

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES**

## **(English Version)**

**Seventh Session**  
**(Fourteenth Lok Sabha)**



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# LOK SABHA DEBATES

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## LOK SABHA

*Thursday, May 11, 2006/Vaisakha 21, 1928 (Saka)*

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.*

*[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]*

### SUBMISSION BY MEMBERS

**Re: Situation arising out of the large scale demolitions carried out in Delhi**

*...(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): Mr. Speaker, *...(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: I have only one notice. Shri Malhotra, you may please make your submissions.

*[Translation]*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I made a request to you to suspend the Question Hour. The reasons being that there is a move to run bulldozer over 4 lakh shops, 8 lakh houses, 3 lakh jhuggi-jhopris and 3 lakh hawkers in Delhi. *...(Interruptions)*

The hon. Minister is himself a distinguished parliamentarian and he knows it. *...(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY) Sir, I must be allowed to reply. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha): Sir, this is not fair. He can raise it during the 'Zero Hour'. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have permitted him to speak.

*...(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Yesterday, the hon. Minister called a press conference and brief all the television channels that the next day a bill would be brought in the House and get it passed but no such Bill is listed in today's agenda nor is moved in this regard. BAC meeting was held yesterday, but there was no mention about it even in that meeting also. He made an announcement before the country that the bill would be brought in the House today and passed. Demolition would be stopped. *...(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Sir, how can he go on making a statement like this? *...(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: The day an assurance was given to the Delhi MPs by the PM that no demolitions would take place hereafter in Delhi, at least 500 houses were demolished by running bulldozers over them and thousands of jhuggi dwellers were displaced. An assurance is being given in this regard here for the last four months. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: It is being said that it would not take place in future. They sought time from the Supreme Court and it was not given. They have been saying it for four months. That day when I brought a Calling Attention, the hon. Minister said that they were scare monger and there was no cause for worry as demolition would take place. Thereafter twenty thousand shops were sealed and ten thousand houses were demolished in Delhi. Despite giving an assurance to the House to this effect, the Bill was not brought in the last session nor was introduced during this session.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that unless the Bill is introduced in the House there is no question of allowing this House run its business. He has betrayed Delhi. Assurances given are never fulfilled. *...(Interruptions)*

[English]

It is a matter of privilege.

[Translation]

Through you, I would like to know as to how could he make a statement to this effect outside while the Parliament was in session. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You have raised an important issue. let me see.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: You must hear him, I am not saying that you should not hear him but he must tell us that when the parliament was in session, how could he talk of bringing the Bill which was not likely even to be introduced in the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will get the facts.

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: This is not the question. He has not introduced the Bill. We would like to raise our protest against it. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I am hearing.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: We will decide here.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue raised by Shri Malhotraji is very serious. The demolitions carried out in Delhi has not only affected the business here adversely but the people are in the process of migrating from Delhi. The people came to Delhi from outside and earned a meagre sum of rupees one thousand or two and run their families. They have

been affected the most by these demolitions and are now migrating from Delhi. It raises another important question. And I would like to put this question before you and the House.

The question is as to who will run democracy in the country? Is it judiciary or the democratically elected government? The reason is that whenever an issue is raised in the country like the issue of demolition of shops, problem of pollution, shifting an industry or the construction of roads we are always awaiting the orders of the Court. What I mean to say is that the situation is turning grim and taking an unfortunate turn. The way the elected Government is becoming weaker and judiciary is becoming dominant, it does not augur well for the country. This issue should be pondered over seriously to evolve a mechanism to review the working of judiciary. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: What is happening over here.

[English]

I would request you to please take your seat, Shri Ramdas Athawale.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This is not right. Prabhu Nath Singh ji, I have given you permission to speak, therefore please speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to make only this submission to you that the House has to decide as to who will run democracy in this country, who will run this country. Is it the elected Government or the Judiciary? There is certainly a need to leave a debate in the House, the way Judiciary is working, the way people holding high posts in Judiciary are casting aspersions on politicians and other organizations. We have to decide in very explicit terms the jurisdiction and role of judiciary. Pending a serious decision on these issues nothing can be done. Presently it is turn of Delhi to face demolition, Mumbai and Kolkata might follow the suit in the coming days. This will further aggravate the problem of unemployment in the country where population is increasing at a very fast pace and employment opportunities are diminishing.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I know that this is a matter which is agitating all sides of the House. He has raised an issue. I wish to make only one submission. The Constitution of India is very clear on the respective jurisdictions of different constitutional authorities. I need not make any comment on that. So far as the Executive is concerned, the Executive is undoubtedly to discharge the functions of the Government and the Government is responsible to this House. The Executive authority being the Government, they are answerable to the House. Therefore, that power cannot be taken away. I am sure all the Members together shall exercise our right of enforcing the responsibility of the Council of Ministers to the elected body of this country.

*[Translation]*

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to conclude my speech after making a submission. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, have 25 lakh people from Poorvanchal. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell the hon'ble Minister to fulfil his assurance of bringing a Bill to deal with the problem of demolition which he gave to the people of country and the people of Delhi through Press so as to save Delhi from demolition. Do to this, people are migrating from Delhi. I would like to say that the drive to demolish shops in Delhi should be postponed. With these words, I conclude my speech.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, why this bill is not being brought? ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: You have raised the issue. Let us hear the Minister now.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, I must be heard. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have called the Minister to respond.

...*(Interruptions)**[Translation]*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: What they were doing for four months. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, the BJP is perpetrating a fraud. They had their say. They must allow me to have my say also. ...*(Interruptions)* Sir, they are perpetrating a fraud on Parliament. ...*(Interruptions)* You have stated your position. You have to listen to our position also. Sir, I am here to respond to every point they are raising. The situation in Delhi has come about because of the failure of the NDA Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 11.30 a.m.

11.08 hrs.

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

11.30 hrs.

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

*[Mr. SPEAKER in the Chair]*

**Re: Situation arising out of the large scale demolitions carried out in Delhi—Contd.**

...*(Interruptions)**[English]*

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): Sir, I wish to say something. ...*(Interruptions)* Sir, I am ready with the Bill. I gave a notice of the Bill. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): Sir, the copy of the Bill has not been circulated. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: The BJP would like to inculcate a political stand. ...*(Interruptions)* A situation in Delhi has been created because of. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: No Bill, no House.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhunjharpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, lakhs of people from Poorvanchal live in Delhi. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: May I request all the hon. Members to take their seats? I have been informed.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have myself said earlier that this is an important matter, which has been raised and I have allowed it to be raised. Of course, I have called two hon. Members to speak on this matter. The Minister wanted to really say something about it. He has already informed me about the Bill being presented today. But unfortunately, the Hindi translation is not there.

Therefore, I will permit him to introduce the Bill tomorrow. If you are ready with the Bill, we can take up the Bill tomorrow to be discussed first in the House.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, I may be allowed to introduce the Bill and let it be passed tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER: We shall consider it for passing.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: May I indicate that I shall allow the Bill to be introduced, discussed and passed tomorrow? That will be done. There will be no problem from the Chair. The Chair will fully cooperate, provided you cooperate.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar): Mr. Speaker, till the copy of this bill is made available in Hindi. It should not be introduced. Hindi is our official language. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: As you know, I had the privilege of discussing the issue with the hon. Leaders in my Chamber. Now, at the request of the hon. Members of the Opposition Parties, I adjourn the House till 12 noon only for laying of the Papers, as you have requested.

11.34 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till  
Twelve of the Clock.*

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

### Railway Zones

\*382. SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the existing Railway Zones functioning in the country;

(b) whether there has been persistent demands from various quarters for creation of new Railway Zones;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Railways thereto?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) There are sixteen Railway Zones functioning on Indian Railways which are as under:-

Railway	Headquarter
1	2
Central Railway	Mumbai
Eastern Railway	Kolkata

1	2
Northern Railway	New Delhi
North Eastern Railway	Gorakhpur
Northeast Frontier Railway	Maligaon, Guwahati
Southern Railway	Chennai
South Central Railway	Secunderabad
South Eastern Railway	Kolkata
Western Railway	Mumbai
North Central Railway	Allahabad
North Western Railway	Jaipur
East Central Railway	Hajipur
South East Central Railway	Bilaspur
South Western Railway	Hubli
East Coast Railway	Bhubaneswar
West Central Railway	Jabalpur

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Demands have been received from various quarters/VIPs for setting up of new Zonal Headquarters at following locations:-

Zone	State
1. Ahmedabad	Gujarat
2. Ajmer	Rajasthan
3. Amritsar	Punjab
4. Calicut	Kerala
5. Cannanore	Kerala
6. Cochin	Kerala
7. Dhanbad	Jharkhand
8. Dharwad	Karnataka
9. Gandhidham	Gujarat
10. Gandhinagar	Gujarat
11. Jammu	Jammu and Kashmir
12. Nagpur	Maharashtra
13. Thiruvananthapuram	Kerala
14. Vadodara	Gujarat

(d) New Railway Zones are set up keeping in view the factors like size, workload, accessibility, traffic pattern and other administrative/operational requirements consistent with the needs of economy and efficiency and not on regional considerations. The proposals for creation of new Zones, when seen in the light of these considerations, have not been found operationally feasible.

#### **Railway Freight Corridor Project**

\*383. SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU;  
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the railway freight corridor project;

(b) the estimated cost of the project;

(c) the time by which the work on the project is likely to be started; and

(d) the time schedule fixed for completion of the same?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) to (d) Dedicated Railway Freight Corridor Projects on Western and Eastern Routes were sanctioned in Rail Budget 2006-07. Subsequently, the work on detailed Preliminary Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey and Final Location Survey for the project has started. The estimated cost of Western and Eastern corridors is Rs. 11,446 crore and Rs. 9695 crore respectively. As per present estimate the work on both the corridors will be completed in about 5 years after the start of construction of the project.

[Translation]

#### **Funds to NSFDC**

\*384. KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH;  
SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the budgetary allocation made to the National Scheduled Caste Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC) during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) the funds allocated and released by NSFDC during 2005-06 and 2006-07, State/Union-Territory-wise;

(c) the funds actually utilised by each State/Union Territory and the number of persons benefited therefrom during 2005-06;

(d) whether the Government has received complaints regarding misutilisation of funds by some States/UTs; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR): (a) The budgetary allocations made to the National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC)

by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, during each of last three years and the current year (2006-07) are as under:

Year	Budgetary Allocations (Rs. in crore)
2003-04	Rs. 10.10
2004-05	Rs. 11.00
2005-06	Rs. 16.60
2006-07	Rs. 37.00

(b) and (c) A Statement is enclosed.

(d) and (e) No such complaints have been received.

#### *Statement*

*State/UT-wise Funds Allocated and Released during 2005-06 and 2006-07 and Funds utilised and No. of Persons benefited during 2005-06 under NSFDC Schemes*

(Rs. In Lacs)

State/UT	2005-06			2006-07		
	National allocation of Funds	Funds Released	Funds Utilized	No. of Persons benefited	National allocation of Funds	Funds Released
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	1178.70	4221.68	5509.80	42141	1252.37	0.00
Arunachal Pradesh	0.80	0.00	0.00	0	0.85	0.00
Assam	236.46	0.00	36.36	10	251.25	0.00
Bihar	1246.45	0.00	26.94	35	1324.34	0.00
Chandigarh	15.05	23.35	42.46	206	15.99	0.00
Chhattisgarh	231.04	569.46	251.11	213	248.48	0.00
Dadra Nagar Haveli, D & Diu	0.86	0.00	0.00	0	0.91	0.00
Delhi	223.84	0.00	64.64	242	237.82	0.00
Goa	2.26	1.54	2.44	3	2.41	6.53
Gujarat	343.19	1254.49	113.96	167	364.64	146.25
Haryana	390.79	62.51	140.30	53	415.22	0.00
Himachal Pradesh	143.49	94.95	48.20	22	152.46	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Jammu and Kashmir	73.57	208.40	120.52	56	78.17	0.00
Jharkhand	304.65	329.34	123.77	154	323.69	0.00
Karnataka	818.04	2687.77	1542.16	8853	869.18	0.00
Kerala	298.41	398.60	214.07	556	317.06	0.00
Madhya Pradesh	874.53	1375.88	932.50	1968	929.19	0.00
Maharashtra	943.92	1333.02	1784.76	1764	1002.92	0.00
Manipur	5.77	0.00	0.00	0	6.12	0.00
Meghalaya	1.44	0.00	0.00	0	1.53	0.00
Mizoram	0.03	0.00	0.00	0	0.04	0.00
Orissa	580.98	0.00	59.45	27	617.29	0.00
Pondicherry	15.08	0.00	11.47	11	16.01	0.00
Punjab	671.41	164.56	88.30	204	713.37	0.00
Rajasthan	926.04	622.70	607.00	555	983.92	0.00
Sikkim	3.52	68.67	74.89	58	3.74	0.00
Tamil Nadu	1132.66	0.00	0.00	0	1203.45	0.00
Tripura	71.97	188.67	118.20	402	76.47	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	3357.47	0.00	2670.47	12060	3567.32	1693.20
Uttaranchal	144.92	54.85	169.20	292	153.98	0.00
West Bengal	1762.66	1135.40	933.71	7812	1872.81	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>16000.00</b>	<b>14795.84</b>	<b>15686.68</b>	<b>77864</b>	<b>17000.00</b>	<b>1845.98</b>

Note: The figures of Utilization pertain to Utilization received against disbursement of 2005-06 as well as that of previous years.

Note: The statement excludes Nagaland, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep which does not have any SC population as per Census figures.

### **Drug De-addiction Centres**

\*385. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:  
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of drug de-addiction centres functioning in the country at present, State/Union Territory-wise;

(b) the number of such centres opened during 2005-06 and proposed to be opened during 2006-07; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check the growing menace of drug addiction?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR): (a) A statement is enclosed.

(b) New drug de-addiction centres are opened on the basis of after examining complete proposals received

from NGOs duly recommended by the State Governments. Fifteen such centres were opened in 2005-06.

(c) The Scheme for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse is being implemented wherein financial assistance is provided to NGOs for undertaking community based interventions like awareness, counselling, treatment and rehabilitation services for the drug addicts in varied settings, viz., community, workplaces, educational institutions, prisons, etc. Forty four Counselling Centres and 385 De-addiction Centres were given financial support during 2005-06. The National Institute of Social Defense (NISD), working under the aegis of this Ministry, undertakes regular capacity building programmes for the benefit of service providers for building an educated cadre of trained personnel. During 2005-06, the NISD has conducted 37 programmes in the field of drug demand reduction and has sensitized around 1250 service providers to the changing needs of substance users. Another initiative taken by the Ministry includes imparting education on drugs to the youth through appropriate modifications in school curriculum and sensitization of school environment. Programmes have been developed for sensitization of the teachers, parents and the peer groups in a school environment through participation in the NGOs.

#### *Statement*

*The number of De-addiction Centres (State-wise) under the Scheme for prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse*

Sl.No.	Name of the State/UT	No. of De-addiction Centres assisted by Government of India in 2005-06
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	17
2.	Assam	7
3.	Bihar	12
4.	Chhattisgarh	2
5.	Goa	1
6.	Gujarat	6
7.	Haryana	21
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3
9.	Jammu-Kashmir	2
10.	Jharkhand	3

1	2	3
11.	Karnataka	26
12.	Kerala	21
13.	Madhya Pradesh	12
14.	Maharashtra	53
15.	Manipur	21
16.	Meghalaya	2
17.	Mizoram	10
18.	Nagaland	6
19.	Orissa	26
20.	Punjab	18
21.	Rajasthan	12
22.	Sikkim	—
23.	Tamil Nadu	24
24.	Tripura	2
25.	Uttar Pradesh	51
26.	Uttaranchal	4
27.	West Bengal	12
28.	Chandigarh	—
29.	Delhi	10
30.	Pondicherry	1
Total		385

[English]

#### **Gauge Conversion**

\*386. SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI:  
SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total length of rail track (in Kms) at present, gauge-wise:

(b) the details of railway track converted from metre gauge to broad gauge during each of the last three years, State-wise:



(c) the expenditure incurred on gauge conversion during the said period;

(d) whether some requests/proposals for gauge conversion received from the various State Governments are pending with the Railways; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action being taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) The gauge-wise length of rail track as on 31.03.2005 (latest available) was as under:

Gauge	Route Kms.	Running Track Kms.	Total Track Kms. (including yards, sidings, etc.)
Broad Gauge (1676 mm)	47,749	67,932	89,771
Metre Gauge (100 mm)	12,662	13,271	15,684
Narrow Gauge (762/610 mm)	3,054	3,057	3,350
<b>Total</b>	<b>63,465</b>	<b>84,260</b>	<b>108,805</b>

(b) 2,377 Kilometres of Metre Gauge/Narrow Gauge lines have been converted into broad gauge in the last three years i.e. 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06. The State-wise details are as under:-

State	Kilometres
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	207
Assam and NE States	61
bihar	85
Delhi	25
Guajrat	492
Haryana	58
Jharkhand	67
Karnataka	146
Maharashtra	20

1	2
Madhya Pradesh	28
Orissa	52
Rajasthan	372
Tamil Nadu	310
Uttar Pradesh	167
West Bengal	287
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,377</b>

(c) The expenditure incurred on gauge conversion during the said period is approximate Rs. 3,708 crore.

(d) and (e) Details of each and every demand received is not maintained. However, details of some of the proposals received from various State Governments and where gauge conversion is yet to be taken up are as under:-

State	Proposal	Action Taken
1	2	3
Gujarat	Bharuch-Dahej	Included in the Budget 2006-07.
Gujarat	Ahmedabad-Botad	Survey taken up.
Gujarat	Surendranagar-Joravarnagar-Sayla	Gauge conversion from Surendranagar to Joravarnagar has already been completed. Joravarnagar-Sayla line has been dismantled long back.

1	2	3
Gujarat/Rajasthan	Ahmedabad-Himmatnagar-Udaipur	Survey completed.
Gujarat	Dhasa-Jetalsar	Survey taken up.
Gujarat	Bhuj-Naliya	Updated survey with extension upto Baranda/Koteswar taken up.
Gujarat	Mehsana-Taranga Hill Extension upto Ambajai	Updating survey taken up.
Maharashtra	Yavatmal-Murtijapur-Achalpur	Survey completed.
Maharashtra	Pachora-Jamner	Survey completed in 2000-01 and work could not be taken up.
Maharashtra	Purna-Khandwa	Updating survey from Ratlam to Akola taken up.
Rajasthan	Jaipur-Ringus-Sikar-Churu-Ganganagar	Survey taken up.
Rajasthan	Bikaner-Churu-Ratangarh-Degana-Rewari	Survey completed.
Uttaranchal	Bareilly-Tanakpur	Bareilly-Bhojpur (19 kms.) gauge conversion taken up. The proposal for Bhojpur-Pilibhit-Tanakpur has been sent to Planning Commission for "in principle" approval.

#### **Rangarajan Committee Report**

\*387. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:  
DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recommendations of the Rangarajan Committee Report on pricing and taxation of petroleum products have been examined by the Government;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations which have been accepted by the Government;

(c) the details of the recommendations which have not been accepted by the Government alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the accepted recommendations are likely to be implemented and its impact on the prices of petroleum products?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) to (d) In order to

formulate a long-term pricing policy in respect of petroleum products, the Government had constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. C. Rangarajan, Chairman, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister to examine different aspects of pricing and taxation of petroleum products with a view to stabilizing/rationalizing their prices, keeping in view the financial position of the oil companies, the investment needed in the sector, the need to conserve petroleum products, and establishing a transparent mechanism for the autonomous adjustment of prices by the oil companies. The Committee submitted its report on 17.2.2006. The recommendations made in this report can be divided broadly into three groups as under:

1. On pricing of petrol and diesel:

- (i) Shift to a trade parity pricing formula for determining refinery gate as well as retail prices;
- (ii) Government to keep at arms length from price determination and to allow flexibility to oil companies to fix the retail price under the proposed formula; and (iii) Reduce effective protection by lowering the customs duty on petrol and diesel to 7.5%.

## 2. On pricing of domestic LPG and PDS kerosene:

- (i) Restrict subsidized kerosene to BPL families only; (ii) raise the price of domestic LPG by Rs. 75/cylinder; (iii) Discontinue the practice of asking upstream companies to provide upstream assistance, but instead collect their contribution by raising the OI DB cess from the present level of Rs. 1,800/MT to Rs. 4,800/MT; and (iv) Government meeting the balance cost of subsidy from the budget.

## 3. On restructuring excise duties:

Shift from the present mix of specific and ad-valorem to a pure specific levy and calibrating the levies at Rs. 5.00/litre of diesel and Rs. 14.75/litre of petrol.

The Committee has recommended that each of the first two sets of recommendations should be implemented as integrated packages.

The report of the Committee is being examined by Government.

**Beach Tourism**

\*388. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has any scheme to promote beach tourism;

(b) if so, the financial assistance extended to the States for the development of sea beaches during each of last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the other steps being taken for the development and promotion of beach tourism in the country, particularly in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) Development of tourism, including beach tourism is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State/U.T. Government. The Department of Tourism extends central financial assistance to the State/UT Governments for development of tourism projects including beach tourism projects, prioritized in consultation with them.

(b) A Statement showing the central financial assistance extended to the States/UTs for the development of Sea Beaches during the last three years is enclosed.

(c) States like Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, West Bengal, Goa, etc. have identified beach circuits as prioritized projects for development through central financial assistance. Orissa Government has identified Talasari-Udayapur beach for development during 2006-07.

**Statement***Projects sanctioned by Department of Tourism during the Tenth Plan near Sea Beaches*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	State	Year	Name of the Project	Amount Sancd.	Amount Released
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Karnataka	2002-03	Development of OM Beach (Circuit)	100.00	80.00
2.		-do-	Development of Tagore Beach (Circuit)	197.49	197.49
3.	Kerala	-do-	Construction of Boat jetty at Ernakulam (Circuit)	159.92	159.92
4.		-do-	Path way lighting and signanges at Kovalam (Circuit)	30.00	30.00
5.		-do-	National Boat show at Kochi (Event)	15.00	15.00
6.	Maharashtra	-do-	Development of Sindhu Durg (Circuit)	102.51	102.51
7.		-do-	Development of Vijaydurg	200.00	200.00
8.	Tamil Nadu	-do-	Development Near the Five Rathas	299.93	299.93

1	2	3	4	5	6
9.		-do-	Development of Park near shore temple	328.58	328.58
10.		-do-	Dance Festival at Mamallapuram	5.00	4.00
11.	Gujarat	2003-04	Development of Area around Somnath Temple (Destination)	500.00	500.00
12.		-do-	Additional work around Somnath Temple (Destination)	48.81	48.81
13.	Kerala	-do-	International Boat Show at Kochi (event)	15.00	12.00
14.		-do-	Onam Festival (Festival)	5.00	5.00
15.		-do-	Development of Marina at bolghaty Island Kochi (LRG)	423.00	398.50
16.	Orissa	-do-	Developmeng of Puri as Tourist Destination	394.55	118.00
17.	Tamil Nadu	-do-	Drinking water & facilities at Tourist cottage Vivekananda Kendra (Circuit)	16.00	16.00
18.		-do-	Construction of 5 tourist cottages (Circuit)	271.35	76.60
19.		-do-	Floodlighting of Vivekanand Rock	32.12	32.00
20.		-do-	SEL Show at Vivekananda Rock	225.00	202.00
21.		-do-	Development of Rameshwaram as a part of Vivekananda Circuit	168.24	54.00
22.		-do-	Development of Muttom Beach and Thekkurichi Beach	150.00	45.00
23.		-do-	Setting up of Eco-Tourism Cum Bird Centre at Rameshwaram	43.00	34.00
24.		-do-	Mahabalipuram Dance Festival	15.00	12.00
25.	Kerala	2004-05	Development of Northern Regional Circuit (Northern Kerala)	795.56	636.48
26.		-do-	India International Boat show (Event)	15.00	12.00
27.	Maharashtra	-do-	Konkan Riviera Circuit (Circuit)	685.87	548.70
28.	Tamil Nadu	-do-	Signages at Mamallapuram (Destination)	5.92	5.92
29.		-do-	Infrastructure/Destination Development at Mahabalipuram (Phase-II)	432.00	0.11
30.		-do-	Mamallapuram Dance Festival (Event)	15.00	15.00
31.	Pondicherry	-do-	Development of new Beach Area (Destination)	446.00	356.00
32.	Kerala	2005-06	Integrated Development of Alappuzha heritage town as Tourist Circuit	800.00	640.00
33.		-do-	Beach Tourism Circuit in Kerala on the sector Shankumugham beach-Cheri beach-Nattika beach-Uzhuppilangudu beach-Payyambalam beach-Meenkunnu beach as circuit	798.00	638.40

1	2	3	4	5	6
34.	Orissa	-do-	Development of Gopalpur-on-sea (Distt. Ganjam) as a destination	331.43	265.14
35.		-do-	Integrated development of Bhubaneshwar-Dhuli-Puri-Konark Tourist Circuit	720.09	576.07

[*Translation*]

#### Decrease in Transportation of Goods

\*389. SHRI RAKESH SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a decrease in transportation of goods through railways as compared to road transportation;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the corrective measures taken/proposed to be taken to increase the transportation of goods through Railways;

(d) whether the Railways have provided adequate number of wagons to the Railway Zones for achieving the freight target set for 2006-07; and

(e) if not, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) to (e) Sir, Freight traffic is moved by various modes of transportation such as trucks, pipelines, coastal shipping etc. Earlier, the Railways were having monopoly in freight traffic. With the passage of time, as various other modes have developed, the Railways have been encountering competition from them, mainly from the road transport. Over the last few years Indian Railways have performed very well, which is evident from the data below:

Year	Originating freight traffic (in million tons)	% increase over last year
2001-02	492.50	—
2002-03	518.74	5.33
2003-04	557.39	7.45
2004-05	602.78	8.14
2005-06@	667.39	10.72

@provisional

In order to generate additional traffic Indian Railways have introduced various schemes such as Freight Forwarder Scheme, Traditional Empty Flow Direction Freight Discount Scheme, Loyalty Discount Scheme, Long-term Special Incentive Scheme, Mini Rake, 2-point rake scheme, New Parcel Policy, Refrigerated Parcel Vans, Wagon Investment Scheme (WIS), Development of Rail-Side Warehousing Complexes through Public Private Partnership (RWCs) and Liberalization of siding rules.

Ensuring adequate availability of wagons on various Zonal Railways for movement of freight traffic depends on the overall transport demands, which keep varying. Balancing of wagons is, therefore, done on day to day basis through intensive monitoring of freight stock. Every possible step has been taken to ensure adequate supply of wagons to the Railway Zones for achieving the freight target set for 2006-07. Private Investment (WIS) thereby adding 34 rakes to Indian Railways wagon pool till date.

However, in the absence of any reliable data for the freight traffic (goods) carried by Road sector it would not be possible to make a fair comparison between the two.

[*English*]

#### Army Recruitment Boards/Centres

\*390. SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Army Recruitment Boards/Centres functioning in the country at present;

(b) the criteria for establishing an Army Recruitment Centre in a State/Union Territory;

(c) whether the Government has received proposals/requests for opening of Army Recruitment Centres in States/Union Territories particularly, Jharkhand;

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

(e) the action taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (e) Recruitment of Commissioned Officers in the Armed Forces is done mainly through All India Competitive Examinations conducted by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) followed by physical examination and interviews conducted by the Services Selection Board (SSB).

For the other ranks in the Army, there are 11 Zonal Recruiting Offices (ZROs), 59 Branch Recruiting Offices (BROs), 2 Gorkha Recruiting Depots (GRDs) and 1 Independent Recruiting Office (IRO) located at different places in the country for recruitment.

Establishing Branch Recruiting Office (BRO) is considered after taking into account the total strength of Recruitable Male Population (RMP), proximity to the district/state administration, availability of infrastructure, etc.

Since January 2005, the Government has received requests for opening of Army Recruitment Centres (ARCs) in the states of Haryana, Jharkhand, Punjab, Rajasthan, Orissa, Sikkim and Uttaranchal. As per the existing policy, location of a Branch Recruiting Office is not important since recruitment in the Army is carried out through open rallies held in district headquarters. The recruitment for All India Class vacancies is done in proportion to the population of the state. Efforts are made so that each district of the country is covered by recruitment rallies at least once in a recruitment year. However, in exceptional cases, opening of new BRO is considered to maximize the recruitment from low response and backward regions subject to availability of administrative and logistic facilities and financial viability.

#### **Kaw Committee Report**

\*391. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:  
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kaw Committee on the Civil Aviation Sector has submitted its report to the Government;

(b) if so, the salient features of the recommendations made by the Committee; and

(c) the action taken by the Government on the report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) The Report of the Kaw Committee was submitted to the Government on 4th April 2006. The recommendations of the Committee are wide ranging covering current aspects of the role and functions of the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), restructuring and strengthening of the DGCA organization, streamlining of the DGCA procedures for grant of clearances, licensing of airlines and personnel as also streamlining of the examination system of DGCA. The Committee has also made recommendations regarding the manpower and training policy and introduction of Indian Civil Aviation Service.

(c) The recommendations of the Committee are under Government's consideration.

*[Translation]*

#### **Assistance to National Renewal Fund**

\*392. SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV:  
SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any National Renewal Fund has been set up for protecting the interests of employees affected due to closure of public sector undertakings;

(b) if so, the amount of financial assistance provided to the said fund by the Government during the last three years and the current year; and

(c) the major works undertaken by utilizing the said assistance during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY, MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) to (c) National Renewal Fund (NRF) was set up in February, 1992 to create a safety net for those sections of the society who were likely to be adversely affected due to closure of establishments. NRF had been meeting expenses towards Voluntary Retirement of employees of CPSEs as also for rehabilitation of employees of the organized sector consisting of CPSEs, State PSEs and the Private Sector. From 1992-93 till

31.3.2001, retraining and redeployment of rationalized employees formed a part of NRF and was administered by the Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion. NRF has ceased to exist with effect from 12th July, 2000. A Plan Scheme of Counselling, Retraining and Redeployment (CRR) for separated employees of CPSEs is under implementation since 2001-02 by this Department. During 2003-04 to 2005-06, Rs. 70 crore was allocated for implementation of the Scheme. During the current year, Rs. 31.50 crore has been allocated. During 2003-04 to 2005-06, 68561 separated employees were retrained.

#### **Expansion and Infrastructural Development Projects**

\*393. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. has halted its expansion and infrastructural development projects;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the work relating to setting up of gas and petrol pumps is included in the said projects;

(d) if so, the number of proposed gas and petrol pumps likely to be affected as a result thereof; and

(e) the time by which the projects are likely to be recommended?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) has not halted any of its expansion and infrastructural development plans, which, *inter-alia* include the setting up of new petrol, diesel and gas retail outlets.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

#### **Pilferage of LPG**

\*394. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether large scale pilferage of LPG is being done from the cylinders both in rural and urban areas of the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government is also aware of the illegal business of refilling of small cylinders from big LPG cylinders;

(c) if so, whether the public sector oil marketing companies have failed to check the pilferage of gas despite repeated complaints from the consumers;

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government against those involved in the pilferage of LPG during each of the last three years; and

(e) the concrete measures being taken to check pilferage of LPG?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) and (b) While no case of any large scale pilferage of LPG from cylinders has come to the notice of the Government, the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have reported that there have been some instances of pilferage from filled cylinders, which have been detected at their distributors' premises.

(c) to (e) As and when complaints of pilferage of LPG are received by the OMCs, they are investigated by them and in all established cases, action is taken against the LPG distributors under the provisions of Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG), 2001 and/or Distributorship Agreement (DA). The MDG provide for a fine for the first two established cases of pilferage and for termination of the distributorship for the third established case against any distributor. During the last three years, OMCs have reported 48 established cases of pilferage of LPG and action of penalty/termination against the LPG distributors has been taken in accordance with the Marketing Discipline Guidelines or the Distributorship Agreement. The year-wise details of established cases over the last three years is as follows:

Year	Number of cases
2003-04	11
2004-05	20
2005-06	17

*[English]***Modernisation of Delhi and Mumbai Airports**

\*395. SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY:  
SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Operation, Management and Development Agreements (OMDAs) between the Airports Authority of India (AAI) and the Joint Venture Companies (JVCs) for the modernisation of Delhi and Mumbai Airports have been signed;

(b) if so, the details along with the terms and conditions thereof;

(c) whether the Tripartite Committee, as assured by the Government for withdrawal of the strike by the AAI employees, to look into the modernisation programmes has been set up;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the recommendations made by the said Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The terms and conditions of Operation, Management and Development Agreement (OMDA) are as follows:

The term of OMDA is for a period of 30 years with an option of extension for an additional term of 30 years subject to satisfactory performance and no material breach of contracts. The JVC is required to provide a masterplan for development of the airport within 6 months. The agreements also includes obligation of JVC to absorb a minimum 60% of AAI employees, observance of competitive bidding process for major works/contracts and lists out the events of defaults etc. It also inter-alia provides for settlement of disputes as well. Suitable penalties are also included in OMDA for non compliance of various requirements namely commencement and completion of Mandatory Capital Project and service quality standards etc. Each JVC has submitted a Performance Bond in the form of a Bank Guarantee for

an amount of Rs. 500 crores. Consortium Members of both the JVCs of Rs. 500 crores. Consortium Members of both the JVCs have also submitted an Equity Bank Guarantee of Rs. 352 crores in favour of JVC guaranteeing their equity commitment as per the Business Plan submitted by JVC after adjusting for initial subscription. Each JVC has paid to Airports Authority of India (AAI) an upfront fee of Rs. 150 crores. Besides, JVC for Delhi Airport shall also pay to the AAI an annual fee of 45.99% of projected Revenue for each Year during the Term of OMDA. While JVC for Mumbai Airport shall pay to the AAI an annual fee of 38.70% of projected Revenue for each Year during the Term of OMDA. Each Airport Operator for Delhi and Mumbai Airport is required to submit a unconditional & irrevocable Bank Guarantee from a scheduled commercial bank of Rs. 300 crores in favour of JVC but encashable by AAI valid for the duration of Airport Operator Agreement. During the Operation Support Period of three years from the Effective Date the JVC shall pay to the AAI, monthly Operation Support Cost in relation to General Employees. Since all conditions precedent have been fulfilled the "Effective Date" has been notified as 03.05.2006.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. A Tripartite Committee comprising of the representatives from AAI, AAI Employees Joint Forum and Ministry of Civil Aviation has been set up on 22.02.2006 to look into the issues and proposals of modernizing airports by AAI and employees related issues including their job security.

(e) Although the Committee has met thrice, the report of the Committee is yet to be submitted.

*[Translation]***Air Services from Closed Airports**

\*396. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether some airports have been closed in the absence of adequate flights;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether certain private airlines have shown interest in providing air services from those airports;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and



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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) The airports at Aizwal (Tural), Akola, Hadapsar, Sholapur, Asansol, Bellurghat, Behala, Cooch Behar, Malda, Bilaspur, Chakulia, Donakonda, Cudappah, Warrangal, Dessa, Hassan, Mysore, Jhansi, Lalitpur, Jharsuguda, Jogbani, Muzzafarpur, Rauxal, Kailashar, Kamalpur, Khowai, Khandwa, Panna, Satna, Passighat, Rupsi, Shella, Vellore maintained by Airports Authority of India have been closed/are non-operational, at present. Further, airports at Kandla, Tuticorin, Kota and Salem are declared as uncontrolled VFR airports due to non aircraft movements.

(c) and (d) Only M/s Air Deccan has shown interest for operations through Tuticorin, Kandla, Cooch Behar, Mysore and Akola Airports.

