The Special Employment Programme (SEP) and Block Development Programme (BDP) were launched by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) during 1994-95. KVIC had identified 50 backward Districts under SEP with employment target of 10,000 per District and 125 Blocks under BDP from the Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS) Blocks with employment target of 100 per Block for implementation under the Employment Generation Scheme. In spite of efforts made by KVIC, these two programmes did not yield expected results due largely to inadequacies in the participation of the District Rural Development Agencies and Banks. Therefore, these programmes were merged with the on-going khadi and village industry programmes of assistance to the institutions during 1999-2000.

**Setting up of Petrol Pump on
Agriculture Land of UT**

3778. SHRI DAHYABHAI VALLABHBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the disparity in land use rules in the UT of Daman and Diu and Dadra Nagar Haveli despite their being under the same administration under the Ministry of Home Affairs;

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

(c) whether the commercial use of agriculture land for setting up of petrol pumps etc. is allowed in Dadra Nagar Haveli whereas the same is not allowed in Union Territory of Daman & Diu; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to bring about uniformity in respect of agriculture land use in both the Union Territory of Daman & Diu and DNH?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) Land use rules in the UT of Daman and Diu differ from land use rules in certain respects from, land use rules in the UT of Dadra & Nagar Haveli.

(b) The Regional Plan and the Development Control Rules applicable for Dadra & Nagar Haveli permit the setting up of Petrol Pumps in green zones but not commercial use of agricultural land. In Daman & Diu, the Regional Plan and Development Control Rules applicable for District of Daman, setting up of Petrol Pumps in the green zone is not permitted because of different characteristics such as land use availability, geographical and socio-economic conditions prevailing therein.

(c) Commercial use of agriculture land for setting up of petrol pump is not permitted in Daman & Diu as per the Regional Plan and Development Control Rules.

(d) In view of reasons given above, does not arise.

[Translation]

Credit Card Scheme

3779. SHRI CHHATTAR SINGH DARBAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government has fixed any target for providing economic assistance to artisans and weavers under Self-Employment Credit Card Scheme; and

(b) if so, the number of artisans and weavers benefited under this scheme so far, state-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) A target for issuance of 1,36,000 Artisans Credit Cards (ACCs) has been fixed to smoothen credit flow to handicraft artisans. As regards Swarojgar Credit Card (SCC), under which weavers are covered, no sector-wise target has been fixed by NABARD.

(b) State-wise, details of number of artisans covered under ACC in the handicraft sector is not maintained. However, 90,701 artisans have been covered so far. In respect of SCC, which covers a wide variety of small borrowers including handloom weavers, disaggregated data on different groups of borrowers is not maintained by NABARD. State-wise breakup of the number of small borrowers benefited under SCC scheme is enclosed as statement.

Statement

States	No of SCCs issued
1	2
Andaman and Nicobar	73
Andhra Pradesh	61439
Assam	2381
Bihar	23756
Chhattisgarh	13524
Goa	327
Gujarat	15522
Haryana	39357

1	2
Himachal Pradesh	5028
Jharkhand	6536
Karnataka	50480
Kerala	59504
Madhya Pradesh	14765
Maharashtra	8601
Mizoram	95
Nagaland	4
Orissa	30746
Punjab	14852
Rajasthan	19816
Tamil Nadu	20837
Tripura	23
Uttar Pradesh	79505
Uttaranchal	6092
West Bengal	21876
Grand Total	495139

Marble and Granite Industry

3780. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States where stone industry, particularly that of marble and granite, is flourishing;

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to promote stone industry in the country particularly in Rajasthan;

(c) whether import of marble is adversely affecting the domestic marble and granite industry in country particularly in Rajasthan;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has received any representation from the marble and granite traders/entrepreneurs in this regard;

(f) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(g) the steps taken to promote the stone industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (g) Import of rough marble and granite as classified under Chapter 25 of ITC (HS) Classification of Export and Import Items, 2004-2009, is restricted. The quantity of marble permitted for import under current Import Policy does not adversely impact the domestic industry. All relevant domestic concerns are factored while considering any representation in this regard.

Granite and marble are minor minerals as defined in Section 3 (e) of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957. Accordingly, the concerned State Governments are primarily responsible for development of these minerals.

[English]

Roads in Naxal Affected Areas

3781. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received proposals from the State Government of Orissa to build roads for the naxalite affected districts of the State;

(b) if so, whether the State Government has also sought help of the Central Paramilitary Forces and Border Road Organisation to build roads in the naxal hit areas;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Ministry of Rural Development has cleared seven roads proposals in 2005-06 and eight roads proposals in 2006-07 to be taken up in naxal affected areas under PMGSY in Orissa.

(b) and (c) No such proposals have been received by CPMFs & BRO.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Report by NCRB

3782. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:
SHRIMATI RUPATAI D. PATIL:
SHRIMATI KARUNA SHUKLA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi is the most unsafe city for women out of 35 big cities in the country according to the National Crime Report Bureau's (NCRB) report for the year 2005;

- (b) If so, the details of the report;
- (c) whether some suggestions have also been given in the report with a view to improve the safety of women;
- (d) the reaction of the Government to the said report; and
- (e) the details of the steps being taken by the Government to improve the safety of women in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) As per the 'Crime In India' Report for 2005 published by the National Crime Records Bureau, Delhi City has registered the highest number of cases of crimes against women amongst the 35 mega cities. The details of crimes recorded in these cities during the year 2005 as per the aforesaid report are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) to (e) The report does not contain any suggestions for curbing crime; it only presents detailed statistics on general crime, crime against women, SCs/STs and children etc. The steps taken by Delhi Police to prevent crime against women and improve safety of women in Delhi include establishment of Crime Against Women Cells; setting up of Rape Crises Intervention Centres in all the nine Police Districts; deployment of staff in plain clothes at vulnerable places; starting of dedicated telephone help lines; constitution of 'Women Mobile Team' to attend to distress calls from women on round-the-clock basis; self-defence training programme for girls; launching of the scheme "Parivartan" under which lady beat Constables are deployed in selected slum areas; deployment of one lady police Constable in each PCR Van patrolling prominent women colleges; launching of "New Contact Programme" in all the districts to contact teaching faculty and students of women colleges; conducting surprise checks of buses on sensitive and vulnerable routes to curb incidents of eve-teasing; and circulation of educative literature and pamphlets containing Do's and Don't and self defence tips to the girls in women colleges.

Statement

S.No.	City	Number of crimes committed against women in 2005
1	2	3
1.	Agra	489
2.	Ahmedabad	1004
3.	Allahabad	102
4.	Amritsar	66

1	2	3
5.	Asansol	377
6.	Bangalore	1488
7.	Bhopal	364
8.	Chennai	815
9.	Coimbatore	331
10.	Delhi	3850
11.	Dhanbad	92
12.	Faridabad	410
13.	Hyderabad	2057
14.	Indore	522
15.	Jabalpur	415
16.	Jaipur	782
17.	Jamshedpur	168
18.	Kanpur	644
19.	Kochi	129
20.	Kolkata	544
21.	Lucknow	582
22.	Ludhiana	215
23.	Madurai	261
24.	Meerut	353
25.	Mumbai	1288
26.	Nagpur	440
27.	Nasik	207
28.	Patna	226
29.	Pune	565
30.	Rajkot	211
31.	Surat	379
32.	Vadodara	189
33.	Varanasi	86
34.	Vijaywada	613
35.	Vishakhapatnam	733

[English]

IISCO Mining Lease

3783. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the mining lease of IISCO, Bhilai Steel and Kudremukh have got their due lease; and

(b) if not, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) and (b) Six proposals for grant of mining lease for iron ore over a total area of 687.779 hect. in Andhra Pradesh in favour of M/s Kudremukh Iron ore Co. Ltd. have been approved by Ministry of Mines since 2001. One proposal for grant of mining lease for iron ore over an area of 2028.797 hect. in Rowghat - "F" Block, Districts Kanker and Bastar, Chhattisgarh in favour of M/s Steel Authority of India Ltd. has been received by this Ministry on 23.10.2006. No proposal for grant of mineral concession in favour of IISCO has been received by this Ministry since 2001.

Swayamsiddha Scheme in Andhra Pradesh

3784. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the aims and objectives of Swayamsiddha Scheme;

(b) the details of proposals received by Union Government from various States including Government of Andhra Pradesh under Swayamsiddha Scheme during each of the last three years;

(c) the assistance extended to the various States including Andhra Pradesh under this scheme during each of the last three years; and

(d) number of persons benefited under this scheme during each of the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) The aims and objectives of Swayamsiddha Scheme are all-round empowerment of women, especially socially and economically by ensuring their direct access to, and control over, resources through a sustained process of mobilization, and convergence of all the on-going sectoral programmes.

(b) and (c) Annual Action Plans detailing the list of activities proposed for the year are submitted by State Governments. Based on the Annual Action Plan and their

pace of expenditure grants are released to State Governments/UTs. Details of grant released to State Governments/UTs under Swayamsiddha during the last three years is enclosed as statement-I.

(d) The State-wise number of women benefited under the Scheme is enclosed as statement-II.

Statement-I

Grant released under Swayamsiddha during the last three years

		(Rs. in lakhs)		
Sl. No.	State/UT	Grant Released		
		2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	*	143.57	110
2	Arunachal Pradesh	*	*	*
3	Assam	*	*	100
4	Bihar	*	*	100
5	Chhattisgarh	39	25	60
6	Gujarat	*	*	30.6
7	Haryana	69	33.6	69.62
8	Himachal Pradesh	3.63	39.17	32.39
9	Jammu and Kashmir	*	28	70.98
10	Jharkhand	51.01	*	25
11	Karnataka	99.06	25.22	110
12	Kerala	33.89	20	132.43
13	Madhya Pradesh	*	45	200
14	Maharashtra	81	136	159.48
15	Manipur	12.39	19.31	*
16	Meghalaya	6	5	29
17	Mizoram	5	13.74	27.12
18	Nagaland	11.41	23.92	46.71
19	Orissa	50	92.14	113.45
20	Punjab	*	*	25

1	2	3	4	5
21	Rajasthan	*	25	180
22	Sikkim	8	17	25.75
23	Tamil Nadu	70	175	167.02
24	Tripura	9	6.5	10.94
25	Uttar Pradesh	122.44	*	*
26	Uttaranchal	*	25	83
27	West Bengal	76.98	50	99.63
28	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	*	*	*
29	Delhi	5.68	*	*
30	Lakshadweep	*	*	*
31	Pondicherry	*	*	13.4

* Grants were not released on account of non-submission of Annual Action Plan/incomplete Annual Action Plan/insufficient fund utilisation.

Statement-II

Number of women beneficiaries under Swayamsidha

Sl. No.	States/UTs	No. of beneficiaries
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	50944
2	Arunachal Pradesh	2270
3	Assam	60000
4	Bihar	86639
5	Chhattisgarh	21907
6	Gujarat	44309
7	Himachal Pradesh	10721
8	Haryana	18016
9	Jammu and Kashmir	21500
10	Jharkhand	41225
11	Karnataka	47061
12	Kerala	41232
13	Madhya Pradesh	41066
14	Maharashtra	49549

1	2	3
15	Manipur	4925
16	Meghalaya	7250
17	Mizoram	3797
18	Nagaland	8506
19	Orissa	54000
20	Punjab	25897
21	Rajasthan	34014
22	Sikkim	6898
23	Tamil Nadu	87738
24	Tripura	4852
25	Uttar Pradesh	126000
26	Uttaranchal	18369
27	West Bengal	63935
28	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1560
29	Delhi	2625
30	Lakshadweep	2460
31	Pondicherry	5227
Total		994492

Shortage of Raw Material

3785. SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the raw material for the textile production has fallen sharply; and

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

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

(b) Does not arise.

Assistance to Voluntary Organisation

3786. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Social Welfare Board gives financial assistance to voluntary organisation for implementing the programmes of the Board; and

(b) If so, the number of voluntary organisations given assistance by the CSWB during each of the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) A Statement showing the State-wise number of voluntary organisations given assistance by Central Social Welfare Board during the last three years is enclosed.

Statement

Number of Voluntary Organisations given assistance by CSWB under various programmes during the last three years

S.No.	Name of the State	Years		
		2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	689	710	719
2.	Assam	346	242	193
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	94	89	101
4.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	95	116	111
5.	Bihar	479	484	486
6.	Chandigarh	86	80	41
7.	Chhattisgarh	183	138	175
8.	Delhi	206	154	184
9.	Gujarat	321	333	314
10.	Haryana	240	179	155
11.	Himachal Pradesh	196	153	113
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	102	122	141
13.	Jharkhand	07	26	116
14.	Karnataka	489	495	466
15.	Kerala	538	511	521
16.	Lakshadweep	35	52	131
17.	Madhya Pradesh	759	720	1001
18.	Maharashtra	577	628	664

1	2	3	4	5
19.	Manipur	326	302	332
20.	Meghalaya	252	196	235
21.	Mizoram	217	209	258
22.	Nagaland	134	77	54
23.	Orissa	596	544	545
24.	Punjab	161	90	106
25.	Pondicherry	176	155	144
26.	Rajasthan	241	289	279
27.	Sikkim	115	88	98
28.	Tamil Nadu	799	689	605
29.	Tripura	149	149	136
30.	Uttar Pradesh	705	705	645
31.	Uttaranchal	62	95	124
32.	West Bengal	729	469	661
33.	Goa	16	15	17
34.	Dadra Nagar Haveli	02	02	10
Total		10122	9306	9881

[Translation]

PMF Personnels on UN Mission

3787. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:
SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Para Military Force, particularly ITBP and BSF personnels are being posted in various countries from time to time through United Nations Missions;

(b) if so, the number of Jawans posted on such missions alongwith the names of the countries to which they were posted during each of the last three years, force-wise and post-wise;

(c) whether such Jawans were also sent to the African country, Congo under such mission;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the PMF personnel posted in Congo have not received their salaries during the said period;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to provide salary to such personnel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (d) One Formed Police Unit each of BSF and ITBP comprising of 125 personnel have been deployed in United Nations in Congo for Peacekeeping Operations. Force-wise and Post-wise detail of these personnel is given in the enclosed statement.

(e) to (g) The pay and allowance in respect of these personnel deployed in Congo are regularly being drawn and being remitted into their bank. The overseas deployment allowances (ODA) at enhance rate has also been approved.

Statement

BSF

Year	Congo
1	2
2004	-
2005	<div>Commandant 01</div> <div>Chief Medical Officer 02</div> <div>Dy. Commandant 01</div> <div>Assistant Commandant 03</div> <div>Inspector 03</div> <div>Sub Inspector 02</div> <div>Assistant Sub Inspector 07</div> <div>Head Constable 28</div> <div>Constable 71</div> <div>Class 07</div> <div>(Deployed since 28-11-2005) -</div>
2006	-
Total	125

ITBP

2004	-
2005	<div>Second in Commandant 01</div> <div>Deputy Commandant 03</div> <div>Senior Medical Officer 02</div> <div>Inspector 07</div> <div>Sub Inspector 03</div> <div>Assistant Sub Inspector 01</div> <div>Head Constable 39</div>

1	2
	<div>Constable 65</div> <div>Follower (Class-IV) 04</div> <div>(Deployed since 09-11-2005) -</div>
2006	-
Total	125

[English]

Handmade Village Industry-Products

3788. SHRI A.V. BELLARMIN: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that several products are being purchased and marketed by Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) in the name of Handmade Village Industrial Products;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) (a) No, Sir. Under the Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act, village industry means any industry located in a rural area which produces any goods or renders any service with or without the use of power, subject to fixed capital investment of up to Rs. 1 lakh per worker employed in general category areas (Rs. 1.5 lakh in hilly areas). The products are thus called handmade or village industry products. Khadi and village industry (KVI) institutions and the Departmental sales outlets of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) purchase and market handmade and village industry products from the KVI institutions / units certified by the KVIC or the Khadi and Village Industries Boards of States/Union Territories and units financed under the Rural Employment Generation Programme.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

National Disaster Management College, Nagpur

3789. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received proposal from State Government of Maharashtra for setting of Post National Disaster Management College at Nagpur;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action so far taken by the Government thereon;

(d) whether the Government is considering to open such colleges in other parts of the country to train youths at the time of disasters; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Recognition of B.Ed. Colleges

3790. SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Council of Teacher's Education (NCTE) is giving recognition to B.Ed. colleges from the concerned State Government without obtaining 'No Objection Certificate';

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether National Council of Teacher's Education (NCTE) is not approving M.Ed. courses, even though the concerned State Government has given 'No Objection Certificate'; and

(d) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) As per clause 7 of NCTE Regulations, 2005 which was gazetted on 13.01.2006, the NCTE Regional Committee shall send a written communication along with a copy of the application form submitted by the institution concerned to the State Government/UT Administration. On receipt of this communication, the State Government/UT Administration concerned shall furnish its recommendations on the application to the NCTE Regional Committee within 60 days from receipt. If the recommendation is negative, the State Government/UT Administration shall provide detailed reasons/grounds thereof, which could be taken into consideration by the Regional Committee concerned while deciding the application. If no communication is received from the State Government/UT Administration within the stipulated 60 days, it shall be presumed that the State Government/UT Administration concerned has no recommendation to make. The said Regulations do not provide for a specific 'No Objection Certificate' from the State Government/UT Administration.

(c) All the applications received for grant of recognition for starting a course or training in teacher education are strictly examined as per the provisions of the NCTE Act, Rules and Regulations.

(d) Question does not arise in the light of (c) above.

Highway along Indo Nepal Border

3791. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from State Government of Bihar for construction of 750 km long highway along Indo-Nepal border to boost trade;

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

(c) the estimated cost of the project and the time by which the project is likely to be completed; and

(d) the number of persons likely to get employment on completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (d) Government of India has formulated a proposal for construction/upgradation of road along India-Nepal and India-Bhutan border in the states of Uttaranchal, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Assam. This includes roads of about 656.5 kms at an estimated cost of Rs.446 crores in Bihar. The proposal has been worked out in consultation with the concerned State Government. The Government of India has not yet finalized the mechanism of funding the project.

Mineral Development Fund

3792. SHRI B. MAHTAB: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up a Mineral Development Fund;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of contribution of State and Centre in said fund; and

(d) the steps taken by the Union Government to release its matching contribution to the Mineral Development Fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) to (d) A High Level Committee (HLC) under the chairmanship of Shri Anwarul Hoda, Member, Planning Commission was constituted to review the National Mineral Policy and recommend possible

amendments in the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 to give a fillip to private investment in the sector. The Committee has submitted its report to the Central Government. One of the recommendations relates to setting up of Mineral Development Fund. The report of HLC is under consideration.

Central Police Control Room

3793. SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU:

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether telephone number 100 is meant for the help of the people in distress;

(b) if so, whether this telephone number is meant for Delhi region and not for whole NCR region as reported in Hindustan Times dated November 5, 2006; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof and the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken thereon indicating setting up of Central Police Control Room (CPCR) for NCR?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (c) Telephone No. 100 of the Central Police Control Room of Delhi Police is meant to help the people in distress in the NCT of Delhi. However, calls received from adjoining districts of States of the National Capital Region, i.e., Gurgaon, Faridabad, Bahadurgarh, Sonapat, Jhajjar, Gaziabad, Noida, Baghpat and Meerut are immediately passed to concerned district of neighbouring state through nine hot line telephones for action at local level. The telephone calls referred to in the report captioned "In NCR with Delhi Number? 100 is not for you" which appeared in Hindustan Times of 5th November, 2006 could not be traced in the Automatic Call Distribution System of the Central Police Control Room of Delhi Police.

No proposal to set up a Central Police Control Room for the National Capital Region is at present under consideration of the Government.

Upliftment of Tribals

3794. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the sufferings and socio-economic upliftment of Ranchi tribals who are being evicted from forest land which they occupying since decades;

(b) if so, facts and details thereof;

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard;

(d) whether any action has been initiated to include them in the list of OBC; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) to (e) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is the nodal Ministry for the welfare and development of Scheduled Tribes notified under Article 342 of the Constitution only. The Community 'Ranchi' of Andaman & Nicobar Islands has not been notified as a Scheduled Tribe.

The UT Administration of Andaman & Nicobar Islands has, however, constituted the A & N Islands Commission for identifying Other Backward Classes which may also examine the case of Ranchis.

NCRB Report of Kidnapping of Children

3795. SHRI UDAY SINGH:

SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE:

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:

SHRI ASHOK ARGAL:

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any report from National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) regarding a large number of children/persons kidnapped every year in the country;

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

(c) the total number of accused persons arrested by the Government during the said period, State-wise;

(d) the action taken by the Government against such accused persons; and

(e) the effective steps taken by the Government to stop such cases in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) to (d) As per statistics compiled by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), cases registered, persons arrested, persons charge-sheeted, persons trials completed, persons convicted and persons acquitted for the offences of kidnapping and abduction (including children) during 2003, 2004 and 2005, State-wise, were as shown in the statement enclosed.

(e) Under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India, 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State Subjects and as such, it is the responsibility of the State Governments to take deterrent action against the persons found guilty of committing crimes of kidnapping and abduction and provide safety and security to the public. The Union Government has from time to time been issuing advisories to all the State Governments and UT Administrations, requesting them to give more focused attention on improving the administration of the criminal justice system, with a view to ensuring safety and security of the people under their jurisdiction.

Statement

Cases Registered (CR), Persons Arrested (PA), Persons Charge-sheeted (PC), Persons Trial Completed (PD), Persons Convicted (PV) and Persons Acquitted (PQ) for the Offence of Kidnapping and Abduction (including Children) (Sec. 363 - 373 IPC) during 2003 - 2005

Sl. No.	State/UT	2003						2004						2005					
		CR	PA	PC	PD	PV	PQ	CR	PA	PC	PD	PV	PQ	CR	PA	PC	PD	PV	PQ
1	Andhra Pradesh	1485	1752	1459	1133	173	960	1526	1821	1596	1468	211	1257	1612	2156	1849	1240	174	1066
2	Arunachal Pradesh	68	74	29	0	0	0	65	76	39	5	5	0	58	45	30	17	6	11
3	Assam	1628	2361	1459	944	160	784	1906	2561	1474	998	226	772	1751	2846	1683	1027	202	825
4	Bihar	2427	4002	3416	2816	510	2306	3413	4937	3381	2677	366	2311	2693	5218	4336	2776	369	2407
5	Chhattisgarh	177	206	212	148	42	106	214	317	307	383	114	269	246	339	334	209	58	151
6	Goa	14	14	17	9	0	9	13	17	10	7	1	6	17	32	12	13	2	11
7	Gujarat	1044	1293	1285	807	56	751	1133	1573	1591	916	70	846	1164	1627	1568	841	89	752
8	Haryana	398	548	552	715	137	578	423	538	548	673	139	534	492	531	506	466	121	345
9	Himachal Pradesh	113	104	102	95	10	85	123	106	67	53	3	50	118	143	121	103	5	98
10	Jammu and Kashmir	712	753	758	264	3	261	735	715	696	364	5	359	748	793	764	396	7	389
11	Jharkhand	487	521	427	237	130	107	468	521	427	237	130	107	621	721	415	1501	154	1347
12	Karnataka	531	625	616	477	13	464	592	686	683	742	28	714	589	690	614	795	39	756
13	Kerala	189	258	190	139	29	110	232	287	194	153	14	139	226	367	409	280	24	256
14	Madhya Pradesh	887	1554	1545	1857	368	1489	832	1605	1632	1314	297	1017	847	1557	1556	1681	444	1237
15	Maharashtra	926	1451	1320	1066	86	980	1045	1642	1639	1153	67	1086	1194	2046	1840	1118	87	1031
16	Manipur	120	91	3	2	0	2	128	90	2	3	0	3	100	81	2	4	1	3
17	Meghalaya	49	113	20	5	0	5	54	56	22	3	0	3	48	43	26	27	0	27
18	Mizoram	8	9	6	7	6	1	15	14	9	3	1	2	13	6	5	14	10	4
19	Nagaland	38	44	35	2	2	0	23	40	67	125	119	6	26	30	35	62	57	5
20	Orissa	477	658	601	625	66	559	526	648	659	542	57	485	641	685	673	450	49	401
21	Punjab	464	481	408	305	83	222	463	489	563	547	242	305	478	568	460	273	47	226
22	Rajasthan	2238	1588	1587	2293	591	1702	2384	2104	2090	2112	619	1493	1993	1597	1606	1579	513	1066
23	Sikkim	0	0	0	2	2	0	5	5	3	0	0	0	3	3	1	0	0	0
24	Tamil Nadu	879	1246	992	810	106	704	870	1228	1195	963	99	864	1029	1268	1276	1242	203	1039
25	Tripura	146	195	121	114	27	87	99	243	200	186	49	137	85	105	126	168	22	146
26	Uttar Pradesh	2208	3930	3748	4698	2412	2286	3337	5714	5142	4882	2619	2263	2855	5098	4643	4148	2195	1953
27	Uttaranchal	171	328	266	111	59	52	213	428	261	164	62	102	203	391	242	195	85	110
28	West Bengal	902	1822	1517	1098	127	971	1200	1925	1413	1083	83	1000	1207	1841	1703	1228	346	882
Total (States)		18776	26021	22691	20779	5198	15581	22037	30496	25910	21756	5626	16130	21163	30827	26835	21853	5309	16544
29	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2	1	0	0	0	0	3	2	3	12	10	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
30	Chandigarh	32	46	38	44	8	36	54	73	64	51	38	15	54	46	27	20	3	17
31	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	7	16	27	16	2	14	12	20	10	10	0	10	13	17	22	17	0	17
32	Daman and Diu	1	1	0	9	0	9	2	5	5	10	0	10	4	13	13	0	0	0
33	Delhi	1156	427	255	184	25	159	1209	495	478	170	21	149	1590	873	615	270	91	179
34	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35	Pondicherry	18	29	8	5	0	5	10	13	10	15	3	12	6	14	26	10	1	9
Total (UTS)		1216	520	328	258	35	223	1290	608	570	268	70	198	1659	963	703	317	95	222
Total (All India)		19992	26541	23019	21037	5233	15804	23327	31104	26480	22024	5696	16328	22832	31790	27538	22170	5404	16766

Source: Crime in India

Killing of Persons in Police Firing

3796. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of persons killed/ injured in firing by Delhi Police during each of the last three years, particularly on September 20, 2006;

(b) the details under which circumstances police undertake firing and those circumstances warranted particularly during Delhi Bandh on September 20, 2006;

(c) whether the Government has conducted inquiry in each incident of firing;

(d) if so, the main findings thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government against the police officials found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) Except one incident of firing on 20 September, 2006 during the course of Delhi Bundh, no other incident of firing on mob by Delhi Police was reported during the years 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006 (up to 14th December). During 'Delhi Bandh' on 20th September, 2006 organised against ongoing sealing and demolition drives by MCD, the mob in the North-East District turned out violent causing damage to public property at several places including property of Delhi Metro Rail Corporation; obstructing traffic; indulging in brick batting; and even firing from country made pistols. As a result, 103 personnel of Delhi Police and four officials of Delhi Fire Service were injured. The Police adopted all preventive measures to control the unruly mob including use of tear gas shells, firing of plastic bullets and firing in air to control the unruly mobs. However, since these could not prove effective, it had to resort to firing in discharge of its bonafide official duties.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Modernisation of NTC Mills

3797. SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO:
SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:
SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL:
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of NTC mills modernized so far;

(b) whether the modernization process initiated by the Government earlier had been totally unsuccessful;

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether the fund earmarked for modernization is being utilized for other purposes; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN): (a) NTC is in the process of modernizing 22 of its mills under the revival scheme.

(b) and (c) Board for Industrial Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has approved Revival Scheme for NTC in 2002, envisaging closure of 65 unviable mills and revival of 52 viable mills. Out of 52 mills, 22 mills are to be modernized by NTC itself and 29 mills through joint venture route. The modernization process was initiated by NTC in July, 2005 only.

(d) and (e) NTC is implementing a self financing Revival Scheme and funds are being generated by NTC from the sale of its own surplus assets.

[English]

Rajiv Gandhi Assassination Case

3798. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of persons responsible for the assassination of former Prime Minister Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi;

(b) the name of accused declared proclaimed offenders for whom the Interpol has issued Red Corner Notices;

(c) whether the Government has taken up the extradition of such offenders with the Government of Sri Lanka;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of Sri Lanka thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) As per the investigations conducted by Special Investigation Team (SIT) of CBI in the case, a chargesheet has been filed against 41 persons in the Designated TADA Court, Chennai, for various offences. Two persons out of these have been declared Proclaimed Offenders and Red Corner Notices have been issued against them by Interpol.

(c) to (e) Yes, Madam. The extradition request in respect

of the Proclaimed Offenders has been taken up by Govt. of India with the Govt. of Sri Lanka.

Irregularities in Textiles Advisory Committee

3799. SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL:
SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO:
SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any inquiry into the matter of committing gross irregularities in the selection of members to the various Advisory Committees related to the Textiles Ministry;

(b) if not, the reaction of the Government thereon;

(c) whether the members of Advisory Committees constituted under the said Ministry have been found to be involved in cases of corruption and graft; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The members of various Advisory Committees related to Ministry of Textiles are selected/nominated through a set procedure, therefore, there is no question of irregularities in their selection. The role of these members is purely advisory in nature.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Shortage of Urdu Teachers and Books

3800. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of financial assistance given to various States/UT Governments under the scheme for appointment of language teachers (Urdu) during each of the last three years, State/UT-wise; and

(b) the other measures taken/to be taken by the Union Government for promotion of Urdu language in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The details are enclosed as statement.

(b) There is an autonomous organization under Ministry of HRD viz National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language (NCPUL), which has the mandate to develop and promote Urdu Language. Some of its activities are:

- Computer Education including knowledge of an Urdu Software called Inpage.
- Holding Seminars, academic projects, publication of books & manuscripts.
- Urdu Diploma through distance Education Mode
- Urdu Book fairs.
- Calligraphy and Graphic Design Training Centre, etc.

Statement

Release of grant and number of teachers to the States/UTs under the Scheme of Appointment of Language Teachers (Urdu) for the last three years

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	Name of the State	2003-04		2004-05		2005-06	
		No. of Teachers	Grant released	No. of Teachers	Grant released	No. of Teachers	Grant released
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Nagaland	-	-	-	-	-	-
2.	Mizoram	-	-	-	-	-	-
3.	Manipur	-	-	-	-	-	-
4.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-
5.	Karnataka	-	-	55	6.60	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
6.	Andhra Pradesh	245	45.72	290	51.12	-	-
7.	Kerala	-	-	85	10.20	-	-
8.	Assam	-	-	-	-	-	-
9.	Tamil Nadu	-	-	10	1.20	-	-
10.	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	290	34.80	-	-
11	Andman and Nicobar Islands	-	-	5	0.60	-	-
12.	Rajasthan	-	-	45	5.40	-	-
13.	Haryana	-	-	10	1.20	-	-
14.	Delhi	-	-	5	0.60	-	-
15.	Madhya Pradesh	-	-	15	1.80	229	27.48
16.	Maharashtra	-	-	1454	88.74	-	-
17.	West Bengal	-	-	530	63.60	-	-
18.	Gujarat	-	-	70	8.40	-	-
19.	Jharkhand	-	-	65	7.80	-	-
20.	Uttaranchal	-	-	-	-	263	31.56
21.	Bihar	-	-	360	43.20	-	-
Total		245	45.72	3289	325.26	492	59.04

[Translation]

Security to VIPs

3801. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU:
SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI:
SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA:
SHRI M. APPADURAI:
SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted by the Government to provide security cover to persons/VVIPs;

(b) the total numbers/names of persons/VIPs, who have been provided various categories of security, category-wise, particularly Y, Z and SPG;

(c) the total annual expenditure incurred on such security;

(d) whether any Expert Committee has been constituted recently to examine/review the security related matters;

(e) if so, whether such Committee has submitted the report; and

(f) the details and recommendations made therein alongwith action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Security cover is provided to persons/VVIPs based on threat perception or on positional basis. The total number of persons/VIPs who have been provided with categorized security cover varies from time to time depending upon the reviews made in this regard.

(c) The total annual expenditure on providing security cannot be estimated as different State/UT Govern-

ments and agencies are involved in making the security arrangements.

(d) to (f) Yes, Sir. An Expert Committee has been constituted to review of the policy on Personal Security. The report of the Committee is presently awaited.

[English]

Recruitment of SCs/STs

3802. DR. R. SENTHIL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the reservation norms as per the constitution is implemented in recruitment of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe candidates in teaching technical and non-teaching posts in IITs and IISc Bangalore;

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

(c) whether the Government proposes any recruitment of SC/ST for all level of posts;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the measures being taken by the Government to ensure recruitment of SC/ST as per reservation policy?

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

Investment by Italy in Textile Sector

3803. SHRI G.V. HARSHA KUMAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Italy based textile company has expressed its keenness to set up a factory in Warangal district with an investment of Rs 600 crores;

(b) if so, whether any talks in this regard have been held;

(c) if so, the details thereof, and

(d) the benefits likely to accrue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) Discussions were held between the State Government of Andhra Pradesh with the representatives of M/s Camozzi Textile Private Limited, an Italy based company. The company has planned to set up a textile based unit under joint venture with Ledge Burn Limited of UK in two

phases for manufacture of finished cotton woven cloth with a capacity of 2 lakh meters per day, 80 tonnes per day of knitted fabrics and matching capacity for processing both types of fabrics at Eallam Village in Warangal district. Based on the request made by the company, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has issued an order agreeing to extend the special package of incentives on being a Mega Project.

(d) This will bring in new technologies and the value addition will also take place within the State. Besides, this will also create an employment opportunity for more than 1000 persons in the State.

NGO to Monitor the Schools run by NDMC

3804. SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the NDMC Education Department has engaged NGO to monitor the working of the schools run by NDMC;

(b) if so, the names of such NGO engaged for the purpose;

(c) whether the members of NGO suitably qualified to make observations and comments on the working of the highly qualified teachers of NDMC, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Use of Mobile Phones by Terrorists in Border Areas

3805. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the mobile phones of Bangladesh and Pakistan are being extensively used by militants along international borders,

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of mobile phones and SIM cards seized from various terrorists active in the country, State-wise, and

(d) the action taken/being taken by the Government to check such activities?

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

Available reports indicate that mobile phones are used by the PoK/Pak based militant leadership for communication with their cadres operating on the Indian side. According to available inputs, 10 mobile phones, 2 satellite phones, 1 Dectaphone and four SIM cards, brought by the terrorists from across the border, have been recovered in J&K so far.

(d) Action has been initiated to check such activities by upgradation of intelligence network, introduction of modern surveillance equipments and coordination amongst the various intelligence agencies.

Non-Tariff Barriers

3806. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any fund to help the small scale textile producers who are badly affected by the non-tariff barriers such as the issue of "Azo Free Dyes";

(b) if so, the details of total funds allocated in the current financial year; and

(c) the schemes available for the small scale Indian producers which help to address the impact of non-tariff barriers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN): (a) to (c) There is no scheme specifically designed for textile producers who are affected by Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs) such as azo-free dyes. NTBs are not institutional in nature and there is no comprehension of any scheme in this regard also. The WTO forum addresses the removal of NTB at multilateral forum/forums. However, the Government of India has set up network of testing laboratories, facilitating smooth international trade by way of meeting standards. This is administered by Textiles Committee on commercial basis.

Small and Tiny Industries

3807. SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of small and tiny units in the textile sector, State-wise and Union Territory-wise;

(b) the labour profile of textile industry; and

(c) the contribution of the textile industry to the GDP?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN): (a) and (b) The activities of the small and tiny units in the textiles sector are mainly decentralized. No unified data regarding their activities and labour profile is maintained under the Ministry of Textiles.

(c) The Textiles industry contributes approximate 4 percent to Country's GDP.

Sexual Harassment of Women

3808. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA:
SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE:
SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN:
SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:
DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA:
DR. M. JAGANNATH:

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

(a) whether the Government is aware of the findings of the study on sexual harassment at workplace, sponsored by the Population Council of India;

(b) if so, the details of the findings and recommendations thereto; and

(c) the measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to put in place effective implementation in the mechanisms to address the issues of sexual harassment at workplace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by Population Council, South & East Asia – Regional Office, New Delhi, the Council has brought out a report on "Sexual Harassment in the Workplace: Experiences of Women in Health Sector". The findings of the report are stated to confirm, among other things, the existence of sexual harassment in the workplace and the reluctance of women to invoke the complaints mechanism. According to the report much remains to be done to address gender stereotyping and harassment in the working environment and to ensure that women have recourse to effective resolution of complaints.

(c) The steps taken by the Government are given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Details of steps taken by the Government to implement the guidelines laid down by the Supreme Court and to create awareness about the issue of sexual harassment at workplace

The Government has requested all the Central Ministries/Departments, Chief Secretaries of all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations, Universities/Institutions, Central Board of Secondary Education, All India Council of Technical Education to constitute complaints committees and to ensure that

the guidelines laid down by the Supreme Court in the Vishaka case for prevention of sexual harassment at workplace are implemented.

- The National Commission for Women (NCW) formulated a Code of Conduct for Workplace, putting down the Supreme Court's guidelines mentioned above in a simple manner. This has been circulated to State Commissions for Women, Non-Governmental Organisations, the apex bodies of the Corporate Sector, Public Sector undertakings, Media, Ministries/Departments and other institutions.
- The NCW has instituted a series of interactive meetings with Public Sector Undertakings/Banks/Universities/Educational Institutions/Hotels/Media etc. to assess the extent of implementation of the guidelines.
- Department of Public Enterprises issued circular in May, 1998 to all administrative Ministries/Departments concerned with Central Public Sector Establishments to direct the Chief Executives of CPSEs under their administrative control for adherence and compliance of the Supreme Court's guidelines on prevention of sexual harassment by making amendments in the CDA Rules of the CPSEs.
- So far as implementation of the Supreme Court guidelines in regard to setting up of complaint committee in small establishments like shops and call centres are concerned section 1(3) of the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1947 applies to every establishment wherein 100 and more workers are employed. However, appropriate Government may apply the provisions of the Act to any industrial establishment employing less than 100 persons. Since the State Governments are the appropriate Government in respect of commercial establishments like shops and call centres, necessary instructions have been issued by the Ministry of Labour and Employment during January, 2005 to all Labour Secretaries asking them to take suitable action to apply the provisions of the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946 to small establishments like call centres and shops in the unorganized sector.
- The Central Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964 have been amended to include sexual harassment as a misconduct. The Central Civil Services (Control, Classification and Appeal) Rules, 1965 have been amended during July, 2004 to provide that the Complaints Committee established in each Ministry or Department or Office for inquiring into complaints of sexual harassment shall be deemed to be the inquiry authority appointed by the disciplinary authority and the Complaints Committee shall hold the inquiry as far

as practicable in accordance with the procedure laid down in these rules (i.e. the procedure for holding inquiry into disciplinary proceedings for award of a major penalty).

- Amendments have been made to the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946 so that the sexual harassment of women at workplace in the private sector could constitute an offence for which a workman is liable for disciplinary action.
- Media campaign has been undertaken by the Ministry of Women and Child Development to create awareness on various issues concerning women and children, including compliance with the Supreme Court's guidelines on the prevention of sexual harassment of women at workplace.

Production of Cigarettes

3809. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the domestic demand of producing cigarettes has increased from five to six per cent during the last two years;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to restrict the manufacturer of cigarette to limit production; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The production of Cigarettes during the last three years has increased as indicated below:-

Year	Production (in Million Nos.)
2003-04	49769.0
2004-05	54747.5
2005-06	75711.3

(b) and (c) There are strict mechanisms in place for regulating and controlling domestic cigarette production, consumption and trade, in the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951 and the Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003. The manufacture of cigars and cigarettes using tobacco is also subject to compulsory industrial licensing.

[Translation]

Assignment of Cases to CBI by Delhi Police

3810. SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:

SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several cases of Delhi Police have been assigned to CBI for investigation;

(b) if so, the details alongwith the number of cases assigned to CBI by Delhi Police in this regard during each of the last three years;

(c) the total number out of these cases assigned to the CBI during the said period wherein the CBI has filed cases;

(d) the total number of these cases wherein investigation has not been completed so far alongwith the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the investigation has been hampered due to senior officer of Delhi Police; and

(f) If so, the details and total number of Delhi Police officers above the rank of ACP involved in such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (d) During the period from 2003 upto 30th November, 2006, CBI took over investigation in 35 cases which were earlier registered by Delhi Police. Details of these cases are given in enclosed statement. The status of these cases is indicated below:-

Status of cases	Number of cases
Charge sheet filed in the court	10
Sanction for prosecution sought from the competent authority	1
Closed	5
Investigation in progress	19

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Statement

S. No.	Details of cases registered by Delhi Police which were transferred to the CBI	Number of cases registered by the CBI
1	2	3
1.	Case FIR No.732/2000, PS Connaught Place, New Delhi.	RC.4/2003-SCB-I/DLI
2.	Case FIR No.467/1999, PS Okhla Industrial Area, New Delhi	RC. 7/2003-SCB-I/DLI
3.	Case FIR No.771/2000, PS Patel Nagar, New Delhi.	RC.3/2004-SCB-I/DLI
4.	Case FIR No.853/2002, PS Dabri, Delhi.	RC.4/2004-SCB.I/Delhi
5.	Case FIR No.312/1996, PS Gandhi Nagar, Delhi.	RC.2/2005-SCB-I/DLI
6.	Case FIR No.429/2005, PS Vikaspuri, New Delhi.	RC.4/2006-SCB-I/DLI
7.	Case FIR No.422/2005, PS Hari Nagar, New Delhi.	RC.10/2006-SCB-I/DLI
8.	Case FIR No.107/2001, PS Connaught Place, New Delhi.	RC.4/2004-SCB-II/DLI
9.	Case FIR No.178/1984, PS Mangolpuri, Delhi.	RC.6/2005-SCB-II/DLI
10.	Case FIR No.250/1984, PS Sultanpuri, Delhi.	RC.7/2005-SCB-II, Delhi
11.	Case FIR No.307/1994, PS Sultanpuri, Delhi.	RC.8/2005-SCB.II, Delhi
12.	Case FIR No.487/2002, P.S. Sultanpuri, Delhi.	RC.I/2003-SIU.I
13.	Case FIR No. 592/2003, PS Najafgarh, Delhi.	RC.4/2003-SIU.I
14.	Case FIR No. 174/2001, PS Shalimar Bagh, Delhi.	RC.18/2005-SIU.I
15.	Case FIR No. 867/84, PS Karol Bagh, Delhi.	RC.22/2005-SIU.I
16.	Case FIR No. 316/84, PS Bara Hindu Rao, Delhi.	RC.23/2005-SIU.I
17.	Case FIR No. 416/84, PS Delhi Cantt.	RC.24/2005-SIU.I

1	2	3
18.	Case FIR No. 347/91, PS Sultanpuri, Delhi	RC.25/2005-SIU.I
19.	Case FIR No. 201/96, PS Khajuri Khas, Delhi.	RC.12/2006-SIU.I
20.	Case FIR No. 276/2004, PS Mehrauli New Delhi.	RC.5/2005-SCU.V
21.	Case FIR No. 917/2002, PS Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi.	RC.12/2005-SCU.V
22.	Case FIR No. 541/2004, PS Sultanpuri.	RC.1/2006-SCU.V
23.	Case FIR No. 49/2003, PS Railway Sarai Rohilla, Delhi.	RC.3/2006-SCU.V
24.	Case FIR No. 386/2006, PS Sangam Vihar, New Delhi.	RC.20/2006-SCU.V
25.	Case FIR No. 243/2004, PS Narayana.	RC.3/2005-STF/Delhi
26.	Case FIR No. 154/2001, PS Lodhi Colony, New Delhi.	RC.5/2005-SCR-III
27.	Case FIR No. 164/2005, PS Kotwali, Delhi	RC.2/2005-EOU.VII
28.	Case FIR No. 575/2002, PS Uttam Nagar, Delhi.	RC.3/2003-EOU-IV
29.	Case FIR No. 878/2000, PS Kalkaji.	RC.2/2003-EOU.VI/V
30.	Case FIR No. 442/2001, PS Darya Ganj.	RC.1/2004-EOU-V
31.	Case FIR No.604/2002, PS Hauz Khas.	RC.2/2004-EOUI-V
32.	Case FIR No. 803/1999, PS Defence Colony.	RC.5/2004-EOU-V
33.	Case FIR No. 129/2004, PS Vikaspuri.	RC.9/2004-EOU-V
34.	Case FIR No. 164/2005, PS Timarpur	RC.2/2005-EOU-V
35.	Case FIR No. 82/2005, PS Kamla Market, Delhi.	RC.3/2005-EOU-V

[English]

Potential of Processed Foods

3811. SHRI SUBRATA BOSE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have assessed the potential of various processed foods and marine products in India for export;

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

(c) the names of food processing units using foreign brand names;

(d) whether Orissa has got a very good potential in marine processing units;

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

(f) the details of the total number of food processing units set up with 100 per cent export orientation, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF

COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) On the basis of export performance the following processed foods have export potential:

- (1) Processed Fruits & Vegetables
Dried & preserved vegetables, mango pulp, pickles & chutneys.
- (2) Animal Products
Buffalo meat, poultry products, dairy products and honey.
- (3) Other Processed foods
Guargum, jaggery & confectionery, cereal preparations, cereals and basmati rice.

State-wise details of export potential of processed foods are not maintained.

Marine products have a good export potential and are being exported mainly from the ports of Pipavav, Mumbai, Porabandar, Calicut, Haldia, Kolkatta, Goa, Kandla and Paradeep.

(c) The information is not available with the Ministry of Commerce.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) assists the seafood processors and exporters of the country including those in Orissa by extending subsidy for setting up of mini labs, construction or

renovation of captive and independent pre-processing centres and procuring Quick Testing Kit for testing for antibiotics. MPEDA also extends assistance for developmental schemes to Orissa in the marine processing sector.

(f) The details of the food processing units set up with 100 per cent export orientation in respect of marine products are given below.

State	Freezing Plant	Canning Plant	Accelerated Freezed Dried Plant	Individual Quick Frozen Plant
Kerala	108	3	2	42
Tamil Nadu	44	0	0	9
Karnataka	11	0	1	15
Andhra Pradesh	56	1	0	34
Goa	7	2	0	0
Gujarat	58	2	0	18
Orissa	19	0	0	5
Maharashtra	36	0	0	18
West Bengal	32	0	0	2

(Source: MPEDA)

UN Convention against Torture

3812. DR. SEBASTIAN PAUL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to take steps to enforce the convention of the United Nations convention against torture (UNCAT) including its ratification;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to support the International Criminal Court (ICC) as a strong corrective system in the age of globalised justice;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government proposes to adopt the optional protocol to the International Covenant for Civil and Political Rights;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) if not, whether the Government proposes to issue a White Paper on these issues; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) India is a signatory to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT). Enforcement of Convention will arise on its ratification.

(c) and (d) India has not signed the Statute of the International Criminal Court as there are several deficiencies in the Statute, including that it brings under the purview of the Court several crimes, which are subject to national jurisdiction, and makes the primacy of national jurisdiction subject to the satisfaction of the Court. It does not include terrorism as a crime against humanity. It gives special and discriminatory powers to the UN Security Council to refer to, or block consideration, by the Court, of cases.

(e) and (f) India is not a signatory to the optional protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

(g) and (h) There is no proposal to issue a White Paper on this subject.

Aid for Rural Industrial Units

3813. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is providing financial and technical assistance to various NGOs to set up and run rural industrial units;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum of assistance provided during each of the last three years and current year;

(d) the number of applications from various States including West Bengal lying pending with the Union Government; and

(e) the time by which these applications are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Under the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) implemented through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), an eligible entrepreneur including inter alia, NGOs, can establish a village industry by availing of margin money assistance from the KVIC and loan from any public sector scheduled commercial bank. For this purpose, the prospective entrepreneur has to submit a project proposal to the State offices of the KVIC or the District offices of the respective State/Union Territory Khadi and Village Industries Board (KVIB) or the implementing banks directly. Approval of the project depends on technical and financial appraisal by the respective banks. Applicants in categories like ex-servicemen, SCs/STs, women entrepreneurs, etc., are entitled to margin money assistance @ 30 per cent for projects up to Rs 10 lakh vis-a-vis 25 per cent admissible to applicants of general categories. Entrepreneurs from the former categories are required to contribute only 5 per cent of the cost of the project as own contribution (as against 10 per cent for general categories).

(c) The details of margin money released under REGP during 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 are given in table below:

Year	Margin Money released (Rs. crore)
2003-04	288.00
2004-05	344.01
2005-06	391.59
2006-07 (upto October 2006)	100.93

(d) and (e) Applications for setting up industry units mentioned at (a) above are not received directly by the

Government. Under the REGP, an eligible entrepreneur has to submit project proposal to the State office of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) or the District offices of the respective State/Union Territory Khadi and Village Industries Board or the participating bank directly.

Government grant (subsidy) is sanctioned and released in favour of the applicants, in accordance with the parameters of the REGP, after appraisal and sanction of loan by the bank concerned.

Doha Declaration

3814. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Doha Declaration technically allows poor countries to buy cheap copies of desperately needed drugs but the US is caused of trying to prevent countries such as India and Thailand which have manufacturing capacity and making and selling generic versions;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) whether US at the behest of pharmaceutical companies is seeking higher levels of intellectual property protection in developing countries;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether poor people in these countries are needlessly dying because rich countries are blocking the developing world from obtaining affordable medicines; and

(f) if so, the steps taken or being taken by the Government at the WTO level to get these drugs at cheaper rate to save life of poor people in coordination with other developing countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Recognizing the gravity of the public health problems afflicting many developing and least-developed countries, especially those resulting from HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and other epidemics, the Fourth WTO Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) held at Doha in 2001 made a Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health giving directions to the TRIPS Council in the WTO to find a solution to this problem, particularly for those WTO Members who have insufficient or no manufacturing capacity in the pharmaceutical sector. The Ministers also underscored the countries' ability to use the flexibilities that are built into the TRIPS Agreement, in particular compulsory licensing and

parallel importing for making medicines available at affordable prices, and extended exemptions on pharmaceutical patent protection for the least-developed countries until 2016. These measures allow the developing and the least-developed countries with insufficient or no manufacturing capacity to buy cost-effective generic versions of patented drugs under compulsory licenses to address public health problems.

(c) to (e) No such information has been received.

(f) The Patents (Amendment) Act, 2005 has already incorporated the elements of the Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health made at Doha in 2001. These amendments allow manufacturing and export of patented pharmaceutical products to any country, having insufficient or no manufacturing capacity in the pharmaceutical sector for the concerned product, to address public health problems.

[Translation]

Secret Information in Google.Com

3815. DR. RAJESH MISHRA:

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID:

SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the photos of Prime Minister Residence and Office and South Block Office are available on the world renowned internet search engine Google despite highest possible security of these buildings indicating loopholes in the existing security arrangements; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard alongwith the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) The Government is aware of images of some vital installations/ areas available on the internet through Google search engine and has initiated steps with reference to the matter of hosting of such images on the website.

Setting up of Agro and Rural Industries

3816. CH. MUNAWAR HASSAN: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Agro and Rural Industries set up in the country particularly in Uttar Pradesh and Delhi during each of the last three years, State and Union Territory-wise, and current year;

(b) the details of goods being manufactured by these units; and

(c) the amount allocated for setting up these units during the said period alongwith the schemes under which these allocations were made?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) The State/Union Territory(UT)-wise numbers of industrial units set up by eligible beneficiaries of the two important schemes of the Government (in the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries), viz., Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) and Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana (PMRY), in including in Uttar Pradesh and Delhi, during 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 are given in Statement-I and II respectively.

(b) Details of the groups and products of village industries assisted under the REGP are given in the Statement-III. Similar information in respect of industries assisted under PMRY is not maintained centrally.

(c) REGP is a Central sector scheme and the approved grants are released to the KVIC which, in turn, releases the funds (towards margin money assistance) to the banks against the projects sanctioned in each State/ Union Territory (UT). The State/UT - wise details of margin money assistance provided by KVIC under the REGP during 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 are given in Statement-IV. Under the PMRY, allocation of the subsidy and release of funds are based on the targets for States/ UTs. The subsidy amount is released directly to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), which, in turn, releases the necessary amounts to the implementing banks.

The amounts of subsidy released to the RBI during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 are given below:

Year	Subsidy released under PMRY (Rs. crore)
2003-04	147.63
2004-05	190.48
2005-06	251.36
2006-07*	103.69

*upto December 15, 2006

The amounts of grant released to the States/UTs for entrepreneurial development and contingencies under the PMRY during 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 are given in Statement-V.

Statement-I

State/UT-wise details of village industry units set up under the REGP during 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07

Sl.No.	State/UT	Number of units setup			
		2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07*
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Chandigarh	8	8	3	10
2.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2	0	0	0
3.	Delhi	7	9	15	8
4.	Haryana	923	1140	1058	275
5.	Himachal Pradesh	414	469	650	252
6.	Jammu and Kashmir	775	922	1402	249
7.	Punjab	882	864	440	207
8.	Rajasthan	2496	1537	2133	520
9.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	58	6	598	127
10.	Bihar	88	254	692	206
11.	Jharkhand	323	240	217	95
12.	Orissa	1031	991	650	137
13.	West Bengal	3348	2584	2078	489
14.	Arunachal Pradesh	32	43	76	40
15.	Assam	1223	1658	2229	706
16.	Manipur	36	102	65	5
17.	Meghalaya	210	146	206	28
18.	Mizoram	33	162	365	441
19.	Nagaland	61	151	316	179
20.	Tripura	244	233	306	1
21.	Sikkim	113	139	106	35
22.	Andhra Pradesh	1097	1988	2278	509
23.	Karnataka	1422	934	1314	444
24.	Kerala	2046	914	1217	380
25.	Lakshadweep	9	0	26	0
26.	Pondicherry	47	7	56	3

1	2	3	4	5	6
27.	Tamil Nadu	1568	925	1036	334
28.	Goa	126	138	136	51
29.	Gujarat	290	376	516	130
30.	Maharashtra	857	1773	3120	241
31.	Chhattisgarh	697	656	551	178
32.	Madhya Pradesh	1041	1361	736	241
33.	Uttaranchal	1106	513	527	244
34.	Uttar Pradesh	2134	2210	1532	516
Total		24747	23453	26650	7281

*upto October, 2006

Statement-II

State/UT-wise details of Self Employment ventures set up under the PMRY during 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07

Sl. No.	State/UT	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06*	2006-07**
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Haryana	7277	7755	9508	1410
2	Himachal Pradesh	2862	2853	2926	768
3	Jammu and Kashmir	656	639	311	67
4	Punjab	7558	8372	7969	787
5	Rajasthan	12769	12919	13760	976
6	Chandigarh	68	206	72	5
7	Delhi	904	819	681	116
8	Assam	5844	8256	5625	1263
9	Manipur	520	387	357	55
10	Meghalaya	403	568	562	94
11	Nagaland	53	109	2225	47
12	Tripura	2043	1747	2032	492
13	Arunachal Pradesh	668	440	423	6
14	Mizoram	775	142	472	0
15	Sikkim	30	32	31	4
16	Bihar	9860	10396	12075	978

1	2	3	4	5	6
17	Jharkhand	4774	4804	4570	453
18	Orissa	8779	11339	12645	574
19	West Bengal	2822	3796	4614	1119
20	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	182	142	150	15
21	Madhya Pradesh	19748	20642	20775	1405
22	Chhattisgarh	3275	3276	3419	395
23	Uttar Pradesh	40481	42534	37238	6642
24	Uttaranchal	5361	6637	7402	1441
25	Gujarat	6755	6406	6315	1270
26	Maharashtra	17230	21819	23485	2604
27	Daman and Diu	3	4	14	0
28	Goa	116	45	43	4
29	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	22	24	3
30	Andhra Pradesh	17729	22542	20608	3095
31	Karnataka	11929	13931	15256	467
32	Kerala	14024	16553	21540	3213
33	Tamil Nadu	12738	16902	19417	1643
34	Lakshadweep	17	4	5	0
35	Pondicherry	294	329	335	30
	Not Specified	897	897	1397	163
	Total	219444	248264	258281	31604

*provisional figures **upto September, 2006

Statement-III

Details of Groups and Products of Village Industries Assisted under the REGP

1. Chemical Based Industry

- Cottage matches
- Candle
- PVC insulated wires and cables
- PVC pipes
- Cottage soap
- Packing items (plastic)

2. Food & Agro Based Industry

- Ghani oil
- Indian sweets
- Milk products
- Soft drinks
- Power atta chakki
- Masala
- Cashew processing
- Fruits & vegetable processing
- Mini rice mill

- Cattle feed
 - Cane gur & khandsari
 - Bakery products
- 3. Forest Based Industry**
- Ayurvedic medicines
 - Bee-keeping
 - Honey or wax making
 - Photo frame making
- 4. Handmade Paper & Fibre Industry**
- Handmade paper & thermocole
 - Exercise book binding
 - Katha
 - Paper cups
- 5. Mineral Based Industry**
- Brickkiln
 - Cement blocks/hollow blocks
 - Lime stone/lime shell and other lime products
 - Stone cutting
 - Paints
 - Polishing granite stone slabs/granite crushing
- 6. Rural Engineering & Bio-Technology Industry**
- Blacksmithy
 - Engineering workshop
 - Fabrication
 - Iron grill
 - Bio-Manure and Bio-methane
 - Wirenets
 - Carpentry
- Carved wood & artistic furniture
 - Wood work
 - Motor winding
 - Steel grills
 - Goldsmithy/Jewellery
 - Engineering instruments & fabrication works
 - Vermicompost/culture
- 7. Service Industry**
- Auto servicing
 - Dhabas (Not serving liquor)
 - Repairs to diesel engines, pumpsets, etc.
 - Servicing of electric wiring and electronic equipment
 - Sofa repairs
 - Sweet stall
 - Tailoring and readymade garments
 - Video & photography studio
 - Hosiery
 - Tyre vulcanizing
 - Cycle repair
 - T.V. Repair
 - Sound system
 - Screen printing on cotton textile fabrics
 - Herbal beauty parlour
 - Tea stall
 - Offset printing & binding
 - Cable T.V./ Computer networking

Statement-IV

State/Union Territory (UT) - wise details of margin money assistance provided under the REGP during 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07

					(Rs. lakh)
S.No.	States/UTs	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07*
1	2	3	4	5	6
I	North Zone				
1	Chandigarh	10.24	21.45	3.63	11.34
2	Delhi	12.31	8.09	16.66	3.86

1	2	3	4	5	6
3	Haryana	1938.96	2142.25	1782.18	534.55
4	Himachal Pradesh	757.11	657.72	889.90	407.41
5	Jammu and Kashmir	363.45	584.55	833.56	148.66
6	Punjab	819.03	1834.63	837.21	399.98
7	Rajasthan	2890.28	2064.33	2679.91	675.63
II	East Zone				
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	28.44	4.16	218.87	22.15
2	Bihar	186.03	281.69	570.54	176.83
3	Jharkhand	198.08	320.80	351.12	140.42
4	Orissa	784.11	863.05	837.22	186.97
5	West Bengal	1593.51	1999.62	2100.06	509.28
III	North East Zone				
1	Arunachal Pradesh	52.77	66.03	126.54	64.13
2	Assam	806.83	1277.42	2719.99	767.62
3	Manipur	41.19	73.66	43.85	5.16
4	Meghalaya	121.79	196.03	234.14	35.12
5	Mizoram	61.10	257.48	995.54	675.07
6	Nagaland	117.20	204.46	286.22	122.87
7	Tripura	224.02	214.14	289.95	0.90
8	Sikkim	127.67	165.78	139.54	36.90
IV	South Zone				
1	Andhra Pradesh	1675.40	3394.19	3627.58	891.03
2	Karnataka	1692.17	1063.83	1697.66	608.15
3	Kerala	2753.15	1027.95	1603.41	561.18
4	Lakshadweep	7.42	0.00	16.39	0.00
5	Pondicherry	11.38	9.05	12.66	4.20
6	Tamil Nadu	1362.17	1147.28	1217.13	447.93
V	West Zone				
1	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	4.13	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	Goa	82.98	88.90	103.68	135.00
3	Gujarat	130.34	530.55	883.08	265.14
4	Maharashtra	873.25	1439.17	1596.48	298.69

1	2	3	4	5	6
VI	Central Zone				
1	Chhattisgarh	1098.00	1000.91	1152.87	374.10
2	Madhya Pradesh	1355.07	2125.71	1114.33	394.99
3	Uttaranchal	979.70	578.63	617.86	267.81
4	Uttar Pradesh	3415.18	3596.64	2495.99	919.54
Grand Total		26574.46	29239.95	32095.75	10092.61

* upto October 2006.

Statement-V

States/UTs-wise details of grants released for entrepreneurial development and contingencies under the PMRY during 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07

					(Rs. lakh)
Sl.No.	States/UTs	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07*
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	191.44	293.34	176.72	144.47
2	Assam	58.97	100.71	77.80	0.00
3	Arunachal Pradesh	3.47	5.39	4.54	0.00
4	Bihar	101.54	19.87	0.00	0.00
5	Chhattisgarh	36.08	50.84	41.02	22.63
6	Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8	Gujarat	20.27	53.07	13.38	0.00
9	Haryana	68.99	74.20	45.64	36.40
10	Himachal Pradesh	19.48	5.12	15.03	21.06
11	Jammu and Kashmir	13.16	0.00	11.71	10.30
12	Jharkhand	0.00	34.56	0.06	0.0
13	Karnataka	148.93	173.19	124.08	80.36
14	Kerala	112.21	175.75	176.63	144.14
15	Madhya Pradesh	149.32	265.38	226.32	103.53
16	Maharashtra	191.31	173.92	128.04	17.99
17	Manipur	5.57	4.55	1.23	4.02
18	Meghalaya	71.0	8.29	8.22	0.35

1	2	3	4	5	6
19	Mizoram	3.61	3.24	8.22	0.00
20	Nagaland	1.00	17.12	22.03	0.20
21	Orissa	91.34	147.50	135.46	83.29
22	Punjab	78.18	81.45	55.67	0.00
23	Rajasthan	106.01	104.30	109.97	83.45
24	Tamil Nadu	147.94	136.75	155.28	91.77
25	Tripura	18.23	21.24	22.70	10.40
26	Uttar Pradesh	402.53	644.91	422.85	205.25
27	Uttaranchal	25.83	92.76	64.16	47.60
28	West Bengal	0.00	19.12	29.10	2.45
29	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1.06	2.51	0.55	0.60
30	Chandigarh	0.47	1.02	3.98	0.57
31	Daman and Diu	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.03
32	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.15	0.20	0.19	0.03
33	Lakshadweep	0.12	0.14	0.05	0.03
34	Pondicherry	5.37	4.74	0.57	1.78
35	Sikkim	0.48	0.25	0.89	0.37
Total		2010.20	2715.43	2082.12	1113.07

*As on 08 December 2008

** Approximately fifty per cent of the units established are estimated to be in rural areas.

[English]

Dishonouring of National Flag

3817. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any report of dishonouring the National Flag during each of the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the total persons involved in this case;

(c) the action taken by the Government against such persons; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to protect dishonouring of the National Flag?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) to (c) During

the last three years, some incidents of dishonoring the National Flag were brought to the notice of the Government. A statement indicating the details of such cases is enclosed. In all such cases involving disrespect/dishonour of the National Flag, the cases have been registered against the erring person by the concerned State/UT Government, under whose jurisdiction the incident occurs.