(e) On receipt of the proposal from M/s Air Deccan, the man-power and other infrastructure at Kandla and Tuticorin have been retained. Operations have already been started from Tuticorin by Airports Authority of India. A joint inspection of Kandla airport has been carried out for commencement of operations. Action has already been initiated for upgradation and improvement of infrastructure facilities at Cooch Behar, Mysore and Akola Airports for operation of ATR-42-500 class of aircraft.

*[English]*

#### **Piped Natural Gas**

\*397. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:  
SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Piped Natural Gas (PNG) is 30 per cent cheaper than the Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) and also more convenient to deliver;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the Government has prepared any action plan to lay piped natural gas supply networks in all the cities;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which PNG network is likely to be set up in all the cities?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) and (b) The price of Piped Natural Gas (PNG) is generally cheaper than Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG). However, a comparison of the prices at the consumer end will *inter alia* depend upon factors such as levels of subsidy on these fuels, level of taxation, availability of pipeline network and marketing/distribution costs. PNG is convenient to deliver if the requisite pipeline infrastructure is in place. As compared to this, LPG has the versatility of being marketed in cylinders which could be moved to any location.

(c) to (e) At present, Piped Natural Gas (PNG) is being made available by Indraprastha Gas Limited (IGL) and Mahangar Gas Limited (MGL) in households in certain localities in Delhi and Mumbai respectively. Besides this, PNG is also being supplied in certain areas in Gujarat, Assam and Tripura. The extension of PNG supplies to other areas would depend upon the availability of gas, setting up of infrastructure facilities and economic viability.

#### **Powers to Oil PSUs**

\*398. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the public sector oil companies have been demanding more autonomy, delegation of financial powers, etc. for enabling them to take quick decision in the competitive scenario;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) to (c) The public Sector oil companies have been given enhanced autonomy and delegation of financial powers under the Navratnas and Miniratnas schemes introduced in July 1997 and October 1997 respectively. The Government have reviewed the powers presently delegated to the Board of Directors of Navratnas PSEs and decided to enhance the powers further keeping in view the pledge made in the National Common Minimum Programme.

1. The ceiling on equity investment to establish financial joint ventures and wholly owned subsidiaries in India or abroad shall be 15% of the networth of the PSE in the project limited to Rs. 1000 crore. The overall ceiling on such investment in all projects put together shall be 30% of the networth of the PSE.
2. The Board of directors of these PSEs shall have the powers for mergers and acquisitions, subject to the conditions that (i) it should be as per the growth plan and in the core area of functioning of the PSE, (ii) conditions/limits would be as in the case of establishing joint ventures/subsidiaries, and (iii) the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) would be kept informed in case of investments abroad.
3. The Board of Directors of these PSEs shall have the power to further delegate the powers relating to Human Resource Management (appointments, transfer, posting, etc.) of below Board level executives to sub-committees of the Board or to executives of the PSE, as may be decided by the Board of the PSE.
4. The Chief Executives of the PSE shall have the power to approve business tours abroad of functional directors up to 5 days' duration (other than study tours, seminars, etc.) in emergency, under intimation to the Secretary of the administrative Ministry.

Based on the demand by some of the oil sector Public Sector Undertakings for acquiring equity oil and gas abroad, the Board of Directors of ONGC Videsh Limited (OVL), a subsidiary of ONGC, has been given powers to approve projects each involving investment upto US\$ 75 million or Rs. 300 crore, whichever is less. For projects involving investment beyond this, an Empowered Committee of Secretaries (ECS) considers the proposal of OVL before seeking the approval of the Government. In the case of Oil India Limited, powers to incur capital expenditure or form joint ventures/subsidiaries were limited to Rs. 150 crores or equal to 50% of its networth, whichever is less. To extend support to the efforts of oil companies in acquiring equity oil and gas abroad, the Government have permitted Oil India Limited (OIL) to form project specific Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) with Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC) to undertake overseas projects beyond its financial powers. In the event, IOC is not interested, OIL can join hands with any

other Navaratna downstream oil PSU. OIL and the Navaratna downstream oil Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) thus now enjoy same powers as available to OVL for all such proposals for Exploration & Production (E&P) projects jointly to be undertaken by them.

#### Issue of Tickets

\*399. SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have changed the system of issuing of tickets in regard to break journey and onward journeys with effect from April 1, 2006;

(b) if so, whether such change has cost additional fares for the passengers who were earlier being issued direct tickets from one destination of other though it involved change of trains at a particular en-route station;

(c) if so, whether it amounted to hidden increase of fares;

(d) if so, whether such indirect increase of the fares was part of proposals of the Railway Budget (2006-07); and

(e) if not, the reasons for such increase in fares and the reaction of the Railways thereto?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) There has been no change in break journey rules with effect from 1st April, 2006 and passengers continue to enjoy the same benefit of break journey rules as before. As regards onward journey tickets, instructions have been given that with effect from 1.4.2006, through reserved tickets will be issued only for those stations where the particular train, in which the reservation is sought, stops. There is no change in the rules for issue of unreserved tickets.

(b) Since basic passenger tariff continue to be same, there will be no change in the fares for travelling by a particular train. However, reserved tickets for stations falling beyond the destination of the train or for stations not falling on the route of the train involving change of train, will cost more.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The change in procedure for issue of reserved tickets has been effected to stop leakage of revenue due to frauds and malpractices on the Railways.

### Old Railway Bridges

\*400. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:  
SHRI UDAY SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 36 per cent railway bridges in the entire country are century old;

(b) if so, whether, keeping in view the increasing trend of rail accidents, the Government has any proposal to replace these century old bridges with new ones;

(c) if so, the details of such bridges which have been replaced with new ones during the last two years;

(d) the bridges which have been identified for replacement by the end of Tenth Five Year Plan; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) to (e) While it is a fact that more than 36% bridges on Indian Railway system are more than a century old but these bridges are not unsafe for train operations. Rebuilding & rehabilitation of bridges is an on-going process on Indian Railways. Railway undertakes rehabilitation, strengthening & rebuilding of bridges on

the basis of their physical condition as ascertained during annual inspections and not on the basis of age. Few bridges which may show signs of deterioration of physical condition indicating need for rehabilitation are classified as Distressed Bridges. These, however, are neither unsafe nor dilapidated bridges. Therefore, all bridges more than 100 years old do not necessarily require rehabilitation/strengthening/rebuilding. Sometimes the bridges are strengthened due to the requirement of heavier axle loads and higher tractive effort. Based on such identification of bridges, allotment of funds is made annually to carry out their rehabilitation/strengthening rebuilding duly prioritizing the works as per requirement.

In 2001-02, to clear the backlog of replacement of such identified bridges on Indian Railways, 2370 bridges were sanctioned for repair/rehabilitation/rebuilding at a cost of Rs. 1530 Crore (Net) under Special Railway Safety Fund (SRSF) to be completed in a span of 5 years *i.e.* from 2001-02 to 2006-07. Apart from SRSF, additional funds are also made available annually to take up the repair/rehabilitation of fresh accruals of bridge works under Depreciation Reserve Fund (DRF). Year-wise repair, rehabilitation/rebuilding of bridges done during the Xth five year plan *i.e.* 2002-03 to 2006-07 is given in the Table below. Out of 2370 bridges originally sanctioned under SRSF in 2001-02, 280 were rehabilitated in 2001-02. Further 73 nos. of bridges have subsequently been dropped as detailed studies revealed that their rehabilitation could be postponed for the time being and approximately 58 bridges are now planned to be completed in 2007-08.

Year	No. of Bridges Rehabilitated/Strengthened/Rebuilt			Expenditure (in Rs. Crores)		
	SRSF	DRF	Total	SRSF	DRF	Total
2002-03	496	655	1151	151.60	47.50	199.10
2003-04	530	1033	1563	157.27	77.44	234.71
2004-05	375	1204	1579	274.26	116.00	390.26
2005-06	239	1192	1431	236.72	153.27	389.99
2006-07	309	1054	1363	403.00	191.48	594.48
	(Target)	(Target)	(Target)	(Budget) Allotment)	(Budget) Allotment)	(Budget) Allotment)

**Second Airport in Metro Cities**

\*401. SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPAPARAI:  
SHRI MOHAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the congestion due to the increasing traffic at the existing airports in the metro cities in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to construct second airports in the metro cities;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the new airports are likely to be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir. Government is aware of the congestion at Delhi and Mumbai International airports due to increased traffic. There is, however, no congestion at Kolkata and Chennai airports at present.

(b) and (c) State Government of Maharashtra has a proposal to construct a second airport at Navi Mumbai. Report on Techno-Economic Feasibility Study for simultaneous operations of the existing airport has been prepared and submitted to International Civil Aviation Organisation for examination.

(d) There are well laid down procedures for development of Greenfield airports and the above proposal has to conform to the prescribed conditions before approval of the Government is given.

**Increase in Industrial Production**

2941. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether production has been increasing in heavy industries during the last three years and thereafter;

(b) if so, the value of production in this sector during the above period; and

(c) the percentage of the said value of production of the GDP of each of the said year alongwith average shares of private and public sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY, MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) to (c) There is no formal classification of industry is "Heavy". It is, therefore not possible to given share of private and public sector. However, the production of the Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs) under the administrative control of Department of Heavy Industry during the last three years and percentage of GDP is as under:—

Financial Year	Total production of PSEs under DHP (Rupees in Crore)	Percentage of GDP
2002-03	11367.00	0.50%
2003-04	12325.00	0.48%
2004-05	14169.00	0.50%

**Acquisition of Land for Establishment of HAL Factory**

2942. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the area of land acquired from the Scheduled Tribes and private individuals for establishment of a factory of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) at Sunabeda in Koraput District of Orissa;

(b) the number of families affected due to acquisition of land and the number of persons provided employment as per the policy of the Government;

(c) whether any land has been provided to social and cultural organizations by the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL);

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the funds provided for educational development in the peripheral areas to private institutions and for other socio-economic development by HAL so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) 2315.7 acres of

land was acquired by the Government of Orissa from members of Scheduled Tribes and private individuals for establishment of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) factory at Sunabeda in Koraput District of Orissa.

(b) Approximately 390 families were affected due to land acquisition by the State Government, out of which

138 persons were provided employment in HAL Koraput division.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Funds provided every year for various purposes are as under:

	Amount in Rs. (Approx)
Education (HAL's grant)	2,62,50,000.00
Health care of nearby villages	85,13,223.00
To peripheral areas for maintaining horticulture, sanitation etc.	64,72,822.00
Socio-economic development of eight adopted villages	2,56,346.00

One time grant of Rs. 250 lakhs was also provided to Engineering College, Semiliguda.

#### **Medical Tourism**

2943. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has issued any directions to the Government of Tamil Nadu to identify places for boosting medical tourism in the State;

(b) if so, the details and the response of the State Government thereto; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to create easy access of medical aid to the visiting medical tourists in the country?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) Department of Tourism has requested all the State Tourism Departments including Tamil Nadu State to promote medical tourism through suitable packaging of identified best hospitals and price banding for various specific treatment. Moreover, guidelines formulated by Department of AYUSH, to prescribe minimum requirements for Ayurveda and Panchkarma Centres has also been circulated to all State Governments including Tamil Nadu State Government. No

response has been received on the steps taken by State Governments in this regard.

(c) The steps taken by the Government for providing easy access of medical aid to the visiting tourists include preparation of a guide on select Indian cities and corresponding hospitals, and a guide on suggested uniform price-band for different specialty services for Indian hospitals by Indian Healthcare Federation, a Non-Governmental Organisation affiliated to the Confederation of Indian Industry for promoting Health Tourism. A new category of visa "Medical Visa" ('M'-Visa) has been introduced by Ministry of Home Affairs Government of India, which can be given for specific purpose to foreign tourists coming to India for medical treatment. Medical and health facilities available in India have been promoted at various international platforms such as World Travel Mart, London, ITB Berlin etc. for medical tourists.

#### **Direct Flight between Dhaka and Guwahati**

2944. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Bangladesh has approached the Government of India seeking permission to start a new direct air service between Dhaka and Guwahati;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Ongoing Railway Projects in Orissa**

2945. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress so far made on the various ongoing railway projects for Orissa;

(b) the amount sanctioned during the current financial year 2006-07 for each of these projects and the target set for their completion; and

(c) the steps taken to expedite the completion of these projects within the prescribed time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) and (b) The project-wise progress along with the target date of completion, tentative or wherever fixed, and budget allocation provided during 2006-07 for various ongoing New Line, Gauge Conversion and Doubling projects falling partly/fully in Orissa is given as under:

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Present Status	Budget outlay provided during 2006-07 (Rs. in crore)
1	2	3	4
<b>NEW LINES</b>			
1.	Daitari-Banspani (155 Kms)	The project has a high operational priority and is being implemented by Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) under the National Rail Vikas Yojana (NRVY). The line from Banspani to Keonjhar (57.44 Kms) has been completed and commissioned. On the balance Keonjhar-Daitari (Tomka) (98 Kms) section, formation works are in advanced stage of completion and contracts for track linking work have been awarded. The entire project is targeted for completion during 2006-07.	155.85
2.	Lanjigarh Road-Junagarh (56 Kms)	Land has been acquired partially. In phase-I, work has been taken up from Lanjigarh to Bhawanipatna (31 Kms), where earthwork and bridgework are in progress. No target date of completion of the project has yet been fixed.	19.00
3.	Khurda Road-Bolangir (289 Kms)	Final Location Survey (FLS) has been completed. Land has been acquired partially. Earthwork and bridgeworks are in progress from Khurda end up to 36 Kms of project length. No target date of completion of the project has yet been fixed.	23.00
4.	Haridaspur-Paradeep (82 Kms)	The works is being implemented by RVNL under NRVY. FLS has been completed. Soil investigations of bridges & embankment and land acquisition have been completed partially. The project has been found bankable and a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) has been signed among RVNL and Government of Orissa, Paradeep Port Authority, and M/s Jindal Steel Ltd. on 24.05.2005. The project is targeted for completion by March 2008.	44.00
5.	Angul-Sukinda Road (98.7 Kms)	FLS and soil investigation along the alignment have been completed. It is proposed to implement the project through SPV.	20.00

1	2	3	4
6.	Talcher-Bimlagarh (154 Kms)	Work included in the Supplementary Budget 2003-04. FLS has been completed. Preparation of plans & estimates has been taken up. No target date of completion of the project has yet been fixed.	10.00
<b>GAUGE CONVERSION</b>			
1.	Rupsa-Bangriposi (89 Km)	Rupsa-Baripada (52 Km) section has been converted and commissioned. Work of Baripada-Bangriposi section is being taken up.	15.89
2.	Naupada-Gunupur (90 Kms)	Earthwork and bridgeworks are in progress.	34.00
<b>DOUBLING</b>			
1.	2nd Brdgs on Mahanadi & Birupa (3 Kms)	The 2nd bridge over River Birupa has been completed and commissioned. Work of the 2nd bridge over River Mahandi is being executed by RVNL. Contract for the work has been awarded and the work is in progress. The work is likely to be completed during 2007-08.	39.90
2.	Lanjigarh-Titlagarh (47 Kms)	Kesinga-Noria Road-Lanjigarh (34 Kms) segment has been completed and commissioned. Kesinga Road-Titlagarh (13 Kms) section is likely to be completed during 2006-07.	15.00
3.	Rajathgarh-Barang (20 Kms)	The work is being implemented by RVNL under NRVY. FLS and geo-technical investigation of all major bridges have been completed. Work is in progress for the bridge on the river Mahanadi and 5 other major bridges. The work is likely to be completed during 2007-08.	72.70
4.	Khurda Road-Puri (Phase-I) (15.3 Kms)	At present, doubling of Khurda Road-Delang (15.3 Kms) segment is sanctioned, where earthwork and bridgework in progress. The work is likely to be completed during 2006-07.	10.00
5.	Sambalpur- Rengali (22.7 Kms)	Work included in the Budget 2002-03. FLS has been completed. Earthwork and bridgeworks are in progress. Sambalpur-Saria (7 Kms) is likely to be completed during 2006-07.	20.00
6.	Jharsuguda- Rengali (25.6 Kms)	FLS has been completed. Detailed estimate is under process of sanction.	10.00
7.	Cuttack-Barang (12 Kms)	The work is being implemented by RVNL. FLS has been completed. Work of substructure of Kuakhai Bridge is in progress. The work is likely to be completed during 2007-08.	40.15
8.	Khurda Road- Barang 3rd Line (35 Kms)	The work is being implemented by RVNL. FLS has been completed. Land acquisition is under process. The work is likely to be completed during 2007-08.	46.60
9.	Jharsuguda Bypass Line (8.73 Kms)	Final Location Survey has been completed, Preparation of plans and estimates has been taken up.	13.62
10.	Vizianagaram- Kottavalasa 3rd Line (34.7 Kms)	New work included in the budget 2006-07.	5.00
11.	Sambalpur- Titlagarh Doubling (182 Km)	New work included in the Budget 2006-07.	5.00

(c) The works are being progressed as per the availability of resources. Railways have taken a number of initiatives to get additional resources from sources other than the normal budgetary support to expedite the progress of the projects. A number of new line and doubling projects have been entrusted to Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) to expedite their completion.

#### **Relaxation of Norms in use of Land**

2946. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (MOHANLAL GANJ):  
SHRI MILIND DEORA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a ban on construction or land development within 900 metres of Air Force installations;

(b) if so, whether the Government is considering to relax land use norms on civilian construction in the vicinity of Indian Air Force (IAF) installations; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Structural Safety of Taj**

2947. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the UNESCO has expressed concern on the structural safety of the Taj and its minarets;

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

(c) whether the Government has conducted any survey to assess the structural safety of the Taj and its minarets;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken or being taken to overcome any threat to the world heritage monument?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Archaeological Survey of India, has not received any communication from UNESCO expressing concern on the

safety of Taj and its minarets. After the controversial "Taj Corridor Project", the UNESCO experts visited the site in January, 2004 and submitted a report, wherein the UNESCO team has expressed their satisfaction over the maintenance and preservation of Taj Mahal.

(c) to (e) Various scientific/technical organizations have conducted studies from time to time to assess the structural safety of the Taj and its minarets.

(i) Survey for the verticality of the minarets has been carried out since 1940 at different intervals by the Survey of India. In February 2005, Geodetic and Research Branch of Survey of India, Dehradun was requested to ascertain the stability of Taj Mahal and its minarets. They took various planimetric and vertical control observations. Their report has since been received wherein it is concluded the Taj Mahal and its minarets are quite stable in plan as well as in elevation.

(ii) Studies related to stress analysis, geotechnical aspects and safety against seismic forces was conducted by University of Roorkee, Department to Civil Engineering and Department of Earthquake Engineering from 1989 to 1991.

(iii) Studies for geophysical aspects and stability has been conducted by National Geophysical Research Institute Hyderabad in 1993.

(iv) Recently the Central Building Research Institute, Roorkee has been entrusted with the studies related to foundation and superstructure of the Taj Mahal. The project proposal to CRBI is already approved costing Rs. 30.00 lakhs and the studies are in progress.

From the different studies it can be concluded that there is no threat to structural stability of the monument. Every care is being taken for regular maintenance and repairs of the minarets and the monument.

*[Translation]*

#### **Open Skies Agreement**

2948. SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had signed any open skies agreement with any country during the last years;



- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the present status with each country;
- (d) the share of the Government in each project; and
- (e) the benefits accrued by the Government therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) No Sir. However an Air Force Service Agreement based on "open skies" principle was signed between India and USA on 14th April, 2005. As per this Agreement both sides can designate any number of airlines to operate services to any point in the territory of the other country with full intermediate and beyond traffic rights.'

(d) and (e) The Agreement signed between India and USA is mutually beneficial to both sides and has resulted in improved air connectivity between the two countries, providing greater commercial opportunities to Indian carriers to mount their services on the India-US route.

[English]

#### **NCC Offices in Private Buildings**

2949. SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of NCC Battalion existed in the country;
- (b) the number of NCC offices accommodated in private buildings in Uttar Pradesh;
- (c) whether some NCC offices which are accommodated in private buildings in Uttar Pradesh have not been shifted to their own buildings despite the arrangement of land etc. have been made for them;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to ensure that NCC offices in Uttar Pradesh are shifted to their own accommodation in order to utilize the Government land which have been earmarked for them and also to avoid litigation?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) There are 466 National Cadet Corps (NCC) battalions existing in the country.

(b) 90 NCC offices are accommodated in private buildings in Uttar Pradesh.

(c) to (e) Provision of NCC office buildings, other than State Directorate office buildings, is the responsibility of the State Government. Wherever these buildings are not available the buildings are hired by the State administration for NCC. However, efforts are made to pursue State Governments to provide office buildings near the schools and colleges.

[Translation]

#### **Revival of Industries in Chhattisgarh**

2950. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of heavy industries being run by the Union Government in Chhattisgarh at present;
- (b) the names of heavy industries and public enterprises out of them earning profit/suffering loss;
- (c) the number of public sector undertakings declared sick at present; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government for their revival?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY, MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) and (b) As per Public Enterprises Survey, 2004-05 which was laid in Lok Sabha on 13.03.2006 and is a published document, there are two Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) whose Registered Offices are located in Chhattisgarh namely Ferro Scrap Nigam Ltd. and South Eastern Coalfields Ltd. Both CPSEs are earning profits.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[English]

#### **Abolition of Railway Receipt System**

2951. SHRI RANEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways purpose to abolish the Railway receipt system to curtail extra labour and expenses; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### **Air Services from Gwalior**

2952. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the expenditure being incurred by the Government annually on the maintenance and security of the Gwalior Airport;

(b) whether there is any proposal to start any flight of Indian Airlines from Gwalior Airport; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) During the year 2004-05, a sum of Rs. 9.58 lacs and Rs. 92.22 lacs was spent on maintenance and security expenses respectively at the Gwalior airport.

(b) and (c) At present, Indian Airlines has no plan to start air services to/from Gwalior airport. However, M/s Air Deccan operates daily flights with ATR aircraft on Delhi-Gwalior-Indore-Gwalior-Delhi Sector.

*[English]*

#### **Import of LNG**

2953. SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has chalked out any strategy for importing liquefied natural gas (LNG);

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to create LNG terminals in order to meet the increasing LNG demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) to (c) In order to meet the existing shortfall and the projected demand of natural gas in the country, one of the options is to import natural gas in the form of liquefied natural gas (LNG). For encouraging import of LNG, it has been placed under Open General License (OGL) list and 100% foreign Direct Investment (FDI) has been permitted.

At present, two LNG terminals are in operation, namely 5.0 Million Metric Tonnes per Annum (MMTPA) LNG terminal of M/s. Petronet LNG Limited (PLL) at Dahej, Gujarat and 2.5 MMTPA LNG terminal of M/s. Shell at Hazira, Gujarat have been commissioned.

Ratnagiri LNG terminal (erstwhile Dabhol LNG terminal) in Maharashtra is likely to be commissioned by April, 2007. PLL is expanding the capacity of its Dahej LNG terminal from 5 MMTPA to 10 MMTPA by the end of 2008 and has also initiated action for setting up 2.5 MMTPA LNG terminal at Kochi, Kerala, which is likely to be commissioned in the last quarter of 2009.

IOC and ONGC also have plans to set up LNG terminals at Ennore, Tamil Nadu and Mangalore, Karnataka respectively.

#### **Inclusion of Castes in List of SCs**

2954. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY:  
SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:  
SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria/procedure adopted to include new castes in the list of Scheduled Castes;

(b) whether the Union Government has received some proposals/requests from State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for inclusion of certain castes/sub-castes in the list of Scheduled Castes;

(c) if so, the details and names of castes/sub-castes thereof during the last one year, State/UT-wise;

(d) the present status of each requests/proposal, State/UT-wise;

(e) the details of pending proposals in this regard alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(f) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) Inclusion of communities is considered on the basis of fulfilling the criteria namely, "extreme social, educational and economic backwardness arising out of traditional practice of untouchability." The proposals are processed as per approved modalities and finally a Bill is introduced in Lok Sabha.

(b) to (e) The State/Union Territory-wise details are given below:-

**I. Orissa:**

1. Amata/Amath, 2. Bajia, 3. Betra, 4. Bhina/Tulabhina, 5. Chamara/Chamara Ravidas, etc. 6. Chambhar, 7. Dhoba Baishnab, Rajak, Rajaka, 8. Jaggli/Jagli, 9. Jayantara Pana, Jena Pano, etc., 10. Kandra Baishnab, Kandara Baishnab, 11. Kalandi, Kalandi Baishnab, Kalindi Baishnab, 12. Kesuria., Kesuri, 13. Khatia, 14. Gokha Baishnab, 15. Khadal/Khodai/Khadola, 16. Kuduma, Kodma, Kodama, 17. Mehantar/Mehentar, 18. Pana Baishnab, Pano Baishnab, 19. Buna Pano, Pana Tanti, 20. Pundra/Pod, 21. Situria/Sitra, 22. Bauri Baishnab and 23. Goudia Kela; Gaudia Kela.

These proposals have been referred to the Registrar General of India for obtaining their comments.

**II. Bihar:**

**1. Noniya:**

The proposal has been returned to Government of Bihar for furnishing further justification in view of the comments of the Registrar General of India.

**III. Uttar Pradesh:**

**1. Kumhar (Prajapati):**

The proposal has been returned to Government of Uttar Pradesh for furnishing complete information in support of proposal.

**IV. Punjab:**

**1. Rai Sikh, Mahatam;**

The proposal is in process as per approved modalities.

(f) It is not possible to indicate a time frame.

*[Translation]*

**Construction of Road Over/Under Bridges In Maharashtra**

2955. SHRI TUKARAM GANPATRAO RENGE PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Road over Bridges and under Bridges constructed during the last three years in Maharashtra; and

(b) the number of Road over Bridges/Under Bridges proposed to be taken up for construction during the current year in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) A Statement is enclosed.

(b) 12 numbers on cost sharing and 7 numbers on deposit terms.

***Statement***

(a) Following works of Road Over/Under Bridges (ROB/RUB) were constructed in Maharashtra during the last three years.

- i. RUB between Kamptee—Kanhani at Km. 1015/17-19 completed in April 2002.
- ii. RUB between Nagpur-Kalumna at Km. 1126/28-30 completed in March 2004.
- iii. ROB in lieu of LC No. 33 at North of Borivilli station completed in 2003-04.
- iv. ROB in lieu of LC No. at Bhayander completed in 2003-04.
- v. ROB in lieu of LC No. 51 at Boisar-Palghar 2003-04.

- vi. ROB at Km. 14/4-5 on south Bandra Station (Kalanagar) 2004-05.
- vii. ROB in lieu of LC No. 102 at Dondaicha November 2005.
- viii. ROB at Ulhas Nagar in lieu of LC No. 3C at Km. 57/9-10 completed in 2003-04.
- ix. ROB at Nasik (Widening) At Km. 186/14-16 in 2003-04.
- x. ROB in lieu of LC No. 91A at Odha-Silapur at Km. 195/2-4 in 2003-04.
- xi. ROB at Badnera at Km. 664/7-8 in 2003-04.
- xii. ROB at Navade Road in lieu of LC No. 12 at Km. 65/4-5 in 2004-05.
- xiii. ROB at Wadia college (Bund garden)—widening at Km. 192/6-7 in 2004-05.
- xiv. ROB at Mundwa in lieu of LC No. 1 at Km. 197/8-9 in 2004-05.
- xv. ROB at Mecoasbag in lieu of LC No. 296 A at Km. 1040/15-17 in 2005-06.
- xvi. ROB at Nira-Lonand in lieu of LC No. 37 at Km. 89/14-15 in 2005-06.
- xvii. ROB at Vadgaon (Talegaon) at Km. 155/10-11 in 2005-06.
- xviii. ROB at Badlapur in lieu of LC No. 10B at Km. 66/19-20 in 2005-06.
- xix. ROB at Jasai at Km. 89/12-13 in 2005-06.
- xx. ROB at Panvel (widening) at Km. 74/9-10 in 2005-06.

- xxi. ROB at Kolhapur (Gurumarket, widening) at Km. 42/11-12 in 2005-06.
- xxii. ROB at Theur in lieu of LC No. 6A at Km. 211/2-3 in 2005-06.
- xxiii. RUB at Narendra Nagar Km. 831/26-28 in 2005-06.
- xxiv. ROB. at Vivekanand Nagar in lieu of LC No. 40A, Km. 872/16-17 in 2005-06.

*[English]***Requirement of Petroleum Products**

2956. SHRI SUBRATA BOSE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the average requirement of Petrol, Diesel and other Petroleum Products in each State;

(b) whether any quota has been fixed by the Government for the year 2006-07; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) The details of the State-wise consumption of Petrol (MS), Diesel (HSD), LPG and SKO during 2005-06 are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) and (c) There is no State-wise quota fixed by the Government for the allocation of petroleum products except for PDS kerosene. PDS kerosene is allocated to the States/UTs on a quarterly basis. The State-wise allocation of PDS kerosene for the 1st quarter (April-June) of 2006-07 is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

**Statement I****State-wise/Product-wise Consumption during 2005-06 (Provisional)**

(In Metric Tonnes)

State	MS	HSD	LPG	SKO
1	2	3	4	5
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	6477	73608	4848	6617
Andhra Pradesh	615670	3795472	798611	513753
Arunachal Pradesh	12742	50010	9551	12235
Assam	96771	457169	1672548	261225

1	2	3	4	5
Bihar	126905	962390	243400	648289
Chhattisgarh	121074	657545	94869	146082
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	9011	68161	8827	3505
Daman and Diu	9377	53623	5260	1863
Goa	66674	297367	44359	19346
Gujarat	701644	2625629	626425	752317
Haryana	334588	2480180	368519	148304
Himachal Pradesh	60754	316931	78614	51483
Jammu and Kashmir	85257	369702	105333	138716
Jharkhand	130560	991508	92944	212426
Karnataka	545498	2697784	654577	470387
Kerala	460699	13933468	455091	227136
Lakshadweep	0	7331	268	532
Maharashtra	1213122	3641014	1510351	1281364
Manipur	15379	33669	15931	20693
Meghalaya	27455	165797	12151	20859
Mizoram	10307	25971	16905	6718
Madhya Pradesh	34009	1537397	390042	491353
Nagaland	14893	26223	13065	13899
Delhi	673730	1163568	567166	158777
Orissa	168491	1066949	129559	312373
Pondicherry	55431	265834	26552	12698
Punjab	434316	2293384	494426	238907
Rajasthan	381238	2758140	423454	396358
Sikkim	6185	33567	7831	10548
Tamil Nadu	781697	3258324	931058	618028
Tripura	14757	44663	17699	30642
Uttar Pradesh	751055	4344168	1030841	1244397
Chandigarh	62162	64613	30566	12110
Uttaranchal	82363	358013	149265	88453
West Bengal	234877	1699505	500585	758970

**Statement II**

State/UT	SKO allocation for 1st Quarter of 2006-07 (April to June, 2006) (In Metric Tonnes)
1	2
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1454
Andhra Pradesh	129289
Arunachal Pradesh	2314
Assam	64501
Bihar	161857
Chandigarh	3266
Chhattisgarh	36734
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	695
Daman and Diu	529
Delhi	42121
Goa	4803
Gujarat	185939
Haryana	36404
Himachal Pradesh	12634
Jammu and Kashmir*	14489
Jharkhand	52793
Karnataka	115369
Kerala	54077
Lakshadweep#	400
Madhya Pradesh	122152
Maharashtra	319219
Manipur	4976
Meghalaya	5100
Mizoram	1554
Nagaland	3328
Orissa	78744

1	2
Pondicherry	3064
Punjab	59298
Rajasthan	99728
Sikkim	1395
Tamil Nadu	139732
Tripura	7708
Uttar Pradesh	310443
Uttaranchal	22462
West Bengal	188025
All India (Total)	2286596

\*Allocation for J&K State (other than Ladakh region) is given in two blocks *i.e.* given in two blocks *i.e.* Summer (April-September) @ 40% of annual allocation and Winter (October-March) @ 60% of annual allocation. This allocation is for other than Ladakh region of J&K State. For Ladakh region State Government of J&K is allowed to uplift the entire year's allocation *i.e.* 3600 MTs of SKO during summer months *i.e.* May to October, when the road remains open.

#Advance allocation for Lakshadweep for six months (April-September, 2006).

**Damage to Railways Property**

2957. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of damage caused and losses suffered by the railways due to agitation, rail roko rioting and other such activities in the country during the last three years;

(b) the number of trains cancelled by railways due to these reasons during the said period;

(c) whether GRP and RPF have not been able to protect the railways property in the country;

(d) if so, the reaction of the railways thereto; and

(e) the steps taken or being taken by railways to protect the railways property?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) Due to

agitation, rail roko, rioting and similar other activities the cost of damages to the railways in the year 2003 amounted to Rs. 23,20,585/- in the year 2004, Rs. 28,18,970/- and in the year 2005 it was worth Rs. 29,83,025/-.

(b) Due to agitation, rail roko, rioting and similar other activities the number of trains cancelled in the 2003 was 543, in the year 2004 is 371 and in the year 2005 it was 1322.

(c) No, Sir. It is not true. Government Railway Police/ Railway Protection Force are fully capable of protecting the railway property.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The steps taken by the Railway to protect the railway property are as follows:-

Introducing crime prevention duty in the railway premises and patrolling in crime prone areas. The patrolling parties and escorting staff have been provided with communication equipments to keep liaison with operating and running staff of the railways. Sufficient Bandobust is made in co-ordination with GRP and State Police.

*[Translation]*

#### **Requirement of Funds for Railway Projects**

2958. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects for which survey has been conducted by the Railway during 2005-06;

(b) the amount required for execution of these surveyed projects;

(c) whether the Railways have mobilized the required funds and resources for execution of these projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) and (b) 39 surveys have been completed during 2005-06 for New Line, Gauge Conversion and Doublings. As per the Survey

Reports, an amount of Rs. 15,000 crore would be required for these proposals.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The proposals have not been taken up for execution.

#### **Japanese Style Bullet Trains**

2959. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways proposes to introduce Japanese style bullet trains on some routes;

(b) if so, whether Japan has agreed to provide technical assistance to modernise basic infrastructure with a view to run bullet train in India;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the routes identified for the purpose; and

(e) the time by which the bullet trains are likely to be introduced on the identified routes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

#### **Rail Museums**

2960. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Rails Museums in the country; and

(b) the amount allocated and spent for maintenance of these museums during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) The details of Rail Museums in the country are as follows:-

(i) National Rail Museum, New Delhi

(ii) Regional Rail Museum, Chennai.

(iii) Narrow Gauge Rail Museum, Nagpur.

(iv) Regional Rail Museum, Kolkata.

**(b) National Rail Museum, New Delhi—**

Year	Amount allocated (Rs. In lakhs)	Amount spent (Rs. In lakhs)
2003-04	120.00	105.81
2004-05	93.00	96.43
2005-06	110.00	110.00 (projected)

**Regional Rail Museum, Chennai—**

Year	Amount allocated (Rs. In lakhs)	Amount spent (Rs. In lakhs)
2003-04	NIL	16.02
2004-05	Nil	17.93
2005-06	Nil	20.40

**Narrow Gauge Rail Museum, Nagpur—**

Year	Amount allocated (Rs. In lakhs)	Amount spent (Rs. In lakhs)
2003-04	Nil	4.71
2004-05	Nil	5.03
2005-06	Nil	5.35

**Regional Rail Museum, Kolkata—**

Regional Rail Museum at Howrah has been recently opened on 07.04.2006.

*[Translation]***Development of Tourism in Rajasthan**

2961. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received some tourism projects under "special project quota" from the Government of Rajasthan for development and expansion of tourism in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has accorded approval to these projects; and

(d) if not, the reasons for the delay and the time by which approval to these projects are likely to be accorded?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (d) Development and promotion of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/UT Administrations. However, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, extends financial assistance to the State Governments/UT Administrations for tourism related projects which are identified and prioritized in consultation with them every year under the schemes Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits, Product/Infrastructure & Destination Development and Large Revenue Generating Projects. Project proposals that are complete in all respect are processed on the basis of their inter-se priority and funds released, subject to their availability under the respective Head.

The details of projects sanctioned under Central financial assistance to the Government of Rajasthan during the year 2005-06 and 2006-07 are as under:-

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	Name of the project	Amount sanctioned
1	2	3
<b>2005-06</b>		
1.	Mounting of Sound and Light Show at Amber Fort, Jaipur	129.26
2.	Development of Hawa Mahal and Jantar Mantar at Jaipur under Destination Development Scheme	464.32
3.	Integrated Development of Mewar-Vagad Circuit comprising of places in Udaipur-Rajsamand-Chittorgarh-Banswara-Doongerpur Districts as Tourist Circuit	580.00



1	2	3
4.	Development of Brij Bhoomi religious, Tourist Circuit comprising of Mathura, Vrindavan, Barsana, Jheel, Kalia Devi, Poonchari, Neelkanth, Bhartrihari in Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh	477.07
5.	Integrated Development of Pushkar (District Ajmer) as a Tourist Destination	434.04
6.	International Hot Air Ballooning as an Event in Rajasthan	15.00
<b>2006-07</b>		
1.	Integrated Development of Udaipur as Tourist Destination	276.68
2.	Conservation restoration and preservation of Gagron Fort in Jhalawar District under destination development	281.71

*[English]***Development of Airports in Himachal Pradesh**

2962. DR. COL. (RETD.) DHANI RAM SHANDIL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan for development of airports in Shimla, Kullu and Dharmashala in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds earmarked for the purpose; and

(d) the time by which the development plan for these airports is likely to be executed and completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (d) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has taken up upgradation works for construction of new terminal building for 100 passengers at a time with all amenities, a new apron accommodate 3 ATR-42 type of aircraft, new taxi way, new fire station, MT work shop, car park etc. at Kullu-Manali airport. The work of apron and taxiway have been completed, and the work of new terminal building is likely to be completed by 30th June, 2006.

Various development works like strengthening and extension of runway, construction of new apron for parking of two 50 seater aircraft with link taxiway, construction of new terminal building for 100 passengers with car park, new fire station etc. have been undertaken at Kangra (Dharamshala) airport and new control tower cum technical

block is under construction and is likely to be completed by 30th June, 2006.

Due to terrain condition, it is not possible to take up further extension of runway at Shimla airport. However, AAI has completed the runway resurfacing work at this airport in July, 2002. AAI also take necessary action from time to time to avoid erosion of land surrounding this airport.

A total cost of Rs. 2547.71 lacs has been earmarked for Kullu and Kangra airports and for Shimla a fund of Rs. 98.29 lacs has been earmarked.

*[Translation]***Petrol/Diesel Retail Outlets**

2963. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of petrol/diesel retail outlets in the country at present, State-wise; and

(b) the number of petrol pumps closed during the last three years alongwith the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) As on 31.3.2006, the public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs), viz., Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited and IBP Co. Limited, had 29,842 retail outlets in the country. State-wise details are

available with the Directors (Marketing) of the OMCs concerned. In addition, two other public sector oil companies, viz., Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Limited and Numaligarh Refinery Limited, who have been granted marketing rights for transportation fuels and also authorised to set up retail outlets for the purpose, have commissioned 1 and 58 retail outlets respectively in the country as on 31.3.2006.

(b) A total of 379 retail outlets were closed by these OMCs during the last three years, i.e., 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06. The ROs were closed due to various reasons, like, non-performance, court case, road widening, adulteration, land dispute, financial problems, family dispute, benami operation, malpractices, dispute among partners, etc.

#### **Installation of 'Touch Screen' Terminals at Stations**

2964. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the name of railways stations where 'Touch Screen' Terminals have been installed during 2005-06 along with expenditure incurred thereon, zone-wise;

(b) whether the Railways have planned to install more such 'Touch Screen' Terminals at other stations in the country; and

(c) if so, the name of railway stations where 'Touch Screen' Terminals are proposed to be installed during the current year along with the expenditure to be incurred thereon, zone-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) The details of names of stations where Touch Screen Terminals have been provided during 2005-06, alongwith expenditure incurred Zone-wise, are given in enclosed Statement-I.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The details of names of stations where Touch Screen Terminals are proposed to be provided in 2006-07, alongwith estimated expenditure Zone-wise, are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

#### **Statement I**

##### *Name of Stations provided with "Touch Screen" Terminals during 2005-06*

Sl.No.	Station	Railway	Appx. Expenditure (in Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Mughal Sarai	East Central	3.30 Lacs
2.	Gaya	East Central	
3.	Asansol	Eastern	Through Sponsorship
4.	Durgapur	Eastern	
5.	Jasidih	Eastern	
6.	Agra	North Central	2.00 Lacs
7.	Gorakhpur	North Eastern	5.25 Lacs
8.	Lucknow City	North Eastern	
9.	Chhapra Jn.	North Eastern	
10.	Beas	Northern	5.00 Lacs
11.	Ludhiana	Northern	

1	2	3	4
12.	Itwari	Southeast Central	4.18 Lacs
13.	Gondia	Southeast Central	
14.	Rajnandgaon	Southeast Central	
15.	Alleppey	Southern	70.00 Lacs
16.	Badagara	Southern	
17.	Calicut	Southern	
18.	Cannanore	Southern	
19.	Chennai Central	Southern	
20.	Coimbatore	Southern	
21.	Erode	Southern	
22.	Ernakulam Jn.	Southern	
23.	Feroke	Southern	
24.	Kanhangad	Southern	
25.	Karur	Southern	
26.	Kasargod	Southern	
27.	Kayankulam	Southern	
28.	Kottayam	Southern	
29.	Kuttiapuram	Southern	
30.	Ottappalam	Southern	
31.	Madurai	Southern	
32.	Mangalore	Southern	
33.	Nagercoil	Southern	
34.	Palghat	Southern	
35.	Payyannur	Southern	
36.	Quilon	Southern	
37.	Salem	Southern	
38.	Shoranur Jn.	Southern	
39.	Sivakasi	Southern	
40.	Tellicherry	Southern	

1	2	3	4
41.	Trichur	Southern	
42.	Tiruppur	Southern	
43.	Tirur	Southern	
44.	Trivendrum Central	Southern	
45.	Vasai Road	Western	4.08 lacs
46.	Virar	Western	

***Statement II****Name of Stations proposed to be provided with "Touch Screen" Terminals during 2006-07*

Sl.No.	Station	Railway	Appx. Expenditure (in Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Muzaffarpur	East Central	3.40 Lacs
2.	Bhubaneshwar	East Coast	29.47 Lacs
3.	Cuttack	East Coast	
4.	Brahmapur	East Coast	
5.	Khura Road	East Coast	
6.	Bhadrak	East Coast	
7.	Puri	East Coast	
8.	Howrah	Eastern	Through sponsorship
9.	Sealdah	Eastern	
10.	Balligunj	Eastern	
11.	Sonarpur	Eastern	
12.	SRO/New Koilaghat	Eastern	
13.	Fairlie Place	Eastern	
14.	Khidderpore	Eastern	
15.	Tallygunj	Eastern	
16.	Choranghee	Eastern	

1	2	3	4
17.	Allahabad	North Central	26.00 Lacs
18.	Aligarh Jn.	North Central	
19.	Banda	North Central	
20.	Etawah	North Central	
21.	Gwalior	North Central	
22.	Jhansi	North Central	
23.	Kanpur	North Central	
24.	Mirzapur	North Central	
25.	Moraina	North Central	
26.	Raja Ki Mandi	North Central	
27.	Tundla	North Central	
28.	Allahabad City	North Eastern	36.30 Lacs
29.	Azamgarh	North Eastern	
30.	Ballia	North Eastern	
31.	Deoria Sadar	North Eastern	
32.	Haldwani	North Eastern	
33.	Izzatnagar	North Eastern	
34.	Kasganj	North Eastern	
35.	Kashipur	North Eastern	
36.	Kathgodam	North Eastern	
37.	Lalkuen	North Eastern	
38.	Manduadih	North Eastern	
39.	Mathura Cantt	North Eastern	
40.	Mau	North Eastern	
41.	Pilibhit	North Eastern	
42.	Rudrapur City	North Eastern	
43.	Siwan	North Eastern	
44.	Guwahati	Northeast Frontier	2.90 Lacs
45.	New Jalpaiguri	Northeast Frontier	

1	2	3	4
46.	Bhatinda	Northern	45.00 Lacs
47.	Saharanpur	Northern	
48.	Ambala Cantt	Northern	
49.	Chandigarh Station	Northern	
50.	Chandigarh CBO	Northern	
51.	Kalka	Northern	
52.	Shimla	Northern	
53.	Jalandhar City	Northern	
54.	Pathankote	Northern	
55.	Godlen Temple	Northern	
56.	Lucknow	Northern	
57.	Varanasi	Northern	
58.	Moradabad	Northern	
59.	Dehradun	Northern	
60.	Bareilly	Northern	
61.	Abu Road	North Western	Through Sponsorship
62.	Ajmer	North Western	
63.	Bhiwani Jn.	North Western	
64.	Durgapura	North Western	
65.	Faina	North Western	
66.	Gandhi Nagar	North Western	
67.	Hisar	North Western	
68.	Jalebi Chowk	North Western	
69.	Sri Ganganagar	North Western	
70.	Bikaner Jn.	North Western	
71.	Jaipur	North Western	
72.	Rewari	North Western	
73.	Alwar	North Western	
74.	Jodhpur	North Western	
75.	Pali Marwar	North Western	

1	2	3	4
76.	Suratgarh	North Western	
77.	Udaipur City	North Western	
78.	Bhandara Road	Southeast Central	19.08 Lacs
79.	Bhatapara	Southeast Central	
80.	Champa	Southeast Central	
81.	Chindwara	Southeast Central	
82.	Dongargarh	Southeast Central	
83.	Durg	Southeast Central	
84.	Kamptee	Southeast Central	
85.	Korba	Southeast Central	
86.	Pendra Road	Southeast Central	
87.	Raigarh	Southeast Central	
88.	Raipur	Southeast Central	
89.	Ranchi	South Eastern	Through Sponsorship
90.	Hubli	South Western	18.00 Lacs
91.	Vasco	South Western	
92.	Mysore	South Western	
93.	Davangere	South Western	
94.	Shimoga	South Western	
95.	Hassan	South Western	
96.	Alwaye	Southern	22.00 Lacs
97.	Dindigul	Southern	
98.	Ernakulam Town	Southern	
99.	Kanniyakumari	Southern	
100.	Thanjavur	Southern	
101.	Tiruchirapalli	Southern	
102.	Tiruvilla	Southern	
103.	Tirunelveli	Southern	
104.	Tuticorin	Southern	

1	2	3	4
105.	Varkala	Southern	
106.	Villupuram	Southern	
107.	Guna	West Central	1.12 Lacs
108.	Anand	Western	11.15 Lacs
109.	Bharuch	Western	
110.	Dahod	Western	
111.	Nagda	Western	
112.	Navsari	Western	
113.	Palghar	Western	
114.	Surat	Western	
115.	Udhana	Western	
116.	Valsad	Western	
117.	Vapi	Western	

*[English]***Internet Facility in Trains**

2965. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether internet facility is available in trains;
- (b) if so, the details and salient features thereof;
- (c) the name of trains in which internet facility is currently provided;
- (d) whether the Railways propose to extend this facility in all Mail/Express trains; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) and (e) RailTel Corporation of India Ltd., a Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) of Ministry of Railways has

planned to provide internet facilities on running trains as a Pilot Project. The initial trials were carried out on pilot section from Delhi to Mathura in close coordination with M/s Shoshacom of Canada. The trials were carried out successfully. However, further implementation of the system has not progressed so far due to lack of interest on the part of the chosen technology partner. RailTel is exploring possibilities of cheaper alternative solutions including use of General Packet Radio Services (GPRS) network of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL) for providing the facility.

**Allocation of Gas to Pragati Power Plant-II**

2966. SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has shown its inability to allocate gas to Pragati Power Plant-II, being run by the Delhi Government;

(b) if so, whether the Government of Delhi has approached the Union Government to intervene in this regard so that Delhi's power situation could be eased out; and



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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir. The Delhi Government has requested allocation of 1.7 MMSCMD gas for the proposed Pragati Power Plant Phase-II. One of the sources is additional gas likely to be available during 2007 from the PMT JV (Panna-Mukta-Tapti Joint Venture) in which ONGC is a partner. ONGC has informed that as it has already tied-up its share with the customers, it has no surplus gas to supply to Pragati Power Plant Phase-II.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The other PMT JV partners are British Gas and Reliance Industries Limited. This Ministry has suggested that Pragati Power Project may either approach these partners directly or authorize GAIL on their behalf to negotiate gas tie-up for them on commercial considerations.

#### **Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise**

2967. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 13th Simbex (Singapore India Maritime Bilateral Exercise) was held at Visakhapatnam; and

(b) if so, the number of days during which the said exercise was held and the objectives thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The 13th Singapore-India maritime Bilateral Exercise was held from 26th February, 2006 to 8th March, 2006 off the Eastern Seaboard, with the harbour phase of the exercise at Vishakhapatnam. The exercise was conducted with a view to facilitate interaction between the Navies of the two countries to develop inter-operability aimed at addressing common challenges like disaster management, maritime terrorism, etc.

#### **Requirement of Locomotives**

2968. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have made any assessment regarding future requirement of locomotives;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Railways for procurement of locomotive?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) to (c) Based on the assessment of future requirement of locomotives, Indian Railways has made a plan for procurement of 300 locomotives in 2006-07. Assessment of locomotives for future years is being worked out.

*[Translation]*

#### **Revival of Instrumentation Limited, Kota**

2969. SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has announced any special package for revival of Instrumentation Limited, Kota (Rajasthan);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present status with regard to the said package?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY, MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) to (c) The Government has not announced any special package for revival of Instrumentation Limited, Kota. However, as per BIFR decision, the Government have prepared a Modified Revival Scheme which has been placed before the Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) for its recommendations.

*[English]*

#### **Study on Food Processing Industries**

2970. SHRI A.K. MOORTHY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had commissioned M/s Rabo India Finance Private Limited to report on the Food Processing Industry;

(b) if so, whether any recommendations have since been made by the above company;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the implementation status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (d) A Vision Document on Food Processing Industries has been prepared by M/s Rabo India Finance Pvt. Ltd. This envisages trebling the size of the processed food sector by increasing the level of processing of perishables from 6% to 20%, value addition from 20% to 35% and share in global food trade from 1.5% to 3% by 2015. Government has identified strategies in this regard.

*[Translation]*

#### **Stoppage of Kuria Express at Orai**

2971. SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have received any request for stoppage of Kuria Express at Orai station; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Railways thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Stoppage of 2107/2108 Lokmanya Tilak (T)-Lucknow Express (tri-weekly) and 1073/1074 Lokmanya Tilak (T)-Kanpur Express (weekly) at Orai station has been examined but it has not been found feasible.

#### **ADIP Scheme**

2972. SHRI KAILASH BAITHA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the agencies implementing the Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids & Appliances (ADIP);

(b) the funds provided to such agencies during 2004-05 and 2005-06, agency-wise;

(c) whether utilization certificates from them have been received by the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the measures taken by the Government for proper utilization of funds by such agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) and (b) The names of the implementing agencies and funds provided to them during 2004-05 and 2005-06 are available at website of Ministry—[www.socialjustice.nic.in](http://www.socialjustice.nic.in)

(c) to (e) The implementing agencies are required to utilize the grant by the end of the financial year or latest by the end of first quarter of the next financial year. Utilization Certificate for the grant should invariably be submitted within 18 months of the closing of the financial year in which grant is given. Further grant is given only when UC of previous grant is provided.

#### **Import of Crude Oil by IOC**

2973. SHRI MITRASEN YADAV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) has decided to import crude oil during the year 2006-07;

(b) if so, the proposed quantity of oil to be imported;

(c) whether the oil refining capacity of IOC has increased;

(d) if not, the present refining capacity of the IOC per annum;

(e) whether crude oil in the country is available as per refining capacity of the IOC; and

(f) if not, the quantity of oil in metric tonnes out of available oil received by the Corporation for refining?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A quantity of 40.9 MMT is proposed to be imported by Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) during 2006-07 for IOC refineries and for its subsidiaries.

(c) and (d) The present refining capacity of IOC is 41.35 MMTPA, which will go upto 47.35 MMTPA, after

commissioning of 6.0 MMTPA Panipat Refinery expansion project during 1st quarter of 2006-07.

(e) and (f) No, Sir. Indigenous crude is not available to meet the requirement of IOCL refineries fully. Accordingly, IOCL proposes to process 10642 TMT indigenous crude and 31708 TMT imported crude during the year 2006-07 in its refineries.

#### **Acquisition of Adibdari Dham by ASI**

2974. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Adibdari Dham situated in Chamoli district of Uttaranchal has been acquired by the Archaeological Survey of India;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government for its maintenance;

(c) whether the people residing in the neighbourhood of the said Dham are prevented to undertake reconstruction of their old and dilapidated houses and shops; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) A group of temples known as Adibadri Dham in District Chamoli, Uttaranchal has been declared protected as a monument of national importance.

(b) The Archaeological Survey of India undertakes regular conservation and maintenance of the temple structure besides providing amenities for the visitors and developing of the environs.

(c) and (d) Reconstruction of houses and shops is not permitted in the prohibited area of a protected monument, while it is subject to a 'No Objection Certificate' issued by the Competent Authority in the regulated area.

Under the provision of Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites & Remains Act, 1958, Rules 1959 and notification of 1992, areas upto 100 metres from the protected limit of a centrally protected monument have been declared as prohibited area where no construction/

mining is allowed. However, repairs and maintenance without any alternation/addition is permissible with prior approval. Further beyond it and upto 200 metres is declared as regulated area where construction can be undertaken under and in accordance with the terms and conditions of a licence granted by the Director General.

[English]

#### **Selection of Dealers by Public Sector Oil Companies**

2975. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has stopped the dealers' selection process of all the public sector oil companies;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to review the position keeping in view the adverse impact on these oil companies;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the decision is likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) to (d) In a meeting in the Ministry in April, 2006 to review the performance of the oil marketing companies (OMCs), it was observed that while OMCs have expanded their retail outlet (RO) network in a big way after the dismantling of the Administered Pricing Mechanism (APM) in the petroleum sector effective 1.4.2002, adequate attention has not been paid by them to improving the institutional and technological mechanism, resulting in not only reduction in their average throughput per RO but also complaints of malpractices. It was felt that there was a serious need for introspection by the OMCs on this issue and after deliberations, it was decided that pending a review of the whole situation OMCs may not set up any new retail outlets. A communication in this regard was sent to the OMCs on 20th April, 2006. In the aforesaid meeting, the OMCs were also advised to undertake survey by an independent agency to identify ROs selling less than 200 KL per month along with the

reasons for decline in throughput and deterioration of services. They were advised to get this survey completed within a period of four months and corrective action initiated thereafter.

Subsequently, following the representations from the OMCs and upon review of the whole issue, it was decided to lift the freeze on setting up of new ROs and a communication sent to the OMCs on 4th May, 2006. However, OMCs have been asked to get the aforesaid survey conducted in a time bound manner.

#### **Conservation of Monuments in Assam**

2976. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any report on Conservation and Preservation of Monuments and Artifacts from Archaeological Survey of India, Guwahati Circle, Assam;

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

(c) the details of monuments being taken up by ASI for restoration and maintenance in Assam; and

(d) the action taken for restoration and maintenance of Sattras of Majuli in Assam?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) Archaeological Survey of India, Guwahati Circle is regularly sending the monthly progress report on conservation of sites/monuments to the Directorate Office.

(c) There are 55 protected monuments in the State of Assam which are maintained by the Archaeological Survey of India. Of this, 18 monuments have been identified for structural conservation, chemical preservation and environmental development during the current financial year (2006-07). Their list is given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) The Sattras of Majuli are not centrally protected monuments under the AM & ASR Act 1958 and are not maintained by the Archaeological Survey of India.

#### **Statement**

The monuments proposed for Conservation, Chemical Preservation and Environmental Development for the year 2006-07 are as under:

Sl.No.	Name of the Monuments
<b>Conservation Work</b>	
1.	Karenghar Palace, Jaysagar, Distt., Sivasagar
2.	Group of Four Maidan, Charaideo, Distt., Sivasagar
3.	Sri Hayagriva Madhav Temple, Hajo, Distt., Kamrup
4.	Sri Suryapahar Ruins Dashabhuj Devasthan, Distt., Goalpara
5.	Masonry Remains of Bamuni Hill Ruins, Distt., Sonitpur
6.	Cachari Ruina Khaspur, Distt., Cachar
7.	Sri Kedar Temple, Hajo, Distt., Kamrup
8.	Sri Kameswar Temple, Distt., Kamrup
9.	Sivadol Temple, Sivasagar, Distt., Sivasagar
10.	Devidol Temple, Gaurisagar, Distt., Sivasagar
11.	Sivadol Temple, Negheriting Distt., Sivasagar
12.	Ancient Cave, Jagigopha, Distt., Bongaigaon
13.	Devidol Temple, Jaisagar Distt.
<b>Chemical Preservation</b>	
14.	Talatal Ghar at Joysagar, Distt., Sivasagar
15.	Joysagar Group of Monuments, Devidol, Shividol, Bishnudol & Ghanshyam House, Joysagar, Distt., Sivasagar
16.	Shividol Temple, Negheriting, Distt., Sivasagar
<b>Environmental Development</b>	
17.	Museum Complex at Suryapahar, Gwalpara, Distt., Gwalpara
18.	Ghanshyam House, Jaisagar Distt.

**Delivery of Cylinders to Consumers**

2977. SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Consumer Forum has directed the Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) to make delivery of LPG cylinders to the consumers after weighing the cylinders in front of the consumers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) and (b) While deciding a consumer dispute case (original Petition No. 224 of 2001) between Consumer Protection Council, Rourkela and Chairman, Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), the National Consumers Dispute Redressal Commission (NCDRC) directed that IOCL should ensure that weighing scales are made available to all deliverymen to deliver domestic LPG cylinders to customers only after weighing them in their presence.

(c) In pursuance of the decision of NCDRC, IOCL has directed its LPG distributors to implement carrying to portable weighing machine by each deliveryman to show the weight of LPG cylinders delivered to the customer. As of now, 60% of IOCL LPG distributors have implemented the above direction and for balance distributors, it is expected to be implemented by June 2006.

[*Translation*]

**Alleged Irregularities in Appointments**

2978. SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA:  
SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether gross irregularities in the appointment of Chairman and Managing Directors of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) have been reported in the recent past;

(b) if so, whether certain officials have been selected for the post of Chairman and Managing Directors against whom enquiries were pending with Central Vigilance Commission; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY, MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Smuggling in Goods Trains**

2979. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:  
SHRI SHISHUPAL PATLE:  
SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are aware of the recent spurt in the smuggling of goods and increasing number of intruders through goods trains plying between India and Bangladesh as reported in the *Rashtriya Sahara* dated January 12, 2006;

(b) if so, whether smuggled goods have been seized from goods trains plying between India and Bangladesh;

(c) if so, the value of the goods seized through the goods trains plying between India and Bangladesh during the last year and the current year;

(d) the number of Bangladeshi intruders arrested through these goods trains; and

(e) the steps taken by the Railways to check such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) to (c) No spurt in smuggling of goods and increasing infiltration through goods train has been reported over Railways recently. However, during the year 2005, smuggled goods worth Rs. 6,87,610/- and in 2006 (upto 31.1.2006) worth Rs. 3,20,000/- have been seized at Gede Railway Station over Eastern Railway smuggled from Darshna Railway Station of Bangladesh.

(d) On 28.1.2006, 04 Bangladeshi intruders were caught in an empty wagon during joint checking by Border Security Force (BSF), Railway Protection Force (RPF) and Government Railway Police (GRP) while the goods wagon had entered from Darshana Railway Station (Bangladesh). The intruders were booked under law by Local Police/West Bengal.

(e) RPF is extending full cooperation to all BSF, Police and Customs Authorities. Armed patrolling has been intensified in the Gede Railway Station area (India). Local Police, GRP, Customs and BSF have been apprised of the situation and the above agencies are conducting raids and searches in the trains and bordering stations. High-level co-ordination meetings are held from time to time to solve the problem and for better coordination among the Government agencies.

*[English]*

#### **Loss of Fuel**

2980. ADV. SURESH KURUP:  
SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the average waiting time for airlines for landing slots in Delhi and Mumbai airports in the last year; and

(b) the approximate loss on fuel cost due to the traffic congestions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) The average waiting time for landing slot at Delhi and Mumbai airports depends on time of landing, weather condition, ATC clearances etc.

(b) Some Airlines do not maintain details related to delays due to 'landing restrictions' or late clearance for take off which lead to additional fuel burn. It is, therefore, difficult to workout loss on fuel cost due to the traffic congestion.

#### **Freight Rates for Transportation of Coal**

2981. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have prepared any plan for classification of freight rates for transportation of coal;

(b) if so, whether the Coal India Limited has requested the Ministry of Railways to reduce the freight rates for transportation of coal; and

(c) if so, the response of the Railways thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) No, Sir. At present the coal is transported at Class-140.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **MOU with Republic of Korea**

2982. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has sent any Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Maharashtra and Gyeonggi Provincial Government, Republic of Korea regarding mutual cooperation in Cultural Sector for approval of the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) No Sir, the Department of Culture has not received such a proposal.

(b) and (c) Question does not arise.

#### **Tie-up of BEML with Foreign Firms in Defence Sector**

2983. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML) is seeking tie-ups with foreign firms for its plants in defence sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the BEML has received any offer in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Allocation of Funds to NMDFC**

2984. SHRI FRANCIS FANTHOM: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated by the Government to the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC) during 2005-06 and 2006-07;

(b) the details of utilization of the allocated funds by NMDFC during 2005-06; and

(c) the details of development activities for which these funds have been utilized?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): (a) The details of funds allocated by Government to National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation during 2005-06 and 2006-07 are as follows:

Year	Amount Allocated (in Rs. Crores)
2005-06	Rs. 25.00
2006-07	Rs. 18.29

(b) A Statement showing total funds disbursed State-wise is enclosed.

(c) The funds were utilized for providing concessional credit under the schemes of term loan, educational loan, margin money & micro credit through state channelising agencies. Further micro credit was also provided through the non governmental organisations (NGOs).

#### **Statement**

*National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation  
Statement Showing State-wise Disbursements  
during 2005-06*

(Amount in Rs. Lakhs)

Sl.No.	State	Amount Disb.	Benf.
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	854.00	7448
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2.25	42
3.	Assam	309.50	720
4.	Bihar	0.50	250
5.	Chandigarh	5.00	8
6.	Chhattigarh	0.00	0
7.	Delhi	10.80	72
8.	Gujarat	0.00	0
9.	Himachal Pradesh	150.00	144
10.	Haryana	350.00	700
11.	Jammu-Kashmir	300.00	565
12.	Jharkhand	109.00	363
13.	Kerala	2000.00	6195
14.	Karnataka	550.00	1147
15.	Maharashtra	0.00	0
16.	Manipur	0.00	0
17.	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	0
18.	Mizoram	0.00	0
19.	Nagaland	850.00	1166
20.	Orissa	114.62	501
21.	Pondicherry	5.00	13
22.	Punjab	500.00	963
23.	Rajasthan	104.50	246
24.	Tamil Nadu	655.25	4778

1	2	3	4
25.	Tripura	5.00	50
26.	Uttar Pradesh	1117.76	2156
27.	Uttaranchal	309.00	470
28.	West Bengal	2509.80	6304
Total		10811.98	34301

#### **Cess on Air Travel**

2985. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA:  
SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID:  
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWASI:  
SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:  
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:  
SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI:  
SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:  
SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to levy a cess on the air travel to develop smaller airports across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total revenue expected to be generated by way of levy of cess per annum;

(d) the time by which air travel cess is likely to be imposed and how it is proposed to be utilised;

(e) whether the Government has made any assessment about the requirement of funds in the aviation sector in the next five years to develop world class infrastructure in the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (d) The matter is under consideration of the Government.

(e) and (f) Improvement/upgradation of airport infrastructure and ground facilities at airports is a continuous process and is taken up by Airports Authority of India (AAI) based on the traffic demand, availability of land, resources etc. However, Government has decided

to restructure and modernize Delhi and Mumbai airports through joint venture route by public private participation. Government has also decided to develop and modernize city side of 35 non-metro airports in the country in phases to world class standards. The estimated expenditure for development of these airports is Rs. 4662 crores.

#### **Opening of Qutub Minar for Public**

2986. SHRIMATI KALPANA RAMESH NARHIRE: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to open Qutub Minar Tower for the public;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) There is no such proposal under consideration as on date.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) It is not advisable to keep the tower open for public in view of the large number of tourists and narrow stair cases leading to the upper floors of the Minar. Qutub minar was closed to public when it had witnessed a tragedy on 04.12.1981 due to a stampede wherein 45 school children had died.

[Translation]

#### **Restoration of Belahi Halt**

2987. SHRIMATI RANJEET RANJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Belahi halt was constructed near Belahi on the Radhopur-Pratapganj rail section under the Samastipur railway division of the East Central Railway;

(b) if so, the reasons for closure of Belhai halt;

(c) whether the Railways are contemplating to restore the Belahi halt; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) A proposal regarding opening of Belahi Halt on Raghapur-Pratapganj section of Samastipur Division was examined but not found justified due to heavy financial loss.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.



*[English]***Restructuring of Archaeological Survey of India**

2988. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to restructure the Archaeological Survey of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The question does not arise.

**Supply of Newspapers in Amritsar-Delhi Shatabdi Express**

2989. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA:  
SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways provide daily newspapers in the Shatabdi Express running between Amritsar and Delhi for the use of travelling passengers;

(b) if so, the names of newspapers published from Punjab provided to passengers in the said train;

(c) whether the facility of providing some of the newspapers published from Punjab in the said train has been withdrawn recently;

(d) if so, the names of such newspapers alongwith the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Railways propose to restore those newspapers in the said train;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the criteria laid down for selection of newspapers to provide to the travelling passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Punjab Kesri, Ajit, The Hindustan Times and The Indian Express published from Punjab, are supplied to the passengers of Amritsar-New Delhi Shatabdi Express trains in the morning.

(c) to (f) Do not arise.

(g) Selection of newspapers is done on the basis of passengers' liking and availability.

**Survey of New Railway Lines in Kerala**

2990. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have received any representations for survey of new railway lines in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Railways thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) to (c) Details of some of the proposals received from the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala and Members of Parliament during last one year for survey of new rail line falling fully/partly in the State of Kerala and Action Taken thereon is as under:-

Sl.No.	Proposal	Action Taken
1	2	3
1.	Chengannur-Kottarakara-Thiruvananthapuram	On the suggested alignment area, survey for construction of new line from Kayankulam to Kottarakara <i>via</i> Adoor, Pattanapuram & Auvaneeswaram has been taken up.
2.	Guruvayur-Idappalli	Updating survey for construction of Guruvayur-Idappalli new line has been sanctioned.

1	2	3
3.	Nilambur-Nanjangud	Survey was completed in 2003-04. In view of unremunerative nature of the line and acute resource constraint with the Railways, the proposal could not be considered.
4.	Tirur-Guruvayur- Emakulam	On this alignment area, broad gauge line already exists between Idappalli and Ernakulam and construction of new line between Tanur and Guruvayur had already been taken up.  On balance length, updating survey for construction of Guruvayur-Idappalli new line has been sanctioned.
5.	Tellicherry (Thalassery)-Mysore	Survey was completed in 1997-98. In view of unremunerative nature of the line and acute resource constraint with the Railways, the proposal could not be considered.
6.	Erumeli-Chengannur	On this alignment area, a survey for construction of new line from Chengannur to Sabarimala has been sanctioned.
7.	Kayankulam-Adoor-Punalur	On the suggested alignment area, a survey for construction of new line from Kayankulam to Kottarakara via Adoor, Pattanapuram & Auvaneeswaram has been taken up.
8.	Tirur-Angadipuram	Survey has already been completed and survey report is under examination.

*[Translation]***Effect of Bird Flu on Tourism**

2991. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA:  
SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI;

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bird Flu has an adverse effect on the tourism in the country;

(b) if so, the details alongwith the financial loss suffered by the tourism industry as a result thereof; and

(c) the corrective measures taken/being taken in this regard by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) No, Sir. It did not have any adverse impact on foreign tourist inflow to the country, which registered a growth of 14.4% during January—April, 2006.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) On Press reporting to outbreak of Bird Flu in India, the overseas India tourism offices were advised to have regular interaction with media/travel trade and to reinforce the image of India as a safe tourist destination. The information was also posted on the website of the Department of Tourism. The Press in India also suitably briefed. The World Tourism Organisation (WTO), of which India is an active member, also advised that there was no threat to tourists, and no case for restricting travel on account of Bird Flu. The WTO, however, advised the tourists traveling to flu-infected localities to avoid contact with live birds.

*[English]***Expansion of Bangalore Airport**

2992. SHRI M. SHIVANNA:  
SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY:  
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:  
SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any expansion work is going on at the Bangalore Airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which expansion work is likely to be completed at the said Airport?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Work for expansion/modification of Domestic and International terminal buildings at Bangalore airport has already been taken up in October, 2005 at the cost of Rs. 10.40 crores.

(c) June, 2006.

#### **Aircraft Accidents**

2993. DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA:  
SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:  
SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH:  
SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:  
SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:  
SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK:  
SHRI M. APPADURAI:  
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:  
SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:  
SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:  
SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of fighter, trainer aircraft and helicopters met with accidents during the current year;

(b) the loss of lives and property suffered as a result thereof and compensation paid in each case;

(c) whether the Government has conducted any inquiry to find out the reasons for each accident;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) In the current year *i.e.* from 1st January, 2006 till date, a total number of 3 aircraft (2 fighter and 1 trainer) of the Indian Air Force (IAF) have met with accidents. There was no aircraft accident in the Army and Navy during the above period.

(b) In these accidents, 4 pilots have lost their lives. However, there was no loss to the civil property. The compensation to the next of the kin is paid as per the rules.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Two accidents occurred due to human error (one on fighter and one on trainer) and one due to technical defect on fighter.

(e) A continuous and multi-faceted effort is always underway in the Defence Forces to enhance and upgrade flight safety. Measures to enhance the quality of training to improve the skill levels, ability to exercise sound judgment and situational awareness of pilots are being pursued. Constant interaction with Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs), both indigenous and foreign, are also maintained to overcome the technical defects of aircraft. Besides, anti-bird measures are also undertaken.

#### **Development of Tourist Places**

2994. SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign tourists visited Trimbakeshwar, Anjaneri and Shriram Temple in Nasik District of Maharashtra;

(b) whether the Government is contemplating any scheme for the development of Trimbakeshwar, Anjaneri and Shriram Temples to attract more foreign tourist at these places; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) The tourist arrival figures are not maintained District-wise. However, the number of tourists who visited the State of Maharashtra during the last three years are given below:

Year	Foreign	Domestic
2002	768935	9802527
2003	986544	11272906
2004	1218382	13392212

(b) and (c) Development and promotion of tourism in the country is a continuous process. However, identification of places of tourist interest/spots is primarily the responsibility of the State Government concerned. The Ministry of Tourism provides funds on the basis of project proposals prioritized for grant of central financial assistance every year under the following schemes after detailed consultation with the State Governments/UT Administrations:

- (i) Tourist Circuits
- (ii) Project Infrastructure & Destination Development
- (iii) Large Revenue Generating projects

No project proposal for development of Trimbakeshwar, Anjaneri and Shriram Temples was prioritized for grant of central financial assistance either during the year 2005-06 or 2006-07 nor has any such project proposal been received. However, a project for budget accommodation at Trimbakeshwar which was sanctioned for Rs. 49.00 lakh during 2003-04 has since been completed.