(d) The insult and disrespect of the National Flag is a punishable offence under the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971. The Act, inter alia, provides that whoever in any public place or in any other place within public view shows disrespect to or brings into contempt the Indian National Flag shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years, or with fine, or with both. From time to time, the Government has been reiterating the provisions of the Flag Code of India to all State/UT Governments and also to public at large, with a view to creating general awareness among them about the proper use of the Flag.

Statement

Sl.No.	Name	State	Offence	Date of Offence	Remarks
1.	S/Shri Byabang Durga, Byabang Musi, Tapar Rido, Tai Rakesh, Hura Sonam & 5 others	Arunachal Pradesh	13 National Flags were removed from different educational institutes and Govt. office premises.	26.1.2004	Case was registered u/s 2 of Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971.
2.	Shri Ashok Ranjan Ray	Orissa	Violation of the Flag Code of India	15.8.2004	Criminal case filed by complainant before the High Court, Orissa against DGP & others.
3.	Ms. Sweta Menon & Shri Ashish Gupta	Rajasthan	During a fashion show organized by the National Institute of Fashion Design, Ms. Sweta Menon, a model had wrapped herself with the tricolour on the ramp and waved it several times.	29.10.2004	Case was registered u/s 2 of Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971.
4.	Shri Surender Singh & Shri Bhupender, Owner/driver of Bus No. DL-1P-A-5117	Delhi	National Flag painted on a piece of rubber below the bumper at backside of the bus.	12.2.2005	Case was registered u/s 2 of Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971.
5.	Owner of Honda City Car No. DL-8-CG-2400	Delhi	Displayed the National Flag in upside down position on the dashboard of the Car.	21.4.2005	Case was registered u/s 2 of Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971.
6.	Kendrapara Head Post Office authority	Orissa	Unfurling the National Flag with cutting spots on it.	26.1.2005	Case was registered u/s 2 of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971.
7.	Shri Uma Charan Behera	Orissa	Falling down of the National Flag at the time of hoisting	15.8.2005	Case was registered u/s 2 of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971.
8.	Shri Hrushikesh Jena	Orissa	The National Flag was found flown throughout the night	15.8.2005	Case was registered u/s 2 of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971.
9.	Shri Nikratan Bawali	Orissa	The culprit was found going with two Flags of Bangladesh which were prepared on Newspaper with star and other marks made in deep colour ink and was swinging the flags and showing disrespect to the National Flag.	15.8.2005	Case was registered u/s 2 of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971.

[Translation]**Recommendation of Ashok Pradhan and Umesh Sehgal Committee**

3818. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had set up the Umesh Sehgal Committee and the Ashok Pradhan Committee in the past months to give suggestions for the development of Delhi;

(b) if so, the dates on which these Committees were set up and the responsibilities entrusted to them;

(c) whether the Government has received the reports of both the Committees;

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

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to implement the recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) The Government on 26th April, 2006 set up the Omesh Saigal Committee on restructuring of Municipal Corporation of Delhi and the Ashok Pradhan Committee on multiplicity of institutions dealing with development issues in Delhi.

The terms of reference of the Omesh Saigal Committee are as follows:

- (i) to study the two previous reports, namely, the report of the Balakrishnan Committee and the report of the Virendra Prakash Committee on the issue of restructuring of Municipal Corporation of Delhi, in the context of the current situation.
- (ii) to study the comparative advantages of having one Corporation for the whole of Delhi vis-a-vis a number of smaller Corporations from the point of view of providing civic services efficiently.
- (iii) to examine the financial and administrative viability, the distribution of the existing staff and the areas that can be included in the smaller Corporations.
- (iv) to suggest an appropriate model for restructuring of Municipal Corporation of Delhi, considering all the aforesaid aspects; and
- (v) to suggest changes that are required in the existing laws to bring about the restructuring.

The terms of reference of the Ashok Pradhan Committee are as under:

- (i) to identify authorities/agencies, which are discharging various functions in relation to urban development and civic amenities in National Capital Territory of Delhi;
- (ii) to determine their respective roles, responsibilities, interrelationships and existing arrangements for coordination (institutionalized or otherwise);
- (iii) the contribution of these agencies in promoting well-planning of the national capital; the level of effectiveness in addressing the issues of urban growth; the bottlenecks in dealing with urban development issues (legal, institutional and procedural) and how coordination and effectiveness can be improved;
- (iv) is the existing arrangement of multiplicity of authorities essential to run the affairs of Delhi as the National Capital Territory of Delhi; and
- (v) if not, to identify alternative mechanism that could be adopted and how such alternative mechanism can be established.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. The main recommendations made by the Omesh Saigal Committee and the Ashok Pradhan Committee are given in the Statement enclosed. The recommendation of the two Committees are under examination.

Statement

(A) Main recommendations of the Omesh Saigal Committee on restructuring of Municipal Corporation of Delhi include the following:

- (1) The Municipal Corporation of Delhi may be restructured at three tiers – the Nagar Nigam at first tier, the Janpad at second tier and the ward at third tier;
- (2) Ward Sabha may be constituted for each of 134 wards with the Councilor of the ward as chairman, and other members nominated from amongst the people living in the ward from the categories of urban management experts, resident welfare associations, market associations, retired officials, non-government organizations, etc.;
- (3) Ward Sabha may advise the Councilor in use of discretionary fund, hearing and redressal of grievances, drawing up an area plan bringing the micro-level problems of the area to the notice of various authorities and keeping a watch over implementation of area plan;
- (4) Ward Officer may be appointed as Secretary-cum-Chief Executive Officer of the Ward Sabha;
- (5) Enforcement system may be strengthened and revamped by updating the list of offences and increasing the rates of fines and penalties to bring them in sync with the principle of "polluter pays";
- (6) Special Municipal Officers may be appointed in each ward on the lines of Special Police Officers with the authority to sanction prosecution in case of municipal offences;
- (7) Municipal Courts may be set up at each Ward Office with the provision for summary trials;
- (8) Each Janpad may have separate deliberative and executive wings with similar relationship and role as in the present MCD – the Janpad Parishad to be the deliberative wing and the Commissioner its executive wing.
- (9) All the Councilors elected from the wards that

comprise the Janpad and the MLAs and MPs whose constituencies or substantial part thereof falls within the area of the Janpad, should be Members with voting rights and the Deputy Commissioners of Revenue and Police and two or three reputed persons in the Janpad area should be members without voting rights of the Janpad Parishad;

- (10) The Commissioner of the Janpad may be appointed by the Delhi Government and should be of the rank of Joint Secretary to the Government of India;
 - (11) Taxes should be collected and retained by the Janpad and the needs of Nagar Nigam should be taken care of in the allocations to be made by the Finance Commission;
 - (12) Each Janpad may have a separate fund called the Janpad Fund as distinct from the Municipal Fund to be maintained by the Nagar Nigam;
 - (13) The Nagar Nigam may be composed of the Councilors elected from the Wards constituting the Nigam who would elect from amongst themselves a Chairman and a Deputy Chairman and also a Mayor;
 - (14) The Nagar Nigam should have a Mayor's Committee (Nagar Palika) headed by the Mayor as its Chairman and will have a Principal Commissioner who would be the vice-president of this Committee, the other members of this Committee will include five Janpad Chairmen as non-official members (if there are more, the system of rotation will be followed; if less, the remaining can be elected from amongst the Councilors) and five official members — three from Delhi Government and two from the Govt. of India;
 - (15) The entire executive power of the Nigam should vest in the Mayor's Committee;
 - (16) The Principal Commissioner will be the Chief Executive Officer of the Nigam and should be of the rank of the Additional Secretary to the Govt. of India and will be appointed by the Delhi Government in consultation with the Govt. of India and all the Janpad Commissioners shall report to him;
 - (17) The Nigam should perform only purely civic functions and other functions which are not obligatory or civic in nature like primary education and large hospitals must be shifted to the Delhi Government;
 - (18) The entire responsibility for enforcing the building bye-laws should be placed on the shoulders of Principal Commissioner and more stringent penalties should be put in place for violation of building regulations;
 - (19) The raising and up-keep of municipal police with defined role (such as enforcement of building bye-laws, removal of encroachments, control, prevention and demolition of unauthorized constructions, and combating illegal colonization etc.) must be added as one of obligatory functions of new Nigam;
 - (20) Slum Wing of MCD should be organized into a separate autonomous Slum Improvement Board as recommended by the Balakrishnan Committee and the Janpads should be entrusted with execution of schemes of the Board.
- (B) *Mair: recommendations of the Ashok Pradhan Committee on multiplicity of authorities in Delhi include the following:*
- (1) The number of authorities should be reorganized/rearranged in a manner that a particular institution is responsible to one single authority;
 - (2) Delhi Development Authority (DDA) should confine its activities to its core functions of planning and development of land and its disposal;
 - (3) The Chief Minister, Delhi should be the Chairperson of DDA with the stipulation that all proposals and decisions of the Authority should be placed before Lieutenant Governor, Delhi for approval before implementation;
 - (4) Housing activities should be taken away from DDA and a special purpose vehicle like Housing Board should be set up under the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi for the purpose;
 - (5) Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) should function under the Govt of National Capital Territory of Delhi with the Central Government having powers to issue directions through the Lieutenant Governor, Delhi and in the event of non-compliance to supersede the MCD and also the Central Government to have overriding powers in respect of buildings regulations;
 - (6) MCD should confine its functioning to its core activities and shed the functions relating to hospitals and schools to the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi;

- (7) Zones of MCD should be co-terminus with the police districts;
- (8) Powers to enforce building regulations should be given to Revenue Deputy Commissioner;
- (9) The area falling under Lai Dora (old Abadi)/ Phireni (extended New; Abadi) should be brought under the unified building regulations and the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957;
- (10) Special purpose vehicle should be created under the municipal bodies for solid waste management; a separate board for slum and jhuggi jhopri should be created under the Government of NCT of Delhi;
- (11) Commissioner, MCD should be appointed by the Govt. of NCT of Delhi instead of the Central Government;
- (12) A separate Department of Local Self-Government should be set up in the Government of NCT of Delhi to co-ordinate the affairs of the local bodies;
- (13) The Central Government may continue to exercise supervision, control and superintendence over the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC);
- (14) The facility for providing day-to-day services to the citizens should be as near to the place of his residence as possible and various offices, which citizens have to visit, should be located to the extent possible in contiguity;
- (15) Geographical boundaries of MCD, DDA, Police and Revenue Districts should be co-terminus;
- (16) The offices of Revenue Districts should be strengthened and the District Deputy Commissioner should be able to exercise control over all functionaries of revenue administration, field agencies of different departments of the Govt. of NCT of Delhi, District/zonal level functionaries of Delhi Jal Board, Transport, DDA and even MCD;
- (17) All civic services should be unified;
- (18) Uniform fee should be charged for similar services provided by different agencies and application forms should be uniform across the different agencies for similar services;
- (19) Road construction/maintenance agencies should construct/create trenches running parallel to the roads with underground crossings at regular intervals for housing services like electricity telephone, water, etc.;

- (20) Sophisticated equipment and machinery should be deployed for handling solid waste;
- (21) Each of the institutions should be subjected to quality audit by an independent agency; and
- (22) There should be an independent Yamuna River Development Authority.

[English]

Sugar Mill in SEZ

3819. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Renuka Sugar Industries has been given permission to set up a sugar mill in a SEZ in Karnataka;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the permission is in line with the basic idea of SEZ and necessary concurrence of Ministry of Agriculture has been obtained for such permission; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) No Letter of Approval to set up a sector specific Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in Karnataka has been issued to M/s. Renuka Sugars Limited so far.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Export Variety of Tobacco

3820. DR. BABU RAO MEDIYAM:
SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA:

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

- (a) whether the market forces are discriminating in fixing prices and export of export variety Tobacco in between the States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the share of exports from Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh;
- (c) whether the PEER Committee recommended the reduction of staff in Tobacco Board and withdrawal of minimum support price of Tobacco within three years;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the volume of Tobacco exported during each of the last three years, State-wise; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to increase our exports as recommended by PEER Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) No, Sir. No such matter has come to the notice of the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) No Sir. The Committee has recommended that the production of FCV tobacco be deregulated. A

transition period of three years be adopted for moving to a deregulated and market driven regime. The system of MSP be continued during the transition period. The Peer Review Committee has suggested to conduct an Internal Work Study for staff requirement, if considered necessary, after the recommendation of the Committee are implemented.

(e) The estimates of exports of FCV tobacco from Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka based on the information received from the exporters during the last three years are as follows:

(Qty: tons, value: Rs. Crores)

Year	Andhra Pradesh		Karnataka		Total	
	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value
2003-04	52482	324.06	46701	378.24	99183	702.30
2004-05	61492	440.78	41225	377.34	105417	818.12
2005-06	67764	460.68	41811	397.30	109575	857.90

(f) The Tobacco Board under the Ministry of Commerce provide assistance to farmers through various extension & development schemes to reorient the production of tobacco to enhance its quality and productivity in tune with the changing international demand. It also participates in international trade fairs/exhibitions to promote Indian tobacco and organizes delegations of tobacco traders and exporters to various countries. The Board also undertakes an extensive advertisement campaign in the international media to promote Indian tobacco.

[Translation]

Maternal Deaths

3821. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE:
SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

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

(a) the targets fixed and achievement made under various schemes for reducing the maternal and infant mortality rates during each of the last three years; and

(b) the details of UNICEF aid received for implementing the relevant Schemes and programmes during these years, State-wise and Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Reduction in Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) and Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) is an outcome of a number of interventions under various Schemes of the

Government. As per goals set in the Xth Five Year Plan, IMR has to be brought down to 45 per 1000 live births by 2007. Similarly, MMR has to be brought down to 200 per 100,000 live births by 2007. According to Sample Registration Survey (SRS) of Registrar General of India, the Maternal Mortality Ratio has declined to 301 per 100,000 live births in 2003. Infant Mortality Rate has declined to 58 per 1000 live births in 2004.

(b) UNICEF has been supporting Government of India in its efforts to, inter-alia, reduce maternal and infant mortality. UNICEF support under Reproductive & Child Health (RCH) and Child Development and Nutrition (CDN) Programmes amounted to around US\$ 284 million in the last three years (2004-06). State and Union Territory-wise details would be obtained and laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Small and Medium Entrepreneurs

3822. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme (NMCP) has been formulated to improve competitiveness of small and medium entrepreneurs (SME);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether National Manufacturing Competitiveness Council recently met to form the strategy to implement the 10 point programme;

(d) If so, the detailed discussion held in this regard; and

(e) the time by which this programme is likely to be implemented?

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. The National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme (NMCP) for small and medium entrepreneurs prepared by the National Manufacturing Competitiveness Council (NMCC) envisages the following 10 schemes:

1. National programme on application of lean manufacturing.
2. Promotion of information and communication technology in Indian manufacturing sector.
3. Mini-Tool Rooms.
4. Technology and quality upgradation support for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs).
5. Support for entrepreneurial and managerial development of SMEs.
6. Design clinic scheme to bring design expertise to the manufacturing sector.
7. Enabling manufacturing sector to be competitive through quality management standards and quality technology tools.
8. National campaign for investment in Intellectual Property.
9. Market assistance to SMEs and technology upgradation activities.
10. Marketing support/assistance to SMEs.

(c) to (e) NMCC had discussed the status of implementation of the NMCP in its meeting held on 18.08.2006. While granting the in-principle approval to the Ministry of SSI for implementation of the NMCP, the Planning Commission has suggested its implementation from the beginning of the 11th Five Year Plan.

[Translation]

Funds for Cottage Industries

3823. SHRI TEK LAL MAHTO: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received propo-

sals for development of cottage industries from various States;

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

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) the total amount of funds allocated to various States for this purpose during each of the last three years and current year; and

(e) the growth rate of cottage industries in each of the States?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) The proposals for development of cottage industries sector, which consists inter alia of khadi polyvastra, coir and village industries, from the State/Union Territory Governments are not received directly by the Government (in the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries);

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

(e) State-wise details of growth rate of cottage industries are not maintained centrally. The overall growth of khadi during 2005-06 over the preceding year was around 1.46 per cent and that of village industries was around 13.93 per cent.

[English]

Indo-China Agreement

3824. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:
SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE:
PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:

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

(a) whether any trade agreement has been signed with China during the visit of Chinese President to India recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the revenue likely to be earned by the Government from such agreement;

(c) whether India has filed the largest number of patent violation cases against Chinese companies at the World Trade Organisation;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether India has refused to recognise China as a free market economy;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to increase bilateral trade between the two countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) During the visit of Chinese President to India in November 2006, a Memorandum of Understanding on Inspection of Export Cargo (Iron Ore) and a Protocol on Phytosanitary requirements for exporting rice from India to China have been signed. The revenue likely to be earned by the Government from the aforementioned MOU and Protocol has not been estimated.

- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) No, Sir.
- (f) Does not arise.

(g) In pursuance to the declaration signed during the visit of Prime Minister to Beijing in June 2003, India-China Joint Study Group was set up. The final Report of the JSG was exchanged between the two sides during the visit of Chinese Premier to India in April 2005. The JSG has recommended appointment of a Joint Task Force to study in detail the feasibility of and the benefit that may derive from an India-China Regional Trading Arrangement (RTA) and to give recommendation regarding its content.

[Translation]

Leather Industry

3825. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE:

SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:

SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDALIKRAO GAWALI:

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

(a) the amount allocated and released for modernisation of leather industry during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the amount provided to the States has been fully utilised;

(c) If so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the details of the appropriate steps taken by the Union Government in this regard;

(f) the steps taken by the Government to attract domestic as well as foreign investment in tannery sector and make tanning industry more competitive; and

(g) the steps being taken to promote export of leather goods and obtain market share in other countries through WTO and bilateral Free Trade Agreements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (e) The Union Government has notified a comprehensive scheme titled "Integrated Development of Leather Sector" (IDLS) for modernization and technology upgradation in all the segments of the Leather Industry. The Scheme became operational with effect from November 3, 2005. The Scheme does not provide for a State-wise allocation of funds but provides assistance in the form of investment grant to units in Leather sector and to that extent is a demand-led Scheme.

Details of funds approved and released to the units situated in States are indicated below:-

(Rs. in crores)

State	November, 2005 to March, 2006		April, 2006 to till date	
	Investment grant approved to units in States	Investment grant released to units in States	Investment grant approved to units in States	Investment Grant released to units in States
Andhra Pradesh	Nil	Nil	0.07	Nil
Haryana	Nil	Nil	1.45	Nil
Punjab	Nil	Nil	0.90	
Maharashtra	Nil	Nil	0.75	0.58
Tamil Nadu	0.71	Nil	11.81	2.40
Uttar Pradesh	Nil	Nil	5.50	0.78
West Bengal	Nil	Nil	4.88	Nil
Delhi	Nil	Nil	1.31	0.30

(f) The IDLS Scheme inter-alia provides assistance for tanneries in the form of investment grant @ of 30% to SSI units and 20% to non-SSI units with a ceiling of Rs. 50 lakh for both SSI & non-SSI units. In order to attract investments both domestic and foreign the Central Government has de-reserved all the items of manufacture in the leather sector including tanneries from the SSI list except full PVC Footwear Chappals, Sandals and Shoes and Metal fittings for Leather Goods and Garments vide Notification No. S.O.603 (E) dated 29th June, 2001 and S.O.No.649 (E) dated 3rd June, 2003. As a special initiative to attract Foreign Investments/Joint Ventures/Technical Collaborations into India and highlight potential and opportunities in Leather Sector the Government of India is implementing the INTECHMART sub-programme under the Scheme, "Infrastructure Strengthening of Leather Sector" (ISLS) during the 10th Plan Period. Further, under the Foreign Trade Policy 2004-05 the Central Government has also announced concessions for the Leather and Footwear Sector.

(g) Leather being an important industry for India, due care is taken to safeguard and further our domestic interest in leather while negotiating various trade agreements.

[English]

Indian Textile Potentiality

3826. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether our country with abundant availability of raw material, spinning, weaving and knitting capacity and low garmenting cost has the potential to lead the race and growth of South Asia; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government to exploit these potentialities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) Yes Sir. India has the potential in textile and clothing sector to lead the race and growth of South Asia as India has comparative advantages in relation to (i) availability of relatively inexpensive and skilled workforce (ii) design expertise (iii) presence across the entire value chain and (iv) large production base of basic raw materials.

(b) To exploit the potentials available in the post quota regime, the Government of India has taken a series of measures which, inter alia, include the following:

(i) To improve productivity and quality of cotton for

manufacture and export of competitive downstream textile products, Government has launched the Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC). The Mission has achieved success in increasing the productivity and reducing the contamination through upgradation of cotton market yards and modernisation of Ginning & Pressing factories.

(ii) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) was launched to facilitate the modernisation and upgradation of the textile industry both in the organised and unorganized sector. The Scheme has been further fine tuned to increase the rapid investments in the targeted sub-sectors of the textile industry. The cost of machinery has been further brought down by reducing the customs duty on imports.

(iii) For speedy modernisation of the textile processing sector, Government has introduced w.e.f. 20.04.05, a credit linked capital subsidy scheme @10% under TUFS, in addition to the existing 5% interest reimbursement.

(iv) For small scale textile and jute industrial units, Government has enhanced, the rate of Credit Linked Capital Subsidy (CLCS) from 12% to 15% w.e.f. 13.01.05.

(v) In order to facilitate modernisation of the Powerloom Sector, Schemes such as High-tech Weaving Parks, Modernisation and Strengthening of Powerloom Service Centers, Group Workshop Scheme and Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme @ 20% have been introduced. Also, the Government has enhanced, w.e.f. 13.01.05, the capital ceiling for machinery from Rs. 60.00 lakh to Rs. 100.00 lakh under 20% capital subsidy scheme-TUFS.

(vi) To provide the textile industry with world-class infrastructure facilities for setting up their textile units meeting international environmental and social standards, a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) based Scheme known as the "Scheme for Integrated Textile Park (SITP)" has been introduced in August 2005.

(vii) In 2004-05 Budget, the entire textile sector, except for man-made fibre and filament yarn, was provided optional exemption from excise duty. In 2005-06 Budget, Central Value-added Tax (CEN VAT) on Polyester Filament Yarn has been reduced from 24% to 16%. These modifications in fiscal levies aim at attracting more investments for modernization of textile sector.

- (viii) To facilitate import of state of the art machinery to make our products internationally competitive in post quota regime, in 2005-06 Budget, the customs duty on textile machinery has been brought down to 10% except 23 machinery appearing in List 49 which attracts Basic Customs Duty (BCD) of 15%. The concessional duty of 5% continues to be at 5% on most of the machinery items.
- (ix) In 2005-06 Budget, 30 items of knitting and knitwear have been de-reserved. This would facilitate setting up of large sized modernized units for meeting the international competition.
- (x) In the Budget 2006-07 the following announcements for the textile sector has been made:-
- Reduction in the excise duty on all man-made fibre yarn and filament yarn from 16 per cent to 8 per cent.
 - Reduction in the import duty on all man-made fibres and yarns from 15 per cent to 10 per cent.
 - Reduction in the import duty on raw materials such as DMT, PTA and MEG be from 15 per cent to 10 per cent.
 - Enhancing the allocation from Rs.435 crore to Rs.535 crore for the year 2006-07.
 - Enhancement in the provision for the handloom sector from Rs.195 crore to Rs.241 crore for the year 2006-07.
 - Provision of Rs.189 crore during 2006-07 for the Scheme for Integrated Textiles Parks (SITP)
 - Launching of the Jute Technology Mission in 2006-07 to harness the potential of the golden fibre along with establishment of a National Jute Board.
- (xi) Government has launched the Debt Restructuring Scheme w.e.f. Sept., 2003 with the principal objective to permit banks to lend to the textile sector at 8-9% rate of interest.
- (xii) In order to cater to the growing skilled manpower requirements at shop floor level, Government is providing assistance for strengthening existing and opening new Apparel Training and Design Centres (ATDCs).
- (xiii) Government has allowed 100% Foreign Direct Investment in the textile sector under automatic route.
- (xiv) Government has de-reserved the readymade garments, hosiery and knitwear from SSI sector so that large scale investments may be encouraged in these sectors.
- (xv) National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) has been set up to provide the leadership role in sensitizing the Industry to the concept of value addition by inducting trained professionals to manage the industry. This has resulted in an increased demand for trained professionals in various sectors servicing the industry.
- (xvi) To take a serious look at Fashion Education in the changing business context of the opening up of World Economies, Government is taking steps for:-
- Establishing an institution of National Excellence for imparting Fashion Business Education with International Benchmarking.
 - Appointing a nodal agency for standardizing and benchmarking Fashion Business Education in the country.
 - Setting up an Apex Body to train the teachers/trainers imparting Fashion Business Education in the country.
- Funds for Women Hostels**
3827. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether UGC has a scheme to fund and finance women's hostels and other facilities so as to encourage women to obtain university education;
- (b) if so, the details of the funds released by UGC in 2005-06 to finance women's hostels, particularly to the universities and colleges in Karnataka, university-wise; and
- (c) the steps proposed by Government to increase funding for construction of women's hostels?
- THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir. University Grants Commission (UGC) has a scheme of "Construction of Women's Hostel" to facilitate women students to go in for higher

education. The UGC is also implementing the following schemes/facilities for women in higher education:

- i) Establishment of Women Studies Centre.
- ii) Part-time research associateship for women.
- iii) Day-care centres in Universities.
- iv) Infrastructure for women students, teachers and non-teaching staff.

(b) Grants paid to Universities in Karnataka for construction of women hostels is enclosed as Statement.

(c) According to the information furnished by University Grants Commission (UGC), the UGC has recently revised the guidelines for construction of women's hostel under the scheme. The UGC has enhanced the maximum limit from Rs.25.00 lakh to Rs. 1.00 crore for universities located in non-metro cities and Rs.2.00 crore for universities in metro cities under the scheme.

Statement

Grants released under Women's Hostel Scheme – 2005-06 Karnataka State

S. No.	Colleges affiliated with universities of Karnataka State	Amount Sanctioned during 2005-06 Rs.
1	2	3
Gulbarga University		
1	Smt. Veeramma Gangasiri College for Women Awan-E-Shahi Road Gulbarga-585102	1000000
2	Veerasaiva College Contonment, Bellary - 583104	800000
Total		1800000
Karnataka University		
3	Kles Raja Lakhamagouda Science Institute Belgaum - 590001	584000
4	MPE's SDM College of Arts, Science & Commerce Honavar-581354	1000000
5	BAJSS Arts and Commerce College for Women Ranebeenur Haveri dist -581115	552000
6	SSES's Mahasatee Arts, Commerce and Science College College Ulga Karwar-581328	600000 600000
7	VPM's Shri SRN Arts & Shri MB Shirur Commerce College Bagalkot Dist Bagalkot - 537101	800000
8	LES's Smt Kusumavati Miraji Arts and Commerce College Bedkihal-591214	600000
9	KLES's P.C. Jabin Science College Vidyanagar Hubli - 580031	800000

1	2	3
10	BVVS's Basaveshwar Commerce College Bagalkot 587101	1000000
11	KLES's G.I. Bagewadi Arts, Science and Commerce College Nipani - 591237	600000
12	K.R.Bellad Arts and Commerce College Mundargi Gadag District - 582118	600000
13	KLES's Basavaprabhu Kore Arts, Science and Commerce College Chikodi-591201	800000
14	KNVVS's Arts and Commerce College Kittur Ballhongal Tq, Belgaum Dist.-591115	580000
15	SKES's Govindram Seksaria Science College Belgaum - 590006	800000
16	Shas Samiti's Smt K S Jigalur Women's College of Arts and Commerce Dharwad - 580008	800000 800000
17	JSS Science, Arts and Commerce College Gokak-591307	800000
Total		10916000
Kuvempu University		
18	ADB First Grade College Harapanahalli Dist. Davangere - 583131	600000
19	Srisaila College of Education Harihar Davanger Dist - 577601	97000
Total		697000
Mangalore University		
20	St. Aloysius College Light House Hill Mangalore - 575003	250000
21	Saint Mary's Syrian College Brahmavar Udupi District - 576213	800000
22	St. Mary's College Shirva Udupi -574116	800000
Total		1850000

1	2	3
Mysore University		
23	JSS College for Women Saraswati Puram Mysore - 570009	800000
24	HK Verrannagowdh First Grade College Maddur Mandya Dist-571428	600000
25	JSS College of Arts, Commerce and Science Ooty Road Mysore - 570025	600000
Total		2000000
Grand Total		17263000

[Translation]

**Export of Textile and Leather from
India to Vietnam**

3828. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Vietnam is a major importer of Indian textiles and leather goods;

(b) if so, whether India has taken any initiative for exporting textiles and leather goods to Vietnam;

(c) the quantity and value of textiles and leather goods exports to Vietnam; and

(d) the steps taken/to be taken to increase export of textile and leather goods?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (d) It is the constant endeavor of the Government to increase India's global exports of textiles and leather goods through participation in trade fairs and exhibitions, Buyer Seller Meets, exchange of information and delegations, etc.

(c) Export of textiles and leather goods to Vietnam during 2005-06 stands at US \$ 40.49 million and US \$ 21.69 million respectively.

[English]

Retail Sector

3829. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether retail sector is growing at 40 per cent a year with its contribution to GDP rising from the current 11 per cent to 20-25 per cent in 5-10 years; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to gear up the lagging unorganized sector to face the competition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) As indicated in the study report of Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER), the share of organized retailing in the total retail trade is very small, the Compound average Growth Rate from 2001-02 to 2007 on the size of the Organized Retail Market is projected as 18% and the estimated share of the retail market sector in India is around 10% of GDP.

Foreign Direct Investments

3830. SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) Foreign Direct Investment for the year 2005-2006 in billion dollars in China, Hongkong, Singapore and India respectively;

(b) whether according to world bank study, starting business in India is an 11 stage process that takes 35 days whereas in other countries it is just 2 days; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to increase Foreign Direct Investment in India and modify the complicated tariff structure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) As per United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)'s World Investment Report (WIR) 2006, Foreign Direct Investment inflows in China, Hongkong, Singapore and India during 2005 were as under:

(Amount in US \$ billion)	
Country	Inflow
China	72.41
Hongkong	35.90
Singapore	20.08
India	6.60

(b) Yes Sir. As per the World Bank Study report, the time taken for the process of starting business is 2 days only in Australia.

(c) With a view to encourage Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), the Government has put in place a liberal and investor-friendly policy under which FDI up to 100% is permitted on the automatic route in most sectors/activities. Towards simplifying the State level tax structure, Value Added Tax (VAT) has been introduced in most States. A simplified and liberal tax policy for the Special Economic Zones has also been put in place. The Government is also simplifying various procedures for setting up and running units.

Acquisition of Land on Border

3831. CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has occupied/acquired private land/State land for various types of construction activities along the International Border and Line of Control in J&K;

(b) if so, the number of villages to whom compensation has so far been sanctioned/ disbursed along with the criteria fixed in this regard; and

(c) the time by which the pending compensation cases are likely to be settled?

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

(b) The compensation to the land owners/villagers is decided and released by the State Government as per their norms when the formalities for acquisition are completed.

(c) The acquisition of land and compensation is a continuous process.

Purchase from SC/ST Entrepreneurs

3832. SHRI MOHAN JENA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to purchase items from the entrepreneurs belonging to the SC/ST categories to financially empower them;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the recommendations of Group of Ministers in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Under the existing "Purchase & Price Preference Policy" for small scale industries (SSIs), there is no specific provision for Government purchases from SC/ST-owned SSI units.

(c) The recommendations of the Committee of Ministers on Dalit Affairs are yet to receive final approval.

[Translation]

Demarcation of A and B Category

3833. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:

SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:

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

(a) the details of criteria adopted for demarcation of A and B category districts in the country;

(b) the details of objectives for which the categorization system and the work under them to meet these objectives during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the extent to which above categories of districts got benefited through these works?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (c) The Union Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue has identified and classified the industrially backward districts based on a composite index taking into account certain financial, infrastructural and industrial criteria. Deduction of profits upto 100% under the Income Tax Act for specified periods is allowed to industrial undertakings which had set up manufacturing facilities or cold storage plants during the period 01.10.1994 to 31.03.2004 in these districts. Several entrepreneurs availed of this facility and set up industries there, however, district wise data of industrial units established is not centrally maintained.

[English]

Appointment on Compassionate Ground

3834. SHRI M. APPADURAI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employees died while mining during each of the last three years;

(b) the details of compensation disbursed among the family of victims; and

(c) the number of persons appointed on compassionate ground during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) As per the information received from Ministry of Labour & Employment, the number of employees who died while mining during each of the last three years is as follows:-

Years	Number of employees killed	
	Coal Mines	Non-Coal Mines
2003	113	62
2004	96	64
2005*	120	61
2006* (upto Sep., 06)	113	54

*data for 2005 & 2006 are provisional.

No person died while working in the Mines of PSUs under the administrative control of Ministry of Mines during the last three years.

(b) and (c) Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923 is being implemented by the respective State Governments through Commissioner for Workmen Compensation appointed by them under section 20 of the Act. No PSUs under the Ministry of Mines has disbursed any compensation/ given compassionate appointment as no miner has died in their Mines during the last three years.

Discrimination against Chinese Firms

3835. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Chinese firms face discrimination in India;

(b) if so, whether China has raised this issue with the Government; and

(c) if so, the steps taken on this issue by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (c) No Sir. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy is

incorporated in the Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer or Issue of Security by a Person Resident Outside India) Regulations, 2000 under the Foreign Exchange Management Act. These Regulations indicate, inter-alia, the countries from where investment is not permitted. There is no restriction in these regulations on investments from China. Recently, the Government of India has entered into a Bilateral Investment Promotion Agreement (BIPA) with China which provides for national treatment for investments from both countries.

[Translation]

Development of Sanskrit Language

3836. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the allocation made in the current five year plan for schemes formulated for the development of Sanskrit language;

(b) whether the Government proposes to formulate any action plan for promotion of Sanskrit language;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the funds allocated for implementation of the said action plan;

(e) whether the Government proposes to teach the Sanskrit language as a compulsory subject in the schools; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The Ministry of Human Resource Development operates a Central Plan Scheme called "Development of Sanskrit Education" for which an amount of Rs. 65.00 Crore has been allocated in the Xth Five Year Plan (2002-2007).

Apart from this, Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi an autonomous body under the administrative control of Ministry of HRD, which has now become a Deemed University also implements various schemes for development of Sanskrit for which an amount of Rs. 91.71 crore has been allocated in the Xth Five Year Plan.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Human Resource Development already has a project named "Development of Sanskrit Education" for promotion of Sanskrit Education with the following components:

- i) Samman Rashi to eminent Sanskrit pandits in indigent circumstances

- ii) Award of Scholarships to students of High/Higher Secondary Schools
- iii) Providing facilities for teaching of Sanskrit in Secondary Schools
- iv) Modernization of Sanskrit Pathshalas
- v) Grants to State Governments, Deemed Sanskrit Universities and NGOs for various schemes for promotion of Sanskrit
- vi) Central Grant to Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan/ Deemed Universities/ CBSE/ NCERT/ SCERT etc.

Besides, there are 11 Sanskrit Universities in the Country, 8 of which receive grants from the Ministry of Human Resource Development. The Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, a deemed University implements several schemes for development, preservation and promotion of Sanskrit learning all over the country. For the XIth Five Year Plan (2007-2012), the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan has formulated various new proposals in addition to their ongoing schemes. Some of these are: Establishment of New Campuses, Online/Non-formal Sanskrit Education Programme and Sanskrit through Internet etc.

(d) Demand for funds for these new projects have been projected to the Planning Commission.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

[English]

Agricultural Exports

3837. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State of Kerala has sought financial help for export of agricultural produces, processing value addition and exports on value addition; and

(b) If so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Agreement with America

3838. SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPAPARAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any memorandum of understanding signed between the US department of agriculture, the National Institute of Agricultural Marketing, Jaipur in July 2006;

(b) whether the Government decided to create modern marketing infrastructure with the help of US for capacity building and creating model markets in States; and

(c) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the National Institute of Agricultural Marketing (NIAM) Jaipur signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 11.07.2006 to collaborate on strengthening agricultural marketing systems in India.

(b) and (c) Under the agreement, USAID would work with NIAM and state agencies for technical assistance and capacity building in the development of grades and standards, food safety, warehousing, cold storage and cold chain management. They would also work in the area of Marketing News Information and Marketing Extension System.

Small Industrial Estates

3839. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to develop small industrial estates, especially in backward and tribal areas; and

(b) If so, the details thereof and the number of industrial estates likely to be approved particularly for Gujarat, State-wise, and Union Territory-wise, for the year 2007-08, 2008-09?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The development of small industrial estates is primarily the responsibility of the respective States/Union Territory (UT) Governments/Administrations. The Central Government supports and supplements their efforts through the Integrated Infra-

structural Development (IID) Scheme, under which assistance is given for setting up new or improving existing small industrial estates. The Scheme is demand-driven and covers all areas of the country, with 50% reservation for rural areas. Under this Scheme, States/UTs are required to select and provide appropriate sites, detail the proposals and get them appraised by the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI). The proposals are approved by the Government taking into account the recommendations of SIDBI.

Economic Summit

3840. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be please to state:

- (a) whether an Indian Economic Summit was held recently in New Delhi;
- (b) is so, the details and outcome thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to implement the outcome of the Summit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The 22nd India Economic Summit, organized by the Confederation of Indian Industry and the World Economic Forum, was held during 26 to 28th November 2006 in New Delhi. The event brought together on a common platform over 600 business, political and civil society leaders from over 30 countries, to deliberate on India-centric issues, such as State & National competitiveness, managing Growth, risk management and Infrastructure development. Since the event was organized by private/non-governmental organizations, the Government is not directly concerned with the implementation of its outcome though the Central and many State Governments take it into account in their policy formulation and implementation.

[Translation]

Scheme for Checking Crimes in Cities

3841. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:
SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has increased the amount for the implementation of the Scheme for checking crimes and thefts in major cities of the country as reported in the Rashtriya Sahara dated December 2, 2006;

(b) if so, whether the crimes in all the major cities are proposed to be checked through the satellite and the sensitive cities have been identified for the purpose;

(c) the total amount being spent on the said scheme and the time by which the satellite for the purpose is likely to be launched;

(d) the total amount spent so far on the internal security like checking crimes and thefts;

(e) whether the scheme has proved a success following the expenditure on the modernisation; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (f) Under the Central Scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces (MPF Scheme), the Government has given focus from the year 2005-06 to upgrading the standards of metropolitan policing in Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Chennai, Hyderabad, Mumbai and Kolkata and to meeting the special needs of these mega cities in terms of security, surveillance and crime investigation, traffic management and critical infrastructure such as modern control rooms, digital radio trunking, communication system, PCR van network, etc. Assistance for these cities are released to the respective State Governments as per the terms of the MPF scheme. During 2005-06, Central grants of Rs. 22 crore has been released for mega city policing. Rs. 86 crore has been allocated for mega city policing under the MPF scheme, 2006-07, out of which Rs. 46.47 crore of Central assistance has already been released.

[English]

Duty Drawback Scheme

3842. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether various Export Promotion Councils have urged the Government to remove the ceiling on the value of exports under the Duty Drawback Scheme to give boost to textiles;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the other demands/requests made by the Export Promotion Councils;

(d) whether the Councils have requested for reviewing of the system of Inter-ministerial Group to look into the various problems faced by exporters; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN): (a) and (b) Suggestions have been made by the Export Promotion Councils for increase in duty drawback rates as also removal of the drawback value caps in respect of some of the textile items covered under Chapters 54 to 63 of ITC (HS) Classification.

(c) The Export Promotion Councils in their Pre-Budget (2007-08) proposals have suggested changes in fiscal duties on man-made fibres, capital goods, dyes & chemicals, furnace oil, etc.

(d) and (e) No such proposal has been received recently from the Export Promotion Councils. However, the Textile Export Promotion Councils have, from time to time, been emphasizing the need for effective coordination between various Departments/Ministries of Government to facilitate quick redressal of their problems/grievances which is being attended to by the Ministry of Textiles.

Flexible Complementary Scheme

3843. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has approved extension of flexible complementary scheme to the scientists of Coffee, Rubber and Spices Boards;

(b) if yes, the details of the Scheme; and

(c) the extent to which this will boost the scientists and attract and retain more and more scientists in the above Boards?

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

(b) The Flexible Complementary Scheme, as per the existing guidelines, has been extended to the Scientists of Coffee, Rubber and Spices Boards with effect from 6th July, 2006. The Scheme is applicable upto the level of Scientist 'D' in the scale of Rs.12,000-16,500 in the Coffee Board and upto the level of Scientist 'C' in the scale of Rs. 10,000-15,200 in the Rubber and Spices Boards.

(c) On completion of required minimum residency period in their respective grades, scientists become eligible for the next higher scale subject to the fulfillment of other conditions. This Scheme is expected to boost the morale of the scientists and also help to attract and retain the scientific manpower in these commodity Boards.

Central Silk Board Act, 2006

3844. SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has proposed any changes in the provisions of Central Silk Board Act, 2006

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps the Government proposes to improve the productivity of sericulture sector; and

(d) the details of current demand and supply of the silk in the country and the manner in which the Government meets the shortfall?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Certain amendments to the Central Silk Board Act, 1948 (LXI of 1948) were notified in Part-II (Section 1) of the Extraordinary Gazette of India published on 14 Sept. 2006, as Central Silk Board (Amendment) Act, 2006. (Notification No.42 of 2006).

The Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, is in the process of formulating the Rules to enforce the provisions of the aforesaid amendments.

(c) Major steps taken to improve the productivity of sericulture sector are:

1. During the X Plan period, under the Catalytic Development Programme necessary provisions have been made for providing assistance to sericulture farmers/reelers to encourage them to adopt improved technology aiming at improvement in quality and productivity.
2. The Central Silk Board (CSB) has evolved new Bivoltine breeds with assistance from the Japan International Co-operation Agency (JICA). Commercial exploitation of these breeds has resulted in the production of International standard import substitute grade of Mulberry Raw Silk in the country.

3. Through R&D efforts, the CSB has made a break through in tropicalizing the Bivoltine Silkworm and Development of new varieties of mulberry plants with higher yields resulting in significant improvement in Silk productivity.
4. The Central Silk Technological Research Institute (CSTRI) under the CSB has developed improved devices, new machines and equipments which have helped improvement in silk quality and productivity.
5. CSB is making necessary efforts to import and popularize the automatic silk reeling machines to raise the quality of yarn at international level.
6. Government of India has encouraged production of value added mulberry and Vanya Silk Products with internationally acceptable design input with the help of well-known designers.
7. Quality of yarn and fabrics in non-mulberry sector has also improved considerably through the introduction of motorized silk reeling/spinning machines and setting-up of common facility centers.
8. The CSB has taken-up a separate project approved by the Government of India, viz. "Quality Certification Systems for Silk" for implementation in the country during the X Plan. The objective of the project is to ensure quality maintenance at different levels of production/process (Silkworm Seed, Cocoon & Raw Silk production). As a part of this programme, CSB has launched "Silk Mark" Scheme which is a Hall-Mark for the products made from pure natural silk and it guarantees the purity of silk products.

(d) Production, Import and consumption of raw silk for the last three years is given below:

(quantity in Metric tones)			
Year	Total Raw Silk Production	Import of Raw Silk	Consumption of Raw Silk
2003-04	15,742	9,258	25,000
2004-05	16,500	7,948	24,448
2005-06	17,305	8,383	25,688

The current production of silk is approximately 17,305 M.Ts. against an estimated demand of approx. 26,000 M.Ts.

The production forms only 66.5% of the demand, and the gap is being met by imports. India has a large domestic market and 85% of the silk goods namely, sarees, made-ups, etc., are consumed locally. Since 94% of the mulberry raw silk produced is of multi-bivoltine variety of not export quality for warp, Government of India is giving high priority for improving the quality of silk through special programmes like Catalytic development Programme covering all stages of production in Sericulture.

Jute Corporation of India

3845. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of profit earned/loss incurred by the Jute Corporation of India during each of the last three years and current year;
- (b) the reasons for loss, if any;
- (c) whether the Government has restructured the Jute Corporation of India,
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to protect the workers engaged in the jute industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) The details of Profit earned/loss incurred by the Jute Corporation of India (JCI) during each of the last three year and current year, is as under:-

2003-04	Profit 1.53 crores
2004-05	Profit 14.47 crores.
2005-06	Loss 17.76 crores.
2006-07	Accounts for the current years would be compiled after the end of the year.

(b) The JCI has to maintain its infrastructure costing Rs.32.23 crores (for the year 2005-06) to conduct Minimum Support Price Operation but JCI has generated contribution of Rs. 14.47 crores through its operation resulting reductions of total loss from Rs.32.23 crores to Rs.17.76 crores.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Government has approved the financial and functional restructuring of the JCI by way of taking the following decisions:-

- (i) To write off the entire outstanding loan of Rs.195. 68

Crores and interest of Rs.313.97 Crores on these loans (as on 31.03.2003) against the accumulated losses (Rs.144.17 Crores), subsidy receivable (Rs.301.88 Crores) and JCI's claim (Rs.64.13 Crores) on NJMC.

- (ii) To provide subsidy to JCI on a continuous basis from the year 2003-04 to off-set the losses on account of MSP operations by JCI. The quantum of subsidy will include the difference between the purchase and sale prices of raw jute by JCI. While calculating MSP losses the reimbursement of overhead costs to JCI should not exceed 10% of the value of the purchase under MSP in a particular financial year.
- (iii) Ex-Post-facto revision of IDA pay scale w.e.f. 01.01.1992 in respect of employees covered under IDA scales of pay in Jute Corporation of India (JCI).
- (iv) Revision of the IDA scales of pay w.e.f. 1.1.1997 in respect of employees covered under IDA pay scales in JCI.
- (e) The Government has taken a number of steps for the welfare of Jute Sector as a whole, which, inter-alia, would benefit the workers engaged in the Jute Industry:-
 - (i) Govt. has approved the Jute Technology Mission (JTM) which aims at modernization of industry and increase the productivity so that the Jute can become a more vibrant sector. JTM also has schemes for training and skill upgradation of workers.
 - (ii) Govt. has provided protection to Jute Industry through the JPM Act since 1987 for sustainable employment in jute industry.
 - (iii) Govt. has introduced a Jute Board Bill, 2006 in the Parliament to set up a National Jute Board. Which will have jurisdiction to undertake appropriate measures for welfare for workers.
 - (iv) There are several schemes of Central Government which help those workers engaged in the Jute Industry, such as Training programs, Workshops and Demonstrations, Design development schemes, Market support schemes and NGO Assistance Scheme.

Special Economic Zones

3846. SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Tamil Nadu has requested the Union Government to establish the coastal SEZ in the State;

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

(c) the time by which it is likely to be established?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) There is no proposal from Government of Tamil Nadu for setting up a coastal Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in the State. It may, however, be mentioned that the Central Government had conveyed "in principle" approval for setting up a SEZ near Ennore, Chennai by Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation Limited (TIDCO) in August 2004.

Mission Khadi

3847. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which 'Mission Khadi' was launched by the Government alongwith its aims and objectives;

(b) whether the Government concentrates only on urban people through the above Mission and also proposes to explore the global market; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) started implementation of the 'Mission Khadi' in 2005-06 with the aim of gradually increasing the production of ready-to-use/wear khadi products, standardising these products, selling them under a common brand name and assisting this process by establishing common facility centres to service small khadi institutions.

(b) and (c) Mission Khadi targets both domestic (rural as well as urban) and international consumers.

Employment in Honey Trade

3848. SHRI A.V. BELLARMIN: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of workers employed in rural and Cottage industries, particularly in production of honey and its trading, in Kanyakumari district, State-wise;

(b) whether these workers are lacking storage and marketing facilities;

(c) whether the Government has received any proposal under Scheme for Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI); and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) As on 31.03.2006, 12.55 lakh workers and artisans were engaged in khadi and village industries in Tamil Nadu State. 1828 persons are engaged in beekeeping and production of honey in the Kanyakumari District of Tamil Nadu.

(b) Beekeepers of Kanyakumari District have sufficient infrastructure for storing, processing and bottling of honey. They, however, face marketing problems due to inter-State variations in procurement price.

(c) and (d) 29 clusters of khadi (including 2 in Tamil Nadu), 50 clusters of village industries (including 3 in Tamil Nadu) and 25 clusters of Coir (including 6 in Tamil Nadu) have been identified for development under SFURTI.

Price Stabilisation Trust Fund

3849. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal to set up a Price Stabilisation Trust Fund (PSTF) for the plantation sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which PSTF is likely to be set up;

(d) the financial assistance proposed to be given to the small growers from the Fund;

(e) whether the fund will safeguard the growers from price fluctuations; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (f) A Price Stabilisation Fund Trust has been set up in 2003 for small growers of Coffee, Tea, Rubber and Tobacco. The objective of the Scheme is to provide relief to these growers when the prices of these commodities fall below a specified level. Under the Scheme, financial assistance is provided as follows:

Sl. No.	Category of Year	Deposit by PSF Trust	Deposit by Member-grower
1	Boom	0	Rs.1000/-
2	Normal	Rs.500/-	Rs.500/-
3	Distress	Rs. 1000/-	0

Boom year is when average domestic price exceeds moving average international price for 7 years by 20%. Normal year is when average domestic price is within +/-20% of moving average international price for 7 years. Distress year is when average domestic price is below 20% of moving average international price for 7 years. However, the Government has decided to review scheme to make it more effective.

Export of Iron Sheets

3850. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state

(a) whether Pakistan had allowed import of Iron Sheets from India up to 30th May, 2006;

(b) if so, whether the permission has been granted by the Indian Government;

(c) whether this is subjected to clearance from Earthquake Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Authority (ERRA); and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) The Government of Pakistan and Earthquake Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Authority (ERRA) had allowed import of Corrugated Iron Sheets from India through Wagah land border for reconstruction purposes following the earthquake. The initial permission given up to March 31, 2006 was subsequently extended up to September 30, 2006. The Government of India had also allowed the export of Corrugated Iron Sheets.

Firing Incident in Assam

3851. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons died/injured due to indiscriminate firing by defence personnel in civil dress in Kamrup District of Assam on December 01, 2002;

(b) the details of finding of the inquiry conducted and action taken against the defaulting defence personnel;

(c) whether the victims are yet to be compensated by the Union Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof and when and how they will be compensated;

(e) if not, the details of compensation made to the civilian families including the injured persons as well as to the affected defence personnel; and

(f) the reasons for delay in payment of compensation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) An operation was launched by the Army on 1.12.2002 in village Debar Kuriha, Kamrup district, Assam against reported extortionists. Mistaken to be militants, Army unit was attacked by villagers with crude weapons. In the said incident ten persons were killed (2 Army personnel & 8 civilians) and 7 persons were wounded (1 Army personnel & 6 civilians).

(c) to (f) The Guwahati High Court in Writ Petition (Civil) Nos 3083/2003 and 3085/2003 pertaining to this incident, has ruled that since Army was engaged in maintaining law and order situation on behalf of the State and entire operation was in the nature of aid to the State administration, the liability to pay compensation lies with the State Government.

ITPO

3852. SHRI SUNIL KHAN:
SHRIMATI SUSMITA BAURI:
SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK:
DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to organise Indian Trade Exhibitions in certain countries;

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

(c) whether the International Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) lost revenue of Rs. 2.76 crore due to not enhancing the licence fee from two licencees and also an amount of Rs. 1.94 crore was outstanding from these licencees;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to recover the outstanding amount;

(e) whether more than one crore rupees has been outstanding as recoverable VAT in exhibition organised by the ITPO in foreign countries since 1984;

(f) if so, the steps taken to recover such amount;

(g) whether such dues are recoverable from those task of organising such exhibitions abroad; and

(h) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount recovered from such officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. ITPO proposes to organize the following Indian Trade Exhibitions during the current financial year 2006-07 - (i) Indian Trade Exhibition, Mauritius (Port Louis), February 1-7, 2007 (ii) Indian Trade Exhibition, Sao Paulo (Brazil), March 6-11, 2007 (iii) Indian Trade Exhibition, Dushanbe (Tajikistan), March 27-31, 2007 (iv) India Fair in Melbourne (Australia), March 29-April 01, 2007.

(c) and (d) No Sir, ITPO did not suffer revenue loss of Rs.2.76 crore. As on 31.3.2005, an amount of Rs. 193.53 lakhs was outstanding. The amount has already been recovered.

(e) Yes Sir. An amount of Rs.102.41 lakhs is to be recovered under VAT for exhibitions held abroad.

(f) ITPO has hired two VAT Consultant agencies for recovery of VAT. Claims for Rs.71.61 lakhs have been submitted to the concerned VAT authorities through these Consultants. The claims for recovery of VAT in respect of balance amount of Rs.30.80 lakhs were submitted by the concerned Team Leaders directly or through respective Embassy of India/Consulate General of India.

(g) Yes, Sir. The dues are outstanding and are recoverable, as on date.

(h) A statement indicating the details in this regard is enclosed.

Statement

Status of VAT Claim as on date lodged by Team Leader Directly or through EO/CGI.

S.No.	Date	Name of the Fair	Cur	Amt. in FC	Cur	Amt in FC	Team Leader	Revised ROE as on	Amount (Rs.)	Claim filed by	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	84-85	H/W SHOW COLOGNE 3/85	DM	12,442.25	EURO	6,361.62	DM-R VARDHARAJAN RETD	53.90	342,891.00	Team Leader	Notices sent to retired/ left officials
2	84-85	SIAL PARIS 6/84	FF	19,660.20	EURO	2,997.18	DM-D-S DINDAYAL RETD	53.90	161,548.00	Team Leader	Notices sent to retired/ left officials
3	88-89	PRET-A-PORTER PARIS 9/88	FF	43,912.31	EURO	6,694.39	SM-SEHDEV RETD	53.90	360,828.00	Team Leader	Recovered Rs. 3.50 lakhs from the benefit of retirement
4	89-90	DOMOTEX HANNOVER 1/90	DM	1,140.36	EURO	583.05	GM-PGS RETD	53.90	31,426.00	Team Leader	Notices sent to retired/ left officials
5	90-91	CEBIT HANNOVER 3/91	DM	709.94	EURO	362.98	GM-FFD/GM-VONR-RETD	53.90	19,565.00	Team Leader	Notices sent to retired/ left officials
6	92-93	DOMOTEX HANNOVER 1/93	DM	4,358.81	EURO	2,228.62	GM-FFD/GM-HKJ-RETD	53.90	120,123.00	Team Leader	Notices sent to retired/ left officials
7	92-93	H/W HOUSEWARE BIRMAH 9/92	STG	3,779.27	STG	3,779.27	SM-VMM-BM RETD	77.45	292,704.00	Team Leader	Notices sent to retired/ left officials
8	92-93	WIRE TUBE DUSSELDORF 4/92	DM	606.67	EURO	310.18	DGM-SM SABHARWAL, RETD.	53.90	16,719.00	Team Leader	Recovered Rs.17479.00 from the benefit of retirement.
9	93-94	PARTNER FOR PROG BERLIN 6/93	DM	3,540.32	EURO	1,810.14	GM-FFD/DGM-TDM RETD	53.90	97,567.00	Team Leader	Notices sent to retired/ left officials

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
10	93-94	PRET-A-PORTER PARIS 2/94	FF	262.78	EURO	40.08	GM-FFD/DGM-VPG-RETD	53.90	2,159.00	Team Leader	Notices sent to retired/ left officials
11	94-95	HEIMTEXTIL FRANKFURT 1/95	DM	2,588.63	EURO	1,323.55	M-MMN/SGM-BB RETD	53.90	71,339.00	Team Leader	Notices sent
12	94-95	TEXTYLES BOMBAY 1/95	DM	157.50	EURO	80.53	SGM-P LORIA	53.90	4,341.00	Team Leader	Notices sent to retired/ left officials
13	94-95	TEXTYLES BOMBAY 1/95	DM	1,701.90	EURO	870.17	SGM-P LORIA	53.90	46,902.00	Team Leader	Notices sent to retired/ left officials
14	95-96	PARTNER FOR PROG BERLIN 4/95	DM	104.03	EURO	53.19	DM-SURESH KR/SGM-BB RETD	53.90	2,867.00	Team Leader	Notices sent
15	96-97	CARRIBEN EXPO 4/96	TT\$	103.95	TT\$	103.95	SM-V KUMAR	6.79	706.00	Team Leader	Notices sent
16	97-98	69TH POZANAN INTL. FAIR 5/97	US\$	65.89	US\$	65.89	GM-FFD/DGM-HKJ-RETD	44.45	2,929.00	Team Leader	Notices sent to retired/ left officials
17	97-98	69TH POZANAN INTL.FAIR 5/97	NPZ	104.67	NPZ	104.67	GM-FFD/DGM-HKJ-RETD	24.50	2,584.00	Team Leader	Notices sent to retired/ left officials
18	97-98	EICMA MILAN 9/97	ECU	2,375.00	EURO	324.71	DGM-AS	53.90	17,502.00	Team Leader	Notices sent to retired/ left officials
19	99-00	SAITEX 10/99	RAND	25,171.16	RAND	25,171.16	OSD-VK SADHU	6.50	163,613.00	Team Leader	Notices sent
20	99-00	SAITEX 10/99	RAND	7,200.48	RAND	7,200.48	OSD-VK SADHU	6.50	46,803.00	Team Leader	Notices sent
21	00-01	SAITEX 10/00	US\$	5,508.30	US\$	5,508.30	DM(NIM/DGM-KBM RETD)	44.45	244,844.00	Team Leader	Notices sent
22	00-01	SAITEX 10/00	RAND	394.23	RAND	394.23	DM-NIM/DGM-KBM RETD	6.50	2,562.00	Team Leader	Notices sent
23	00-01	SIAL FOOD FAIR PARIS10/00	FF	14,766.74	EURO	2,251.17	SM-T AHMED	53.90	121,338.00	Team Leader	Notices sent
24	00-01	SIAL FOOD FAIR PARIS 10/00	EURO	12,417.74	EURO	12,417.74	SM-T AHMED	53.90	669,316.00	Team Leader	Notices sent
25	03-04	CANADIAN NATIONAL EXH, TORONTO, 08/03	C\$	6,203.81	C\$	6,203.81	OSD-VK SADHU-DM-S KUMAR	38.24	237,234.00	Team Leader	Notices sent
									3,080,390.00		

[Translation]

Filling up of Reserved Backlog Vacancies

3853. SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV:
SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:
SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV:

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

(a) the details of SCs/STs and OBCs vacancies presently lying vacant in the Ministry and its subordinate offices as on date, category-wise; and

(b) the necessary steps taken/being taken by the Government to fill up such vacant posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI J. RAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[English]

Celebrating Teachers Day

3854. SHRI G.V. HARSHA KUMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government celebrates the Teacher's Day every year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the aims and objectives set on the occasion;

(d) number of National Awards awarded to the teachers during each of the last three years, year-wise;

(e) whether any funds for the welfare of teachers is also collected; and

(f) if so, details and objectives thereof?

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

(a) to (c) Teacher's Day is celebrated on 5th September each year on the birth anniversary of Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, former President of India, and a philosopher and teacher par excellence. It is celebrated as a mark of respect to him and to the teaching fraternity. National Awards to Teachers are presented every year on the Teacher's Day.

(d) During the last three years the number of teachers awarded are as under:

Year	No. of teachers awarded
2003	283
2004	306
2005	309

(e) and (f) Fund collection drives are not carried out by the Government, but under the aegis of the National Foundation for Teachers' Welfare (NFTW) and the State Units of NFTW on purely voluntary basis. The fund is deposited to the corpus maintained by them. The interest accrued on the corpus is utilised for providing financial assistance under certain schemes, namely (i) medical assistance to teachers suffering from serious ailments, (ii) support for professional education of children of school teachers, (iii) construction of Shikshak Sadans, (iv) paid holiday to eminent teachers who have rendered meritorious services and (v) subsidy to teachers for academic activity.

Skilled Manpower

3855. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether textile sector is facing shortage of skilled manpower in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard;

(c) whether the Government proposes to open new Apparel Training and Design Centre in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof indicating their locations and the criteria adopted therefore; and

(e) the details of such centres at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. At present approximately 35 million people are engaged in the textile sector. There is no specific data available on the quantum of shortage of skilled manpower.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. At present, 18 Centres at Delhi, Jaipur, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Chennai, Kolkata, Noida, Gurgaon, Ludhiana, Tirupur, Trivandrum, Mumbai, Indore and Surat have already been functioning. 7 other Apparel Training and Design Centres (ATDC's) at, Chennai, Trivandrum, Ghaziabad, Kanpur, Faridabad, Bhubaneswar and Gandhinagar are in a very active stage of opening. The setting up new ATDCs is dependent upon various factors i.e. recommendations of the study on technical manpower and training infrastructure in Indian Apparel Industry conducted by Textile Committee, demand of the workers at the shopfloor level in the existing textile clusters, manufacturing activities

in the area to impart training to large number of students, recommendations of the State Government etc.

World Bank In SEZ

3856. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether World Bank proposes to invest in SEZs in India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) the number of International Financial Services Centres (IFSC) proposed to be set up in various Special Economic Zones across the country;
- (d) whether the Government has developed any regulatory regime for such proposals in India; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) Since guidelines in terms of Section 18(2) of the Special Economic Zones (SEZ) Act, 2005 have not been framed, there is no proposal for setting up International Financial Services Centres at present.

Death due to failure of Car Lock

3857. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there have been increase in the cases of death due to failure of central locking system of cars etc.;
- (b) if so, whether the Government conducted any inquiry in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details/outcome of the inquiry, in each case;
- (d) the action taken by the Government against the manufacturers for manufacturing substandard central car locking systems; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to stop such happenings in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) No case of death due to failure of central locking system of cars has been reported in Delhi during the year 2004, 2005 and 2006 (up to 30th November).