#### **Functional Autonomy to OFB**

2995. SHRI NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to give more functional autonomy to Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) on the pattern of Railway Board;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Ordnance Factory Board is a dedicated organization of the Ministry of Defence to manufacture arms and ammunitions for the Armed Forces as per their requirement. Requisite functional autonomy has been given to Ordnance Factory Board to meet the above objective. The requirement of autonomy is reviewed continuously and is enhanced as and when required. The autonomy to Ordnance Factory Board is not strictly on the pattern of Railway Board due to the different functional requirements of these organizations.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Setting up of Railway Hospital at Trivandrum**

2996. SHRI PANNIAN RAVINDRAN:  
SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the medical facilities for the Railway employees in Kerala are very inadequate;

(b) if so, whether there has been any demand to establish a Super-Speciality Railway Hospital at Trivandrum; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Railways thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Demilitarisation Agreement on Siachen**

2997. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:  
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:  
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":  
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI;

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to make Siachen a peaceful area and a zone of scientific discovery;

(b) if so, whether India and Pakistan have worked out a demilitarization agreement on Siachen as reported in *The Times of India* dated the April 6, 2006;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the said agreement is likely to be signed and enforced?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d) A ceasefire has been in force on Actual Ground Position Line (AGPL) in Siachen area since the midnight of 25th November, 2003, which has been upheld by both the sides. However, there is no decision at present to pull out troops from Siachen Glacier.

*[Translation]***Activities of Touts at Railway Stations**

2998. SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:  
 PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:  
 SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:  
 SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have taken any steps to tackle the problem of rush at railway ticket counters in the metropolitan cities of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Railways are aware of growing activities of touts inside and outside the railway stations in metropolitan cities; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Railways to check the activities of the touts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) and (b) To tackle the problem of rush at Railway ticket counters at metropolitan cities of the country, railway has taken number of steps like introduction of Unreserved Ticketing System (UTS), reservation through internet, reservation through mobile phones, e-ticketing etc. Moreover, to reduce the long queues at reservation counters large number of travel agents have been authorised to book tickets through Internet.

(c) and (d) Instances of persons indulging in touting activities at railway stations do come to notice. Regular and surprise checks are conducted in and around reservation offices to curb the illegal activities of touts and other anti-social elements. Persons indulging in touting activities are dealt with as per relevant provisions of law. Strict disciplinary action is taken against the staff, if found conniving with the touts. Surveillance at reservation officers of all important locations including Metropolitan cities is stepped up during peak/rush periods. In addition, travelling public are advised through various media to desist from approaching unauthorized people for reservation.

**Replacement of Fractured Railway Lines**

2999. SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:  
 SHRI MODH. TAHIR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether instances of fractures in the railway lines at various places in Uttar Pradesh as reported in Dainik Jagaran, dated March 18, 2006 have come to the notice of Railways;

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

(c) the reasons as to why fractures developed on the railway lines; and

(d) the steps taken for replacement of fractured railway lines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Nine rail fractures took place on 17.03.2006 on New Delhi-Palwal section. One weld fractures took place at Km 1496/8-6 DN line near Najibabad.

(c) Fractures of Delhi-Palwal section occurred due to a mechanical defect in one of the wheels of a wagon which moved over the section. The weld fracture near Najibabad took place during service because of fatigue.

(d) All the defective rails and welds have been attended to promptly. The section was visually and ultrasonically tested and appropriate action taken.

*[English]***Construction of RoB in Haveri Town in Karnataka**

3000. SHRI MANJUNATH KUNNUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have received any representations from Karnataka for the construction of Road over Bridge (RoB) in Haveri Town at 395.60 km. in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Railways thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Hon'ble Member of Parliament Sh. Manjunath Kunnur had written to Minister for Railways and Minister of State for Railways on 28th October 2005 demanding construction of Road Over Bridge in Haveri town in Karnataka mentioning that the existing Road Under Bridge is prone to water stagnation problem in rainy season.

(c) The Road Over Bridge is demanded in place of existing Road Under Bridge which was constructed on cost sharing basis in lieu of LC No. 237 during Gauge conversion work of Bangalore-Hubli line in 1995-96. Hence another Road Over Bridge at demanded location can be considered only on deposit terms i.e. if proposal is sponsored by State Government, duly agreeing to bear the entire cost of construction and recurring maintenance charges. No such proposal has been received by the Railway. Arrangements for drainage of water stagnating in under bridge during rainy season are entrusted to local administration. Hon'ble M.P. has been advised by the General Manager, South Western Railway also in this regard on 01.03.2006.

#### Development of Buddhist Places

3001. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to develop important Buddhist places in the country, particularly in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Identification of places of tourist interest/spots is primarily the responsibility of the State Government concerned. However, the Ministry of Tourism provides funds on the basis of project proposals prioritized for grant of central financial assistance every year after detailed consultation with the State Governments/UT Administrations. The following projects have been sanctioned during 2005-06 for development of Buddhist places in the country.

Sl.No.	Name of the project	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Development of Bodhgaya-Rajgir-Nalanda in Bihar	768.12
2.	Integrated development of Lower Krishna Valley Buddhist circuit in Andhra Pradesh	800.00

Apart from the above, loan assistance of Rs. 395.63 crore from JBIC for Phase II of the Tourism Infrastructure Development at Buddhist locations in the Buddhist Circuit of Uttar Pradesh at Samath, Kushinagar, Kapilvastu, Sravasti and Sankisa has been approved.

#### International Airport in Punjab

3002. DR. RATTAN SINGH AJNALA:  
SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to set up another International Airport in Punjab;

(b) if so, whether the location of the Airport has been identified; and

(c) if so, the details alongwith the time by which the airport is likely to become functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) A site for a civil air terminal has been identified at Halwara Airforce air base. State Government of Punjab is conducting a techno-economic feasibility study through a consultant. Such projects normally take 3 to 4 years to complete after receiving necessary clearances based on the Detailed Project Report (DPR).

#### Reopening/Opening of Level Crossings

3003. SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have taken initiatives to reopen the closed railway level crossing Gate no. SK/61 at Km. 73/7-8 bit Koj. SUF-'A' Class inter locked Traffic Gate located at Kokrajhar Town;

(b) if so, the steps taken so far in this regard;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Railways have received requests for opening of railway level crossing gates:-

(i) at Nayachara-Borokhurshiakati on the left side of the railway bridges over the Champamati River between Salakati railway station and Basugaon railway station in Kokrajhar district within Bodoland Territory;

- (ii) at km. 306/3-4 between Barpeta Road and Sarupeta railway station in Barpeta district in lower Assam; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) to (c) A Road over bridge has been constructed in lieu of level crossing No. SK/61 which was located at km. 173/7-8. After commissioning of the Road over bridge, the level crossing has been closed. There is no proposal to re-open the level crossing as re-opening of the level crossing would defeat the very purpose of construction of Road over bridge. Moreover, level crossing at said location cannot be allowed due to safety & operational reasons as the level crossing was located in yard area.

(d) and (e) As per existing policy, provision of level crossings is made in consultation with the State Government at the time of laying a new line or within 10 years from the date of its commissioning to traffic. Thereafter, any accommodation work such as level crossing can be provided at a technically suitable location on deposit terms, if such a proposal is sponsored by the State Government/Local bodies duly agreeing to bear the initial cost of construction of the level crossing and one time capitalized cost of recurring maintenance and operational charges. No such proposal has been received from State Government/Local body so far. Further, as per policy of Railways, no new unmanned level crossing is permitted on existing lines.

#### **Funds for Modernisation of Communication System**

3004. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways propose to modernise the communication system; and

(b) if so, the details along with funds allocated for the purpose during 2006-2007?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 25,269 Tote Kilometres (RKM) of Broad Gauge Track have been provided with optical fibre communication system for providing the requisite voice and data channels.

Works is in progress over 9721 RKM. Mobile Train Radio Communication for improving efficiency of operations and Safety, is under implementation over 3200 RKM. The funds allotted for 2006-07 is Rs. 201.20 crore.

#### **Computerised Reservation Centres at Panagarh Railway Station**

3005. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been persistent demands for establishment of a Computerized Reservation Centre at Panagarh Railway Station;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Railways thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) to (c) A demand to open Computerized Passenger Reservation Centre at Panagarh was received but was not found justified.

*[Translation]*

#### **Permission to Retired Officers for Commercial Employment**

3006. SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI:  
SHRI KIREN RIJJU:  
SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of retired officers of Armed Forces permitted for commercial employment during the last three years;

(b) whether keeping in view the Naval War Room leakage case and alleged suspicious role of retired officers of Armed Forces, the Government is considered to review the rules granting permission to retired officials for commercial employment;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure that secret information of the Armed Forces is not leaked?

**THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE):** (a) During the last three years, 109 retired officers of Armed Forces were permitted to accept commercial employment.

(b) and (c) The rules for granting permission to retired officials for commercial employment have appropriate checks so as to ensure that a retired officer does not take advantage of his erstwhile position in the Services for commercial gains. The rules are reviewed as and when considered necessary.

(d) Detailed instructions exist regarding safety of classified information in the three Services. These instructions are reviewed and updated from time to time. In case of any violation of these instructions, stern disciplinary action is taken against the officers concerned.

*[English]*

#### **Nuclear Reactor Turbine Market**

**3007. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:** Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) proposes international partnership to tap the nuclear reactor turbine market;

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

(c) the extent to which new tie-ups would help the BHEL in gaining access of new technologies?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY, MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH):** (a) to (c) The recent Indo-US initiative on civilian uses of nuclear power has opened up possibilities of large expansion in nuclear power generation in the country. BHEL has, therefore, planned to be ready for tapping this potential market and is exploring opportunities for appropriate tie-ups with reputed international firms.

#### **Upgradation of Trains as Superfast**

**3008. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have chalked out an action plan to reduce the journey time of trains, especially Rajdhani and Shatabdi and to upgrade some of the Mail/Express trains to superfast trains; and

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the criteria adopted for such upgradation?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is proposed to speed up 28 Rajdhani express trains and add more than 200 superfast trains on Indian Railways during the financial year 2006-07 by rescheduling the existing Time Table. The trains running at minimum average commercial speed of 55 kilometre per hour are classified as Superfast trains.

*[Translation]*

#### **Setting up of DDRCs**

**3009. SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA:** Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up District Disability Rehabilitation Centres (DDRCs) in those districts where such centres are not available;

(b) if so, whether proposals in this regard have also been received from respective State Governments;

(c) if so, the locations of proposed DDRCs, State-wise;

(d) the criteria adopted for selection of such DDRCs; and

(e) the present status of proposals and the time by which these are likely to be set up?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN):** (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has received the proposals from the following State Governments for setting up of DDRCs in unserved districts:—



Name of the State	Proposed District (Location-wise)
Andhra Pradesh	Srikakulam
Assam	Barpeta
Bihar	Araiya, Bhojpur, Katihar, Khagaria, Madhubani, Purnea & West Champaran
Chhattisgarh	Dantewadi & Dhamtari
Jharkhand	Dhanbad & Palamu
Karnataka	Coppal & Kolar
Madhya Pradesh	Chindwara & Sehore
Manipur	Churachandrapur & Thoubal
Meghalaya	East Garo Hills & Jaintia Hills
Orissa	Keonjhar & Nabrangpur
Punjab	Moga, Gurdaspur & Nawasahar
Tripura	Dhalai, North Tripura & South Tripura
West Bengal	Cooch Bihar & Purlia

(c) The locations of the proposed DDRCs have not been finalized.

(d) The scheme provides for following criteria:—

- (i) districts where currently no services are available for persons with disabilities either through Government, Semi Government or Voluntary agencies;
- (ii) where the State Government provides rent-free well-connected building for the purpose; and
- (iii) longer distance from the existing DDRC or similar service center.

(e) It is planned to set up all the proposed DDRCs in the current financial year.

[English]

#### Track Circuiting Work

3010. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway have started track circuiting work;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress so far made in this regard, Zone-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The track circuiting works have been progressing steadily for the last several years. As on 31.03.2006, track circuiting has been completed over 81.7% of the locations of the Broad Gauge (BG) network.

Important safety enhancement works of run through line track circuiting at all Stations on Broad Gauge, and complete Station section track circuiting at all stations on Broad Gauge in A, B & C routes are targeted for completion in 2006-07.

(c) Zone-wise progress in track-circuiting on BG network as on 31.03.2006 is as follows:

Zones	Required number of locations	Completed locations	% of locations completed
Central	1625	1491	90.3
Eastern	1604	1283	79.9
Northern	3602	2229	61.8
North Eastern	1032	827	80.1
North-east Frontier	1158	1116	96.3
Southern	2226	2153	96.7
South Central	2723	2628	96.5
South Eastern	1622	1102	67.9
Western	2453	2326	94.0
East Central	1598	1244	77.8
East Coast	1144	906	79.1
North Central	1391	1132	81.3
North Western	1478	976	66.0
South East Central	989	692	69.9
South Western	1359	1079	79.3
West Central	1317	1170	88.8
Indian Railways	27321	22334	81.7

#### **Surat and Rajkot Airports**

3011. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR:  
SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM:  
SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether development and modernisation plans of Surat and Rajkot Airports are still pending in spite of necessary infrastructure provided by the Government of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which the works on these airports are likely to be executed and completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) Development and modernisation of Surat Airport is as per schedule and the development works are likely to be completed by December 2006.

At Rajkot airport, works could not be taken up, as the land acquisition for extension of runway on lease from railway is under process of State Government of Gujarat has to initiate action for diversion of Rajkot-Jamnagar Highway passing through the proposed extension of runway.

[Translation]

#### **Modernisation of Sick Industries**

3012. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:  
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the amount received from the disinvestment of undertakings has been utilized for the modernization of sick industries;

(b) if so, the names of undertakings modernized by the Government therefrom so far; and

(c) the expenditure incurred thereon, undertaking-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY, MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) to (c) The Government has constituted a corpus called "National Investment Fund" (NIF) in 2005-06, into which the proceeds from disinvestment of Government equity in Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) would be placed. 75% of the annual income from NIF will be used to finance selected social sector schemes, which promote education, health and employment. The residual 25% of the annual income of NIF will be used to meet the capital investment requirements of profitable and revivable CPSEs that yield adequate returns, in order to enlarge their capital base to finance expansion/diversification. There has been accrual to NIF so far.

[English]

#### **Revival of Sick Industries in West Bengal**

3013. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sick Public Sector Enterprises in West Bengal;

(b) whether the Government has any plan to revive any of those sick industries in near future; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the revival procedure would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY, MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) There are 19 Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) located in West Bengal (on the basis of location of their Registered Office) which have been referred to Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) as on 30.06.2005 or to Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) as on 08.05.2006 is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) and (c) Enterprise specific measures for revival/restructuring of CPSEs are taken by the concerned administrative Ministry/Department and management from time to time on case-to case basis. The Government in December, 2004 has set up BRPSE for consideration of restructuring/revival of CPSEs. Concerned administrative Ministries/Departments prepare enterprise specific revival packages for consideration of BRPSE. The administrative Ministries/Departments are responsible for obtaining the approval of the competent authority, based on the recommendations of the BRPSE. As on 08.05.2006, BRPSE has recommended the revival/rehabilitation package for 8 CPSEs and Government has approved package for revival of 5 CPSEs.

#### **Statement**

*List of PSEs in West Bengal (on the basis of location of their Registered Office) referred to BIFR as on 03.06.2005 or to BRPSE as on 08.05.2006*

Sl.No.	Name of the CPSE	BIFR referred CPSEs as on 30.06.2005	BRPSE referred CPSEs as on 08.05.2006
1	2	3	4
1.	Andrew Yule & Company Ltd.	Yes	Yes
2.	BBJ Construction Co. Ltd.**	No	Yes
3.	Bengal Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals Ltd.	Yes	Yes

1	2	3	4
4.	Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Ltd.*	Yes	Yes
5.	Biecco Lawrie Ltd.	Yes	No
6.	Birds Jute & Exports Ltd.	Yes	No
7.	Braithwaite & Company Ltd.**	Yes	Yes
8.	Bridge & Roof Co. (India) Ltd.**	No	Yes
9.	Burn Standard Company Ltd.	Yes	No
10.	Central Inland Water Transport Corpn. Ltd.**	No	Yes
11.	Eastern Coalfields Ltd.*	Yes	Yes
12.	Hindustan Cables Ltd.	Yes	Yes
13.	Hindustan Steel Works Construction Ltd.	No	Yes
14.	Hooghly Dock and Port Engineers Ltd.	No	Yes
15.	Indian Iron & Steel Co. Ltd.	Yes	No
16.	National Instruments Ltd.	Yes	No
17.	National Textiles Corporation Ltd. & its subsidiaries**	Yes	Yes
18.	National Jute Manufactures Corporation Ltd.	Yes	Yes
19.	Tyre Corporation of India Ltd.*	Yes	Yes

**Note:** \*Recommended by BRPSE.

\*\*Approved by the competent authority (Cabinet/CCEA/GOM).

[Translation]

#### Oil and Gas Exploration by ONGC

3014. SHRI MUNSHI RAM:  
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. has decided to spend more amount on oil and gas exploration during 2006-07;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the expenditure incurred by the ONGC on oil and gas exploration during each of the last three years; and

(d) the quantity of production of crude oil and gas increased during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. ONGC has plans to spend Rs. 4991.65 crore during 2006-07 on oil and gas exploration, which is higher than the previous year's exploration expenditure. The break-up of exploration expenditure during 2006-07 by ONGC is as under:

(Rs. in crore)

Particulars	Amount
Survey	2036.40
Exploratory Drilling	2955.25
<b>Total Exploration Budget</b>	<b>4991.65</b>

(c) Exploration expenditure during last three years is as under:

(Rs. in crore)

Exploration Expenditure	Amount
2003-04	2542.32
2004-05	3277.68
2005-06 (Provisional)	3701.91

(d) The details of oil and gas production of ONGC during the last three years from 2003-04 to 2005-06 is as under:

Year	Oil production (MMT)	Gas Production (MMSCMD)
2003-04	26.057	23584
2004-05	26.484	22970
2005-06*	24.404	22574

\*Provisional figures.

During 2005-06, shortfall in crude oil production was mainly to Mumbai High North accident in Mumbai High. The gas production has shown a declining trend over the years, mainly due to natural decline in the producing fields of ONGC viz., Bassein offshore field, Ankleshwar and Rajamundry.

[English]

#### Transfer of Naval Ship to Maldives

3015. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH:  
SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to sell small and medium size arms, warships and fighter planes to foreign countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to transfer navalship to Maldives;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government is considering to build more naval ships; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (RAOINDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) There are no proposal at present to sell warship and fighter planes to foreign countries. However, there are two outstanding export orders of small and medium arms with Ordnance Factory Board.

(c) and (d) Recently one Navalship was transferred to Maldives, but no other proposal is presently under consideration.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. 3 Frigates, 3 Destroyer Ships and 4 Corvettes are under construction with the shipyards under Department of Defence Production.

[Translation]

#### Taking Over Air Sahara by Jet Airways

3016. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of taking over of Sahara Airlines by Jet Airways;

(b) if so, whether the Jet Airways has approached the Government seeking formal clearance of the acquisition and the resultant asset transfer of Sahara Airlines; and

(c) if so, the decision taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The matter is under Government's consideration.

[English]

#### Rail Accident in A.P.

3017. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Commissioner of Railway Safety has since completed an inquiry into the Delta Fast Passenger tragedy in which more than hundred passengers have met with a watery grave recently in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of its findings thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Railways on the recommendations of the report; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which the inquiry into the said accident is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Commissioner of Railway Safety, South Central Circle, who conducted statutory inquiry into this accident, has concluded in his final inquiry report that this accident occurred due to the train running on a portion of track, in hanging condition, flooded and damaged by breach of bund of Rama Samudram Tank of Golnepalli Village, leading to sudden heading up of water, flowing over the railway formation with intense velocity, scouring the river bed under the bridge and causing its settlement, and breach of adjoining formation due to abnormal heavy rainfall in the area. The Final Inquiry Report has been received on 4th May, 2006 and is being processed for examination of other details and recommendations.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Technical Snags in Aircraft**

3018. SHRI SURESH ANGADI:  
SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:  
SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY:  
SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently a number of flights of Air India and Indian Airlines were grounded in Delhi and other Airports because of technical snags and other problems;

(b) if so, the number of flights grounded during each of the last three years on account of different reasons and the corrective steps taken in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that some of those flights were grounded because of tyre bursts;

(d) if so, whether the Aircraft are not fully checked and certified for their airworthiness before giving green signal for taking off; and

(e) if so, the reason for not fixing the responsibility of the concerned officials looking after the maintenance of Aircraft?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

*[Translation]*

#### **VAT on LPG**

3019. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":  
DR. CHINTA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether LPG was given the status of 'Declared Goods' during the budget under which the 4 per cent VAT was to be assessed on LPG by all the State Governments who have adopted VAT system;

(b) if so, the details of States/Union Territories where 4 per cent VAT has been assessed;

(c) whether there is any decrease in consumer sale price due to this deduction; and

(d) if so, the details of those States where the deduction has been made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Consequent to enactment of Finance Bill 2006, LPG (Domestic) became "Declared Goods" under CST Act and the maximum sales tax/VAT rate is 4% across all states/Union Territories effective from 19.4.2006.

(c) and (d) Domestic LPG retail selling prices have remained unchanged during the switch over from existing state tax regime to declared goods regime.

*[English]***Issue of Airport Entry Passes**

3020. SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:  
SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria being followed for issue of Airport Entry Passes;

(b) whether the prescribed guidelines for the issue of Airport Entry Passes are not followed by concerned authorities;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken by the Government to ensure that the guidelines are followed in letter and spirit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Airport Entry Passes (AEP) are issued for legitimate official, operational, protocol and facilitation purposes.

(b) Procedure for issue of AEP is followed by concerned agencies.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

**Public Equity for Public Airlines**

3021. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to review induction of public equity in Air India and Indian Airlines through issue of IPO; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Approval of the Government for appointment of Advisor in connection with the IPO for both the Airlines has been conveyed. Both the Airlines have appointed Advisors for the proposed IPO. The Government will take a final decision in the matter after the report of Advisors are made available, keeping in view all relevant factors.

*[Translation]***Discovery of Gas by ONGC**

3022. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. has discovered gas reserves in collaboration with private sector companies as reported in 'Dainik Jagran', dated March 04, 2006;

(b) if so, whether any assessment has been made regarding the quantity of gas available in such areas having gas reserves;

(c) whether there is any likelihood of reduction in the import of gas as a result of new discoveries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) The news item appearing in 'Dainik Jagran' refers to discovery of Coal bed Methane (CBM) reserves in the country. Gas reserves have been established by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC), Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL) and Great Eastern Energy Corporation Ltd. (GEECL) respectively in CBM blocks viz., Bokrao, Sohagpur (East & West) and Raniganj (South).

Of these, ONGC has discovered CBM reserves in the Bokrao block where it has 80% participating interest (PI) along with IOC—20% PI. No private sector company has collaboration with ONGC in this block.

(b) The gas reserves establishment in the above blocks are as under:

Blocks	Operator	CBM Gas inplace (Trillion Cubic Feet)
Bokaro	ONGC	1.2
Sohagpur (East)	RIL	1.69
Sohagpur (West)		1.96
Raniganj (South)	GEECL	1.385

(c) and (d) Any increase in availability of natural gas from domestic resources will reduce the corresponding import of natural gas or will increase availability of natural gas for domestic consumption.

*[English]*

#### **Air Link to Different Places in Orissa**

3023. SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to link Puri, Konark, Dhauli, Ratnagiri and Udaygiri Langudi by air so that domestic as well as foreign tourists may find easy access to these places in Orissa; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Indian Airlines does not have sufficient number of smaller capacity aircraft to air link Puri, Konark, Dhauli, Ratnagiri and Udaygiri Langudi. Smaller capacity aircraft such as Dornier 228 and the ATR-42 aircraft available with Alliance Air are fully committed to providing vital airlink between the Lakshadweep Islands and mainland India and for exclusive deployment in the North-East respectively and cannot be deployed elsewhere. However, Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines with a view to achieving better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for air transport services of different regions of the country. It is, however, up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability and subject to Route Dispersal Guidelines.

#### **Indian Tourists**

3024. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian tourists who visited foreign countries during each of the last three years;

(b) whether some foreign countries have opened their tourist offices in India to display their country's attractions to Indian travellers; and

(c) if so, the countries which have so far opened offices in India and the facilities being provided by the Government to them?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) The number of Indian Nationals who visited foreign countries during the last three years is as follows:

Year	Number of Indian Nationals going abroad
2003	53,50,896
2004	62,12,809
2005	71,79,897 (Provisional)

(b) and (c) Some of the foreign countries which have opened tourist offices in India are Malaysia, Singapore, Britain, Macau, Hong Kong, Germany, Italy, France, Mauritius, Austria, Holland, Sri Lanka, Seychelles, Egypt etc. No specific facilities to these offices are being offered by the Government of India.

#### **Tourism Spots**

3025. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government plans to regenerate tourism as viable activity and a revenue earner for both public and private sectors;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to identify more tourist spots in the country and to promote them abroad through their tourist offices; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) Tourism is a viable activity and a revenue earner for both public and private sectors. Ministry of Tourism and Culture has adopted a multi-pronged approach to facilitate the multiplier effect of tourism sector by strengthening tourism infrastructure, enhancing hospitality related services and marketing of tourism products in a focused manner along with a branding exercise and positioning India in the key source and emerging markets.

(c) and (d) Development of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State/UT Governments. The Department of Tourism extends central financial assistance



to the State/UT Governments for development of tourism projects, prioritized in consultation with them. The existing 13 India tourism offices abroad are actively involved in promoting the tourist destinations of India in the overseas travel markets.

*[Translation]*

### **Production of Cement**

3026. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of major, medium and small cement industries in the country especially in tribal/backward/rural areas, as on date;

(b) the details of cement production recorded during the last three years and the current year, State-wise and industry-wise;

(c) the number of persons employed therein, State-wise;

(d) whether any proposal for setting up of any cement plant is pending with the Union Government; and

(e) if so, the details and the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY, MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) and (b) As per information received from the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (IP&P), the details of capacity as on 31.03.2006 and production of major cement plants, Region-wise, State-wise during the last three years is given in the enclosed Statement. The information on production in medium and small cement industries and cement plants in tribal/backward/rural areas is not maintained by that Department.

(c) Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion does not maintain information regarding number of persons employed in the cement industry.

(d) and (e) The cement sector is a delicensed sector and any decision to set up a cement plant is taken by the entrepreneur based on techno-economic consideration.

### **Statement**

#### *State-wise and plant-wise, Region-wise capacity and production of cement by major cement plants*

Sl.No.	Region/State	Location	Installed capacity as on 31.3.06 (in Lakh tons)	Production (in lakh tonnes)			
				2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
NORTHERN REGION							
Haryana							
1.	CCI, Charkhi Dadri	Charkhi Dadri	1.72				
	Total-Haryana		1.72				
Punjab							
1.	Ambuja Cement-Roper (G)	Ropar	25.00	17.74	18.90	23.52	26.72
2.	Ambuja Cement—Bhatinda (G)	Bhatinda	5.00	3.10	3.88	4.16	5.71
3.	Grasim-Bathinda (G)	Bhathinda	12.00	8.63	10.53	10.27	12.15
	Total-Punjab		42.00	29.47	33.31	37.95	44.58

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>Rajasthan</b>							
1.	ACC, Lakheri	Lakheri	6.00	6.85	6.78	7.03	7.15
2.	Birla Cement	Chittorgarh	7.20	7.34	7.92	7.95	7.82
3.	Chittor Cement	Chittorgarh	12.80	12.88	13.70	14.03	15.26
4.	Mangalam Cement	Morak	4.00	5.02	3.74	5.18	5.48
5.	Neer Shree Cement	Morak	6.00	9.14	9.66	8.51	10.62
6.	Aditya Cement	Shambupura	17.50	15.60	14.93	14.16	17.32
7.	J.K. Cement, Nimbahera	Nimbahera	28.00	23.23	22.73	24.14	25.33
8.	J.K. Cement, Mangrol	Mangrol	7.50	5.71	7.19	9.13	9.78
9.	Lakshmi Cement	Sirohi Road	22.30	21.46	22.61	24.43	26.64
10.	J.K. Udaipur Udyog	Udaipur	9.00				
11.	Gujarat Ambuja Cement Ltd.	Pali	18.00	14.03	15.17	16.27	17.73
12.	Shree Cement	Beawar	45.00	27.47	28.41	30.16	32.2
13.	Binani Cement	Sirohi Road	22.00	21.13	22.02	22.40	23.13
14.	Shriram Cement	Kota	2.00	2.95	2.95	3.21	3.94
Total-Rajasthan			207.30	172.81	177.81	186.60	202.40
<b>Himachal Pradesh</b>							
1.	ACC, Gagai-I	Gagai	18.00	11.29	11.19	11.65	15.59
2.	ACC, Gagai-II	Gagai	17.16	16.36	16.83	18.11	19.08
3.	CCI, Rajban	Rajban	2.00	1.30	1.58	1.68	1.97
4.	Ambuja Cement-HP	Darlaghat	11.60	9.01	10.33	9.66	11.48
Total-Himachal Pradesh			48.76	37.96	39.93	41.10	48.12
<b>Delhi</b>							
1.	CCI, Delhi (G)		5.00		0.00		
Total-Delhi			5.00				
<b>Jammu and Kashmir</b>							
1.	J&K Cement Ltd.	Khrew	2.00	1.14	1.19	1.40	1.59
Total—Jammu and Kashmir			2.00	1.14	1.19	1.40	1.59
Total—Northern Region			306.78	241.38	252.24	267.05	296.69

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>EASTERN REGION</b>							
<b>Assam</b>							
1.	CCI, Bokajan	Bokajan	2.00	1.42	1.19	1.19	1.28
	Total-Assam		2.00	1.42	1.19	1.19	1.28
<b>Meghalaya</b>							
1.	Mawmluh Cherra	Cherrapunji	2.00	1.04	0.99	0.93	1.00
	Total-Meghalaya		2.00	1.04	0.99	0.93	1.00
<b>Bihar</b>							
1.	Kalyanpur Cement	Banjari	10.00	5.62	3.39	3.69	4.57
	Total-Bihar		10.00	5.62	3.39	3.69	4.57
<b>Jharkhand</b>							
1.	ACC, Chaibasa	Chaibasa	8.70	4.48	4.47	4.60	5.57
2.	ACC, Sindri	Sindri	6.00	7.09	7.30	7.38	8.59
3.	Lafarge Cement-Jojobera (G)	Singbhum	30.00	24.80	24.11	25.77	27.48
4.	Lemos Cement	Khalari	1.09				
5.	Sone Valley	Japla	2.54				
	Total-Jharkhand		48.33	36.37	35.88	37.75	41.64
<b>Orissa</b>							
1.	Ultra Tech Cement-JCW (G)	Jharsuguda	8.00	6.10	5.22	7.78	8.82
2.	OCL India Ltd.	Rajgangpur	12.75	11.55	11.89	13.52	15.83
3.	Bargarh Cement Ltd.	Bargarh	9.60	8.47	7.72	7.89	8.41
	Total-Orissa		30.35	26.12	24.83	29.19	33.06
<b>West Bengal</b>							
1.	Damodar Cement & Slag (G)	Purulia	5.25	3.95	4.66	5.01	5.02
2.	Birla, Durgapur (G)		6.00	5.51	6.16	6.83	6.33
3.	Ambuja Cement Eastern Ltd.	Sankrail	10.00	8.77	9.24	10.93	11.34
4.	Ultra Tech-WBCW (G)	Durgapur	10.00	6.97	7.38	8.47	9.72
5.	Durga Hitech Cement (G)	Durgapur	10.00				0.09
	Total-West Bengal		41.25	25.20	27.44	31.24	32.50

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>Chhattisgarh</b>							
1.	ACC, Jamul	Jamul	15.84	8.73	8.22	9.38	10.08
2.	Century Cement	Tilda	18	15.61	16.06	17.08	17.11
3.	Grasim Cement, Raipur	Raipur	20.6	15.99	16.20	17.26	19.92
4.	CCI, Akaltara	Akaltara	4				
5.	CCI, Mandhar	Mandhar	3.8				
6.	Lafarge Cement, Arasmeta	Bilaspur	16	8.24	8.80	13.08	13.49
7.	Ultra Tech Cement Ltd.	Hirmi	16	13.07	13.26	13.92	14.07
8.	Ambuja Cement Eastern-CTG	Bhataara	10	5.37	5.73	7.51	6.96
9.	Lafarge Cement, Sonadih	Sonadih	4	4.26	4.71	5.06	4.76
Total-Chhattisgarh			108.24	71.27	72.98	83.29	86.39
Total-Eastern Region			242.17	167.04	166.70	187.28	200.44

**SOUTHERN REGION****Andhra Pradesh**

1.	ACC, Mancherial	Mancherial	3.31	2.60	2.14	1.85	0.87
2.	Keosram Cement	Ramagundam	9.00	7.35	8.24	9.85	10.47
3.	Orient Cement	Devapur	16.00	10.32	10.96	13.09	13.37
4.	Zuari Cement	Krishna Nagar	22.00	15.62	16.64	16.98	17.7
5.	CCI, Adilabad	Adilabad	4.00				
6.	CCI, Tandur	Tandur	10.00	2.62	3.08	5.19	6.17
7.	Andhra Cement, Vijayawada (G)	Vijayawada	2.40				
8.	Andhra Cement, Vizag (G)	Visakhapatnam	5.00	1.81	2.38	2.87	0.92
9.	Andhra Cement-Durga Cement	Nadikude	10.00	5.54	4.04	4.62	2.29
10.	India Cement-Chilamkur Works	Chilamkur	13.00	9.39	10.77	9.77	12.11
11.	Visaka Cement	Tandur	11.20	8.36	9.50	10.12	11.78
12.	India Cement, Yerraguntla Works	Yerraguntla	5.20	2.81	4.23	4.51	5.55
13.	India Cement, Vishnupuram	Wadapally	23.00	9.96	11.39	12.38	22.34
14.	Sri Vishnu Cement	Sitapuram	12.00	6.84	7.17	8.31	10.68
15.	Madras Cement, Jayantipuram	Jaggayyapet	16.00	7.50	7.09	7.43	10.47
16.	Ultra Tech Cement-AP	Tadpatri	23.00	19.55	22.51	22.44	19.96
17.	Kistna Cement	Kistna	2.14				

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
18.	KCP Ltd.	Macherla	5.75	4.96	4.66	4.85	5.32
19.	Panyam Cement	Bugganipalle	5.31	0.35	1.09	0.76	0.09
20.	Rain Industries	Ramapuram	10.00	6.85	2.96	7.87	9.64
21.	Penna Cement Inds Ltd.	Tadpatri	15.00	10.05	11.52	20.13	15.24
22.	Penna Cement Inds Ltd.	Ganeshpahad	10.00				8.1
23.	My Home Industries Ltd.	Mellacheruvu	15.60				16.27
Total-Andhra Pradesh			248.91	132.48	140.37	163.02	199.35

**Tamil Nadu**

1.	ACC, Madkkarai	Madukkarai	9.60	8.99	9.43	9.47	8.59
2.	Grasm, South	Reddipalayam	10.30	9.02	9.80	9.12	11.83
3.	India Cement, Sankamagar	Talaiyuthu	15.50	13.56	13.44	13.88	15.7
4.	India Cement, Sankaridurg	Sankaridurg	7.20	3.62	4.00	4.21	5.41
5.	India Cement, Dalavoi	Trichy	13.00	10.10	10.27	10.18	11.45
6.	Tamil Nadu Cement Corp.	Alangulam	4.00	2.45	2.67	2.36	2.58
7.	Tamil Nadu Cement Corp.	Ariyalur	5.00	5.42	5.92	5.70	5.27
		Ramasamyraja					
8.	Madras Cement Ltd.	Nagar	7.50	9.80	10.72	11.05	11.87
9.	Madras Cement, Alathiyur-I	Alathiyur	13.60	8.01	6.36	5.36	7.58
10.	Madras Cements, Alathiyur-I	Alathiyur	13.60	8.01	6.36	5.36	7.58
	Alathiyur-II	Alathiyur	17.60	9.02	11.18	12.79	15.58
11.	Chettinad Cement	Karur	6.00	16.82	9.03	10.99	11.65
12.	Dalmia Cement	Dalmiapuram	12.34	12.19	12.57	12.93	15.58
13.	Ultra Tech-ARCW (G)	Arakonam	12.00	7.66	7.43	6.84	7.85
Total-Tamil Nadu			145.64	116.66	122.91	126.00	142.89

**Karnataka**

1.	ACC, Wadi	Wadi	21.10	16.26	16.11	16.97	18.01
2.	ACC, Wadi-New	Wadi	26.00	20.82	25.94	25.06	26.95
3.	Vasavadavatta Cement	Sedam	20.00	17.63	20.43	21.31	20.76
4.	Rajashree Cement	Malkhed	26.00	20.94	24.68	26.89	29.4
5.	Mysore Cement	Ammasandra	5.70	3.68	3.69	3.61	3.62
6.	CCI, Kurkunta	Kurkunta	2.00				
7.	HMP Cement, Shahabad	Shahabad	4.76				
8.	Kanoria Industries	Bagalkot	3.30	1.60	1.92	1.34	1.02
Total-Karnataka			108.86	80.93	92.77	95.18	99.76

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>Kerala</b>							
1.	Malabar Cement	Palghat	4.2	4.10	4.60	4.45	5.02
2.	Malabar Cement	Alappuzha	2		0.68	1.16	1.181
	Total-Kerala		6.20	4.10	5.28	5.61	6.83
	Total-Southern Region		509.61	334.17	361.33	389.81	448.83

**WESTERN REGION****Gujarat**

1.	Digvijay Cement	Sikka	10.75	8.21	7.47	7.66	8.97
2.	Saurashtra Cement	Ranavav	11.64	7.56	6.31	7.90	10.69
3.	Gujarat Sidhee Cement	Veraval	12.00	5.40	5.96	5.51	9.31
4.	HMP Cement, Probandar		1.98				
5.	Ultra Tech Cement-Gujarat	Pipavav	53.00	33.26	29.47	30.18	5.92
6.	Jafrabad	Jafrabad	4.00	0.40	0.51	1.91	1.83
7.	Magdalla (G)	Magdalla	7.00	0.94	1.70	4.53	5.78
8.	Ambuja Cement	Kodinar	15.00	16.25	15.81	15.58	15.18
9.	Gajambuja Cement	Kodinar Abdasa	30.00	28.82	29.31	31.64	29.6
10.	Sanghi Cement	Taluka	26.00		7.16	12.29	18.28
	Total-Gujarat		171.37	100.84	103.70	117.20	135.56

**Maharashtra**

1.	ACC, Chanda	Chanda	10.00	8.09	9.30	9.71	10.28
2.	Manikgarh Cement	Manikgarh	15.00	11.12	13.24	14.38	16.2
3.	Rajashree-Hotgi (G)	Hotgi	14.00	13.78	14.27	14.73	15.27
4.	Ultra Tech-Awarpur Cement Works	Chandrapur	33.00	30.80	32.62	31.51	31.23
5.	Ratnagiri (G)	Ratnagiri	4.00	1.55	1.48	1.63	1.9
6.	Indo Rama Cement (G)	Raigad	10.00	5.55	5.67	6.02	4.9
7.	Orient Cement-Jalgaon (G)	Jalgaon	8.00	4.96	6.09	7.05	7.75
8.	Maratha Cement	Chandrapur	24.00	16.03	23.64	25.39	26.23
	Total-Maharashtra		118.00	91.88	106.31	110.42	113.76
	Total-Western Region		289.37	192.72	210.01	227.62	249.32

**CENTRAL REGION****Uttar Pradesh**

1.	ACC, Tikaria (G)	Tikaria	20.00	8.78	16.10	20.15	21.5
2.	Birla Cement-Raebareli (G)	Raebareli	6.30	4.19	5.59	6.42	6.48
3.	Diamond Cmt.-Jhansi (G)	Jhansi	5.00	8.05	8.37	7.50	7.4

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
4.	UP Cem. Corp.	Churk	4.75				
5.	UP Cem. Corp.	Dalla	4.32				
	KCC	Dalla					
6.	UP Cem. Corp., Chunar (G)	Chunar	16.80				
7.	Jaypee-Sadva Khurd (G)	Sadva Khurd	6.00	3.25	4.53	5.53	5.87
	Jaypee Ayodhya (G)		10.00			2.68	7.56
	Total-Uttar Pradesh		73.17	24.27	34.59	42.28	48.81
<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>							
1.	ACC, Kymore	Kymore	17.00	14.61	12.70	11.79	13.33
	ACC, Kymore-Meghaon	Kymore					
2.	Birla Vikas	Satna	8.00	8.40	7.53	8.39	8.54
3.	Satna Cement	Satna	7.50	7.26	6.81	6.55	6.99
4.	Maihar Cement	Maihar	30.00	25.57	25.10	29.24	33.04
5.	Vikram Cement	Jawad Road	30.00	26.10	27.37	31.35	31.62
6.	Diamond Cement-I	Damoh	5.25	3.15	3.16	4.17	4.9
	Diamond Cement-II	Damoh	5.00	5.83	4.62	5.06	4.54
7.	CCI, Neemuch	Neemich	4.00				
8.	Jaypee Rewa	Rewa	25.00	2.579	24.14	25.62	28.2
9.	Jaypee Bela	Bela	25.00	17.84	18.38	20.46	21.53
10.	Prism Cement	Satna	25.10	19.37	20.37	19.03	21.28
	Total-Madhya Pradesh		176.85	153.92	150.18	161.66	173.97
	Total-Central Region		250.02	178.19	184.77	203.94	222.78
	Grand-Total		1597.95	1113.50	1175.05	1275.70	1418.06

*[English]***Corruption in Catering Service**

3027. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sale of chicken items was banned recently in railways catering service;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of preventive checks and other checks conducted by the zonal/divisional railway managers to check corruption in catering service, Zone/Division-wise;

(d) the number of complaints regarding corruption in catering services received during the last three years and the current year alongwith the action taken thereon; and

(e) the steps taken by the Railways to check corruption in catering service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) and (b) Supply of chicken items in Railway catering services was initially banned in the wake of Bird flu. Subsequently, the ban was also withdrawn.

(c) to (e) Railway Board Vigilance undertakes frequent checks to prevent corruption in the areas of Traffic and Catering. Railway Board Vigilance conducted 28 preventive

checks in 2004, 43 preventive checks in 2005 and 4 preventive checks till April 2006 in the area of Catering. These checks have resulted in action on several contractors.

The number of complaints regarding corruption in catering matters for the years 2004, 2005, 2006 as available in Railway Board's Vigilance is as under:

2004	—	12 complaints
2005	—	22 complaints
2006 (till April)	—	09 complaints

While cost of the complaints were forwarded to the Zonal railways for investigation, a few were investigated by the Railway Board Vigilance.

#### **Violation of Ceasefire Agreement by Pakistan**

3028. SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan has violated ceasefire agreement with India during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken any steps to ensure peace on LoC/border;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the number of soldiers killed/injured due to violation of ceasefire agreement during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (e) The ceasefire was declared in November, 2003 on the Line of Control (LoC) between India and Pakistan, which has been upheld except for some aberrations.

Strong protests have been lodged by the Indian side with their Pakistani counter-parts about the incident of ceasefire violation through military and diplomatic channels. While reaffirming Pakistan's commitment to uphold the situation, the Pakistani authorities have denied complicity of Pakistani troops on these incidents. Two soldiers have been wounded in these firing incidents.

#### **Construction of Level Crossings**

3029. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have received some proposals for construction of level crossings from West Bengal;

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

(c) the action taken by the Railways thereon; and

(d) the details of other level crossings selected for construction during the current year alongwith their locations, Zone/State-wise and the time by which the construction work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) to (d) As per existing policy, proviso of level crossings is made in consultation with the State Govt. at the time of laying a new line or within 10 years from the date of its commissioning to traffic. Thereafter, any accommodation work such as level crossing can be provided at a technically suitable location on deposit terms, if such a proposal is sponsored by the State Govt./Local bodies duly agreeing to bear the initial cost of construction of the level crossing and one time capitalized cost of recurring maintenance and operational charges. Further, as per policy of Railways, no new unmanned level crossing is permitted on existing lines. No such proposal has been received from State Govt/Local body so far.

Construction of level crossings on existing lines depends on receipt of firm proposals from State Govt/Local body agreeing to bear the full expenditure. Therefore, no plan for construction of such level crossings can be prepared without receipt of actual firm proposals.

#### **Welfare Schemes for Older Persons**

3030. SHRI B. MAHTAB:  
SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:  
SHRI KAILASH BAITHA:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals received from various State Governments/Union Territory Administrations and NGOs/VOs under various schemes implemented for older persons during 2006-07;

(b) the funds allocated and released under each scheme to the States/Union Territories and NGOs/VOs during the said period;



(c) the number of new Old Age Homes, Day Care Centres and Mobile Medicare units to be opened during 2006-07 alongwith number of proposals received in this regard from State Governments, State-wise;

(d) the details of cases of misutilisation of funds came to the notice of the Government during the last two years and the action taken thereon; and

(e) the measures taken/to be taken by the Government for further expansion of schemes for older persons and proper utilisation of funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) During 2006-07, 144 proposals of Non Governmental Organisations were received.

(b) There is no allocation for the States/Union Territories under the schemes.

(c) No target has been fixed.

(d) One case of misutilisation has come to the notice. Release of further grant in aid to the organisation has been stopped.

(e) The budget allocation under the Plan Scheme has been increased from Rs. 19.80 crores during the year 2005-06 to Rs. 28.00 crores for the year 2006-07 and the State Governments have been requested to send complete proposals and to ensure regular inspections.

#### **Landing of Aircraft at Begumpet Airport**

3031. DR. M. JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the surroundings of the Begumpet airport at Hyderabad is posing threat to the flights at the time of landing; and

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken to provide safe landing of aircraft?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Following measures have been taken by Airports Authority of India to provide safe landing of aircraft at Begumpet Airport, Hyderabad:

1. Instrument Approach Procedures have been designed in such a way to keep aircraft clear off obstructing objects.
2. Touch down points of runway has been decided taking into account these objects.
3. Distance available for take off and landing have been calculated taking these objects into consideration and have been notified appropriately.
4. No construction of building is permitted within a radius of 20 Kms. of the airport without issue of NOC by AAI as per Government of India notification SO-988.

#### **Stake in Pakistani Gas Company**

3032. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether two Indian Public Sector oil and gas companies are in the hunt to acquire a strategic stake in one of the biggest gas companies in Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) and (b) Pakistan is going through the process of privatisation of its two gas companies, namely, (i) Sui Northern Gas Pipeline Limited (SNGPL), and (ii) Sui Southern Gas Company Limited (SSGL). Initially, IOC & GAIL had expressed interest in participating in this process. Subsequently, when GAIL sought some details on the procedure for submission of Statement of Qualification from the Privatisation Commission of Pakistan, the Privatisation Commission, Government of Pakistan, replied on 20th February, 2006 expressing regret in acceding to GAIL's request to participate in the subject privatisations. No specific reason was given by them for not permitting GAIL to participate in the privatisation process. In view of the above, GAIL and IOC did not pursue this opportunity.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to (a) & (b) above.

*[Translation]*

**Development of Phoolbagh and  
Hotel Tansen in Gwalior**

3033. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposals from the Government of Madhya Pradesh for development of Phoolbagh Gwalior, development and upgradation of hotel Tansen, Gwalior and the construction of Sulabh complex at Orchha;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A project proposal for integrated development of Gwalior-Orchha-Khajuraho circuit was sanctioned for central financial assistance of Rs. 461.09 lakh during 2005-06 for the following components:

Sl.No.	Name of the component	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Development of Phool Bagh Area, Gwalior	221.28
2.	Upgradation of tourist village, Khajuraho	74.03
3.	Facilitation Centre at Khajuraho	67.42
4.	Watersports complex at Benisagar Dam, Khajuraho	29.76
5.	Sulabh complex, Orchha	23.32
6.	Sulabh complex Khajuraho	23.32
	<b>Total</b>	<b>439.13</b>
7.	Add: 5% Architect fee	21.96
	<b>Total cost of the project:</b>	<b>461.09</b>

*[English]*

**Construction of New Airports**

3034. SHRI DHANUSKODI R. ATHITHAN:  
SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received proposals from some State Governments for construction of new airports in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(d) the time by which these airports are likely to be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) A number of cities and towns have been proposed by the concerned State Governments for construction of new airports. For instance, Pakyong, Gangtok in Sikkim, Chiethu, Kohima in Nagaland, Mopa, Panaji in Goa, Chakan, Pune & Navi Mumbai in Maharashtra, Ludhiana in Punjab, Ajmer in Rajasthan, Devanahalli (Bangalore), Gulbarga, Bellary & Bijapur in Karnataka, Shamshabad (Hyderabad) in Andhra Pradesh, Kannur in Kerala, Itanagar in Arunachal Pradesh, Bharuch in Gujarat and Raiganj in West Bengal.

(c) and (d) Government of India has already accorded approval for setting up of new international airports at Devanahalli near Bangalore, Shamshabad near Hyderabad and Mopa in Goa. There are well laid down procedures for development of greenfield airports and the above proposals have to conform to the prescribed conditions before being considered for approval.

*[Translation]***Bilateral Agreements with Foreign Countries**

3035. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK:  
 SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:  
 SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:  
 SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of countries with whom Bilateral Air Services Agreement entered into by the Government during the last one year;

(b) whether any proposal regarding bilateral Air Services Agreement with any country is presently under consideration of the Government;

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

(d) the time by which the decision is likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) During the last one year, India has signed/revised its Air Services Agreements with seven countries viz. USA, UK, Australia, Qatar, New Zealand, Tunisia and Iceland

(b) to (d) Traffic rights for operation of international air services are reviewed from time to time as part of an on-going process depending on traffic demand, balance of benefit to our carriers, overall interest of national economy and political considerations. Actual operations including route selections are, however, left to the commercial judgement of the airlines.

*[English]***Cargo Clearance at Airports**

3036. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received complaints from various quarters regarding delay in cargo clearance at the airports;

(b) if so, the number of such complaints received during the last one year; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government for early clearance of cargo at the airports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) For faster processing of import and export cargo, Airports Authority of India (AAI) has established Electronics Data Interchange (EDI) system at the metro airports. In order to further improve the processing time, Bar Code System has been partly implemented in the export terminal at Delhi Airport as a pilot project.

**Fuel Plant in North East**

3037. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Engineers India Ltd. has contemplated to set up gas fuel plant in North East;

(b) if so, whether feasibility report has been prepared in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government is considering to set up more such plants to reduce the import of fuel; and

(e) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Not applicable.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Not applicable.

**Construction of ROB's in Punjab**

3038. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA:  
 SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Railway Over Bridges (ROBs) sanctioned in Punjab during the last three years and the current financial year;

(b) the status of each sanctioned Railway Over Bridges (ROBs);

(c) whether the construction work on each such ROBs is going on as per schedule; and

(d) if so, the details of ROBs likely to be completed during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) and (b) A Statement is enclosed furnishing the details of works sanctioned on cost sharing basis.

(c) and (d) Railways construct bridge proper across the tracks and approaches are constructed by State Govt. The construction of Road Over/Under Bridge (ROB/RUB) involves many stages which include making and approving the profile sketches and general arrangement drawings, geotechnical investigations, detailed design and drawings, preparation of detailed estimates and their sanction, invitation & finalization of contracts, diversion of utilities at site and actual execution of work. Railway make all out efforts to construct their portion of work before or alongwith the work of approaches by the State Govt. Railways portion of works are generally going on as per schedule almost in all cases. The actual commissioning of ROBs depends on the completion of approaches by State Govt. also.

#### *Statement*

##### *Details of Railway over bridges sanctioned during last three years in Punjab and status thereof*

Sl.No.	Rly	State	Year of Sanction	PB item of 05-06	Name of Work	Rly's share	State Share	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	NR	Punjab	2003-04	141	Khanna ROB in lieu of LC no 145-B connecting GT Road	4.15	6.33	Profile sketch approved. Detail Estimate vetted by Finance and is in the process of sanction. State Govt. is yet to plan their work of approaches.
2.	NR	Punjab	2003-04	139	Jagraon ROB in lieu of LC no 155-B	5.07	7.12	Profile sketch approved. Detail Estimate sanctioned. State Govt. is yet to plan their work of approaches.
3.	NR	Punjab	2003-04	142	Khanna ROB in lieu of LC no 155-B	4.63	11.65	Profile sketch approved. Detail Estimate sanctioned. State Govt. is yet to plan their work of approaches.
4.	NR	Punjab	2003-04	153	Dasuya ROB in lieu of LC No C-85	4.78	8.28	Profile sketch approved. Detail Estimate sanctioned. State Govt. has started work on approaches. Tender for Rly. portion opened and discharged due to high rates. RE-invited. Opened on 31.1.06 and under finalisation.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
5.	NR	Punjab	2005-06	187	Rajpura-Bhatinda ROB in lieu of LC No 21	4.33	13.8	Work sanctioned in Supplementary Demand for Grants 2005-06. Profile sketch prepared and signed by PWD.
6.	NR	Punjab	2003-04	162	Ludhiana-Jakhel & Dhuri-Bhatinda ROB in lieu of LC no 52A and 63A respectively	8.41	19.46	Profile sketch approved. Detail estimate sanctioned. Tender invited and opened on 25.4.06.
7.	NR	Punjab	2003-04	147	Bhogpura ROB in lieu of LC No C-40	4.61	6.46	Profile sketch approved. Detail Estimate sanctioned. State Govt. is yet to plan their work of approaches.
8.	NR	Punjab	2003-04	159	Taran-Taran ROB in lieu of LC no B-27	8.09	10.68	Board has been requested to delete the work from Pink Book on account of less TVUs than required for sanction on cost sharing basis.
9.	NR	Punjab	2003-04	158	Mansa ROB in Lieu of IC no B-208	5.22	6.07	Profile sketch approved. Detail Estimate sanctioned. Tender invited, to be opened on 2.5.06
10.	NR	Punjab	2003-04	157	Moga ROB in lieu of LC no C-51/A	3.79	8.7	Profile sketch approved. Detail Estimate sanctioned. Tender schedule under vetting.
11.	NR	Punjab	2003-04	156	Sangrur ROB in lieu LC No A-64/2	5.77	6.95	Profile sketch approved. Detail Estimate sanctioned. Tender schedule under vetting.
12.	NR	Punjab	2003-04	154	Suranasi ROB in Lieu of LC No A-59	12.90	13.75	State Govt has advised to drop the work as the same is not technically feasible.
13.	NR	Punjab	2003-04	145	Subhanpur ROB in lieu of LC No B-52 way side village near Beas	4.76	8.38	Profile sketch approved. Detail Estimate sanctioned. State Govt. is yet to plan their work of approaches.
14.	NR	Punjab	2003-04	152	Batala ROB in lieu of lieu of LC No A-26	7.04	10.16	Profile sketch approved. Detail Estimate sanctioned. State Govt. is yet to plan their work of approaches.
15.	NR	Punjab	2003-04	151	Lyallpur Khalsa College halt ROB in lieu of LC No S-3 on JUC-LDH section	6.36	6.87	Profile sketch approved. Detail Estimate under consideration of Railway Board.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
16.	NR	Punjab	2003-04	150	Anritsar ROB in lieu of LC No B-2	5.39	7.42	Profile sketch approved. Detail Estimate sanctioned. State Govt. is yet to plan their work of approaches.
17.	NR	Punjab	2003-04	138	Suchipind ROB in lieu of LC No C-11	5.78	7.93	Profile sketch approved. Detail Estimate sanctioned. State Govt. is yet to plan their work of approaches.
18.	NR	Punjab	2003-04	148	Chawapail ROB in lieu of LC No C-161 on UMB-LDH section near Khanna	5.05	7.22	Profile sketch approved. Detail Estimate sanctioned. State Govt. is yet to plan their work of approaches.
19.	NR	Punjab	2003-04	146	Jalandhar City ROB in lieu of LC no A-61	5.06	14.85	Profile sketch approved. Detail Estimate sanctioned.
20.	NR	Punjab	2003-04	155	Jalandhar City Firozpur (DAV College halt) ROB in lieu of LC No A-2	5.99	11.08	Profile sketch approved. Detail Estimate sanctioned. State Govt. is yet to plan their work of approaches.
21.	NR	Punjab	2003-04	140	Beas ROB in lieu of LC No A-44/T-3	4.50	6.29	Profile sketch approved. Detail Estimate sanctioned. State Govt. is yet to plan their work of approaches.
22.	NR	Punjab	2003-04	149	Sujanpur ROB in lieu of LC No C-5/2	6.41	9.3	Profile sketch approved. Detail Estimate sanctioned. State Govt. is yet to plan their work of approaches.

### Computerised Reservation Centres in West Bengal

3039. SHRIMATI SUSMITA BAURI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are aware that due to absence of 'Computerised Reservation Centres' at many Railway Stations in West Bengal, the users and passengers are facing a lot of difficulties;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Railways in the matter;

(d) whether the Railways have any plan to set up at least one 'Computerised Reservation Centre' in each district in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) As on date, Computerised Passenger Reservation Centres are functional at 1322 locations covering 523 district headquarters and work for 82 more district headquarters have been sanctioned.

### Repairing of Neral-Matheran Railway Line

3040. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Neral-Matheran railway line was extensively damaged due to heavy rains;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to repair the said line and the time by which the repair work is expected to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. There has been heavy damage to Neral-Matheran Railway line due to heavy rains, boulder falling and landslides. The damage is in form of ballast washouts, embankment erosion, damage to track at 15 locations & complete washout of 9 Railway Bridges in this section.

(c) Heavy damages to the line are planned to be attended through contractual agency for which action has been initiated. However, a few locations between Aman Lodge and Matheran have been attended departmentally. The restoration work is expected to be completed by April, 2007.

#### **Supply of Ration to Commission Vendors**

3041. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has stopped the supply of rations to a section of commission vendors of Northern Railway;

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

(c) the reaction of the Railways thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) to (c) As per the directives of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, the rules for absorption of commission vendors have been framed by the Ministry of Railways. Accordingly, all commission vendors/bearers should retire at the age of superannuation do not have any *locus-standi* to continue as commission bearers/vendors and sell catering items.

[*Translation*]

#### **Expenditure on Running Train**

3042. SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the expenditure incurred on running a train per kilometre at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): As per the latest data available (for the financial year 2004-05) the expenditure incurred on running a train per kilometre is given below:

	Broad Gauge	Metre Gauge	Average for all gauges including narrow gauge
A passenger train	Rs. 462.44	Rs. 442.19	Rs. 463.76
A good train	Rs. 727.06	Rs. 1428.96	Rs. 743.75

[*English*]

#### **Ambedkar Awards**

3043. SHRI BAGUN SUMBRUI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had constituted Dr. Ambedkar International Award for Social Change and National Award for Social Understanding and Upliftment of Weaker Sections in beloved memory of Baba Saheb Dr. B.R. Ambedkar to be given annually;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the recipients of such awards since its inception;

(d) whether Dr. Ambedkar International Award for the year 2000 and Dr. Ambedkar National Award after the year 1998 have not been given so far;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Dr. Ambedkar National Award for Social Understanding and Upliftment of Weaker Sections and

International Award for Social Change were instituted in the year 1992 and 1995 respectively.

The scrutiny and final selection of Awards is made by a Jury appointed by the Government. The Jury comprises of Vice President, Speaker, Lok Sabha as ex-officio members in the case of International award and Vice President and Chief Justice of India in the case of National award along with five other eminent persons nominated by the President of India. All persons or group of persons or organisations regardless of race, caste, creed or sex are eligible for the awards.

Recipients: International Award: Shri Murlidhar Devidas Amte (Baba Amte) (1999); Shri Remy Fernand Claude Satorre of Spain (2000). National Award: National Institute of Social Work & Social Sciences, Bhubaneswar (1993); Rayat Shikshan Sansthan, Satara, Maharashtra (1994); Rama Krishna Mission Ashram, Bastar, M.P. (1996); Kasturba Gandhi Kanya Gurukulam, Vedaranyam, Tamil Nadu (1998).

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f) The International Award Jury meeting for the year 2001 was fixed on 19.3.2002 and was postponed due to the sudden demise of Speaker Lok Sabha. Later the term of the Jury expired and was reconstituted on 20.5.2003. The matter was being processed for awards for 2001, 2002 and 2003 when Lok Sabha was dissolved prematurely and General Elections were announced.

The matter is under consideration.

*[Translation]*

#### **Electrification and Doubling of Mau-Azamgarh-Shahganj-Lucknow Railway Line**

3044. MOHD. MUKEEM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for electrification/doubling of Mau-Azamgarh-Shahganj-Lucknow Railway line;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the work is likely to be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Less Gauge Tanks of HPCL**

3045. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1363 dated December 1, 2006 regarding Less Gauge Tanks of HPCL in Delhi and state:

(a) the finding of the Inquiry Committee constituted to inquire the case of low gauge tanks of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited in Delhi;

(b) whether any action has been taken against the officials/persons found guilty in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) A committee consisting of senior officials of HPCL was appointed in March 2005 to conduct an inquiry to assess all the relevant aspects in the matter, including determination of any lapses/negligence on the part of their officers. The inquiry committee has completed its investigation and submitted its report to the Management in August 2005. The findings of the enquiry committee in brief are as under:

(i) HPCL North Zone office placed order for supply of service station tanks for retail outlets including supply of steel plates by the vendors in confirmation with BIS code IS 10987: 1992. The purchase orders mandated that tanks will be tested by 3rd party inspection agencies to be appointed by fabricators from among reputed inspection, agencies.

(ii) It was observed that these 3rd party inspection agencies carried out inspection as per the advice of the vendors covering visual inspection, general workmanship and hydrostatic test etc. However, full code requirement as per IS 10987: 1992 specifications which includes checking the thickness of the steel plants was not complied with by the 3rd party inspection agencies.

(iii) The committee also observed that 3rd party inspection agencies failed in ensuring quality and



also in reporting quality issues to HPCL and limited their scope as directed by fabricators without taking cognisance of the BIS code 10987: 1992 even though HPCL purchase order clearly specified compliance to the BIS code.

- (iv) The enquiry committee revealed procedural lapses while stipulating the requirements in the purchase process on the part of officers in their North Zone. However, the report has not established any malafide on the part of any of the officers.

(b) to (d) HPCL North Zone office have deducted Rs. 30.76 lakhs from three vendors towards supply of tanks to the regions under North zone. HPCL have informed that they have introduced following steps to improve monitoring of quality of the tanks supplied by the vendors:

- (i) Instead of the fabricator supplying the steel plates the Corporation would purchase steel plates directly from reputed steel companies. The scope of fabricator would be limited only to the extent of fabrication. Proper controls have been put in position for identification and reconciliation of steel plates supplied by the Corporation to the fabricator. This would completely ensure the quality of steel plates used for the service station tanks.
- (ii) Appointment of third party inspection agency by the Corporation and not by the vendors. The scope of inspection by the third parties will be well defined.
- (iii) Formatting of Inspection Report developed by the Corporation to ensure that the Inspection Report is as per the detailed format only; and
- (iv) Closer scrutiny and monitoring of quality control aspects through random visits of the Corporation's officers to the premises of the vendors.

[English]

#### **Welfare Projects for Disabled in Lakshadweep**

3046. DR. P.P. KOYA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any basic survey has been conducted in Lakshadweep to identify orthopaedically handicapped, mentally challenged, visually challenged and the people with hearing impairment etc;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;

- (c) the projects/schemes being implemented in Lakshadweep for the welfare of disabled persons as visualized in Persons with Disabilities (PWD) Act, 1995;

- (d) the number of rehabilitation centres to provide care and support to the disabled functioning in Lakshadweep at present; and

- (e) the role of Rehabilitation Council of India in implementing the said Act and setting up of care and rehabilitation centres in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. According to the Census, 2001, there are 505 persons with locomotor disabilities, 216 persons with mental disability, 603 persons with visual disability and 147 persons with hearing impairment in Lakshadweep.

- (c) to (e) The Rehabilitation Council of India does not have a role in setting up of care and rehabilitation centers. However, under the scheme of National Programme for Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities, the Lakshadweep Administration has provided financial assistance to the Directorate of Medical and Health Services, Kavaratti for starting Day Care Centre.

#### **Doubling of Railway Lines in Kerala**

3047. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether doubling of railway lines works in Kerala is going on at a slow pace;

- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

- (c) the steps taken to expedite the completion of works?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) to (c) Doubling of railway lines in Kerala are being progressed as per the availability of resources and their operational priority.

Doubling of Calicut-Mangalore, Calicut-Pallipuram and Quilon-Trivandrum sections have already been completed.

Work on doubling of Ernakulam-Mulanturutti and Kayankulam-Mavelikara sections are targeted for completion during 2006-07. Balance section of Shoranur-Calicut doubling project i.e. Pallipuram-Shoranur is in advanced stage.

*[Translation]*

#### **Losses to PSUs**

3048. SHRI KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the Public Sector Undertakings owned by the Central and State Government in Uttar Pradesh have been incurring heavy losses and are on the verge of closure;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the remedial measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES, MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) As per Public Enterprises Survey, 2004-05 which was laid in Lok Sabha on 13.03.2006 and is a published document, there are 12 Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) in the State of Uttar Pradesh on the basis of location of their Registered Office. Their profit/loss position as on 31.03.2005 is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) The reasons for losses of loss making CPSEs are enterprise specific. However, some of the reasons are: old and obsolete plant and machinery, outdated technology, resource crunch, low capacity utilization, excess manpower, heavy interest burden, weak marketing strategies, 'stiff competition, reluctance of financial institutions to provide funds for revival/rehabilitation, high input cost etc.

(c) The Government in December, 2004 has set up a Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) for consideration of restructuring/revival of Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs). Concerned administrative Ministries/Departments prepare enterprise

specific revival packages for consideration of BRPSE. The administrative Ministries/Departments are responsible for obtaining the approval of the competent authority, based on the recommendations of the BRPSE. Revival package for Bharat Pumps & Compressors Ltd., British India Corporation Ltd. and National Textiles Corporation Ltd. & its subsidiaries has been recommended by BRPSE. Government has approved package for revival of British India Corporation Ltd.; and National Textiles Corporation Ltd. & its subsidiaries.

#### **Statement**

*Net Profit/loss of CPSEs whose Registered Office is located in Uttar Pradesh as on 31.03.05*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the CPSE	Net Profit/Loss
1.	Artificial Limbs Mfg. Corpn. of India	341
2.	Bharat Immunologicals & Biologicals Corp. Ltd.	133
3.	Bharat Leather Corpn. Ltd.	N.A.
4.	Bharat Pumps & Compressors Ltd.	-1086
5.	Bharat Yantra Nigam Ltd.	1
6.	British India Corporation Ltd.	N.A.
7.	Broadcast Engg. Consultants India Ltd.	130
8.	Brushware Ltd.	N.A.
9.	National Handloom Development Corporation Ltd.	78
10.	NTC (Uttar Pradesh) Ltd.	-4633
11.	Scooters India Ltd.	139
12.	Triveni Structural Ltd.	N.A.
Total		-4897

N.A.—Not available.

*[English]*

#### **Representation from North Goa Konkan Railway Action Committee**

3049. SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have received a representation/memorandum from the North Goa Konkani Railway Action Committee demanding improved and better railway facilities in North Goa;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Railways thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Facilities at Railway Stations in Virudhu Nagar**

3050. SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPIPARAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the category of railway stations in Virudhu Nagar District in Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether these stations have all the facilities as per their categories;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Railways to provide all the necessary facilities at these stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) The category of railway stations in Virudhu Nagar District in Tamil Nadu are as under:

Name of the station	Category
Virudhu Nagar	B
Sattur	D
Sivakasi	E
Rajapalayam	E
Srivilliputtur	E
Aruppukottai	E
Tiruttanagall	E

(b) and (c) All the above stations have been provided with Passenger amenities as per norms according to their category.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

#### **Transfer of Railway Land**

3051. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have received any proposal from East Coast Railway Zone, Bhubaneswar regarding allotment/transfer of railway land located in central place to Rayagada Municipality for construction of a bus stand;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Railways thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Sanction of the Ministry of Railways has been conveyed to the Railway on 10.03.2006 for exchange of 2.38 acre of land on land-to-land equitable value basis and long term leasing of Railway land measuring 0.56 acre at Rayagada in favour of Rayagada Municipality for construction of civil bus stand.

#### **Non-Economical Air Routes**

3052. SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to provide subsidy to the Air operators for operating flights on non-economical routes; and

(b) if so, the details along with terms and conditions thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) The matter is under consideration of the Government.

#### **Corporate Participation in Conservation of National Monuments**

3053. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Archaeological Survey of India has decided to allow corporate participation in its conservation efforts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any Action Plan has been prepared in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The National Culture Fund, Set up by the Ministry of Culture by notification dated November 28, 1996 provides

opportunity for individuals, NGO's and Corporate Houses to participate in the repair, upkeep and maintenance of national monuments.

The National Culture fund accepts institutions and individuals as partners of the Government in the management of the culture scenario. It is an important initiative for forging public private partnership and mobilizing extra budgetary resources for the conservation of monuments.

Details of conservation/development works identified under the auspices of the National Culture Fund are given in the enclosed Statement.

### **Statement**

*Details of Memorandum of Understanding concluded between the Archaeological Survey of India, the National Culture Fund and the Participants*

Sl.No.	Particulars of participants	Monuments
1.	Pune Municipal Corporation, Pune	Shaniwarwada, Pune (Maharashtra)
2.	Indian Oil Corporation (IOF)	Qutab Minar, New Delhi Hampi (Karnataka) Sun Temple, Konark (Orissa) Kanheri Caves (Maharashtra) Khajuraho Group of Monuments (MP) Warangal Fort, Warangal (Andhra Pradesh)
3.	Apeejay Surendra Hotels	Jantar Mantar, Delhi
4.	Aga Khan Foundation and Oberoi Group of Hotels	Humayun's Tomb, Delhi.
5.	Indian Hotels Company Ltd. (Tata Group)	Taj Mahal, Agra.
6.	World Monument Fund	Jaisalmer Fort, Jaisalmer, Rajasthan
7.	Steel Authority of India	Sikandar Lodi Tomb, Sheesh Gumbad, Bara Gumbad, Athpulla and Mohammad Shah's Tomb, all located in Lodi Garden, Delhi.

### **Majuli River Island**

3054. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the expenditure incurred and the central aid given for the protection and conservation of Majuli river Island in Assam during each of the last three years;

(b) the allocation made therefor for the ensuing year;

(c) the number of Indian and foreign tourists visited the Island during each of the last three years and the quantum of foreign exchange earned therefrom during the said period;

(d) the extent of damage caused by way of erosion and floods during the last one year; and

(e) the steps taken for conservation and development of the island?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (e) Development of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/U.T. Administration. However, Department of Tourism, Government of India provides financial assistance for tourism related projects which are identified in consultation with the concerned State Governments. So far as, development of tourism at Majuli River Island is concerned, the Department of Tourism, Government of India sanctioned an amount of Rs. 382.25 lakhs on 28.3.2003 for development of Heritage and Eco-Tourism Resort at Majuli. An amount of Rs. 325.21 lakhs has been released by Department of Tourism, Government of India to the Assam Tourism Development Corporation for the purpose.