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Influx of Tamil Refugees

3858. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the number of Sri Lankan Tamils fleeing to India has crossed the 15,000 mark despite a dramatic drop in their arrival in October 2006;
- (b) if so, whether the refugees are still coming to Tamil Nadu;
- (c) if so, the number of refugees enlisted in Tamil Nadu;
- (d) the steps the Government proposes to take to check the inflow of refugees from Sri Lanka; and
- (e) the steps being taken to send them back?

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

(c) 67,606 Tamil refugees are enlisted in Tamil Nadu as on 1.11.2006.

(d) and (e) Government of India's approach is to discourage their movement but if any refugees do come, they are granted relief on humanitarian grounds (with the ultimate object of repatriation back to Sri Lanka). The refugees are screened by the State Government's 'Q' Branch officials and Revenue officials. They are photographed and issued identity cards. They are accommodated in the transit camp at Mandapam, Ramanathapuram District and in due course shifted to regular camps. Militants, if any, identified, are segregated and lodged in special camps.

[Translation]

On-Line Education for Students

3859. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to legalise on-line education in the interest of the students willing to get foreign degrees sitting in their homes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to enact a law for monitoring the entire procedure prior to granting approval; and
- (d) if so, the time when it is likely to be enacted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI

D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) A proposal is under consideration to establish a statutory authority for the promotion and coordination of the open and distance education system, which includes on-line education, and for determination and maintenance of standards thereto and other connected matters.

Integrated Child Development Schemes

3860. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposals from some State Governments including Maharashtra for according approval for "Poshahar Pariyojana" under Integrated Child Development Services Scheme (ICDS) funded by the World Bank that are pending for the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for delay in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[English]

Crimes by Juveniles

3861. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the crimes committed by juveniles in the country are on increase;

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

(c) whether the Government has made any study to check such trend in children in the country; and

(d) If so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) As per information furnished by the National Crime Records Bureau, total of 17819, 19229 and 18939 cases of juvenile delinquency under Indian Penal Code (IPC) were reported in the country during 2003, 2004 and 2005, respectively. Similarly, 7867, 5756 and 6662 cases of juvenile delinquency under Special and Local Laws [SLL] were reported during 2003, 2004 and 2005 respectively. This data does not indicate any conclusive trend towards increase in such crimes during this period. State-wise number of cases of juvenile delinquency under Indian Penal Code (IPC) and Special and Local Laws (SLL) is given in a Statement enclosed.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

Juvenile delinquency under Indian Penal Code [IPC] cognizable crimes and under Special and Local Laws [SLL] during 2003 to 2005

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	2003		2004		2005	
		IPC	SLL	IPC	SLL	IPC	SLL
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	1533	631	1079	861	1186	1008
2	Arunachal Pradesh	163	0	45	0	104	0
3	Assam	366	0	307	0	311	0
4	Bihar	234	26	195	19	259	27
5	Chhattisgarh	1050	129	1350	469	1495	1429
6	Goa	68	3	48	11	44	5
7	Gujarat	1224	738	1255	752	1390	839
8	Haryana	1120	523	968	447	922	394
9	Himachal Pradesh	90	4	92	2	136	9
10	Jammu and Kashmir	9	0	9	0	5	1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11	Jharkhand	708	113	708	113	182	7
12	Karnataka	250	58	390	19	188	6
13	Kerala	181	42	217	33	217	61
14	Madhya Pradesh	4368	505	5145	504	4557	625
15	Maharashtra	3246	485	3651	524	4216	530
16	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0
17	Meghalaya	32	3	44	2	67	3
18	Mizoram	39	22	607	211	297	79
19	Nagaland	0	1	3	0	3	0
20	Orissa	219	0	256	5	389	41
21	Punjab	81	31	59	17	78	23
22	Rajasthan	1292	179	1280	131	1324	164
23	Sikkim	17	0	8	0	23	1
24	Tamil Nadu	705	4002	683	1573	644	1259
25	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0
26	Uttaranchal	43	2	80	5	80	9
27	Uttar Pradesh	2	26	16	20	16	7
28	West Bengal	26	80	70	5	92	39
29	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	9	0	12	0	10	0
30	Chandigarh	76	4	70	4	78	2
31	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2	0	4	0	8	0
32	Daman and Diu	1	0	0	0	1	0
33	Delhi	636	57	543	29	585	94
34	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	1	0
35	Pondicherry	29	3	35	0	31	2
Total		17819	7867	19229	5756	18939	6662

Allocation of Funds for Municipal Councils of UT

3862. SHRI DAHYABHAI VALLABHBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any demand from the UT of Daman and Diu for increasing allocation of funds to the municipal councils and district panchayats; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government in this

regard and the increase in allocation of funds effected for the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

FDI in States

3863. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether various State Governments have approached the Central Government for the necessary permission to be accorded for Foreign Direct Investment in Joint Ventures;

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

(c) the total number of pending proposals so far; and

(d) the total number of applications pertaining to West Bengal and the status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (c) Proposals for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) seeking prior Government approval, where required, are received from the investors. No such proposal from a State Government to form a Joint Venture (JV) with foreign investors has been received.

(d) During the period April 2003 to September 2006, Government has granted approvals for 58 proposals involving FDI of Rs. 671.42 crore to be located in the State of West Bengal.

Pre-examination Coaching to STs

3864. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government provides assistance/coaching to the Scheduled Tribe Youth to appear for various competitive examinations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this section of the society has satisfactorily benefited from such assistance/pre-examination coaching;

(d) if so, the reasons due to which their strength in the Government sector has not significantly improved;

(e) whether the Union Government has received any proposals from State Governments in this regard during 2005-06 and 2006-07; and

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action so far taken by the Union Government on such proposals?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has been implementing the Coaching and Allied Scheme for Scheduled Tribes (STs), under which funds are released for running the Pre-Examination Training Centres by State Governments/Universities/Private Coaching Institutes in various parts of the country for preparing ST candidates for competitive examinations, to improve their representation in various posts and services.

(c) and (d) In order to improve the representation of Scheduled Tribes in various posts and services under Central and State Governments, coaching is being regularly provided every year to Scheduled Tribe students through State Government/UT Administration and private run institutions. During 2005-06, about 3000 ST students have availed this facility. No specific reason can be assigned for the success or otherwise of a candidate in a particular examination. However, the Central Government is making consistent efforts to improve success rate.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The proposals received from State Governments during 2005-06 were sanctioned in the same financial year. The details of funds released to the States during 2005-06 are given in the Statement. For 2006-07, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs has received proposals from the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh. The proposals have already been processed.

Statement

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Name of the State/UT	Amount released during 2005-06
1.	Andhra Pradesh	32.05
2.	Assam	3.23
3.	Karnataka	2.00
4.	Kerala	0.48
5.	Maharashtra	11.02
6.	Madhya Pradesh	6.40
7.	Orissa	4.82
	Total	60.00

*[Translation]***Amendment in Section 377 of IPC**

3865. SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI:

SHRI P. MOHAN:

SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE:

SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV:

SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to legalise homosexuality by amending Section 377 of IPC;

(b) if so, whether the Government has taken any steps in this direction; and

(c) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

*[English]***Industrial Growth Rate**

3866. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:

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

(a) the industrial growth targets set particularly in infrastructure sector during 2006-07;

(b) the details with regard to the contribution made by various sectors particularly consumer goods industry to the industrial growth;

(c) whether the growth rate of some industrial sectors has declined during the above period;

(d) if so, the steps taken to achieve the target growth rate set for this fiscal year; and

(e) the steps taken to accelerate industrial growth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) The targetted production figures for 2006-07 are as follows:

Sector	Unit	Targetted Production
1	2	3
Cement	Million Tonnes	162.0
Coal	Million Tonnes	425.1

1	2	3
Power	Billion Units	663.0
Steel	Million Tonnes	52.2
Petroleum Refinery Product	Million Metric Tonnes	135.3
Crude Oil	Million Metric Tonnes	35.4

(b) to (d) The consumer goods sector mining, manufacturing and electricity recorded a growth of 9.8%, 3.4%, 11.2% and 7.1% in April-October 2006-07. The growth rates in the corresponding period of the previous year were 13.5%, 0.9%, 9.7%, and 5.2% respectively. The growth in the manufacturing sector, which also includes the consumer goods industry, led to an overall industrial growth rate of 10.3% during April-October 2006-07.

(e) In a market driven economy, industrial growth, inter-alia, is influenced by market forces. The Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Government through specific support measures and by creating an investment conducive climate. Central Government schemes, such as Growth Centers, Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation scheme, Integrated Infrastructure Development, Cluster Development Programme etc., aim at further developing the industrial sector. The Government has also put in place a liberal and transparent foreign investment regime, wherein FDI upto 100% is allowed under the automatic route in most sectors/industries.

Assistance for Handicrafts Development

3867. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government provides financial assistance for development of handicrafts in the country;

(b) if so, the names of the various schemes and the details of such assistance provided during each of the last three years and the current year, State and Union Territory-wise;

(c) the criteria adopted by the Government for such assistance;

(d) the details of the amount utilized so far by each State/UT, year-wise;

(e) the reasons for non-utilization of assistance by some of the States/UTs;

(f) the names of the States/UTs, who have not settled the accounts so far during each of the last three years; and

(g) the details of the action taken against such States/UTs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Government of India has been implementing various schemes for development of Handicrafts in the country. The schemes include: Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana; Marketing Support and Services; Training & Extension; Design & Technology Up-gradation; Export Promotion; Research & Development; Special Handicrafts Training Project (SHTP); Bima Yojana; Work-shed Scheme and Credit Guarantee Scheme; etc. These schemes are

Central Sector plan schemes and are implemented through agencies like State Handicrafts Development Corporations/ NGOs/ Apex Cooperative Societies etc. as grant-in-aid schemes.

The details of financial assistance State-wise and Union Territory-wise provided to such agencies during each of the last three years and current year are given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) Only viable proposals received from implementing agencies fulfilling the desired parameters of concerned scheme are approved for sanction depending upon the availability of funds.

(d) to (g) Do not arise, as no financial assistance is provided directly to the State Governments.

Statement

Funds released State-wise/Scheme-wise during the year 2003-04 to 2006-07 up to November, 2006

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	State	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07 up to Nov.06
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	212.04	248.32	440.96	122.47
2	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00	1.67	8.59	0.00
3	Arunachal Pradesh	28.12	44.56	29.21	15.37
4	Assam	267.29	531.22	678.55	194.3
5	Bihar	9.64	34.66	40.95	28.78
6	Chandigarh	15.10	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	Chhattisgarh	22.58	38.98	25.48	53.47
8	Delhi	1147.67	926.09	1277.03	543.96
9	Goa	2.77	375.78	17.60	0.84
10	Gujarat	108.80	239.92	401.22	72.78
11	Haryana	57.24	80.09	85.84	52.07
12	Himachal Pradesh	130.90	151.08	206.94	70.37
13	Jharkhand	11.98	16.60	63.94	22.36
14	Jammu and Kashmir	292.98	335.15	660.17	85.17
15	Karnataka	72.08	102.46	89.25	63.09
16	Kerala	89.28	59.82	118.08	36.52
17	Madhya Pradesh	144.07	198.63	161.47	32.73

1	2	3	4	5	6
18	Maharashtra	124.11	98.92	94.35	40.52
19	Manipur	33.61	47.06	176.39	66.88
20	Meghalaya	7.70	0.80	11.11	13.60
21	Mizoram	33.63	32.47	1.22	2.12
22	Nagaland	93.24	70.63	83.99	18.46
23	Orissa	140.50	190.46	314.48	109.85
24	Punjab	44.86	24.42	75.82	17.96
25	Pondicherry	0.48	6.64	11.91	11.09
26	Rajasthan	196.64	254.38	158.40	114.21
27	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.40	0.00
28	Tamil Nadu	74.55	234.63	173.77	91.09
29	Tripura	39.51	68.94	44.34	22.33
30	Uttar Pradesh	321.37	623.02	956.58	486.81
31	Uttaranchal	111.63	68.64	85.91	63.99
32	West Bengal	195.66	349.27	223.39	74.09
Total		4030.03	5455.31	6717.34	2527.28

*[Translation]***Closed Textile Mills**

3868. CH. MUNAWAR HASSAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number and the names of the textile mills lying closed in the country as on date, State-wise;
- (b) whether there is any proposal to sell the land of National Textile Corporation Mills;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (d) the steps taken to revive these mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

*[Translation]***National Commission on Population**

3869. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to a recent report of the National Commission on Population the male-female ratio in the country is likely to slide down to 930 females for every 1000 males from the present ratio of 933 females per 1000 males by the year 2026;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the effective steps taken by the Government to find the prevailing male-female ratio in each of the States in the country particularly Jharkhand and to ensure the implementation of ongoing and pending projects for development of women?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. According to the report of the Technical Group on Population Projections constituted by the National Commission on Population under the chairmanship of Registrar General of India, the projected population characteristics as on 1st March 2001-2026 shows that the sex ratio is likely to reduce from 933 females per 1000 males as on 1st March 2001 to 932 on 1st March 2006 and 1st March 2011 and further reduce to 931 on 1st March 2016 and to 930 as on 1st March 2021 and 2026.

(c) As per information received from Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, in order to check female foeticide, the Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1994 is being implemented in the States including Jharkhand. This Act has since been amended and renamed as 'Pre Conception & Pre Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 1994 to make it more comprehensive. The technique of pre-conception sex selection has been brought within the ambit of this Act so as to pre-empt the use of such technologies towards declining sex ratio. Use of ultrasound machines has also been brought within the purview of this Act more explicitly so as to curb their misuse for detection and disclosure of sex of the foetus lest it should lead to female foeticide. The Central Supervisory Board (CSB) constituted under the Chairmanship of Minister for Health and Family Welfare has been further empowered for monitoring the implementation of the Act. State level Supervisory Boards in the line of the CSB constituted at the Centre has been introduced for monitoring of the Act in the States. More stringent punishment is prescribed under the Act so as to serve as a deterrent for minimizing violations of the Act. It has been made mandatory to maintain proper records in respect of the use of ultrasound machines and other equipments capable of detection of sex of foetus and also in respect of tests and procedures that may lead to pre-conception selection of sex. The sale of ultrasound machines has been regulated through laying down the condition of sale only to the bodies registered under the Act.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development is undertaking awareness and sensitization programmes for various stakeholders to reverse the falling female sex ratio.

The implementation of schemes of Ministry of Women and Child Development for development of women in each State of the country including Jharkhand are monitored closely through State Government's Inspection Reports, Quarterly Progress Reports, Review meeting of State Nodal Officers and through field visits.

[English]

Tribal Languages

3870. DR. BABU RAO MEDIYAM: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tribal dialects (languages) in the country. State-wise and tribe-wise; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to protect the deterioration of tribal languages?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) The Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL) under the Ministry of Human Resource Development has stated that 89 languages are considered to be tribal languages as per Census of India 1991. Statement showing tribal languages spoken State-wise as per Census of India, 1991 is given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) The Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), Mysore is concerned with the development of all Indian languages and has brought out publications on many tribal languages. Most of the current research work relates to description of these languages and production of pedagogical materials. Besides, this Ministry, under its Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Research & Training: Grants-in-aid to Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs)', provides funds to the TRIs in the States for conducting research on different aspects of tribal life which could include tribal languages.

Statement

Distribution of Tribal Languages spoken in India as shown in 1991 Census

	Language	State/UT
1	2	3
1	Bhill/Bhilodi	Rajasthan
		Madhya Pradesh
		Maharashtra
		Dadra & Nagar Haveli
		Gujarat
2	Santali	Bihar
		West Bengal
		Orissa
		Assam
3	Gondi	Madhya Pradesh
		Maharashtra
		Andhra Pradesh
		Orissa
4	Kurukh/ Oraon	Bihar
		Madhya Pradesh
		West Bengal
		Orissa
		Assam

1	2	3
5	Bodo/Boro	Assam West Bengal
6	Khandeshi	Maharashtra Gujarat Madhya Pradesh
7	Ho	Bihar Orissa
8	Khasi	Meghalaya Assam
9	Mundari	Bihar Orissa West Bengal Assam
10	Tripuri/Kok Borok	Tripura Mizoram Assam
11	Garo	Assam Meghalaya
12	Kui	Orissa
13	Lushai/Mizo	Mizoram
14	Halabi	Madhya Pradesh Maharashtra
15	Korku	Madhya Pradesh Maharashtra
16	Munda	Orissa Assam West Bengal Bihar
17	Miri/Mishing	Assam
18	Karbi/Mikir	Assam
19	Savara	Orissa Andhra Pradesh
20	Koya	Andhra Pradesh Orissa

1	2	3
21	Kharia	Bihar Orissa
22	Khond/Kondh	Orissa Andhra Pradesh
23	Nissi/Dafla	Arunachal Pradesh
24	Ao	Nagaland
25	Sema	Assam Nagaland
26	Kisan	Orissa
27	Adi	Arunachal Pradesh
28	Rabha	Assam Meghalaya
29	Konyak	Nagaland
30	Malto [Pahariya]	Bihar
31	Thado	Manipur
32	Tangkhul	Manipur
33	Kolami	Maharashtra Andhra Pradesh
34	Angami	Nagaland
35	Dimasa	Assam
36	Lotha	Nagaland
37	Mao	Manipur
38	Tibetan	Himachal Pradesh Karnataka
39	Kabui	Manipur
40	Phom	Nagaland
41	Hmar	Assam Manipur
42	Kinnauri	Himachal Pradesh
43	Kuki	Manipur Assam Nagaland
44	Bhotia	Himachal Pradesh Sikkim

1	2	3
45	Paite	Manipur
46	Chakru/ Chokri	Nagaland
47	Sangtam	Nagaland
48	Yimchungre	Nagaland
49	Bhumij	Biher Orissa
50	Parji	Madhya Pradesh
51	Monpa	Arunachal Pradesh
52	Wancho	Arunachal Pradesh
53	Lepcha	Sikkim
54	Rengma	Nagaland
55	Zellang	Nagaland
56	Lalung/Tiwa	Assam
57	Chang	Nagaland
58	Chakhesang	Nagaland
59	Nocte	Arunachal Pradesh
60	Halam	Tripura
61	Mishmi	Arunachal Pradesh
62	Koda/Kora	West Bengal
63	Limbu	Sikkim
64	Gadaba	Orissa
65	Mogh	Tripura
66	Tangsa	Arunachal Pradesh
67	Korwa	Madhya Pradesh
68	Liangamei	Manipur Nagaland
69	Nicobarese	Andaman & Nicobar Islands
70	Vaiphei	Manipur
71	Koch	Meghalaya
72	Jatapu	Andhra Pradesh
73	Khiemnungan	Nagaland
74	Lakher	Mizoram

1	2	3
75	Zemi	Assam
76	Lahauli	Himachal Pradesh
77	Deori	Assam
78	Konda	Andhra Pradesh
79	Juang	Orissa
80	Sherpa	Sikkim
81	Zou	Manipur
82	Pawi	Mizoram
83	Maring	Manipur
84	Gangte	Manipur
85	Kom	Manipur
86	Khezha	Nagaland
87	Anal	Manipur
88	Pochury	Nagaland
89	Maram	Manipur

[Translation]

Pakistani HIV/AIDS Infected Women

3871. SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any complaints that the Pakistani Intelligence Agency, ISI has been sending HIV/AIDS Infected women to the jawans of security forces for prostitution purpose;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some jawans of security forces have come in the grip of this deadly disease; and

(d) if so, the measures taken by the Government to protect the jawans of security forces from such activities and AIDS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) The following measures have been taken:-

1. A time bound Action Plan for prevention of HIV/ AIDS among the Central Police Forces (CPF) personnel.

2. Task Force has been constituted in the each CPFs upto field levels for this purpose.
3. Testing Kits at unit Hospitals are available for willing personnel.
4. Regular treatment and assistance is being provided to the affected personnel.
5. Information, Education & Communication material have been distributed among the troops.
6. Education and awareness generating steps have been taken.
7. Regular screening of films & documentaries on HIV/AIDS in unit recreation rooms and Family Welfare Centers.
8. Dissemination of educational pamphlets in training schools.
9. Condom distribution systems have been created.

Export Oriented Industrial Units

3872. SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL:
SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO:

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

(a) the percentage of trade carried out by export oriented industrial units in the total export-import trade of the country during each of the last three years;

(b) the amount of foreign exchange earned therefrom during the said period;

(c) whether the said units are getting several economic concessions;

(d) if so, the details thereof during the said period;

(e) the number of complaints received by the Government regarding misuse of such concessions during the said period; and

(f) the steps taken to prevent misuse of such concessions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Total foreign exchange earned by the Export Oriented Units (EOUs) during the year 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 were to the extent of about US \$ 6300 Million, US \$ 8300 Million and US \$ 8500 Million (provisional) respectively. The share of EOUs in the total exports of the country was about 9.83%, 9.94% and 8.28% during the year 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 respectively.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Units under export oriented scheme are given a package of incentives/financial concessions which includes duty free imports/procurement of capital goods, raw materials, consumables; deemed export benefits; income tax exemption; re-imbursement of Central Sales Tax (CST).

(e) As per available information, during the past three years action has been taken against 457 units under various provisions of the Foreign Trade (Development & Regulation) Act 1992 and other relevant Acts.

(f) In the recent past, sale of marble in domestic tariff area (DTA) and the facility of supplies effected in DTA against payment from the Exchange Earner Foreign Currency (EEFC) account of the buyer in the DTA were withdrawn with effect from 31.8.2005 and 7.4.2006 respectively by amending Foreign Trade Policy.

[English]

Policy for Exporters

3873. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to give incentives to the exporters of products which have a negligible presence in India's trade basket to market in Africa, Latin America and CIS countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the trade anticipated with these countries;

(c) the details of the existing scheme to encourage export to these markets; and

(d) the incentives proposed to be given to the farmers to produce such goods?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) Under Foreign Trade Policy no incentives are extended to exporters of product which have a negligible presence in India's trade basket to market of Africa, Latin America and CIS countries.

Assistance for export promotion is provided under Market Access Initiative scheme and Market Development Assistance scheme.

To enhance Indian exports to sub-Saharan Africa, Latin American region and CIS region the Government have initiated Focus: Africa, Focus: LAC and Focus: CIS programmes respectively. Details of these schemes and programmes are available on the Department's website.

(d) The Government is taking steps to encourage export of agro products through measures and incentives under Plan schemes of the Commodity Boards etc.

[Translation]

Survey of Delhi Women Commission

3874. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Women Commission has found in a survey that in most of the rape cases Delhi Police do not register FIR as reported in Hindustan Times, dated June 21, 2006;

(b) if so, the reasons and reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to get the FIR promptly registered in such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Delhi Commission of Women has informed that it has not done any exclusive survey in this regard.

(c) The step taken by Delhi Police to ensure the proper registration of rape cases include regular briefing and conducting surprise checks on the staff by senior officers and Vigilance Branch; dealing of all complaints of such nature by senior officers; displaying of time table at every Police Stations regarding availability of SHOs and Police Officers to attend public grievances/complaints/problems; starting of E-mail services for lodging complaints by public without delay; posting of especially trained women police officers in each district to deal with all type of crime against women; setting up of Rape Crises Intervention Centres in all the nine Police Districts and its association in such matters for counseling/suggestions etc. of rape victims; establishment of Crime Against Women Cells; and association of Women Police Officers and NGO in investigation of rape cases.

Involvement of Delhi Police in Illegal Occupation

3875. SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:
SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any complaints that Delhi Police officers are involved in helping people get illegal occupation of properties from its legal occupants in Delhi;

(b) if so, the total number of officers involved in this activity and the action taken by the Government against these officers; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to stop such activities in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Delhi Police received 18 complaints regarding involvement of Delhi Police personnel in helping people to get illegal occupation of properties from legal occupants in Delhi during the years 2004, 2005 and 2006 (upto 30th November). Twelve of these complaints involving 24 police personnel were substantiated. The action taken against these personnel include placing them under suspension, initiation of Departmental Enquiry for imposition of appropriate penalty under the rules, registration of criminal case, and issue of advisory memo.

(c) The steps taken to stop such activities by the Delhi Police personnel include surprise checking by senior officers of the activities of personnel deployed for patrolling duty and in police pickets; keeping a watch on personnel of suspicious character; transfer of personnel of criminal disposition to non-sensitive posts; taking legal and departmental action against those personnel who are found to be indulging in criminal activities; establishment of Public Grievances Cells in Districts/Units; surveillance by the Vigilance Branch on personnel holding sensitive posts; maintenance of a register of complaints by the Deputy Commissioner of Police of Districts; and providing facility to the general public to make complaint against corrupt police personnel through e-mail.

[English]

Discrimination of SC/ST Students

3876. DR. R. SENTHIL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ph.D /MS students have been reported to have discontinued from their various programme particularly belonging to reserved categories;

(b) if so, the details thereof, indicating the reasons, category wise, year wise, department wise, IIT wise and IISc Bangalore;

(c) whether any cases of discrimination have come to the notice of the Government in these institutes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, the measures taken by the government to stop injustice meted out to the students of reserved categories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Details of Ph. D. / M. S. students reported to have discontinued in respect of IITs are in the Statement enclosed. The information regarding IISc Bangalore is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d) Four representations regarding discrimination have been received in the recent past. In all cases enquiries were conducted to ascertain the facts and appropriate measures were taken for redressal of grievances.

Statement

	IIT Bombay						IIT Kanpur						IIT Kharagpur						IIT Guwahati						IIT Delhi					
	2003			2004			2005			2006			2004			2005			2006			2004			2005			2006		
	SC	ST	SC	ST	SC	ST	SC	ST	SC	ST	SC	ST	SC	ST	SC	ST	SC	ST	SC	ST	SC	ST	SC	ST	SC	ST	SC	ST	SC	ST
Chemistry	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Physics	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Civil Engineering	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maths	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Electric Engg.	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mech. Engg.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chem. Engg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Env. Sc. & Engg.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Medical Sc. & Tech.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Metallurgy & Material	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Energy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bio-technology	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HSS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SBB	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Instrument Design Engineering	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Industrial Technology	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Management Studies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Atmospheric Science	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

Note: 1 While there have been no discontinuance in Ph. D. / M. S. programmes by SC/ST students in IIT Roorkee, there have been 4, 4 and 3 discontinuances by SC students in 2004, 2005 and 2006 respectively in IIT Madras. Information in respect of Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore is awaited.

Note: 2 Reasons for discontinuance in Ph. D. / M. S. programmes are on personal grounds, tardy progress in studies, failure in Comprehensive Examination (Ph. D.), getting admission in other institutions, joining jobs, etc.

Modernisation of Khadi and Village Industry

3877. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is sharp decline in Khadi production and employment over the preceding two decades;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the details of production of Khadi and Employment in this Sector in comparison to 1980's;

(c) whether government proposes to redefine the role of the "Charkha" and the relevance of Khadi to the current planned economic growth; and

(d) the steps taken in this regard and to modernise Khadi and Village Industries?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The year wise details of value of production of khadi and employment during the last two decades (1980-81 to 2005-06) are given in enclosed Annex. This shows a sharp decline in production of khadi and also employment during 1998-99 to 2000-01.

(c) and (d) The steps taken in this regard, include (i) providing financial assistance under Product Development, Design Intervention and Packaging (PRODIP) Scheme for improved designs and packaging of khadi (and village industry) products, (ii) launching 'Mission Khadi' to convert Khadi fabric into ready-made garments suiting the market demand, (iii) launching the brand name "Khadi India" for khadi products, (iv) launching the Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI) for implementation in 25 khadi clusters for development over five years beginning 2005-06, (v) obtaining deemed Export Promotion Council status for KVIC, etc.

[Translation]

Constitution of Madarsas Board

3878. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:
SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to constitute Madarsas Board;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether certain Muslim organisations have

objected to the move of the Government as reported in the Rashtriya Sahara dated December 04, 2006;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government; and

(e) the steps likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI) (a) to (e) There is at present no proposal for setting up a Central Madarsas Board under consideration of the Government. In a Conference convened on 3rd December, 2006 at New Delhi by the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions several views in this respect were expressed by the delegates.

[English]

Urdu Language in Eighth Schedule

3879. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Urdu is only a regional language as mentioned in the eighth schedule of the Constitution;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to remove Urdu as a regional language and introduce it as a second language in the centre for all India level; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) There is no mention about regional language in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution.

(c) and (d) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

National Institute of Design and Foreign Trade

3880. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of places at which National Institute of Design (NID) and Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) are presently located in the country along with their main functions;

(b) whether the Government has any proposal to set up more such institutes in various parts of the country, particularly in Tamil Nadu;

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

(d) the time by which such institutes are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) The National Institute of Design (NID) has its main campus at Paldi in Ahmedabad. A post graduate campus at Gandhinagar and an R&D Centre at Bangalore have also been set up. Their main functions are teaching, research and consultancy in the field of design education.

The Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) is located in Delhi and Kolkata and its main functions are also teaching, research and consultancy in the field of international trade.

(b) to (d) At present there is no proposal to set up more Indian Institutes of Foreign Trade. Setting up of more Institutes of Design is dependent on the finalization of the 11th Five Year Plan.

Unique Identity Scheme

3881. SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently convened a meeting of Chief Secretaries of all States;

(b) if so, the details of various issues discussed therein;

(c) whether it is also proposed to introduce Unique Identity Scheme (UIS) for all the residents of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) A Conference of Chief Secretaries was organized by the Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances on 19.07.2006 in New Delhi.

(b) The implementation of major development programmes launched recently by the Central Government such as the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, National Rural Health Mission, Bharat Nirman Yojna and Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan & Mid-Day Meal Schemes were discussed at the Conference. In addition, issues relating to Civil Service reforms and improving public service delivery were also discussed.

(c) and (d) As per information furnished by the Department of Information Technology, the Project Unique ID for BPL families is a Planning Commission initiative which proposes to initially create a core database of all residents above the age of 18 years, and generate a unique identification number (UID) for all such residents. This UID

is intended to be created and used during the XIth Plan period as the basis for efficient delivery of various social and welfare services to persons below the poverty line (BPL).

Spice Board for Chillies

3882. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to create a separate board like spices board for Chillies to enhance export opportunities; and

(b) if so, steps taken by the Government for creating a separate board for the export and nurturing of Chillies grown in Karnataka and other States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Spices Board has opened Regional Offices in Secunderabad, Guntur and Paderu in Andhra Pradesh. The Board has also proposed to increase the outlay for various chillies development programmes including enhancing exports in their XI Five Year Plan proposal for all chillies growing states including Karnataka.

Ban on Export of Sugar

3883. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India has banned the export of sugar till March, 2007;

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

(c) whether the decision to ban the export of sugar will also be applicable on preferential quota sugar exports to US and EU;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the extent to which it is likely to effect the foreign exchange reserve of India?

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

(b) The decision to ban export of sugar was taken to augment the supply of sugar for controlling rising prices. Export of sugar from the country is regulated by relevant Notifications issued by Government of India under Foreign Trade (Development & Regulation) Act, 1992.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) India's preferential sugar quotas for export to EU & US are in existence for more than last ten years, having been obtained for the benefit of Indian exporters. Any disruption in export of quota sugar to these countries results in reduction of quota which is already quite limited.

(e) The Government factors all relevant concerns.

Setting up of Village Industries

3884. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a target to set up 31,800 village industries in the country for 2006-07;

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

(c) the number of village industries proposed to be set up in Andhra Pradesh in 2006-07;

(d) the number of village industries set up in the first 10 months of the current year;

(e) the margin money and other assistance provided to above village industries during said period;

(f) whether there are any conditions to be fulfilled by an entrepreneurs to set up a village industry; and

(g) if so, the details thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) to (c) The target of assisting the establishment of village industry units under the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) during 2006-07 is 31,760. The State/Union Territory-wise details of these units, including those in Andhra Pradesh are given in the Statement enclosed.

(d) and (e) 509 village industry units have been set up in Andhra Pradesh during 2006-07 (upto October 2006) and margin money assistance amounting to Rs. 891.03 lakh has been provided to them.

(f) and (g) Under the REGP, an eligible entrepreneur can establish a village industry in rural areas and small towns with population upto 20,000 for economically viable activities, other than those in a small negative list, by availing of margin money assistance from the KVIC and loan from any public sector scheduled commercial bank. The eligibility conditions include (i) the beneficiary should be of 18 years of age or above, (ii) only one person from one family is eligible (iii) fixed capital investment should not exceeds Rs. 1 lakh per worker employed in general category areas (Rs. 1.5 lakh in hilly areas), (iv) the project cost should not exceed

Rs. 25 lakh (cost of land should not be included in the project) (v) the beneficiary will contribute 10 per cent of the project cost as own contribution(5 per cent for certain weaker-sections, viz., Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Women, Ex-servicemen, etc.), etc.

Statement

State/Union Territory (UT) - wise details of target of establishment of village industry units under the REGP for 2006-07

S.No.	States/UTs	Target (number of units)
1	2	3
I	North Zone	
1	Chandigarh	5
2	Delhi	15
3	Haryana	1193
4	Himachal Pradesh	760
5	Jammu and Kashmir	724
6	Punjab	1493
7	Rajasthan	2769
II	East Zone	
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	152
2	Bihar	638
3	Jharkhand	745
4	Orissa	885
5	West Bengal	2268
III	North East Zone	
1	Arunachal Pradesh	103
2	Assam	1526
3	Manipur	185
4	Meghalaya	304
5	Mizoram	455
6	Nagaland	173
7	Tripura	219
8	Sikkim	108

1	2	3
IV	South Zone	
1	Andhra Pradesh	2940
2	Karnataka	2011
3	Kerala	1389
4	Lakshadweep	2
5	Pondicherry	64
6	Tamil Nadu	1212
V	West Zone	
1	Goa	304
2	Gujarat	613
3	Maharashtra	1908
VI	Central Zone	
1	Chhattisgarh	914
2	Madhya Pradesh	1291
3	Uttaranchal	608
4	Uttar Pradesh	3784
Total		31760

NTC Land

3885. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra has not given approval to sell four NTC mills land;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons thereto;

(d) whether this move will make impact on turnaround plan of the sick NTC mills' revival;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN): (a) to (c) Government of Maharashtra has given permission under Development Control Regulation (DRC) 58 for 7 mills in October, 2004. Out of these, two mills are surrendered to Bombay Municipal Corporation (BMC) /Maharashtra Housing Area

Development Authority (MHADA) as their share of property under DCR 58. In a tripartite meeting between the Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of Maharashtra and NTC, in May, 2006, Govt. of Maharashtra wanted NTC to conduct a study on civic infrastructure including traffic impact study and study on drainage in the land of those mills, already sold and that are remaining to be sold. Subsequently by an order, the Govt. of Maharashtra made it mandatory for the mill owners that the mill land should not be allowed to be developed or re-developed unless it contains the proposal of rehabilitation of occupants. NTC requested Govt. of Maharashtra to give permission for four mills having no Chawls which has not yet been accorded. NTC has already begun traffic impact study and drainage study and the permission is expected very soon.

(d) to (f) Yes Sir. The proceeds from the sale of surplus land and other assets of the mill are the main source for financing the Rehabilitation Scheme approved by Board for Industrial Financial Reconstruction (BIFR).

Land Ports Authority

3886. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to set up a Land Ports Authority to coordinate commerce related activities all along the international border;

(b) if so, the objectives thereof;

(c) the number of transit points likely to function under the Authority, State-wise;

(d) the facilities which will be available at these transit points;

(e) whether private partnership is also likely be involved for the purpose;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the time by which this authority is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) Government of India has approved in principle setting of Land Port Authority of India (LPAI) for overseeing the construction, management and maintenance of Integrated Check Posts (ICPs) at identified entry points on the land borders of the country.

(c) and (d) 13 Integrated Check Posts (ICPs), are to be set up on the borders: India-Nepal-4, India-Pakistan-1, India-Bangladesh-7 and India-Myanmar-1. These check posts will have all regulatory functions of Immigration, Customs,

security and support facilities like warehousing, banking, hotels, parking etc. in a single complex equipped with all modern amenities and state-of-the-Art Technology.

(e) and (f) The feasibility of Public Private Participation would be explored for warehousing, parking and civic amenities etc.

(g) The authority will be a statutory body and pending that the Empowered Steering Committee (ESC) will function as an interim arrangement.

Procurement of Cotton

3887. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cotton Corporation of India Ltd., had not considered the marginal contributions/profit of each variety to enhance profitability through product-mix;

(b) if so, the reason therefor; and

(c) the steps Government proposes to enhance the profitability through product-mix?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN): (a) and (b) It is not correct to state the Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. (CCI) has not considered product-mix for enhancing the profitability. Change in product-mix is an integral part of the purchase strategy pursued by the CCI for the past so many years. Cotton being an agricultural commodity, quality of arrivals in any variety is not uniform throughout the season. Quality varies /declines with advancement of season. Profit contributions have no direct co-relation with the grade of variety as it depends on market conditions, market sentiments at the time of procurement and sales. Varieties / grades sold in a firm and rising market may result into higher profit contribution and vice versa. Purchase of a particular grade of a variety also depends upon quality of arrival and

competition in the market. Arrivals of kapas may comprise of different grades, normally it is less in higher-grade and more in lower grade. However, with a view to ensure remunerative price to the cotton farmers, purchase of kapas of different grades are made simultaneously depending upon its demand from the mills. Changing the product-mix of different grades is a regular exercise in the course of fixing purchase ceiling on day to today basis. For increased profitability through an appropriate product-mix, efforts are always made to maximize purchase of fast moving varieties /grades.

(c) In view of above, question does not arise.

[Translation]

Permanent Construction of Indo-Pak Border

3888. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to have permanent construction on Indo- Pak border to check cross border terrorism;

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

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred on the said construction during 2006-2007?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) The Government has undertaken construction of border outposts, observation posts and fence/floodlights on the India-Pakistan border to facilitate guarding of the border.

(b) The details are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) A Budget provision of approximately Rs.250 crores has been kept for these works during 2006-07.

Statement

Details of permanent construction on India Pakistan border

Name of the State	Existing Observation Posts towers	Border Out Posts		Fence (km) constructed / under construction		Flood lights completed
		Constructed	Under construction	Erected	Under Progress	
Punjab	328	178	01	449.065	-	449.065
Jammu and Kashmir	18	90	-	184.8	1.2	170.529
Rajasthan	49	270	23	1056.626	-	1056.626
Gujarat	—	71	64	107.46	85.07	88.000
Total	395	609	88	1797.951	86.27	1764.22

*[English]***Setting up of Educational Complexes****3889. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:****SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:**

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up additional number of Educational Complex in Low Literacy Pockets for development of Scheduled Tribe Girls in tribal areas in the country;

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

(c) the details of funds allocated/utilized during the Tenth Five Year Plan so far, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) and (b) Ministry of Tribal Affairs at present implements a Central Sector Scheme viz. 'Educational Complex in Low Literacy Pockets for development of women's literacy in tribal areas', to raise the level of literacy among ST girls. The scheme is also applicable in areas inhabited by Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs). The Ministry has initiated action to revamp this scheme with additional inputs to increase its effectiveness.

(c) This is a demand driven scheme. Funds are released to NGOs/autonomous bodies of the State Governments, only after receipt of Utilization Certificates of the previous grants released. The State-wise details of funds released during 10th Five Year Plan so far, are given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

State-wise list of organizations funded during Tenth Five Year Plan under the scheme of Educational Complex in Low Literacy Pockets for Development of Women's Literacy in Tribal Areas.

(Amount in Rs.)

S.No.	Name of the Organization	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh						
1.	A.P. Tribal Welfare Ashram and Residential Education Institution Society (41 Educational Complexes)	11700000	23700000	32003406	26242500	0
2.	Chaitanya Educational and Rural Development District Cuddapah, A.P.	1482000	1293000	0	0	0
3.	Hi-Tech Youth Association, 3-6-492, Flat No. 101, Ravi Kiran Apartments, Street No. 6, Himayatnagar, Hyderabad, A.P.	30000	0	0	0	0
4.	Integrated Development Agency Raithupet, Nandigama, A.P.	1830000	0	0	0	0
5.	Jagruthi Educational and Community Development Society, Jawahar Nagar, Chikkadpalli, Hyderabad, A.P.	1523000	0	0	2136800	0
6.	Navodya Integration Cultural Social Education and Voluntary Action, Kurnool, AP	618000	1430037	0	1836378	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7.	Priyadarshini Service Organization Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh	0	653175	0	0	0
8.	Rural Mahila Welfare Society, Kurnool, A.P.	459000	0	858000	0	0
9.	Sarojini Devi Harijan Mahila Mandali, H.No.11-10-635 Burahanpuram, Khammam (AP)	30000	159000	0	543760	308469
10.	Social Action for Social Development, 131/B, Sanjeeva Reddy Nagar, Hyderabad	0	0	1089500	0	0
11.	Vennela Educational & Rural Development Society, Hyderabad	1465000	0	0	1548908	0
12.	Social Integration and Rural Development Society, H.No.7-9-160, Sriram Nagar Colony, Panagal District Nalgonda, AP	2046000	0	0	0	1900134
Arunachal Pradesh						
1.	Oju Welfare Association, Naharlagun, Arunachal Pradesh	904000	0	0	0	0
Bihar						
1.	Manav Kalyan Samiti, Gopalganj, Bihar	30000	0	0	0	0
Chhattisgarh						
1.	Vivekanand Institute of Social Health and Welfare Service, Narainpur, District Bastar, Chhattisgarh	973400	920400	1173400	942800	1585800
Gujarat						
1.	Gram Swaraj Sangh, Kutch, Gujarat	437730	0	1469000	0	0
2.	Lok Niketan, AT-Kakanpur, Banaskantam, Gujarat.	1714000	858900	535900	1100000	1382733
3.	M.G.P. Sarvodaya Ashram, Shri Amirgadh, Dist. Banaskantha, Gujarat	0	408116	0	0	0
4.	Sarvodaya Samiti, Gandhi Nagar, Koraput-764020	2294443	720000	690000	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
5.	Shree Sarvodaya Ashram Trust, Dist. Banaskantha, Gujarat	423752	478000	0	0	0
6.	Sushil Trust, Kutch, Gujarat	0	1125000	698417	0	0
7.	Uttam Gramya Vikash Seva Trust, AT/PO: Ambeti, Via: Vapi, Ta: Kaparada, District Valsad, Gujarat	30000	159000	0	0	0
8.	Zarpan Nasarpur Vibhag Kelvani Mandal, AT/PO: Vadi, District Surat, Via Zankhav, PIN: 3 94440 (Gujarat)	30000	135000	0	0	0

Himachal Pradesh

1.	Bharatiya Admijati Sevak Sangha, Thakkar Bapa Smarak Sadan, New Delhi	0	0	307200	0	0
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Jharkhand

1.	Bharatiya Admijati Sevak Sangha, Thakkar Bapa Smarak Sadan New Delhi	0	125094	307200	453600	0
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Madhya Pradesh

1.	Adarsh Lok Kalyan Sansthan, J.R. Birla Road, Near Gyan Mandhi Hr. Sec. School Satna, M.P.	4086000	1157500	1351500	2616000	0
2.	Bandhewal Shiksha Samiti, Bhopal, M.P.	879000	0	1158000	0	1392000
3.	Gyan Vikas Samiti, M.P.	30000	0	0	0	0
4.	Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust, Kasturbagram, Indore, M.P.	0	441330	88000	0	0
5.	M.P. Anusuchit Jati, Janjati Evam Pichda Varg Kalyan Sangha, 166-E, Muninagar, Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh	30000	171000	0	642000	0
6.	Pushpa Convent Education Society, Bhopal, M.P.	1482000	0	1428000	1428000	0
7.	Rajendra Ashram Trust, Kathiwada, Jhabua, M.P.	562800	1248000	451000	2019360	0
8.	Rural Development Service Society, Silwani, M.P.	0	1126537	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9.	Savya Sanchi Centre for Urban & Rural Development Madhya Pradesh	0	999500	0	0	0
10.	Seva Bharati, Bhopal, M.P.	675000	0	377305	0	0
11	Shri Ramakrishna Vivekananda Sevashram Shehdol, M.P.	1502000	527000	140000	0	0
12.	Deen Dayal Research Institute, Jhandewalan Extension, New Delhi	0	1821357	0	1102000	0
13.	Gramin Seva Kendra, Mandlinathu, District Jhabua, M.P.	0	0	0	562000	549000
14.	Sri Ramakrishna Vivekananda Sevashram, Mai Ki Bagla, Amarkantak, District Anupur PIN 484886, Madhya Pradesh	0	0	0	0	1181607

Maharashtra

1.	ABM Samaj Prabodhan Sanstha, Thane, Maharashtra	1023000	0	0	0	0
2.	People's Education Society, 18, Near Circular Road, Buldana, PIN-443001, Maharashtra	30000	159000	0	0	0
3.	Sandhi Niketan Shikshan Sanstha, Wadgaon, District Nanded, M.S.	30000	159000	0	0	0
4.	Smt. Laxmibai Raghoji Ingale Shikshan Prasarak Mandal Morchandi, Yavatmal	30000	0	0	0	0

Orissa

1.	AGRAGAMEE, AT/PO: Kashipur, District: Rayagada, Orissa	577063	547000	0	0	0
2.	Arun Institute of Rural Affairs, AT-Aswakhola, PO-Karamul, Dist. Dhenkanal, PIN-759014, Orissa	1506000	1158000	0	1398000	711500
3.	Bright Career Academy, Koraput, Orissa	1698000	585000	1307000	1422000	706500
4.	Council of Cultural Growth & Cultural Relations Maitree Sarani, Cuttack, Orissa	0	646867	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
5.	Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust, Utkal Branch, PO-Satyabhamapur, District Gopalwadi (Ketiguda), Dist. Rayagada, Orissa	604789	0	145558	0	0
6.	Keonjhar Integrated Rural Development & Training Institute, AT-Harichandapur, PO-Harichandanpur, Dist, Keonjhar, PIN-758028 Orissa.	30000	144000	0	0	0
7.	Koraput Development Foundation, Ground Floor, NAC Complex, Sunabeda, Dist. Koraput Orissa	723750	0	0	1822000	1355470
8.	Liberation Education and Action for Development (LEAD) Vill. Sundergarh, Dist. Koraput, Orissa	0	1002000	0	0	0
9.	Marr-Munning Ashram, Aurobindo, Koraput, Orissa.	1922775	491000	0	1437300	0
10.	NYSADRI, At-Santhasara, PO-Santhapur, Dist. Dhenkanal, Orissa.	1569984	0	0	0	0
11.	PRAKALPA, Keonjhar, Orissa.	593111	459000	0	0	0
12.	SAHAYAM, Budeswari Colony. Bhubaneswar	153000	0	0	0	0
13.	Satya Shambhu Organization, AT/PO-Boipariguda, District Koraput, Orissa	30000	150000	0	0	0
14.	SAWARD, Orissa	309000	0	0	0	0
15.	SEED, Bhubaneswar, Orissa	567000	0	0	0	0
16.	Servants of India Society, District Rayagada, Orissa	459354	233128	646953	0	0
17.	Seva Samaj, District Rayagada, Orissa	680000	357500	337500	0	1350000
18.	Social Education for Environment and Development (SEED) Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar	0	0	498000	0	0
19.	Social Welfare & Rural Development (SWARD), PO-Bainsia, Dist. Dhenkanal, Orissa	0	324000	249000	0	1109000
20.	Society for Nature Edu. & Health, Bhubaneswar, Orissa	1025500	0	1002000	0	1818000

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
21.	Sri Ramakrishan Ashram, At-Badarohila, Angul, Orissa	0	0	594000	0	2123828
22.	Tagore Society for Rural Development Bhubaneswar, Orissa	0	1184653	833782	1611931	602000
23.	Sarvodaya Samiti, Koraput, Orissa	0	0	0	2037803	0
24.	Bharatiya Adimjati Sevak Sangha, Thakkar Bapa Smarak Sadan, New Delhi	378000	0	0	1360800	450000
Rajasthan						
1.	Aravali Volunteers Society, Kherwara, Pin-313803, Dist. Udaipur, Rajasthan	390000	0	0	0	0
2.	Janajati Mahila Vikas Sansthan, Anurag Niwas, Swai Madhopur	540000	1614000	1353000	0	0
3.	Lok Bharatiya Pratisthan Badkai, PO-Dungla, PIN-312402, District Chittor, Rajasthan	30000	147000	0	0	0
4.	Mahavir Jain Vidyalaya Sansthan, Udaipur, Rajasthan	626000	687000	937000	966000	966000
5.	Mewar Saririk Shiksha Samiti, Udaipur, Rajasthan	1476000	1701000	1981000	2160000	2293000
6.	Rajasthan Balkalyan Samiti, VIII/PO-Jhadol, District Udaipur Rajasthan	390000	1125000	1755000	0	0
Uttar Pradesh						
1.	Aggragami Sewa Sansthan, Tiware Ganj, Lucknow, UP	1100000	0	552000	0	0
2.	Manav Vikas Evam Shiksha Sansthan, 261; Hind Nagar, Lucknow, UP	0	0	2028311	0	0
West Bengal						
1.	Bharat Sevashram Sangh, Murshidabad, West Bengal	1284000	2588800	0	2456460	0
2.	Bharat Sevashram Sangha, Beldanga, Distt-Murshidabad, West Bengal	1888000	0	1474400	0	0
3.	Vivekanand Child Welfare Home, 24-South Pargna, WB	1038994	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Karantaka						
1.	Karnataka Residential Educational Society, Karnataka (5 Educational Complexes).	0	0	5347000	0	0
Tamil Nadu						
1.	Centre for Rural Economic Development and Industrial Training, PO-Thiravallur, Tamil Nadu.	0	30000	0	0	0

Smuggling of Drugs and Arms

3890. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi has become an important transit point with people of West African origin making it the Centre of the Drug transportation network;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures the Government proposes to check such activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) As per the Narcotics Control Bureau, intelligence reports received and seizures made indicate that Delhi along with Mumbai is a transit point for trafficking of narcotic drugs within and out of the country. This is, however, not a new phenomenon as trafficking patterns have not shown any major variation in the past two-three years. Intelligence reports received also indicate involvement of some West African nationals in the trafficking of heroin and in some cases that of cocaine.

(c) The steps taken to check, detect and prevent illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances are indicated below:

- (i) strict surveillance and enforcement at import and export points, land borders, airports, foreign post offices, railways stations etc.;
- (ii) intensive preventive and interdiction efforts along known drug routes;
- (iii) improved coordination between 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) building of an electronic data base of offenders;

(vii) conducting training programmes for law enforcement officials for upgrading their skills to combat drug trafficking;

(viii) implementing a scheme of monetary rewards for information leading to seizures of Narcotics drugs to informants and officers;

(ix) financial assistance being provided to eligible States for strengthening their narcotic units;

(x) keeping close surveillance on the activities of known criminals dealing in narcotics drugs;

(xi) conducting raid on the hideout of persons suspected to be indulging in such activities; and

(xii) keeping regular watch on addict to teach those persons indulging in the sale of narcotics drugs.

Education Standards in MCD Schools

3891. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any study regarding the standard of education in Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) schools; and

(b) If so, the outcome of the study and measures taken by the Government to improve the standard of MCD schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the Municipal Corporation of Delhi has taken a number of steps to improve the condition of its schools including sanctioning of funds for carrying out minor repairs and maintenance of buildings; constitution of Zonal Public

Grievance Committees for redressal of grievances of public; increasing the frequency of inspections by supervisory officers; establishment of computer aided learning centers in 1381 schools; grant of funds to municipal teachers for developing teaching learning material and grant of funds under Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan for repair and purchase of schools equipments.

External Market Assistance Scheme

3892. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Minimum Support Price of raw jute /mesta announced during each of the last three years and current year;

(b) the details of the modifications so far made in External Market Assistance (EMA) Scheme by Jute Manufactures Development Council;

(c) whether the government has undertaken any study to evaluate the contribution of EMA Scheme in export of jute products;

(d) if so, whether the government proposes to restructure the External Market Assistance (EMA) Scheme for export of diversified jute products of the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAR): (a) The details of the Minimum Support Price of raw jute/mesta announced during each of the last three years and current year is as given below:-

Year	Rs. per Quintal
2003-04	Rs. 860=00
2004-05	Rs. 890=00
2005-06	Rs. 910=00
2006-07	Rs. 1000=00

(b) Jute Manufactures Development Council, with the approval of the Government has made the following amendments in EMA Scheme since its last extension in 2004:

- (i) For the year 2004-05 the cap for EMA claims was raised to Rs.2.50 Cores per unit per year.
- (ii) For the year 2005-06 the cap for EMA claims was raised to Rs. 1.50 crores per unit per year.
- (iii) W.e.f 01.04.2005 Jute Manufactures Development

Council has been given the powers to relax the condition "proven record of exporting jute products to the tune of at least Rs. 10.00 Lakhs per annum during the last three years" to genuine small exporters on the basis of certificate to be provided by the Council.

(iv) Effective from 01.04.2005 EMA is also available on Jute Geo-textiles, Hessian and sacking Made-ups in addition to the DEPB benefits available for these items. With effect from 1st April 2005, EMA is available only to jute Geo-textiles, Food Grade jute Bags and Diversified Jute Products at uniform rate of 5%. While additional benefit of 5% for exports to American and Latin American countries was permitted, the same has been withdrawn w.e.f 1st April 2005.

(c) M/s. Pricewaterhouse Coopers was assigned a study to evaluate the contribution of External Market Assistance (EMA) Scheme for export of Jute Products in 1999.

(d) No, Sir as this scheme expires on 31st March 2007.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Technical Education

3893. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU:
SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN:

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

(a) whether the Government has recently laid special emphasis on education based on science, technology and knowledge besides the basic education as reported in the Dainik Jagaran on dated November 23, 2006;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken by the Government in this direction in every State; and

(c) the details of funds allocated/released for the purpose and the monitoring carried out by the Union Government for each State especially Jharkhand during the last three years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Promotion of Education including that based on Science, Technology and Knowledge is continuous process. Various agencies of the Government like Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), National Council for Educational Research & Training (NCERT), University Grants Commission (UGC), etc. have been taking steps to improve the quality of

education with due emphasis on improvement of education based on Science and Technology etc. Besides various other agencies, for the promotion of knowledge in their respective fields, the Institutes like Indian Institute of Science, Indian Institutes of Technology, and Indian Institutes of Information Technology are already there.

To promote science education and to cater the needs for higher qualified manpower, the Government has established Indian Institute of Science, Education and Research (IISER) at Pune and Kolkata.

For strengthening basic scientific research in universities, a Task Force was constituted by Government. The Task Force, in its report, has inter-alia, recommended creation of 1000 positions of Research Scientists at various levels, five fold increase in the number of Ph.Ds from Indian universities within a span of ten years with proper standards, promotion of formal linkage between the Universities and national level institutions including the CSIR laboratories through joint research projects and training, inbuilt component of research in post graduate programme pertaining to Science and Technology, up gradation of infrastructural facilities in universities to promote quality scientific research, and, creation of networking centers in Basic Sciences in leading Departments of Universities to promote collaborative research. The details about State wise allocation of funds for the purposes as aforesaid are not maintained centrally.

[English]

National Tribal Museum

3894. DR. BABU RAO MEDIYAM: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of National Tribal Museum functioning in the country, State-wise, particularly in Delhi; and
- (b) the measures taken by the Government to preserve the Tribal culture and traditions?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) This Ministry has not set up National Tribal Museum in any State/UT, or in Delhi, under any of its schemes. However, under its Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Research & Training: Grants-in-aid to Tribal Research Institutes", this Ministry has provided funds to seventeen Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) set up so far by various State/UT Governments, for a number of activities including, setting up of a tribal museum for preserving and exhibiting tribal arts and material culture.

(b) Besides giving support to the activities taken up by the TRIs for research and training, documentation of tribal culture, languages and traditions, and showcasing tribal life through their museums, this Ministry has also

produced a number of films on tribal communities which inter-alia documents their unique culture and traditions. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs also works together with the Ministry of Culture to preserve tribal culture and traditions in different ways.

Fund for continuing Education In Punjab

3895. SHRI DAHYABHAI VALLABHBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the funds allocated for the Continuing Education programme under the Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan to various States including Punjab have not been released for years together and the workers engaged under this programme have not been paid wages for more than one year;
- (b) If so, the reasons for such inordinate delay in releasing the funds;
- (c) the steps taken to expedite the release of funds; and
- (d) the time by which the funds are likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) No funds are allocated to States under the Scheme of Continuing Education Programme (CEP) of National Literacy Mission. CEP is sanctioned on receipt of the proposal approved by the respective State Literacy Mission Authority. The norm prescribes payment of honorarium to Preraks for 12 months in a project year. Anomalies arise when the district fails to complete the project year within the prescribed time period of 12 months. The details of release of funds to various States including Punjab during the last three years is enclosed as Statement.

(b) to (d) There is no delay in the release of funds provided the following conditions are fulfilled:-

- i) 75% of the first instalment of grant has been utilized.
- ii) Establishment of the continuing education centres and submission of the progress report of the projects.
- iii) Audited statement of accounts and utilisation certificate in case the request for second instalment is received after closure of the financial year in which the 1st instalment was released.

National Literacy Mission conducts regional workshops to review the status of implementation of programme and also workshops for settlement of accounts which help in the timely release of funds.

Statement**Status of grants released under the Scheme of Continuing Education during the last three years**

(Rupees in Lakhs)

S. No.	Name of the State/UT	Amount of grant released		
		2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1842.71	819.20	2084.15
2.	Bihar	-	99.29	530.77
3.	Chhattisgarh	-	303.02	289.83
4.	Delhi	128.32	-	-
5.	Gujarat	1595.54	561.10	890.97
6.	Haryana	-	332.26	196.29
7.	Himachal Pradesh	53.61	-	37.37
8.	Jharkhand	-	-	594.22
9.	Karnataka	1176.88	2489.53	1293.34
10.	Kerala	485.60	579.54	219.78
11.	Madhya Pradesh	1730.50	2836.57	-
12.	Maharashtra	176.76	267.09	2678.35
13.	Manipur	7.50	7.50	-
14.	Mizoram	31.70	-	-
15.	Nagaland	-	7.50	-
16.	Orissa	-	0.61	308.61
17.	Punjab	-	-	338.59
18.	Rajasthan	1977.65	2103.83	672.82
19.	Sikkim	7.50	-	-
20.	Tamil Nadu	839.19	1623.03	700.08
21.	Tripura	31.13	275.73	-
22.	Uttaranchal	30.00	197.86	757.72
23.	Uttar Pradesh	527.75	1603.81	1734.06
24.	West Bengal	3763.04	1364.59	1565.05
25.	Chandigarh	-	62.66	-
26.	Lakshadweep	11.75	11.74	17.01
27.	Pondicherry	32.63	-	-
Total		14449.77	15546.47	14909.01

[Translation]**Raid by Delhi Police**

3896. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Police has confiscated red sand extracted from DDA's land in a raid;

(b) if so, the action taken against the guilty persons;

(c) whether crushers and JCB machines are operating on the Government land on the banks of Yamuna river;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. In a raid conducted by Delhi Police on 20th August, 2006, ten persons were found to be engaged in illegal excavation/mining in Biodiversity Park, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi. During the course of investigation, 500 trucks/dumpers of illegally excavated sand/badarpur was found stored in a farmhouse in Mehrauli. Delhi Police has registered a case vide FIR No. 504 dated 20th August, 2006 and arrested 11 person.

(c) No such incident has come to the notice of Delhi Police.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

[English]**Working Conditions of Degree Holders**

3897. SHRI G.V. HARSHA KUMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aiming to attract younger generation into teaching and research by giving incentives and by improving working conditions of the young degree holders;

(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 HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), the UGC has initiated the following steps to attract younger generation into teaching and research:

- i. Revision of Pay Scales.
- ii. Improvement in Career Advancement Scheme giving time bound promotion.
- iii. Faculty Improvement Programme for doing M.Phil/ Ph.D during service.
- iv. Advance increment for the M.Phil/ Ph.D holders.
- v. Leave facilities, such as (a) Special Casual Leave, (b) Duty leave (c) Study leave /Academic Leave.
- vi. Enhanced Age of Retirement.
- vii. Teachers also enjoy Civic Rights.
- viii. Research Fellowship.
- ix. Travel Grant, to go abroad.
- x. International Exchange Programme.

Incentives to Industries

3898. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has given special incentives to the industries which are adopting recycling and eco-friendly conservation practices;

(b) if so, the details of the incentives given to industries during the last three years; and

(c) the results achieved so far?

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. The following incentives have been provided to industries to adopt recycling and eco-friendly conservation practices:

- i. Enhanced rate of depreciation, deduction upto 100% of profits derived from the business of collecting and processing or treating of bio-degradable waste for generating power or producing bio-fertilizers, etc. and deduction of specified expenditure under the Income Tax Act.
- ii. A subsidy upto 25% of the project cost for enabling small scale industries to set up and upgrade existing Common Effluent Treatment Plants.
- iii. Concessional duty for import of waste paper to incentivise fibre based paper mills.
- iv. In 2004-05, customs duty exemption was given for

import of machinery and equipments for setting up effluent treatment plants for leather industry; and in 2005-06, customs and excise duty exemptions were given in respect of machinery components for initial setting up of power generation projects using non conventional material viz., agricultural, forestry, agro-industrial, industrial, municipal and urban waste, bio-waste or poultry litter.

(c) The incentives are aimed at encouraging eco-friendly practices and use of waste material, and have encouraged industries to adopt recycling and eco-friendly conservation practices.

Road Accidents due to Stray Cattle

3899. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that stray cattle are causing lot of traffic accidents and problems in Delhi;

(b) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to remove stray cattle from the roads and colonies of Delhi; and

(c) if so, the total number of accidents/deaths occurred on roads and in colonies due to stray cattle during each of the last three years separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The steps taken to remove stray cattle from roads and colonies of Delhi include rounding up of stray cattle on regular basis; undertaking special drives from time to time for catching stray cattle, deportation of such cattle to various Gosadana/ Gaushalas after ensuring their proper identification through "micro chips", and development of modern dairy colony at Ghogha (Narela), Delhi for relocation of illegal dairies running in urban areas.

(c) The number of cases of road accidents due to stray cattle and the number of persons killed in such accidents during the last three years are as under:

Year	No. of accidents reported	No. of persons killed
2003	5	1
2004	1	1
2005	6	1
2006 (Upto November)	2	Nil

Match Industry

3900. SHRI A.V. BELLARMIN: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to remove the Match Industry from the list of Small Scale Industry;

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

(c) whether the Government proposes to change the present excise duty structure levied on Match Industry;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government proposes to permit the multinational Indian Tobacco Company to market their products in India vying with matches produced in Small Scale Sector;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the Government proposes to increase export subsidy for matches produced under Small Scale Sector; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Review of the products in the list of items reserved for exclusive manufacture in SSI (manufacturing micro and small enterprises) is a continuous process. As on date, there is no proposal to de-reserve the match industry.