The number of Indian and foreign tourists who visited the Island during each of the last three years is indicated below:

Year	Indian	Foreign
2003	92593	60
2004	58176	105
2005	32325	406

#### **Setting up of Water Purification and Power Plants**

3055. SHRI RANEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have decided to set up water purification plant and an independent power plant;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated expenditure expected to be incurred on these projects; and

(d) the time by which these are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) to (d) It has been decided that Indian Railway Catering and

Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) will set up plants for manufacturing Rail Neer in a phased manner. So far, IRCTC has set up two plants, one at Nangloi (Delhi) and the other at Danapur (Bihar).

At present, there is no proposal for setting up of Independent Power Plant. However, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been signed with National Thermal Power Corporation Limited (NTPC) for exploring the possibilities for setting up of Joint Venture Power Plant.

#### **Construction of a Flyover at Loharu**

3056. SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have any proposal to construct a fly-over at Loharu on Loharu-Pilani Road, Haryana;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Additional Funds to South Western Railway**

3057. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the South Western Railway has approached the Railway Board for grant of additional funds to the tune of Rs. 50 crores during the current year for various passenger amenities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Railways thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

*[Translation]*

**Inclusion of Maharashtra Tourist Centres  
in Central List**

3058. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any request from the Government of Maharashtra to include Ramdegi-Chaprala, Markanda and Gondoda in the list of Central Tourism Centres;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (c) Development and promotion of tourism in the country is a continuous process. However, identification of places of tourist interest/spots is primarily the responsibility of the State Government concerned. The Ministry of Tourism provides funds on the basis of project proposals prioritised for grant of Central financial assistance every year under the following schemes after detailed consultation with the State Governments/UT Administrations:

- (i) Tourist Circuits
- (ii) Product Infrastructure & Destination Development
- (iii) Large Revenue Generating projects.

No project proposal for development of Ramdegi, Chaprala, Markanda and Gondoda under the scheme of Tourist Circuit was either prioritised for grant of Central financial assistance during the year 2005-06 or 2006-07. During 2005-06, Ministry of Tourism sanctioned Rs. 2075.04 lakh for integrated development of tourism in the State of Maharashtra.

*[English]*

**Introduction of Foolproof Lighting System in  
Railway Coaches**

3059. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways propose to introduce modern foolproof lighting system in all rail coaches;

(b) if so, the details and the salient features thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In order to improve the overall illumination level in passenger coaches, Railways have provided fluorescent tube light fittings in place of incandescent lamps in all Broad Gauge (BG) and Electric Multiple Unit/Mainline Electric Multiple Unit (EMU/MEMU) coaches.

(c) Does not arise, as it has already been introduced.

**MoU with Korea Coast Guard on Maritime  
Cooperation**

3060. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Director General of the Indian Coast Guard has signed MoU with Korea Coast Guard Commissioner-General on Maritime cooperation; and

(b) if so, the details and significance of the agreement?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Memorandum of Understanding is aimed at bilateral maritime cooperation between the Indian Coast Guard and Korea Coast Guard in the field of search and rescue, pollution response and to deal with the issues of maritime crimes.

*[Translation]*

**Protection to Monuments**

3061. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any provision in the relevant Act to punish the persons who are found guilty of damaging the protected monuments;

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

(c) if not, the steps being taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Under Section 30 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958, whoever destroys, removes, injures, alters, defaces, imperils or misuses a protected monument shall be punishable with imprisonment which may extend to three months, or with fine which may extend to five thousand rupees, or with both.

[*English*]

#### **Runway of Madurai Airport**

3062. SHRI A.K. MOORTHY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is proposed to increase the length of runway of Madurai Airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Work for extension and strengthening of the existing runway from 6115 feet to 7500 feet at Madurai airport has already been taken up in January, 2005 at the cost of Rs. 35.25 crores to make it suitable for operation of AB-320 type of aircraft. The probable date of completion of the work is July, 2006.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

#### **Construction of New ROB's between Bagha and Betiya**

3063. SHRI KAILASH BAITHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways propose to construct a new Road over Bridge between Narkatiyaganj Railway Station and Market in place of the old bridge;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is also any proposal to construct some more Road over Bridges on this section between Bagha and Betiya; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) to (d) Railways construct Road over/Under bridges in lieu of existing level crossings on cost sharing basis if the traffic density is one lakh TVUs or more (TVU-A unit obtained by multiplying the number of trains with the number of road vehicles passing over the level crossing in 24 hours) otherwise on deposit terms. Proposals in both cases have to be sponsored by the State Government duly fulfilling certain preliminary pre-requisites required under extant rules. Level Crossing (LC) No. 2 in Narkatiyaganj Yard, LC No. 50 in Bagha Yard & LC No. 31 between Narkatiyaganj-Harinagar are having traffic density of 130807, 110075 & 54006 TVUs respectively. First two i.e. LC No. 22 & 50 are qualifying for replacement by Road over/under bridges on cost sharing basis but the third one (LC No. 31) does not qualify for the same. However, State Government have not yet sponsored firm proposals for their replacement in spite of Railways' repeated requests.

#### **Excavation in Uttaranchal**

3064. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether permission has been accorded to excavation works at some places in Uttaranchal by the Archaeological Survey of India;

(b) if so, the purpose behind such excavation works related to ancient heritages;

(c) whether some important articles have been lost during excavations in ancient temples at Chandpur Garhi in Chamoli District; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

However, the Dehradun Circle of the Archaeological Survey of India has carried out scientific clearances at

Chandpur Fort, District Chamoli, and Lakhamandal, District Dehradun, both centrally protected monuments in Uttaranchal. These were undertaken as a part of conservation and for exposing the plan and other details of the ancient monuments.

(c) and (d) No artifact was lost during the scientific clearances. However, a losse wooden image worshiped by locals as goddess *Kali*, stylistically datable to around late medieval period (circa 18th-19th century AD), was noticed missing from a chamber located in the premises of Chandpur Fort, Chamoli, Uttaranchal. The Archaeological Survey of India has inspected the site and brought the theft into the notice of police for investigation.

[English]

#### **Introduction of Double-Decker AC Trains**

3065. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways propose to introduce new Double-Decker AC trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the sections which have been identified for the purpose; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) to (c) Introduction of passenger carrying trains is a continuous and ongoing process over Indian Railways depending upon demand, availability of resources, operational feasibility, requisite infrastructure, new technology, etc. However, in case of new type of stock the process take much longer time, hence details and timeframe can not be furnished at the initial stage.

#### **Invitation to Media Representatives of Foreign Countries**

3066. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Tourism invite media representatives from abroad under its hospitality programme to visit various places of tourist importance located in the country;

(b) if so, the number of media representatives invited during each of the last three years and the important places where they were taken for visit;

(c) the total expenditure by the Government thereon during the said period; and

(d) the extent upto which this has helped in promoting tourism in the country?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Number of media representatives invited and the approximate expenditure incurred on their visit, during the last three years is given below:

	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
Number of Media Representatives	166	211	302
Expd. Incurred	Rs. 130.96 lakh	Rs. 119.63 lakh	Rs. 188.14 lakh

These Media Representatives visited important tourist centres in the country including Delhi, Agra, Varanasi, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Uttaranchal, Goa, Kerala, the North Eastern region, Daman & Diu, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Leh, Dharamshala, Mumbai, Aurangabad-Ajanta-Ellora, Kamataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and various other tourist places throughout India.

(d) These Media persons write a number of articles in various newspapers, consumer and travel trade magazines and produce television documentaries after their visit to India, for the benefit of their readers/audience. This helps in promoting India as a preferred tourist destination in the overseas markets.

It is a cost effective scheme for promoting tourism to India.

#### **Issue of NOC's for Operation of Retail Outlets**

3067. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2156 dated March 9, 2006 regarding 'illegal cancellation of NOC' and state:



(a) whether the Government is aware that a number of complete cases for the want of permission from the Forest Department of Haryana are pending with the department for more than six months;

(b) if so, whether the Government would issue instructions to clear such complete cases without delay to avoid inconvenience;

(c) if so, the time by which the instructions are likely to be issued; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Rail-cum-Road Projects**

3068. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government has cleared the proposal of Ministry of Railways for funding a few rail-cum-road projects as National projects; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including total outlay, allocation of funds for the current financial year and completion target of each project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) and (b) The Government have directed that mega rail-cum-road bridge projects at Munger and Bogibeel be implemented through a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) for which funds be located in consultation with Planning Commission and Ministry of Finance. During 2006-07, an outlay of Rs. 230 crore has been provided for Bogibeel bridge and Rs. 120 crore for Munger bridge from normal Railway's plan. The target for completion of Munger bridge as well as for Bogibeel bridge is 2009-2010 which will depend upon timely availability of resources.

*[Translation]*

#### **Purchase of Aeroplanes by Foreign Companies**

3069. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some foreign companies have shown interest in purchase of aeroplanes and spare-parts manufactured under HCL technology aerospace project;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of foreign companies who have placed order and the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, which manufactures aeronautical products in India, has no such proposal.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

*[English]*

#### **Modernisation of Kolkata and Chennai Airports**

3070. SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU:  
SHRI JUAL ORAM:  
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:  
SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:  
SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT:  
SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY:  
SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to modernise Kolkata and Chennai Airports as reported in the 'Times of India', dated April 3, 2006;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated expenditure expected to be incurred on modernisation of these airports and how it is proposed to be mobilised; and

(d) the time by which the work is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) The Government wishes to develop and modernise Chennai and Kolkata airports.

(b) to (d) The major works in progress/proposed to be taken at the Kolkata airport are:

Construction of Integrated Cargo Complex, Reconstruction of International Departure Terminal Building, Construction of facilitation lobby, linking corridor for "Circular Railway" from Dum-Dum to Kolkata airport, Extension of Secondary Runway, Resurfacing of Secondary Runway, Construction of cargo apron towards northern side and proposal for domestic parking stand at an estimated cost of Rs. 352.10 crores. The above works are likely to be completed by the year 2007-2008.

The major works in progress/proposed to be taken at Chennai airport are:

Construction of Administrative Building, Construction of 5 nos. night parking bys, construction of 10 Remote Parking Bays for AB-321 aircraft, construction of Integrated Cargo complex and construction of Aero-link and provision of aerobridge and travelator for bay nos. 24, 25 & 29 at an estimated cost of Rs. 119.48 crores. The above works are likely to be completed by the year 2007-2008.

*[Translation]*

#### **Computerised Reservation Centres**

3071. SHRIMATI RANJEET RANJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways propose to set up Computerised Railway Reservation Centres at Murliganj, Bihariganj and Radhopur Railway Stations of East Central Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) and (b) Proposals to open Computerised Passenger Reservation Centres at Murliganj and Radhopur were received, but were not found justified. There is no proposal to open Computerised Passenger Reservation Centre at Bihariganj.

(c) Does not arise.

*[English]*

#### **Catering Monitoring Cell**

3072. SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI:  
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Catering Monitoring Cell is functioning in the Railway Board;

(b) if so, the actual staff strength of the Cell stating the number of Railway Board employees and deputationists separately;

(c) the details of monitoring work undertaken by the Cell during the last three years;

(d) whether the Railway Board employees have not been assigned any monitoring work;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the reaction of the Railways thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At present, three posts of Inspectors in Catering Monitoring Cell are filled as against the sanctioned strength of four. No Railway Board employee is working in the Cell.

(c) Monitoring of individual cases, is done at the level of Zonal Railways and Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation. Catering Monitoring Cell at Railway Board collects data from field units and the same are analysed and interpreted by them with a view to provide support service to the Catering and Tourism Directorate of Railway Board.

(d) to (f) Monitoring of Catering work and its quality is a specialized job; the staff in the cell are posted as per their specialization in this particular qualitative work including their ability and field experience so as to give maximum benefit to the travelling public.

#### **Aircraft and Passenger Traffic at Airports**

3073. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:  
SHRI DHANUSKODI R. ATHITHAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that as per the report of the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) there has been an increase in the growth of aircraft traffic and passenger traffic at Chennai, Madurai, Coimbatore and Tiruchi airports in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, whether the study report reveals that facilities at smaller airports should be enhanced;

(c) if so, whether the Government is considering to provide all types of facilities at smaller airports in the country particularly in Tamil Nadu to avoid rush and overcrowding at the big airports; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to improve the smaller airports in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Airports Authority of India (AAI) is aware of high growth in aircraft movement and passenger traffic at all airports including Chennai, Madurai, Coimbatore and Trichy airports in Tamil Nadu.

(b) to (d) AAI has taken up improvement/upgradation of infrastructure facilities at various airports including those in Tamil Nadu in a phased manner depending upon traffic requirements, availability of land etc. so as to meet the growing traffic demand. AAI has also decided for city side development/modernisation of 35 non-metro airports in the country in phases to world class standards. The airports at Madurai, Trichy and Coimbatore in Tamil Nadu are included in the list of selected airports.

#### **Helicopter Service in States**

3074. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has introduced Helicopter service in some States to promote tourism;

(b) if so, the States where such services have been introduced;

(c) whether the Union Government proposes to introduce similar services in other States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these are likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

#### **Ticket Cancellation Charges**

3075. SHRI RAKESH SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have revised the charges on ticket cancellation;

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

(c) the financial benefits likely to be accrued to the Railways there from Zone-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In order to recover the increased cost in cancellation of tickets, the minimum cancellation charges on reserved tickets have been increased by Rs. 10 on second class, Rs. 20 on sleeper and AC First class and Rs. 30 on other classes. Besides, the clerkage charge on cancellation on other tickets has been increased by Rs. 10 for all classes, except for second class unreserved tickets where no increase has been made.

(c) The Additional revenue of approximately Rs. 87 crores per year is expected from the increase in clerkage and cancellation charges for the entire Indian Railway. Zone-wise financial implications are not assessed.

[*English*]

#### **Modernisation of Non-Metro Airports**

3076. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:  
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:  
SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPAPARAI:  
SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI:  
SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:  
PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:  
SHRI DHANUSKODI R. ATHITHAN:  
SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT:  
SHR: ANANTA NAYAK:  
SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:  
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:  
SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV:  
SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA:  
SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE:  
SHRI A.K. MOORTHY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is planning to modernise 35 non-metro airports;

(b) if so, whether the Government has appointed the Global Technical Advisor (GTA) and Indian Financial Consultant (IFC) to prepare the Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the purpose;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the GTA and IFC have submitted its reports to the Government;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the follow-up action taken by the Government thereon;

(f) the estimated expenditure involved on development of these airports; and

(g) the time by which the works for development/modernisation of these airports are likely to be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (d) Government has decided to develop and modernize city side of 35 non-metro airports in the country in phases to world class standards. Airports Authority of India (AAI) had appointed Global Technical Advisor (GTA) and Indian Financial Consultant (IFC) to prepare detailed project report (DPR) for development works for first phase of 10 airports and second phase of 15 airports. The report for first phase of 10 airports has been submitted by the consultants. Appointment of GTA and IFC is likely to be made for third phase of 10 airports.

(e) Comments and observations of AAI on the report of consultants have been sent to them for including in final Report. Action has been initiated for taking up the Terminal Building and associated works including car park and air side development works based on the recommendations of the consultants. The land side development works would depend upon finalization of the financing plan by the Empowered Committee on Infrastructure, Planning Commission.

(f) The estimated expenditure for development of these airports is Rs. 4662 crores.

(g) The 35 non-metro airports are proposed to be developed and modernized by the year 2010 taking into account the recommendations of the GTA and IFC.

[Translation]

#### Review of Low Aviation Capacity

3077. SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV:  
SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made a review of the low aviation capacity and inadequate air traffic;

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

(c) the follow-up action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Increase in air traffic has created shortage of runway capacity and aircraft parking capacity at various airports, particularly at Delhi and Mumbai airports.

(c) Various measures taken by Airports Authority of India (AAI) to meet the growing air traffic *inter-alia* included construction of additional parking stands at metro and non-metro airports in a phased manner, improvement of runway capacity at Delhi and Mumbai airports, construction of new terminal buildings at Udaipur, Jaipur, Varanasi, Dibrugarh, Madurai, Trichy, Mangalore, Khajuraho, Aurangabad, Shillong, Ahmedabad, Trivandrum, Vishakhapatnam, Amritsar and Gaya airports and expansion of existing terminal buildings at Calicut, Ranchi, Goa, Bhopal, Nagpur, Pune, Jammu and Srinagar, etc.

#### Entry of Male Passengers in Women Coaches

3078. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are aware that a large number of male passengers board the coaches reserved for women in E.M.U. trains particularly in the National Capital Region and misbehave with women causing great inconvenience to them;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the number of male passengers arrested for boarding the coaches reserved for women during the last six months and the action taken against them; and

(d) the measures taken by the Railways to check this practice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Some sporadic incidents of male passengers travelling in ladies compartments in trains have come to notice.

During the period from 1st October 2005 to 31st March 2006, a total of 3521 male passengers were apprehended by Railway Protection Force (RPF) while travelling in ladies' compartments and prosecuted under the provisions of section 162 of the Railways Act, 1989 over Northern Railway. An amount of Rs. 9,39,430 has been realised from them as fine.

(d) The maintenance of law and order is a State subject and powers to register and investigate into Indian Penal Code (IPC) crimes are vested with State Police/ Government Railway Police (GRP). However, to provide better security to the travelling passengers in trains and passenger areas, Railways are supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in controlling crime on the Railways by deploying Railway Protection Force staff to escort trains.

Railway Protection Force staff, including the women Constables, assist the Government Railway Police (GRP) in escorting the ladies compartments in the affected sections, apart from manning the vulnerable stations. In addition, Special squads consisting of women Traveling Ticket Examiners (TTEs) (where available), women RPF staff (supported by male RPF and GRP where required) have been formed for better security of the lady passengers. These squads called Tejaswini, Surakshini, Durgawahini and Bhairavi in various Railways patrol and conduct intensive checks in affected sections (mostly suburban) during the vulnerable non-peak hours.

RPF conducts regular drives under the provisions of the Railways Act, 1989 against male persons travelling in compartments reserved for women in Electric Multiple Units (EMU) trains.

[English]

#### Permission to set up an Airline

3079. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN:  
SHRI P. RAJENDRAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal of the Government of Kerala to set up an airline to operate flights to Gulf Region is pending with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details alongwith the reasons for pendency;

(c) the time by which the decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. The present guidelines provide for minimum fleet size of 20 aircraft and experience of 5 years operations on domestic sectors before permitting Indian scheduled carriers to operate on international routes, to enable them to operate to Gulf region. However, in view of the fact that these provisions are considered essential for safe and reliable operations on international routes and presently the Government has reserved the Gulf routes for Air India and Indian Airlines.

#### Petrol/Diesel Retail Outlets

3080. ADV. SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of petrol/diesel retail outlets added by each public sector oil marketing company during 2005-06; and

(b) the capacity expansion in marketing in percentage terms *vis-a-vis* the capacity during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) During the year 2005-06, the public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs), viz., Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPC) and IBP Co. Limited (IBP), added 3,300 retail outlets (petrol/diesel pumps) to their network of such outlets. OMC-wise break-up of this addition is given as under:

IOC	—	1,547 nos.
HPC	—	647 nos.
BPC	—	906 nos.
IBP	—	200 nos.
Total	—	3,300 nos.

(b) Expansion in the respective retail outlet network of these OMCs, in terms of percentage of the network available in the beginning of the respective year, during each of the last three years, i.e., 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06, was, approximately, as under:

Expansion (in %-age) in retail outlet network during

OMC	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
IOC	14	12	15
HPC	13	21	10
BPC	14	16	14
IBP	33	18	06

[Translation]

#### Premature Retirement by Pilots

3081. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT:  
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:  
SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:  
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:  
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:  
SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI:  
SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI:  
SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH:  
SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:  
PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:  
SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pilots in the Indian Air Force took premature retirement/resigned during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government is aware that a large number of pilots in the Indian Air Force are looking for suitable opportunities to resign from the services to join private airlines as reported in the *Navbharat Times* dated April 12, 2006;

(c) if so, the facts thereof;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to prevent the exodus of pilots;

(e) whether the Government has identified the root causes of the matter; and

(f) if so, the action taken by the Government to overcome the situation?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The number of pilots who took premature retirement/resigned in the last three years is as follows:

Reason	2003	2004	2005
Premature Retirement	72	116	58
Resignation	Nil	Nil	Nil

(b) to (f) The requests for acceptance of premature retirement/resignation from the pilots are considered as per Government instructions. The majority of pilots released from service have already completed their useful tenure as pilots. These exits do not affect the operational status of the squadrons. The improvement in the job profile of the IAF pilots is a continuous phenomenon and is undertaken regularly.

[English]

#### Devanahalli Airport

3082. SHRI M. SHIVANNA:  
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the progress of work done so far at the Devanahalli Airport;

(b) whether the cost of Devanahalli Airport has increased;

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

(d) the manner by which the increased amount is likely to be met; and

(e) the steps taken to complete the construction work by the fixed time schedule?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) The work at proposed Devanahalli (Bangalore) Airport is progressing well and is on schedule based on original plan.

The concreting of the Terminal Building columns, raft slab, mezzanine floor slab, the foundation work of Fire fighting building and the retaining wall in the basement is in progress. Installation of pre-cast roof mould elements for the Terminal Building has commenced. At ATC technical block, the major concreting works are completed.

Earthworks for the runway, taxiway and apron are in progress. Granular Sub Base (GSB) laying works in the runway and taxiways is also continuing. Installation of drainage pipes in the apron area has started.

Earthworks for the main and secondary access roads is also in progress.

(b) and (c) Based on the fresh traffic survey conducted in the year 2005, a redesigned Initial Development Plan (IDP) has been formulated due to which the total estimated cost has increased by Rs. 450 crores.

(d) The increased cost of the project is proposed to be funded by way of loan from ICICI Bank.

(e) Following steps are taken to complete the construction work by the fixed time schedule;

1. The work is planned to be done in additional shifts to maximize time utilization.
2. Mobilisation of additional resources including manpower, machinery and equipment to effectively match the requirements.
3. Periodic stringent monitoring is being conducted to ensure that the project is on schedule and gets completed on time.

#### **Merger of Air India and Indian Airlines**

3083. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:  
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:  
SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:  
SHRI RAMJILAL SUMAN:  
SHRI K.S. RAO:  
DR. CHINTA MOHAN:  
SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:  
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to merge Air India and Indian Airlines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has assessed the assets and liabilities of both these airlines;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (e) The proposal for merger of two airlines is under active consideration of the Government.

#### **Adulteration in Petroleum Products**

3084. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:  
SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:  
SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:  
SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR:  
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:  
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:  
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:  
SHRI P. RAJENDRAN:  
SHRI JAI PRAKASH (MOHANLAL GANJ):

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the public sector oil companies have failed to check adulteration in petroleum products;

(b) if so, whether the Government has held a meeting with the public sector oil companies in the matter recently; and

(c) if so, the directions given by the Government to these oil companies in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) The possibility of adulteration of petrol/diesel by some unscrupulous elements cannot be ruled out due to huge price difference between petrol/diesel and various adulterants available in the market and the easy miscibility of these products with petrol/diesel.

(b) and (c) Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas held a meeting with the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) on 19.03.2006 at Mumbai and reviewed the existing practices being followed by the OMCs to combat adulteration with the objective of drawing a blue-print for preventing this menace. This meeting was followed by another meeting taken by the Secretary (P&NG) on 12.04.2006. During these meetings, the OMCs were *inter alia* asked to take the following steps:

- (i) OMCs to have third party certification of all the retail outlets selling more than 100 KL per month.
- (ii) OMCs to monitor the movement of all Tank Trucks *viz.* Company owned/Dealer owned/ Contractor tank trucks through Global Positioning System (GPS) based vehicle tracking system.
- (iii) OMCs to introduce making of potential adulterants at refineries/manufacturing units and import locations all over the country.
- (iv) OMCs to identify and suggest the names of reputed agencies/NGOs who could be entrusted with the drawal/testing of MS/HSD samples from retail outlets.
- (v) OMCs to undertake automation of all their retail outlets selling more than 200 KL per month.

#### **Poor Sanitation in Rural Railway Stations**

3085. SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are aware that the sanitation system at railway stations in semi-urban and rural areas of Maharashtra is improper and inadequate; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to improve the sanitation system at the railway stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) and (b) cleanliness is a continuous process and all endeavours are made by the Railways to maintain the standard of cleanliness at stations. Regular checks regarding cleanliness are conducted by the officers/supervisors and corrective action is taken as deemed fit.

#### **New Aviation Policy**

3086. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:  
SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY:  
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:  
SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI:  
SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP:  
DR. K.S. MANOJ:  
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:  
SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "New Aviation Policy ready for take off" appearing in the "HT Business" dated April 11, 2006;

(b) if so, whether the Government has received views/suggestions from the various Ministries on the New Civil Policy;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be finalised and announced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Interministerial consultation are presently under way on the revised draft Civil Aviation Policy.

#### **Railway Link from Amritsar to Anandpur Sahib**

3087. SHRI NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation has been received by the Railways regarding railway link between Amritsar and Shri Anandpur Sahib;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Railways thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Representations received by the Railways in this regard are given as under:



(i) Rail link between Amritsar and Shri Anandpur Sahib *via* Chamkaur Sahib and Ropar; and

(ii) Rail link between Amritsar-Jaigon-Shri Anandpur Sahib *via* Garh Shankar.

(c) For providing rail link between Amritsar-Anandpur Sahib *via* Garh Shankar, a survey for construction of rail line between Garh Shankar and Anandpur Sahib (45 kms.) has been sanctioned.

#### **VE-Tickets through RTSAs**

3088. SHRI PANNIAN RAVINDRAN:  
SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have decided to provide I-tickets and e-tickets through Rail Travel Service Agents (RTSAs);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Railways are aware that this step will lead to gradually handing over the ticketing services in the hands of private agencies thereby encouraging black marketing of tickets; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to prevent black marketing of on-line tickets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Rail Travellers Service Agents (RTSAs) have been authorised to book I-tickets and e-tickets through Indian Railway Catering & Tourism Corporation (IRCTC).

(c) This step is being taken to reduce the long queues at the reservation counters. As anyone including general public and travel agents can simultaneously access the reserved accommodation available at the counter, the probability of black marketing of ticket after provision of this facility are very bleak.

(d) Necessary safeguards have been taken to avoid misuse of this facility.

#### **Import of Oil**

3089. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA:  
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:  
SHRI HITEN BARMAN:  
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":  
SHRI K.S. RAO:  
DR. CHINTA MOHAN:  
SHRI UDAY SINGH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the oil import bill during 2005-06 and how does it compare with the last two years;

(b) whether the various efforts of the Government to put a check on oil import bill during the last few years could not bring desired results;

(c) if so, whether the Government has taken any steps to put a check on oil import bill during the current financial year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) A Statement giving comparative details of oil import bill for the year 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 is enclosed.

(b) to (d) In order to put a check on net oil import bill, efforts were made to maximize export of petroleum products. As per provisional figures, the net export of petroleum product during 2005-06 rose by 48% in terms of quantity and 200% in terms of value, as compared to the year 2003-04, resulting in corresponding reduction in the net oil import bill.

#### **Statement**

	2003-04		2004-05		2005-06 (Prov.)	
	Qty. in TMT	Value in Rs. Crore	Qty. in TMT	Value in Rs. Crore	Qty. in TMT	Value in Rs. Crore
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>Import</b>						
Crude Oil	90,434	83,528	95,861	117,003	99409	171702

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Petroleum Products	8,001	9,723	8828	14887	11677	25575
Total Import	98,535	93,251	104,689	131,891	111086	197278
<b>Export</b>						
Petroleum Products	14,620	16,781	18211	29928	21505	46785
Net Products Import/(Export)	(6,619)	(7,058)	(9,383)	(15,041)	(9828)	(21210)
%Growth			42	113	5	41

#### **Raids on Residences of Middlemen**

3090. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently raided the residences of middlemen involved in the various defence purchases; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the outcome of such raids?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) CBI has registered a case RC. 1 (A)/2005-AC 1 on 2.2.2005. CBI has also conducted searches at residence and office premises of Shri R.K. Jain of M/s Pashupati Haryana Woolen (Pvt.) Ltd. New Delhi. The details of the searches cannot be disclosed since the matter is still under investigation.

*[Translation]*

#### **Repairs/Re-construction of Historical Monuments**

3091. SHRI MOHD. TAHIR: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has taken any steps for repairing/construction of historical monuments in Gujarat which were damaged in riots as reported in 'Navbharat Times' dated March 7, 2006;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the details of the historical monuments taken up by ASI for repairing/reconstruction and the expenditure incurred so far thereon; and

(d) the time by which repairing/reconstruction work on these monuments is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) Yes, Sir. Effective steps have been taken for the repairs to the three protected monuments which were damaged in the communal riots of 2002.

(b) to (d) Following three monuments were affected during the riots of 2002—

1. Small stone Mosque at Ishanpur, Ahmedabad
2. Tomb of Saiyad Mubarak at Sojali, Ahmedabad
3. Muhafiz Khan Mosque at Ahmedabad.

Expenditure incurred:

1. Small stone mosque at Ishanpur Rs. 10,44,661	Work in progress and will be completed by March 2007
2. Tomb of Saiyad Mubarak at Sojali Rs. 1,92,000	Work completed
3. Muhafiz Khan Mosque Rs. 1,49,031	Work completed

*[English]*

#### **Vijaipur-Kota Pipeline Project**

3092. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the target set for completion of Vijaipur-Kota pipeline project alongwith present status thereof; and

(b) the steps taken by the GAIL (India) Ltd. to expedite the laying of pipeline?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) GAIL have reported that the target date set for completion of Vijaipur-Kota pipeline is 31.12.2006. As on 15.4.2006, the overall physical progress of the project was about 60%.

(b) the work of the pipeline is progressing as per schedule. GAIL management is maintaining an effective monitoring for the timely completion of the project by 31.12.2006.

*[Translation]*

#### **Foreign Investment by ONGC**

3093. SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:  
SHRI MITRASEN YADAV:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) has assessed the investment to be made in overseas projects;

(b) if so, the details of the total investment likely to be made alongwith the countries and areas identified thereof;

(c) whether ONGC is likely to invest as a partner in the foreign countries;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the number of oil reserves proposed to be purchased by ONGC during 2006-07 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) to (d) To enhance the energy security of the country, ONGC Videsh Limited (OVL), a wholly owned subsidiary of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) is pursuing acquisition of equity oil abroad by way of oil and gas exploration acreages and producing properties.

Depending upon the opportunity, OVL participates in overseas projects alone or in partnership with multinationals or national companies in the host countries.

OVL has already committed investments of approximately US\$ 5 billion in overseas projects. The details regarding OVL's investments in various overseas projects as well as its partners in these projects are given in the enclosed Statement.

(e) OVL is currently pursuing other opportunities to secure equity oil and gas/oil and gas assets abroad in identified countries, i.e. Nigeria, Russia, Iran, Venezuela, Brazil, Angola, Colombia, CIS countries as well as some other African and Latin American countries. OVL expects that while some of these opportunities could materialize in 2006-07, their number cannot be pre-determined.

#### **Statement**

##### *Overseas Ventures of ONGC Videsh Limited*

Name of the Project and country	Participating Interest with details of other partners	Existing Estimated Investment by OVL (US\$)
1	2	3
<b>Block 06.1</b> Vietnam	OVL-45% BP-35% (Operator) PV-20%	228 Million

1	2	3
<b>Sakhalin-1</b> Russia	OVL-20% Exxon-30% (Operator) Sodeco-30% SMNG-11.5% RN Astra-8.5%	2770 Million
<b>Greater Nile Oil Project</b> Sudan	OVL-25% CNPC-40% Petronas-30% Sudapet-5% (Joint-Operatorship)	669 Million
<b>Block-8</b> Iraq	OVL 100% (Operator)	15 million (Minimum expenditure obligation)
<b>Block A-1</b> Myanmar	OVL-20% Daewoo-60% (Operator) KOGAS-10% GAIL-10%	50.765 Million in exploration phase upto October, 2006.
<b>Farsi Offshore Block,</b> Iran	OVL-40% (Operator) IOC-40% OIL-20%	31.60 Million in exploration phase
<b>Block NC-188 &amp; NC-189</b> Libya	OVL-49% TPOC-51% (Operator)	30 Million in exploration phase
<b>Block#24</b> Syria	OVL-60% IPR International-40% (Operator)	10 Million in exploration phase
<b>Block 5A</b> Sudan	OVL-24.125% Petronas-68.875% (Operator) Sudapet-7%	Approx 269 Million.
<b>Block 5B</b> Sudan	OVL-23.5% Petronas-41% (Operator) Sudapet-11% Lundin-24.5%	Approx 26 Million.
<b>Pipeline Project,</b> Sudan	OVL-90% Oil India Ltd.-10%	Approx US\$ 111 Million (net of non-recourse financing of about US\$ 33 million by EPC contractor)
<b>Najwat Najem Oil</b> Structure, Offshore, Qatar	OVL-100% (Operator)	Approx 15.5 Million (Minimum Commitment)

1	2	3
<b>Block-6 North Ramadan, Egypt</b>	OVL-70% IPR-30% (OVL and IPR will jointly develop the block with IPR taking the lead during exploration phase.)	Approx 14 Million (Minimum Commitment)
<b>Block 81-1, Libya</b>	OVL-100%	Approx 18.5 Million
<b>Block-2, Nigeria Sao Tome Principe JDA</b>	OVL-9% EEL-6% Pioneer Energy-33% (Operator) EHRC Energy Inc.-32% A& Hatman-10% Foby Engineering-5% Momo Petroleum Ltd.-5%	Approx 8.91 Million
<b>Block A-3, Myanmar</b>	OVL-20% Daewoo-60% (Operator) KOGAS-10% GAIL-10%	Approx 10.123 Million
<b>Al Furat Producing Blocks, Spria</b>	<p>Bergomo Holding B.V. hold following interests in the PSCs through its subsidiaries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 33.33% interest in the Ash Sham PSC.</li> <li>• 37.50% interest in the Deir Ez Zor (old) PSC.</li> <li>• 37.50% interest in the Deir Ex Zor Annex-IV PSC</li> <li>• Interests in the deep and Lateral Rights appended to the above PSCs.</li> <li>• 36.00% interest in the Gas Utilization Agreement.</li> </ul> <p>The remaining interests in the PSCs are held by Shell.</p> <p>The Share capital of Bergomo Holding B.V. is held by CNPC and ONGC Nile Ganga B.V. (ONGBV) in the ratio of 50:50.</p> <p>ONG BV share has been funded by ONGC/OVL and Mittal Investment Sarl in the ratio of 77.95:22.05</p>	ONGC/OVL has invested approx Euro 181.483 million (about Rs. 979.97 Crore) to acquire the stake in the projects.

1	2	3
<b>Block BC-10, Brazil</b>	OVL 15% Shell 50% (Operator) Petrobras 35%	Approx US\$ 410 Million (Including acquisition cost of approx US\$ 170 Million)
<b>Block 127, Vietnam</b>	OVL-100%	Approx 42 Million
<b>Block 128, Vietnam</b>	OVL-100%	Approx 31 Million
<b>Blocks 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, and 36 (Including part of Block 35), Cuba</b>	OVL-30% Repsol-YPF-40% (Operator) Norsk-Hydro-30%	Approx 32 Million
<b>Block 34 &amp; 35, Cuba</b>	OVL-100%	Approx 12 Million

[English]

#### **Expansion of Hubli and Belgaum Airports**

3094. SHRI MANJUNATH KUNNUR:  
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to expand the Hubli and Belgaum Airports in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the work on these projects are likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Presently Airports Authority of India (AAI) is carrying out the strengthening of runways and associated pavements and upgradation of ground lighting facilities at Hubli and Belgaum airports to cater to the operation of ATR 72 type of aircraft. Besides this, AAI has no proposal at present for expansion of Hubli and Belgaum airports due to non-receipt of demand from airline operators to operate higher category of aircraft at these airports.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Private Sector Participation in Railways**

3095. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY:  
SHRI K.S. RAO:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the project requirement of resources by the Railways in improving its infrastructure network and services in the coming five years;

(b) the areas identified for private investment;

(c) whether the Railways propose to bring in the private sector to participate and invest for the development and expansion of its network and improve its services in the field of haulage of freight traffic and amenities for the passengers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) Integrated Railway Modernization Plan of Ministry of Railways had estimated that approximately Rs. 24,000 Crore will be required for period 2005-2010 for improving and modernizing the system.

(b) Some of the important areas identified for private investments are—development of integrated logistic parks, wagon investment scheme, development of rail side warehouse complexes, permitting private parties to run container trains, participation in infrastructure projects.

(c) and (d) For development, expansion and improvement in haulage of freight services, Ministry of Railways has formulated Wagon Investment Scheme for procurement of wagons, scheme for development of Railside Warehousing Complexes for development of freight terminals and policy for permitting private players

to move container trains. In order to improve passenger amenities, it has been decided to upgrade the retaining rooms and construct 'Pay & Use' toilets through Public-Private Partnership.

#### **Maintenance of New Delhi Railway Station**

3096. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (MOHANLAL GANJ): Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have constituted an Inquiry Committee to investigate the circumstances leading to tragic death of some railway passengers at New Delhi railway station on March 5, 2006;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has submitted its report to the Railways;

(c) if so, the findings thereof and the follow-up action taken thereon; and

(d) if not, the time by which the Committee is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As per findings of the inquiry Committee, this unfortunate incidence occurred when passengers tried to get entry into coaches while the rake was still in motion for berthing it on to the platform from where the train was to leave, and fell down. Instructions to keep platforms clear of obstructions during rush period and for better control of crowd have been given for strict compliance.

(d) Does not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### **Dwarika Nagri**

3097. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:  
SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Archaeological Survey of India has chalked out a plan to trace out Dwarka Nagri of Lord Krishna which was submerged in the sea;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the work on above plan is likely to be commenced; and

(d) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) No, Sir.

However, the Underwater Archaeology Wing of the Archaeological Survey of India carried out an exploration at Dwarka District Jamnagar, Gujarat in January-February 2006 to study the archaeology of the site. Exploration at Dwarka revealed coastal structures of historical period in inter-tidal zone.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

#### **Demand and Supply of AIDS and Appliances in DDRC**

3098. SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the demand and supply of aids and appliances to the handicapped persons in the District Disability Rehabilitation Centres in Jharkhand and other States during each of the last three years;

(b) the total number of handicapped persons benefited there from during the said period; and

(c) the measures taken to ensure supply of aids and appliances to the handicapped as per the demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) to (c) District Disability Rehabilitation Centres (DDRCs) of Jharkhand and other States have been provided aids and appliances by the National Institutes and Artificial Limb Manufacturing Corporation (ALIMCO) as per their requirements. Twenty thousand nine hundred handicapped persons in Jharkhand and 5.10 lakh handicapped persons in other States have benefited so far.

*[English]*

#### **Development of Railway Stations**

3099. SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have decided to develop Kokrajhar Railway Station on the NF Railway as a Model Railway station;

(b) if so, the details of the works done so far in this regard;

(c) the time by which the work is likely to be completed;

(d) whether the Railways proposes to develop other railway stations located within the Bodoland Territory and in Lower Assam as Model Stations;

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

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following facilities have been planned at Kokrajhar Railway Station in connection with up-gradation as 'D' category Model Station (i) circulating Area, (ii) Waiting room with bathing facilities, (iii) Booking Office & (iv) Pay & use toilet.

(c) 31.3.2007.

(d) Yes, Sir. Gosaingaon Halt & Srirampur Assam stations which falls in 'E' category have been identified as Model Stations.

(e) Required works as per norms of Model Station have been taken up.

(f) Does not arise.

#### **Acquisition of Land for Banspani-Jakhpura Line**

3100. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have asked the Government of Orissa to acquire land for the on-going Banspani-Jakhpura line;

(b) if so, whether the State Government has acquired and provided land for the said line; and

(c) if not, the steps taken to expedite land acquisition process?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) to (c) Railways has already acquired 2182 acre of land out of 2190 acre required for Banspani-Daitari (Tomka) railway line project. Balance 8 acres of private land is under process of acquisition.

#### **Joint Naval Exercise with France**

3101. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Navy has conducted joint exercise with France in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the expenditure incurred on the said exercise; and

(d) the extent to which Indian Navy has been benefited by the joint exercises?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) A joint exercise 'Varuna 2006' was conducted between Indian Navy and French Navy off Goa from 27th March, 2006 to 7th April, 2006.

(c) As the exercise was conducted in Indian waters, no extra expenditure, other than the normal operating cost of Indian ships, was incurred during 'Varuna 2006'. The Indian Naval ships would have otherwise planned their own exercises, if 'Varuna 2006' had not been conducted.

(d) the Indian Navy has got exposure to current international developments in naval warfare tactics and the latest technology.

#### **Private Partnership in Luxury Tourist Trains**

3102. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have decided to invite private partnership in luxury tourist trains;



(b) if so, whether some private parties have shown interest in the matter;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any agreement has been signed in this regard;

(e) if so, the terms and conditions thereof; and

(f) the time by which the proposal is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) to (c) The Railways is always open to private partnership in running tourist trains. The Oberoi Group of Hotels has shown interest to run a luxury tourist train in the Rajasthan sector as a Joint Venture with the Railways.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

### **Construction of Juvenile Homes**

3103. SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received some proposals from the Madhya Pradesh and other State Governments for construction of juvenile/observation homes;

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

(c) the amount of Central share of assistance provided in lump-sum to construct such juvenile/observation homes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Proposals were received from the State Governments of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Haryana, Assam and Tamil Nadu during 2005-06. The details of the amount of Central Share of assistance provided under the scheme 'A Programme for Juvenile Justice' during 2005-06 are given in the enclosed Statement.

### ***Statement***

*Release of Central Share to the State Government under the scheme 'A' Programme for Juvenile Justice' during 2005-06 for construction/upgradation of Juvenile/Observation Homes*

Sl.No.	States	Purposes	Amount released as Central Share during 2005-06 (in Rs.)
1.	Madhya Pradesh	Construction of Juvenile- homes at Betul, Khandwa and Chhatarpur.	37,50,000
2.	Rajasthan	Construction of Juvenile home at Jodhpur, Observation home at Kota and Construction of additional rooms at Kishore Grah, Udaipur.	25,69,250
3.	Haryana	Construction of Observation homes each at Faridabad and Karnal	27,13,681
4.	Assam	Construction of Observation home at Silchar.	4,99,000
5.	Tamil Nadu	Construction of Observation home at Trichy, Construction of Dormitories at Children home, Tattaparai & Panchapalli and Construction of Kitchen & Dining hall at Observation home, Chennai.	18,22,000
Total			1,13,53,931

*[English]***Bidding of Oil and Gas blocks under NELP-VI**

3104. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had offered oil and gas blocks under NELP-VI round of bidding;

(b) if so, the details alongwith the total estimates of oil and gas reserves; and

(c) the time by which these blocks are expected to start production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government of India, on 23rd February, 2006, has offered 55 blocks comprising of 24 deep water, 6 shallow water and 25 onshore blocks under the sixth round of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP-VI). The bid closing date for these blocks is 15th September, 2006. These are exploration blocks where exploration of oil and gas is proposed to be carried out. The exploration period for any of these blocks is 7-8 years. The estimated gas reserve and likely production will depend on the size of the discovery, if any, after exploration. Hence, no estimate of reserves and production can be made at this stage.

**Doubling of Railway Line from Dwarka to Rajkot**

3105. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are planning for doubling of railway line from Dwarka to Rajkot *via* Jamnagar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**Crude Oil Prices in International Market**

3106. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH:  
SHRI ARJUN SETHI:  
SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the international oil prices reached a new high of US Dollar 70.88 a barrel on April 18, 2006;

(b) if so, the likely effects on import of crude oil in the country; and

(c) the steps likely to be taken by the Government to cope with the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) The prices of WTI (West Texas Intermediate, the bench mark crude oil in the USA) was US\$ 71.35/bbl and price of Brent (dated) (bench mark crude oil in Europe) was US\$ 72.51/bbl on the close of 18th April, 2006.

(b) The fluctuation in international oil prices has a cascading effect on the overall economy affecting primary sectors such as transport, power, fertilizers, etc. besides generating inflationary pressures and slowing down the growth rate of the economy.

(c) Notwithstanding the steep rise in international prices of sensitive petroleum products, Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs), have been modulating the price increase in petrol and diesel also besides maintaining the prices of subsidized products like PDS kerosene and domestic LPG in consultation with the Government. In June 2004, the Government elucidated the principles which would govern its policy of containing the burden of increase in international prices on consumers of these products. It was decided that the burden should be equitably shared by consumers, the Government and the oil companies. Accordingly from 2003-04 onwards Government introduced subsidy sharing mechanism in which, after taking into account the subsidy provided from the fiscal budget, the balance is shared by the upstream and downstream companies equitably. The Government also issued oil bonds for Rs. 11,500 crores to the OMCs to partially compensate them for the under-recoveries suffered on sale of domestic LPG and PDS kerosene. The Government is constantly monitoring the price situation.

*[Translation]***Air Travel by Haj Pilgrims**

3107. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of aircraft used by Air India/Indian Airlines for to and fro journey for Haj pilgrims to Saudi Arabia during 2005-06;

(b) the amount of fare charged per passenger;

(c) the number of Haj pilgrims who travelled to Saudi Arabia on subsidised fares;

(d) the number of office bearers/members of the Haj Committee who visited the Saudi Arabia during the said period alongwith details thereof; and

(e) the names of foreign airlines which also deployed aircraft for Haj pilgrims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Air India leased two B747-300 aircraft and deployed its own A310, B747-300 and B747-400 aircraft for Haj 2006 operation. Indian Airlines also deployed its A300 and A320 aircraft for this purpose.

(b) The subsidised fare of Rs. 12,000 were charged from each pilgrim.

(c) 99,565 (excluding 111 children and 336 infants) pilgrims travelled to Saudi Arabia on subsidised fares.

(d) The Chairman, Vice-Chairperson and one member of the Haj Committee of India visited Saudi Arabia during Haj 2006. Besides, a few officials of Haj Committee of India were also deployed for Haj Duty to Saudi Arabia.

(e) Only one foreign airline namely Saudi Arabian Airline deployed its aircraft for Haj pilgrims.

#### **Thermal Censor in Trains**

3108. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are contemplating to instal thermal censor in trains to check the increasing number of railway accidents in the country as reported in 'Nav Bharat Times' dated March 6, 2006;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the technology mission has been prepared in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether this technique has been tested successfully;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the time by which this technique is likely to be installed in trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) to (d) A project is presently being undertaken for providing "on board diagnostics" on locomotives. This system will have sensors in various locations to measure different performance parameters and make them available to the concerned railway staff. Sensors are being planned for detecting the condition of locomotive axle bearings also. Similar detection of bearing condition of coaches and wagons is proposed to be done through "hot box" detection equipment, which can be provided at suitable intervals along the track. For this also a project for development of "hot box" detection equipment is being undertaken. Both these projects are a part of Technology Mission on Railway Safety, which is being undertaken jointly by the Ministry of Railways and Ministry of Human Resources Development (HRD) and the projects are being executed by Indian Railways R&D Organisation namely Research, Design and Standards Organisation, Lucknow together with Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur.

(e) and (f) These are yet to be developed indigenously, after which they will be tested.

(g) Timeframe of using these technologies can be decided only after the developmental efforts are concluded.

*[English]*

#### **Additional Demand of Natural Gas**

3109. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments particularly Karnataka have demanded additional Natural Gas supply;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. From time to time, various State Governments make request for gas supply. As regards Karnataka, GAIL has reported to have received demand of about 10 million standard cubic metre per day (MMSCMD) gas, of which 9 MMSCMD is for Bidadi Power Plant of Karnataka Power Corporation Limited and 1 MMSCMD is for Bangalore Municipal Road Transport Corporation.

(c) At present, the availability of natural gas is far below the demand. However, steps are being taken to increase the availability of natural gas in the country which include efforts for increasing domestic gas production under New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) and import of natural gas as LNG or through transnational pipelines.

*[Translation]*

#### **Assessment of NSFDC**

3110 SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has assessed the performance of National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC);

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

(c) the measures taken by the Government for improvement in its performance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) to (c) Recently, while finalizing the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) 2006-07 between the Ministry and NSFDC, the performance of the Corporation has been reviewed with assistance from an independent expert body, namely the Task Force appointed by the Department of Public Enterprises. The Corporation has been advised:

- (i) to give more emphasis to micro financing & Mahila Samridhi Yojana, entrepreneurship development of the beneficiaries and computerization of SCAs and training of their staff.

- (ii) consider the feasibility of alternative sources for raising funds to increase the level of disbursement and number of beneficiaries, and
- (iii) to ensure improvement in the functioning of the State Channelling Agencies (SCAs) to make them more effective, particularly in regard to recovery from the beneficiaries.

#### **Corruption in Railways**

3111. SHRI TUKARAM GANPATRAO RENGE  
PATIL:  
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have suffered loss of crores of rupees due to corruption prevailing in its various departments;

(b) if so, the number of corruption cases reported in the Railways during 2005-06;

(c) the action taken against officials/persons found guilty; and

(d) the steps taken to check corruption in Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) It is not possible to quantify the losses incurred due to corruption in the Railways.

(b) As a result of Preventive checks conducted and complaints investigated 10,223 cases were handled by the Railways during the year 2005-06.

(c) 6741 officials (Gazetted & Non-gazetted) were punished during 2005-06.

(d) A Statement is enclosed.

#### ***Statement***

#### ***Steps Taken by Vigilance to check corruption in the Railways***

The following steps have been taken by the Vigilance to check corruption on the Railways:

- Bridge the gap between demand and supply by augmentation of the capacity of trains.

- Intensify checks at reservation offices, booking counters, parcel and goods booking offices and other such offices, which deal with the public not only by Vigilance Organization but also by the senior officers of the concerned departments.
- Keeping a watch on the working of officials of doubtful integrity.
- System improvements and procedure amendments to improve transparency and reducing possibility of corruption/leakage of revenue.
- Investigation of complaints alleging corruption/leakage of revenue.
- Stringent exemplary action against those found guilty of corruption.
- Educating and training of senior officers in the matter of tenders and contracts.
- Empowerment of Railway Protection Force for taking action against the touts and unauthorized travel agents who try to corner accommodation in trains. This being a legal matter may take some time and till then, a greater liaison with the Civil Police administration.
- Implement rotational transfers of officials posted on sensitive seats to prevent the staff from developing unholy nexus.
- Delegate more powers to field organizations to enable speedy decisions as delay breeds corruption.
- Man the Railway Recruitment Boards by officials of proven integrity.
- Seeking assistance of the public not to succumb to their desire of achieving favours by greasing palms of corrupt staff and instead bringing such matters to the notice of Vigilance Organization.

#### **Embezzlement of Funds in ITDC**

3112. SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO:  
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that several officers of ITDC have embezzled funds to the tune of lakhs of rupees during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) During the last two years (since 1.4.2004), one case of embezzlement to the tune of Rs. 8.75 lakh by an Ex-Manager (Telephones), Ashok Hotel has come to the notice of the ITDC management. It pertained to payment of telephone bills of Ashok Hotel.

(c) The money alongwith interest thereon has been recovered.

*[English]*

#### **Financial Assistance for Development of Tourist Spots in Orissa**

3113. SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN:  
SHRI ARJUN SETHI:  
SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any increase in the arrival of foreign/domestic tourists in Orissa during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the financial assistance provided by the Union Government for development of tourist spots in Orissa during each of the last three years; and

(d) the funds earmarked for 2006-07 for development of tourism in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details of domestic and foreign tourist visits to the State of Orissa during 2003, 2004 and 2005, as reported by the State Government of Orissa, are as follows:

Year	Tourist Visits to Orissa	
	Domestic	Foreign
2003	3701245 (+12.5%)	25020 (+7.5%)
2004	4125536 (+11.5%)	28817 (+15.2%)
2005	4632976 (+12.3%)	33310 (+15.6%)

Note: Figures in bracket indicate % increase over previous year.

(c) During the last three financial years, Ministry of Tourism provided the following financial assistance to the State of Orissa under its various schemes:

Year	Amount sanctioned (Rupees in lakhs)
2003-04	419.55
2004-05	1339.18
2005-06	2309.61

(d) Funds are allocated to the State Governments every year based on project proposals received from the State Governments, which are appraised for financial assistance keeping in view *inter-se* priority and availability of funds, and no State-wise earmarking of funds is done. For the year 2006-07, a total of 10 projects under the schemes of destination & circuit development, events & fairs and rural tourism have been prioritised for the State of Orissa for Central financial assistance.

[Translation]

#### Bomb Disposal Training Centres

3114. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the name of the places where Bomb Disposal Training Centres are situated for soldiers in the country;

(b) whether the Government is aware that the remains of the exploded bombs are pilfered from the aforesaid centres;

(c) if so, whether the Government has lost crores of rupees due to pilferage from these centres during 2005-2006;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check pilferage from these centres?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Elementary training on bomb disposal and on countering improvised explosive devices is conducted at the Engineer Training Centres located at Bangalore, Roorkee and Kirkee (Pune). Specialised training on bomb disposal and on neutralizing unexploded bombs is conducted at College of Military Engineering, Pune.

(b) to (e) This training is being conducted on cut-models and dummies only. No unexploded bombs are transported to or stored in these training establishments. Hence, the question of pilferage does not arise.

#### Cancellation of Examination for Group 'D' Posts

3115. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU:  
SHRI ARJUN SETHI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the examination conducted by the Railways in February, 2006 for recruitment of Group 'D' posts has been cancelled due to leakage of test paper;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the matter in regard to leakage of test paper has been investigated; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken/proposed to be taken against the officials/persons found involved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The written examination for recruitment to Group 'D' posts on Northern Railway was to be held in three stages on 12.02.2006, 26.02.2006 and 05.03.2006. Examination supposed to be held on 12.02.2006 was held as per schedule. However, the examination held on 26.02.2006 had to be cancelled due to reported leakage of the question paper. Also the third phase of the examination scheduled on 05.03.2006 had to be postponed.

(c) and (d) Investigations regarding leakage of question paper are being conducted by Lucknow Police on an FIR (first information report) lodged by Special Task Force (STF), Lucknow who reported the leakage and action will be taken on receipt of their report.

*[English]*

#### **Scheme of Hostel for SCs and OBCs**

3116. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of hostels available for SCs and OBCs in the country, State/Union Territory-wise;

(b) the details of proposals received and funds requested under the Scheme of Hostels for SCs and OBCs by different States/UTs and funds released to them during the current year, State/UT-wise; and

(c) the time by which pending proposals in this regard is likely to be cleared and funds to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment does not maintain countrywide data pertaining to availability of hostels for SCs and OBCs.

(b) and (c) No proposal has been received under the scheme of Hostels for SC Girls and Boys from the State Governments/UTs during the year 2006-07. As to hostels for OBCs, one proposal for construction of twenty hostels for OBC students has been received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh under the scheme of Hostels for OBCs Boys and Girls during 2006-07. Government of M.P. has been requested to furnish the requisite inputs.

#### **New Coaches in Nizamuddin-Trivandrum Rajdhani Express**

3117. SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways propose to attach new coaches in Nizamuddin-Trivandrum Rajdhani Express on the pattern of Delhi-Mumbai Rajdhani Express;

(b) if so, the time by which these are likely to be attached; and

(c) the number of coaches attached to Nizamuddin-Trivandrum Rajdhani Express?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **ONGC's Joint Venture Projects**

3118. SHRI B. MAHTAB: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. has entered into several Joint Ventures in the country and abroad for expanding its operations in exploration, pipelines, refinery projects and oil retailing.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the percentage of equity of ONGC in these Joint Venture Projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) to (c) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) has entered into Joint Ventures (JVs) with other partners in India and abroad to promote its activities in the areas of oil and gas exploration and development, pipeline transportation, refining, etc. The details in this regard, including the percentage of ONGC's share in these JVs are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

Apart from the above, ONGC Videsh Limited (OVL), the wholly owned subsidiary of ONGC, engaged in oil and gas exploration and production activities abroad, has entered into JVs for E&P projects. The details are given enclosed in the Statement-II.

OVL has also entered into a Joint Venture agreement with M/s Mittal Investments Sarl for cooperation in the hydrocarbons business. In the Joint Venture, OVL, Mittal Investments Sarl and Financial Institutions have Participating Interests of 49.98%, 48.02% and 2%, respectively.

**Statement I****A. ONGC's Joint Ventures in refinery and pipeline projects**

Name of the Venture	Constituent parties and participating Interest	Area of activity
Kakinada Refinery	MRPL/ONGC-26% IL&FS and Kakinada Sea Ports Limited (KSPL)-71% APIIC-3%	Refining
Petronet Mangalore-Hassan Bangalore Pipeline (PMHBL)	ONGC-23% HPCL-26% PIL-26% United-25%	Transportation of petroproducts
OMESL (Incorporated in Cyprus)	ONGC-49.98% Mittal Sarl-48.02% SBI Caps-2%	Transportation of oil, gas, LNG, etc.

**B. JVs for operation of medium sized offshore oil/gas fields:**

Name of the field	Constituent parties and Participating Interests
Ravva (Oil)	ONGC-40% Videocon Petroleum Limited (VPL)-25.0% Ravva Oil (Singapore) Pte. Ltd. (ROPL)-12.5% Command Petroleum (I) Pty. Ltd. (CPIL)-22.5% (Caim Energy India Pty. Ltd)
Panna & Mukta (Oil)	ONGC-40% Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL)-30% Enron Oil & Gas India Ltd. (EOGIL)-30% (British Gas Exploration Production India Ltd.)
Mid & South Tapti (Gas)	ONGC-40% RIL-30% EOGIL-30%
PY-3 (Oil)	ONGC-40% Hindustan Oil Exploration Co. Ltd. (HOEL)-21% Tata Petrodyne Ltd. (TPL)-21% Hardy Exploration & Production (I) Inc. (HEL)-18%
CB/OS-2 (Oil/Gas) Lakshmi	ONGC-50% Caim Energy India Pvt. Ltd. (EIL)-40% TPL-10%
CB/OS-2 (Oil/Gas) Gauri	ONGC-50% CEIL-40% TPL-10%



*C. Joint Ventures formed for exploration of oil and gas under Pre-NELP and NELP*

Block Name	Present Consortium with Participating Interest
1	2
<b>Pre-NELP, Fourth (1991)</b>	
CY-OS-90/1	HEP-18% HOEC-21% TPL-21% ONGC-40%
RJ/ON-90/1	CEIL-50% Cairn Energy Hydrocarbons Ltd-50% <b>Mangala-NA Development Area:</b> CEIL: 35% Cairn Energy Hydrocarbons Ltd.-35% ONGC-3%
<b>Pre-NELP, Sixth (1993)</b>	
CB-OS/1	ONGC-32.89% HOEC, India-57.11% TPL-10%
CB-OS/2	CEIL and its affiliates-60% TPL-15% ONGC-25% (PI of CEIL and its Affiliate, TPL & ONGC in Lakshmi & Gauri Development areas are 40%, 10% and 50%, respectively)
CB-ON/7	HOEC-50% GSPC Ltd., 50% <i>In Pramoda Development</i> PI's of HOEC, GSPC and ONGC are 35%, 35% & 30% respectively.
<b>Pre-NELP, JVEP (1995)</b>	
GK-OSJ-3	RIL-60% ONGC-25% OIL-15%
AA-ONJ-2	Tullow India Operations Ltd. 60% ONGC-40%

1	2
<b>NELP-I, 1999</b>	
MB-OSN-97/4 (Shallow water block)	ONGC-70% IOC-30%
MN-OSN-97/3 (Shallow water block)	ONGC-85% GAIL-15%
GV-OMN-97/1 (Onland block)	ONGC-40% IOC-30% Cairn-30%
KG-DWN-98/4 (Deep Water Block)	ONGC-85% OIL-15%
KG-DWN-98/2 (Deep Water Block)	ONGC-90% Cairn-10%
<b>NELP-II (2000)</b>	
MB-OSN-2000/1 (Shallow water block)	ONGC-75% IOC-15% GSPC-10%
MN-OSN-2000/2 (Shallow water block)	ONGC-40% GAIL-20% IOC-20% OIL-20%
WB-OSN-2000/1 (Shallow water block)	ONGC-85% IOC-15%
MN-ONN-2000/1 (Onland Block)	OIL-40% ONGC-20% IOC-20% GAIL-20%
GS-DWN-2000/2 (Deep Water Block)	ONGC-85% GAIL-15%
MB-DWN-2000/1 (Deep water block)	ONGC-85% IOC-15%
MB-DWN-2000/2 (Deep Water Block)	ONGC-50% GAIL-15% IOC-15% OIL-10% GSPC-10%
<b>NELP-III (2002)</b>	
CY-DWN-2001/1 (Deep water block)	ONGC-80% OIL-20%
AA-ONN-2001/2 (Onland Block)	ONGC-80% IOC-20%
AA-ONN-2001/3 (Onland Block)	ONGC-85% OIL-15%
CB-ONN-2001/1 (Onland Block)	ONGC-70% Cairn-30%
RJ-ONN-2001/1 (Onland Block)	OIL-70% ONGC-30%

1	2
<b>NELP-IV (2003)</b>	
KK-DWN-2002/2 (Deep water block)	ONGC-80% HPCL-20%
KK-DWN-2002/3 (Deep water block)	ONGC-80% HPCL-20%
KG-DWN-2002/1 (Deep water block)	ONGC-70% OIL-20% BPCL-10%
MN-DWN-2002/1 (Deep water block)	ONGC-70% OIL-20% BPCL-10%
AA-ONN-2002/3 (Onland Block)	OIL-30% ONGC-70%
AA-ONN-2002/4 (Onland Block)	ONGC-90% OIL-10%
RJ-ONN-2002/1 (Onland Block)	OIL-60% ONGC-40%
CB-ONN-2002/1 (Onland Block)	ONGC-70% Cairn Energy-30%
CY-ONN-2002/2 (Onland Block)	ONGC-60% BPCL-40%
<b>NELP-V (2004)</b>	
GS-OSN-2003/1 5970 (Shallow water block)	ONGC-51% Cairn-49%
GV-ONN-2003-1 7210 (Onland Block)	ONGC-51% Cairn-49%
VN-ONN-2003/1 3585 (Onland Block)	ONGC-51% Cairn-49%
RJ-ONN-2003/1 1335 (Onland Block)	ONGC-36% ENI-34% Cairn Exp. (No. 2)-30%
KG-ONN-2003/1 1697 (Onland Block)	ONGC-51% Cairn-49%
An-DWN-2003/2 13110 (Deep Water Block)	ONGC-45% ENI-40% GAIL-15%

**Statement II***Details of Joint Ventures of OVL*

Name of the Project and country	Participating Interest with details of other partners
1	2
<b>Block 06.1</b> Vietnam	OVL-45% BP-35% (Operator) PV-20%
<b>Sakhalin-1</b> Russia	OVL-20% Exxon-30% (Operator) Sodeco-30% SMNG-11.5% RN Astra-8.5%
<b>Greater Nile Oil Project</b> Sudan	OVL-25% CNPC-40% Petronas-30% Sudapet-5% (Joint-Operatorship)
<b>Block A-1</b> Myanmar	OVL-20% Daewoo-60% (Operator)  KOGAS-10% GAIL-10%
<b>Farsi Offshore Block,</b> Iran	OVL-40% (Operator) IOC-40% OIL-20%
<b>Block NC-188 &amp; NC-189</b> Libya	OVL-49% TPOC-51% (Operator)
<b>Block#24</b> Syria	OVL-60% IPR International-40% (Operator)
<b>Block 5A</b> Sudan	OVL-24.125% Petronas-68.875% (Operator) Sudapet-7%
<b>Block 5B</b> Sudan	OVL-23.5% Petronas-41% (Operator) Sudapet-11% Lundin-24.5%

1	2
<b>Pipeline Project, Sudan</b>	OVL-90% Oil India Ltd.-10%
<b>Block-6 North Ramadan, Egypt</b>	OVL-70% IPR-30% (OVL and IPR will jointly develop the block with IPR taking the lead during exploration phase.)
<b>Block-2, Nigeria</b> <b>Sao Tome Principe</b> <b>JDA</b>	OVL-9% EEL-6% Pioneer Energy-33% (Operator) EHRC Energy Inc.-32% A& Hatman-10% Foby Engineering-5% Momo Petroleum Ltd.-5%
<b>Block A-3, Myanmar</b>	OVL-20% Daewoo-60% (Operator) KOGAS-10% GAIL-10%
<b>Al Furat Producing Blocks, Syria</b>	Bergomo Holding B.V. hold following interest in the PSCs through its subsidiaries: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 33.33% interest in the Ash Sham PSC</li> <li>• 37.50% interest in the Deir Ez Zor (old) PSC</li> <li>• 37.50% interest in the Deir Ex Zor Annex IV PSC</li> <li>• Interests in the deep and Lateral Rights appended to the above PSCs.</li> <li>• 36.00% interest in the Gas Utilization Agreement.</li> </ul> <p>The remaining interests in the PSCs are held by Shell.</p>

1	2
	The Share capital of Bergomo Holding B.V. is held by CNPC and ONGC Nile Ganga B.V. (ONG BV) in the ratio of 50:50.
	ONG BV share has been funded by ONGC/OVL and Mittal Investment Sarl in the ratio of 77.95:22.05
<b>Block BC-10, Brazil</b>	OVL 15% Shell 50% (Operator) Petrobras 35%
<b>Blocks 25, 26, 27, 28, 29 and 36 (including part of Block 35), Cuba</b>	OVL-30% Repsol-YPF-40% (Operator) Norsk-Hydro-30%

#### **Railway Projects in Andhra Pradesh**

3119. DR. M. JAGANNATH:

SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the new/on-going/pending rail lines, gauge conversion, doubling, electrification projects and surveys in Andhra Pradesh along with the progress made thereof, project-wise;

(b) the amount sanctioned and expenditure incurred on each of the project;

(c) the target fixed for completion of each of the project;

(d) whether some projects are lagging behind the schedule;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) the steps taken by the Government for timely completion of these projects;

(g) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested the Railways for extra financial package for timely completion of the projects; and

(h) if so, the reaction of the Railways thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) to (c) Pending projects are considered as those projects whose clearance has not been received. The requisite clearances for Kakinada-Pithapuram new BG line is awaited. The

details of various new/ongoing new lines, gauge conversions, doubling and electrifications projects presently in progress falling fully/partly in Andhra Pradesh and their targets wherever fixed are given below.

(Rupees in Crore)

Name of Project	Anticipated Cost	Expenditure incurred upto 31.3.2006	Outlay (2006-07)	Current Status
1	2	3	4	5
<b>New Lines</b>				
Gadwal-Raichur	108.91	22.37	20.00	50% land acquisition and about 25% of project work have been completed.
Kakinada-Pithapuram	66.14	0.02	0.01	Requisite clearances from Planning Commission is awaited.
Kothapalli-Narsapur	695.00	10.38	2.00	Land acquisition has been taken up.
Macherla-Nalgonda	243.17	1.27	2.00	Final Location Survey has been completed.
Manoharabad-Kothapalli	308	—	3.95	New work included in Budget 2006-07
Munirabad-Mahabubnagar	497.47	31.9	5.00	Land acquisition work of new line has been taken up.
Nandyal-Yerraguntla	173.32	25.37	10.00	Land in Cuddapah district has been acquired. Land acquisition has been taken up in Kurnool district. Earthwork and bridges have been taken up.
Obulavaripalle-Krishnapatnam	426.34	—	10.00	The project is being executed by Rail Vikas Nigam Limited and will be implemented through a Special Purpose Vehicle. Preliminary works like final location survey have been completed. Equity partnership and signing of shareholders' agreement is under finalisation.
Peddapally-Karimnagar-Nizamabad	517.63	139.46	40.00	Peddapally-Karimnagar completed. Karimnagar-Jagtiyal is targeted for completion during 2006-07.
<b>Gauge Conversion</b>				
Dharmavaram-Pakala	294.99	6.37	11.51	Detailed estimate sanctioned. Bridge works have been taken up on Pakala-Madanapalli section.

1	2	3	4	5
Guntur-Guntakal & Guntakal-Kalluru- new line from Pendakallu-Gooty.	503.97	472.94	18.00	Guntur-Guntakal and Pendakallu-Gooty new line completed. Work on Guntakal-Kalluru has been taken up.
Katpadi-Pakala-Tirupati	214.41	168.03	25.00	Completed and commissioned. Electrification work has been taken up.
Mudkhed-Adilabad	199.06	132.42	29.98	Adilabad-Kinwat completed and commissioned and balance section between Kinwat-Mudkhed is targeted for completion during 2006-07.
Naupada-Gunupur	91.3	33.47	34.00	Earthwork and bridge works have been taken up.
<b>Doubling</b>				
Gooty-Renigunta-Patch doubling	538.26	171.85	68.40	Land acquisition has been taken up. This work is being done by Rail Vikas Nigam Limited through Asian Development Bank funding for which tenders are under process.
Guntur-Krishna Canal	53.01	—	10.00	New work included in Budget 2006-07
Hospet-Guntakal	350.21	160.74	60.00	Guntakal-Tomagallu completed and commissioned while rest of the section is targeted for completion during 2006-07.
Raichur-Guntakal	145.81	19.00	57.00	Final location survey and detailed estimate sanctioned. This work is being done by Rail Vikas Nigam Limited through Asian Development Bank funding for which tenders are under process.
Vizianagram-Kottavalasa 3rd line	167.67	—	5.00	New work included in Budget 2006-07.
<b>Railway Electrification</b>				
Renigunta-Guntakal	182.55	75.78	7.00	Work on Renigunta-Nandalur and Balampalle-Pullampet completed. This work is being done by Rail Vikas Nigam Limited through Asian Development Bank funding.
Karepalli-Bhadrachalem Manuguru	40.62	—	11.61	New work included in Supplementary Budget 2005-06
Lingampalli-Wadi	94.93	—	5.00	New work included in Budget 2006-07.

The following surveys falling fully/partially in Andhra Pradesh have been taken up:

Name of Survey	Anticipated Cost (Rupees in lakh)	Target wherever fixed
<b>New Lines</b>		
Jadcherla-Nandyal	8.50	July, 2006
Manuguru-Ramagundam	9.50	July, 2006
Bitragunta-Donakonda	5.00	July, 2006
Khammam-Podattur	7.43	July, 2007
<b>Doubling</b>		
Third line between Ballarshah-Kazipet	9.60	July, 2006
Third line between Kazipet- Vijayawada-Gudur	27.75	July, 2006

(d) to (f) the projects are being progressed as per the overall availability of resources. A number of initiatives have been taken for augmenting resources for expediting completion of the ongoing projects. These include cost sharing by State Governments, Public/Private Partnership, funding from Ministry of Defence and funds for National Rail Vikas Yojana.