(c) and (d) At present there is no proposal under consideration of the Government to make any change in excise duty structure on matches.

(e) and (f) The policy of reservation for exclusive manufacture in SSI sector does not stipulate any prohibition on trading/marketing of the products included in the list of items reserved for exclusive manufacture in SSI sector.

(g) and (h) There is no such proposal.

Competition with Small Countries

3901. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether small countries like Indonesia, Cambodia, Vietnam and Pakistan etc. are giving big fight to India in textile sector;

(b) if so, the details of textiles export during each of the last three years as compared to small neighbouring countries;

(c) whether the Government has identified the factors responsible for the growth of textile sector;

(d) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereto; and

(e) the strategy formulated by the Government to face such challenges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The details of textile and clothing exports during the last three years are given below:-

(Value in US\$ Million)

Country/ Year	2003		2004		2005	
	Textile	Clothing	Textile	Clothing	Textile	Clothing
India	6846	6625	7009	6632	7850	8290
Indonesia	2923	4105	3152	4454	3447	5106
Cambodia	---	1600	---	1981	---	2199
Vietnam	473	3467	534	4441	---	4805
Pakistan	5811	2710	6125	3026	7087	3604
Bangladesh	128	4912	204	5686	221	6418
Sri Lanka	161	2513	149	2776	136	2877
Nepal	107	226	---	---	---	---

Source: World Trade Organization.

(c) to (e) The liberalized trading regime would result in increased international trade in textile and clothing thus providing greater export opportunities for the indigenous textile and clothing industry. At the same time, it will expose the domestic industry to increased competition in the international market. The industry will have to improve its efficiency and productivity to meet the emerging global competition.

In order to strengthen the Indian textile industry to meet the emerging global competition, Government has been taking a series of measures which, inter-alia, include:

- (i) To improve productivity and quality of cotton for manufacture and export of competitive downstream textile products, Government has launched the Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC). The Mission has achieved success in increasing the productivity and reducing the contamination through upgradation of cotton market yards and modernisation of Ginning & Pressing factories.
- (ii) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) was launched to facilitate the modernisation and upgradation of the textile industry both in the organised and unorganized sector. The Scheme has been further fine tuned to increase the rapid investments in the targeted sub-sectors of the textile industry. The cost of machinery has been further brought down by reducing the customs duty on imports.
- (iii) For speedy modernisation of the textile processing sector, Government has introduced w.e.f. 20.04.05, a credit linked capital subsidy scheme @10% under TUFS, in addition to the existing 5% interest reimbursement.
- (iv) For small scale textile and jute industrial units, Government has enhanced, the rate of Credit Linked Capital Subsidy (CLCS) from 12% to 15% w.e.f. 13.01.05.
- (v) In order to facilitate modernisation of the Powerloom Sector, Schemes such as High-tech Weaving Parks, Modernisation and Strengthening of Powerloom Service Centers, Group Workshed Scheme and Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme @ 20% have been introduced. Also, the Government has enhanced, w.e.f. 13.01.05, the capital ceiling for machinery from Rs. 60.00 lakh to Rs. 100.00 lakh under 20% capital subsidy scheme-TUFS.
- (vi) To provide the textile industry with world-class infrastructure facilities for setting up their textile units meeting international environmental and social standards, a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) based Scheme known as the "Scheme for Integrated Textile Park (SITP)" has been introduced in August 2005.

(vii) In 2004-05 Budget, the entire textile sector, except for man-made fibre and filament yarn was provided optional exemption from excise duty. In 2005-06 Budget, Central Value-added Tax (CENVAT) on Polyester Filament Yarn has been reduced from 24% to 16%. These modifications in fiscal levies aim at attracting more investments for modernization of textile sector.

(viii) To facilitate import of state of the art machinery to make our products internationally competitive in post quota regime, in 2005-06 Budget, the customs duty on textile machinery has been brought down to 10% except 23 machinery appearing in List 49 which attracts Basic Customs Duty (BCD) of 15%. The concessional duty of 5% continues to be at 5% on most of the machinery items.

(ix) In 2005-06 Budget, 30 items of knitting and knitwear have been de-reserved. This would facilitate setting up of large sized modernized units for meeting the international competition.

(x) In the Budget 2006-07 the following announcements for the textile sector has been made:-

- Reduction in the excise duty on all man-made fibre yarn and filament yarn from 16 per cent to 8 per cent.
- Reduction in the import duty on all man-made fibres and yarns from 15 per cent to 10 per cent.
- Reduction in the import duty on raw materials such as DMT, PTA and MEG be from 15 per cent to 10 per cent.
- Enhancing the allocation from Rs.435 crore to Rs.535 crore for the year 2006-07.
- Enhancement in the provision for the handloom sector from Rs.195 crore to Rs.241 crore for the year 2006-07.
- Provision of Rs. 189 crore during 2006-07 for the Scheme for Integrated Textiles Parks (SITP)
- Launching of the Jute Technology Mission in 2006-07 to harness the potential of the golden fibre along with establishment of a National Jute Board.

(xi) Government has launched the Debt Restructuring Scheme w.e.f. Sept., 2003 with the principal objective to permit banks to lend to the textile sector at 8-9% rate of interest.

- (xii) In order to cater to the growing skilled manpower requirements at shop floor level, Government is providing assistance for strengthening existing and opening new Apparel Training and Design Centres (ATDCs).
- (xiii) Government has allowed 100% Foreign Direct Investment in the textile sector under automatic route.
- (xiv) Government has de-reserved the readymade garments, hosiery and knitwear from SSI sector so that large scale investments may be encouraged in these sectors.
- (xv) National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) has been set up to provide the leadership role in sensitizing the industry to the concept of value addition by inducting trained professionals to manage the industry. This has resulted in an increased demand for trained professionals in various sectors servicing the industry.
- (xvi) To take a serious look at Fashion Education in the changing business context of the opening up of World Economies, Government is taking steps for:-
- Establishing an institution of National Excellence for imparting Fashion Business Education with International Benchmarking.
 - Appointing a nodal agency for standardizing and benchmarking Fashion Business Education in the country.
 - Setting up an Apex Body to train the teachers / trainers imparting Fashion Business Education in the country.

Legislation by National Commission for Women

3902. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Commission for Women (NCW) has been given the responsibility of reviewing legislations having direct and indirect bearing on women;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of legislations have been reviewed so far and the number of legislations which are yet to be reviewed;
- (d) the major recommendations made by NCW and action taken thereon; and
- (e) the time by which the rest of the legislations would be reviewed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. One of the functions laid down for the National Commission for Women (NCW) in the National Commission for Women Act, 1990 (No. 20 of 1990) is to review, from time to time, the existing provisions of the Constitution and other laws affecting women and recommend amendments thereto so as to suggest remedial legislative measures to meet any lacunae, inadequacies or shortcomings in such legislations.

(c) to (e) NCW has reviewed various legislations affecting women from a gender perspective. The list of legislations reviewed by NCW and the current status of their amendment is enclosed.

Statement

Present status of review of laws affecting women (as per information made available by the administrative Ministries/Departments)

(I) Pending cases

S.No.	Name of Act/ Name of administering Ministry/Department	Present status
1	2	3

Legislations dealt by Ministry of Women and Child Development

1	The Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act, 1987	A proposal to amend the Commission of Sati (Prevention) 1987 has been referred by the Cabinet to a Group of Ministers. A meeting of the Group of Ministers to be chaired by Shri Arjun Singh, Minister of Human Resource Development is to meet to consider the proposed amendments.
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1	2	3
2	Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986	Consultations with the Ministry of Law & Justice are in progress to amend the Act.
3	Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956	The Cabinet had approved amendments in the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act. The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Bill, 2006 was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 22nd May, 2006 and was referred to the Ministry related Parliamentary Standing Committee. The Committee has forwarded their Report and this is being processed in the Ministry.
4	Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929	Amendment to the Prevention of Child Marriage Bill, 2004 and repeal of Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929 has been passed by Rajya Sabha on 14.12.2006.
5	Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Bill	The draft Bill is being re-examined.
6	Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961	Being reviewed by the National Commission for Women.
Laws dealt by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare		
7	Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971	Though the Act was amended in 2002, further amendments are under consideration of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare for which a committee has been formed with two sub-groups.
Laws dealt by the Ministry of Law & Justice		
8	The Guardians and Wards Act, 1890	Comments have been received from all States except six and the amendments are being processed.
9	The Hindu Adoptions and Maintenance Act 1956	Recommendations are being studied.
10	The Foreign Marriage Act, 1969	Consultation with State Governments is in progress.
11	The Hindu Minority and Guardianship Act, 1956	Comments have been received from all States except six and the amendments are being processed
12	Bill reg. Compulsory Registration of Marriages	A draft Bill received from NCW has been forwarded to the Law Ministry.
Laws dealt by Ministry of Labour		
13	The Factories Act, 1948	Ministry of Labour to take action as follows:- 1) Obtain comments of State Governments on the recommendation made by Task Force to put restrictions on women from working on moving machineries and on prohibition of women from doing dangerous operations. 2) To move amendments in the Act to provide for separate lunch rooms for women or for separate enclosures for women for taking food. Ministry of Labour has informed that action is in progress on both the proposals.

1	2	3
14	Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976	<p>Ministry of Labour to take action as follows:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Issue executive orders advising State Governments to give due representation to women while constituting vigilance committees under the Act and to involve agencies working for women's empowerment to channelise sufficient credit to the freed-bonded women labourers; and 2) to give comments on the Task Force's recommendation to increase the punishment and to take recourse to other recovery procedures in case of non-remittance of fine. <p>Ministry of Labour has informed that action on (1) has been taken and action on (2) will be taken up with State Governments in the forthcoming conference of State Secretaries.</p>
15	The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923	<p>Ministry of Labour to take action to (i) change the title of the Act to 'Workers Compensation Act' to make it gender neutral; and (ii) to provide that, as far as possible, medical examination of women workers should be done by a female medical practitioner.</p> <p>Ministry of Labour has informed that action on (i) will be taken and action on (2) has been completed by issuing administrative instructions.</p>
16	The Maternity Benefit Act, 1961	<p>Task Force on Women & Children (2001) had made a recommendation that the Act should provide for 135 days' maternity leave to female workers. Ministry of Labour is examining this recommendation.</p>
17	Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979	<p>Ministry of Labour is moving amendments in the Act to change its title to make it gender neutral.</p>
18	The Plantation Labour Act, 1951	<p>Task Force on Women (2001) recommended ban on employment of children below 11 years in any plantation. It also recommended that one-third of the Welfare Officers appointed under the Act should be women. These recommendations are under the consideration of the Ministry of Labour.</p>
19	The Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986	<p>Ministry of Labour to take action as follows:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) obtain the comments of State Governments on the proposal to include in section 13(1) the education of child labourers. 2) Give comments on the recommendation to ban employment of children below 11 years in any establishment.

1	2	3
		3) Move for amendment so that minimum fine is Rs.2000 under section 14(3).
20	Payment of Wages Act, 1936	Task Force recommended that the Act should be amended to provide that an employed person shall not make a nomination in favour of a person other than his family member. Ministry of Labour to discuss this issue in the forthcoming conference of State Labour Secretaries.
Laws dealt by Ministry of Home Affairs		
21	Indian Penal Code, 1860	A proposal to amend the relevant sections of Indian Penal Code/Code of Criminal Procedure regarding rape/sexual assault has also been received from NCW and the same has been forwarded to the Ministry of Home Affairs for necessary action. The proposals are before the Legislative Department for drafting of the amendment Bill.
22	Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973	
(II) Cases on which action taken/no further action necessary:-		
1	Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005	Enacted in September, 2005 and brought into force from 26-10-2006.
2	Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation & Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1994	The Act has been amended. The amended Act, titled, Pre-conception and Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 2002 has come into operation w.e.f. 14.2.2003.
3	Indian Succession Act, 1925	Amended.
4	Indian Evidence Act, 1872	Amended.
5	Hindu Succession Act, 1956	Hindu Succession (Amendment) Act, 2005 was enacted w.e.f 9-9-2005 to give women equal rights in inheritance of property including agricultural land.
6	Hindu Marriage Act, 1955	Amended.
7	Special Marriage Act, 1954	Amended.
8	The Employees State Insurance Act, 1948	In view of the clarifications given by the Ministry of Labour & Employment, it is proposed to drop the suggestion to amend the Act.
9	The Minimum Wages Act, 1948	Ministry of Labour has issued instructions to the State Governments for appointing more women as Inspectors.
10	The Equal Remuneration Act, 1976	Ministry of Labour has issued executive orders advising State Governments to give due representation to women in the appointment of Labour officers under the Act.
11	Contract Labour (Regulation & In Abolition) Act, 1970	Ministry of Labour has issued instructions to the State Governments for giving adequate representation to women the State Advisory Boards.

Diamond Trading Centre

3903. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up International Diamond Trading Centre in India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether India is the largest buyer of diamond roughs in the world;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to allow FDI in the diamond exploration; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) It is the endeavour of the Government to develop India as an International Diamond Trading Centre. A Committee has been constituted to recommend policy initiatives to be taken to achieve this objective.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Import of rough diamonds into India during the last three years is as follows:-

(In million US\$)

Year	Import of rough diamonds
2003-2004	7130.09
2004-2005	6667.62
2005-2006	6261.04

Source: DGC&S

(e) and (f) As per the extant policy, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) upto 100%, is permitted under the automatic route for exploration and mining of diamonds.

Mosquito Nets

3904. SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that Karur in Tamil Nadu is the leading producer of mosquito nets and huge quantities are exported to various parts of the country and abroad;

(b) if so, whether the Government is aware of the severe problems faced by the manufacturers and traders of

mosquito nets due to smuggling of nylon from neighbouring countries viz., Bangladesh and Bhutan;

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to protect the interests of manufacturers, traders and workers engaged in the production of mosquito nets in Karur and to boost its production and sales?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Karur produces mosquito nets but almost the entire production is sold in the domestic market.

(b) No complaint has been received by the Government about smuggling of nylon from neighbouring countries.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Sale of Cotton Bales

3905. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the event of the failure of party to lift the cotton bales within the period agreed in the contract of sale, the Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. (CCI) pursued a policy of reselling the contracted bales to a third party at the risk and cost of the failed party;

(b) if so, the losses suffered by CCI in this regard during each of the last three years; and

(c) the losses so recoverable from the parties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN): (a) No Sir, the sale contracts made by the CCI are on firm delivery basis and buyers are given free period to lift the bales by making full payment towards the value of cotton. In the event of non-lifting of bales within the free period, the buyer is allowed to lift the bales within a specific period beyond free period by making full payment of value of cotton plus carrying charges. Normally the contracted quantity of cotton is carried forward for a period of 90 days and depending upon the market conditions and performance of the buyers, it is carried forward even for a longer period. However, cotton is carried forward only upto a reasonable period and if any buyer is found delaying the lifting of cotton bales, notices are issued for immediate lifting and if still it is not lifted within the notice period, then such cotton is re-sold in the open market at the risk and cost of the buyers.

(b) The losses suffered by CCI during the last three years i.e. from 2003-04 to 2005-06 are as under:

Financial Year	Losses suffered by CCI (Rs. in lakhs)
2003-04	19.43
2004-05	2878.36
2005-06	68.39

Legal/arbitration proceedings are in progress for recovery of these losses.

(c) The accumulated losses pertaining to NTC Subsidiaries, institutional buyers (State textile mills), private mills, export sales and also cotton seed parties, who failed to lift the cotton seed after contracting are since inception of the CCI and taking into account the total turnover so far, may be only a fraction. Nevertheless, the CCI is following up all these cases at appropriate levels for recovery of the loss amount and it is in the various stages of recovery proceedings.

Global Competition in Various Services

3906. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL:
SHRI SARVEY SATYANARAYANA:
SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY:
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:
SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:

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

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government to promote global competition in various services and to open up for FDI;

(b) if so, the service sectors likely to be opened for such competition;

(c) whether any committee has been set up to examine the pros and cons of the proposal;

(d) if so, the composition thereof;

(e) the time by which the committee will submit its recommendations;

(f) whether Government imposed any penalty for any anti-composition activity and amount collected from each company during the current year; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (e) The Planning Commission has initiated action for setting up a High Level Group to look into the various factors influencing the performance of the service sector and suggest policy measures which would need to be taken to sustain its competitiveness in the coming years. The High Level Group will function under the overall guidance of Planning Commission and will include experts from relevant areas.

Government has put in place a liberal and transparent Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy for inter alia the services sector. This policy is reviewed on an ongoing basis for further liberalization.

(f) and (g) Does not arise.

Primitive Tribal Groups

3907. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs) have not been recognized by the Government of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the areas or regions in which the above PTGs have been spread in the State; and

(d) the special schemes the Government has implemented for the upliftment of PTGs in the State of AP during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) to (c) Tribal communities with low levels of literacy, declining or stagnant populations, pre-agricultural level of technology and economic backwardness are categorized as Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs). At present there are 75 PTGs in 15 States/UTs (Bihar including Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh including Chhattisgarh and Uttar Pradesh including Uttaranchal) as indicated in the Statement enclosed.

(d) The Ministry has been implementing a specific Central Sector Scheme, namely 'Development of Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs)' since 1998-99 for the exclusive development of PTGs. Under the scheme, multipurpose activities like agricultural development, cattle development, income generation programmes, health facilities, infra-structural development, social security measures etc. are funded by the Ministry. The State of AP has also been supported under this scheme during the last three years.

Statement

Name of the Primitive Tribal Groups – State/UT-wise

S.No.	States/UTs	Name of the PTGs
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1. Bodo Gadaba 2. Bondo Poraja 3. Chenchu 4. Dongaria Kondha 5. Gutob Gadaba

1	2	3
		6. Khond Poraja
		7. Kolam
		8. Kondareddis
		9. Konda Savaras
		10. Kuttiya Kondhs
		11. Parangiperja
		12. Thoti
2.	Bihar (including Jharkhand)	13 Asur
		14. Birhor
		15. Birjia
		16. Hill Kharia
		17. Korwa
		18. Mal Paharia
		19. Paharia
		20. Sauria Pahariya
		21. Savar
3.	Gujarat	22. Kathodi
		23. Kotwalla
		24. Padhar
		25. Siddi
		26. Kolgha
4.	Karnataka	27. Jenu Kuruba
		28. Koraga
5.	Kerala	29. Cholanakayan (A Section of Kattunayakan)
		30. Kadar
		31. Kattunayakan
		32. Kurumbas
		33. Koraga
6.	Madhya Pradesh (including Chhattisgarh)	34. Abujh Maria

1	2	3
		35. Baiga
		36. Bharia
		37. Hill Korwa
		38. Kamar
		39. Sahariya
		40. Birhor
7.	Maharashtra	41. Katkaria (Kathodi)
		42. Kolam
		43. Maria Gond
8.	Manipur	44. Maram Naga
9.	Orissa	45. Birhor
		46. Bondo
		47. Dldayi
		48. Dongria-Khond
		49. Juang
		50. Kharia
		51. Kutia Khond
		52. Lanjia Saura
		53. Lodha
		54. Mankirdia
		55. Paudi Bhuyan
		56. Saura
		57. Chuktia Bhunjia
10.	Rajasthan	58. Seharlas
11	Tamil Nadu	59. Kattunayakan
		60. Kota
		61. Kurumbas
		62. Irular
		63. Paniyan
		64. Toda
12.	Tripura	65. Riang

1	2	3
13	Uttar Pradesh (including Uttaranchal)	66. Buksa
		67. Raji
14.	West Bengal	68. Birhor
		69. Lodha
		70. Toto
15	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	71 Great Andamanese
		72. Jarawas
		73. Onges
		74. Sentinelese
		75. Shom Pens

Exploration of Minerals and Mines

3908. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether only \$ 2 million is spent annually in India on prospecting and exploration of minerals and metal wealth;

(b) if so, whether Indian corporates have joined hands with Canadian investors and risk capital firms to float high risk fund of work \$ 500 million to promote prospecting and exploration of minerals and metals;

(c) if so, whether Ministry of Finance and SEBI have given its clearance to this;

(d) if so, whether 20 Member Industry and Government delegation have discussed with Canada in this regard recently; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and other issues discussed with Canadian in regard to minerals and metal prospecting and exploration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) Geological Survey of India (GSI) under the administrative control of Ministry of Mines, on an average spends about Rs.18.03 crore annually on the prospecting and exploration of minerals of which. Rs.7.55 crore is spent on exploration for coal. In addition, expenditure on prospecting and exploration of mineral deposits is also incurred by the Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) and private sector.

(b) and (c) Registration with Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) as Foreign Venture Capital Entities (FVCI) is not compulsory for venture capital investments in India. SEBI does not maintain a list of investors.

(d) and (e) A 20 member mining mission organized by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), comprising of the Government and Industry representatives visited Canada during the month of October, 2006 to facilitate information sharing as well as to explore partnership scopes, in the mining sectors of the two countries. The delegation had wide ranging discussions with the Government of Ontario province, officials of Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada and Toronto Stock Exchange Group and also held a Round Table discussions with Canadian companies. The delegation also visited some mining sites, research facilities to study new technology employed by the Canadian mining industry.

[Translation]

Promotion of SC/ST in NDMC Schools

3909. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether reservation norms are being enforced for promotion of nursery/primary teachers to the post of Head Masters in the NDMC schools;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether backlog of SCs/STs in these NDMC schools/Navyug Vidyalayas has been carried forward;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The New Delhi Municipal Council has intimated that the number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Nursery/Primary Teachers, promoted to the post of Head Master and Head Mistress is more than the number of posts reserved for these categories.

(c) to (e) There is no backlog of vacancy for the posts of Head Master and Head Mistress in Nursery/Primary Schools of New Delhi Municipal Council, reserved for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. However, in the Navyug Schools of New Delhi Municipal Council, all the eligible teachers belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes categories have been promoted as per reservation policy of the government and there is no teacher, belonging to these categories, eligible for promotion. The vacancies arising for the posts reserved for the Scheduled

Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates are being carried forward.

[English]

Patenting of Drug Products

3910. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the value of medicines exported during 2004-05 and 2005-06 so far;

(b) whether the export of medicines has reduced due to adoption of product patent system of drugs;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether the Government proposes to promote foreign investments for research and development work in Pharma and Drug sector; and

(e) if so, the details thereof including action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) The value of medicines exported during 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 is as follows:

Year	Value in US\$ (Million)
2004-2005	3968.40
2005-2006 (provisional)	4795.33

The above data indicates that the export of medicines has increased vis a vis, the previous year.

(d) and (e) The Govt. is promoting research and development and foreign investments in pharma and drug sector through various institutions.

Closed Textile Mills

3911. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Textile Corporation has achieved success in its turn around plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of workers given VRS during each of the last three years;

(c) the details of mills closed down, State-wise;

(d) the details of the closed NTC mills made operational during last three years, State-wise;

(e) the investment made during last three years on these closed mills;

(f) whether these mills started earning profits;

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

(h) the steps taken to make more closed mills operational during current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAR): (a) and (b) NTC has achieved great success in its turn-around plan as it has been implementing a revival scheme from 2002-03 onwards. The company has given an attractive compensation package to its 53656 surplus employees in the mills identified for closure and other offices. A sum of Rs. 1860.80 crores has been paid by way of compensation. The amount required for payment of compensation to the employees was originally mobilized by private placement of bonds. After closing down 65 of its mills and handing over two mills to the Government of Pondicherry, today NTC has 40 performing mills and 20,000 employees. The company has successfully sold assets worth Rs.3174 crores from its closed mills. The modernization of the mills is now taken forward with the availability of funds from the sale of assets. Debt servicing has been done to the extent of Rs.524.83 crores during the last four years. All the secured creditors have been paid, statutory payment have been effected except for payment of interest, which is pending reconciliation. Employees' dues have been cleared.

Year wise details of VRS given to workers for the last three years are as under:

2003-04	16053
2004-05	7402
2005-06	7689

(c) to (h) 65 unviable mills have been closed as per the list enclosed as statement. There is no proposal to make these closed mills operational.

Statement

National Textile Corporation Limited

S.No.	Name of the Mills
1	2
Rajasthan	
1	Edward Mills
Punjab	
2	Dayalbagh Mills
3	Panipat Woolen Mills

1	2
Madhya Pradesh	
4	Kalyanmai Mills
5	Swadeshi Textile Mills
6	Bengal Nagpur Cotton Mills
7	Hira Mills
8	Indore Malwa United Mills
Maharashtra	
9	Kohinoor Mills No. 2
10	Kohinoor Mills No. 3
11	India United Mills NO.4
12	India United Mills No.2
13	India United Mills No.3
14	Jam Mfg. Mills
15	Shri Sitaram Mills
16	Model Mills
17	R.S.R.G. Mills
18	Vidharbha Mills
19	Bharat Textile Mills
20	Digvijay Textile Mills
21	Elphinstone Spg & Wvg Mills
22	Jupiter Textile Mills
23	Mumbai Textile Mills
24	New Hind Textile Mills
25	Podar Processors
26	Shree Madhusudan Mills
Gujarat	
27	Petlad Textile Mills
28	Rajkot Textile Mills
29	Virangam Textile Mills
30	New Manekchowk Textile Mills
31	Mahalaxmi Textile Mills

1	2
32	Rajnagar Textile Mills 2
33	Ahmedabad Jupiter Mills
34	Himadari Textile Mills
35	Jehangir Textile Mills
Andhra Pradesh	
36	Azam Jahi Mills
37	Natraj Spinning Mills
38	Adoni Cotton Mills
39	Netha Spinning & Weaving Mills
Karnataka	
40	Mysore Mills (Merged With Minerva Mills)
41	M.S.K. Mills
West Bengal	
42	Bangasri Cotton Mills
43	Bengal Fine S.& W.Mills No.II
44	Manindra B.T.Mills
45	Jyoti Wvg. Factory
46	Central Cotton Mills
47	Shree Mahalaxmi Cotton Mills
48	Bengal Luxmi Cotton Mills
49	Rampooria Cotton Mills
50	Bengal Fine S.& W.Mills No.I
Bihar	
51	Gaya Cotton & Jute Mills
Tamil Nadu	
52	Kishnaveni Textile Mills
53	Om Parasakthi Mills
54	Kaleeswarar Mills 'A' Unit
55	Somasundaram Mills
56.	Balaramvarma Mills
Uttar Pradesh	
57	Atherton Mills
58	Bijli Cotton Mills
59	Laxmirattan Cotton Mills

1	2
60	Lord Krishna Tex. Mills
61	Muir Mills
62	New Victoria Mills
63	Rae Bareli Tex. Mills
64	Shri Vikram Cotton Mills
65	Swadeshi Cotton Mills

Dengue in MCD and NDMC Areas

3912. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of Dengue in MCD and NDMC areas Delhi are increasing every year;

(b) if so, whether the Government has developed any permanent infrastructure to deal with Dengue;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number of permanent sanctioned strength of Doctors/Entomologists and other subordinate staff exist with MCD;

(e) the number of persons and the time since when various doctors/Entomologists are working on contract basis in Dengue department of MCD/NDMC;

(f) whether the Government proposes to regularise such contractual doctors/ Entomologists in view of present situation; and

(g) if so, the details and the time by which the same is to be executed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) It is a fact that there has been increase in the cases of dengue in Delhi during the current year compared to the previous year. This can be attributed mainly to the cyclic trend of dengue, which is repeated every three to four years.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The permanent infrastructure developed to deal with dengue cases in Delhi includes constitution of dengue task forces; spraying larvicides at all water collection sites, nallas, big drains, etc.; use of larvivorous fishes at 228 sites; carrying out vector surveillance through domestic breeding checking; carrying out diseases surveillance by monitoring fever cases in all hospitals on daily basis; making notification of dengue by all medical practitioners and institutions mandatory; intensive health education through print, electronic media,

interpersonal communication, outdoor publicity; carrying out preparatory activities like workshops, training programmes etc. for containment of vector-borne diseases; inter-sectoral co-ordination with civil society organizations etc.

(d) The permanent sanctioned strength of Doctors/ Entomologists and other subordinate staff in Municipal Corporation of Delhi, dealing with vector-borne diseases is as under:-

S.No.	Designation	Sanctioned Strength
1.	Doctors in Anti-Malaria Office (Headquarters)	4
2.	Zonal Deputy Health Officers	12
3.	Epidemiologists	12
4.	Entomologists	6
5.	Assistant Entomologists	2
6.	Anti-malaria Officer	16
7.	Senior Malaria Inspectors	31
8.	Malaria Inspector	201
9.	Assistant Malaria Inspector	878
10.	Permanent Malaria Jamadar	85
11.	Permanent Malaria Beldar	2304
12.	Clinic Beldar	39

(e) to (g) New Delhi Municipal Council has informed that no Doctor is working on contract basis in its Malaria/ Dengue Department. However, during the transmission season from May to November, Anti-Malaria Gangmen are deployed on contract basis.

Municipal Corporation of Delhi has intimated that there is no separate Dengue Department under it. Dengue control is a part of Malaria and other vector-borne diseases control programme, in which seven entomologists are working on contract basis. Municipal Corporation of Delhi has been engaging Entomologists on contract basis since July, 1997. It is in the process of finalizing recruitment rules for filling up the post of Entomologists on regular basis. Filling up of posts on regular basis depends on finalisation of recruitment rules.

Plantation Sector

3913. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:
SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:

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

- (a) whether plantation industry has been incurring losses for last two years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government proposes to include the plantation industry in the 11th Five Year Plan for providing employment;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Union Government has worked out a comprehensive financial package for reviving the ailing plantation sector;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the time by which the said Plan is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Though, the Plantation sector has always witnessed cyclical price movement as the prices are determined by the market forces of demand and supply, the prices have shown a significant improvement in the current year.

(c) and (d) Plantation sector essentially is a labour intensive sector. It has been given adequate developmental support through plan funds for various schemes through Commodity Boards.

(e) to (g) In order to tackle the problem of declining productivity on account of ageing bushes, Government has taken sector-wise initiatives for replantation & rejuvenation of old bushes for long term development of the plantation sectors. A Special Purpose Tea Fund (SPTF) for renewal of old tea plantations is under consideration of Government. A similar scheme for Coffee and Spices is proposed for the XIth Plan.

Funds for Police Housing

3914. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY:
SHRI MANJUNATH KUNNUR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received any proposal from the State Government of Karnataka for allocation of Rs. 50 crores towards police housing;
- (b) if so, the details of the proposal;
- (c) the time by which final decision in this regard is likely to be taken;
- (d) whether the Government has also received such proposal from other States; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (e) The Government has not received any proposal from the Government of Karnataka for allocation of Rs. 50 crores towards police housing. However, under the Modernization of State Police Forces (MPF) Scheme 2006-07, Government of Karnataka has submitted a proposal, inter-alia, for Central assistance of Rs. 7.96 crores for construction of residential buildings for their police personnel. Central Government has released the said amount in full to the Police Housing Corporation of Karnataka on 30.8.06. Under the MPF Scheme, proposals from all States are considered, including components for police housing, and Central assistance is released as per terms of the Scheme.

Monitoring of SSA

3915. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a set of monitoring tools to provide annual information on the quality of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) has been developed in collaboration with NCERT as reported in The Tribune dated October 26, 2006;
- (b) if so, the details and salient features thereof; and
- (c) the other steps being taken to meet the target fixed in SSA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) Quality monitoring tools have been developed in collaboration with NCERT to monitor, inter-alia, student attendance, teacher availability in schools, classroom practices and academic supervision provided by Cluster and Block Resource Centers to elementary schools and teachers. The complete set of monitoring tools can be seen at <http://ssa.nic.in/qualityedu/QMT.pdf>. Besides regular review and monitoring of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Government of India is also extending technical resource support to States in key functional areas and facilitating the documentation and sharing of good practices, in order to achieve the aims of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan.

Anti-dumping Law

3916. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Supreme Court of India has recently opined on the anti-dumping law of the country; and
- (b) 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 (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Extracts of the opinion of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, as contained in the judgment dated the 11th September, 2006 in Civil Appeal No. 1294 of 2001 (Reliance Industries Ltd. - Versus-Designated Authority & Ors.) on the anti-dumping law of the country are given below:-

1. "In our opinion, both normal value and NIP are not exporter or domestic industry specific respectively but exporting country specific and importing country specific (India). Once dumping of specific goods from a country is established, dumping duty can be imposed on all exports of those goods from that country to India under Section 9A, irrespective of the exporter. The rate of duty may vary from exporter to exporter depending upon the export price. Similarly, as regards the matter of NIP, it is the reasonable price which the subject goods can be produced by the domestic industry as a whole that is relevant."
2. "The provisions relating to injury analysis in Annexure II to the Anti-dumping Rules are also clear that the injury determination is always for the domestic industry as a whole and not for individual companies."
3. "In our opinion, since NIP is for the industry as a whole, it is immaterial if a particular company produces some of its inputs captive. In our opinion, for the purpose of determination of NIP, the DA is always required to take into consideration the transfer price (market value) of the inputs and not their actual cost of captive production."
4. "In our opinion, there is no basis to adopt the best capacity utilization achieved in the past period as the industry is generally bound to achieve higher capacity utilization if it is not affected by injurious dumping. The apportionment of fixed costs has to be necessarily done on the basis of actual production during the period of investigation and not an assumed level of capacity utilization to avoid all arbitrariness."
5. "We do not agree with the Tribunal that the notification of the Central Government under Section 9A is a legislative act. In our opinion, it is clearly quasi judicial. The proceedings before the DA is to determine the lis between the domestic industry on the one hand and the importer of foreign goods from the foreign supplier on the other. The determination of the recommendation of the DA and the Government notification on its basis is subject to an appeal before the CESTAT. This also makes it clear that the proceedings before the DA are quasi judicial."

6. "In our opinion, Rule 7 does not contemplate any right in the DA to claim confidentiality. Rule 7 specifically provides that the right of confidentiality is restricted to the party who has supplied the information, and that party has also to satisfy the DA that the matter is really confidential. Nowhere in the rule has it been provided that the DA has the right to claim confidentiality, particularly regarding information which pertains to the party which has supplied the same."

7. "In our opinion, excessive and unwarranted claim of confidentiality defeats the right to appeal. In the absence of knowledge of the consequences, grounds, reasoning and methodology by which the DA has arrived at its decision and made its recommendation, the parties to the proceedings cannot effectively exercise their right to appeal either before the Tribunal or this Court."

The Government has filed a review petition (Civil) No. 1297 of 2006 in the Hon'ble Supreme Court on the issues, except the issue of confidentiality, arising out of the above opinion.

Study on SSA Assistance by Various Agencies

3917. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Bank, Asian Development Bank and Department of International Development has selected Sarva Siksha Abhiyan as a case study in the forum on aid effectiveness;

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

(c) whether problem/obstruction being faced in implementation of Sarva Siksha Abhiyan was also discussed during the said meeting; and

(d) if so, the details alongwith the decisions taken to make the programme more effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) : (a) to (d) Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) was selected as a case study in the Regional Forum on Aid Effectiveness organized at Manila on 18-20 October 2006 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID), the Asian Development Bank (ADD) and the World Bank. At the Forum, the SSA was presented as a country-led programme which is the best guarantee for aid-effectiveness for foreign funding agencies.

**Committee for Examination of
Sachar Committee**

3918. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up a 13 member high level Committee to examine the education related recommendations made by the Sachar Committee;

(b) if so, the details of the terms and conditions of the said Committee; and

(c) the time by which the said Committee will submit its report?

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

(b) and (c) The Committee will examine the recommendations of the Sachar Committee concerning education, and prepare an appropriate plan of action. It has been given time till the 31st January, 2007 to submit its report.

[Translation]

Industrial Clusters

3919. SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is implementing any scheme for cluster development;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) number of clusters developed/to be developed and the amount incurred/likely to be incurred, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI) is for development of clusters of khadi, village and coir industries over a period of five years beginning 2005-06. The Scheme envisages need based assistance for replacement of production equipment, setting up of common facility centres (CFC), product development, quality improvement, improved marketing training and capacity building etc. The guidelines of SFURTI are available on the website of the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries at <http://ari.nic.in>.

(c) So far, 104 clusters of khadi (29), village

industries (50) and coir (25) have been approved under SFURTI. The State-wise details of approved clusters under SFURTI are at Statement. Details of funds sanctioned so far under SFURTI to the Nodal Agencies, i.e., Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) and Coir Board, are as under:

Year	Funds allocated			(Rs. crore)
	Others Regions	North-Eastern Region	Total	Sanctioned
2005-06	1.35	0.15	1.50	1.50
2006-07	23.37	2.60	25.97	12.53

Statement

State wise approved Clusters under SFURTI

Sl.No.	State	Khadi	Village Industries	Coir	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Haryana	1	2		3
2.	Himachal Pradesh	1	1		2
3.	Jammu and Kashmir	2	1		3
4.	Punjab	1	2		3
5.	Rajasthan	2	2		4
6.	Chandigarh				0
7.	Delhi				0
8.	Assam	1	3	1	5
9.	Manipur		1		1
10.	Meghalaya		1		1
11.	Nagaland	1	1		2
12.	Tripura		2		2
13.	Arunachal Pradesh		1		1
14.	Mizoram		1		1
15.	Sikkim		1		1
16.	Bihar	1	2		3
17.	Jharkhand	1	1		2
18.	Orissa		2	2	4

1	2	3	4	5	6
19.	West Bengal	2	2	1	5
20.	Andaman and Nicobar			1	1
21.	Madhya Pradesh	1	2		3
22.	Chhattisgarh		1		1
23.	Uttar Pradesh	3	5		8
24.	Uttaranchal	1	1		2
25.	Gujarat	1	1	1	3
26.	Maharashtra	1	2		3
27.	Daman and Diu				0
28.	Goa		1	1	2
29.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli				0
30.	Andhra Pradesh	2	4	2	8
31.	Karnataka	2	2	4	8
32.	Kerala	2	2	4	8
33.	Tamil Nadu	2	3	6	11
34.	Lakshadweep			1	1
35.	Pondicherry	1		1	2
Total		29	50	25	104

[English]

International Seminar on School Achievements

3920. SHRI RANEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether International Seminars on research in school effectiveness and learning achievement at primary stage are being organised at New Delhi on regular intervals;

(b) if so, the details thereof for each of the last three years;

(c) the details of issues discussed and suggestions made therein;

(d) whether the Government proposes to take some steps to implement the suggestions made in the Seminar; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) to (c) No, Sir. International Seminars on Research in School Effectiveness and Learning Achievement at Primary Stage are not organized on regular intervals. However, an International Workshop on Learning Assessment at Primary Level has been organized by NCERT in collaboration with UNESCO in New Delhi on November 28-30, 2006. The objectives of the Workshop were:

- To share National and International innovation and experiences on learning assessment;
- To share the draft of the sub-group on curricular areas at the primary level and on issues across the curriculum; and
- To bring out exemplar document on pupil assessment to facilitate the task of teachers in capturing children's learning

(d) and (e) The suggestions received from participants are being incorporated in the document being finalized by NCERT.

Data Base of the Indian Patents Controller Office

3921. DR. K.S. MANOJ:

DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA:

ADV. SURESH KURUP:

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

(a) whether the Government has taken note of the complaints regarding the data base of the Indian Patents Controller Office is not user friendly; and

(b) if so, the details of the measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to make the data base more user friendly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR):

(a) and (b) With a view to making the data base of the Indian Patent Office more user-friendly and to address existing deficiencies, a major process of computerization is being undertaken.

[Translation]

Assistance from Financial Federation

3922. SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the financial assistance provided to the Scheduled Tribes from the financial federation during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the dates on which Commission on Scheduled Tribes was set up separately;

(c) the dates on which the said Commission has submitted its report to Union Government; and

(d) the main recommendations of the said Commission alongwith the number of recommendations implemented?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs does not have any federation to provide financial assistance to Scheduled Tribes. However, the National Scheduled Tribes Finance & Development Corporation (NSTFDC), a public sector enterprise (PSE) under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, provides financial assistance to eligible Scheduled Tribes through channelizing agencies for their economic development.

(b) The National Commission for Scheduled Tribes has been set up under Article 338-A of the Constitution by bifurcation of the erstwhile National Commission for Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes on 19.2.2004.

(c) and (d) The National Commission for Scheduled Tribes has submitted its First Report for the year 2004-05 & 2005-06 to the Hon'ble President of India on 8.8.2006. The Commission has made 117 recommendations in its First Report. In terms of Section 6 of the Article 338 A of the Constitution, the President shall cause all such reports to be laid before each House of the Parliament along with a memorandum explaining the action taken or proposed to be taken on the recommendations relating to the Union and the reasons for non acceptance, if any, of any of such recommendation. Necessary follow-up action has been initiated by the Ministry accordingly.

India's Trade with Gulf Countries

3923. SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA:
SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI:

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

(a) the status of India's trade with Gulf countries during the last three years;

(b) whether India's trade with Gulf countries has increased during the current year;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken/likely to be taken by the Government during 11th Five Year Plan for further promotion of trade with the Gulf countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) As per the trade data compiled by DGCIS, Kolkata, the commodity trade turnover between India and the six Gulf countries of Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 amounted to \$10319.62 million, \$16878.45 million and \$19480.51 million respectively.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The commodity trade turnover between India and the Gulf countries between April to August 2006 amounted to \$9252.92 million as compared to \$7762.89 million during the corresponding period last year.

(d) Negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement with the Gulf countries have been initiated. The existing bilateral facilitative mechanisms like Joint Commissions and Joint Business Councils have been geared up to promote bilateral trade and strengthen business to business contacts.

Export of Medicines

3924. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:

SHRI TEK LAL MAHTO:

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

(a) whether Indian medicines are in high demand in foreign countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the total value of medicines exported during the last three years, medicine-wise, country-wise;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to maintain the quality, efficacy and standard of the medicines being exported;

(d) the percentage-wise details of the export of Ayurvedic, Unani and Homeopathic medicines and foreign exchange earned therefrom during the last three years;

(e) whether there is ample scope of export in this sector; and

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to promote export of the medicines?

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

(b) and (d) The details of export value of Indian medicines during the last three years are given below:-

Year	Amount (Rs. in crores)
2003-04	192.15
2004-05	387.92
2005-06 (till Sept., 06)	106.56

Large number of Indian medicines are being exported to countries like Ireland, USA, Russia, Nepal, UAE, Italy, Ukraine, Nigeria, etc. Percentage wise, export of Ayurvedic system of medicine is about 90% while for bio-chemic system it is about 5%. Homeopathic, Unani and Siddha systems constitute only 5% in total export of Indian medicines at present.

(c) To maintain the quality, efficacy and standards of medicines, many initiatives have been started by the Department of AYUSH. A notification prescribing the limits for heavy metal contents in the medicines exported from India has been issued recently.

(e) and (f) Yes Sir. Government, with a view to increase exports, has given benefits and supports to the exporters of drugs and pharmaceuticals by permitting import of raw materials required for the production and also granting benefits for exports under Foreign Trade Policy. Market Access Initiative and Marketing Developing Assistance schemes of Government are also available for promotion of exports of drugs and pharmaceutical items.

[English]

Rehabilitation Package for Women in Jail

3925. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal from the Ministry to grant amnesty to women undertrials and convicts who are languishing in prison and are 50 years of age or have served five years of their sentence period is in consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, whether any consultation held with the Home Ministry, Social Justice Ministry and Law Ministry in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereon;

(d) whether the Government plan to provide any rehabilitation package to women who are likely to be released from prison;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) The Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing a scheme for the rehabilitation of women in difficult circumstances which covered women prisoners released from jail who are without family support.

(f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Construction of Ashrams Building

3926. SHRI CHHATTAR SINGH DARBAR: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the States including Madhya Pradesh Government has sent a proposal to the Union Government of Ashram buildings;

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

(c) the time by which the Union Government is likely to accord approval to the said proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Women & Child Development does not have such scheme under which construction of Ashram buildings can be assisted. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has informed that it implements a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of 'Establishment of Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub Plan Areas' under which grant-in-aid is provided to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for construction of school buildings. The grant-in-aid is considered on receipt of complete proposals from State Governments in all respects and subject to availability of funds. The complete proposals received from State Governments during the last three years and grant-in-aid released thereon, State-wise is given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

Grant-in-aid released under the scheme of Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub-Plan Areas

(Rupees in lakhs)

Name of the States	2003-04			2004-05			2005-06		
	Amount	School	Seat	Amount	School	Seat	Amount	School	Seat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Andhra Pradesh	380	38	3800	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gujarat	-	-	-	86.49*	38.00	4560	200.00	Arrears	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Madhya Pradesh	-	-	-	300.00	Arrears	-	200.00	Arrears	-
Mahrashtra	-	-	-	86.00	Arrears	-	50.00	Arrears	-
Karnataka	-	-	-	77.51	Arrears	-	150.00	10	1250
Tripura	50.00	Arrears	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Uttaranchal	217	Arrears	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	647.00	38.00	3800	550.00	38	4560	600.00	10	1250

* Grant-in-aid have been released on instalments basis subject to availability of funds.

[English]

Trade with African Countries

3927. SHRI UDAY SINGH:

SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

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

(a) the details of the "Focus Africa Programme" launched by the Government last year and the extent to which it has succeeded in enhancing trade relations with African countries;

(b) whether China's aggressive investment and trade offensive has put our trade relations with African countries into jeopardy;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to enhance trade relations with African countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The "Focus Africa Programme" was launched on 31.3.2002 with focus on seven countries of Sub-Saharan African (SSA) Region, viz., South Africa, Nigeria, Mauritius, Tanzania, Kenya, Ghana and Ethiopia, as one of the initiatives for addressing the imperative to expand India's trade with Africa. With a view to further widen and deepen India's trade with Africa, the scope of this Programme was further extended w.e.f 1.4.2003 to Angola, Botswana, Ivory-Coast, Madagascar, Mozambique, Senegal, Seychelles, Uganda, Zambia, Namibia and Zimbabwe, along-with the six countries of North Africa, viz., Egypt, Libya, Tunisia, Sudan, Morocco and Algeria. Under this Programme, the Government extends assistance to exporters, Export Promotion Councils, etc., to visit countries in Africa, organize trade fairs and sponsors African trade delegation to visit India. The initiative has helped boost bilateral trade between India and African countries.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The measures that have been taken by the Government to enhance trade relations with African countries include strengthening of institutional arrangements, such as, Trade Agreements, Joint Commissions and Joint Trade Committees. Business to Business interactions have also been encouraged with a view to further enhance trade relations with African Countries.

Free/Preferential Trade Agreement

3928. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to review Foreign Trade Policy with a view to promoting agro-produce export and enhance farmers income from such export with compatibility to ensure availability of the essential commodities on fair prices in the domestic market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether National Development Council mandate was obtained prior to entering into Free/Preferential Trade Agreements in sectors covering Agriculture;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Kerala has been hit by several such agreements especially because of the type of perennial (crops and spice), which are facing deep fall in price; and

(f) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The Government encourages agro-produce exports through various instruments. At the same time Government is committed to ensure domestic availability of essential commodities.

(c) and (d) Prior to entering into Free / Preferential Trade Agreement in sectors covering agriculture, consultations are held with respective administrative Ministry or Department to finalize the items on which concessions can be offered, after obtaining clearance from the appropriate level.

(e) and (f) Import of Pepper and Clove under the FTA with Sri Lanka has only a insignificant impact on the production of these crops. To protect the interest of domestic pepper cultivators, government has imposed a TRQ ceiling of 2500 MT per annum for import of pepper, which is insignificant as compared to domestic production of above 70000 MT per annum.

Ozone Pack for Primary School

3929. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether UN has released ozone pack based on basic knowledge, practical skill and participation for primary schools to enable children to learn simple solutions to protect the ozone layer and safely enjoy the sun as reported in the Times of India dated September 19, 2006;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to introduce the package; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to introduce the said package in the primary schools?

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

(b) The ozone education pack was developed by United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Division of Technology, Industry and Economics.

This education pack has been developed to provide primary school teachers with a comprehensive and "ready-to-use" educational tool. It is aimed at helping them bring into their classroom the major environmental and human issues related to ozone layer depletion in a way that arouses children's curiosity and interest.

The materials contained in this Education Pack work together to offer the opportunity of a whole teaching and learning project, based on basic knowledge, practical skills and participation, for young children to be educated about (1) the natural role of the ozone layer (2) the causes and consequences of its depletion in terms of increased harmful solar radiation, how to prevent health threats by protecting the ozone layer and (3) concrete solutions concerning how

to be protected from the sun and adapt oneself to increased levels of UV radiation.

(c) No, Sir. This education pack has been received for information and reference.

(d) Does not arise.

Creches for Children of Sex Workers

3930. SHRI HITEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to open creches for the children of sex workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is also planning to give licenses to sex workers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) There is no proposal to open creches especially for the children of sex workers. However, the proposal of an NGO for opening 50 creches for HIV/Sex-Workers has been recently approved by the Government. Some Child Development and Care Centres for the Children of Prostitutes at Varanasi and Allahabad are being run under Innovative Programme of Central Social Welfare Board.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government at present.

(d) Does not arise.

Indian Institutes of Management

3931. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether V.K. Shunglu Committee set up by the Government to look into the financial structure of the IIM has given its report to the Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government on the recommendation of the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Shunglu Committee was set up to examine the additional requirements of funds and the financial structure of the IIMs, and financial and other related requirement of the proposed increase in the IIMs' intake capacity. The Committee's Report was deliberated upon by the Boards of Governors of the IIMs. Government took the view that respective Boards may fix fees as appropriate.

**Setting up of Plant at Chakan Signed
MoU with Germany**

3932. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether German car manufacturer Volkswagen and Maharashtra Government has entered into any agreement for setting up of manufacturing plant at Chakan near Pune; and

(b) 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. As per information provided by the Government of Maharashtra, Volkswagen proposes to invest approximately Rs 2000 crores, in phases, for setting up an automobile production unit at Chakan in District Pune.

[Translation]

**Welfare Centre for Women
and Children**

3933. SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of women and child development welfare centres in the country, State-wise;

(b) the number of such centres proposed to be opened during the years 2005-2006 and 2006-2007, State-wise details thereof;

(c) whether the States including Rajasthan has submitted any proposal to the Union Government to open more centres; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) There are no women and child development welfare centres in the country under Ministry of Women and Child Development.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[English]

**Death of Children due
to Hunger**

3934. SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether several children had died of hunger in the tribal district of Madhya Pradesh during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a Joint Commission of Inquiry instituted by the Commissioner of Supreme Court in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;

(e) the suggestions given the Commission to stop such incidents in future;

(f) the corrective steps taken by the Union Government to stop such hunger deaths in tribal districts of the country State-wise; and

(g) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) No such deaths have been reported by the Government of Madhya Pradesh.

(c) to (e) and (g) Yes, Sir. However, the Government of Madhya Pradesh has not received any report or suggestion from the Joint Commission of Inquiry so far.

(f) The draft National Tribal Policy envisages enhancing the availability of the Public Distribution System (PDS) and the Antyodaya Anna Yojana in tribal areas with transfer of management and ownership of PDS to the community with linkage with the NRE Guarantee programme. The draft National Tribal Policy also recognizes health care and malnutrition in tribal areas as a major challenge and envisages giving special attention to the health requirement of children below 6 years, providing immunization, preventing severe malnutrition as well as care of pregnant women and lactating mothers. Moreover, the Government is implementing a number of schemes, through different Ministries/Departments, to ensure food and nutritional security for the people including Children. Some of these are as under:

- (i) Targeted Public Distribution System and village Grain Bank Scheme (Department of Food & Public Distribution).
- (ii) National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme (Ministry of Rural Development).
- (iii) Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme (Ministry of Women & Child Development).
- (iv) National Programme for Nutritional Support of Primary Education (Mid Day Meal Scheme) [Department of Elementary Education & Literacy].

- (v) Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls in 51 districts to provide free foodgrains to undernourished adolescent girls and pregnant and nursing mothers (Ministry of Women & Child Development).
- (vi) Reproductive and Child Health Programme II under the National Rural Health Mission including Iron & Folic Acid and Vitamin A supplementation programmes and Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illnesses (Ministry of Health & Family Welfare).
- (vii) Nutrition Education and Training Programmes of Food and Nutrition Board (Ministry of Women & Child Development).

Patent Applications

3935. DR. R. SENTHIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether several companies are filing patent applications on different versions of drugs in different patent offices;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government is considering to hear these applications together by one patent office; and
- (d) if so, the details of the measures taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) No filing of different patent applications by any company on different versions of a drug in different branches of Patent Office has been reported so far by the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks.

(c) and (d) The application for a patent for an invention may be made by any person claiming to be the true and first inventor of the invention, or by the assignee of the right to make such an application or by the legal representative of any deceased person, who immediately before his death, was entitled to make such an application. Patent applications are processed by the Patent Office and its branches as per the provisions of the Patents Act, 1970, as amended last in 2005 and the Patents Rules, 2003, as amended last in 2006. Under Rule 4 of the Patents Rules, an applicant is required to file the application at the appropriate office which shall be the head office of the Patent Office or the branch office, as the case may be, within whose territorial limits (a) the applicant normally resides or has his domicile or has a place of business or the place from where the invention actually originated, or (b) if he has no place of business or domicile in India, the address for service in India is situated. As per

this rule, the appropriate office once decided shall not ordinarily be changed.

A patent application is examined only after publication under Section 11A and on the request of the applicant or any other interested person under section 11B of the Patents Act. As per Rule 24B, a request for examination can be filed any time within forty-eight months from the date of filing of the application. The Patent Office is required to take up the examination within one month of the date of filing of request for examination and the examination is to be made in the order in which the request is filed. Therefore, clubbing together of applications for examination would not be feasible. However, Patent Office, while examining the application under Section 12 of the Act for ascertaining novelty or prior art, can detect the existence of similar inventions in pending applications from the Patent Office Journal and take objection. A third party can also bring such matter to the notice of the Patent Office before the grant of a patent under Section 25(1) of the Patents Act. Further, a granted patent can be opposed under Section 25(2) of the Patents Act on the grounds of lack of novelty, inventive step, etc., within one year of the grant. A revocation proceeding can also be initiated in a court of law under Section 64 of the Act on the grounds of lack of novelty, inventive step, etc.

Survey on Children by WCD

3936. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the proposed survey by the Ministry of Women and Child Development to gauge the extent and magnitude of sexual, physical, mental and economic exploitation of children has been completed;
- (b) if so, the outcome thereof;
- (c) whether any help from the National Crime Records Bureau has been sought;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the manner in which Government is planning to go ahead with the results of the survey?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) At the initiative of the Ministry of Women & Child Development, PRAYAS, a voluntary organization has conducted a national level study with the assistance from UNICEF and Save the Children, UK, an international organization, on child abuse which include physical, mental, psychological, economic and sexual exploitation of children. The process of finalizing the report based on the study is on.

(c) and (d) The study is utilizing all relevant information and data available from all sources, including the National Crime Records Bureau.

(e) The Government will use the report in the best manner for formulation and implementation of policies, planning and programmes for children.

[Translation]

Funds for Agro and Rural Industries

3937. SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether several States have demanded more funds for setting up Agro & Rural Industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of funds released/likely to be released, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government (in the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries) provides funds for its two credit-linked subsidy schemes, namely, the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP), implemented by the Government through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC)

and the Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Yojana (PMRY), implemented through the States and Union Territories. Approximately, fifty per cent of the units established under PMRY (implemented in both rural and urban areas) are estimated to be in rural areas. These units are part of agro and rural industries sector.

REGP is a Central sector scheme and the approved grants are released to the KVIC which, in turn, releases the funds (towards margin money assistance) to the banks against the projects sanctioned in each State/Union Territory (UT). The State/UT-wise details of margin money assistance provided by KVIC under the REGP during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 are given in Statement-I. Under the PMRY, allocation of the subsidy and release of funds are based on the targets for States/UTs. The subsidy amount is released directly to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), which, in turn, releases the necessary amounts to the implementing banks. The amounts of subsidy released to the RBI during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 are given below:

Year	Subsidy released under PMRY (Rs. crore)
2003-04	147.63
2004-05	190.48
2005-06	251.36

The amounts of grant released to the States/UTs for entrepreneurial development and contingencies under the PMRY during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 are given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

State/Union Territory (UT)-wise details of margin money assistance provided under the REGP during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06

(Rs. lakh)				
S.No.	States/UTs	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5
I North Zone				
1	Chandigarh	10.24	21.45	3.63
2	Delhi	12.31	8.09	16.66
3	Haryana	1938.96	2142.25	1782.18
4	Himachal Pradesh	757.11	657.72	889.90
5	Jammu and Kashmir	363.45	584.55	833.56
6	Punjab	819.03	1834.63	837.21
7	Rajasthan	2890.28	2064.33	2679.91

1	2	3	4	5
II East Zone				
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	28.44	4.16	218.87
2	Bihar	186.03	281.69	570.54
3	Jharkhand	198.08	320.60	351.12
4	Orissa	784.11	863.05	837.22
5	West Bengal	1593.51	1999.62	2100.06
III North East Zone				
1	Arunachal Pradesh	52.77	66.03	126.54
2	Assam	806.83	1277.42	2719.99
3	Manipur	41.19	73.66	43.85
4	Meghalaya	121.79	196.03	234.14
5	Mizoram	61.10	257.48	995.54
6	Nagaland	117.20	204.46	286.22
7	Tripura	224.02	214.14	289.95
8	Sikkim	127.67	165.78	139.54
IV South Zone				
1	Andhra Pradesh	1675.40	3394.19	3627.58
2	Karnataka	1692.17	1063.83	1697.66
3	Kerala	2753.15	1027.95	1603.41
4	Lakshadweep	7.42	0.00	16.39
5	Pondicherry	11.38	9.05	12.66
6	Tamil Nadu	1362.17	1147.28	1217.13
V West Zone				
1	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	4.13	0.00	0.00
2	Goa	82.98	88.90	103.68
3	Gujarat	130.34	530.55	883.08
4	Maharashtra	873.25	1439.17	1596.48
VI Central Zone				
1	Chhattisgarh	1098.00	1000.91	1152.87
2	Madhya Pradesh	1355.07	2125.71	1114.33
3	Uttaranchal	979.70	578.63	617.86
4	Uttar Pradesh	3415.18	3596.64	2495.99
Grand Total		26574.46	29239.95	32095.75

Statement-II

States/UTs-wise details of grants released for entrepreneurial development and contingencies under the PMRY during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06

				(Rs. lakh)
Sl No.	States/UTs	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	191.44	293.34	176.72
2	Assam	58.97	100.71	77.80
3	Arunachal Pradesh	3.47	5.39	4.54
4	Bihar	101.54	19.87	0.00
5	Chhattisgarh	36.08	50.84	41.02
6	Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00
8	Gujarat	20.27	53.07	13.38
9	Haryana	68.99	74.20	45.64
10	Himachal Pradesh	19.48	5.12	15.03
11	Jammu and Kashmir	13.16	0.00	11.71
12	Jharkhand	0.00	34.56	0.06
13	Karnataka	148.93	173.19	124.08
14	Kerala	112.21	175.75	176.63
15	Madhya Pradesh	149.32	285.38	226.32
16	Maharashtra	191.31	173.92	128.04
17	Manipur	5.57	4.55	1.23
18	Meghalaya	7.10	8.29	8.22
19	Mizoram	3.61	3.24	8.22
20	Nagaland	1.00	17.12	22.03
21	Orissa	91.34	147.50	135.46
22	Punjab	78.18	81.45	55.67
23	Rajasthan	106.01	104.30	109.97
24	Tamil Nadu	147.94	136.75	155.28
25	Tripura	18.23	21.24	22.70
26	Uttar Pradesh	402.53	644.91	422.85

1	2	3	4	5
27	Uttaranchal	25.83	92.76	64.16
28	West Bengal	0.00	19.12	29.10
29	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1.06	2.51	0.55
30	Chandigarh	0.47	1.02	3.98
31	Daman and Diu	0.04	0.03	0.03
32	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.15	0.20	0.19
33	Lakshadweep	0.12	0.14	0.05
34	Pondicherry	5.37	4.74	0.57
35	Sikkim	0.48	0.25	0.89
Total		2010.20	2715.43	2082.12

** Approximately fifty per cent of the units established are estimated to be in rural areas.

[English]

Review of text books for schools

3938. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up a National Textbook Council to review textbooks for schools outside the Government system as reported in the Times of India dated December 02, 2006;

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

(c) the reasons for review of textbooks;

(d) the criteria adopted for selection of books for review;

(e) the time by which the review process will be completed;

(f) whether the National Textbooks Council also review textbooks of NCERT and SCERT;

(g) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(h) the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (h) A committee of Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) on 'Textbooks and Parallel Textbook Taught in School's Outside Government System' has recommended setting up of National Textbook Council (NTC) independent

of any organisation involved in textbook preparation, to monitor textbooks, and to provide a forum to the citizens to register their complaints regarding textbooks for investigation. The matter is under consideration.

Import by MMTC

3939. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the MMTC called for global tender to import wheat; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During the year 2006-07, 3 tenders for import of wheat were called by MMTC. Details of such tenders and action taken is as under:-

- (I) Tender dated 5.7.06 for 50,000 MTs
4 valid offers were received and the order was placed on the L1 bidder.
- (II) Tender dated 8.8.06 for 1,05,000 - 1,20,000 MTs
3 valid offers were received. Since the prices quoted were on the higher side, the tender was passed off.
- (III) Tender dated 27.10.06 for 25,000 - 35,000 MTs
No offers were received for this tender.

[Translation]

Reduction in Unemployment

3940. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme have been jointly formulated by the Ministry of Commerce & Industry and Rural Development and Finance to reduce unemployment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the target set under the said scheme; and

(d) the number of unemployed youths likely to get employment through the said scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[English]

Postal Stamps

3941. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to bring postal stamps on various women and children related problems to bring awareness between women and children in the country;

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

(c) the extent to which it will help in checking the increase of their problems in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Women and Child Development proposes to bring Postal Stamp to focus attention on issues relating to women and children.

(b) It is proposed to release the stamp at the national level.

(c) The release of stamp aims at awareness generation on issues relating to women and children.

Assistance to Schools

3942. SHRI G.V. HARSHA KUMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has released any draft Approach Paper for the 11th Five Year Plan (FYP);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether present private aided and unaided schools account for 58 per cent of the total number of secondary schools; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) An approach paper on 11th Plan prepared by the Planning Commission was approved by the National Development Council in its meeting held on 9.12.2006. The approach paper defines the objectives and Targets of the 11th Plan and identifies the associated challenges and implications for the formulation of detailed strategies for the 11th Plan by the centre and states. The monitorable Socio-Economic Targets for the 11th Plan identified in the Approach Paper are given in Statement-I.

*(c) As per data for 2003-04, the number of private aided and unaided secondary schools in the country were 88552 as against the total number of 145962 schools and their percentage, thus, was 60.67%.

*(d) The state-wise details are given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

Monitorable Socio-Economic Targets of the 11th Plan

Income and Poverty

- Accelerate growth rate of GDP from 8% to 10% and then maintain at 10% in the 12th Plan in order to double per capita income by 2016-17;
- Increase agricultural GDP growth rate to 4% per year to ensure a broader spread of benefits;
- Create 70 million new work opportunities;
- Reduce educated unemployment to below 5%;
- Raise real wage rate of unskilled workers by 20 per cent;
- Reduce the headcount ratio of consumption poverty by 10 percentage points.

Education

- Reduce drop out rates of children from elementary school from 52.2% in 2003-04 to 20% by 2011-12;
- Develop minimum standards of educational attainment in elementary school, and by regular testing monitor effectiveness of education to ensure quality;
- Increase literacy rate for persons of age 7 years or more to 85%;
- Lower gender gap in literacy to 10 percentage points;

* The reply was subsequently corrected through a Correcting Statement made in the House on 15.05.2007 and was also placed in Library under LT No. 6560/2007. Therefore part (c) and (d) have been corrected as under :

(c) As per data for 2003-04, the number of private aided and unaided secondary schools in the country were 58,631 out of the total number 99,140 schools and their percentage thus was 59.14%.

(d) Revised Statement-II is enclosed.

- Increase the percentage of each cohort going to higher education from the present 10% to 15% by the end of the 11th Plan.

Health

- Reduce infant mortality rate (IMR) to 28 and maternal mortality ratio (MMR) to 1 per 1000 live births;
- Reduce Total Fertility Rate to 2.1;
- Provide clean drinking water for all by 2009 and ensure that there are no slip-backs by the end of the 11th Plan;
- Reduce malnutrition among children of age group 0-3 to half its present level;
- Reduce anemia among women and girls by 50% by the end of the 11th Plan.

Women and Children

- Raise the sex ratio for age group 0-6 to 935 by 2011-12 and to 950 by 2016-17;
- Ensure that at least 33 per cent of the direct and indirect beneficiaries of all government schemes are women and girl children;
- Ensure that all children enjoy a safe childhood, without any compulsion to work.

Infrastructure

- Ensure electricity connection to all villages and BPL households by 2009 and round-the-clock power by the end of the Plan;
- Ensure all weather road connection to all habitation with population 1000 and above (500 in hilly and tribal areas) by 2009, and ensure coverage of all significant habitation by 2015;
- Connect every village by telephone by November 2007 and provide broadband connectivity to all villages by 2012;
- Provide homestead sites to all by 2012 and step up the pace of house construction for rural poor to cover all the poor by 2016-17.

Environment

- Increase forest and tree cover by 5 percentage points;
- Attain WHO standards of air quality in all major cities by 2011-12;
- Treat all urban waste water by 2011-12 to clean river waters;
- Increase energy efficiency by 20 percentage points by 2016-17.

Statement-II**State-wise Private Aided and Unaided Secondary Schools during 2003-004**

S. No.	Name of the States	No. of Private Aided and Unaided Secondary Schools	Total No. of Secondary Schools
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	4867	13160
2	Arunachal Pradesh	27	130
3	Assam	1820	4607
4	Bihar	103	2939
5	Chhattisgarh	449	1227
6	Goa	289	363
7	Gujarat	4846	5214
8	Haryana	1557	3344
9	Himachal Pradesh	356	1309
10	Jammu and Kashmir	523	1550
11	Jharkhand	0	300
12	Karnataka	5983	9012
13	Kerala	1878	2871
14	Madhya Pradesh	2258	4495
15	Maharashtra	12715	13773
16	Manipur	356	540
17	Meghalaya	494	575
18	Mizoram	160	443
19	Nagaland	206	331
20	Orissa	3316	6938
21	Punjab	517	2282
22	Rajasthan	2878	6224
23	Sikkim	2	82
24	Tamil Nadu	2786	4859
25	Tripura	21	409

1	2	3	4
26	Uttar Pradesh	4687	5018
27	Uttaranchal	229	768
28	West Bengal	4939	4948
29	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2	45
30	Chandigarh	21	70
31	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	4	13
32	Daman and Diu	6	22
33	Delhi	268	466
34	Lakshadweep	0	9
35	Pondicherry	68	138
Total		58631	99140

**Malnourished Kids as per
Washington Report**

3943. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to a report released globally by the Washington based International Food Policy Institute, India has been ranked from the bottom of the world on malnourished kids;

(b) if so, the facts thereabout; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) The International Food Policy Research Institute, Washington has published the Global Hunger Index (GHI), capturing 3 dimensions of hunger: insufficient availability of food, shortfalls in the nutritional status of children and child mortality. In the Index, information available from the reports of FAO 2005, WHO 2006 and UNICEF 2005 has been used. India ranks 93rd in the said GHI.

(c) The Government is undertaking several steps to ensure food security and improve the health and nutritional status of children. Some of these are as under:

- (i) Increase in production of various foods (Ministry of Agriculture).
- (ii) Targeted Public Distribution System (Department of Food & Public Distribution).

(iii) National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme (Ministry of Rural Development).

(iv) Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme (Ministry of Women & Child Development).

(v) National Programme for Nutritional Support to Primary Education (Mid Day Meal Scheme) [Department of Elementary Education & Literacy].

(vi) Reproductive and Child Health Programme-II under the National Rural Health Mission including Iron and Folic Acid and Vitamin A Supplementation Programmes and Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illness (Ministry of Health & Family Welfare).

(vii) National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme (Ministry of Health & Family Welfare).

(viii) Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls in 51 districts to provide free foodgrains to undernourished adolescent girls and pregnant and nursing mothers (Ministry of Women & Child Development).

(ix) Nutrition Education and Training Programmes of Food and Nutrition Board (Ministry of Women & Child Development).

(x) Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme/Swajaldhara and Total Sanitation Campaign (Ministry of Rural Development).

Electronic Industry

3944. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether electronics industry in the country has urged the Government to take another look at the inverted duty structure and labour law reforms to help the sector to grow;

(b) if so, the details of the suggestions made; and

(c) the action Government proposes to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir, Suggestions are received from the Electronics Industry as well as Industry Associations regarding inverted tariff structure and labour law reforms to help the sector to grow. The Government takes appropriate action on such suggestions after due consideration, which is an ongoing, exercise.

National Virtual University

3945. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the aims and objectives of the National Virtual University proposed to set up by UGC;
- (b) the manner by which Virtual University proposes to address the three main crisis i.e., accessibility, acceptability and affordability in higher education;
- (c) whether the proposed University would undertake any research programme; and
- (d) if so, the details thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The University Grants Commission has no such proposal.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Trading in Tobacco

3946. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is contemplating permission for undertaking trading activities in tobacco products by foreign companies through RBI route; and
- (b) if so, the Government's objective of discouraging consumption of tobacco is contrary to the public health policy of the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) FDI in wholesale/cash & carry trading of goods is allowed on the automatic route. There is no separate policy for trading of tobacco/tobacco products.

(b) The cigarette consumption and trade is regulated through various measures such as Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003.

Change of Name

3947. SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to ban the change of one's name more than once;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to simplify the procedure in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) to (c) No Sir, there is no such proposal. The Registration of Births and Deaths (RBD) Act, 1969, however, does not permit changing the name in the birth register/certificate.

Common Trade Mark for Basmati Rice

3948. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India and Pakistan are likely to get a common trademark for Basmati Rice, as they agreed to jointly file a case to claim intellectual property rights (IPR) over it worldwide;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether a 'Joint Study Group' in consultation with Pakistan on the Joint Registration of Basmati has been formed by India; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) No, Sir. India and Pakistan have not entered into any agreement to file a case to claim Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) for obtaining a common trademark for Basmati rice.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) India has constituted a team for the 'Joint Study Group' to study the issues relating to joint registration of Geographical Indication for Basmati Rice by India and Pakistan:

- i. Joint Secretary, Export Promotion (Agriculture) division, Department of Commerce
- ii. Chairman, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA)
- iii. Director, Trade Policy Division, Department of Commerce
- iv. Director (Pak), Ministry of External Affairs
- v. Deputy Secretary, Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion
- vi. Deputy Secretary, Foreign Trade (South Asia) division, Department of Commerce

Sexual Health Programme in Schools

3949. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to start Adolescence and Reproductive Sexual Health Programme in Schools;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which this programme will be implemented in all schools in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) Ministry of Human Resource Development has launched "Adolescence Education Programme" (AEP) which is being implemented by all the States and Union territories of the country. Besides State/UT Governments, National Council of Educational Research & Training (NCERT), Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS), Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS), National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) and Council of Boards of School Education in India (COBSE) are also involved in implementation of this programme.

The framework of the Programme incorporates three major concerns of adolescence; (i) Process of Growing up during adolescence, (ii) Prevention of HIV/AIDS and (iii) Prevention of Substance (Drug) Abuse. These include the crucial issues related to reproductive & sexual health. The programme is meant for the students of secondary and higher secondary schools and is an effort to help the students acquire life skills so that they avoid risky situations and take informed decisions and develop healthy and responsible behaviour.

The overarching objective of AEP is two-fold (i) to integrate adolescence education elements in school curriculum from primary to senior secondary stages, teacher education course and materials of adult literacy programmes and (ii) to organize life skills based co-curricular activities in the secondary and higher secondary schools.

(c) The present phase of Adolescence Education Programme aims at covering all the Government and Government-aided secondary and higher secondary schools of the country. Coverage of all such schools depends on the pace of implementation by the respective State/UT Governments.

State Trading Corporation

3950. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the procurement by State Trading Corporation of India Ltd. is in consonance with the laid down criteria;

(b) if not, whether any instance of violation of criteria

laid down in this regard has come to the notice of the Government;

(c) if so, the action taken in this regard; and

(d) the loss suffered by the exchequer in supplying humanitarian aid to the Government of Tajikistan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) STC has informed that its procurement is in consonance with laid down criteria.

(b) to (d) The Comptroller and Auditor General, in their audit report has observed that the exchequer had suffered loss in supplying humanitarian aid to the Government of Tajikistan. However, according to STC, no such loss has occurred to the exchequer.

Foreign Direct Investment

3951. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:
SHRIMATI KARUNA SHUKLA:
SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK:
SHRI UDAY SINGH:
SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA:
SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV:
SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:
SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA:
SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPAPARAI:
SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE:

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

(a) whether the Union Government has formulated guidelines governing Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in various sectors;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether investors can withdraw the funds and their profits any time out of the country;

(d) if not, the details of lock-in-period;

(e) whether there is a security clamour against investments from any country;

(f) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(g) the details of investment inflow from NRI and FDI into the country during each of the last three years, country-wise and sector-wise; and

(h) the share of investment through FDI & NRI in total investment in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF

INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR):
 (a) and (b) The extant policy for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in various sectors has been notified vide Press Note 4 (2006 Series) dated 10-2-2006. A copy is given in the Statement-I attached. The policy is subject to sector-specific regulations/guidelines notified by various Ministries/Departments of the Central Government.

(c) and (d) The policy allows full repatriation of investments and profits. The policy imposes a 3 year lock-in-period on original investments in a few sectors, such as defence production and construction development projects.

(e) and (f) FDI policy is incorporated in the Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer or Issue of Security by a Person Resident Outside India) Regulations 2000 under the Foreign Exchange Management Act. These Regulations indicate the countries from where investment is not permitted.

(g) The inflows of FDI, including investment by NRIs, during the last 3 years, country-wise & sector-wise is given in the Statement-II attached.

(h) National Accounts Statistics, 2006 released by the Central Statistical Organisation show the Gross Capital Formation (GCF) at current prices for 2004-05 as Rs.889245 crore. The FDI inflows into India as per Secretariat for Industrial Approvals (SIA) data for 2004-2005 was Rs. 17,138 crores.

Statement-I

*Government of India
 Ministry of Commerce & Industry
 Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion
 SIA (FC Division)*

Press Note No. 4 (2006 Series)

Subject: Rationalisation of the FDI Policy

The policy on Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) has been reviewed on a continuing basis and several measures announced from time to time for rationalization /liberalization of the policy and simplification of procedures.

2. Government of India has recently further reviewed the policy on FDI and decided as under:

- a. To allow under the automatic route, FDI up to 100% for:
 - i. distillation & brewing of potable alcohol;
 - ii. manufacture of industrial explosives;
 - iii. manufacture of hazardous chemicals;
 - iv. manufacturing activities located within 25

kms of the Standard Urban Area limits which require Industrial license under the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951;

- v. setting up Greenfield airport projects;
 - vi. laying of Natural Gas/LNG pipelines, market study & formulation and investment financing in the Petroleum & Natural Gas sector; and
 - vii. cash & carry wholesale trading and export trading.
- b. To increase FDI caps to 100% and permit it under the automatic route for:
 - i. coal & lignite mining for captive consumption;
 - ii. setting up infrastructure relating to marketing in Petroleum & Natural Gas sector; and
 - iii. exploration and mining of diamonds & precious stones.
 - c. To allow FDI up to 100% under the automatic route in
 - i. power trading subject to compliance with Regulations under the Electricity Act, 2003;
 - ii. processing and warehousing of coffee and rubber.
 - d. To allow FDI up to 51% with prior Government approval for retail trade of 'Single Brand' products, detailed guidelines for which have been notified vide Press Note 3 (2006 Series).
 - e. To allow under the automatic route transfer of shares from residents to non-residents in financial services, and where Securities & Exchange Board of India (Substantial Acquisition of Shares & Takeovers) Regulations, 1997 are attracted, in cases where approvals are required from the Reserve Bank of India/Securities & Exchange Board of India (Substantial Acquisition of Shares & Takeovers) Regulations, 1997/Insurance Regulatory & Development Authority. With this, transfer of shares from residents to non-residents, including acquisition of shares in an existing company would be on the automatic route subject to sectoral policy on FDI.
 - f. To dispense with the requirement of mandatory divestment of 26% foreign equity in B2B e-Commerce.
3. FDI/NRI investment under the automatic route shall continue to be governed by the Sectoral regulations/licensing requirements.
 4. A summary of the FDI policy and regulations applicable in various sectors/activities is at the Annex.*

(Umesh Kumar)

Joint Secretary to the Government of India

F. No. 5(3)/2Q05-FC

Dated 10th February, 2006.

* Policy in Section 'A'.

Policy on Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)**I. Sectors prohibited for FDI**

- i. Retail trading (except Single Brand Product retailing)
- ii. Atomic energy
- iii. Lottery business
- iv. Gambling and Betting

II. All Activities/ Sectors would require prior Government approval for FDI in the following circumstances:

i. where provisions of Press Note 1 (2005 Series) are attracted;

ii. where more than 24% foreign equity is proposed to be inducted for manufacture of items reserved for the Small Scale sector.

III. In Sectors/Activities not listed below, FDI is permitted up to 100 % on the automatic route subject to sectoral rules / regulations applicable.

IV. Sector-specific policy for FDI: In the following sectors/activities, FDI upto the limit indicated below is allowed subject to other conditions as indicated:

S.No.	Sector/Activity	FDI Cap/ Equity	Entry Route	Other conditions	Relevant Press Note issued by Deptt. of IPP www.dipp.gov.in
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Airports-				
a.	Greenfield projects	100%	Automatic	Subject to sectoral regulations notified by Ministry of Civil Aviation www.civilaviation.nic.in	PN 4/2006
b.	Existing projects	100%	FIPB beyond 74%	Subject to sectoral regulations notified by Ministry of Civil Aviation www.civilaviation.nic.in	PN 4/2006
2.	Air Transport Services	49%- FDI; 100%- for NRI investment	Automatic	Subject to no direct or indirect participation by foreign airlines. Government of India Gazette Notification dated 2.11.2004 issued by Ministry of Civil Aviation www.civilaviation.nic. in	PN 4/2006
3.	Alcohol-Distillation & Brewing	100%	Automatic	Subject to license by appropriate authority	PN 4/2006
4.	Asset Reconstruction Companies	49% (only FDI)	FIPB	Where any individual investment exceeds 10% of the equity, provisions of Section 3(3)(f) of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 should be complied with. www.finmin.nic.in	

1	2	3	4	5	6
5.	Atomic Minerals	74%	FIPB	Subject to guidelines issued by Department of Atomic Energy vide Resolution No. 8/1(I)/97-PSU/1422 dated 6.10.98.	
6.	Banking-Private sector	74% (FDI+FII)	Automatic	Subject to guidelines for setting up branches/ subsidiaries of foreign banks issued by RBI. www.rbi.org.in	PN 2/2004
7.	Broadcasting				
a.	FM Radio	FDI+FII investment up to 20%	FIPB	Subject to Guidelines notified by Ministry of Information & Broadcasting www.mib.nic.in	PN 6/2005
b.	Cable network	49% (FDI+FII)	FIPB	Subject to Cable Television Network Rules (1994) Notified by Ministry of Information & Broadcasting www.mib.nic.in	
c.	Direct-To-Home	49% (FDI+FII). Within this limit. FDI component not to exceed 20%	FIPB	Subject to guidelines issued by Ministry of Information & Broadcasting www.mib.nic.in	
d.	Setting up hardware facilities such as up-linking, HUB, etc.	49% (FDI+FII)	FIPB	Subject to Up-linking Policy notified by Ministry of Information & Broadcasting www.mib.nic.in	PN 1/2006
e.	Up-linking a News & Current Affairs TV Channel	26% FDI+FII	FIPB	Subject to guidelines issued by Ministry of Information & Broadcasting www.mib.nic.in	PN 1/2006
f.	Up-linking a Non-news & Current Affairs TV Channel	100%	FIPB	Subject to guidelines issued by Ministry of Information & Broadcasting www.mib.nic.in	PN 1/2006
8.	Cigars & Cigarettes-Manufacture	100%	FIPB	Subject to industrial license under the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951	PN 4/2006

1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	Coal & Lignite mining for captive consumption by power projects, and iron & steel, cement production and other eligible activities permitted under the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973.	100%	Automatic	Subject to provisions of Coal Mines (Nationalization) Act, 1973 www.coal.nic.in	PN 4/2006
10.	Coffee & Rubber processing & warehousing	100%	Automatic		PN 4/2006
11.	Construction Development projects, including housing, commercial premises, resorts, educational institutions, recreational facilities, city and regional level infrastructure, townships.	100%	Automatic	Subject to conditions notified vide Press Note 2 (2005 Series) including: a. minimum capitalization of US\$ 10 million for wholly owned subsidiaries and US\$ 5 million for joint venture. The funds would have to be brought within six months of commencement of business of the Company. b. Minimum area to be developed under each project- 10 hectares in case of development of serviced housing plots; and built-up area of 50,000 sq. mts. in case of construction development project and any of the above in case of a combination project. [Note: For investment by NRIs, the conditions mentioned in Press Note 2/2005 are not applicable.]	PN 2/2005 & PN 2/2006
12.	Courier services for carrying packages, parcels and other items which do not come within the ambit of the Indian Post Office Act, 1898.	100%	FIPB	Subject to existing laws and exclusion of activity relating to distribution of letters, which is exclusively reserved for the State. www.indiapost.gov.in	PN 4/2001

1	2	3	4	5	6
13.	Defence production	26%	FIPB	Subject to licensing under Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951 and guidelines on FDI in production of arms & ammunition.	PN4/2001& PN 2/2002
14.	Floriculture, Horticulture, Development of Seeds, Animal Husbandry, Pisciculture, aqua-culture, cultivation of vegetables, mushrooms, under controlled conditions and services related to agro and allied sectors.	100%	Automatic		PN 4/2006
15.	Hazardous chemicals, viz., hydrocyanic acid and its derivatives; phosgene and its derivatives; and isocyanates and diisocyanates of hydrocarbon.	100%	Automatic	Subject to industrial license under the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951 and other sectoral regulations.	PN 4/2006
16.	Industrial explosives-Manufacture	100%	Automatic	Subject to industrial license under Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951 and regulations under Explosives Act, 1898	PN 4/2006
17.	Insurance	26%	Automatic	Subject to licensing by the Insurance Regulatory & Development Authority www.irda.nic.in	PN 10/2000
18.	Investing companies in infrastructure/ services sector (except telecom sector)	49%	FIPB	Foreign investment in an investing company will not be counted towards sectoral cap in infrastructure/services sector provided the investment is up to 49% and the management of the company is in Indian hands	PN 2/2000 & PN 5/2005

1	2	3	4	5	6
19.	Mining covering exploration and mining of diamonds & precious stones; gold, silver and minerals.	100%	Automatic	Subject to Mines & Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 www.mines.nic.in Press Note 18 (1998) and Press Note 1 (2005) are not applicable for setting up 100% owned subsidiaries in so far as the mining sector is concerned, subject to a declaration from the applicant that he has no existing joint venture for the same area and/or the particular mineral.	PN 2/2000, PN 3/2005, & PN 4/2006
20.	Non Banking Finance Companies - approved activities				
(i)	Merchant banking	100%	Automatic	Subject to:	PN 2/2000
(ii)	Underwriting			a. minimum	PN 6/2000, &
(iii)	Portfolio Management Services			capitalization norms for fund based NBFCs - US\$ 0.5 million to be brought upfront for FDI up to 51%; US\$ 5 million to be brought upfront for FDI above 51% and up to 75% and US\$ 50 million out of which US\$ 7.5 million to be brought upfront and the balance in 24 months for FDI beyond 75% and up to 100%	PN 2/2001
(iv)	Investment Advisory Services			b. minimum capitalization norms for non-fund based NBFC	
(v)	Financial Consultancy			activities- US\$ 0.5 million	
(vi)	Stock Broking			c. foreign investors can set up 100% operating subsidiaries without the condition to disinvest a minimum of 25% of its equity to Indian entities subject to bringing in Under Secretary US\$50 million without any restriction on number of operating subsidiaries without bringing additional capital.	
(vii)	Asset Management			d. joint venture operating NBFC's that have 75% or	
(viii)	Venture Capital				
(ix)	Custodial Services				
(x)	Factoring				
(xi)	Credit Reference Agencies				
(xii)	Credit Rating Agencies				
(xiii)	Leasing & Finance				
(xiv)	Housing Finance				
(xv)	Forex Broking				
(xvi)	Credit card business				
(xvii)	Money changing business				
(xviii)	Micro credit				
(xix)	Rural credit				

1	2	3	4	5	6
				less than 75% foreign investment will also be allowed to set up subsidiaries for undertaking other NBFC activities subject to the subsidiaries also complying with the applicable minimum capital inflow. e. compliance with the guidelines of the RBI.	
21.	Petroleum & Natural Gas sector				
a.	Other than Refining and including market study and formulation; investment/financing; setting up infrastructure for marketing in Petroleum & Natural Gas sector	100%	Automatic	Subject to sectoral regulations issued by Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, and in the case of actual trading and marketing of petroleum products, divestment of 26% equity in favour of Indian partner/public within 5 years www.petroleum.nic.in	PN 1/2004 & PN 4/2008
b.	Refining	26% in case of PSUs 100% in case of Private companies	FIPB (in case of PSUs) Automatic (in case of private companies)	Subject to Sectoral policy www.petroleum.nic.in	PN 2/2000
22.	Print Media -				
a.	Publishing of newspaper and periodicals dealing with news and current affairs	26%	FIPB	Subject to Guidelines notified by Ministry of Information & Broadcasting. www.mib.nic.in	
b.	Publishing of scientific magazines/ specialty journals/ periodicals	100%	FIPB	Subject to guidelines issued by Ministry of Information & Broadcasting. www.mib.nic.in	PN 1/2004
23.	Power including generation (except Atomic energy), transmission, distribution and Power Trading.	100%	Automatic	Subject provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003 www.powermin.nic.in	PN 2/1998, PN 7/2000, & PN 4/2008

1	2	3	4	5	6
24.	Tea Sector, including tea plantation	100%	FIPB	Subject to divestment of 26% equity in favour of Indian partner/Indian public within 5 years and prior approval of State Government for change in land use.	PN 6/2002
25.	Telecommunications				
a.	Basic and cellular, Unified Access Services, National/International Long Distance, V-Sat, Public Mobile Radio Trunked Services (PMRTS), Global Mobile Personal Communications Services (GMPCS) and other value added telecom services	74% (including FDI, FII, NRI, FCCBs, ADRs, GDRs, convertible preference shares, and proportionate foreign equity in Indian promoters/ Investing Company)	Automatic up to 49%. FIPB beyond 49%	Subject to guidelines notified in the PN 5(2005 Series)	PN 5/2005
b.	ISP with gateways, radio-paging, end-to-end bandwidth.	74%	Automatic up to 49%. FIPB beyond 49%	Subject to licensing and security requirements notified by the Department of Telecommunications www.dotindia.com	PN 4/2001
c.	ISP without gateway, infrastructure provider providing dark fibre, electronic mail and voice mail	100%	Automatic up to 49%. FIPB beyond 49%	Subject to the condition that such companies shall divest 26% of their equity in favour of Indian public in 5 years, if these companies are listed in other parts of the world. Also subject to licensing and security requirements, where required. www.dotindia.com	PN 9/2000
d.	Manufacture of telecom equipments	100%	Automatic	Subject to sectoral requirements. www.dotindia.com	PN 2/2000
26.	Trading				
a.	Wholesale/cash & carry trading	100%	Automatic	Subject to guidelines for FDI in trading issued by Department of Industrial	PN 4/2006
b.	Trading for exports	100%	Automatic	Policy & Promotion vide Press Note 3 (2006 Series)	

1	2	3	4	5	6
c.	Trading of items sourced from small scale sector	100%	FIPB		
d.	Test marketing of such items for which a company has approval for manufacture	100%	FIPB		
e.	Single Brand product retailing	51%	FIPB		
27.	Satellites - Establishment and operation	74%	FIPB	Subject to Sectoral guidelines issued by Department of Space/ISRO www.isro.org	
28.	Special Economic Zones and Free Trade Warehousing Zones covering setting up of these Zones and setting up units in the Zones	100%	Automatic	Subject to Special Economic Zones Act, 2005 and the Foreign Trade Policy. www.sezindia.nic.in	PN 9 / 2000; PN 2 /2006; & PN 4/2006

Statement-II*Financial Year Wise of FDI Inflows from April 2003 to September 2006*

(Amount Rs. in Crore)

Sl.No.	Country	2003-04 Apr-Mar	2004-05 Apr-Mar	2005-06 Apr-Mar	2006-07 Apr-Sep	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Australia	91.30	84.98	41.33	132.78	350.40
2	Austria	9.26	21.87	7.19	0.02	38.35
3	Bahamas	12.05	26.04	2.69	0.00	40.78
4	Bahrain	49.25	0.00	1.01	0.21	50.46
5	Belgium	81.98	2.47	54.00	2.71	141.16
6	Belorussia	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.75	8.75
7	Bermuda	3.24	12.07	0.76	17.36	33.44
8	Brazil	0.00	0.11	0.14	0.00	0.25
9	Bulgaria	0.01	0.63	0.00	0.00	0.64
10	Canada	46.50	65.64	53.73	57.36	223.23
11	Cayman Island	91.15	38.27	132.55	57.66	319.63

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
12	Channel Island	3.00	2.45	18.58	0.19	24.22
13	China	0.26	5.98	4.17	2.68	13.09
14	Croatia	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01
15	Czech Republic	0.00	0.00	0.44	0.00	0.44
16	Cyprus	16.29	12.09	309.97	94.66	433.00
17	Denmark	63.63	95.49	207.14	7.17	373.43
18	Finland	0.03	6.69	14.77	6.03	27.52
19	Chile	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.14	7.14
20	France	176.27	536.78	82.20	178.25	973.49
21	Greece	0.01	0.01	0.24	0.01	0.27
22	Germany	373.40	663.18	1,344.53	175.02	2,556.14
23	Hongkong	97.74	49.23	116.36	108.64	371.97
24	Hungary	0.00	0.00	0.47	0.01	0.48
25	Indonesia	8.27	1.28	4.71	0.41	14.67
26	Ireland	4.90	3.95	40.24	63.41	112.50
27	Isle of Man	0.76	2.00	1.97	0.00	4.73
28	Israel	1.12	0.56	20.00	0.65	22.33
29	Italy	25.00	124.86	179.39	162.09	491.35
30	Liechtenstein	3.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.06
31	Japan	360.45	575.19	925.07	179.09	2,039.80
32	Kazakhstan	0.00	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.10
33	Korea (North)	0.00	1.50	0.10	0.00	1.60
34	Lebanon	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.87	0.88
35	Korea (South)	109.94	157.04	269.05	160.36	696.39
36	Kuwait	0.42	7.25	0.87	12.37	20.92
37	Luxembourg	17.16	2.09	25.85	12.35	57.45
38	Malaysia	217.36	36.50	31.10	15.98	300.95
39	Mauritius	2,608.68	5,141.36	11,441.07	11,692.68	30,883.80
40	Mexico	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.17
41	Maldives	0.01	0.00	13.06	0.01	13.08
42	NRI	72.53	296.29	2,288.68	508.12	3,165.61

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
43	Nepal	0.00	0.35	0.00	0.00	0.35
44	Netherlands	2,247.32	1,216.81	340.37	445.95	4,250.46
45	Nevis	0.00	0.00	83.96	0.00	83.96
46	New Zealand	0.00	0.49	0.55	0.13	1.17
47	Nigeria	4.50	2.14	0.00	1.80	8.45
48	Norway	0.58	0.62	2.53	18.90	22.63
49	Oman	37.44	24.86	3.04	0.00	65.35
50	Panama	0.00	0.06	10.60	0.00	10.66
51	Philippines	0.00	1.29	0.73	0.00	2.02
52	Poland	1.10	0.25	7.04	0.00	8.39
53	Portugal	0.00	0.00	0.56	0.89	1.45
54	Qatar	0.05	0.35	0.00	0.00	0.40
55	Russia	0.20	1.21	1.61	117.47	120.49
56	Saudi Arabia	28.20	0.20	3.95	0.19	32.53
57	Singapore	171.73	821.73	1,218.24	2,232.63	4,444.32
58	Scotland	0.00	0.00	8.79	0.00	8.79
59	South Africa	11.75	20.93	97.30	165.30	295.28
60	Slovakia	0.00	7.93	0.00	0.00	7.93
61	Spain	9.15	27.54	38.05	120.95	195.70
62	Sri Lanka	0.00	1.68	2.10	0.62	4.40
63	Sweden	187.34	338.19	137.00	18.53	681.06
64	Switzerland	206.61	353.38	425.83	172.16	1,157.98
65	Taiwan	2.63	12.76	4.26	0.59	20.25
66	Thailand	5.63	11.17	21.87	11.32	49.99
67	Turkey	0.19	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.23
68	U.A.E.	77.33	177.71	219.41	313.70	788.15
69	U.K.	768.54	458.34	1,164.13	519.17	2,910.18
70	U.S.A.	1,658.25	3,055.31	2,209.83	1,860.93	8,784.32
71	Ukraine	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.01	0.06
72	Venezuela	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
73	Uruguay	0.00	0.00	6.33	7.25	13.58

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
74	British Virginia	9.61	6.52	24.26	135.89	176.28
75	West Indies	0.00	1.10	130.97	9.21	141.27
76	Yugoslavia	0.00	0.47	0.00	0.00	0.47
77	Unindicated Country	12.94	74.48	615.79	316.83	1,020.03
78	Malta	0.42	0.09	0.02	0.00	0.52
79	Iran	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01
80	Tanzania	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
81	Georgia	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01
82	Gibraltar	0.01	10.08	37.03	0.00	47.12
83	Jordon	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.28	0.31
84	Vietnam	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03
85	Ice Land	0.80	0.00	78.03	0.00	78.83
86	Kenya	4.62	0.00	0.04	0.73	5.39
87	Egypt	0.00	0.07	0.22	0.00	0.29
88	Yaman	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.04
89	Cuba	0.01	2.15	2.16	0.00	4.31
90	Liberia	0.00	0.00	48.64	0.14	48.78
91	Mayanmar	0.23	0.00	0.00	0.58	0.82
92	Moracco	69.97	0.00	0.00	0.01	69.98
93	Columbia	0.01	0.00	1.09	0.00	1.11
94	British Isles	0.00	22.68	1.21	0.00	23.89
95	Aruba	1.74	0.22	0.00	0.00	1.96
96	Virgin Islands	0.00	0.58	0.00	4.39	4.97
97	Peru	0.00	0.16	0.04	0.00	0.20
98	Tunisia	0.00	19.84	0.00	0.00	19.84
99	Uganda	0.00	0.41	3.12	0.00	3.52
100	Seychelles	0.00	4.47	0.00	0.00	4.47
101	West Africa	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.00	0.07
102	Fiji Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.63	13.63
103	East Africa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
104	Advance of Inflow *	1,880.76	2,485.15	0.00	0.00	4,365.90
105	Stock Swapped *	172.50	0.00	28.37	0.00	200.87
Grand Total		12,117.27	17,137.87	24,612.74	20,155.22	74,023.10

Note: (i) Includes 'equity capital components' only.

(ii)* For this, Country-wise information is not provided by Reserve Bank of India.

Financial Year-wise FDI Inflows from April 2003 to September 2006

(Amount Rs. in Crore)

Sl. No	Sector	2003-04 Apr-Mar	2004-05 Apr-Mar	2005-06 Apr-Mar	2006-07 Apr-Sep	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Metallurgical Industries	146.06	880.95	680.84	511.31	2,219.16
2	Fuels (Power & Oil Refinery)	520.94	759.00	415.71	631.57	2,327.22
3	Boilers and Steam Generating Plants	0.20	2.34	0.00	14.98	17.52
4	Prime Movers other than Electrical	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.25
5	Electricals Equipment (Incl S/W & Elec)	2,449.32	3,280.58	6,499.06	3,601.15	15,830.11
6	Telecommunications	531.95	538.41	3,023.46	1,834.79	5,978.62
7	Transportation Industry	1,417.13	815.10	982.99	1,187.25	4,402.48
8	Industrial Machinery	13.93	40.74	187.52	33.69	275.87
9	Machine Tools	250.75	50.73	100.25	119.30	521.03
10	Agricultural Machinery	0.11	0.01	415.97	0.00	416.09
11	Earth-Moving Machinery	0.05	0.47	231.30	4.58	236.40
12	Miscellaneous Mechanical & Engineering	100.07	56.73	226.21	178.29	561.29
13	Commercial, Office & Household Equipment	40.96	62.46	111.41	13.22	228.05
14	Medical and Surgical Appliances	9.26	24.05	6.72	5.98	46.01
15	Industrial Instruments	4.16	4.95	1.69	0.00	10.80
16	Scientific Instruments	0.07	0.14	0.45	0.00	0.66
17	Fertilizers	99.29	61.90	19.31	1.82	182.33
18	Chemicals (Other than Fertilizers)	93.69	908.68	1,979.06	439.35	3,420.77
19	Photographic Raw Film and Paper	1.35	27.62	0.00	10.05	39.02
20	Dye-Stuffs	2.00	5.42	0.00	0.00	7.42
21	Drugs and Pharmaceuticals	501.67	1,342.91	759.70	219.39	2,823.67
22	Textiles (include Dyed, Printed)	42.84	196.84	414.67	99.09	753.44
23	Paper and Pulp including Paper Product	31.68	12.41	122.90	13.36	180.36
24	Sugar	0.25	13.51	13.10	0.00	26.86
25	Fermentation Industries	7.82	41.64	28.57	14.84	92.88
26	Food Processing Industries	510.85	174.06	182.94	150.12	1,018.00
27	Vegetable Oils and Vanaspati	7.79	41.03	54.00	7.09	109.91

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
28	Soaps, Cosmetics and Toilet Preparations	0.00	4.09	388.49	1.74	394.32
29	Rubber Goods	29.31	184.18	150.77	77.06	441.33
30	Leather, Leather Goods and Pickers	32.18	2.03	4.89	5.28	44.37
31	Glass	24.11	38.47	3.54	1.42	67.55
32	Ceramics	6.78	123.09	25.02	4.40	159.29
33	Cement and Gypsum Products	44.04	0.73	1,969.82	96.00	2,110.59
34	Timber Products	0.50	0.31	465.64	0.00	466.45
35	Defence Industries	0.00	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.24
36	Consultancy Services	257.13	1,166.83	206.44	354.54	1,984.95
37	Service Sector	1,235.27	2,105.53	2,565.04	6,955.08	12,860.93
38	Hotel & Tourism	226.80	168.85	315.59	269.24	980.48
39	Trading	104.66	65.72	123.43	246.63	540.45
40	Miscellaneous Industries	1,319.11	1,399.71	1,907.83	3,052.61	7,679.25
41	Advance of Inflow *	1,880.76	2,485.15	0.00	0.00	4,365.90
42	Stock Swapped *	172.50	0.00	28.37	0.00	200.87
Grand Total		12,117.36	17,137.87	24,612.74	20,155.22	74,023.19

Note: (i) Includes 'equity capital components' only.

(ii) * For this, Sector-wise Information is not provided by Reserve Bank of India.

Sick Textile Mills

3952. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN:
SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of textile mills in the country including Tamil Nadu declared sick, State-wise and Union Territory wise;

(b) the reasons for their sickness;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to revive those sick textile mills and to provide adequate employment to the workers;

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

(e) whether a large number of people/workers working in National Textile Corporation have become jobless after closure of about 65 mills;

(f) if so, whether any agreement has been signed between the workers unions and the Government; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) There were 825 textile cases registered with Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) as sick units as on 31.01.2006 including 173 cases in the state of Tamilnadu. The state wise details of the cases registered with BIFR as on 31.01.2006 are as under:

S. No.	State/Union Territory	All Textile Cases
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	52
2	Assam	5
3	Bihar	2
4	Chandigarh	1
5	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	4
6	Delhi	42
7	Goa	1

1	2	3
8	Gujarat	113
9	Haryana	26
10	Himachal Pradesh	1
11	Jharkhand	1
12	Karnataka	42
13	Kerala	13
14	Madhya Pradesh	29
15	Maharashtra	153
16	Orissa	6
17	Pondicherry	1
18	Punjab	34
19	Rajasthan	43
20	Tamilnadu	173
21	Uttar Pradesh	40
22	Uttaranchal	5
23	West Bengal	38
Total		825

(b) Notwithstanding the remarkable growth in the textile sector, which has been showing considerable vibrancy in recent years, there are several mills, particularly composite mills, in the organised sector, which are sick due to reasons like high power cost, lack of modernization, bloated man power, poor management and marketing strategy, inappropriate product mix, low productivity, and internal factors etc.

(c) and (d) Government seeks to foster a policy regime, which facilitates growth and development of Indian industry. It has taken a number of steps for revival of sick industrial units which, inter-alia, include, guidelines of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to banks, amalgamation of sick units with healthy units, setting up of BIFR under the Sick Industrial Companies (Social Provisions) Act, etc. The RBI has been issuing from time to time elaborate guidelines covering all areas of industrial rehabilitation viz. detection of industrial sickness at incipient stage, identification of sick/weak units, carrying out viability study of the units then extending relief and concessions to only viable units, co-ordination among banks and financial institutions and banks themselves, norms for promoter's contribution, extended period for repayment/rescheduling of loans, conversions and waivers

of penal rate/compound interest etc. BIFR has been set up with a view to arranging the timely detection of sick and potentially sick companies and for the speedy determination of preventive, ameliorative and remedial measures, which need to be taken in respect of such companies. It appoints operating agencies for preparation of rehabilitation proposals in respect of potentially viable units. It takes decision on rehabilitation on the basis of its findings. Status of 825 registered with BIFR as sick units as on 31.1.2006 is as under:-

S. No.	Status	All Textile Cases
1	Declared No Longer Sick	47
2	Draft Scheme	9
3	Dropped as net Worth become Positive	9
4	Failed Reopened	3
5	Non Maintainable	128
6	Other	36
7	Remanded by AAIFR/ Court	12
8	Scheme Sanctioned under section 17(2) of SICA, 1985	3
9	Scheme Sanctioned by the AAIFR / Stay Order by Court / Stayed by AAIFR	2
10	Scheme Sanctioned under section 18(4) SICA 1985	50
11	Under Enquiry	295
12	Winding up Notice	11
13	Winding up recommended section 20(1) SICA, 1985	220
Total		825

With the objective to provide interim relief to textile workers rendered unemployed as a consequence of permanent closure of textile units, the Textile Workers' Rehabilitation Fund Scheme (TWRFS) is in operation with effect from 15th September, 1986. Relief under the Scheme is available only for three years on a tapering basis but not extending beyond the date of superannuation in the following manner:-

- to the extent of 75% of the wage equivalent in the first year of the closure of the unit;
- to the extent of 50% of the wage equivalent in the second year; and

to the extent of 25% of the wage equivalent in the third year.

Till 21.10.2006, under the Scheme, 32 units in Gujarat, 4 units in Tamil Nadu, 3 units in Maharashtra, 4 units in Madhya Pradesh, 1 unit in Karnataka and 1 unit in Delhi, i.e., a total of 45 mills were found eligible under the scheme. A total of 79927 workers out of 99,132 eligible workers of 45 mills had been disbursed relief of Rs. 185.03 crore.

(e) Workers of 65 unviable mills who opted for Modified Voluntary Retirement Scheme (MVRS) were given very attractive compensation and the NTC has paid Rs. 1860.80 crores by way of compensation to 53,656 workers.

(f) and (g) The revival Scheme of NTC was approved by BIFR after consulting all stake holders including the Trade Unions.

Jan Sikshan Sansthan

3953. SHRI G.V. HARSHA KUMAR:

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU:

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

(a) the number of Jan Sikshan Sansthan functioning/sanctioned so far in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government has received proposals from the various State Government including Andhra Pradesh for setting up of Jan Sikshan Sansthan, during each of the last three years;

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

(d) the time by which pending proposal are likely to be cleared?

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

(a) 194 Jan Shikshan Sansthans has been sanctioned so far in the country. A statement showing State-wise the number of Jan Shikshan Sansthans sanctioned is enclosed.

(b) to (d) The scheme of Jan Shikshan Sansthan does not provide for setting up of Jan Shikshan Sansthans under the aegis of State Governments. As per the scheme, the Jan Shikshan Sansthan can be sanctioned either to Voluntary Organization or to University only where an appropriate Voluntary Organization can not be located.

Statement

Number of Jan Shikshan Sansthans Sanctioned in the Country

S.No.	State	No. of JSSs Sanctioned
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	01
3.	Assam	03
4.	Bihar	07
5.	Chhattisgarh	02
6.	Delhi	02
7.	Goa	01
8.	Gujarat	07
9.	Haryana	05
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	01
11.	Jharkhand	05
12.	Karnataka	10
13.	Kerala	09
14.	Madhya Pradesh	24
15.	Maharashtra	16
16.	Manipur	03
17.	Mizoram	01
18.	Nagaland	01
19.	Orissa	12
20.	Punjab	02
21.	Rajasthan	06
22.	Tamil Nadu	09
23.	Tripura	01
24.	Uttar Pradesh	42
25.	Uttaranchal	05
26.	West Bengal	08
27.	Chandigarh	01
Total		194

12.00 hrs.

[English]

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission, may I be permitted to propose that we dispose of the only Legislative Item – Prohibition of Child Marriage Bill – by 4 p.m. today with the reply of the hon. Minister and close the deliberations of the House by 4.30 p.m. subject to your concurrence and the consent of the House? The short duration discussion under Rule 193 may begin for a minute and may be kept alive for the next Session?

MR. SPEAKER: Is that the sense of the House?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: Okay. We shall follow that.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Your observation is not recorded because you are usurping a seat.

...(Interruptions)

12.01 hrs

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Annual Administration Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Cantonment Boards, for the year 2005-2006, along with Accounts.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5632/06]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Aluminium Company Limited, Bhubaneswar, for the year 2005-2006.

- (ii) Annual Report of the National Aluminium Company Limited, Bhubaneswar, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5633/06]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Hindustan Copper Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2005-2006.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Copper Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5634/06]

- (c) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited, Nagpur, for the year 2005-2006.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited, Nagpur, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5635/06]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): Sir, with your permission, on behalf of my senior colleague Shri P. Chidambaram...

MR. SPEAKER: He should have taken permission earlier. I will not allow it in future.

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM: I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the Seventh Progress Report (Hindi and English versions) on the action taken in pursuant to the recommendations of the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Stock Market Scam and matters relating thereto - December, 2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5636/06]

- (2) A copy of the Tax Return Preparer Scheme, 2006 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 2039 (E) in Gazette of India

dated the 28th November, 2006 under of section 296 of the Income Tax Act, 1961, together with an explanatory memorandum.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5637/06]

- (3) A copy of the Mid-Year Review - 2006-2007 (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5638/06]

- (4) A copy of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Amendment) Rules, 2006 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 639 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 13th October, 2006, under section 77 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985, together with an Explanatory memorandum.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5639/06]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, Mumbai, for the year 2005-2006.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, Mumbai, for the year 2005-2006.
- (iii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, Mumbai, for the year 2005-2006, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iv) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, Mumbai, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5640/06]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Small Industries, Mumbai, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Small Industries, Mumbai, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5641/06]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Coir Board, Kochi, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Coir Board, Kochi, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5642/06]

- (4) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (a) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the National Small Industries Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Small Industries Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5643/06]

- (b) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of Delhi State Industrial Development Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Delhi State Industrial Development Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5644/06]

- (c) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of Andaman

and Nicobar Islands Integrated Development Corporation Limited, Port Blair, for the year 2004-2005.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Integrated Development Corporation Limited, Port Blair, for the year 2004-2005, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (5) Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at item No. (b and c) of (4) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5645/06]

- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship, Guwahati, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship, Guwahati, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5646/06]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development, Noida, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development, Noida, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5647/06]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts.

- (2) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions)

by the Government of the working of the Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5648/06]

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the All India Handloom Fabrics Marketing Co-operative Society Limited, New Delhi for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the All India Handloom Fabrics Marketing Co-operative Society Limited, New Delhi for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5649/06]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Wool and Woollens Export Promotion Council, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Wool and Woollens Export Promotion Council, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5650/06]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Wool Development Board, Jodhpur, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Wool Development Board, Jodhpur, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5651/06]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Wool Research Association, Thane, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Wool Research Association, Thane, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5652/06]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY, MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): Sir, on behalf of my senior colleague Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) on the performance of Central Public Sector Enterprises (Volumes I to III) (Public Enterprises Survey) for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5653/06]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): Sir, I beg to Say on the Table a copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, for the year 2005-2006 under National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5654/06]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Commission for Women, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003, along with Audited Accounts, under section 14 of the National Commission for Women Act, 1990.
- (ii) A copy of the Action Taken Report (Hindi and English versions) on the recommendations contained in the Annual Report for the year 2002-2003 of the National Commission for Women.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Commission for Women for the year 2002-2003.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5655/06]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Adoption Resource Agency, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and

English versions) of the Central Adoption Resource Agency, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Adoption Resource Agency, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5656/06]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Adoption Resource Agency, New Delhi, for the year 2003-2004.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Adoption Resource Agency, New Delhi, for the year 2003-2004, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Adoption Resource Agency, New Delhi, for the year 2003-2004.
- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5657/06]

MR. SPEAKER: Item No. 12, Shri Praful Patel – not present.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): On behalf of my colleague Shri Suresh Pachouri I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Government Consumer Cooperative Society Limited (Kendriya Bhandar), New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working

of the Central Government Consumer Cooperative Society Limited (Kendriya Bhandar), New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5658/06]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the Drugs and Cosmetics (VII-amendment) Rule, 2005 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 674 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th November, 2005 under section 38 of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5659/06]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Mahatama Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences and Kasturba Hospital, Wardha, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Mahatama Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences and Kasturba Hospital, Wardha, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5660/06]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5661/06]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences, Bangalore, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences, Bangalore, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5662/06]

- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Naturopathy, Pune, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Naturopathy, Pune, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5663/06]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the All India Institute of Speech and Hearing, Mysore, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the All India Institute of Speech and Hearing, Mysore, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5664/06]

- (8) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the New Delhi Tuberculosis Centre, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the New Delhi Tuberculosis Centre, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5665/06]

- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Pharmacy Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Pharmacy Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5666/06]

- (10) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Lala Ram Sarup Institute of Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Lala Ram Sarup Institute of Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5667/06]

- (11) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Biologicals, Noida, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Biologicals, Noida, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5668/06]

- (12) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 31 of the Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003:-

- (i) The Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution (Second Amendment) Rules, 2005, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 698 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th November, 2005.

- (ii) The Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Packaging and Labelling) Rules, 2006, published in Notification No. 402 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th July, 2006.

- (iii) The Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products

(Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Amendment Rules, 2006, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 656 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 2006.

- (13) Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at item no. (i to ii) of (11) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5669/06]

- (14) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 648 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th October, 2006, constituting the Staring Committee consisting of the Members mentioned therein, to take action regarding violation of section 5 of the Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003, issued under section 25 of the said Act.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5670/06]

- (15) A copy of the Statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the twenty seven Institutions mentioned therein for the years 2004-2005 and 2005-2006, within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the respective accounting years.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5671/06]

- (16) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Dental Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Dental Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5672/06]

MR. SPEAKER: Item No. 15, — Dr. Dasari Narayana Rao.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): Sir, on behalf of my colleague Dr. Dasari Narayana Rao ...

MR. SPEAKER: No, without prior permission I will not allow. This is becoming a disease.

...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: The authorization has been requested.

MR. SPEAKER: You have to seek my permission first.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There is no notice that the Minister will be absent. This will be the last time.

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: I am sorry.

MR. SPEAKER: This cannot be a matter of right.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): Sir, the hon. Minister has sent a letter to the Office that she shall lay the papers on his behalf.

MR. SPEAKER: We shall see. If it is a mistake on this side, I will rectify that. But this impression should not be there that anybody can stand up.

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, on behalf of Dr. Dasari Narayana Rao I beg to lay on the Table:-

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under subsection (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited, Chennai, for the year 2005-2006.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited, Chennai, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5673/06]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 141 of the Border Security Force Act, 1968:-

- (i) The Border Security Force, (Tradesman Group 'C' and Enrolled Followers Group 'D' posts) Recruitment Amendment Rules, 2006, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 206 in Gazette of India dated the 26th August, 2006.
- (ii) The Border Security Force Water Wing (Group 'B' Combatised Technical Staff) Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 2006, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 199 in Gazette of India dated the 12th August, 2006.
- (iii) The Border Security Force Air Wing Storeman Cadre Group 'C' posts Recruitment Rules, 2006, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 207 in Gazette of India dated the 26th August, 2006.
- (iv) The Border Security Force Combatised Assistant Sub-Inspector (Junior Accountant) and Head Constable (Clerk) Recruitment Rules, 2006, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 203 in Gazette of India dated the 19th August, 2006.
- (v) The Ministry of Home Affairs, Border Security Force Communication (Non-Gazetted) Cadre Recruitment Rules, 2006, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 83 in Gazette of India dated the 22nd April, 2006.
- (vi) The Border Security Force, Motor Transport Workshops (Non-Gazetted) Group 'C' Posts, Recruitment Rules, 2006, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 234 in Gazette of India dated the 30th September, 2006.
- (vii) The Border Security Force (Amendment) Rules, 2006, published in Notification No. S.O. 3678 in Gazette of India dated the 16th September, 2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5674/06]

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 Rajiv Gandhi Shiksha Mission, Bhopal for the year 2003-2004, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Rajiv Gandhi Shiksha Mission, Bhopal for the year 2003-2004.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5675/06]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Tamil Nadu State Mission of Education for All (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Chennai for the year 2003-2004, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Tamil Nadu State Mission of Education for All (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Chennai for the year 2003-2004.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5676/06]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5677/06]

- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Axom Sarba Shiksha Abhijan Mission, Guwahati, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Axom Sarba Shiksha Abhijan Mission, Guwahati, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5678/06]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and

English versions) of the Rajiv Gandhi Shiksha Mission (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Raipur, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement Regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Rajiv Gandhi Shiksha Mission (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Raipur, for the year 2002-2003.

- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5679/06]

- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rajiv Gandhi Shiksha Mission (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Raipur, for the year 2003-2004, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement Regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Rajiv Gandhi Shiksha Mission (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Raipur, for the year 2003-2004.

- (10) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (9) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5680/06]

- (11) A copy of the Statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla, for the year 2005-2006 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the accounting year.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5681/06]

- (12) A copy of the Statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the University Grants Commission for the year 2005-2006 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the accounting year.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5682/06]

- (13) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Educational Consultants India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Educational Consultants India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5683/06]

- 14) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of Philosophical Research, New Delhi, 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 Indian Council of Philosophical Research, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5684/06]

- (15) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati, for the year 2005-2006.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati, for the year 2005-2006, 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, Guwahati, for the year 2005-2006.

- (16) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (15) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5685/06]

- (17) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Assam Mahila Samata Society, Guwahati, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement Regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Assam Mahila Samata Society, Guwahati, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5686/06]

- (18) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Bharat Shiksha Kosh, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5687/06]

- (19) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Bharat Shiksha Kosh, New Delhi, for the years 2003-2004, alongwith Audited Accounts.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5688/06]

- (20) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Bharat Shiksha Kosh, New Delhi, for the years 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (21) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (18 to 20) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5689/06]

- (22) A copy of the Statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Visva Bharati for the year 2005-2006 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the accounting year.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5690/06]

- (23) A copy of the Statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Indira Gandhi National Open University for the year 2005-2006 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the accounting year.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5691/06]

- (24) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Management, Indore, 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 Indian Institute of Management, Indore, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5692/06]

(25) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore, 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 Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5693/06]

(26) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Open Schooling, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Open Schooling, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005, together with Audit Report thereon.

(iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Open Schooling, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005.

(27) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (26) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5694/06]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): I beg to lay on the Table:-

(1) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Securities and Exchange Board of India, Mumbai, for the year 2003-2004, together with Audit Reports thereon.

● [Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5695/06]

(2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers, New Delhi, 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 Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5696/06]

(3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 94 of the Finance Act, 1994:-

(i) G.S.R. 742(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th December, 2006 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to exempt taxable service provided by an insurer, carrying on general insurance business, to a policy holder for the insurance of sheep, from the whole of service tax leviable thereon.

(ii) The Service Tax (Sixth Amendment) Rules, 2006 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 688 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 2nd November, 2006 together with an explanatory memorandum.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5697/06]

(4) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 38 of the Central Excise Act, 1944:-

(i) G.S.R. 716 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th November, 2006 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to provide that no excise duty would be leviable on '5% ethanol blended petrol', that is a blend consisting by volume, of 95% Motor Spirit and 5% ethanol, and confirming to Bureau of Indian Standards, subject to certain conditions.

(ii) G.S.R. 717 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th November, 2006 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 8/2003-CE dated the 1st March, 2003.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5698/06]

(5) A copy of the Notification No. 733 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th December, 2006 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 21/2002-Cus. dated the 1st March, 2002 under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5699/06]

- (6) A copy of the Thirty-Sixth Valuation Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Life Insurance Corporation of India as on 31st March, 2006, under section 29 of the Life Insurance Act, 1956.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5700/06]

- (7) A copy of the Baroda Rajasthan Gramin Bank (Officers and Employees) Service Regulations, 2006 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. 50/Ka/HRM/2006-07/178 in Gazette of India dated the 27th April, 2006, under section 30 of the Regional Rural Banks Act, 1976.

- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5701/06]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the New Delhi Municipal Council (Allowances for Attending the Meetings of the Council) Rules, 2006 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 737 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 6th December, 2006 issued under sub-section (2) of section 16 of the New Delhi Municipal Council Act, 1994.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5702/06]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): On behalf of Shrimati Subbulakshmi Jagadeesan, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rehabilitation Council of India, New Delhi, 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 Rehabilitation Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5703/06]

- (2) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation and the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment for the year 2006-2007.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5704/06]

- (3) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under subsection (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5705/06]

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): Sir, on behalf of Shri E.V.K.S. Elangovan, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Northern India Textile Research Association, Ghaziabad, 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 Northern India Textile Research Association, Ghaziabad, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5706/06]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the South India Textile Research Association, Coimbatore, 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 South India Textile Research Association, Coimbatore, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5707/06]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Bombay Textile Research Association, 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 Bombay Textile Research Association, Mumbai, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5708/06]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Ahmedabad Textile Industry's Research Association, Ahmedabad, 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 Ahmedabad Textile Industry's Research Association, Ahmedabad, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5709/06]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Textiles Committee, 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 Textiles Committee, Mumbai, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5710/06]

- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Institute of Textile Management, Coimbatore, 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 Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Institute of Textile Management, Coimbatore, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5711/06]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Synthetic and Art Silk Mills' Research Association, 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 Synthetic and Art Silk Mills' Research Association, Mumbai, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5712/06]

- (8) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Handicrafts and Handlooms Exports Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Handicrafts and Handlooms Exports Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5713/06]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Jute Corporation of India Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2005-2006.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Jute Corporation of India Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5714/06]

- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Silk Export Promotion Council, 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 Indian Silk Export Promotion Council, Mumbai, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5715/06]

- (10) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Silk Board, Bangalore, for the year 2005-2006.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Silk Board, Bangalore, for the year 2005-2006, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English

versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Silk Board, Bangalore, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5716/06]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY, MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Nepa Limited, Nepanagar, for the year 2005-2006.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Nepa Limited, Nepanagar, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5717/06]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Fluid Control Research Institute, Palakkad, 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 Fluid Control Research Institute, Palakkad, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5718/06]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations for the year 2005-2006 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the accounting year.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5719/06]

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) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Productivity

Council, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Productivity Council, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5720/06]

- (2) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs, Trade Marks and Registrar of Geographical Indications, Mumbai, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5721/06]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council for Cement and Building Materials, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Council for Cement and Building Materials, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5722/06]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the India Trade Promotion Organisation, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.

- (ii) Annual Report of the India Trade Promotion Organisation, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5723/06]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Marine Products Export Development Authority, Kochi, 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 Marine Products Export Development Authority, Kochi, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5724/06]

- (3) A copy of the statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Tea Board for the year 2005-2006 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the accounting year.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5725/06]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council, 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 Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council, Mumbai, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5726/06]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Diamond Institute, Surat, 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 Indian Diamond Institute, Surat, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5727/06]

- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Sports Goods Export Promotion Council, New Delhi, 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 Sports Goods Export Promotion Council, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5728/06]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Footwear Design and Development Institute, Noida, 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 Footwear Design and Development Institute, Noida, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5729/06]

- (8) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Shellac Export Promotion Council, Kolkata, for the year 2005-2006.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Shellac Export Promotion Council, Kolkata, for the year 2005-2006, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Shellac Export Promotion Council, Kolkata, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5730/06]

- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Council of Leather Exports, Chennai, 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 Council of Leather Exports, Chennai, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5731/06]

- (10) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Development Authority, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Development Authority, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005.

- (11) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (10) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5732/06]

- (12) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Centre for Trade Information, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Centre for Trade Information, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5733/06]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Chandra Sekhar Sahu. There is no notice.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have already taken permission.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: No. However, today is the last day. It must not be repeated next time.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of Shri Chandra Sekhar Sahu, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) for the National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad, for the year 2005-2006.
- (2) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad, for the year 2005-2006, together with Audit Report thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5734/06]

[English]

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 Board of Practical Training (Eastern Region), Kolkata, for the year 2004-2005, 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 2004-2005.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5735/06]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Board of Practical Training (Eastern Region), Kolkata, 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 Board of Practical Training (Eastern Region), Kolkata, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5736/06]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Board of Apprenticeship Training (Western Region), 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 Board of Apprenticeship Training (Western Region), Mumbai, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5737/06]

- (5) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5738/06]

(7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, for the year 2005-2006.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, for the year 2005-2006, together with Audit report thereon.

(iii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5739/06]

(8) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Sant Longowal Institute of Engineering and Technology, Sangrur, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(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, Sangrur, for the year 2004-2005.

(9) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (8) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5740/06]

(10) (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 2004-2005, 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 2004-2005.

(11) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (10) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5741/06]

(12) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indira Gandhi

National Open University, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5742/06]

(13) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the University of Delhi (Part I and II), Delhi, for the year 2002-2003.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the University of Delhi, Delhi, for the year 2002-2003.

(14) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (13) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5743/06]

(15) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of Philosophical Research, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005, together with Audit Report thereon.

(16) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (15) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5744/06]

(17) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Technology, Srinagar, for the year 2003-2004, 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, Srinagar, for the year 2003-2004.

(18) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (17) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5745/06]

(19) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi, 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 Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5746/06]

- (20) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rastriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, Tirupati, 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 Rastriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, Tirupati, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5747/06]

- (21) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Technology, Durgapur, for the year 2003-2004.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Technology, Durgapur, for the year 2003-2004.

- (22) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (21) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5748/06]

- (23) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, for the year 2005-2006.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5749/06]

- (24) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Mizoram University, Aizawl, for the year 2002-2003, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (25) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (24) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5750/06]

- (26) A copy of the Statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for delay in laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Tezpur University for the year 2005-2006 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the accounting year.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 5751/06]

12.05 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES

Statement

[English]

SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI (Madras North): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the statement (Hindi and English versions) of action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter I and final replies in respect of recommendations contained in Chapter V of the Tenth Report of Estimates Committee (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) relating to the Ministry of Rural Development (Department of Rural Development) on 'Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART)'.

12.05½ hrs.

COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

Nineteenth Report

[English]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA (Dhandhuka): I beg to present the Nineteenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs – Insurance Division) on "Reservation for and Employment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in United India Insurance Company Limited".

12.06 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN

Statement

[English]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH (Karol Bagh): I beg to lay a copy each of the Statement (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Empowerment of Women showing further Action Taken by the Government on the

recommendations contained in the Eighth Action Taken Report of the Committee on the subject 'Scheme for Rehabilitating Women in Difficult Circumstances - SWADHAR'.

12.06½ hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS

Statements

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly): I beg to lay on the Table the Hindi and English versions of the following Action Taken Statements of the Committee on Public Undertakings:-

- (1) Statement showing Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter I of the First (Action Taken) Report of the Committee on Public Undertakings (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) on Air India Limited.
- (2) Statement showing Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter I of the Sixth (Action Taken) Report of the Committee on Public Undertakings (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) on MMTC-Trade in Gold (Import of Gold by MMTC).
- (3) Statement showing Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter I of the Seventh (Action Taken) Report of the Committee on Public Undertakings (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) on ONGC Ltd. — Avoidable expenditure due to creation of excessive handling capacity.

12.07 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

Twentieth to Twenty-third Reports

[English]

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN (Sonapat): I beg to present the following Reports of the Committee on Petitions (Hindi and English versions):-

- (1) Twentieth Report on matters concerned with Ministry of Finance;
- (2) Twenty First Report on the Action Taken by the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas on the recommendations made by the Committee on Petitions (14th Lok Sabha) in their 16th Report.

- (3) Twenty Second Report on matters concerned with the Ministry of Human Resources Development, Ministry of Railways and Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.
- (4) Twenty Third Report on matters concerned with the Ministry of Coal.

12.07½ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON COAL AND STEEL

(I) Twentieth to Twenty-second Report

[Translation]

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR (Chandrapur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Coal and Steel (2006-07):-

- (1) Twentieth Report of the Standing Committee on Coal and Steel on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Fifteenth Report on the Demands for Grants (2006-07) of the Ministry of Coal.
- (2) Twenty-First Report of the Standing Committee on Coal and Steel on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Sixteenth Report on the Demands for Grants (2006-07) of the Ministry of Mines.
- (3) Twenty-Second Report of the Standing Committee on Coal and Steel on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Seventeenth Report on the Demands for Grants (2006-07) of the Ministry of Steel.

(II) Statements

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Sir, I beg to lay on the Table (Hindi and English versions) of the statements showing further follow up action on the recommendations contained in the following Action Taken Reports of the Standing Committee on Coal and Steel (14th Lok Sabha):-

- (1) 6th Report on the Demands for Grants (2004-05) of the Ministry of Steel.
- (2) 7th Report on the subject "Safety in Coal Mines" relating to the Ministry of Coal.
- (3) 11th Report on the Demands for Grants (2005-06) of the Ministry of Coal.

12.08½ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

(I) Eighteenth Report

[English]

SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT (Mumbai North East): I beg to present the Eighteenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Energy on Action Taken on the recommendations contained in Twelfth Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Power for the year 2006-07.

(ii) Statement

SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: I beg to lay the Statement (Hindi and English Versions) showing action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter-I and Chapter-V of the 15th Report (14th Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Energy on Action Taken on the recommendations contained in the 9th Report (14th Lok Sabha) of the Committee on the subject "Implementation of Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP)" of the Ministry of Power.

12.09 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON FOOD, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

Seventeenth Report

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jharkhand): Sir, I beg to present a copy of the Seventeenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (2006-07) on "The Forward Contract (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2006" relating to the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Consumer Affairs).

12.09½ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

(I) Nineteenth Report

[English]

SHRI UDAY SINGH (Purnea): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Nineteenth Report (Hindi and English versions)

of the Standing Committee on Health and Family Welfare on the Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Bill, 2005.

(II) Evidence

SHRI UDAY SINGH: I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Evidence tendered before the Committee on the Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Bill, 2005.

12.10 hrs.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

(i) Status of Implementation of recommendations contained in the 36th and 37th Reports of the Standing Committee on Finance pertaining to Ministry of Finance

[English]

*THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): I beg to lay on the Table a statement regarding the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 36th and 37th Reports of the Standing Committee on Finance, pertaining to the Ministry of Finance.

I deem it my privilege to make a statement on the status of implementation of recommendations contained in the 36th Report relating to Departments of Economic Affairs, Expenditure and Disinvestment of the Standing Committee on Finance (14th Lok Sabha) in pursuance of Direction 73 A of the Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha vide Lok Sabha Bulletin, Part II dated 1st September 2004.

The 36th Report of the Standing Committee on Finance (14th Lok Sabha) was presented to the Lok Sabha/laid in the Rajya Sabha on 22nd May 2006. It related to Demands for Grants (2006-07) of Ministry of Finance (Departments of Economic Affairs, Expenditure & Disinvestment). In the Report, the Committee deliberated on various issues and made twenty (20) recommendations where action is called for on the part of the Government. These recommendations mainly pertain to the issues like Agricultural Credit extended by Private Banks, Rural Infrastructure Development Fund, NABARD, proposed amendment of DRT Act, Micro Finance Sector/Institutions, lending rates, bench mark fixed by RBI, Non life public sector insurance companies- upgrading the operation and quality of services, proposed MOUs, Public Sector General Insurance Companies, implementation of Universal Health Insurance Scheme (UHS), Investor Protection Fund, IPO - Demat Scam, FRBM road map and goals, White Paper on Disinvestment, National Investment Fund and Appointment of CEO of National Investment Fund.

*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5752/06

Action Taken Statements on the recommendations/ Observations contained in the Report have been sent to the Standing Committee on Finance on 6th September and 14th November 2006. Present status of implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee in the 36th Report is indicated in Annexure A.

The 37th Report of the Standing Committee on Finance (14th Lok Sabha) was presented to the Lok Sabha/laid in the Rajya Sabha on 22nd May 2006. It relates to the Demands for Grants (2006-2007) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue). In the Report, the Committee deliberated on various issues and made recommendations where action is called on the part of the Government. These recommendations mainly pertain to issues like income tax refunds, recovery of direct and indirect tax arrears, exemptions, court cases involving tax matters, restructuring and computerization of CBEC and CEDT. Out of the 16 recommendations, the Government has accepted 13 recommendations and partly accepted one recommendation. Two recommendations have been found to be not feasible to accept.

Action Taken Statements on the recommendations/ observations contained in the Report were furnished to the Standing Committee on Finance on 16th October 2006. Present status of implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee in the Thirty Seventh Report is indicated in Annexure B.

I would not like to take the valuable time of the House to read out the contents of the Annexures. I would request that these may be taken as read.

12.11 hrs.

- (ii) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the 15th Report of the Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice on Demands for Grants (2006-07) pertaining to the Ministry of Law and Justice

[English]

*THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): I beg to lay a statement on the status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Fifteenth Report of Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice. The present status of implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee is indicated in the Annexure to my Statement. I request that the same may be treated as read.

*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5753/06

12-11½ hrs.

- (iii) Status of implementation of National Rural Employment Guarantee Act

[Translation]

*THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission I beg to lay the statement in regard to status of implementation of National Rural Employment Guarantee Act.

Sir, the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act aims at enhancing the livelihood security of the people in rural areas by providing guaranteed wage employment through works that develop the livelihood resource base of that area so that in that process of employment generation durable assets are built up. The Act was enacted in September 2005. It was notified in 200 districts of 27 States on February 02, 2006. The Government of Maharashtra has amended its existing Act to bring it in conformity with the non negotiable statutory provisions of NREGA. Cabinet has also approved the amendment of the Act to extend its application to J & K. The rest of the statement was laid on the Table.

12.12 hrs.

- (iv) Status of implementation of the components of Bharat Nirman relating to the Ministry of Rural Development.

[Translation]

*THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission, I beg to lay the statement in regard to status of implementation of the components of Bharat Nirman relating to the Ministry of Rural Development.

The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing three out of the six components of Bharat Nirman i.e. rural roads, rural housing and rural drinking water supply. Under Bharat Nirman, against the likely total budgetary allocation of Rs.1,74,000 crore, about Rs. 85,000 crore are likely to be utilized by the Ministry of Rural Development by 2009 in four years. I wish to apprise the House on the progress made so far in implementation of these programmes.

Under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), 1,94,740 km. long roads have been approved for construction at an amount of Rs.36,994 crore, which shall provide connectivity to 60,000 habitations.

*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5754/06

*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5755/06

Till November 2006, one lakh km. road length have been built, which has provided connectivity to 30,000 habitations. So far, a sum of Rs. 17,056 crore has been spent in the programme. For the period from 2000 to 2004, annual expenditure was about Rs.2500 crore per year whereas the expenditure for 2005-06 is Rs.4200 crore and during the current year, Rs.9050 crore are proposed to be spent. During the next two years, Rs.35,000 crore are planned to be spent.

The present Government has implemented this programme with topmost impetus, which is evident from the fact that during the last two years, road length of 81,120 km. roads have been approved at an estimate cost of Rs.20,332 crore.

Under Bharat Nirman, Government has fixed targets for providing all-weather connectivity to 40,436 habitations having a population of more than 1000 (26,336 habitations having a population of more than 500 in case of hilly and tribal areas). Thus total 66,802 villages shall be provided with all-weather connectivity by the year 2009 with an estimated outlay of Rs.48,000 crore. 1,46,185 km. new roads and 1,94,130 km. of road upgradation is involved in this plan.

The Government is attaching highest priority to ensure proper quality of construction. Accordingly, three-tier quality monitoring system has been developed. For ensuring people's participation, citizens information board are being installed at all work sites. In order to ensure transparency in the management of the programme, online management, monitoring, accounting system (OMMAS) and technical audit systems have been placed in position.

Under the second component of Bharat Nirman i.e. Rural Housing component, 60 lakh houses are proposed to be built in four years. 15 lakh houses are built under IAY every year. The budgetary allocation for IAY during the current year is Rs.2920 crore against which Rs.1455 crore have been spent and 4,90,000 houses have been built. For ensuring transparency in selection of beneficiaries under IAY, based on BPL Census 2002, a system of permanent IAY waitlist has been introduced under which permanent waitlist prepared on this basis are being painted at conspicuous places, panchayat buildings, school buildings and are also being printed in the form of booklet and are being posted on the website of the District.

Under the third component of Bharat Nirman i.e. Rural Drinking water supply so far, 1,826 NC habitations, 14,666 PC habitations, 1,18,535 slipped back habitations and 5151 quality affected habitations have been provided with safe drinking water. Till year 2009, 3052 NC habitations, 38,894 PC habitations and 2,52,060 slipped back habitations and 1,47,576 quality affected habitations shall be covered. For ensuring sufficient and safe drinking water, Swajaldhara and

National Water Quality Monitoring and Surveillance Programme have also been started. Under Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC), during the last two years, remarkable progress has been achieved. During the last financial years, 97 lakh toilets were built. 569 districts of the country have been covered under TSC so far. As per 2001 Census, 22% rural habitations had sanitation facilities which have now gone up to 40 %. Government has planned to achieve the objective of Total Sanitation Coverage by the year 2012, all schools would be provided with drinking water and sanitation facilities by 31st March 2007.

For ensuring greater participation of PRIs and NGOS, Nirmal Gram Puraskar has been introduced. In the year 2005, 40 gram panchayats and in 2006, 770 gram panchayats were awarded. For the year 2007, proposals have been received from 9703 gram panchayats, 120 blocks and 2 districts for Nirmal Gram Puraskar.

Thus the Bharat Nirman programme is moving ahead towards full success. I urge all the Hon'ble Members for their cooperation.

12.12½ hrs.

(v) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the 176th Report of the Standing Committee on Human Resource Development on Demands for Grants (2006-07) pertaining to the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports

[English]

*THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): I beg to lay the statement on the status of implementation of recommendations contained in the 176th Report of the Standing Committee on Human Resource Development (14th Lok Sabha) in pursuance of the Direction 73A of the hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha vide Lok Sabha Bulletin-Part II, dated 1st September, 2004.

The 176th Report of the Standing Committee on Human Resource Development was laid in the Lok Sabha on 22nd May, 2006. The Report relates to the action to be taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations of the Committee.

The present status of implementation of the various recommendations made by the Committee is indicated in the Annex to my statement, which is laid on the Table of the House. I would request the House to kindly consider this as read.

12.13 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Situation arising out of non-implementation of Wage Settlement signed between the Employees Association and Management of Industrial Development Bank of India Limited and steps taken by the Government in this regard

[English]

SHRI RASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Finance to the following matter of public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:

"The situation arising out of the non-implementation of wage settlement signed between the employees association and management of Industrial Development Bank of India Ltd., (IDBI) and steps taken by the Government in this regard."

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Sir, with your permission, may I lay the statement.

MR. SPEAKER: Okay.

*SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: IDBI was carved out of RBI under IDBI Act, 1964 and came into existence on the 20th June 1964. IDBI was transformed into IDBI Ltd., viz. a bank vide IDBI Repeal Act 2003 effective from 1.10.2004. Further, IDBI Bank was merged into IDBI Ltd. under the IDBI (Transfer of Undertakings & Repeal) Act, 2003 as a Company registered under the Companies Act, 1956 and a banking company within the meaning of Section 5 (c) of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 to carry on business as a commercial bank. It has been classified as 'Other Public Sector Bank'.

The management of IDBI had signed a Memorandum of Settlement with the unions/associations of IDBI on the 17th March, 2006 for the period from 1.11.2002 to 31.10.2007, which inter-alia, includes the following:

- (i) any modification to the provisions of the Memorandum of Settlement dated October 5, 2005 between the All India Reserve Bank Employees' Association and the Management of the Reserve Bank of India shall *mutatis mutandis* apply to this settlement and, if so required, the parties hereto shall enter into an amendatory agreement to give effect to such modification.
- (ii) the Settlement will become effective only after and only to the extent the necessary approval of Government of India has been obtained by the

Bank and that no rights whatsoever shall be granted in respect of any of the provisions of this Settlement pending receipt of such approval.

The Memorandum thus specifically provides that it shall become effective only after and only to the extent the necessary approval of the Government of India has been obtained.

Since IDBI Ltd. is now a public sector commercial bank, it would have to benchmark itself against other public sector commercial banks in all respects including pay and allowances. The Government also need to ensure that any pay package which is adopted by IDBI conforms to the well settled principle of wage negotiations, viz. equitable, fair and within the capacity to pay of IDBI.

Keeping in view these factors, the Government vide letter dated the 31st July, 2006 approved the pay and allowances as were entered into the Memorandum of Settlement dated the 17th March, 2006, but advised IDBI Ltd. to substitute the relevant clauses of the Memorandum of Settlement with the following clause:

"We expressly agree that the pay and allowances contained in this settlement have been mutually agreed upon having regard to the fact that the period of the settlement will commence from 1.11.2002 and will conclude on 31.10.2007. We agree that the settlement for pay and allowances and service conditions commencing from 1.11.2007 will be based on such terms and conditions as would be negotiated and agreed upon between the Bank and its employees having regard to the practices in public sector banks."

IDBI Ltd. management has informed that while the revision of pay scales has been effected for officers (numbering 1258), the same could not be implemented for the workmen staff (numbering 1141), as all efforts made to persuade All India Industrial Development Bank Employees Association (AIIDBEA) to accept the clause stipulated by Government of India have failed. AIIDBEA has been demanding immediate implementation of the Memorandum of Settlement in toto without attaching any conditions thereto.

As a part of the agitation programme, AIIDBEA has observed a 'Relay Hunger Strike' by its members during November 27, 2006 to December 1, 2006 (5 days) for which no official notice had been given to the Bank. The agitation programme passed off peacefully. The day-to-day operations of the bank were also not affected and all offices/branches functioned normally. AIIDBEA representing the clerical and the subordinate employees of IDBI Ltd. again struck work on December 13 and 14, 2006. The Government has advised the Management to use its good offices to convenience the Unions and implement the decision through negotiation.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, IDBI was functioning under the name Industrial Finance Department as an integral part of RBI from its inception. IDBI was formally delinked from RBI in 1977 and accorded the status of a wholly owned Government institution, an apex institution.

The IDBI Act was repealed in 2003 and IDBI was converted into a deemed banking company to carry on banking business in addition to fulfilling its development bank role.

While replying to the debate on this Bill, the former Finance Minister categorically assured that IDBI would retain the character of development finance institution even after its conversion as a deemed banking company. It was categorized as other public sector bank.

When the question of service conditions was raised by us, another assurance was given by the former Finance Minister in regard to Section 5(1) of IDBI Repeal Act, 2002. What was the assurance? The employees' interest would be safeguarded and the employees would continue to enjoy the same terms and service conditions even in the new dispensation. Section 5(1) of IDBI Repeal Act with regard to protection of service conditions of the employees specifically stated that the interest of erstwhile IDBI - which was only a subsequent and independent development bank - and merger of IDBI Limited shall have no implication on the status of Section 5, Subsection (1) of IDBI Repeal Act.

Since its inception in 1964, service conditions of IDBI employees are governed by the service conditions as obtaining in Reserve bank of India. As such, parity and linkage with RBI on wages and allied matters formed a part of service conditions of employees of IDBI. Before this wage settlement, there were five wage settlements signed between IDBI Association and the Board of IDBI since 1977 when IDBI was delinked from RBI in 1977.

This present settlement was signed on 17th March, 2006. Since then, it is pending with the Ministry of Finance. The settlement was approved by the Board of Directors of the Bank including the two Government nominees. There are two Government nominees in the Board of Directors. They also agreed, it was signed on 4th March, 2006, and it has been sent to Ministry of Finance for their approval.

The Government of India, Ministry of Finance has stipulated the following two conditions. One is deletion of the clause providing linkage with the IDBI which was there since 1977 when IDBI was delinked from RBI. No question of deletion of linkage clause was ever raised by the Ministry of Finance before.

For the first time, this has been raised even after categorical assurance given by the former Finance Minister

on the floor of this House. One condition is deletion of clause providing linkage; another condition has also been put with would be effective from the next wage agreement, that is, from 1.11.07, the future settlements. These two conditions would be added.

Second condition is that pay and allowance and service conditions would be on par with the public sector banks. This is nothing but contrary to the assurance given by the former Finance Minister. I think, you remember that when we moved an amendment, there were equal votes - 60 votes for 'yes' and 60 votes for 'no'. That amendment was moved by me. I was requested to withdraw it. When the former Finance Minister gave an assurance, I withdrew it. Today, the present Finance Minister does not want to honour the assurance given by the former Finance Minister and imposing conditions which were never there in five wage settlements. Today, he is imposing certain conditions and the wage settlement is due for the last few years.

MR. SPEAKER: Put your question please.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: The stand of the Government is in gross negation of the provisions contained in Section 5, Subsection (1) of IDBI Repeal Act. Assurance was given that service condition would be protected and it would not be changed but that condition has been imposed here and that they will have to agree for change of service conditions. They have agreed that in future agreements too, everything will be at par with other commercial banks.

This is in contravention of the solemn assurance given by the former Finance Minister during the course of debate on the IDBI Repeal Act. Even in the other House, the same assurance was given. When an assurance was given, the same has to be implemented.

MR. SPEAKER: Already you have spoken for 10 minutes.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: If new condition is being imposed, that means, the assurance given by the former Finance Minister is negated. In view of the assurance given by the former Finance Minister in regard to the continuance of service conditions, in regard to Section 5, Subsection (1) of the IDBI Repeal Act, I would like to ask the Finance Minister this. Would he give his clearance as per the agreement signed between the Association and the Management? Will the Ministry of Finance impose any condition? Will the Ministry approve the wage agreement signed by both the Management and the Employees' Association without further delay so that it is implemented? Would the assurance given by the former Finance Minister be implemented in letter and spirit?

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Panda. Please put only one question and do not make a speech.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (Midnapore): I will not make a speech, but I just want to add some points to what he said.

MR. SPEAKER: No need to add points. Put only one question.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Sir, the Industrial Development Bank of India Ltd. Employees' Association had observed an All India Hunger Strike from 27th November to 1st December.

MR. SPEAKER: He has mentioned that in his statement.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA: After that, on 13th and 14th December, they had observed a two-day strike. My point is that this is the sixth settlement and it is contrary to earlier five settlements, which had been pursued so far. Why has that stipulation been made by the hon. Minister which was not there earlier? The situation is such that in the statement itself, the hon. Minister says that the officers had got their salaries, while the employees, the staff members and the workmen did not get their salaries so far. The situation is very serious and so, I demand from the Minister, without imposing any conditions, that the assurance given in the House should be carried out and the benefit of the workers should be protected.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Sunil Khan, please put one question.

SHRI SUNIL KHAN (Durgapur): May I know whether the Government has assured the House that all the five wage settlements signed between the IDBI and the Association are strictly on par with the ones of the RBI? May I know whether the Government has assured the House that the provisions contained in Section 5 (1) of the IDBI Repeal Act, in respect of terms and conditions, include parity and linkage with RBI and whether it is gross negation?

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on 17 March, 2006 the Association signed a sixth agreement with the management, but the Government has laid two conditions for the future for implementing the said agreements. First, deletion of clause providing linkage of IDBI to RBI regarding sub-sections of pay and allowances and other facilities. Second, pay and allowance and service conditions of IDBI employees would be at par with the public sector banks after expiry of agreement on 1.11.2006 and IDBI will have to give an undertaking to the effect. I would like to know as to what problem the Government are having in implementing in whole the memorandum of settlement on time-bound basis, because the former Minister had assured both the Houses in this regard?

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail): Mr. Speaker, Sir, as hon'ble Members have expressed concern that earlier also five agreements have been signed between IDBI and Management. But due to laying down of certain conditions wage settlement is not being reached at. Though presently, the officers are getting salary, remaining staff is on the verge of starvation due to non payment of salaries and it has become difficult for them to fend their families. They have become debt-ridden. Through you, I would like to ask the hon'ble Minister the time by which, the Government without any condition, will make effective the pay scales, so that they may be given their due salaries.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, without creating a precedent, since today is the last day, I am allowing two more hon. Members.

Shri Gurudas Dasgupta. Please cooperate by putting only one question.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Panskura): I only draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the fact that the employees of the RBI have a particular pay scale which is higher than the pay scale enjoyed by the employees of other nationalized banks. This is the controversy. Therefore, my question is whether he will agree that in 2002, the then hon. Finance Minister has assured that the service conditions, as they were enjoyed, will be enjoyed by them under the new dispensation. That was his assurance. Is he aware of that? Since that was an assurance given on the floor of the House, will the hon. Minister of Finance, as a continuing successor of the earlier Minister, take a view on that and agree to disagree with the assumptions of the present management and the present Finance Ministry that the pay scale and future settlements will be in line with the public sector banks? That is the crux. Will the hon. Minister enlighten me on these two questions?

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Harin Pathak. Please cooperate by putting only a question. I am very liberal today.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad): So nice of you, Sir.

I associate myself with the matter raised by Shri Basudeb Acharia and other hon. Members. It is really an assurance; I wish that the Government implement the assurance given by the then hon. Minister of Finance on the floor of the House.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (Ratnagiri): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I associate myself with the matter in regard to IDBI workers raised by Shri Basu Deb Acharia through calling

attention. The conditions being imposed for implementation of wage settlement agreement reached between the Worker's Association and the IDBI's Management are unjust and inappropriate. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister of Finance whether the Government would immediately like to issue any directions to the IDBI in this regard? I would like to say that the wage settlement agreement should be implemented at the earliest.

[English]

SHRI BRAJAKISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Sir, on behalf of my Party, I want to associate with the issue raised.

MR. SPEAKER: Okay, you can associate yourself with this.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, the matter boils down to just one issue. Section 5(1) of the Act, as you know, is *para materia* with Section 12 (2) of the Nationalization of Banks Act; it is *para materia* with Section 25 FF(b) of the Industrial Disputes Act.

I will read Section 5(1) of the Repeal Act, which says — I am omitting the irrelevant portion and I quote:

"Every officer or every employee of the Development Bank, serving in employment immediately before the appointing date, shall ... hold his office or service therein by the same tenure, at the same remuneration, upon the same terms and conditions, with the same obligations and with the same rights and privileges as to leave fare concession, welfare scheme, medical scheme, insurance, provident fund, other funds, retirement, voluntary retirement, gratuity and other benefits, as he would have held under the Development Bank, if its undertaking had not vested in the company, it shall continue to be so."

So, no term or condition of employment falling under Section 5(1) has been altered after the erstwhile IDBI, the Development Bank was merged into the new company, which is the IDBI Bank. Nothing has been violated. What is the issue here? The issue is whether they have negotiated a new settlement. While negotiating a new settlement, they were told — now you are a public sector bank, and therefore, you can negotiate the terms and conditions, salary, pay scale, etc. — that whatever they agreed, we will implement it. So, the negotiated pay scale, allowances, a number of other normal, usual perquisites, and terms and conditions, etc. are there and we have not interfered with that at all. Whatever the management and the unions have negotiated, we said, we would approve it. However, after it became a public sector bank, they put a condition here, which says "any modification to the provisions of the memorandum of settlement dated October 5, 2005, between the All India

Reserve Bank Employees' Association and the Management of the RBI shall *mutatis mutandis* apply to this settlement. If so required, the parties shall enter into an agreement." The effect of this is that if RBI amends its agreement with its employees, without any negotiation, it will automatically apply here. This, we said, cannot be accepted, after IDBI becomes a public sector bank.

To answer to Shri Dasgupta's question, what he suggested is exactly what we are saying. We expressly say that any future agreement, from 1.11.2007 will be based on such terms and conditions as would be negotiated and agreed upon between the bank and employees, having regard to the practices in other public sector banks. We have no problem. Like any other public sector bank, IDBI's employees should negotiate with the management having regard to the practices in other public sector banks and having regard to the well known principles of fixation of pay, that is, fair and equitable and capacity to pay. They can negotiate any agreement and ordinarily the Government will not interfere, as we have not interfered. We are objecting only to the clause which says if the RBI Agreement with the RBI employees is amended it will automatically, *mutatis mutandis*, apply here. That Sir, is no longer acceptable. I think most sections of the House and I am sure my learned friend also will agree that it would be an unreasonable condition to have in the agreement, RBI is a monetary authority, RBI is not a commercial organization. RBI derives its income and profits from Central bank functions. So, RBI gives a certain scale of pay. IDBI today is a public sector bank. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: It has developmental role also. You cannot deny that.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Nobody is questioning that IDBI has a developmental role also. Having regard to the developmental role, the union and the management may negotiate and agree upon a new wage package, we have no problem. We are not interfering with any term that they have negotiated. We are not interfering with pay scale, allowances, perquisites or anything. We are simply saying that do not put this clause that if the RBI amends its Agreement with the RBI employees, it will automatically mean an amendment to this agreement. That I am afraid cannot be accepted.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I would like to know whether that clause was there in the earlier agreement or not.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: That clause was there when IDBI Repeal Act was not there and the IDBI was not a public sector bank. IDBI's employees had been drawn from the RBI. After the Repeal Act, today IDBI has become a public

[Shri P. Chidambaram]

sector bank. Hon. Members met me. I do not want to take any names. I told them to please bear with me. I will approve every term of the Agreement but this clause should not be there. Please advise your employees to delete this clause and we will negotiate in future. You may negotiate Rs.100 more than other public sector bank, we have no objection. But you cannot say that if the RBI amends its agreement, it will automatically apply without any further. *...(Interruptions)* Please allow me to conclude now.

Therefore, all that we have said is, please substitute that clause and say, 'we will negotiate a future agreement having regard to the practices in public sector banks'.

Just to make sure that we are on a firm footing, we have taken the opinion of the Additional Solicitor General. Additional Solicitor General categorically opines that clause 5 (1) means, what I am saying, namely, all pre-existing terms and conditions will be protected, not that if RBI amends its agreement it will automatically apply here. My friends may disagree with me on my legal interpretation. The recourse is some other forum. All I can go by is the legal advice I have received and my best judgement. My sincere appeal is, officers should accept it, we will clear it. A section of the workmen say that we must have that clause. *...(Interruptions)* Please, your statement and my statement can be different. A section of the employees are saying that we must have the clause relating to the RBI. I appeal to all the employees of the IDBI, today, please delete that reference to RBI and this evening this agreement will come into force. My appeal is, let us face a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year on a very positive note. Please advise the employees to drop this clause.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, I seek your protection. The assurance was given that service conditions, parity in wages and pay scales. *...(Interruptions)* Is it not the service condition and other benefits? The interests of the employees will be protected. How the interests of the employees will be protected?

MR. SPEAKER: It cannot go on until you are satisfied. You go back dissatisfied.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I seek your protection. This assurance was given on the floor of this House. You were also there at that time when I pointed out and expressed. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: May I suggest one thing? I understand your predicament and that there are

some complexities. You are asking the workers to delete that clause about the RBI's decision. Along with that, will you ask your management to delete this with effect from 1.11.2005? *...(Interruptions)* What I am suggesting is that let them delete that part and you delete this part. Let both the contradictory stipulations be dropped. You implement it. In future, we shall discuss it.

12.40 hrs.

JUDGES (INQUIRY) BILL, 2006*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, we will take up Item No.45.

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill for establishing the National Judicial Council to undertake preliminary investigation and inquire into allegations of misbehaviour or incapacity of a Judge of the Supreme Court or of a High Court and to regulate the procedure for such investigation, inquiry and proof, and for imposing minor measures; and for the presentation of an address by Parliament to the President and for matters connected therewith.

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That leave be granted introduce a Bill for establishing the National Judicial Council to undertake preliminary investigation and inquire into allegations of misbehaviour or incapacity of a Judge of the Supreme Court or of a High Court and to regulate the procedure for such investigation, inquiry and proof, and for imposing minor measures; and for the presentation of an address by Parliament to the President and for matters connected therewith."

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Radhakrishnan, that is not a notice under which you can speak.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Sir, with your permission, I will read my objection.

MR. SPEAKER: First of all, you have not given it in time. Secondly, it has no relevance.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Sir, it is felt that the judicial independence and the judicial accountability are inseparable. The present Bill deals with the judicial

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 2 dated 19.12.2006

accountability. It deals with the combined mechanism. This is not enough. Therefore, there must be a law providing judicial accountability in the matter of recruitment, appointment and disciplinary proceedings. The National Law Commission of India is also of the view that there must be a law to determine the judicial accountability. This can be done by a statute for the appointment of a National Judicial Commission with powers to deal with such matters. This Bill deals with only one aspect, namely, the combined mechanism. So, it is high time for the Government of India to bring in a legislation for the appointment of a Judicial Commission. This is the matter which I wanted to raise and if the hon. Minister is kind enough to reply me, it is quite welcome because our apprehensions will be done away with. So, I would request him to make a statement.

MR. SPEAKER: When you speak on this Bill, you can raise these points. Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Radhakrishnan, this is not the time to raise it. I would not allow this any more. Now nothing more will be recorded.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted introduce a Bill for establishing the National Judicial Council to undertake preliminary investigation and inquire into allegations of misbehaviour or incapacity of a Judge of the Supreme Court or of a High Court and to regulate the procedure for such investigation, inquiry and proof, and for imposing minor measures; and for the presentation of an address by Parliament to the President and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

12.42 hrs.

CABLE TELEVISION NETWORKS (REGULATION) AMENDMENT BILL, 2006*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, we will take up Item No.46.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND

MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: I introduce the Bill.

12.43 hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:-

- (i) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 18th December, 2006 agreed without any amendment to the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Bill, 2006 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 14th December, 2006."
- (ii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 18th December, 2006 agreed without any amendment to the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Bill, 2006 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 15th December, 2006."

12.44 hrs.

RE: NOTICE TO BREACH OF PRIVILEGE

[English]

SHRI ARJUN SETHI (Bhadrak): Sir, I have given a privilege notice.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Arjun Sethi, I have received your notice. The comments of the Minister of State in the Ministry

* Not recorded.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part I, Section 2 dated 19.12.2006

of Human Resource Development has been asked for. They are being waited. I will take a decision in the matter after the receipt of his comments. So, it is very much under consideration.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Sir, I had given notice on the last Tuesday and you were kind enough to ask for the information. I have submitted all the relevant papers to the hon. Chair. But I would like to know why the hon. Minister is taking so much time to reply a simple question.

MR. SPEAKER: I will keep it in mind.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Sir, already eight days have passed. Sir, you can see how casual they are. It is the direction of the Chair that the relevant comments should be submitted to the hon. Chair.

MR. SPEAKER: I will see. If there is anything further, that will amount to aggravating the contempt!

SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Sir, today is the last day of the Session.

MR. SPEAKER: I know. If you want to send him to jail, let him have a little time!

SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Sir, I would request you to kindly refer the matter to the Privileges Committee. We can debate there and all the Members of that Committee can know what are the contents of the issue.

MR. SPEAKER: I will look into it with all sincerity and seriousness.

I may inform the hon. Members that there will be no luncheon recess today.

[English]

SHRI NAKUL DAS RAI (Sikkim): Sir, I would like to raise an important issue with regard to new railway lines in the State of Sikkim. Laying of railway line is not only important for the State of Sikkim, but also is important for the whole nation because Sikkim is strategically located, surrounded by countries like China, Nepal and Bhutan. If railways lines are laid through tunneling, it would help for the development of state and in promotion of tourism in the State and would also extend a pathway for easy movement of the army through that area.

It was a declared aim of the UPA Government to connect the State capitals of the country with railways. I had raised the issue of connecting Gangtok, the capital of Sikkim, with the rest of India by Railways during the last Budget Session, but I did not find a positive answer to this.

Sir, I had also requested the hon. Railway Minister for employment of Sikkimese people in the Railways through special recruitment drives considering the backwardness of the area. But this also has not been done by the Railway Department so far. A large number of people are working in the Railways but not a single person from the State of Sikkim has found employment in the Railways. If job opportunities are provided to these people living in the far and remote areas of the country, then they would feel much more integrated to the nation. Therefore, I would, once again, like to urge upon the hon. Minister to kindly consider these matters.

SHRI ABU HASEM KHAN CHOUDHURY (Malda): Sir, I, on behalf of the people of Malda, would like to make a representation to the Government about their sufferings caused to erosion and flood of the river Ganges. Over the last 25 years, this river has been flowing through the town of Malda and has, over the period, penetrated 35 kilometers inside the town. Thousands of people have become homeless and landless and have been rendered destitute.

Sir, the responsibility for managing and controlling erosion and flood has been assigned to the State Government of West Bengal. The State Government has repeatedly expressed their inability to manage such a huge task because of financial constraints. When Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmuni became a Central Minister he initiated certain steps and undertaken certain measures and work was also being done by the State Government of West Bengal. It yielded very good results. But since then nothing has been done.

The Farakka Barrage Authority also did a good job. It is believed that the problem of erosion in Malda takes place owing to Farakka barrage itself. Due to restrictions in the normal flow of water, the engineers believe the erosion is taking place in the area. I think, the Central Government should take over the entire responsibility of repairing and controlling the problem of erosion and flood in that area. The Government of West Bengal has been given the repair work but the methods employed by them are very old fashioned. Again, when Shri P.R. Dasmuni was the Minister, he wanted to have a pilot project with the new technology of geotextiles and geotechnology which are much cheaper and which are of American origin. Unfortunately for us, he was moved to the Ministry which he is now occupying. Also, the Task Force which went from the Government of India also said that geosynthesis and geotextiles may work there to control erosion. I sincerely believe that the Farakka Barrage should be given the entire responsibility of erosion and flood control of that area because they know the position well, they have their own resources and they know the behaviour of River Ganga.

So, I appeal to you to pursue the Central Government to take over the entire responsibility of flood control and erosion control of that area.

MR. SPEAKER: I compliment you for raising this matter.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am going to raise a very important matter with your permission.

The Planning Commission provides plan allocation to State Governments on the basis of the Gadgil formula but it neither clarifies the percentage of that allocation to each state nor the percentage of each component under that formula. There is a gradual decline in the Central grants being provided to State Governments for various plans. Moreover, the States are not being given any special Central grant or special plan allocation. Due to water-logging in Banner and Jaisalmer districts of Rajasthan, the local people are facing a lot of difficulties. No grant was given even after the recommendation of the Central team. Rajasthan Government is constantly trying but its efforts are bearing no fruit due to the presence of mines in that area. There is scarcity of funds and due to decline in ground water level, the problem of drinking water is acute even during winter. One can imagine the gravity of that problem during summer.

So, it is my request to the Central Government that it is essential to provide special central fund under the Gadgil formula or special plan allocation as a special package to the Rajasthan Government. In addition to that, special fund should be provided for Banner and Jaisalmer districts and additional funds should be provided for Jaipur parliamentary constituency.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me the opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRIMATI MINATI SEN (Jalpaiguri): Sir, in the last week of November, 2006, the West Bengal State Assembly has unanimously passed a Resolution demanding tax holidays for establishing new industries in North Bengal as presently being enjoyed by the States of Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh and Utranchal. Earlier, the State of Assam and the other North-Eastern States are enjoying the benefits of relaxation of excise duties. Unfortunately, no major industry has been established in those areas.

Considering the industrial backwardness of North Bengal, I demand that the benefits of relaxation of Central tax and excise duties may be extended for establishment of new industries in North Bengal.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI (Udaipur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak. The land of Rajasthan. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shrimati Kiran Maheshwari, you are from the beautiful city of Udaipur. But you have never asked me to come there.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, please visit my city, Udaipur.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I request you to visit Jaipur also, during your visit of Udaipur.

SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you. I am raising a very important matter. I would like to draw the attention of the government towards the fact that the land of Rajasthan is the land of brave men and women. It is especially true for Southern Rajasthan which has a history of bravery and devotion. !! Maharana Pratap symbolizes bravery, Mirabai is the symbol of devotion. The Central Government claims that it is promoting and establishing museums with the Central assistance. As such, I request the Government through the Chair to allocate special funds in the budget for museums in Rajasthan so that the future generation could remember the history of brave men and women and also get inspired by them. For this purpose setting up of a museum after the name of Mirabai is very important. My Parliamentary constituency, Udaipur, the beauty of which is also endorsed by you, is also famous in history for various acts of bravery and devotion. There is no museum in the country named after Mirabai. So, I request that one such museum be established in Udaipur and it will be taken as a big achievement of the Central Government. It will help us to know about our history. This is my request through the Chair.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Sir, the name of Mirabai has been mentioned in this demand, so, I, too, associate myself with that demand.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: There is nobody in India who does not like Mira Bai's bhajans. We all admire the bhajans.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, please request the government to work in that direction.

MR. SPEAKER: I have already requested in this regard.

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH (Udhampur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me some time to speak. I would like to remind you that an hon. Member had requested you in that regard, but no attention was paid to his request. It is about the official UN map of Jammu and Kashmir. Even in the past it pained us when the word 'except Jammu and Kashmir' was mentioned in the bills passed by both the Houses.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Your matter is regarding burning of Tosha Khana and UN Aid in Jammu and Kashmir.

[Translation]

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: I have given notices about two issues. I am speaking about the issue regarding the release of a map by the UN.

MR. SPEAKER: Please speak quickly about the issue regarding the map.

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: The crux of the matter is that showing Jammu and Kashmir outside the Indian Territory is a matter of sorrow. Our integrity and sovereignty should not be reflected in that way. We proclaim Jammu and Kashmir as the integral part of our country but it is a matter of great concern that it has been shown outside the Indian Territory in the UN map. My submission is that a serious note of this act. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: As I said earlier, your matter is regarding burning of Tosha Khana. You should not get into the map.

[Translation]

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: I have given notice about two matters. I am speaking on one issue. If you say, I can speak about the first one. I had given two notices—one about Tosha Khana and the other about the UN.

MR. SPEAKER: Two issues are not permitted.

[English]

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: I am speaking on only one issue.

MR. SPEAKER: Do not misuse the opportunity.

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: I am not misusing it. I am using my opportunity.

[Translation]

I request the Government of India to find out the initiator of that act. During the functions organized all over the world about AIDS in the recent past, Jammu and Kashmir has been shown as a separate entity. I am pained to find it.

MR. SPEAKER: What was your notice and which one are you speaking?

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: I have said what is true.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You come and meet me in my Chamber.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, while expressing my gratitude to you, I would like to draw the attention of the government towards a historical, urgent and important matter of public importance. The Krishna Era Mountains of Braj area falling under Rajasthan are being destroyed by using dynamites. Five thousand years old "Leela Sthalis" of 'Lord Krishna' in Rajasthan are being destroyed thereby hurting the sentiments of the crores of people.

13.00 hrs.

This has led to resentment among the people. Even they are courting arrests. They are destroying the places of historical importance. 'Deeg' and 'Kaman' Tehsils in Bharatpur district of Rajasthan form part of the 'Braj' region where there are numerous Krishna era mountains. These mountains having immense mythological significance and which represent the religious sentiments of crores of people are being destroyed. Crores of people circumambulate these mountains from time to time. Such a sacred place is being destroyed through dynamite and stone crashing activities are going on in Rajasthan. ..."

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not refer to State Government. No, I will not allow this. You know my view.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker Sir, It is a technical point. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I am doing it for you. Why are you

*Not recorded.

bothering? I will not allow any State Government matter to be raised here.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: What is objectionable in it. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: But do not refer to the State Government. The words 'State Government' will be deleted from the record.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it does not pertain to the State Government rather it is concerned with the Centre. ...(Interruptions) I am stating about the Centre. I am referring to the Central Pollution control Board. ...(Interruptions) I am referring to the Centre. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: We have deleted this word from the record. I have ordered.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: I am referring to the hon'ble Supreme Court and the Central Pollution Control Board.

This is a pollution Control Board of the Central Government. ...(Interruptions) The entire 'Braj' region comes under the Taj Trapezium Zone. As per the orders of the Supreme Court of India, polluting activities like quarrying and stone crushing are banned in this zone, still the 'Braj' mountains are being quarried illegally. This quarrying is not only obliterating the rich cultural heritage but also causing severe environmental damage.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the serious matter is that illegal quarrying of the Braj mountains is going on without the permission of the Central Pollution Control Board. The Central Pollution Control Board has recommended immediate ban on quarrying in the 'Braj' region. The Supreme Court has banned it. Despite this, illegal quarrying is continuing. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Ram Kripal Yadav, why are you standing? Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Yadav ji. Now please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing more will be recorded. Don't write anything more.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I am protecting you. Nothing is being recorded? Why are you standing up?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Devendra Prasad Yadav, don't defy the Chair. Don't record one word more. I will not allow anything to be recorded now.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please cooperate. I will not allow anything now.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is being recorded. Why are you speaking? I will not allow this.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This is open defiance of the Chair. I will not allow this.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I wish to make it very clear that this is not permitted. I don't know how long, but so long as I am here, I will not allow State Government matters to be raised here without prior permission and that will depend on me.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: For the first time a Member is speaking on Sports. Please let him speak.

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN (Sonapat): Mr. Speaker, Sir, India is a great country. We have more sports talent in comparison to any other country of the world but you can see that the Government of India, all multinational companies, electronic media, print media are excessively promoting only the game of cricket through their activities.

13.04 hrs.

(MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair)

All of our other traditional games are being neglected. Sports persons of other games are feeling neglected as the entire focus remains on cricket.

*Not recorded.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Cricket is the game of the rich and elite. Rich countries play it. Its players become millionaires in a few days through advertisements. Whenever there is a cricket match, employees in the offices listen to cricket commentary on radio and they watch T.V. for live telecast of this match. In this way, it leads to a wastage of time. You are seeing the results also of this game. The quantum of budgetary support and the focus being provided to this game by multinational companies is quite obvious. The media is helping this game to touch new heights through advertisements. The moral of our players will get a boost if our traditional games are also paid similar attention. Hockey, Football, Basketball, Kabaddi, Wrestling, Swimming and Horse Race are our traditional games which are being wiped out due to the excessive encouragement being given to Cricket. Players of these games are feeling neglected. Our country's sports talent is not being used at all. Therefore, through you, I would request the Government of India and the media not to encourage only one game. It has become a commercial game. It is no more a game; it has become a trade. Therefore, encourage the traditional games of our country. Our wrestlers have earned fame in the world. Hence, in addition to Cricket, attention should be paid towards other traditional games as well. Hockey was the most famous game of our country but now we are lagging behind in this also. As a result, crores of sports persons are feeling neglected. So I would request you to encourage these games and put a check on Cricket which has spoiled the country.

SHRI RAMSWAROOP KOLI (Bayana): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I associate myself with Shri Kishan Singh Sangwan.

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH (Allahabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, 15th Asian Games were held in Doha recently. The performance of our country was very disappointing. It is a matter of great concern. It is a serious matter that with a population of more than 100 crores, our country is lagging behind in such a manner. If you go through the medals list, you will find that India is at the 8th or 9th place. We are nowhere in the picture in comparison to China. If we compare our country with the smaller countries like Japan, Korea, Qatar and Iran, we will find that even after 57 years of independence we are far behind these countries so far as winning of medals is concerned.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Hockey is our national game. For the first time after 57 years of independence, our country could not qualify to enter in the semifinal of Hockey. Except Cricket, we do not discuss anything about other games in Lok Sabha and as a result our performance has been disappointing in these games. If the performance in shooting competition by women athletes were not good then India

would not have been able to get even those medals. The Commonwealth Games are to be held in India in the year 2010. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The game of Hockey is played mostly in Punjab. I am also worried that India could not enter the semifinals in the Asiad.

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Commonwealth Games are scheduled to be held in our country in the year 2010. If this type of performance continues, then we will lose our respectable status. With these words, through you, I request the Government to pay immediate attention towards the dismal performance in sports and take corrective action in this regard.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, our country had sent a man as a woman runner in the Asiad. It has defamed India. Olympic Association should apologize for that. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: As we have to take up another subject for discussion at 2.00 p.m., I request all the honourable Members to conclude within one minute so that maximum number of Members can get opportunity to speak.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: One Minute is finished right at the start.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the honourable Finance Minister towards a very serious point. Most of the non-governmental banking companies of our country issue credit cards to innocent consumers by telling them about the benefits of credit card. These banks often do not inform their costumers about their terms and conditions and trap them and then they charge interest at will. This interest is almost 40 per cent annually. The most surprising fact is that these banks are unable to secure their cards and they show card assessment expenses even if the consumer has not spent anything and collect it forcefully. Among these banks the ICICI bank, the City bank, the HDFC bank are the most infamous.

Sir, through you, I request the honourable Finance Minister to monitor them and enact such punitive law against those banks which are cheating the innocent customers as can save them from this injustice. A strict legal action should be taken in this regard immediately so that this situation can be brought under control and a check on the private banks is put in place which are duping the common people through the credit cards.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Shailendra Kumar to speak. There is no need to raise your hands because I am calling one by one.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to raise a matter of great public importance. Higher pay scales in private sector companies are demoralizing the soldiers; the morale of our soldiers is very low because of higher pay scales in private sector jobs involving very low risk. People are getting various employment opportunities after liberalization and globalization and they are also getting good salaries. But the soldiers who are posted on the borders and fighting for our country, only get 3200 as basic pay and Rs. 6300 with allowances. They are able to take only Rs. 4500 to their homes. So, through you, I would like to demand the Government to give at least five thousand rupees as basic pay and Rupees ten thousand with allowances to the soldiers who face huge risk on borders and live away from their families, so that they can take at least 8-8.5 thousand rupees to their homes as only then, they can run their families in a better way and the unity and integrity of our country can be maintained.

13.13 hrs.

SUBMISSION BY MEMBER

Re: Need to provide reservation in jobs In Private Sector

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, during the last few years, disinvestment of public sector undertakings has taken place very speedily and it includes not only those undertakings which were running in losses but profit making undertakings as well. A concern was expressed at that time about the people belonging to the weaker sections, the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. It was the commitment of the U.P.A. Government to give reservation to them in private sector industries also. This resolve was also reflected in the President's Address. Whenever there was a discussion in this regard in this House, the government promised to provide reservation in the private sector. A group of ministers was also constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri Sharad Pawar but I do not have any information about the progress made by this group.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a message is going that this Government is working slowly under the pressure of the private sector industrial houses.

Through you, I would like to know the time by which the Government will bring reservation bill for the private sector and the time by when the Government will enforce it? We want your protection.

Sir, it is a very serious issue. The Government may state as to when the bill is likely to come and what is the future of this bill? ...*(Interruptions)* The Government had a commitment for its common minimum programme. The Government is not serious at all on the issue of reservation

for private sector. ...*(Interruptions)* We want your protection. The Government may state whether any time limit has been fixed for this purpose? Is there any time limit by which Government will bring this bill?

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Sumanji, your statement has already gone on record.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Shri Mahabir Prasad is sitting here. ...*(Interruptions)* They must be replied on that. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You know, I cannot compel the hon'ble Minister. Now, please sit down.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has come. ...*(Interruptions)* The time by which it will be done? ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, we also associate ourselves with the issue raised by Shri Ramji Lal Suman.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Members who want to associate themselves with him may please send their letter.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): This is being discussed all over the country. All the political parties are talking in this regard. It is a sensitive issue. I would make the Government aware about these sentiments.

[Translation]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI (Jodhpur): Sir, I would like to raise a very important issue here which is related to forward trading. Due to forward trading prices have sharply risen in market and I would like to draw the attention of Government towards this issue. Forward trading started two three years back. The production of gram was fifty seven lakh twenty thousand metric tonne production in the year of 2003-04 and at that time even one kilogram could not be

sold but after the introduction of forward trading fifty six lakh fifty thousand metric tonne gram was produced but as per figures of CMIE, Mumbai, a deal of eleven crore fifty six lakh thirty seven thousand one hundred sixty metric tonne gram has been traded in the market. Where there is no production at all but trade is striking at high rate and no delivery is taking place. As no delivery is taking place, price are rising by leaps and bounds in the market. This matter is related to farmers and traders particularly. Farmers and traders are on the verge of committing suicide after arrival of NCDX. I would like to draw the attention of the Government through you that delivery must certainly be made in the deal done in forward trading. The rate of pulse will increase from fifty six rupees to sixty rupees if delivery will not take place. I would like to draw the attention of the Government through you that the Government may please pay attention on it. The single reason of price rise is forward trading. Please put some restrictions on that market.

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA (Ujjain): I express my thanks for giving me an opportunity to raise an important issue. The farmers of Madhya Pradesh have a lot of problems. There is a lack of urea, fertilizers, chemical fertilizers and power supply there. It is necessary to fulfill the immediate demand of power supply for irrigation of rabi crops in Madhya Pradesh. Similarly to fulfill the demand of urea and fertilizers for crops in state is also essential. I would like to draw the attention of the Central Government through you that urea and chemical fertilizers may be supplied immediately and help to meet the requirement of power supply from Central Pool. I express my thanks for giving me an opportunity to speak on this issue.

SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA (Hamirpur, UP): Sir, Bundelkhand region is one of the most backward regions of the country. Hamirpur, Mahoba, Jalaun, Chitrakoot, Banda, Lalitpur and Jhansi Janpads come under my parliamentary constituency. There are a number of problems in these places and farmers are suffering from flood, drought and hailstorm for the last four years. Regional imbalance is prevailing there. All the facilities should be provided in every field, be it unemployment, industries or means of irrigation for farmers. Bundelkhand is very famous for tourist attraction but that has also not been developed. I met Prime Minister along with our leader professor Ram Gopal Yadav in this regard and again I met on 11th of month with my deputy leader Ramji Lal Suman. On many occasions we made a demand for a package. In order to remove the regional imbalance, we want the Government to send a survey team to Bundelkhand and take steps to announce a special package on the lines of Vidarbha region where a package of Rs. 3700 crores has been provided by the Central Government.

[English]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberla): Thank you Deputy Speaker, Sir.

I would like to draw the attention of this House and, through this House, the Government also to the debate on the discussion of textbooks. It is a very old debate. Every time we find in some States, the history and the contents in some other textbooks are distorted. The syllabus is distorted. Recently, there was a report in all the major newspapers that in the textbooks of history and social sciences of Class XI and XII and in the textbook of Hindi of Class X in Rajasthan, there are a lot of distortions of facts and history. Then, an element of hatred and communal understanding is injected in those textbooks. There is a protest in Rajasthan from intellectual sections. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Member is making false allegation. ...*(Interruptions)* There is nothing like that in Rajasthan. ...*(Interruptions)* Communism is acceptable to ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: I support all the good demands of Rajasthan. You have raised it. But one thing that you have to understand is that they should not indulge in this type of activities. Intellectuals, writers and all the people in Rajasthan have raised that this type of things should not be there in the textbooks because the young minds should not be communalized and hatred should not be injected in the minds of young people.

SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY (Bellary): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Finance Minister to the problems being faced by the employees of the Regional Rural Banks (RRBs). The employees of the RRBs are facing seven problems.

The RRB employees have been considered at par with the staff of sponsor bank in the matter of pay, allowance and other benefits. But in reality, there is a lot of parity in all allowances and other benefits given to the RRB employees and the Government of India should implement other allowances and benefits at par with sponsor bank to RRB staff immediately. The present system of pension scheme 1995 is not suitable for bank officers and employees. The Union Government should implement the pension scheme specially designed and implemented in banking industry for RRB staff too.

The Union Government should immediately stop outsourcing of banking services to outsiders as the system

of outsourcing is not only giving room for leakage of customer details but also it denies permanent employment to deserved candidates. To improve and strengthen the rural credit systems and banking services to rural people more effective, the Union Government should consider formation of National Rural Bank of India by amalgamating all the RRBs. I am given to understand that a proposal in this regard is pending with the Union Government and there is an urgent need to clear this important proposal for the benefit of rural people.

The NABARD has implemented payment of ex-gratia (lump sum amount) in lieu of appointment on compassionate grounds in RRBs. This causes problems to the families of the deceased employee. There is an urgent need to continue the appointment on compassionate grounds under existing norms/guidelines.

The RRBs' internal promotions have been held up and there were no continuity in internal promotions. The employees who are serving in the Bank as Clerks for the past 25-30 years are still working as clerks. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)**

**SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY (Bellary): The Union Government should intervene in the matter and arrange for the promotion of staff of RRBs who have put minimum required number of service in a particular cadre.

There has been a continuous upward growth in Branch expansion which means the workload of the employees is also increasing drastically. To cope up with the situation, the Union Government should consider appointment of manpower by direct recruitment for the vacancies in the RRBs.

Keeping these in view, I once again urge upon the Union Government to mitigate the problems being faced by the employees of RRBs so that it can serve the people, especially rural people, more effectively. Thank you.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Sir, I rise to raise an important issue concerning the law and order situation in a particular State. Now, the recent judgement of the Supreme Court has declared that the police force should be under the control of a Commission. A Commission should control the law and order situation. If we are leaving the powers to that Commission, then the State Government will have no role to play in such a situation. I would submit that if this pronouncement is given effect to, it will negate the federal structure of our Constitution.

* Not recorded.

** The Speech was laid on the Table.

Sir, law and order administration is a State matter, and the States must have complete powers in dealing with the law and order situation in a particular place. If it is given to an independent agency that will lead to chaos. In this respect, the Government of Kerala and the Home Minister of Kerala have expressed their resentment with regard to this proposal. This proposal cannot be accepted. The Supreme Court is reluctant to accept the recommendations of the Law Commission. But they would suggest that the State Government should form a Commission to control the police and the law and order situation in a particular State. This is a very wrong procedure, a very wrong decision. I would request the Central Government to see that this wrong decision is reviewed and corrected and give way to the federal structure and federal polity of our State. Then only our constitutional functioning will be proper.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Basu Deb Acharia to raise only one matter.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Yes, Sir, Kulti Steel Plant is one of the oldest steel plants in our country. The operation of this steel plant was stopped by an order of the Board of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction. When the BIFR recommended revival of Burnpur unit of IISCO, the BIFR also recommended closure of Kulti. Then, the operation was stopped. The oldest steel plant today is close now. There is a persistent demand that along with Burnpur unit, Kulti should also be re-opened and revived and production should start at Kulti. A Committee has been constituted by the Steel Authority of India to examine as to what are the items which Kulti plant used to produce. It had four foundries. The steel plants of the Steel Authority of India as well as Vizag Steel Plant are procuring various items from outside. Those items can be manufactured in Kulti steel plant.

The Government of India is investing Rs. 10,000 crore for a new steel plant at Burnpur the capacity of which will be 2.5 million tonnes. The hon. Prime Minister is going to Burnpur to lay the foundation stone of this new steel plant. There is a demand that along with a new steel plant at Burnpur and modernization of IISCO, Kulti steel plant should also be re-opened and production should be started. Those items which the Steel Authority of India will have to procure even after the new plant comes up, can be manufactured at Kulti unit and Kulti unit will become an ancillary unit of Burnpur.

The people of that area are expecting that the hon. Prime Minister will definitely say something when he goes to Burnpur. Before that, I urge upon the Government that some positive action should be taken by the Government of India so that the Kulti steel plant is reopened and production is started along with the modernization of Burnpur unit of IISCO. Thank you. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUNIL KHAN (Durgapur): Sir, I also want to associate myself with hon. Member Shri Basu Deb Acharia. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Those who want to be associated may send slips to the Table.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise a very important point before the Government. We all talk of the fund under MPLADS since all of us consider it very necessary. We all have been undertaking a lot of developmental works in our concerned constituencies with this fund. As per the Report received, several Members of Parliament have done well in their respective constituencies. But an unfavourable decision is likely to come because a petition against the MPLAD fund and MLA Fund was filed in the Mumbai High Court in Maharashtra twelve years back which has now come up for hearing. That petition contains a PIL seeking the cancellation of the MPLAD fund and our ex-M.P. Shri Ram Naikji is intervening therein and trying to protect it. Government has been made a party therein. But it has been noticed that the Government has neither defended nor furnished any reply in this regard. The Government has also not hired any advocate in this regard. If no reply comes from the Central Government and if a good advocate is not hired in its defence, there may be a possibility of a decision unfavourable to us from the hon'ble High Court. So, through you, I'd like to inform the Government that the last date of hearing for this has been fixed 31st January. Therefore, the Government should take a decision thereon at the earliest and give a reply on its behalf in its defence by hiring a good advocate.

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR (Bareilly): I have also given the reference that the Writ petition No. 1698/94 was filed in the year 1994. This case is pending for years and regretfully, the Government has paid no attention towards it. Now, the last date for this case has been fixed 31st January, 2007. It would be the last date and if we do not present our side properly on that day, this decision could go against us. We demand here in Lok Sabha to raise the amount under MPLAD Fund. We all understand its requirement. If the hon'ble Mumbai High Court gives its verdict otherwise in this regard, it would certainly be painful to all of us. ...*(Interruptions)* So, I urge upon you to direct the Union Government to immediately take effective steps in this regard and make its point suitably there on 31st January.

[English]

DR. K.S. MANOJ (Alleppey): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to raise a matter of urgent public importance regarding the repatriation of the Indian workers, including women, held up in Jordan.

More than two Indian citizens, including women, who were working in a garment factory at Jordan are being held up there. It is informed that the garment factory, in which they were working, was closed down by the Jordan Government due to failure in payment of taxes by the management of the said company. Their immigration documents and other work permits were with the employer. So, these workers are being detained there.

Out of these 200 workers from India, there are 60 workers from Kerala and two of them belong to my constituency. Their names are Smt. Kunjumol Saji, a tailor and Omana Marcose, an electric embroidery worker.

I would urge upon the Government, the Ministry of External Affairs and the Ministry of Overseas Affairs to kindly take necessary steps in the matter and direct the Indian Embassy there to repatriate all these Indian workers who are detained there in Jordan.

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI (Dharwad North): Sir, the Ministry of Human Resource Development is in the process of finalising the proposals for the Eleventh Five Year Plan. One of the important proposals is to establish new IITs and IIMs in various parts of the country. Accordingly, there is a great pressure for opening an IIT in Hubli-Dharwad, a big educational centre in northern part of Karnataka. Hubli-Dharwad is hub of educational activities with two universities, two medical colleges and many engineering colleges.

Northern part of Karnataka is considered more backward in terms of development and infrastructure and hence needs immediate attention of the Government. In this background, opening a new IIT in Hubli-Dharwad goes a long way in the development of the entire region. I would also like to bring to the notice of the Government that Dr. U.R.Rao Committee appointed by the Government of India to go into this matter is also reported to have recommended Hubli-Dharwad to be a suitable place for opening a new IIT. What happened with this recommendation? Why is the Government not clear on this demand? Has the Government finalized the places of new IITs? I urge upon the Government to immediately finalise Hubli-Dharwad to be one of the places for opening a new IIT.

The Expert Committee which was appointed for this has clearly recommended Hubli-Dharwad. I urge upon the Government to take a final decision on this in favour of Hubli-Dharwad in the Northern Part of Karnataka which is the neglected part of that region.

[Translation]

*SHRI M. SHIVANNA (Chamarajanagar) Mr. Speaker Sir, interlinking of rivers is very familiar and important idea

* Translation of the speech originally delivered in Kannada

In our country, Dr. Rao the then Union Minister had mooted this idea. But Mr. Devaraj is enunciating the project of his teacher Dr. Kalyan Raman. The main thrust of this project is to link northern rivers with the rivers of south India.

1. The revolutionary project is entirely different and it intends to link rivers alongwith thousand of tanks. If there is water in these tanks then there will be no need to go for 1000 feet borewells. This move will also check the soil erosion to a greater extent.
2. Expenditure would be very less when compared to the Government's estimation. Money will come from different sources and the centre need not spend on this project.
3. It can be completed in less time.
4. A permanent solution for drought and floods.
5. Millions will get jobs.
6. Main concentration is in Ganga-Kaveri River Linking Project.
7. The percentage of irrigated land would increase enormously.
8. Time is running out. We are facing acute shortage of water (including drinking water). Hence this is urgency to implement this project immediately. There will be war for water in our country in the near future.

There are many other valid reasons to take up this project without any further delay.

[English]

DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA (Lakhimpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, through you I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Home Minister to the disturbances in Assam on its borders with the neighbouring States of Meghalaya, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh. Settlement of disputes between various States is the primary responsibility of the Central Government. The situation at the Assam-Nagaland border is very tense because the people are terrorized due to free movement of armed militants who are under ceasefire agreement. In certain parts of the border, illegal migrants are also being settled down. Yesterday, to draw the attention to this fact, about 130 inhabitants of Golaghat District near Assam-Nagaland border led by the area ML A Mr. Binod Gowala have staged a dharna. They are also drawing the attention of the Central Government for immediate settlement of the border issue. The Central Government has also constituted a Commission to go into the various disputes between the States.

I would like to draw the attention of the Government to

immediately settle the border dispute. This is presently managed by the CRPF as the neutral force. They are not able to manage and the people are always in tension. It is an issue of prime importance for us. The Government should pay adequate attention to this and this issue should be settled once and for all.

SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL (Dibrugarh): Sir, I associate myself with Dr. Arun Kumar Sarma on this issue.

SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL: I would like to draw the attention of the House to a very important matter regarding environmental impact assessment. Arunachal Pradesh is taking up a lot of power plants over its rivers, which are coming from the hilltop to the Brahmaputra Valley.

Sir, my humble submission is this. Environmental impact assessment is a tool used for decision making regarding projects. EIA is intended to identify the environmental, social and economic impacts of a proposed development prior to decision making. The environmental assessment is carried out by the developer although the task is often carried out by environmental consultants. It is carried out in order to produce an environmental statement. EIA has got two processes — preliminary assessment and detailed assessment. Scoping is used to identify the key issues of concern at an early stage in the planning process.

I am coming to the main point. People of Assam have got tremendous apprehension of the rivers from hills which are coming down to Assam and a lot of projects are coming up. There are some very important reports. The findings of EIA report of 2002 in NHPC 2000 MW lower Subam Shree Project at Garukamuks project reveals that if there is any bridge of dam constructed on the river in Arunachal Pradesh, there will be no way of rescue because the water reservoir will be above 70 km. with the depth of 1000 metres.

That is why, we demand the Government concerned and the Department concerned that there should be proper impact assessment so that the people of Assam do not have any fear psychosis out of these projects and they are secured and the public view should be recorded at the time of preliminary stage of the preparation of the project report.

DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Sir, I associate with the issue.

DR. SUJAN CHAKRABORTY (Jadavpur): This is a very important matter relating to the deaf persons of the country. These people are obviously physically challenged. I understand that all sides of the House must have sympathy and definitely have responsibility towards them. Discrimination is going on. That is very clear. I would like to give an example. In the CSC 2005 examination, three boys who have passed the examination have been denied their

appointment as IAS, simply because they are deaf. This cannot continue and go on. One of those boys was even among the topper and is a doctor. This has been continuing earlier too. In 1999 also, some pending cases were reported. On the 3rd of December, on the World Disability Day, there was a demonstration by the National Association of Deaf in Delhi. They staged a Dharna. Nearly 8,000 people assembled there. They wanted to meet the Prime Minister also. He was not in the country. They met the Minister of Social Justice. In a sense, their demand is right. These appointments should be cleared immediately. It should not be delayed further. This discrimination should not continue. The Indian Sign Language should be recognized. These are the two demands which I believe, the Government should take it up with utmost seriousness and do the needful immediately. With these words, I conclude.

SHRI LALIT MOHAN SUKLABAIIDYA (Karimganj): Through you, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Home Minister to a very important matter relating to Indo-Bangla border of Barak Valley. Barbed wire fencing in the Indo-Bangla border in Barak Valley is under severe criticism alleging for its poor quality of work. This issue has been the headline of local newspapers. People of the Valley consider this work as a very important work for their protection from the Bangladesh infiltrators, terrorists, anti-nationalists, even from dacoits and thieves. People often complain about the very poor quality of the work. I have earlier informed the Government also. I do not know as to whether the Government has appointed any third party for inspection or the assessment of the work and as to whether the work has been done according to the specifications or not and as to whether it is fit for the purpose for which it is constructed. Hence, I would request the Government to take action in this regard.

I have one more point to make.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will not allow a second matter to be raised.

[Translation]

SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV (Chandouli): Sir, the Rajghat bridge has been closed from 12 O' clock in the night w.e.f. 13.12.2006 on the instruction of the Railways administration. All the passengers from Banaras to Mughal Sarai and from Mughal Sarai to Varanasi are facing difficulty. Two small boats of corporation were pressed into service by the administration to enable the people to go to Banaras. 60-70 persons are simultaneously boarding these boats which is beyond the capacity of the boats of carrying 30-35 persons only. These boats could meet with an accident any time since these remain overloaded. Consequently, businessmen, travellers and patients going to Banaras,

Rohtas, Sahsaram, Bhabhua (districts of Bihar) and Chandauli from Mughalsarai are facing a lot of difficulty. Lacs of People commute there daily.

Therefore, I urge upon you to provide a stoppage to all trains from Mughal Sarai to Banaras and vice-versa at the Kashi Railway Station and introduce local trains without any further delay as also to provide the local passengers tickets at this station until the repair of the bridge is completed keeping in view the large number of passengers. For the convenience of the passengers, two Banaras-Mughal Sarai bound local trains be introduced without any delay so as to put an end to the difficulties being faced by seven lakh commuters.

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA (Kheri): Sir, through you, I would like to give an important information to the House. There are thousands of villages in India which are located nearby jungles. About more than 60 per cent of crops gets destroyed there due to the forest animals grazing there. Consequently, the residents of those villages are in a very sad condition. Their financial position has deteriorated completely and they are leading a very miserable life. There is a National Park in my constituency also and there are 140 villages nearby it in which tenants are living in a very pathetic condition. This leads to a clash between the forest officers and the tenants and several animals as well as lions have also been poached on this count. Through you, I request the Government to arrange for electric fencing around the villages located nearby jungles or sanctuaries all over the country in cooperation with the Ministry of Rural Development as well as the Ministry of Environment and forests so as to ease the tenants. We have made certain efforts in this regard and got positive results. Through you, I request the Government to make provision for it in the budget.

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE (Aurangabad, Maharashtra): Sir, through you, I'd like to draw the attention of the hon'ble Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas to a very serious issue. Complaints of gross irregularity in the distribution of petrol, diesel and kerosene from the refilling plant of the Indian Oil Corporation company located at Panewadi, Manmar distt. Nasik (Maharashtra), have been reported. Tankers are filled from this refilling plant in Marathwada i.e. Nanded, Parbhani and are routed to entire north India. Each tanker has a refilling capacity of 12000 litres. However it contains upto 44 litre less kerosene. Similarly, a tanker having a refilling capacity of 12000 litres of diesel & petrol contains upto 32 litre less of the raw fuel than its capacity. It has been observed by the authorities of the Weights and Measurements deptt. The Director General of the deptt. of Weights and Measurement, Maharashtra has also observed it and filed an FIR in Manmar on 17th of August under the Act of 1987 in this regard. Through you, I'd like to bring it to the notice of the hon'ble Minister that all

the officers of the Indian Oil Corporation working there have embezzled crores of rupees so far. Subsequently, I also in writing apprised the hon'ble Minister of the whole situation. Afterwards, all the petrol pump holders got due quantity of petrol and diesel for many days but thereafter the earlier situation have resumed. Buses of the MSRTC ply in our area. That corporation has also suffered a loss of one crore fifty lacs due to this. The Collector and other officers of our area again enquired into this matter and filed an FIR against them. Discussion were held on this issue in the Legislative Assembly. Indian Oil Corporation was fined rupees 50 thousand. If a Central Government Corporation does such an activity..

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What is your demand?

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Where has the diverted material gone?

It is a very big scandal. I demand that it should be enquired into separately and stern action taken against the persons involved in embezzlement. Our Party worker Shri Chetan Kamle had earlier drawn the attention to it. Now, he is about to sit on hunger strike. All the people are suffering a lot due to this embezzlement. You should take care of it and the stern action be taken against the defaulters.

[English]

SHRI KHAGEN DAS (Tripura-West): Sir, I would like to raise an important matter highlighting the importance of road connectivity in Tripura.

The development of the State of Tripura is handicapped because of its geographical location and poor transport infrastructure. To improve the connectivity to the State, hon. Prime Minister during his visit to the State in October, 2005 had announced 4-laning of NH-44, the only Highway connecting the State with the rest of the country. Till now no work has started on the ground.

Development work of a new Highway NH-44 A was started in 1999 but till date the progress has been dismal. As an alternate link to the State, the State Government has been demanding for development of the road from Kokital, Assam border, to Subroom, Tripura. Widening and improvement of this road will benefit predominantly tribal habitations and thereby improve the socio-economic condition of vast areas of the State.

I would, therefore, urge the Central Government to take up immediately the long pending project and expedite the work so that the State may become part of the national mainstream.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY (Berhampore, West Bengal): According to the penology, criminals must be sent

to the jail as punishment but not for punishment. The reality in our prisons is that the prisoners are being sent to the jail for punishment and not as punishment. The philosophy of reformation and rehabilitation, as has been prescribed in the jail manual has not been materialized in reality. A number of violent incidents have taken place in various jails of our country. Through you, I would request the Ministry of Home Affairs that a model Jail Manual should be released and all the States should be directed to create a congenial atmosphere so that the behaviour of the prisoners could be modified. It has been very much implied in the current Jail Manual.

Secondly, I have observed that hundreds of life-sentence prisoners have been languishing in jail for more than 30-35 years. Some of them have. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I would now request Shri Hansraj G. Ahir to speak.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Still they are not getting any relief from the Government. So, both the parts of my argument, on the one hand jail reform and on the other hand long term convicted prisoners, who are languishing in the jail, must be considered.

[Translation]

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR (Chandrapur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards providing health care facilities in rural areas. In reply to my unstarred question raised during winter session, the hon'ble Health Minister while accepting that the health care system in rural areas was poor, stated that total 4168 posts of doctors were vacant in primary health centers and 4032 posts were vacant in community health centers. It brings out in open the negligent attitude of the Government towards rural health facilities. Due to lack of proper medicines and treatment, people are dying in rural areas due to infections and curable disease. Most of the children in the rural areas of the country are victim of malnutrition. There are no adequate health care facilities in the rural areas. Instead of filling the vacant posts of doctors in rural areas, the UPA Government is going to release amount for specialized treatment facilities for medical tourism scheme in metro cities to earn foreign exchange. Rural population is being neglected due to double standards of the Government. I charge the Government for leaving the rural children who are in the grip of malnutrition, to die. People who need modern health care facilities center, are not being provided even basic health care facilities which reveals the failure of the Government. Through you, I demand from the Government to fill the vacant posts of doctors in primary and community health centers and provide latest health care facilities to the villagers.

[English]

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (Midnapore): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the demolition which is taking place in Delhi in the banks of Yamuna river. Nearly 60,000 residents of Batla House, Abul Fazal Colony I and II and Bokala are facing demolition due to the recommendation of Usha Mehra Committee. This Committee was constituted to suggest the ways for the beautification of Yamuna river. The Committee suggested to remove all the structures of the poor people falling within 300 metres of the Yamuna River. In the case of national highway, they are measuring from the centre of the national highway but in this case instead of measuring from the middle of the river, they are measuring from the bank of the river. Instead of asking the Flood Control Authority to do this or to, the Revenue officials they are doing this. So, more than 60,000 residents are facing a serious threat of demolition. No alternative arrangements and rehabilitation have been proposed.

I would urge upon the Government to intervene to make alternative arrangements for their rehabilitation. It should not appear to the nation that Delhi is only for the rich people and not for the poor people. This is a matter of serious concern. I would request the Government to intervene properly in this matter.

DR. BABU RAO MEDIYAM (Bhadrachalam): I want to bring to the notice of the Government as well as the Ministry of Human Resource Development to the following matter of public importance.

This is regarding Pondicherry University which is a Central University working since so many decades. In this University, some irregularities have been reported in the September and November issues of the Today magazine. In the name of reorganization and consolidation, the University has closed down some of the Departments. For example, the Department of Political Sciences was closed. Some of the Departments were merged into the other Departments. These are the School of International Studies and the School of Ecology. The professors and the faculty members working in those Departments are being harassed. In this University, the rule of reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is not being observed. The professors were degraded from their position of Head of the Department to the lower faculty. Recently, the Executive Engineer of this University has filed a complaint with the Vigilant Committee. Very recently, there was an examination scandal in this University wherein the evaluated papers were leaked and they were manipulated to give higher grades to the favourable students of their choice. This tampering of the examination papers was sent to the Bangalore Forensic University where the tampering was proved.

Hence I would urge upon the Central Government to make a CBI inquiry into the examination scandal and a thorough inquiry of the University. The Vice-Chancellor is working with an anti-Muslim mindset. I want him to be transferred.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHD. TAHIR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, representatives of the people are not safe due to deteriorating and order situation and terrorist activities in the country whereby hon'ble Members are unable to spend enough time with the people of their constituencies.

14.00 hrs.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, there was an attempt on my life on 25th November, 2004 in my constituency in which one of my party activists, Shri Yaar Mohammad suffered fatal injuries as acid was thrown on him.

In the second incident, the police of Sultanpur killed a notorious criminal in an encounter who had been hired to kill me. It has been accepted by the Station House Officer and other officers also.

In the third incident, I received a phone call from Noida on 2nd February, 2006 and the caller threatened to kill me, FIR has been lodged in Chankyapuri police station regarding this incident. Delhi Police arrested the caller who is now facing trial.

In the fourth incident, an attempt was made on the lives of my father and brother. I have written to the Home Minister hundreds of times and got the intimation of the receipt.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What is your demands from the Union Government.

SHRI MOHD. TAHIR: The hon'ble Minister has accepted that there is threat to my life but still arrangements have not been made for my security so far. I and my family members are in danger. Inquiry should be conducted into the said incident and security arrangements should be made for me and my family. Through you, I request the Government to mete out justice to me.

SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN (Araria): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, many irregularities have been committed while preparing the list of people living below poverty line in Bihar. Bihar is the poorest state of the country where parameter of 13 points has been fixed while in the other states of the country, it is 15, 20 or 25. Through you, I would like to tell the hon'ble Minister of Rural Development who incidentally visited my district where he was surrounded by people and was told about the irregularities which had been committed while

preparing the list of BPL, due to which people belonging to SC, ST and OBC community have been left out of the BPL list. So through you I urge the Rural Development Minister to include the names of the people in the list who have been left out and the parameter of 13 points should be increased to 25 points regarding the below poverty line list so that poor people might be benefited.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: As a special case I am now allowing Shri J.M. Aaron Rashid. Please give your notice on time and I hope this will not be repeated again.

[Translation]

There will not be any problem if you give notice in proper time.

[English]

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID (Periyakulam): Sir, I would speak in Tamil.

[Translation]

and in Hindi and English also.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Since you did not give your notice on time, interpretation arrangements could not be made and so you may please speak in either English or Hindi.

[Translation]

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID: Sir, if 10-12 coconut trees are there in a house then a family can get adequate income out of them to live on.

[English]

The coconut trees are afflicted by many kinds of diseases and one such disease causes wilting of the root thereby growth of the coconut trees get restricted and become smaller in size. The leaves also become yellow. In an effort to fight out such diseases of coconut trees in South American countries and in Kuala Lumpur and Sri Lanka, there is a provision for aerial spray on these trees. This is done to avoid or curb the diseases. I would request the UPA Chairperson, Shrimati Sonia Gandhi, who gives able guidance to this Government, and the Prime Minister to allot more funds to the agricultural sector.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you.

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID: Sir, what is the meaning of 'thank you'? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: 'Thank you' means you have to conclude now.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID: I would request that the Government should go in for aerial spray to save the coconut farmers. In my constituency, most of the farmers are growing coconut trees. So, support price should be given to these farmers. I would request the Central Government to sanction more funds to the Tamil Nadu Government headed by Dr. Kalaignar Karunanidhi for aerial spray to protect the coconut trees and their producers. The Central Government should stop the import of coconut oil from Malaysia and Sri Lanka.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh, this should not be treated as a precedent.

[Translation]

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA (Jalaun): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards an important issue. Three persons of a Brahmin family were killed at 8.30 o'clock on 17.12.2006 in Jhansi district of Uttar Pradesh. They were going to Maharani-pur from Jhansi. Meanwhile two persons who were attacked have been admitted to the hospital. There is an environment of fear and terror there. I urge upon the Union Government to provide security to the family whose three members have been killed and two injured. Apart from this, the case should be handed over to the CBI. The Government should take actions to ease the situation in Uttar Pradesh where people are in the grip of fear. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing is being recorded.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Bettiah): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, please allow me to speak for one minute.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have yet not given notice to me. I have lots of work today.

[English]

It is not possible for me to allow you.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANI CHARENAMEI (Outer Manipur): Sir, on Friday, the 16th of December, 2006 at about 8 p.m., two friends, namely, Shri Ajay Luthra of Delhi and Ms. Lucy Kashung from Manipur went out together to attend a party. At about 1 a.m., Shri Luthra brought the dead body of Ms. Lucy to Hindu Rao Hospital at 1 a.m. of Saturday.

The family members and friends found that the neck of Ms. Lucy was broken and all her inner garments were torn and were not in the right place. And there were bruises all over her body.

The tragic death of Ms. Lucy has raised the following questions in the minds of right-thinking persons. Why was Shri Luthra not arrested even when it is known that they had gone out together and he had been with her till the dead body of Ms. Lucy was brought to the Hospital? Moreover, there was enough proof that it was not a natural death. If Ms. Lucy died due to over consumption of liquor, then how was her neck broken and her under garments torn and out of place?

I want to draw the attention of the House that this is a clear case of rape, torture and brutal murder. Therefore, I urge upon this august House to condemn the killing of this innocent girl and the heinous crime against the woman. I also urge the Government to pay a compensation of Rs. 5 lakhs to the bereaved family.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Matters under rule 377 may be treated as laid on the Table of the House.

14.09 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER 377*

- (i) Need to provide financial package to the coffee growers of Dindigul district in Tamil Nadu with a view to solve the problems being faced by them

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN (Palani): The planters in my Dindigul District have cultivated coffee in more than 20,000 acres in Lower Pulney Hills Range in the Western Ghats. The coffee is the main crop in that area and is a rainfed crop. The majority of them are small farmers having less than 2 acres. Due to the failure of successive monsoon rains, and prolonged spells of drought the Berry Borer/White Stem Borer attack the coffee crops. The damage caused to the coffee crop was very high during the past four years and the coffee growers harvested very low uneconomic yield of crops. Despite better rains this year, the plants are yet to recover from the four years of acute drought and pests/diseases. Moreover, due to the downfall of coffee prices, increased cost of fertilizers, pest controlling materials and labour cost, the coffee growers are facing severe difficulties. Some small, marginal and big coffee growers who got loans from private money-lenders and nationalized banks could not repay the loan on time. The principle and the accrued high interest forced them to sell their land at throw away

prices and they are now a suffering lot. They are expecting assistance both from Central and State Governments.

Hence, I humbly request the Hon'ble Minister to include Dindigul District of Tamil Nadu in the financial package for Coffee growers.

- (ii) Need to clear the pending railway projects in Andhra Pradesh

SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO (Guntur): I would like to bring to the notice of the Government that there are a number of long pending projects in Andhra Pradesh which should be taken up on war footing and completed immediately to help the people to reap the benefits.

Firstly, a number of railway fly-overs were sanctioned in my Parliamentary Constituency, Guntur, but the same have not been implemented. My humble request is that construction of railway fly-overs should be implemented in right earnest.

Secondly, 2 Sub-ways are pending with the Ministry of Railway for a long time, it should be implemented immediately keeping in view the hardships being faced by the people.

Thirdly, doubling and electrification of Guntur-Krishna Canal (GKC) between Nallapadu (Guntur) and Pagidipalli (Bibinagar) needs to be speeded up.

Fourthly, electrification of Guntur-Vijayawada line should be sanctioned immediately keeping in view the long-pending demand of the people of the region.

Fifthly, introduction of Circular Train covering Guntur-Tenali-Vijayawada would help the passengers of my Parliamentary Constituency. Moreover, there has been a long-pending demand for the same. I hope the Hon. Minister would take into consideration this demand of the people of my Parliamentary Constituency.

- (iii) Need to invest one per cent of profit earned by ONGC from exploration of Oil and Gas in Mehsana, Gujarat for the development of the region

[Translation]

SHRI GIVABHAI A. PATEL (Mehsana): Sir, there are thousands of oil wells in my parliamentary constituency, Mehsana from which ONGC extracts crude oil and gas worth Rs. hundreds of crores. Recently, ONGC has published an advertisement claiming that one per cent of the profit of the company is invested on development and social works of the area from which oil and gas has been extracted. But, I

* Treated as laid on the Table.

would like to inform this House regretfully that ONGC has never spent one percent of its profit earned from oil and gas in my constituency. The crude oil and gas extracted from Mehsana by O.N.G.C. is the best, both quality and quantity-wise and the contribution of Mehsana is about 35 percent in total profit of O.N.G.C. Because of the work being done by O.N.G.C., the soil of my parliamentary constituency is getting degraded, potable water has been contaminated due to fluoride and ground water level has gone down upto 1500 feet.

I request the Government through this House that O.N.G.C. should spend one percent of its profit in Mehsana.

- (iv) **Need to provide adequate potable water in western parts of Murshidabad, West Bengal through pipelines drawing water from river Ganges**

[English]

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY (Berhampore): I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards water scarcity in Murshidabad District, West Bengal. Water scarcity has remained a persistent problem in the Western parts of Murshidabad district. The worst affected blocks affected by the scarcity are namely Kondi, Khargnam, Bharatpur, Bawan and Beldonga. In the summer season large number of people suffer as aquifer level of these areas remains too depleted to extract water from underground water resources. Even the water bodies which throughout the year cater the need are dried up in the dry season. The situation further aggravates due to non-availability of drinking water much to the concern of the people. Water scarcity including drinking water has become a perennial problem for the people of these affected area. However the river Ganga with abundant water is passing through the district and is only 30 km away from the water scarcity prone area of the district. A long term solution to the critical drinking water problem could be reached by extending the piped water to these areas which can easily be sourced from the River Ganges that ultimately will help mitigating the drinking water problem.

- (v) **Need to declare Kandla-Ambaji via Khed Brahma and Shyamla-Madhya Pradesh and Ahmedabad-Abu Road route as a National Highway**

[Translation]

SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA (Banaskantha): Sir, Palanpur, the headquarters of my parliamentary constituency, Banaskantha is situated in the middle of many big towns. One has to pass through Palanpur town for going to Kandla and Shyamlaji via Ambaji and also for going towards

Ahmedabad and Abu Road. People pass through Palanpur for visiting these above mentioned tourist and religious centres. But the roads from Palanpur to these towns are not in good condition, which causes difficulties for the people visiting those tourists as well as religious centres. There is a longstanding demand for upgradation of these roads but no action has been taken till date. Upgradation of this road will promote tourism and it will also help in removal of industrial backwardness of North Gujarat.

I request the Government through this House that the road from Kandla to Madhya Pradesh via Ambaji, Kher Brahma and Shyamlaji and from Ahmedabad to Abu Road should be declared as a national highway to promote tourism.

- (vi) **Need to deploy bomb disposal squads at Bina Junction and other railway stations in the country**

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR (Sagar): Sir, due to rumour of bombs being placed in 3 trains at railway tracks, between 27th June, 2006 to 10th November, 2006 in my Parliamentary constituency, Bina and its surrounding area, thousands of passengers had to suffer and railway employees including GRP, the police and administration also faced difficulties. Mahamaya Express coming from Delhi was stopped at night due to rumour of bomb. Bhopal-Bilaspur train was stopped near Khurai at Naren river bridge for many hours due to some bomb-like object on railway track. Similarly, Punjab Mail was stopped at Bina for 4 hours on 10th of November, 2006. During all these incidents, Bomb Disposal Squad reached from Bhopal after many hours. Although Bina junction is an important junction, but it has neither instruments to detect bomb nor experts to defuse it. In all the three incidents, all the havoc was created by objects like watch pockets and bundle of satta pamphlet. It caused a large-scale theft of the belongings of passengers and the elderly passengers also suffered. Patients had to suffer a lot as the trains were vacated completely and the passengers had to come out of it.

So, I request the Central Government to deploy bomb detection equipments and bomb disposal squads at Bina, Madhya Pradesh and all other important junctions of the country to facilitate safe and secure journey for the railway passengers.

- (vii) **Need to extend Dholpur-Tantpur Narrow gauge line upto Rupawas and construct new railway line linking Dholpur and Sawal Madhopur, in Rajasthan**

SHRI RAMSWAROOP KOLI (Bayana): Through you, I

would like to draw the attention of the Central Government towards my parliamentary constituency, Dholpur, Rajasthan. In my Lok Sabha constituency, there is a dire need to extend Dholpur-Tantpur narrow gauge line upto Rupwas and to lay a new rail line from Dholpur to Sawai Modhopur via Bari, Sarmathura, Karoli, Gangapur City. This line should be connected to Bombay line from Sawai Madhopur as there is no railway line in this area and the people of this area have been demanding for it for many years.

So, I request the hon. Railway Minister to issue orders immediately for the execution of the above mentioned work so that the poor people of my Parliamentary constituency can get employment by going to towns and also to provide better rail facility to them at minimum fares.

(viii) Need to bring forth a legislation providing for reservation in jobs and promotions to the Denotified and Nomadic Tribes in the country

[English]

SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD (Yavatmal): Planning Commission looking at the poor economical and social backwardness of Denotified and Nomadic Tribes (DNTs) made some recommendations in Third Five Year Plan for the upliftment/development of DNTs. Government of India agreed to the recommendations and directed the State Governments for preparation of separate list of DNTs. Most of the State Governments prepared separate list of DNTs, but unfortunately no benefits, reservations, Constitutional safeguard (like SC/ST/OBC/ Minorities) have been given to DNTs till date. Only Maharashtra Government has given reservation to DNTs, but other States have not given any reservation to DNTs. About 12 crores people who belong to DNTs have been suffering since many years. Though they are the most backward people in the country but nobody thinks about them. Government must provide them constitutional safeguard like SC/ST/OBC and Minorities. Due to the indifferent attitude of Government towards DNTs they are not able to come forward and join the mainstream of the society. I, therefore request that immediate action be taken by Government to provide Constitutional safeguard to DNTs by making suitable amendments in the Constitution so that DNTs can get all benefits, such as reservation in jobs, like SCs/STs/OBCs.

(ix) Need to include 'Kurukh' language in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution

SHRI JUAL ORAM (Sundergarh): "KURUKH" is one of the Indian Tribal Language spoken by the Tribal Community at large and particularly the "ORAON" Community. This Language is getting eroded day by day.

Hence I demand that the Govt. of India should give grant to promote and propagate for the enrichment of the language as well as this language be recognised and put in the Scheduled List of the Indian Language.

(x) Need to provide financial package for the drought affected farmers of Bundelkhand and to construct Panchanda Dam with a view to solve the problems being faced by farmers in the region

[Translation]

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA (Jalaun): Sir, the farmers of my parliamentary constituency in the district Jalaun Garotha, Uttar Pradesh and of Bundelkhand area are facing economic crisis as the entire area is affected by drought for the last three years. Due to this drought the farmers are not getting water for irrigation in time and they have been entrapped into heavy loans, as a result they are taking steps like suicides.

So, I demand that the Central Government should construct Pachnada dam to save the farmers from the scourge of drought and the loans of the farmers of Bundelkhand should be waived off so that they are not compelled to take recourse to the extreme act of committing suicide.

(xi) Need to take steps for the revival of Tea Industry in the Country

SHRIMATI MINATI SEN (Jalpaiguri): On December 15, tea producing countries across the world, observed International Tea Day to draw the attention of Governments and citizens on the impact of tea trade on workers, small tea growers, consumers and industry. The pathetic condition of Tea Industry in India, perhaps need no elaborations. Number of tea gardens have either been closed perpetually or have been abandoned by the owners. As a result, production of tea has gone down drastically in years and thousands of workers have become jobless. I demand a master plan from Government of India so that the Tea Industry can get a boost, closed and abandoned tea gardens are opened and through aggressive marketing, Indian Tea can find its place in International Market.

(xii) Need to implement the recommendations of Committee set up by Ministry of Human Resource Development before giving permission to foreign universities to operate in the country

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Sir, in order to

gain from the process of liberalization in educational sector and to maximize those gains, the Government have agreed in principle to the entry of foreign universities and conducting their various courses but the Government have not been able to devise a regulatory mechanism for functioning of such universities in the country. While there are already 144 foreign universities, colleges and institutes operating in the country out of which 117 are conducting courses of their respective countries. The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development have recommended in their report on this liberalization policy of the Government that the Government should constitute a committee to examine the background, recognitions and potentials of foreign schools and institutes and if any such institute is found to be unrecognized, action should be taken against the same. Only those foreign universities come under the jurisdiction of the Indian Council of Technical Education which have entered into collaborations with Indian universities for technical education.

If the Government ignores suggestions of the above committee, lakhs of people in the country will not be able to have access to cost effective education. While children from millions of families in India still remain deprived of schooling despite persistent efforts by the Government due to poverty, how the Government will provide foreign and costly education to the children of poor families? This step of the Government is likely to cause more competition in the educational sector.

I would urge upon the Government to allow entry of foreign universities on the Indian soil after careful consideration of every aspect related thereto under the ambit of the laws of the land and in the light of suggestions made by the Committee.

(xiii) Need to reconstruct the Government Quarters situated on BKS Marg, New Delhi in view of their dilapidated condition.

SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA (Samastipur): Sir, 1138 Government quarters of the C.P.W.D. (No. 1 to 33) situated at the B.K.S. Marg in the proximity of the Parliament House Complex are in a dilapidated condition. There is an apprehension that a number of them are at the verge of collapse. The need to construct new houses after demolishing the old one's is being felt so as to have adequate arrangements of overhead tank, sanitation and safety. At the same time such buildings should be re-built using the earthquake resistant technology after conducting a survey and making a list particularly of those houses whose estimated lifespan has expired. This is our demand to the Government.

(xiv) Need to expedite the work on National Coastal Protection Project as per the proposal of State Government of Orissa

[English]

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack): Orissa has a coast line of 476.40 km. The super cyclone of 1999 had inundated approximately 2 lakh hectares of land due to tidal surge. Even in normal years tidal ingress through rivers are common. Though Government of Orissa have constructed 1517 kms of saline embankment in order to protect these areas from tidal action there is more to be done. The sea-face of the coast is subject to constant erosion due to tidal surge and literal drift, which poses a constant danger to the inhabitants.

I would urge upon the Government to expedite the proposal submitted before Central Water Commission by Government of Orissa for construction of National Coastal Protection Project of Rs. 361 crore. As Orissa Government does not have resources to tackle the recurring problems and manage its infrastructure. I would urge upon the Government to implement food for work programme on a larger scale, on a regular basis in the coastal area of Orissa, NFCR and COR grant be enhanced considering Orissa as cyclone and flood ravaged State. There is a need to raise and strengthen the flood embankments from flood mitigation and drainage congestion problem in 9000 sq. kms. delta region and coastal protection work need to be taken up through centrally funded schemes and programmes.

(xv) Need to instruct the F.C.I. to start procurement of paddy in rural areas of West Bengal as per the target fixed

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (Midnapore): The harvesting period of khariff paddy crops is mostly going to be over across the country. But the market price of paddy is declining day to day. This year it was the expectation that the Agriculture Ministry of Union Government would declare minimum support price, which will be remunerative to the farmers. The declared minimum support price of paddy for this year is Rs. 580/- per quintal. This is neither remunerative nor supportive. In comparison to the last year the increase is only Rs. 10/- per quintal. In terms of percentage it is 1.9 while inflation is more than 5%. The prices of agricultural inputs goes up around 50%. In addition to the minimum support price, Government has declared additional Rs. 50/- per quintal as bonus. So far West Bengal is concerned the target of paddy procurement for this year has been fixed 19 lakh metric tons. Out of that 12 lakh metric tons is assigned to the FCI. Last year FCI could not meet the target. It is expected that to procure the aforesaid quantity from the farmers in rural areas, FCI would set up necessary network. But till the date no initiative has been taken up by the FCI. In such a situation distress sale by the poor and

marginal farmers is taking place largely. I urge upon the Union Government and concerned ministry in particular to take necessary steps expeditiously so that distress sale can be arrested and the poor farmers' interest would be protected.

(xvi) Need to lay a railway line linking Karad Railway Station in Central Railways with Chiplun Railway Station in Konkan Railways

SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL (Karad): Mid-way connection between Konkan Railway and central Railway be made by laying a new line between Karad Railway station in Central Railway and Chiplun Railway station on Konkan Railway. At present Pune-Mumbai and Londa-Madgaon are the two connecting points which are 600 kms apart which connects the low lying Konkan area. This mid-way connection will help carrying of sugar and other goods towards the newly developed ports in Raigad district. A feasibility survey be conducted in this regard.

(xvii) Need to take steps to ensure availability of edible oil in adequate quantity meeting the future requirements of the country

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN' (Begusarai): Sir, recently it has been announced by the Government that estimated wheat production would be 74 million tones during the next crop season which is higher than 5 million tones in comparison to the last year but the Ministry of Agriculture is silent on lesser production of edible oils. The edible oil is as much essential for the country as the foodgrains. The oilseed production during the next Rabi Crop season is bound to fall by 3-4 % as oilseeds were sown on an area of 93.29 lakh hectares of land during 2005-06 which has now been confined to 82.22 lakh hectares in 2006-07. The prices of edible oils will increase excessively in future due to shortage of oilseeds and it will lead to country's dependence on import to maintain its supply. The demand of oilseeds increased upto 3-4 % annually. According to an estimate 6 million tonne more edible oil will have to be imported next year. Edible oil is an essential commodity. Therefore, it is the responsibility of the Government to make proper arrangements to ensure its supply. I would, therefore, request the Government to give timely attention to this matter.

(xviii) Need to provide adequate budgetary allocations for speeding up the execution of the doubling of railway line from Sonapur to Canning in Sealdah Division, West Bengal

[English]

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL (Joynagar): Upon recognizing the economic as well as tourism potential of the Sundarbans region, the work of doubling of the railway line

between Sonarpur and Canning in the South Section under Sealdah Division (West Bengal) had been taken up. But the progress of work is very slow. The first phase of the project (Sonarpur to Ghotiarisherriff) is over and the second phase (Ghotiarisherriff to Canning) is yet to start.

Sundarbans is a more backward area. In the absence of double line, a lot of hardships being experienced in the transportation of a huge volume of sea food, vegetables, dairy products, etc., produced there in Sundarbans. Secondly, Canning is the gateway of Sundarbans having tourism potential of hundreds of inland as well as foreign tourists since October of every year. However, the budgetary allocations being made every year are very meagre in comparison to the revenue potential of the line. Therefore, adequate and necessary budgetary allocations are to be made for this purpose for speeding up the execution of the doubling work of Phase II (Ghotiarisherriff to Canning) to avoid any further delay.

Likewise, it is understood that the on-going doubling project between Barulpur and Dakin Barasat (Phase I) is very slow due to meagre budgetary allocations.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to enhance the budgetary allocations for speedy completion of the doubling projects, in view of the tourism potential and economic development of Sundarbans.

(xix) Need to take steps to check the menace of wild elephants in Assam

DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA (Lakhimpur): Attention of the Government is drawn about the large scale migration of elephant population from its wild habitat to the open areas causing destruction of crop areas, dwelling houses in addition to killing of 50 to 60 persons every year and injuring hundreds of people in past few years in Assam. The population of the affected area has to pass sleepless nights and to live in panic all the time. Due to the depletion of natural habitat through encroachment and destruction of forest most of the 5,500 out of the total 10,000 populations of wild elephants in the NER are forced to migrate in search of food and shelter.

The Rs. 23 Lakh of relief granted by the Environment Ministry to Assam Government annually fails to provide adequate relief to the affected people except an ex gratia grant of Rs. 40,000 per death and Rs. 1000 per fully damaged houses. Crop damage is hardly compensated due to severe financial crises of Assam Government. There is a wide gap of compensation between Rs. 2 to 5 Lakh made to the families of persons killed by extremists in the country and for persons killed by elephants. May I therefore urge upon the Government to adopt the policy of a reasonable relief by ensuring reimbursement of the actual expenditure

made for such activities by concerned State Governments. Government should also specially allow the Assam Government for capturing some of the over populated wild elephants which is presently banned by the Central Government.

(xx) Need to Implement the National Waterways Project suggested by NAWAD

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): Net-working of rivers is a new phenomenon suggested by an expert body (NAWAD council under the leadership of Shri A.C. Kamraj who is also an expert committee member, inter linking of rivers, Government of India) as a National Water Project comprising of Himalayan Waterways covering north and north-east of our nation, Central Waterways covering the central regions and the Southern Waterways covering the Southern areas of India. This perception is more beneficial than linking of rivers which may have the risk of complaints from riparian beneficiaries that the water they are entitled to is being diverted. Net-working is a concept of making artificial rivers parallel to or adjacent to major rivers without touching them. The flow of water is not regulated by pumping but by natural flow based on contours and rains and the floods in various regions. This will help water collected by way of floods and rain water without draining away to the sea and going unused to be transmitted to areas where there are no rains at that period. This will give full utility of rain waters of which our nation is adequately rich. The concept will also be a solution for flood control, navigation, power generation, drinking water, employment and irrigation. Large scale tourism promotion will also be possible. Without affecting the environments the huge forest areas also can be made use of. The total length suggested for the National Waterways Project - 15,000 kms and the estimated cost of Rs. 5,33,000 crores. This concept can also be used for other net-working of waterways in States.

I request that the Government take serious note of the project and do the needful to discuss it at various levels and to implement it without delay so that our nation will prosper with great acceleration.

(xxi) Need to revise the Employees Pension Scheme, 95 and bring it at par with the pension scheme for government employees

SHRI P. RAJENDRAN (Quilon): Employees' Pension Scheme-95 which came into effect from 16.11.95 has been conceived as a Benefit defined Social Insurance Scheme. The Employees' Pension Scheme-95, repealed and replaced the erstwhile Family Pension Scheme 1971 as a huge corpus of funds which can be generously used, to address the issues of poor workers. However, government has tended, to use the corpus to finance its own expenditure

instead of participating actively in the schemes to strengthen them as social security measures. The workers are not really benefited from the present system. Government should initiate steps to ensure that EPS-95 should be on par with the pension scheme for government employees, including the provision for index-linked dearness relief. The minimum pension has to be revised to meet the minimum aspirations and expectations of the workers. There should be a periodic revision of the minimum pension so that the workers get some succor in the twilight of their lives in the form of a pension scheme.

14.10 hrs.

PROHIBITION OF CHILD MARRIAGE BILL, 2006

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, we will take up Item No.48 – Prohibition of Child Marriage Bill, 2006. Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide for the prohibition of solemnization of child marriages and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Sir, through you, I would appeal to all the hon. Members in this House to pay attention to one aspect. We all stand here collectively to be able to take part in bringing about a historical legislation which will enable us to facilitate the safe passage of our girl child from the time of her natural birth till her life time when she will live through that life span. I appeal to everyone here that when we look at the Bill, we should not look at it only in isolation of the Bill per se but we should consider the impact it will have on the social fabric and on what it would mean for a society to ban child marriage. I believe that the term "child marriage" is oxymoron. You cannot have children and have a marriage because both negate each other.

Children are supposed to be having a childhood. In childhood, there is no place for marriage. Marriage is for an adult who will take the full responsibility of being a partner and spending a life span together with another individual. Instead of it, ignorance, cultural practices, superstition and worse of all the fact that we attach so little value to a human being in the form of a girl child is what demeans all of us collectively as a society. How sad it is that because we do not want the responsibility of our girl children within the framework of our own family, parents and the society get

[Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury]

together to pass this obligation on to somebody else to get rid of a child from the warmth and the home security to another home where she is not entitled to childhood at all. More often than not, these children go on to become mothers of other children. Why is it important that today when we stand at the tag end of 2006 that we have found the need to repeal the Sharda Act which was brought in 1929? It is important, first, because I do believe that it is so late but better late than never that we repeal the Bill which is really not relevant in today's time. When we talk of progress and development, it is a collective shame that we send our children away and get the marriage performed. Children then become parents to other children. As a result of it, we have some questions. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Are you aware that we do not allow the female child to be born? You are always speaking about child marriage, prevention and all that. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Radhakrishnan ji, you have not got my permission. Nothing is going on record.

...*(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Swain, you are not getting the permission. Nothing should be recorded. Only her Statement is to be recorded.

*(Interruptions)**

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: You are absolutely right. I was coming to that. When we talk of the social fabric that we have, when we take into cognizance the life-span of a child, we should be allowing children to be born. You are absolutely correct. Today, in India, in the past 20 years, about one crore girl children were killed. They have been identified before they have been born. Science and Technology such as aminocentasis and ultra-sound have been used to identify girl children even before they are born and they have been ruthlessly killed by the parents, by the so-called doctors who have taken oath to uphold life.

Given this kind of a scenario, it is already happening that we have skewed sex ratios in most of our affluent States. In States like Punjab, Haryana, Uttaranchal and sadly today in the North East Arunachal Pradesh as well as other States in the country - no one is untouched - we have a growing number of sex ratio differences. Young men do not have women with whom they can partner or get married and stay together today. That has, in turn, given rise to other social evils such as cross-border trafficking where sex workers from other countries have been coming into India. It will, in

the future, become a problem for us to map diseases, to be able to identify the Indian gene pool and the DNA which has survived 5,000 years of evolution.

Having said that, to get back to the point of child marriages, our social systems and our practices such as Teej festivals etc. which encourage and accept child marriages would mean that we need to address a societal change. We have to alter a mindset of practices which all of us, at some point or the other, have endorsed and have facilitated in our society.

Today, however, given the kind of awareness and reporting that is happening, it is high time that we put an end to this obscenity that I call as child marriage. When women across the world have been achieving, when women across the world have surpassed and have established beyond doubt that given an opportunity, any woman can achieve in the fields that we have today. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY (Dhenkanal): They can stand on their own feet.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Thank you.

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Then they don't need reservation. They can fight on their own.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: I appreciate that, but reservation would help facilitate that.

14.17 hrs.

(SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN *in the Chair*)

Sir, study reports still show that in our country even today 65 per cent of the girls are married before the age of 18 years. Why has the Government recognized girls to be maturing at the age of 18 and boys at the age of 21? There is an anatomical, physiological, biological development that need to be completed as well as mental development. That is why we take cognizance of that. When we tell our children that they cannot vote when they are 15 years of age, we do not allow them to drive or to drink, then how is it that we think that they are capable of getting married, or becoming mothers in turn or parents in turn and that they would be able to have the maturity of decision making which is required in a marriage or a partnership? Is it not a skewed way of looking at our own people where on the one hand we say the law applies to them but on the other hand we are happy to dump them from our homes and our lives and report them as somebody else's responsibility?

Sir, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan have a high incidence of girls getting married below 18 years where the total number of child marriages is as high as 45 to 55 per cent even today.

* Not recorded.

Now, what are the implications of an early marriage? It would mean that on an average, if a girl is from a certain economic strata, in the first place, she is not even breastfed by her own mother for as long as her brother would have been breastfed and her life depends on her gender. Unfortunately, here in India today gender is a matter of life and death. Boys live and girls die and that is the tragedy of our times.

These girls are then denied access to schools, they are made to look after their younger siblings, they have no access to food security, much less to immunization, they are anemic, they are subjected to untold exposures of infections and horrors and as soon as they enter their reproductive years, irrespective of the fact that they live in a tropical country like ours where onset of reproductive years is much earlier than in some other countries, these children are then sent off to be married and they become mothers at that age, at that stage of malnutrition, at that stage of denial of food security and at that stage of incubating disease whereby they, in turn, give birth to malnutrition children.

Today, we answer international communities who question India on saying that why are your maternal mortality rates high, why are your infant mortality rates high. Obviously, it is not rocket technology for us to realise, but if a malnourished woman child gives birth to another one, then it will obviously have very little opportunity to survive the traumas of birth itself.

After that these children are then vulnerable to domestic violence, alcoholic husbands who come home and beat them, abuse of different kinds, trafficking, taken away and exposed to horrors of such type that we cannot even begin to imagine. Although, the Child Marriage Restraint Act 1929 was brought into force nearly 77 years ago, it only brought restraint. It did not talk of prevention or removal.

Some of the issues that we have addressed in this are strengthening some of the old legislations, but mostly we have put in preventive checks and positive checks into this Bill so as to enhance the security that can be provided for a girl child in our societal structure today.

Earlier, we only sought to restrain, but not its prevention or prohibition. The procedure under the Act today is to prevent the solemnization of child marriage, because those provisions were so cumbersome, and we have made it much more user friendly and much more hands on.

I look towards all of you, my respected colleagues here, and I know that I will have your support across the board. I am looking forward to your interventions and your contribution to this very important Bill and your valuable suggestions will help us to be able to steer this Bill not only to remain as a piece of paper, but to become an encom-

passing comprehensive Bill, which will facilitate the transition of this girl from being a victim to remaining as a citizen as the Constitution has enshrined and envisioned for her.

I would like to discuss some of the important features and amendments of the Bill. The two broad areas that we have set are to prohibit and protect and provide relief to the victims to child marriage because I refuse to accept that any child can give his or her consent. They are children, they are coerced, bullied, black-mailed, emotionally exploited and quite often under duress. So, I would see every child who marries in this country as a victim and it is to these victims that we have given the strength, the exit policy and the ability sustain themselves after we have dealt with their offenders.

So, I leave the floor open now to all my hon. Colleagues and I am looking forward that you will address the new sections and that you will give us your valuable suggestions and then in my concluding remarks I will be able to address what all of you are going to say.

A very forward looking clause which some people in the Rajya Sabha raised, but which you will see is that any material exchanges between the two contractual parties, is that the Bill even applies to them, that these material gains will be returned to the families so that there is no loss of material things incurred by these families as well as the very important thing that any child who is married before she attains the age of adulthood can call off the marriage. It will be rendered as null and void and any off-spring born within the framework of that is deemed as legitimate, but that she has the exit policy.

In the eventuality, she is a child who has been forced to trafficking or who has been promised under false impression about marriage, taken away and exploited. I thought, it is imperative that we give that child another chance and another opportunity to live.

I look forward to hear from all of you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to provide for the prohibition of solemnization of child marriages and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore): Mr. Chairman Sir, I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on such an important Bill. We have found that in this session such Bills are being presented one after the other

[Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan]

which address social problems whether it is the Commission for Protection of Child Right Bill or the earlier Bill on prevention of domestic violence against women. Bills are being presented particularly on social problems related to children and women whether it is the Bill on elimination of child-labour or the women working in house holds. A trend to bring in such Bills in Parliament with consensus has been set. For this, I would like to thank and appreciate the hon'ble Minister. Already there were Bills but it is a great achievement to introduce them effectively one by one for enactment by the Parliament.

Sir, the Bill which we are going to discuss is very important. Many years ago a drama in Marathi titled "Sharada" was staged in which marriage of a female child with an old man was portrayed. At that time also such mismatch alliances were common. On this very theme a drama had been written wherein child marriages were satirized. It was stated jocularly in the drama that the 'boy' aged 75 was too young to be married. Such sentences were there in the drama. It led to mass awakening. The social reformers and women raised their voices that marriageable age of a girl should be 18 years, hence the Sharada Act came into force but as I have already stated that there were many loopholes in that Act.

Sir, there was a famous case namely, Rukma-Dadoji between 1884-1887 in a Court of Law. In that case the girl had shown courage to appear in the court and refused to go with the bridegroom and appealed to the court for protection, as her marriage was a mismatch. The girl was too young and the groom was too old. In that case the Lower Court had dispensed justice to her but unfortunately the High Court had turned down her appeal and ruled that they could not do anything in the matter. A similar case came to light in 1890 wherein a girl of 11 years named Phulwati was married to a man of much older age and he died only a day after their marriage. Thereafter many such incidents took place. Then the Sarda Act was enacted but many shortcomings remained in that Act. Its implementation was also not that much forceful as was required. Several amendments, major and minor, were brought in that Act. However, I welcome this bill which has been introduced with a fresh vigour. In fact, at times, it occurs to me that if the minimum age for marriage in respect of girls is 18, then why it is 21 for boys. The assumptions of the house-holder stage (grihashthashram) in our country is not limited to marriage between a boy and a girl and reproduction thereafter. It is a lofty assumption which has to be followed by the whole society as an essential stage of life. In view of this, the point of age is an utmost

requirement. This Bill has several provisions but I particularly appreciate a small provision of a right for maintenance to a minor girl in case the marriage is nullified. The question of maintenance for the girl till she attains adulthood is very important and it is good that this small point has also been kept in view.

Second point is about the legitimacy of the child. The legitimacy of the child from that marriage is also a case in point and taking up its responsibility is also important. I appreciate that such things have been minutely deliberated upon while formulating the bill and have been incorporated in it. The provision of penal action is also a welcome point as a demand was being made for a long time that this should be made a non-bailable offence. I feel that this is good that this provision has also been incorporated in this bill. I welcome it. Another good thing is that the provision for a three years rigorous imprisonment entails a suo motu action. The State Government has to appoint a probation officer in this regard later on, but in case of his unavailability the district judge can suo motu take cognizance. Before hand prevention can also be done in case complaint is registered by any NGO. It will take too much time if I enumerate one by one the various provisions, minor and major. Many hon'ble Members have to speak after me. However, from penal action to appointment of probation officer and the provisions for including the Panchayat of the village or its discerning people are all extremely good.

I would like to submit one more point that the first line of this Bill which reads as follows:

[English]

"It applies also to all citizens of India",

[Translation]

is a very good thing as it cuts across religion, caste and creed. I think that this would mean that it is meant for the people of any religion. At times, trafficking of girls is reported and they are also forced into prostitution. Such things are continually heard from cities like Hyderabad. I think that "all citizens of India" means that it will be applicable to all the communities and castes. This is a right thing. Mass weddings are done by some societies. It is good that such acts have also been incorporated in the bill and it is also proper that women have been kept aloof from the ambit of penal action.

Without going at length, I would like to submit that this is a very good provision in view of the future. Women and

children are subjected to injustice and atrocities. The real situation prevailing in India is that there are women and girls suffering from malnutrition. A day before yesterday, I had raised another topic, hon'ble Madam Minister was not present here. I would conclude my speech by mentioning about it. As many points are being kept in view while introducing new bills, one more point that may become a serious matter tomorrow in respect of girls and women is that of surrogate motherhood. That day also, I had raised this matter to draw some attention of the Government towards it.

Earlier, there was a case of investigations and prenatal diagnostic tests. At that time it had appeared to us that it is a scientific thing. This is true also. But its evil consequences came up later on. Madam Minister may give some thought over it and deliberate upon it in this regard with the knowledgeable people in view of the circumstances of our country. Some law should be formulated in this regard. I welcome this bill.

[English]

This is really a terminating point.

[Translation]

This is required in the present circumstances and the Government have brought it keeping in view all the aspects. As such there is not much scope for amendments. I welcome this bill from the bottom of my heart. With these words I conclude.

SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH (Karol Bagh): Today, a very good bill – "The Prevention of Child Marriage Bill" has been introduced by Madam Minister Renukaji. Sumitra Mahajan ji also spoke at length about it and welcomed it. I believe that all the lady members of this House will welcome this bill to cooperate in removing the social evil prevalent in our society. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): Men also support it.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH: Handique ji is contending that all the male members also support it. I welcome all the male members. Our country has been a male dominated

country. Our culture has remained male dominated. In our society, men are more responsible for the evil customs particularly like child marriage as they fix marriages as well as the dates of the same, while the women only contribute in giving it a social shape. Today, I welcome this bill and it is good that we have come across such a thought in this era. A thought of child marriage shakes our heart as it is hard to imagine how a girl child of five, ten or fifteen years at the age for playing, studying and for physical and mental development is pushed towards a dark alley where her life gets buried forever. I would be very explicit in contending that the percentage of girl children in our country is diminishing. On one hand, there are foeticide being committed in our country as the hon'ble Minister submitted that through ultra-sound sex of the foetus is determined and then it is murdered in the womb. Prevention Act for the same had been introduced and again we are introducing an Act. Some girl children are such as are strangled by child marriage. They are burdened with so much responsibility that their physical development does not take place. She fails to make use of her brain and gets mentally upset. I appreciate her for the bill she has introduced by which she has made an effort to usher in a new phase in the Indian society. As she told that sixty-five percent girls are married before the age of 18. 30-32 % girls are married between the age of 15-18 and at the age of 20. It means that 80-85% girls are married below the age of 18. The leading state in this regard is Rajasthan. Thereafter, come Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh where such marriages take place. As a result of it, many children get afflicted with several diseases also. They get afflicted with even AIDS. Calcium deficiency and anaemia may cause their death at an early age. The practice of Sati too produces very deadly and heart-rending scenes. Sumitra Mahajan ji has admired for the reason that the Government have taken care of even the smallest thing therein such as if such a marriage is solemnized, who should be punished? All the relatives, family members, friends etc. joining such marriage should also be punished? Males should be punished. They have excluded the women therefrom. But if women too force someone for such a marriage, they should also be punished?

I'd like to put-forth two-three points. She said that younger girls are married to the aged boys, this practice has been banned. But I suggest the hon. minister to pay attention to the incidents of several minor girls being sold or married to the Sheikhs of the Arab countries. What plight they meet in their country, should also be paid attention to. Their condition worsens due to their NRI husbands because they undergo more than one marriage. Today, it is a practice,

[Shrimati Krishna Tirath]

especially in the South that the Sheikhs marry very young girls and take them away and offer money to their parents in return. May be it a sign of poverty. The poor families that are not able to marry their girls cannot arrange for dowry and take such steps. Though we have excluded the dowry, but such type of situation should not be allowed to occur.

Perhaps, several hon. Members are yet to speak. Hon. Chairman is giving an indication. I would like to say that I heartily welcome the Bill introduced here. Women all over the country would welcome it. To prevent occurrence of such situation in future, we all hope to co-operate. Provisions should be made in the Bill to prevent the NRIs and the Sheikhs of the Arab countries from marrying the girls of our country so that they may not be taken to other countries and may stay in their own country itself, because the sex ratio has already reached the level of 1000:800 or 870. Girls of our country should stay in the country and the scheme for providing nutritious food to them should be implemented on the lines of the scheme implemented for their up-bringing such as ICDS.

With these words, I once again give thanks to the hon. Minister and welcome the Bill introduced here.

[English]

SHRIMATI C.S. SUJATHA (Mavelikara): Thank you Mr. Chairman, Sir. At the outset I congratulate the hon. Minister Shrimati Renuka Chowdhary for introducing the Bill on Prohibition of Child Marriage. I have gone through the Bill and I agree with the legislative intention and I welcome those provisions. The appointment of the Child Marriage Prohibition Officer is considered an important measure to help preventing the child marriage. As this is a very serious problem with long history and social attitude, that measure alone would not help. The question of child marriage is a matter of great social concern. It is often debated in the House and outside by the civil society. Even though there are laws in this country to prevent the incidents of child marriage, still this practice has been continued unabated in various parts of the country.

Roop Kanwar committed Sati despite the law is there to prevent Sati. Dowry deaths are here almost everyday and there is a law preventing it. The child labour is banned by law. But India remains the country with largest number of cases of child labour.

In a recent incident in Madhya Pradesh, an Anganwadi worker, Shrimati Shakuntala was brutally attacked and her hand was mutilated when she tried to prevent a child

marriage being conducted in a village. It is important to note that this incident took place in full view of the public who gathered at the venue of the marriage. It clearly shows the mindset of the society.

So, just legislations alone would not help prevent such evil practices. It is imperative that sensitization of the populace and the law implementing agencies is simultaneously done. There are many laws pertaining to the protection of women. There is law against dowry, law against dowry, law on equal remuneration for equal work, law on prohibition of child labour etc.

On the ground level, the measures stipulated by these legislations are not practical in their real spirit. The major hurdle, I feel, is the age-old backward thinking of the general masses based on the feudal values of the society and the indifferent attitude of the implementing agencies.

To overcome this situation, the mindset of the society has to be changed and for that, the Government can do lot many things. In this connection, larger representation of women in the Judiciary and the law-implementing agencies is a must. There is a need to enhance the awareness in the society. The local self-governments — Gram Panchayats, Block Panchayats and District Panchayats — should be involved in the process of implementation of law and should be given more powers so that they may create awareness in the society against malpractices and could become an effective instrument in bringing to notice all such incidents as also the implementation of the law. The women organisations could also be utilised in this direction. The Anganwadi Centre, which has units in almost all villages in the country, would be a great instrument in spreading awareness, but the condition of anganwadi workers is pitiable. The remuneration paid to them is meagre. I would request the Government to provide them incentives so as to enable them to participate in this process.

Then, awareness on such matters should be created among the students right from the primary level onwards and their school curriculums should contain lessons on the problems of the women.

I strongly feel that the political parties and mass organisations in the country should adopt a positive approach to the problem of women and play a leading role in creating awareness about the atrocities committed against women.

14.47 hrs.

(MR. SPEAKER *in the chair*)

The Government should take necessary measures for helping political parties and mass organisations to discharge these responsibilities.

I support this Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail): Mr. Speaker, Sir, while supporting the Bill on Prohibition of Child Marriage, 2006, I'd like to put-forth my point. As hon. members have just said, it is true that even presently, more than 50 per cent of the marriages are solemnized in the minor age in the country for prevention of which efforts of many sorts have also been made earlier. Several types of Bills on prevention of atrocities against women, children and child labourers have been passed by this House, but if we look out for the root cause, illiteracy and poverty is the main reason behind it.

Even presently, several cases of child marriage observed in Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh are required to be checked. We should endeavour towards providing quality education to children, to the girls in particular. They should be protected against the atrocities, violence and exploitation. It has also been observed that many-a-child are pushed to trafficking that leads to their sexual exploitation. Even the Supreme Court has asked all the states for getting the marriages registered. Such type of registration would at least apprise us of the age at which marriage is solemnized. It would also help us in preventing this practice to a great extent.

I would like to talk about Uttar Pradesh where the Chief Minister hon. Mulayam Singh Yadav has made a provision for granting 20 thousand rupees to intermediate pass girls with a view to make them economically self-reliant in the state. That has solved this problem to a great extent. This has boosted the morale of guardians of these girls and the girls are also pursuing their higher studies. So, we have to think in this regard and especially it should be funded by the Central Government. There should be a fixed deposit of at least one thousand rupees in the name of a girl so that she could become economically self-reliant in future. Besides, girls should be provided free education upto 18 years of their age. Penal provision has been made in it. I'd like to categorically say in this regard that the pandits performing rituals in such early age marriages, halwais, and the persons working as middlemen for such marriages should also be covered therein. Similarly, all — be it Panchayat Mitras, Shiksha Mitras, Anganwadi workers working in ICDS, Panchayat Secretaries, Lekhpals, local police or NGOs functioning in villages, are aware of the number of marriages taking place in village and the circumstances under which they are being solemnized. So, we have to hold responsible

them also to some extent. So, I'd just like to say that if the Central Government create a separate fund for girls, I think this problem could be solved to a great extent. Besides, states too have to be held responsible for this. A provision should be made therein that they will get the patronage of the states also. There should be a provision to grant free-education to girls upto 18 years of their age. A provision made therein for holding the panchayats directly responsible for this is very good. I have given you the details about it. It should be our endeavour to seriously tackle such types of incidents whenever we witness them. As Sujata ji has just told about a woman worker of the ICDS that her hand was cut. I have to very regretfully say that the person responsible for the act have not been punished so far. If the offenders are punished immediately in such cases, there would be a feeling of fear among the persons committing such offences. Otherwise, it is a normal practice that a person commits an offence and asserts that he has done so. But, just ask that woman. How courageously she managed to go there. But, she too could not get justice so far, offenders could not be punished. There should be at least a system to punish the offenders immediately, only then there would be awareness among society.

With these words, I conclude while strongly supporting this Bill.

SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA (Samastipur): Sir, I would like to congratulate and thank the UPA Government and, in particular Renuka ji for bringing an important amendment bill. I would also like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

This is an important Bill. Though Renuka ji has touched many aspects of this problem, yet any amount of discussion on this issue will never be sufficient. By bringing this Bill an effort has been made to bring about a revolution and launch a movement against conservatism and tradition. In villages, they say that the girl despite being a part of the family is a stranger because after marriage, she is destined to part way. It is a saying and it should not be confined to its literal limits. Conservative people believe in this and that is why female foeticide has been taking place. The same kind of mentality is behind this. Moreover, the lurking fear of dowry is a curse to the society. The dowry system has not been eradicated, completely. This lies at the root of child marriage and infanticide. Even today, child marriages are taking place in villages and people having malafide intentions are arranging child marriages in cities. Therefore, there is a need to discriminate between the two. There is a need to launch a massive campaign in this regard in villages, whether through

[Shri Alok Kumar Mehta]

Anganwadis or through other agencies. There is a need to launch awareness campaign through voluntary organisations in this regard because people in villages are not even aware that any Prevention of Child Marriages Act exists. Therefore, neither enforcement of law takes place over there nor do people get educated in this regard.

This is an age of the media, therefore, it should be propagated through various media, that there exist such rules and legislations. Therefore, first of all people should be educated that if children are married at an early age, it will affect their physical and biological growth.

There is a place called Saurath in Madhubani district of Bihar. Child Marriage fares are organised over there. The young boys are also displayed in stalls for trading in the same manner as animals are displayed. Parents of prospective brides come and select the boy and get them married in a temple. It is a tradition over there. In Mithila, it is treated as a tradition. It is mandatory for the people of this area to follow this practice. There is a need to ostracise such people from society for getting married their children at such places. People of a particular community arrange such marriages on a large scale. It happens more often on festivals and on particular auspicious days and many politicians and other influential people also attend these functions in the name of mass weddings. Therefore, Administration do not intervene in it. Administration too does not want to go against the mob mentality.

Three amendments were carried out on this basis in the Sharda Act but despite that this practice is still continuing. Recently, I went through the figures given in reply to a Parliamentary question and found that the number of such people is negligible who have been convicted and penalised for their involvement in the practice of child marriage. Punishment awarded for committing this crime is also inadequate. Therefore, stringent legislations should be enacted, but before that, efforts should be made for Prevention so that the innocent people may not get trapped. In Hyderabad and other places, it has been observed that NRIs are involved in the trading of minor girls and give this deal the name of marriage. Stringent action should be taken against people having such a malafide intention. A necessary provision should be made in the law in this regard.

High-density areas need to be located to check this practice. I am telling you on the basis of my experience that most poor and remote areas of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and

Rajasthan are high-density areas. In Tonk district of Rajasthan, 82 % of marriages take place at early age and fake certificates are issued to circumvent the law. There is a need to enact stringent legislation in this regard. Section 18 (a) of the Hindu Marriage Act should be amended and the provision for awarding stringent punishment to the violators of this law should be made. Besides, the organisations working in these villages should be engaged for promoting awareness campaign. The people should also be made aware through some Government organisations like Anganwadis. The employees working in these organisations should be assigned this work in their spare time. The administration should also be made fully aware of these kind of legislations, because of they are not made aware of these legislations, then both the police and the people will remain unaware of this law. The Police should be pressurized for ensuring strict implementation of this legislation.

I have observed that police do not even register general cases in villages and remote areas. Therefore, I understand that mere enactment of legislations will not be sufficient to keep a check on such marriages. It has also been observed, that boys are abducted and got married so that in future the boy does not have any other option but to accept his wife.

15.00 hrs.

Not only the Government, but both the social workers and the Government should work collectively to constitute a work force to implement this Act. I congratulate her for making a provision of stringent punishment for violators of this law by amending section 18 (a) of the Hindu Marriage Act. With this, I support this revolutionary Bill.

[English]

SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI (Tiruchendur): Sir, thank you for giving me the opportunity to participate in this Prohibition of Child Marriage Bill, 2006.

This is one of the important Bills. I can proudly say that I come from a State where no child marriage is in practice. When two children marry, they cannot result in a successful union.

The Minister regretted that despite signing all the Conventions on Child Rights and Marriage, India still has the highest infant mortality rate and maternal mortality rate. The practice of child marriage is prevalent in the country due to poverty and social attitude.

As per the 2001 census, nearly 35 per cent women are married between 15 and 18 years of age. In this, three

lakh girls below the age of 15 gave birth to at least one child. Indian culture and tradition does not allow girls to step out of marriage even in child marriages. Moreover, society also does not support these girls. It is high time now that the tradition and culture need to change along with the law.

We need to build capacity of the girls and equip them with knowledge about the rights and laws that would help them. The first State to come out of this social injustice to women is Tamil Nadu. Social justice was started by Thandai Periyar in Tamil Nadu; it was continued by Dravidian leader Arignar Anna and now it is followed by our dynamic leader, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, Dr. Kalamangar Karunanidhi. During his regime as the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, there is no differentiation between male and female child. He implemented equal rights for both male and female in the ancestral property. The Tamil Nadu Government encourages the girl children by giving Rs. 15,000 to the girls who are getting married after the age of 18 years, if they have studied up to 10th standard.

When women come up in life, the country will develop. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, Dr. Kalamangar Karunanidhi believed in this concept and has allocated 33 per cent of seats in the local body election. Dr. Kalamangar is the first Chief Minister to do this. Now, all of us can see that Tamil Nadu State has developed manifold which is because of the guidance of the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. Other States can follow this model so that India can develop and prove its supremacy in the world soon.

With the present Bill, if the girls who marry under the age of 18 years, without their consent, then such marriages can be declared void. This is a welcome provision. Moreover, there are penal provisions which should be made stronger.

With these words, I conclude my speech and on behalf of the DMK Party, I support this Bill.

SHRIMATI ARCHANA NAYAK (Kendrapara): Sir, thank you for giving me an opportunity to participate in the Prohibition of Child Marriage Bill, 2006.

First of all, I would like to extend my full support to the hon. Minister, Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury, for bringing a Bill to end the uncivilized system of child marriage prevailing in our country even during the 21st century.

It is really a curse of India that even after passage of half a century after our independence, the barbaric system of child marriage is prevailing in our country. It is high time that we stop child marriage from our country.

The recent study shows that 65 per cent of Indian girls in Rajasthan, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh are married before attaining the age of 18 years. Section 3 of the Bill says that the marriage shall be 'voidable' if the contracting party says that she was a child at the time of marriage. But Section 3 (1) of the Bill stipulates that for annulling a child marriage by a decree of nullity can be filed in the district court only by a contracting party to the marriage who was a child at the time of marriage. There must be provision for filing such petition in the Session's court rather than in District court at a far away place.

The other provision of Section 3(2) says that if the Petitioner is a minor, the petition may be filed through his or her guardian or next friend along with the Child Marriage Prohibition Officer. We know that we have Dowry Prohibition Officers in the country. How far are we able to prevent dowry in the country? Unless and until the rules are made stringent and society is forced to follow them, it cannot be implemented. Hence, to stop child marriage, social awareness is needed very much.

At the same time, there must be a provision in the Act that the rule is not misused. A genuine marriage can be stopped if somebody obtains an injunction from the court under Section 13 (1) of the Act by misrepresenting that it is a child marriage.

Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister to incorporate necessary stringent provisions in the Bill to make it fool proof.

Once again, I congratulate the hon. Minister for this historic Bill. With these words, I would like to conclude my speech.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (Midnapore): Thank you, Speaker, Sir. I rise to support this important Prohibition of Child Marriage Bill, 2006.

It is a matter of great concern that in many parts of our country child marriage scenario is very much there. It is very much disturbing and is a subject of deep concern. We will have to curb this practice of child marriage in the country. There was an Act earlier, the Child Marriage (Restraint) Act, 1929. That was not adequate and I may say that it was becoming obsolete. There have been recommendations made by the National Commission for Women as also by the National Human Rights Commission. I thank the Minister categorically that she and her Ministry considered most of these recommendations. This is a legislation related to entry in the Concurrent List and the Seventh Schedule of the

[Shri Prabodh Panda]

Constitution of India. The Union Government circulated the proposed amendment, suggested by both the Commissions, to the State Governments. Most of the State Governments have sent their opinions and endorsements to the Union Ministry. So, it is a welcome step and I must thank the UPA Government for bringing this sort of legislation. But, Sir, legislation alone is not sufficient to change the mindset of our society. I must say that it is the legacy of the medieval age of our country. We must refer the Manu Samhita in this regard. What is the attitude towards the women in Manu Samhita? According to this, women should not be given independence. I would like to quote:

"Pita Rakshati Kaumarye
Bharta Rakshati Yuvane
Rakshanti Sthabire Putra
Na Stri Swatantraharti."

This is the idea of the Manu Samhita. So this is the idea of the medieval ages and this is the attitude towards the women of our country. So, in order to change the mindset, an awareness programme should be there and some sort of positive steps should be taken in this regard not only by the Union Government but also by the State Governments, Panchayats and even the social organizations. I may refer to Renaissance of Bengal, Ram Mohan Rai, Vidya Sagar and Vivekananda who have done so many things and we may refer to them. So, the passing of this legislation and appointing officers at different stages is not sufficient. I would say that awareness is required.

Once again I thank the Minister and the UPA Government for bringing this legislation. I support the Bill.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI RANJEET RANJAN (Saharsa): Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all, I would like to thank the hon'ble Minister for introducing Prohibition of Child Marriage Bill. I would like to put forth some points and suggestions in this regard. I thank the hon'ble Minister for her approach. She has paid due consideration to it. She intends to stop child marriage. Several Acts have been enacted in this regard but have not been implemented effectively. We should seriously ponder over their implementation and about the related action. Most of the child marriages are held in villages. At some places where police arrangements are insufficient, the practice of child marriage is going on at a large scale with the approval of both the sides. No body opposes it. There are a number of Acts with number of provisions, including provision for

punishment. However, this practice cannot be stopped till the action is taken, till someone comes forward to complain. The district administration should evolve a mechanism under which people can report against any such incident of child marriage. Such persons should be rewarded also. There should be a provision for keeping the name of the person secret who provide information. A special cell should be set up to pay attention towards the incidents of child marriage in the districts. Earlier a bill in respect of marriage registration was introduced. Strict compliance of that bill can lead to check child marriage.

Alongwith child marriage, whether the hon'ble Minister is aware of the custom of 'Kudersen' prevailing at some places including the area adjacent to Nepal border to Kishanpur, Purnia in Bihar. People of these areas sell their daughters to truck drivers even before they attain the age of 15 years on the pretext of their marriage. Truck drivers do not misbehave with them. They are sold at the age of 10-15 in the name of marriage by putting them in the bridal attire. Such girls are named 'Kudersen' in Punjab. These girls are kept by those persons as concubine till children are born to them. They adopt the children but do not keep these women with them. A large number of such women are facing this plight and are forced to beg for livelihood. Why any law is not being enacted in this respect?

Similarly, there is a village in Bundelkhand area of Madhya Pradesh about which many newspapers in their editorial column and some magazines like Outlook and India Today have also reported that the males of this village do not do any work. They remain idle and drink all the time. As soon as their daughters attain the age of 12-15 years, they are sold for prostitution. Traditionally, they live in Mumbai and Kolkata. A number of women of that village who are forced into flesh trade are living there. Whether the hon'ble Minister has any information about this village? Though there is a Police Station and a Panchayat also, however, these girls are openly forced into prostitution under a custom.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the most painful aspect is that the girls between the age group of 9-13 years are being forced into prostitution. Even a social evil like child marriage seems to be a better option in comparison to it. Not only the girls between this age group but also the children below it are also forced into prostitution. I have seen that Hormone Injections are being given to them. My cousin alongwith other students of B.H.U. had visited that village. A 12 years old girl Bababari Jabo was pregnant but was not aware of it. Through you, I would like to say that beside child marriage, this chain of trafficking is going on. A number of foreign and

domestic customers are a part of it. I do not feel ashamed while quoting all these. The more shameful and shocking aspect is the belief of the people that cohabitation with minors is going to cure their infections. It is a criminal offence that small girls are pushed to early puberty. Such incidents have been reported. They are being sent abroad and they are subjected to same treatment there also.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, Similarly, there is a temple in South India where the girls especially those in the age group of 9-13 years are openly sold to the foreigners. I would like to say that the law which prohibits the marriage of boy and girl below the age of 21 and 18 respectively has any section in this regard whether that has been amended or not. On one hand this law prohibits the marriage of a girl below 18 but on the other allows her to copulate with her husband. It is irony of this law that on one hand it gives protection to the girl below the age of 18 years but on the other allows her for a cohabitation with her husband even if she is below 18 years.

I congratulate the hon'ble Minister for enacting such a law but I want to say that the similar incidents will continue to take place until the social and male mindset changes to accept that the girl child also has a right to live and enjoy childhood. Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to say that I feel my hair strands on the end while quoting that I have witnessed the small girls being forced into prostitution and child marriage on the Nepal border which comes under my Parliamentary constituency. The Child Marriage Act should be implemented effectively to check such incidents. Through you, I would like to submit that the girls between the age group of 9-13 are being openly forced into prostitution and are also sold under the name of a tradition prevailing in Bundelkhand. Earlier also I have mentioned about the custom of 'Kudersen'. These are the girls who are taken from Bihar to Punjab and are kept as concubine. Later on after giving birth to children such women are left out as estranged women even though they adopt their children. In view of such circumstances, stringent laws should be enacted and enforced effectively. I would like the hon'ble Minister to pay attention towards the village of Bundelkhand and the custom of Kudersen. We are ignoring that the girls of this village in the age group of 9-13 years are being kept in brothels. Why? Attention should be paid towards it. I have mentioned all this because I feel that the hon'ble Minister being a woman could feel the agony of such women more in comparison to male counterpart and she has already made right approach in this regard. Therefore, I urge upon her to please implement it. I thank her for the bill she has introduced and I conclude while congratulating her.

MR. SPEAKER: You have made a very good speech.

[English]

I wish to compliment you for your speech. I am sure the hon. Minister has heard you closely.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KARUNA SHUKLA (Janjgir): First of all I would like to seek permission from the chair to speak. I welcome the Bill that has been introduced by the hon'ble Minister Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury today in the House and would like to extend my congratulation to her. The Bills related to the welfare of girls and women are being introduced in the House that indicates that probably the coming 21 century will be our century. I would like to extend my thanks to the hon'ble Minister for this. Today, in the morning when we were discussing the bill, our male colleagues inquired as to what bill has been left to be introduced in the House. I told them that now there is only one Bill left and that is Women's Reservation Bill. I am confident that in coming Budget Session probably that Bill will be introduced. We certainly want 33 percent reservation in State legislatures and Lok Sabha and through that Bill we seek to achieve the desired objective.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the child marriage is an age-old tradition. Our prevailing social evils along with poverty and illiteracy are the main reasons behind the custom of child marriage which is typified by more number of children in poor families. Then our medical science was not that advanced and there was no concept of family planning at that time so more children were born. When there were more children, the parents usually wanted to marry their children at early age so that they may get relieved of their parental obligations as soon as possible.

During the medieval period girls were wedded at early age because our country was invaded and captured by foreign rulers. First, we were plundered by Mughals. Girls were wedded at early age to protect them from Mughals. Thus, this evil practice was born and kept on flourishing with passage of time and even after 60 years of independence our country is following the same practice. We all the women Members present in the House, irrespective of our party affiliation associate ourselves with the anguish that has been expressed prior to me by Shrimati Ranjeet Ranjan. We all associate ourselves with the sentiment that has been expressed by her quite articulately. Men have always treated women as a commodity. As long as girls and women of the country are treated like a commodity, they will continue to

[Shrimati Karuna Shukla]

be exploited. Girls are surrendered to temples as 'Devdasis' to serve the god. Though they want to worship and serve the god, however, they are sexually exploited. Serving the divine cause becomes secondary and they are forced to gratify the sexual appetite of unscrupulous elements. She cannot share anything with her parents because she has social restrictions over them. She cannot tell anything to her family members because her family survives on her earning. Thus she silently bears all the agony and serve the god for her social prestige but hungry wolves keep on sexually exploiting them. I am telling you the tradition of 'Devdasi'

Similarly, when Sheikh visit Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh our Mullah-Maulvis help them in getting married to 9 and 12 years old girls out of their greed for money. No mother wants to sell her girl child. The mother who retains her girl child for nine months in her womb she wishes that her child should survive and remain happy. However, if anyone contributes in such activities it is the men.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, whatever social evils have cropped up in society, men have always victimized women whether it is as a father, brother, husband or friend. They have exploited them. Today discussion is being held on the child marriage. The issue of female foeticide is also attached to this issue. If the women are not even allowed to take birth where does the question of educating them arise and when they do not get education, social crime like child marriage will always remain in our country. The Minister of Child Development has made effort to give legal form to it; however, I would like to say that the said law should not remain merely on the paper. Prior to this also many laws have been formulated but they have remained confined to the papers alone. At least there is provision of punishment in it but it should be ensured that all the guilty persons must get punished. In our country Dharmraj Yudhishthir had betted Droupadi treating her as an object. Even today, child marriages are taking place treating girl child as commodity. Though social workers are carrying out their responsibilities.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, probably we the workers of political parties are not properly discharging our duties. The people of political parties are doing politics of vote in the country. They are concerned only with votes. It is the responsibility of Women Members, Legislators, district Panchayats and Mayor to make maximum efforts to fight against this social evil in their respective areas. It will certainly help in checking the exploitation of women if we make sincere efforts in this direction.

Today, I would like to raise one more problem along with this issue on which I myself had conducted a survey. I

have conducted this survey only in two-four states. There is large number of unwed mothers in the country. There are many Government officers. I would like to cite the examples of the officers of Orissa, Bastar of Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand who employed girls as domestic help and lured them to marry and when they become pregnant they were deserted. There are many unwed mothers in our country who are not able to support their children. Their lives have become very difficult because they are not in a position to remarry. I would like to request the hon'ble Minister that she should also ponder over this problem and if possible efforts should be made to solve this problem by way of formulating a law in this regard.

I would like to add one more thing in the discussion being held on the issue of child marriage and then I shall conclude. The marriage is not merely a physical relationship between a man and a woman. It is concerned with the society, family, tradition and culture as well. The changes will certainly take place in the society if we understand and enjoy this relationship. There is one more subject that was raised by hon'ble Ranjanji that on the one hand there is provision that at the time of marriage the age of girl should not be less than 18 years and on the other, there is provision that in the event of consensual cohabitation she does not come under this definition. Girls remain minor and she does not understand things. Several girls are exploited and get involved in sexual activities out of curiosity. They fail to understand the consequence of this fun and when they get pregnant their mothers come to know about it.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, today girls are not secured even in the company of their fathers. When you read such a news in newspaper you will not believe, but I am shocked that after birth, girls are secure only with their mothers. They are not secure in the company of their fathers and brothers. If she is married at tender age she does not understand the meaning of cohabitation and her husband force her. While the age of bridegroom is 40-year bride is only 12 year old. The husband forces her for intimate relationship and she get pregnant at tender age. Her life becomes hell and probably she may not ever desire to be born as girl. You should certainly amend the provision of the law. The girls are not mature before 18 years of age. She does not understand this relationship and she comes to know about it over a period of time after living in this relationship. Through you, I would like to congratulate the hon'ble Minister that she has introduced a commendable Bill and I feel that 21-century will be the century of women. With these words, I conclude.

[English]

SHRIMATI TEJASWINI SEERAMESH (Kanakapura):

Sir, I would like to compliment the Chair wholeheartedly because you are always very supportive and always showing a lot of concern and kindness towards the women's problems in this country. I would also like to compliment all my sisters who spoke on this very painful issue. But, at the same time, when we are painfully speaking on this most crucial problem of the girl child, particularly who are entering into the marriages, I can see two extreme examples in the world. On the one side, Indian origin Shrimati Sunita Williams is enjoying here space walks in the space and who made us all proud and, on the other side, many innocent unfortunate girl children or women are entering into the cruelest practice of sati.

So, it makes me sad all the time. But, anyway, with the support of the august House, with the blessings and the strong support of the UPA Chairperson Shrimati Sonia Gandhi and our hon. Prime Minister, Madam Renuka Ji brought forward this amendment to the Prevention of Child Marriage Act and the repeal of the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929. It has brought me some ray of hope that we can end this evil practice.

This Bill aims at preventing child marriages, particularly girl child marriages and to rehabilitate the innocent, victimized girls who are pushed into forced women-hood at the tender age. Tender age means that it is the age which cannot take on the responsibility of marriage. They are abusing the mind and body. So, that is why, without healthy citizens, we cannot build a healthy nation. Therefore, it is our responsibility to take care of this problem.

Soon after the subject of Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929 was transferred from the Ministry of Law to the Ministry of Women and Child Welfare in January 2006, immediately the hon. Minister has taken steps to process the amendments to the Act and she has brought forward the Prohibition of Child Marriage Bill. It is sad to notice that marriage of young girls and women has the acceptance and approval of all sections of the society. It is really sad. Also, the worrying factor is the reduction in the rate of birth of girl child. It is really worrying. Already, we have debated this issue. It shows the seriousness of Parliament. In the North-Eastern Region also, it is declining. It is so because India is having different cultures, traditions, races. As my sister Sumitra Ji has said, it is our duty to keep up our tradition of 5000-year old Indian-ness. For that, at least we must maintain healthy mothers. Child marriages are taking place cutting across income, cultural, traditional, ethnic and religious barriers. It is a worrying factor. The media can play a vital role in this. Today, globalization and access to glamorous material is there.

The media can really spare some valuable time to educate the innocent people of the country where they are contributing a lot. So, it is the responsibility of the media to do this.

Apart from poverty, strong and blind belief, superstition, illiteracy and age-old traditional practices are aggravating this problem. Society needs overall development. For that, not only social development but also economic development is necessary. If economic development reaches every nook and corner of women, then, they can decide. As my sister Karuna Ji has said, women can decide, mothers can decide on the fate of the child, particularly the girl child. But unless we get the economic independence, it will not resolve the overall issue at one time.

The poor girl children are treated as animals. In my State of Karnataka, in the coastal belt, poor parents are indulging in trafficking of young girls. Some rich people from the Middle East are involved in this. That problem needs to be addressed. It is a shame. Really, I share my total concern with Ranjita Ji and other colleagues as also the hon. Minister who spoke on this. We should hang our head in shame that flesh trade is flourishing. In the flesh market, a majority of the girls is pushed into trafficking. So, unless we stop this, we cannot say that this is our great India, Mera Bharat Mahan. We cannot make all these statements. We must introduce stringent punishment. In this regard, I also urge upon the media to take care of this. More programmes are sexual in nature. It also provokes and instigates people. A lot of harassment is inflicted on the girl child.

At last, I would like to address this problem. Child marriages are not only taking place among the backward and tribal people but even learned VIPs are indulging in this. I am very much pained to say that even learned representatives, VIPs who come from elite society are also indulging in this. At the age of 60-70 years, some men are marrying girls of 9 years, 10 years and 15 years. It is really a very shameful thing. I expect the hon. Minister to introduce not soft punishment but stringent punishment. She should introduce life term for those who destroy the tender age of the girl child. She should introduce life-term, if not capital punishment.

They really deserve capital punishment because they take away the right of the girl child. So, I appeal to the hon. Minister to introduce more stringent punishment for such people.

Then, we should also sensitize our police because police will not take up cases when they approach the police

[Shrimati Tejaswini Seeramesh]

station. So, we need more humane police personnel to take up these cases.

We have to make use of our Anganwadi workers who are very helpful and committed to this cause. We should involve our panchayats also in this because some accountability is needed at the grassroots level. Through the panchayats we can educate the people about this evil and create awareness among them.

The child marriage denies the girl child the right to good health, nutrition, education and economic independence. In the name of marriage, they abuse the child's mind and body. It is the cruelest offence and this leads to domestic violence also.

With these concerns, I would request the hon. Minister to go ahead with this. She has the fullest support of the Parliament including our Speaker who is behind all of us and also the Opposition. We are all behind the hon. Minister on this. With these words, I support this Bill.

MR. SPEAKER: Well, the Speaker is at least very proud of being the Speaker because of the high level of debate that we are having on this Bill. I wish to compliment all sides for their wonderful contribution on this very important subject.

Now, I call Shri Suresh Prabhu to speak. I am sorry, I can only allot four minutes to you.

SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU (Rajapur): Gender bias is not good. Since women are only speaking, I thought I will also speak.

MR. SPEAKER: You should have asked the lady Member of your party to speak.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): No, Sir. I want the men to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: They are the culprits!

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH (Bhilwara): Sir, I must also get time to speak because only lady Members from the BJP are speaking.

MR. SPEAKER: All right. We are having a very high level of debate. I am very happy and proud.

SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU (Rajapur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, let me also join my other colleagues in not only supporting but also complimenting the Minister for bringing this legislation.

Marriage is supposed to be a conjunction of two souls, two families and beginning of a new life of two individuals. But many times, when you get into wedlock, when two individuals marry, it really is a marriage between two individuals. But when a marriage is solemnized by someone else, who is not a party to the marriage directly, the individuals who are marrying do not know what they are doing because somebody else is getting them married and that is why, child marriage is, in fact, not a marriage between two individuals. It is a connivance or a conspiracy hatched by others who are going to reap benefit out of this arrangement and, therefore, the people who are getting married, rather than beginning a new blissful life, are actually going to have a tortuous journey ahead of them. Therefore, this type of marriage has to be stopped and nipped in the bud. That is why, this law is the beginning of a process which will actually help the people not to engage into such an arrangement which will actually create problems for them. Therefore, as I said, I really support the Bill and I also compliment the Minister.

Sir, the issue is, when we pass the law in this Parliament, it provides us an enabling environment. It only helps us to deal with the situation legally. But that should not be an end in itself. I would request the Minister to look at the possibility of creating an atmosphere wherein the law will be implemented by those who are really as committed to the cause as we are when we are passing the legislation. We always feel that there is a huge gap between the spirit of the law, the letter of the law and what we finally see, at the end of the day, as the implementation of the law. Therefore, the responsibility of the Government now is this. The Government should create an environment in which we would be able to take the thinking of all of us, for which, Sir, you have complimented all of us, and our spirit forward to the grassroots level, to the villages where the problem is actually going to surface. We all realize it, we feel about it, we are sensitive about it, but they are the ones who are going to take action on it. Therefore, that is my first point as to how to get into it.

Sir, here I would like to make some suggestions. In the last Session, we passed another law, welcoming, very forward looking, very progressive legislation, that is, dealing with domestic violence. We are already dealing with the problem of child marriage, which is one part and child labour is another part. So, domestic violence is one, child labour is another issue and child marriage is the third one, but it is not the same problem.

I feel you create an institution at the district level, maybe

eventually at the level of local self-Government, that is, Gram Panchayat wherein, at least, one person may be elected by the villagers themselves to look into all these issues in a comprehensive manner. The Ministry will have to play the role of training these people. Unless you train these people, it is really not going to happen because to accept that it should be sensitized to do this is not really going to work. Therefore, we must create a new breed or a cadre of officers and people who are actually as sensitized to the issue as is required and then they are going to act at it. So, I would request the hon. Minister to prepare a list of such officers.

The hon. Minister has very rightly left this responsibility to the State Governments. As you are aware, the State Governments are supposed to create family courts. How many districts of the country have family courts? How many of those courts have judges? How many of those judges are as sensitized as they should be. Therefore, the first and foremost requirement or responsibility will begin with the Parliament and that responsibility will have the beginning with the responsibility of the Government to begin and I think, that should be to sensitise this.

Sir, there are two-three other very important points. Firstly, you must ensure that all the births that take place in the country — there is a law which hardly implemented — should be registered as soon as possible. For example, the relationship between the birth and this law. How do you justify and how will you establish the age of a child that the boy is 21 and the girl is 18? In many cases in the villages, in the absence of proper birth records, there are a lot of litigations for nothing. People usually say that this girl looks bigger than what she is or elder than what she is. So, birth registration is important.

Secondly, there should be compulsory marriage registration. That is again not required under the law today. I think, if you do not insist on registration of marriage compulsorily, the arrangement which will be primarily entered, how will you prevent the child labour. Therefore, compulsory registration is necessary.

In addition to that, we have already amended the Constitution to say that we want to make sure that there will be compulsory education at primary level. I think, this is about the time that we really introduced this spirit that we have already passed a law into a proper implementable fundamental right given to all the citizens so that there will be a compulsory education, at least, till the age of 15 so that automatically a child who is going to enter into marriage will be able to make an informed decision, an informed choice. Therefore, this will be required.

Sir, there are two other general points. We are already talking about domestic violence, as I was mentioning about it earlier. Why not create compulsory, at least for a Taluka, a proper court which will deal with issues related to family, related to inter-personal relationship, which does not affect the society? These are the issues which should be handled in a very delicate manner. We should not leave it to the district court in which people will be coming and there the criminals will be tried as well as such issues will be tried. These are the issues which should be dealt with a lot of care and caution. Therefore, we really need to create that if you really want to take care of all the issues.

Sir, the fundamental problem that persists and which actually is manifested into such socio-economic problem is the socio-economic conditions of the people. Unless we target that in a very effective manner, we are not going to solve this problem. I was hoping that we will be able to discuss the Five-Year Plan today, but I am told that the Five-Year Plan will not be discussed today because normally the Five-Year Plan targets are not supposed to be met in five years. They are met much later. So, probably, we thought, why should we discuss now, we can discuss it even after three years when we will be able to do it. So, probably the socio-economic conditions should be properly taken into consideration and that is why I thought, it will be discussed.

MR. SPEAKER: It will be very seriously discussed.

[Translation]

SHRI RAVINDER NAIK DHARAVATH (Warangal): Mr. Speaker, Sir, India is a great country and I am proud to be an Indian. But, how unfortunate it is that even today, 60 years after our independence, inhuman incidents take place in our country. Even today, due to extreme poverty and penury, people sell out their children, especially girls or even kill them.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, many of them are forced to marry at tender age. I do agree with what the hon'ble Members have just said here. I support the Bill brought along with this Bill, to prevent the child-marriage. People do so owing to utter poverty. People in Andhra Pradesh have been resorting to selling their wives and daughters and killing them for the last 10-15 years in order to overcome poverty. I have requested the center as well as the State Government to check it but no action has been taken so far. Sir, through you, I would like to convey to the House that with a view to check such incidents in Telengana region, I made several requests and sent representation to the Central as well as the State Government. But no steps have been taken to

[Shri Ravindra Naik Dharavath]

check it. The irony is such across the entire Telengana region that people in the age group of 60-70 years marry with minor girls of 10-12 years of age. I do not mean to say that it is so there only, may be this trend prevails all over the country, but it is more so in Hyderabad and Telengana region. My submission is that with a view to check it the girls should be imparted education and they should be financially strengthened. Then alone we can overcome this menace.

Sir, looking back to the last 15 years in Andhra Pradesh, I have witnessed that the girl child is often killed there. When I was a child, I used to hear that the girl child was killed by suffocating her after inserting excessive quantity of rice in her mouth. But, now some people kill their baby girls by inserting red-hot rods in their mouths. You are the chairman of the Child Forum. I am also a Member of it. I had raised this matter in the said forum. You were so sad to hear that. Therefore, my submission is that stringent law should be enacted to prevent child marriage and also to check killing of the girl child so as to protect them. If we fail to do so, we would ourselves be responsible for the country's pitiable condition.

Sir, you gave me an opportunity to speak on the extant Bill. I had risen to support the Bill and was in a mood to raise many a points about it. But the things I wanted to mention are so painful that even I am pained to express them. Though, 60 years have elapsed since independence, yet the condition in our country is so precarious that lakhs of rupees allocated and released for setting up schools and hostels for girl children in tribal areas do not reach the desired destination. Health Care Facilities are not being provided properly in remote and tribal areas. My submission is that the Government take steps to combat such a situation. I am grateful to you for having given me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: We all must ask ourselves as to what we are doing to stop this.

Now, Shrimati Minati Sen.

SHRIMATI MINATI SEN (Jalpaiguri): Sir, on behalf of my Party as well as myself, I rise to support the Prohibition of Child Marriage Bill, 2006.

Sir, I am of the opinion that the problem of child marriages is correlated to lower level of literacy and poverty. In most of the cases, the women are treated as lower than second class citizens, and as such, they do not enjoy to give

any opinion in any matter, be it marriage of herself at minor age or marriage of her daughter. I strongly demand a comprehensive action plan for upgrading the literacy level and economic empowerment of the women to bring them at par with the male counterpart of the society.

Sir, it may not be out of track if I refer a recent Report of UNICEF titled 'the state of Children 2007'.

The Report states that in the women headed Gram Panchayats of West Bengal, the roads are better; drinking water supply is better; more girls can go to school; and more health workers visit the villages.

This proves that if women are allowed to enjoy power like their male counterparts, they can prove themselves to be worthy.

Sir, the objective of this Bill is obviously to give more teeth to the Acts already in vogue for prevention of child marriage. This Bill is a welcome step, no doubt. Let us hope that we may not have to come again on the floor and lament that we need some more teeth to protect our children from child marriage since the present Act is not sufficient. I also hope that the law maintaining machineries of the Government will act at the right moment to prevent any child marriages, and the guilty will be punished.

Lastly, Sir, I demand compulsory registration of all marriages and request the Government to bring a comprehensive legislation. I would also request the Government that the fees of registration of marriages should be within the financial means of the poor villagers. I would also request the hon. Minister to take into consideration the recommendations given by the National Commission for Women.

Once again, I render my support to this Bill.

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO (Bolangir): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to wholeheartedly welcome and support the Prohibition of Child Marriage Bill, 2006. At the very outset, I would like to congratulate and compliment the hon. Minister for bringing forth this Bill.

Sir, I would not go into too much detail. There are just a few points that I would like to make. Firstly, I compliment the hon. Minister for including the legitimacy of the child born out of this union despite the fact that it may be nullified.

The second point is regarding maintenance and the custody clauses included in the Bill. The third point is on mass marriages, which are held on important and auspicious dates like Akshya, Tithiya and all. These are very relevant points.

I also support the points raised by Mr. Suresh Prabhu regarding proper registration of births and marriages because without that, the Bill would not have much teeth.

There was also a point raised by the RJD Member, Shrimati Ranjit Ranjan, which was very passionately put by her, and we all wholeheartedly support this.

Madam, I would like to mention here...

MR. SPEAKER: Sorry; at this old age, do I look like a Madam?

...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am so sorry. ...(Interruptions)

I would like to mention here that it is very unfortunate that we almost have to regard women as an endangered species even in today's day and age, and we are trying to bring in all kinds of legislation to protect the rights of the girl child, woman in general etc.

Coming to the Bill, the very term 'Child Marriage', I feel, is a paradox because a child who has not attained maturity as yet, is not really meant to be married and take on the responsibilities of the real world. In today's day and age, the pressures and stresses of adulthood, as it is, come soon enough, and it is our duty to protect the innocence of children, their interests, their health and development as long as we can.

In today's day and age where we have become extremely aware of the rights of children and have brought in and passed Bills in the House like Protection of Children's Rights Bill, it is only natural that this Bill also should follow in order to strengthen the rights of the children.

As many times, more often than not, the children are forced into marriage by the elders, parents, guardians or whoever in-charge of them, I feel this Bill is a very important step and it is socially a very relevant Bill. Ours is a nation where the maternal mortality rate is the second highest in the world estimated at about 540 per 1,00,000 live births. Approximately 1,25,000 women die each year due to pregnancy and pregnancy-related causes. The high maternal mortality rate is attributed to certain factors like poverty, malnutrition, anaemia, lack of health care during pregnancy and most importantly, biologically the young girls are undeveloped as they are under-nourished and underage.

Also, the infant mortality rate in our country is very high. It is estimated at 62 per 1000 live births. In rural India

almost 60 per cent of the girls are already married off before they attain the age of 18. Nearly 60 per cent of the married girls become mothers before they attain the age of 19. As a result, not only does the health of the mother suffer but also the babies are born below the average birth weight. So, all these factors are very important when we talk about prohibition of child marriage.

Early marriages, as we all know, deprive the girl child of access to proper education and economic independence. Unfortunately, the girl child in our country by and large, not only in rural India but also, I would say, in urban India are made to feel as though they are merely a transferable and disposable commodity and liability at best.

So, in our country the psyche is such that the moment a girl attains puberty, you know, there is fretting and fuming in the family that the girl has to be married because the parents want to shirk their responsibility. They do not want to spend as much on girl child's education as on the boy of the house. Unfortunately, they feel that looking after a girl is a big burden in our country. Therefore, sometimes a girl is sold even under the garb of getting married as lot of our previous hon. Members have raised. I do not want to get into this repetitive thing or what other Members have mentioned that they are used for sexual exploitation, misused and subjected to all kinds of problems at the hands of pedophiles. This is a surprising thing we hear about NRIs, and then you have rickety old men coming and marrying young girls who are barely 13 and 14. It is absolutely disastrous.

Also, though the issue of female foeticide is not relevant here, I would like to mention that the male-female ratio has dropped down to 947 to 1000 males. All these go to show that in our country women do not have a very comfortable position.

Now, as far as the Bill goes, in a progressive society like ours where we are fighting for gender equalities, there are two Sections. One is Section 13 clause (10) and another is Section 11 clause (1) where it is mentioned that women would not be imprisoned. I would like to refer to this.

Section 13, clause (10) says: "Whoever, knowing that an injunction has been passed, has been issued under sub-section (1) against him, disobey such injunction, shall be punishable with imprisonment, etc., etc."

16.00 hrs.

It is also said — "But provided that no woman shall be punishable with imprisonment." Though I am a woman, I

[Shrimati Sangeeta Kumari Singh Deo]

oppose this vehemently because more often than not we find that women are equally responsible in perpetuating such crimes on women.

Secondly, the cases should be time-bound. There should be speedy disposal of these cases. Otherwise, they just carry on and on. Thirdly, as far as custody of the child goes, I would like to suggest that the mother should be given custody of the child. Usually even in divorce cases, this is the prevalent custom that the mother should be given the custody of the child while the maintenance of the mother and child can be provided by the husband.

Lastly, I want to raise two more points. One is on the CMPO – the Child Marriage Prevention Officer. It is given here that there would be, by and large, one Child Marriage Prevention Officer in the State or by modification a few may be added. Since it is such a revolutionary Bill which we are passing in Parliament, I would like to make a humble suggestion that we should have one Child Marriage Prevention Officer per district at least. The responsibilities which have been conferred on them are immense and creating an awareness etc. cannot be done by one man alone.

Lastly, let us see what was prevalent in earlier days, the Gona system where even if there was an arrangement by two families in rural India that a marriage would take place whenever they came of age, if you can bring about a similar system like this that even if the marriage has been annulled in order not to give to social evils like promiscuity and prostitution because when women are financially not very comfortable, then there is no choice but to go into these sorts of lines. What really should be encouraged is that a modified Gona system should be incorporated where even if the marriages are annulled, but as and when they attain maturity they may be re-united and till then the lady may live in her own parents' home or since ours is a Welfare State, if the State provides a short-stay home or something like that, that would be more than welcome. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I think we should have a special Session on children and women issues where everybody would speak without the whip.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO: I just want to conclude.

MR. SPEAKER: I wish to compliment you.

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO: I would

like to convey my compliments to the hon. Minister and request her to kindly incorporate these amendments.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Francis Fanthome to speak now. Can you finish in three minutes?

SHRI FRANCIS FANTHOME (Nominated): I will try, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: No, not only try but please do it.

SHRI FRANCIS FANTHOME (Nominated): Sir, let me begin by complimenting the hon. Minister for bringing in this extremely important piece of legislation. It cannot be underscored that this legislation has taken a long gestation. Sir, you will recall that the earlier Bengal Renaissance Movement which was spearheaded by no less than a dignitary like Ishwar Chand Vidyasagar and Keshav Chandra Sen had advocated the abolition of child marriages. They struggled for many decades; but could not see this legislation in place.

It is important now that this 14th Lok Sabha is witnessing a historical legislation supported by our Chairperson of the UFA and the hon. Prime Minister. I would like to say that while this Bill brings in the element of the dignity of the child, I would not like to think that the dignity of the child in terms of marriage is merely an economic argument as has been mentioned in certain quarters.

This, to me, is more an attitudinal issue and more an exploitative issue. We must look at this issue in terms of what type of attitudes do men and, perhaps, some women bring to the social order in terms of how they see the growth of their children.

In this larger context, I feel that this legislation will go a long way in creating a new awareness in civil society that will set in place extremely important designs that will alter the civil society in very many manners. While a lot of issues have been stated in terms of the emotional impact, I would like to mention that when we prevent child marriages, what we also put in place is an element that we address children in terms of the knowledge economy, in terms of the 21st Century sensitivities, in terms of what we consider as people responsible for building the human capital. It is in that context that I feel that this piece of legislation would go a long way.

To me, the test of this legislation would be how we react in April next to the Akshaya Tritiya Festival in Rajasthan. Would we be able to prevent the child marriages that are rampant during Akshaya Tritiya Festival in the State of Rajasthan? If we are able to put in place, as I would think, the prevention of child marriages, as was being mentioned

by my previous colleague, it is a more important aspect of this rather than the other aspects of controlling or regulating or putting in penalties because as we know, the society in which we live in and the society to which these children are born, they have several ramifications if their marriages are annulled or if their marriages after having been solemnised are not put into practice in the manner in which their cultural identities relate to. So, I would like to think that the Minister has reasonably adequate time to try and put in place a preventive mechanism in each district and in each region so that the children are prevented from these marriages.

There are several issues to speak on, but I would conclude as you have given me three minutes. I would like to mention that seemingly, there is a contradiction within the Bill in terms of clause 2(a) and clause 9. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to this. While clause 2(a) defines a male adult in terms of reaching 21 years of age, clause 9 states 'whoever being a male adult above 18 years'. Therefore, it needs to be clarified whether the child above 21 is reaching adulthood or child at 18 is reaching adulthood. We would need some information on that.

I would like to support the recommendation of Shrimati Sangeeta Kumari Singh Deo when she says that there needs to be fast track mechanisms to put into place the people who do not follow this law and consequentially who put into jeopardy the lives of our children.

With these words, I commend and support this Bill.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the hon. Minister will speak.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI (Udaipur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, please allow me to speak for two minutes. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): Mr. Speaker, Sir, please allow her to speak for two minutes. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No.

[English]

I have given time.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Santosh ji, you know

[English]

that only to accommodate you, we have agreed to this.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Athawale ji, if you too agree with him, then support the Bill.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is only to accommodate you. Please do not embarrass me here.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI: Sir, I am grateful to you for having given me an opportunity to speak. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Sir, I would like to speak a sentence. I have to make very important point.

MR. SPEAKER: Everything coming out from you is important.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Then, you should have been the first speaker of your party. I will not allow you.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI (Udaipur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon'ble Minister to an aspect of the Prohibition of Child Marriage Bill, 2006 presented in the House. In first part of the Bill, it has been mentioned that it shall extend to whole of India, except the state of Jammu and Kashmir. I would like to draw the attention of the hon'ble Minister to the words, except the State of Jammu and Kashmir whereas, the fact remains that the problem of child marriage exists in that state also, so it should be extended to Jammu and Kashmir as well. Child marriage is a social problem and I think, it can't be solved by merely enacting a law. It will have to be tackled socially and the Government should evolve some ways to check this

[Shrimati Kiran Maheshwari]

problem. There are many social evils. I would like to draw the attention of the hon'ble Minister to Akshya Tritiya. On this day, ceremonies are held in many states, wherein mass marriage of children are solemnized. How does the Government propose to tackle it? We can't check it just through laws. Until and unless we create social awareness about it either through counseling or through NGOs, we will not be able to check it. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: If any hon'ble Member wants to submit written speeches, they can do so.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI: My submission is that his Ministry should have separate Public Relations Department which can help in curbing such social evils. Further, a mention of family courts has been made in the said Bill. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I shall try to see that we have a special discussion on this issue.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI: So far, family courts have been functioning at the district level. Now if we set up such courts at Panchayat level, these will prove to be more effective as this type of problems occurs more in rural areas. Therefore, I would like such courts to be set up at Panchayat level. These can help in social reforms as Panchayats are empowered to take required actions at its level. Though I wanted to speak at length, but in view of time constraints, while supporting the said Bill, I would like to conclude my speech.

I would like to extend my thanks to you for giving me an opportunity to speak and I conclude.

MR. SPEAKER: You should have been the first speaker of your party.

SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA (Seoni): Mr. Speaker, Sir, please give me one minute to speak. ...*(Interruptions)* Sir, I would like to say a very important thing that has not been said by any hon'ble Member. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You are aware of this. I have asked Radhakrishnan ji to resume the seat. Now if I allow you he will also rise to speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a well established religious superstition in our society that if the girl is not married before attaining the age of 12 years, parents do not get the blessings of Kanyadan. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You are defying me. I never called you.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA: Today there is a need to remove such superstition.... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support this Bill on behalf of the Republican Party. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You have supported it. Very well, I compliment you and your party. The Minister now.

[Translation]

*SHRI ASHOK ARGAL (Morena): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Minister has provided right to live a life of childhood to girls. Child marriage is a social malady that cannot be tackled merely by enacting laws. For this, we will have to launch social movement and will also have to give publicity in this regard. The law was enacted in 1929 also but could we check child marriage? Now we could not do it. Thousands of child marriages are solemnized on the occasion of Akshyatritya and the Government and administration remain silent spectators. In some rural areas girls are married in childhood to protect them from moral degradation. In some rural areas 12 years is considered as fit age for 'Kanyadan'. Today common people are feeling quite insecure in society due to rise in crime. Due to this reason also people are giving priority to early marriage of their daughters.

Today it is being observed that people terminate female foetus at the time of pregnancy itself. They do not want girl child. Today sex ratio is deteriorating and the number of female in comparison to male is very low. So the Government should make education compulsory upto the lowest level and should also seek cooperation of society and social organisations. The Government should also own the

* The speech was laid on the Table of the House.

responsibility of providing education to girl child and their marriage to check female infanticide and foeticide and if any one is found guilty of committing such heinous crime rigorous punishment should be awarded to him or her. By the way, some States are concerned for girl child. The State Government is paying much attention to the education of the girls in Madhya Pradesh and when they join 9th standard bicycle is provided to them. I would like to request the Central Government when a girl child is born it should deposit Rs. 1 lakh for her marriage and when she will attain the age of 20 years that amount will be Rs. 16 lakh. This will help in checking child marriage. I am against the child marriage. It is a social malady.

*DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA (Khajuraho): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to extend my thanks for giving me an opportunity to speak.

Sir, India is a country of cultures. There are many cultures in this country and all cultures have their distinct traits. There is a need to study the conceptions and traditions of different cultures and prepare a comprehensive dimension to the study system and child marriage came into vogue during the Mughal and British period to protect women from exploitation. However, after independence of the country, we are becoming aware of various things and religious preachers and social organisations are also making efforts in this direction and it is on account of all these things that tradition of collective marriage has started.

The laws against child marriage are helpful for the Government in checking the incidences of child marriage. The present Bill will further strengthen the society and law will be helpful in checking the child marriage. However, on the other hand T. V. channels, songs flouting laws of the land are causing perversion among society.

Sir, I am very aggrieved to listen to a song that openly flouts the laws and it is essential to ban that song. "Mai 16 varsh ki tu satrah varsh ka"

Sir, ban should be imposed on such kind of display and songs and action should be taken against the person who has composed this song and who popularized it.

Sir, the birth of a girl child is considered as a curse on account of poverty and dowry system. So, it is essential to provide protection and support to girls. It is on account of poverty that social evils like prostitution, Devdasis are prevalent in the society, which are required to be eradicated. Illiteracy is also one of the major causes of such things.

I would like to extend my thanks to hon'ble Shivraj Chauhan, the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh who has formulated many schemes for girls. He has made provisions of insurance for girl child for changing social attitude towards the birth of a girl child in view of decline in the birth rate of girls. The girl child will get Rs. 1 lakh after attaining the age of 21 years and that money will be used for Kanyadan on the part of Government. There is provision of giving protection to them under the Gaon Ki Beti Yojana.

Similarly, the hon'ble Minister Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury should also make provision to check child marriage.

*SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA (Seoni): Mr. Speaker, Sir, child marriage is an evil prevailing in our society. Our Governments may make any tall claims about checking this practice, but they are false. The child Marriage Restraint Act was enacted in 1929 also but it remained futile. Even today so many incidents of child marriage are reported in newspapers during wedding season. Sometimes the child marriages are performed in mother's lap or in cradle. In North-eastern pre-natal marriages are fixed and even gifts are exchanged. Later on confrontations also take place when both the mothers give birth to boys or girls.

In a child marriage, both the boy and the girl are not fit mentally and physically for marriage and after marriage they face a lot of problems. The mother and child mortality rate is still very high and child marriage is largely responsible for it. Mainly women are the victims of all the social evils, be it dowry system-dowry and dowry deaths are on the rise or the practice of Sati. Though the practice of Sati is completely banned but stray incidents are reported from different places. Female foeticide, child marriage-passing the life as a child widow, devdasi pratha, migrating the girl child to cities on the pretext of employment, selling off girls to sheikhs due to poverty in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh and shirking from the responsibility of protecting girl child, lack of awareness and superstitions are the evils prevailing in our country. Child Marriage is a symbol of religion in some areas and it is believed that Kanyadan is performed before the girl attains the age of 12 years is the biggest charity.

Keeping in view the prevailing poverty, the Government of Madhya Pradesh has implemented various schemes for the safety and education of girl child. Kanya Saksharata Protsahan Yojna, distribution of cycles among the girl students of class 9th, providing Rs. 5000 to each couple under Saubhagyavati Yojna for SC community, Adivasi

* The speech was laid on the Table of the House.

* The speech was laid on the Table of the House.

[Shrimati Neeta Pateriya]

Samuhik Vivah Yojna under which Rs. 5000 are provided to each adult boy and girl from poor families. Clause 3 (2) of the Bill states that if at the time of filing petition, the petitioner is a minor; the petition may be filed through his or her guardian or next friend alongwith the Child Marriage Prohibition Officer. What is the meaning of "alongwith" in the said clause?

Sarpanch of the village should also be made accountable to check child marriage. If any information is received about child marriage being performed in any Panchayat, action should be taken against it.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): Sir, I rise to thank all my hon. colleagues for having contributed so passionately, so sensitively and their great experience by which they have helped us set direction. I am also deeply appreciative that I have been fortunate to have you in the Chair today. As Chairperson of the Parliamentary Forum on Child I am sure that you will help us to map a future that all of us have collectively dreamed for the children. Naturally I am completely delighted that we have the UPA Chairperson here, who has personally seen to the ICDS Schemes and taken interventions for children for benefiting the future of our nation.

All of us have spoken from our hearts today and this Bill has got support across the rank and file of this House and there is a whole society and a global situation where people are looking towards us. Why is it that we are bringing in these legislations?

As Sumitraji has mentioned, this is part of the series of legislations that I intend to bring to facilitate the safe passing of the lifetime of girl child in our country. Today, it is a matter of collective national shame that one crore girl child have been killed in the last 20 years in our country using science and technology against them, identifying these infants in their mother's wombs and parents then turn killers. Why has this system evolved?

[Translation]

We say that these are our customs and tradition. But which tradition advocates the killing of women for dowry or gagging the newly born by putting sand in her mouth before she starts crying as done in Rajasthan or burying her alive in an earthen pot.

[English]

This shame points to whom? Towards all of us collectively. We have to take responsibility for our national issues. We cannot say that Governments are magicians who will bring change. Legislations like these are brought to help set up a framework.

[Translation]

We enact laws to show a direction. We try to give a legal shape to a noble cause.

[English]

But to set directions does not help us implement it if we do not take the responsibility of implementation. My Brother and Sisters, we are the people, we have constituencies which cover and reflect the entire India in these two House. Members represent their constituencies in Assemblies. But they are not as adequate as we are.

We are one in the million in this country of 800 or one billion people today. We are literally one in a billion. We have the strength; we have the wherewithals; we have the confidence of the people we represented in this House where we can go out and ensure that such things do not happen in constituencies. This will set the direction and trend for other people to follow and when you say something it impacts the society. You are the opinion-makers. Having said all of this, why has this situation evolved? Laws of inheritance, properties, access to health, ability to access credit, and ability to give collaterals such as land and buildings remained with the men. Men were the masters and the women were the transferable commodities. Even noble ideas like Shree Dhan which a father gave to the daughter in lieu of compensation of the fact that she would not have earned wealth or inherited wealth, quickly became an instrument of dowry, which went on to define the girl's lifetime.

Growing materialism transferred that girl's life to be rated by what she brought and she dies a dowry death equal to a refrigerator or a cycle or a television or any of these if she did not supply, she was killed. Her life was considered less important than any of these material things. Along with that, IPC Section says that if you speak to a woman in an abusive language which is denigrating to her status as a woman, it is a culpable crime. But has anyone defined what the status of woman is?

Today, in this country, the Constitution recognizes man and woman as equal. But that equality remains on paper. Legislations empowered men, including the Hindu

Undivided Family, the Income-Tax Act were having a son gave you exemptions but having a daughter was not defined. Today, when we talk of these issues, we have to look - does a rural poor family have any budgets for a woman's health?

A man will spend Rs.100 on a bottle of turrah, but not Rs.50 on woman's pair of glasses that will enable her to see. A lot of men told me,

[Translation]

It is the woman who goes against the another woman. Mostly Mother-in-laws and sister-in-laws are involved in domestic brawls. But why it happens. Though an illiterate, she knows that she could be thrown out of the house by her son if he stops favouring her and at this stage of life she does not have any alternative shelter.

[English]

Why does she subject to become a victim of domestic violence? It is because she feels that the violence of one man is preferred to the violence of 10 men, if she steps out of the security of the so-called home.

Today, I have to intervene into the homes with Domestic Violence Act because, there is no security in the home any more for women. The girl child, the women,

[Translation]

who is forced to live within the boundaries of the house, get ruined in that very house.

[English]

She has no voice to reach out to the world and say, 'help me'. The man who she is married to, who pledges,

[Translation]

but what new we are teaching, what new legislation are being enacted about which we were not aware earlier. Are we not aware that killing somebody is a crime?

[English]

Do we not know that if you take away somebody's money, it is a crime? Do we not know that if you take an ex parte decision, you can answer in the court for that? Yet, a woman is never asked how many children she wants to bear. What is worse is this.

[Translation]

We all say that there prevails superstition in this regard

but the biggest superstition is that a man hold woman responsible for the gender of the child, however, the 'x' or 'y' chromosomes of a man is responsible for the gender of the child.

[English]

This is a medical, biological fact. But their own weaknesses are transferred to women and women are made responsible. That is why, men, to protect their own lives, to protect their own turf and then start violence on other women so that they remain secure, that their sons are forced to look after them, that their sons are made dependent on their mothers and they cannot move out, and they cannot have healthy relationships with other women.

So, my dear colleague-Members, we have this collective responsibility; this Bill is not going to alter the mindsets, but yes, it will impact on the new generations, on the children today who have access to education, who have access to nutrition, who have access to health securities, who can have immunization and go to a full-life, hopefully this generation of young people will grow up thinking that it is unnecessary to hit a woman, that it is cool to be respectful towards a woman.

Sir, very early in India's Independence, Shri Rajiv Gandhi Ji envisioned this. Today when this House refuses to pass the Women's Reservation Bill, it saddens me because that Bill is not about the numbers; it is not mathematics of politics that we want this for; it is not because women want to replace men in Parliament, because then we would be lacking in ambition! We want to be recognized because we are important like the warp and weft of a cloth that when we weave them, then they become a cloth - so, women and men contribute together to the social fabric of our life.

Today we have reservations at the panchayat level. Rajiv Gandhi Ji, with one signature, empowered ten lakh women across the country who now participate in grassroots decision making. I am very happy to inform the House that today the reservation was for 33 per cent and today, across the country, we have 42 per cent of women in panchayati raj, taking decisions. When Rajiv Gandhiji brought in 18 years of age and that empowered the youth to vote, a lot of people criticized him. They thought that it was political opportunism. They failed to see the vision that he had. That will keep the children not just dreamers of their dreams but as architects of their future and that there will be enabling procedures which will help these children translate these dreams. I hope that we will be around to see those children one day in this Parliament where they will address what affects our country and its collective future.

[Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury]

It is because of these reasons that we are bringing in a slew of legislations to facilitate the girl child. What is her life today? First she is denied birth. Then, she does not have the financial securities. Then, the mother does not breast feed her as long as she breast feeds her male child. Then, she is not sent to school. She is kept to look after the animals at home and her younger siblings to whom she becomes a proxy mother. She has to learn to cook the food. If she is lucky, she is sent to school. It is because of this Government which has said that you must have access to school. We have brought in Sarva-Shiksha Abhiyan to facilitate this. If she reaches the Anganwadi Centres which we have established, we can give them the Mid-Day Meal Scheme and they can have access to immunization, if she can stay unmarried till the age of 18. If she is lucky she will marry some man. Then, she will have to survive. If she does not give enough dowry, she will be burnt. Then, her husband will drink and indulge in domestic violence at home. Then, the return journey to her mother's house is supposed to be only as a corpse. Is this the status of women that we are talking about? Is this the enabled, empowered and progressive society? Do you think that we can go forward and take that quantum leap into the future if we leave 72 per cent of our population behind? That is what women and children of this country constitute today.

A lot of Members have made some very valuable suggestions. These suggestions are being taken on board. There are some clarifications which I will immediately give. Some one has asked why is there dichotomy in the age group. The girl is recognized at the age of 18 as adult and the boy is recognized at the age of 21 as adult. That is why the dichotomy has been given. People question us on IMRs and MMRs as Sangeetaji has very rightly pointed out infant mortality rates and maternal mortality rate. It is no surprise. It is not rocket technology. If children give birth to children and malnutrition children at that, what do you expect? Most of us are farmers in this House. Do we not know that when you want a good crop, your land has to be ready? How do you suppose we can give birth to a healthy generation? It is 20 times more expensive to correct nutritional deficiency than to feed them. We have not addressed these issues in the past. We are constituting a National Commission of Child for the first time. This is a historic step that we are taking where children are going to be recognized in their own right and identities. They will be represented by their own colleagues in the House.

The Prevention of Child Marriage Bill has passed

through the injunction filed by the Prevention Officer. Ms. Karuna Shuklaji has said that the child marriage can be declared null and void at the option of the party over 18 years of age. That is not true. Even the child who is under 18 years of age can go and complain and have it declared null and void. But she necessarily needs a guardian so that she is not misguided. But her objection will stand. This is under trafficking. There is an amendment which I am going to bring to the Immoral Trafficking Prevention Act.

[Translation]

Alongwith it we are indenting to take some legal steps so that girl's

[English]

journey will be facilitated to enable her to remain safe.

[Translation]

Shri Alok Kumar Mehta ji has mentioned about Helpline.

[English]

We have a child helpline number, 1098 and a women helpline number, 1091. I am happy that all over the country, we should be able to have these four digit numbers very much like our other national numbers and a call centre at each place which can reach and help women and children. I had also approached Shri Maran who is in charge of the Ministry of Telecommunications to put out these numbers at every public call booth and to facilitate the call booths to take on toll free numbers so that children and women who do not have telephones may help us to be able to save a life.

Now the responsibility of this has been given to the States to constitute Protection Officers. But we all know, at the ground level, what the fate of it is going to be, if we leave it. So, I will look towards all of you for support when I take steps to ensure that every district and every State will be responsive and we are going to make States competitive so that if we do not comply with these, then they will not be able to access other developmental areas. I think, they should be made mandatory and we should call for accountability. The Government has spent crores of rupees over developmental issues and social sector issues. Most of them obviously have not been translated into action. We have the IMR rate of 58, the MMR rate of 407, malnutrition rate as 52.5 per cent, literacy rate as 47.8 per cent and child labour approximately as 8.03 millions. The drop-out rate is

unusually high. But the most frightening of all is the declining sex ratio which we all are witness to.

Shrimati Sangeeta Deo said that girl child is an endangered species. She is right. This is the land of disappearing daughters. It is we who can collectively make that change. I intend to start a nation-wide awareness and sensitization campaign because laws, in themselves, are not solutions. Advocacy, sensitization on a sustained basis throughout the country, well designed area and cultural specific campaigns and a sense of value and respect for the females are necessary. Women are discriminated even in Parliament. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Not in my presence. We ignore him.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: We have attempted to address other issues such as integrated child development services. We want to bring in an integrated Child Protection Scheme which will put in different checks and measures. The Kishori Shakthi Yojana addresses adolescent girls who form the prime target group of our Child Marriage Prevention Act. The Kishori Shakthi Yojana addresses those children to ensure that they have optimum physical weight and we are trying to do the cash transfer schemes in the Eleventh Plan. There is the Palna Scheme at every district in which if parents do not want the girl children, we assure them that we will look after them. Please give the girl child to us but do not kill her.

A series of initiatives are going to be taken up by the Ministry of Women and Child Development which will enhance the value of girl child in the mind-sets of both their own parents as well as that of the societal values.

Education remains the key area to opening the door to progress and development. The insurance cover for survival and development of the girl child is also being examined. Health and immunization, retention in schools and placing foundation of nutrition, health and play in the zero to six years of age are necessary. All of us know that children in the age of zero to six lay their developmental foundation for the rest of their life. What you eat, how you are immunized and your access to food securities defines the kind of adult that you will become. The right-based approach for the child as has been enunciated in the 11th Plan is important. I urge all the hon. Members to kindly accord the highest value to this problem in their respective constituencies. I will be sending all of you a letter with a

proforma which has a self-addressed envelope for you to please fill in some data and if you return that to me, we will together be able to ensure that our constituencies are truly reflective of the progress that we talk about.

Sir, I would request, through you, and it is my passionate appeal to all the hon. Members that they fill up that proforma and send it back to us, which will help us to establish a database across the board, something that we have not had. I also urge the hon. Members to take up the issue of sensitizing our community. In any public function you go, even if it is not related to child marriage and domestic violence, we must talk about it. A very few people are going to call all of you to come and address such meetings. But you must do it. It is really not worth our respect, if we do not tell our men not to beat our women.

Sir, at the grass-root level, the ill-effects of child marriage are something that if we do not turnaround, will hold us back in our path to progress and development.

Now, I request that the House may kindly pass the amendments to the Prohibition of Child Marriage Bill, 2006 and repeal the Child Marriage Act of 1929, as has been passed by the Rajya Sabha.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the prohibition of solemnization of child marriages and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER: Now the House will take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 to 21 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 21 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

16.36 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Draft Approach Paper to the Eleventh Five Year Plan

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, the Eleventh Five Year Plan is being formulated under the aegis of the UPA Government which is committed to reversing agrarian crisis, burgeoning unemployment problem and rural distress. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Acharia, we will take it up in the next Session. There will be a full discussion. I will not debit this time what you have already taken from your next time.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Thank you very much.

MR. SPEAKER: So, it will be taken up as early as possible in the Budget Session.

Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2006; the Uttaranchal (Alteration of Name) Bill, 2006; the Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Bill, 2006; the English and Foreign Languages University Bill, 2006; the Commission for Protection of Child Rights (Amendment) Bill, 2006; the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Bill, 2006 and the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Bill, 2006 and the Prohibition of Child Marriage Bill, 2006.

The House also had long and structured debates lasting over 24 hours and 48 minutes on six important matters of urgent public importance under Rule 193. These debates were on (i) situation arising out of the ongoing sealing drive in Delhi, (ii) Rise in the prices of essential commodities, (iii) Report on the state of Panchayats - a Mid-Term Review and Appraisal-2006, (iv) problems being faced by the unorganized labour in the country; and (v) Statement made by the Minister of External Affairs on 12.12.2006 regarding the Indo-US Civil Nuclear Cooperation. The discussion regarding Draft Approach Paper to the Eleventh Five Year Plan has started and remained inconclusive.

During the Session, 12 important matters were raised by way of Calling Attention in response to which the concerned Ministers made Statements. In addition, as many as 38 Statements were made by the Ministers on various other important subjects.

As regards Private Members' Business, as many as 22 Private Members' Bills were introduced during the Session. One Bill, namely, the Abolition of Capital Punishment Bill, 2004 was discussed before being withdrawn by leave of the House. The Agricultural Workers Welfare Bill, 2005 remained part-discussed.

A Private Member's Resolution urging the Government to recommend for taking steps for balanced and equitable development of all parts of the country was discussed and withdrawn by leave of the House.

Another Resolution urging the Government for formulation and implementation of comprehensive food and nutrition security scheme remained part-discussed.

During the Session, 401 Starred Questions were listed, out of which 64 Questions could be answered orally. Thus, on an average, about 3.2 Questions could be answered per day. Written replies to 3949 Unstarred Questions were laid on the Table. One Half-an-Hour discussion was also taken up.

In this Session, the Departmentally-Related Standing Committees presented 43 reports.

16.39 hrs.

VALEDICTORY REFERENCE

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, the Ninth Session of the Fourteenth Lok Sabha which commenced on 22 November, 2006 is coming to a close today. In all, as many as 20 sittings lasting for about 117 hours 27 minutes were held.

During the Session, the House transacted important items of legislative, financial and other business.

The Demands for Excess Grants, 2004-05 and Supplementary Demands for Grants, 2006-07, General as well as Railways, were voted by the House and the related Appropriation Bills passed after discussions lasting for over 4 hours and 43 minutes and 5 hours and 19 minutes respectively.

One Adjournment Motion regarding the "failure of the Government to maintain internal security and in particular to deal with the alarming growth of terrorist menace in the country" was discussed in the House. The Motion was negated after a debate lasting over 5 hours and 27 minutes.

During the Session, the House passed 20 Bills. Some of the more important Bills passed were the Essential

About 313 matters of urgent public importance were raised by the Members after the Question Hour and by sitting late in the night. Hon. Members also raised 264 matters under Rule 377. It has always been my endeavour to provide ample opportunities to the hon. Members for raising matters of urgent public concern subject to the availability of time and within the procedural framework. In this Session, we lost over 25 hours and 33 minutes of time due to interruptions and adjournments. To compensate the loss of time due to interruptions and adjournments, the House sat late for 25 hours and 47 minutes.

I take this opportunity to reiterate that for effective functioning of a parliamentary democracy, the participation of the Opposition is imperative. While conceding a Member's right to ventilate his views on any particular issue, I would like to emphasize that there is no better alternative or substitute other than a structured discussion on the floor of the House within the parameters of the Rules of Procedure.

Finally, I would like to thank the hon. Deputy-Speaker and my colleagues in the Panel of Chairmen for their cooperation in the completion of business of the House. I am extremely grateful to the hon. Prime Minister, the Leader of the House, the Leader of the Opposition, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, leaders of various parties and groups as well as the Chief Whips apart from the hon. Members for their cooperation. I would also like to thank, on behalf of all of you, our friends in the Press and the Media. I take this opportunity to thank the Secretary-General and the officers

and staff of the Lok Sabha Secretariat for their dedicated and prompt service to the House. I also thank the allied agencies for their able assistance in the conduct of the proceedings of the House.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a very Happy and Prosperous New Year.

16.45 hrs.

NATIONAL SONG

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members may now stand up as Vande Mataram would be played.

The National Song was played.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The House now stands adjourned sine die.

16.46 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned sine die.

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