(g) and (h) Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested for higher allocation for various ongoing projects in the State. Allocation to various projects is being done on the basis of Statewise formula and an allocation of Rs. 453.49 crore for the projects falling partly/fully in the State has been made in Budget 2006-07. For expediting the completion of new line and gauge conversion projects, Minister of Railways has written to Chief Ministers of various States for sharing the cost of the projects to the extent of 50% or more.

#### **Renovation of Ashok Hotel, New Delhi**

3120. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any plan to renovate the Ashok Hotel, New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the estimated expenditure to be incurred thereon and the time by which it is likely to be renovated?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. ITDC is considering a plan to renovate and upgrade interior and service works of three floors, engineering services, main lobby and redevelopment of landscape for front area etc. of Ashok Hotel, New Delhi.

(c) The project cost of this limited renovation and upgradation of the hotel is estimated to be approximately Rs. 90 crore as per the scope of work currently envisaged and the completion time will be approximately 18 months.

[Translation]

#### **Appointment of LPG Distributors**

3121. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of consumers prescribed for appointment of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) distributors;

(b) whether the LPG distributors in Madhya Pradesh have more than prescribed number of consumers resulting delay in supply of LPG;

(c) if so, whether the Government has any scheme to increase the number of distributors where the number of consumers is more than prescribed limit;

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) Locations for setting up of LPG distributorship are identified by the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) based on the feasibility study. The population of the location, economic status, purchasing ability, per capita consumption of LPG of nearby existing market of LPG, etc. are the factors taken into account in the feasibility study. If setting of LPG distributorship is commercially viable then LPG distributorship is planned. There is no fix number of consumers prescribed for appointment of LPG gas agency. Though there are no fixed number of consumers prescribed for appointment of a LPG distributorship, refill ceiling limits for a distributorship of a market location have been fixed varying from 8,000

to 15,000 refills, depending upon the population of that market.

(b) to (d) Although, there are some distributors who are selling refills above the refill ceiling limits prescribed for that market in Madhya Pradesh, no delay has been reported by the OMCs in supply of refills to the customers as these distributors have sufficient infrastructure to cater to the demands of the customers. Based on the feasibility studies, LPG distributorships have been planned under various markets in Madhya Pradesh. As on 1.4.2006, 74 LPG distributorships planned under various Marketing Plans are pending for appointment in Madhya Pradesh.

[English]

#### **Asian Gas Grid**

3122. SHRI DHANUSKODI R. ATHITHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Working Group has been constituted to prepare the Master Plan for setting up the Asian Gas Grid;

(b) if so, the composition thereof; and

(c) the time by which the Working Group is likely to submit its report in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

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

[Translation]

#### **Profit/Loss Position of AI and IA**

3123. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the profit/loss position of Air India (AI) and Indian Airlines (IA) during each of the last three years;

(b) the reasons for losses, if any; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to make the airlines profitable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) The profit of Air India and Indian Airlines during the last three financial years is as under:

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Air India	Indian Airlines
2003-04	92.33	44.17
2004-05	96.36	65.61
2005-06	14.17	68.50

(b) does not arise.

(c) The Government reviews the performance of Air India/Indian Airlines on a regular basis and encourages/supports the management in taking various measures for improvement in their financial position.

[English]

#### **Security Co-operation with Japan**

3124. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian proposes to enter into security co-operation with Japan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the strategic aspect of the bilateral relationship?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) There exists on-going bilateral defence cooperation between India and Japan to the mutual benefit of the two countries and towards ensuring regional stability.

#### **Mobile PCO in Trains**

3125. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has initiated mobile public call office in trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the name of trains in which the said facility is provided or to be provided; and

(c) the time by which the said facility is likely to be extended in all trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Gauge Conversion of Kanpur-Mathura Railway Line**

3126. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of gauge conversion of Kanpur-Mathura railway line project;

(b) when this project was approved and when the work on the project started;

(c) the cost of the project, the funds allocated and spent so far on the project; and

(d) the time by which the work on the project will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) The gauge conversion work from Kanpur to Mathura section has been taken up under Kanpur-Kasganj-Mathura & Kasganj-Bareilly-Lalkuan (544.50 Kms.) gauge conversion project. The gauge conversion from Kanpur to Farrukhabad (140 Kms.) on Kanpur-Kasganj-Mathura (351 Kms.) section has been completed and commissioned. Work on Farrukhabad-Kasganj (107 Kms.) is in advance stage. The work in rest of the section has also been taken up. The overall physical progress in the entire section is 48%.

(b) This project was included in the budget 1997-98 and the work was started in the same year.

(c) The anticipated cost of the project is Rs. 661.72 crore and an expenditure of Rs. 283.55 crore has been incurred up to March, 2006.

(d) The work will be completed in the coming years as per availability of resources.

#### **Women in Armed Forces**

3127. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of women employees in each wing of armed forces;

(b) whether there is any proposal to increase the number of women in the armed forces; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The percentage of women officers in Armed Forces is as follows:

Army	Air Force	Navy
2.44%*	6.7%	3%

\*excluding Army Medical Corps, Army Dental Corps and Military Nursing Service.

(b) and (c) Presently women officers are inducted in the Armed Forces keeping in view the specific requirement of each Service. Induction of women officers is an ongoing process and, based on requirements, the strength is increased.

#### **Heart Ailments among Soldiers**

3128. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that heart ailments are on the rise among the soldiers posted on the frontline;

(b) if so, whether any assessment in regard to the extent and magnitude of the problem among the soldiers has been made;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to address the situation?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d) There is no significant increase in heart ailments among the soldiers deployed on the frontline.

Regular assessment is done in the Armed Forces not only for heart ailments but for all other diseases also. In addition to generation of health intelligence on a regular basis, steps taken to address the situation include the following:



- (i) Health education in the form of lectures, group-discussions and personal counselling.
- (ii) Undertaking de-stressing activities.
- (iii) Organizing regular physical training and games.
- (iv) Annual medical examination of all personnel.
- (v) Deployment to frontline of troops with appropriate medical classification.

#### **Construction of Escalators at Kharagpur Railway Station**

3129. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have received any proposals/representations for construction of escalators at Kharagpur railway station of South Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) to (c) A proposal was received by Kharagpur Division of South Eastern Railway for provision of escalator at Kharagpur railway station. *Prima facie* the proposal was not found feasible.

[*Translation*]

#### **Work of Raising Height of Platforms**

3130. MOHD. MUKEEM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have accorded sanction to raise the height of various railway platforms at railway stations in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the works of raising the height of platforms have been started and the progress made so far in this regard; and

(c) if not, the time by which the work is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Railways do not maintain State-wise record. Railways maintain zone-wise record. The jurisdiction of East Central, North Central, North Eastern, Northern and West Central Railways falls in Uttar Pradesh. There are more than 8000 railway stations on Indian Railways. The required level of platform as per category of station has been provided at all stations as per norms. However, number of works has been/are being sanctioned from time to time for raising the platform as a part of up-gradation stations based on importance of station and *inter-se* priorities. Since it is a continuous process a specific time can not be fixed.

[*English*]

#### **Grants to NGOs**

3131. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:  
SHRI ANANT GUDHE:  
SHRI TUKARAM GANPATRAO RENGE PATIL:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has allocated funds for disbursement as grant-in-aids for health/education/social service related new projects/schemes sponsored by the Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) for last three years for Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any new fresh proposals are pending with regards to grant-in-aids scheme of Maharashtra NGO's for 2006-07; and

(d) if so, the time by which these are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) and (b) No State-wise allocation of funds is made for disbursement as grant-in-aid for new projects/Schemes sponsored by the Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) under any welfare schemes being implemented by this Ministry. Funds are released to the NGOs on the basis of the proposals received under various schemes/programmes as per their terms and conditions.

(c) and (d) During the year 2006-07, 38 fresh proposals have been received. However, it is not possible to indicate a timeframe.

### **Railway Recruitment Boards**

3132. SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the Railway Recruitment Boards (RRBs) are still functioning and located outside the concerned Railway Zones after carving out of New Railway Zones;

(b) if so, the details of such RRBs functioning outside Zones;

(c) whether the Railways are considering to shift RRB now located in Bangalore to Hubli Headquarters of South Western Railway Zone; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the process of shifting is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) No, Sir. Location of Railway Recruitment Boards (RRBs) at the headquarters of the zonal railways has not been the criteria.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

### **Market Campaigning by IA**

3133. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines (IA) has launched aggressive marketing campaign to market itself with potential customers;

(b) if so, whether the IA has started giving training to employees who can be used in the marketing and sales to face the competition; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Training is an ongoing process and the skills of the employees especially at the frontline are

honed and fine tuned on a continuous basis to meet the challenges in the current highly competitive environment. The training is imparted to the employees with special emphasis on customer service excellence initiatives, International Air Transport Association (IATA) programmes, sales training and mandatory refreshers for frontline employees.

### **Computer Reservation Centres at Railway Stations of Haryana**

3134. SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have any proposal for setting up Computer Reservation Counters at Loharu and Satnali Railway Stations in Haryana;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these Counters are likely to be set up at these Railway Stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) and (b) Representations to open Computerised Passenger Reservation Centres at Loharu and Satnali have been received, but they have not been found justified.

(c) Does not arise.

### **Raising of Level of Platforms of Railway Stations**

3135. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Railways that the level of platforms of many railway stations in Karnataka is quite lower than the last step of passenger bogie resulting in a lot of inconvenience to passengers specially to senior citizens and handicapped persons; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Railways to raise the platforms of those railway stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) and (b) Railway stations are classified in to 'A', 'B', 'C', 'D', 'E' & 'F' categories based on earnings from Passenger traffic at a station. Differential scale of amenities is provided based on category of station. As per norms for Minimum Essential Amenities, the height of platform is High level

at 'A' & 'C' category, Medium level at 'B' & 'D' category and Rail level at 'E' & 'F' category irrespective of rural or urban areas. The required level of platform as per category of station has been provided at all stations. However, number of works has been/are being sanctioned from time to time for raising and extension of platforms as a part of up-gradation of stations based on importance of station and *inter-se* priorities.

[*Translation*]

### Expansion of Air Services

3136. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is chalking out a plan to expand air services in the country;

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

(c) the details of the proposed destinations to be included in the expansion list?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines with a view to achieving better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for air transport services of different regions of the country. It is, however, up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand, commercial viability and subject to Route Dispersal Guidelines. Compliance with Route Dispersal Guidelines are monitored on a

monthly basis. Presently, 72 destinations are covered by scheduled airline services. Indian Airlines has no plans, at present, to add new stations to its existing network due to fleet constraints.

[*English*]

### Defence Production Units

3137. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of places in the country where defence production units are located, State-wise;

(b) the details of products produced by these production units during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the Government proposes to set up more defence production units in the country particularly in Tamil Nadu;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which those units are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (RAOINDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) A Statement indicating the State-wise location of Defence production units and products produced by these units is enclosed.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

### Statement

#### *State-wise Location of Defence Production Units & Products*

#### *Ordnance Factories*

Name of State	Name of Ordnance Factory	Location	Products
1	2	3	4
Maharashtra (10)	Ammunition Factory	Khirkee, Pune	5.56 mm Ammunition, Bombs, Grenades, Cartridges for others Small Arms, Medium Calibre Ammunitions.
	High Explosive Factory	Pune	TNT, HNS, Teryl (CE), IPN, RFNA, 'G' Fuel, 'O' Fuel, Initiatory Explosives, Acids and Chemicals, etc.

1	2	3	4
	Ordnance Factory	Chandrapur	Tank Gun Ammunition, Mortar Ammn., Anti-Tank and Anti-Personnel Mines, Rockets, Missiles War-Heads, etc.
	Ordnance Factory	Varangaon	Cartridges, viz, 7.62 mm Nato Ball M-80 Tracer M-62, 5.56 mm Ammunition.
	Ordnance Factory	Bhandara	Single Base Propellant, Nitro-guanadine, Guanadine Nitrate, Hexamine, Acids, RDX compounds, PETN, Rocket Propellants, Nitro-Glycerine, Nitro-cellulose, Commercial Explosive, etc.
	Ordnance Factory	Dehu Road	Various Pyrotechnic compositions, Bombs, Shells Cartridge-Illuminating and Smoke, Cartridges Signal, Flare Trip wire, etc.
	Ordnance Factory	Ambajhari, Nagpur	Ammunition Hardware (Shells, Fuzes and cartridges Cases) for various Ammunitions including 130 mm and 155 mm. Also light metal Floating Bridge, Extruded Al. Roads/Sections, Pressure and Die-Cast Components etc.
	Ordnance Factory	Ambarnath	Brass and Gilding Metal cups of various Calibres for Small Arms and Ammunition Thin Gauge non-ferrous Strips, Medium and Heavy Calibre Cartridge Cases. Low and High Tensile Aluminum Alloy, Extruded sections.
	Machine Tool Prototype Fy.	Ambarnath	Design, Developments and Manufacture of special purpose machine tools and equipment, components and sub-assemblies for Armoured and Transport vehicle and weapons spares.
	Ordnance Factory	Bhusawal	Drums, Barrels, Ammunition Boxes, Boxes for shells, Ammunition cylinders & Tin Containers, Fuel tanks.

1	2	3	4
Uttar Pradesh (08)	Ordinance Factory	Muradnagar	Plain carbon and alloy steel castings for Tanks, Empty Bodies of various ammunition, Hot Die Tool, Steel forgings.
	Ordinance Factory	Kanpur	Medium & High Calibre Guns, Mortars Bomb bodies, Shell Empties, High velocity Kinetic Energy Shots.
	Small Arms Factory	Kanpur	5.56 mm LMG, LMG 7.62 mm, MAG 7.62 mm, 50" Rifle Sporting, 51 mm Mortar, .32" Revolver, 20 L Steel Jerricans, 9 mm Carbine.
	Field Gun Factory	Kanpur	High Calibre Ordnance & Spare Barrels, .32" Revolver.
	Ordinance Equipment Factory	Kanpur	Leather Items, Textile Items, Engineering Equipments including Mountaineering Items.
	Ordinance Parachute Factory	Kanpur	All types of Parachutes viz. Brake Parachute, Supply Dropping & Man Dropping Parachutes, Tent, Clothing & Rubberised Items like Floats for Bridges & Inflatable Boats.
	Ordinance Equipment Factory	Hazratpur	Tents, Mosquito Nets & other clothing Items.
	Ordinance Clothing Factory	Shahjahanpur	All combat Clothing, Mountaineering Extreme Cold Clothing, Textile & Tentage Items.
Tamilnadu (06)	Cordite Factory	Aruvankadu	Various Double Base/Triple Base Propellants, Celluloid Products, Nitro Cellulose, Nitro Glycerine, Acids, Acetone, Paints, etc.
	Heavy Alloy Penetrator Project	Triruchirapally	Empty Shots for Kinetic Energy Ammn. of various calibres (105 mm, 120 mm, 125 mm).
	Ordinance Factory	Trichy	7.62 mm Rifle, 12.7 AD Gun & Spares, 30 mm Cannon for BMP II, 14.5 mm Sub-Calibre Device for T-72 Tank, 23 mm Ghasha Twin Barrel Gun for MIG.
	Heavy Vehicles Factory	Avadi	Battle Tanks viz. Ajeya T-72, Combat Improved Ajeya, Variants, Tank Spares & Overhaul of T-72.

1	2	3	4
	Engine Factory	Avadi	Engines for Battle Tanks and ICV, Overhaul of Engines.
	Ordnance Clothing Factory	Avadi	All Combat Clothing & Parade Garments, Parachutes, Tents, DLD covers, Vest, etc.
Madhya Pradesh (06)	Ordnance Factory	Khamaria	Small Arms Ammunition, Anti Aircraft Ammunition Heavy Calibre Anti-Tank Ammunition, Bombs, Mines, Ammunition for Air Force and Navy.
	Ordnance Factory	Itarsi	Double and Triple Base propellants, Small Arms propellant, Acids Nitric and Sulphuric, Nitrocellulose, Nitroglycerine, Picrite, etc.
	Ordnance Factory	Katni	Non-Ferrous Rolled & Extruded sections, Cups for Small Arms Ammunitions, Diecast components, Heavy Calibre Cartridges Cases.
	Gun Carriage Factory	Jabalpur	T-72 Tank Gun Recoil System, Carriages for Artillery Guns, Anti-Aircraft Gun, Tank Gun Mounting, 81 mm Mortar, 51mm Mortar, 12 Bore Pump Action Gun, Cluster Bomb Gas system assy., 73mm Smooth Bore Barrel Assy., Ski Runners & various Ammunition Packages.
	Vehicle Factory	Jabalpur	Army Transport Vehicles and variants, civil Jonga, Spares Engines and others spares.
	Grey Iron Foundry	Jabalpur	Automobile Casting of Grey & Malleable Iron for Vehicles & other applications.
West Bengal (04)	Metal & Steel Factory	Ishapore	Various Ferrous and on ferrous castings & extrusion, component & other stores including Cartridges Cases and shell forgings, Light/Medium/Heavy Steel Forgings including Gun Barrel Forgings.
	Rifle Factory	Ishapore	5.56 INSAS Rifle, Pistol 9mm Auto, .315' Sporting Rifle, .22" Sporting Rifle.

1	2	3	4
	Gun & Shell Factory	Cossipore	Medium Calibre Guns, Shells & Fuzes, 12 Bore DBBL Shot Gun, .32" Pistol, 84 mm Rocket Launcher.
	Ordnance Factory	Dum Dum	Various Precision Machined & Fabricated items for Army, Navy & Airforce including Retarder Tail Units for Bombs.
Uttaranchal (02)	Ordnance Factory	Dehradun	Sighting & Fire control instruments for Tanks, Fire control instruments for Guns & Mortars, Range finder, Binoculars, Compasses, Air field Lighting Equipment, Night Vision Instruments.
	Opto Electronics Factory	Dehradun	Precision Opto Mechanical/Electronic instruments for sighting and fire control of T-72 & Infantry combat vehicles, Laser Range Finder.
Orissa (01)	Ordnance Factory	Bolangir	Tank Gun Ammunition, Bar Mine, 30 mm Ammunition, 155 mm Ammunition.
Andhra Pradesh (01)	Ordnance Factory	Medak	Infantry Combat Vehicle Sarath, Variants, Bullet Proofing of Cars & Spares for ICV.
Chandigarh (01)	Ordnance Cable Factory	Chandigarh	Field Telephone cable, Carrier Quad cable, 20 Conductor cable, 3 KV Air Field Lighting Cable, Beta light devices, various steel wire.

*Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs)*

Name of State	Name of PSUs	Location	Products
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	Bharat Dynamics Ltd.	Kanchanbagh, Hyderabad Bhanur, Medak	Antitank Guided Missiles, Strategic Missiles Ground Support Equipment, Underwater Weapon Systems, Pistols, Simulators and Tow body.
		Hyderabad	Electronic Warfare Equipment.
	Bharat Electronics Ltd.	Machilipatnam	Night Vision Devices, Thermal Imagers and Surgical Microscopes.

1	2	3	4
	Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd.	Hyderabad	Manufacture of Avionics equipment (Communication, Navigation and Radars).
	Mishra Dhatu Nigam Ltd.	Hyderabad	1. Nickel-Based, Cobalt- Based, Iron-Based Superalloys. 2. Special purpose steels like maraging steels, armament steels, nuclear grade steels, Special Stainless Steels. 3. Titanium and Titanium alloys. 4. Electrical & Electronics Alloys. 5. Other special products including Molybdenum, Weld Consumables and Titanium Tubes.
Karnataka	Bharat Electronics Ltd.	Bangalore	Military Communication and Electronic Warfare Systems, Radars & Sonars, Network Centric Systems, Simulators, Sound & Vision broadcast Equipment, Electron Tubes, Semiconductor, Devices, Passive Components, Solar Cells, Solar Products and Solar Systems.
	Bharat Earth Movers Limited	Bangalore Kolar Gold Fields Mysore	Bull Dozers, Dump Trucks, Motor Graders, Excavators, Rope Shovels, Walking Draglines, Loaders, Tarta Trucks, Recovery Vehicles, Mine Ploughs, Air Craft Towing Tractors, Crash Fire Tenders, Rail Coaches, AC EMUs, Metro Rail Coaches, Wagon, Engines and Hydraulic/ transmission Aggregates.
	Subsidiary Steel Foundry of Bharat Earth Movers Limited	Tarikere	
	Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd.	Bangalore	<b>Aircraft:</b> Jaguar, Pilotless Target Aircraft (Lakshya). <b>Helicopters:</b> Cheetah, Chetak, Lancer and ALH (DHRUV). <b>Engines:</b> Adour, Garrett, Artouste and LM 2500 (Industrial & Marine Engine) <b>Aerospace:</b> Structures for Satellites and Launch Vehicles (INSAT IRS PSLV, GSLV, LP Engines). Castings Forgings, Rolled rings & rubber items.



1	2	3	4
			<b>Overhaul:</b> Aircraft/helicopter, Mirage, Jaguar, Kiran, Cheetah and Chetak.  <b>Engines:</b> Adour/Garrett, Artouste, Dart, Gnome, Orpheus, Avon, Lycoming, Allison 501K, LM-2500 and Industrial Avon engines.
Uttar Pradesh	Bharat Electronics Ltd.	Ghaziabad	Radars & Microwave Communication Equipment, Antenna.
	Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd.	Kanpur	Manufacture of: Donier DO-228 aircraft.  Overhaul of: DO-228, HPT-32, HS-748, AN-32.
	Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd.	Lucknow	Manufacture of accessories for aircraft & helicopter (Mechanical, Hydraulic, Electrical, Flight control, Fuel and Pneumatic equipment and instruments).
	Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd.	Korwa	Advanced Avionics Systems for aircraft.
Haryana	Bharat Electronics Ltd.	Panchkula	Tactical Communication Equipment.
Uttaranchal	Bharat Electronics Ltd.	Kotdwara	Telecom & Switching Products for Civil and Defence Communication Equipment for Defence.
Maharashtra	Bharat Electronics Ltd.	Navi Mumbai	Hydraulics for Stabilisers, Shelters, Mast, Flycatcher Antenna System, Solar Products.
	Bharat Electronics Ltd.	Pune	Batteries, X-Ray Tubes, Electro Optics, Laser Range Finders & Target Designators.
	Mazagon Dock Limited	Mumbai	Warships and Submarines.
	Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd.	Nasik	Manufacture of SU-30 MKI aircraft.  Overhaul of MiG-21 Series and MiG-27 M aircraft.
Tamil Nadu	Bharat Electronics Ltd.	Chennai	Tank Electronics, Stabiliser Drives, Advanced Land Navigation Systems, Integrated Fire Control Systems, Gun Upgrades.

1	2	3	4
West Bengal	Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engg. Ltd.	Kolkata	Ship's Haul & superstructure and Bridges, Deck machinery items for fitment on ships.
	Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd.	Barrackpore	Overhaul of Cheetah and Chetak helicopters.
Jharkhand	Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engg. Ltd.	Ranchi	Diesel Engines.
Goa	Goa Shipyard Ltd.	Vaso-da-Gama	Extra Fast Attack Crafts, Advanced Offshore Patrol Vessel, Survival at Sea Training Facility for ONGC, Fast Patrol Vessels.
Orissa	Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd.	Koraput	Manufacture of: R-25 and AL-31 FP engines.  Overhaul of: R-11, R-25, R-29B and RD-33 engines.

[Translation]

#### Stoppage of Awadh Express

3138. SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are aware that Awadh Express was made to halt for long hours at Kota Junction during March 2006;

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

(c) whether there has been an increase in the cases of travelling by General Class Passengers in the Sleeper or other higher class;

(d) if so, the facts thereof; and

(e) the measures taken/to be taken by the Railways to check this practice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) and (b) Awadh Express has a scheduled halt of 20 minutes at Kota Junction station. During the month of March 2006 the train started from Kota within the scheduled halt period except for 940 Up on 24.03.2006 which halted for 25 minutes i.e. 5 minutes more than the scheduled halt for precedence to 2904 Up Golden Temple Mail.

(c) to (e) Cases of irregular travel in reserved coaches of all classes do come to notice. Regular and surprise checks are conducted to prevent the entry of unauthorised passengers into reserved coaches. Persons so detected are dealt with as per relevant provisions of the Railways Act.

#### Scheme to Develop Narkatiyaganj Railway Station

3139. SHRI KAILASH BAITHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of development schemes being implemented at Bagaha and Narkatiyaganj railway stations at present;

(b) whether the Railways propose to set up a washing-pit at Narkatiyaganj junction; and

(c) if so, the time by which it is likely to be executed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) The following development works have been taken up at Bagaha and Narkatiyaganj:

#### At Bagaha

- (i) Foot Over Bridge with covering 2.365 metre wide and 23 metre long.

(ii) New Platform No: 2

(iii) Improvement of Approach Road

**At Narkatiaganj**

(i) Foot Over Bridge with covering

(ii) Renovation of toilets with Tiles.

(iii) Improvement of Flooring by Kota stones on main platform.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

*[English]*

**World Heritage Status to Tawang Monastery**

3140. SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Arunachal Pradesh has sent any proposal to the Union Government to approach UNESCO for getting world heritage site status to Tawang city and Tawang monastery; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

*[Translation]*

**Construction of Railway Lines in Uttar Pradesh**

3141. KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal regarding construction of new railway lines in Uttar Pradesh is pending with the Government;

(b) if so, the details alongwith the estimated cost thereof; and

(c) the details of the railway lines which have been accorded priority during 2006-2007?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) and (b) The details of ongoing new line surveys falling partly/fully in Uttar Pradesh are given as under:

1. Aligarh-Chatta (65 kms.)
2. Barhaj Bazar to Faijabad via Dohrighat (190 kms.)
3. Nepalganj Road (India) to Nepalganj (Nepal) (10 kms.)
4. Khurja-Raya via Mat, Surir, Bajna (85 kms.)
5. Sambhal-Gajraula (43 kms.)
6. Rewa-Mirzapur (17.5 kms.)

Besides the above, following surveys for new lines have been completed during 2005-06:

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	KMs.	Cost	ROR
1.	Etah-Kasganj	29	132	(-) 4.95%
2.	Padrauna-Kushinagar	28	110	Negative
3.	Amethi to Sahaganj via Sultanpur/Qadipur	110	296	(-) 15.87%

Note: KMs—Kilometres  
ROR—Rate of Return

(c) In Uttar Pradesh, Hathua-Bathua Bazar (22 kms.) which is part of Hathua-Bhatni (79.6 kms.) new line project, is targeted for completion during 2006-07.

*[English]*

**Aircraft Acquisition Committee**

3142. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Aircraft Acquisition Committee of the Ministry of civil Aviation has in its meeting held on March 28, 2006 considered the issue of policy on transfer of airport infrastructure in case of merger/take over of Airlines;

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

(c) the follow-up action taken to implement the decisions taken by the said Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has been decided that only the user rights over such infrastructure that are given to an airline on non-payment basis e.g. parking bays, landing slots etc. may be allowed to be used by the airlines that takes over the aircraft. For all other rights, the terms of lease/sale agreement between airport operator and airline will apply.

User rights may be allowed to be used by the airlines that takes over the aircraft only in respect of those rights, which are actually under use by the airline that transfers the aircraft. All other rights will be taken over by Government/airport operator.

The user rights will be available with the airlines that takes over the aircraft only till such time that the infrastructure concerned is under actual use.

(c) The recommendations of Aircraft Acquisition Committee (AAC) have been accepted by the Government and the policy to be followed regarding use of Airport Infrastructure in case of merger/take over of airlines and sale/transfer of aircraft approved by competent authority has been published on the web-site of this Ministry for information of all concerned.

*[Translation]*

#### **CNG Filling Stations**

3143. SHRI RAKESH SINGH:

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA:

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM:

SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA:

SHRIMATI SUSHEELA BANGARU LAXMAN:

MOHD. MUKEEM:

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of CNG filling stations operating in various cities in the country at present, city-wise;

(b) whether the Government has received requests from the State Governments for providing CNG facilities in their States;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(d) the cities where CNG filling stations are likely to be opened during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) The details of CNG stations operating in various cities are as follows:

City	Number of CNG Stations till date
Delhi	191
NOIDA	04
Vijayawada	01
Vadodara	03
Ahmedabad	19
Surat	13
Mumbai	212
Thane	06
Mira Bhayander	02
Agra	01
Lucknow	01
Kanpur	01

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Requests are received from the State Governments from time to time for creating CNG facilities. However, CNG facilities are created by different companies based on techno-economic viability and subject to availability of gas and pipeline infrastructure.

(d) Different companies engaged in setting up CNG infrastructure are developing CNG facilities in different cities including Lucknow, Kanpur, Bareilly, Agartala, Navi-Mumbai, Thane and Vijayawada.

### **Implementation of Mandal Commission Recommendations**

3144. SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV:  
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is aware that the recommendations given by the Mandal Commission have not been implemented by some State Governments;

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

(c) the efforts made by the Union Government to pursue the concerned State Governments to implement the recommendations given by the Mandal Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) to (c) The recommendations of Mandal Commission have been implemented in all the States/UTs except Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura and UT of Lakshadweep which are basically tribal dominated States/UTs.

### **Illegal LPG Godowns**

3145. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is aware that a large number of illegal LPG godowns have been built in the thickly populated areas at various parts of the country particularly in Delhi;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) to (c) LPG godowns of distributors of Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) in the country, including those in Delhi, have been constructed with the due approval of statutory and local authorities and in conformity with the rules laid down by the Department of Explosives.

Field officers of OMCs and officials of Department of Explosives inspect the distributors' godowns for various safety measures from time to time.

OMCs have not come across any illegal LPG godown of their distributors.

[English]

### **Facilities to Physically Handicapped Persons at various Tourist Spots**

3146. SHRI M. SHIVANNA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that some internationally famous tourist centres like the Qutub Minar in the capital and other tourist spots are not physically challenged friendly;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the wheel chair facility for the handicapped persons is not available at the Qutub Minar; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to provide wheel chair facility to the physically challenged persons at the tourist spots?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) Many of the important monuments are provided with facilities for physically challenged persons, like wheel chairs, ramps, notice boards in Braille, etc.

(c) On demand, wheel chair facility is available for physically challenged persons at Qutub complex.

(d) Instructions have been issued to all Circles of Archaeological Survey of India to provide facilities for physically challenged persons. These include wheel chairs, ramps (wherever possible) and special toilets.

### **Institutes of Hotel Management**

3147. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:  
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:  
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to set up some new institutes of hotel management;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the locations identified for setting up such institutes; and

(d) the time by which these institutes are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Four new Institutes of Hotel Management (IHMs) are being set up at Dehradun (Uttaranchal), Kurukshetra (Haryana), Jamshedpur (Jharkhand) and Raipur (Chhattisgarh).

(d) Three of these institutes at Dehradun, Kurukshetra and Jamshedpur have already been approved and Central financial assistance released for the construction of building. The Institute at Dehradun is in an advance stage of Construction and is likely to start functioning during 2006-07. The Building projects of other two institutes at Kurukshetra and Jamshedpur are in the initial stages of construction. As regards the Institute at Raipur, the Central financial assistance will be considered on receipt of proposal from the State Government.

#### **Increase in Price of LPG**

3148. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the public sector oil companies have demanded to increase the price of LPG;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) and (b) In view of sharp escalation of LPG prices in international market and rising under-recoveries suffered by oil marketing companies, the oil PSUs have approached the Government for revision in price of LPG and other sensitive petroleum products.

(c) In order to formulate a long term pricing policy for petroleum products, the Government constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. C. Rangarajan, Chairman, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister.

The Committee was mandated to look into various aspects of pricing and taxation of petroleum products with a view to stabilizing/rationalizing their prices, keeping in view the financial position of the oil companies, the investment needed in the sector, the need to conserve petroleum products, and establishing a transparent mechanism for the autonomous adjustment of prices by the oil companies. Taking into consideration the interests of all stakeholders concerned, the Committee was to suggest a comprehensive mechanism for pricing and taxation of sensitive petroleum products, and other allied issues. The Committee submitted its report to the Government on 17.2.2006. The Report is under consideration of the Government.

#### **Survey of Nasik-Shirdi Line**

3149. SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are considering to conduct a survey for laying Nasik-Shirdi railway line;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the survey is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Non-Availability of Wagons for Export to Pakistan**

3150. SHRI NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have received representation from, Amritsar Exporter Chamber of Commerce, Amritsar regarding non-availability of wagons for export to Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to provide the requisite wagons to the exporters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The representation is regarding non-availability of goods wagons for loading to Pakistan at Amrtisar.

(c) Since acceptance of traffic by Pakistan is limited and there is a high level of demand from exporters for loading to Pakistan, Indian Railway is constrained to regulate loading to Pakistan under a quota system. In this system, the rakes are allotted to the exporters on all India basis as per turn and priority.

#### **Doubling of Railway Line Projects**

3151. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of doubling of railway line projects pending for completion, Statewise;

(b) the estimated cost of each of those project;

(c) the allocation of fund made for each of those projects;

(d) the target date set for completion of these projects; and

(e) the progress of each of those projects as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) to (e) The information is under compilation and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Alternative Fuel**

3152. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a voluntary organization in Rohtak has developed a new equipments technique and demonstrated the working of the diesel engine using pieces of wood instead of diesel for use in irrigation related activities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) to (c) Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas is not aware of any such technique developed in Rohtak by any voluntary organization.

#### **Construction of Flyover Bridges**

3153. SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway have received proposals for construction of flyover bridges over the NF railway lines at various places in lower Assam; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Railways construct Road Over/Under bridges in lieu of existing busy level crossings on cost sharing basis if the traffic density at the level crossing is one lakh or more TVUs (TVU—a unit obtained by multiplying the number of trains with the number of road vehicles passing over the level crossing in 24 hours) otherwise on deposit terms. Proposals in both cases have to be sponsored by the State Government fulfilling certain preliminary pre-requisites required under extant rules. No firm proposal for construction of Road over bridge falling in Assam has been received from the State Government during Works Programme of 2006-07. However, work of a road over bridge at Bongaigaon in lieu of Level Crossing No. SK/49 at Km. 143/10-11 was sanctioned in 1995-96 on cost sharing basis. Railway portion of this work has already been completed. Earth work and compaction is in progress. Public Works Department (PWD) has been advised to expedite the work on approaches. In addition there are 4 works being executed by State Government/ PWD on deposit terms, between Agthori-Kamakhyia, Agthori-Changsari, Kamakhyia-Pandu and Guwahati-Kamakhyia. All these are reported to be at different stages of progress.

#### **Restoration of Telescopic Benefit in Non-Metro Areas**

3154. SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPIPARAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are aware that the revised train fare without telescopic benefit from April 1, 2006 affected the passengers seriously in non-metropolitan cities, smaller towns and rural areas which do not have direct train facilities;

(b) if so, whether the Railways have received complaints in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by the Railways to restore telescopic benefit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) From 1st April, 2006, computerized tickets with telescopic benefit in fares are issued for any station where there is stoppage of the train in which the reservation is sought. Passengers are permitted to break journey as per extant rules and obtain subsequent reservation by any train. There has not been any increase in basic fares.

(b) and (c) Some complaints from rail users have recently been received in this regard.

(d) The action taken by Railways will go a long way in streamlining the system.

#### **Manning of Level Crossings**

3155. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:  
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:  
SHRI UDAY SINGH:  
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of railway level crossings in the country still remain unmanned resulting in rail accidents;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the targets to man such unmanned level crossings during the last three years have been achieved;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the details of unmanned level crossings proposed to be manned during 2006-07 alongwith their locations, Zone/State-wise; and

(f) the time by which all unmanned level crossings are likely to be manned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. There were 18451 unmanned level crossings as on 1.4.2005 (excluding canal crossings and 'D' class cattle crossings). However, existence of unmanned level crossings is not the cause of accidents at unmanned level crossings. Accidents occur due to negligence of road users in following the provisions of Motor Vehicle Act.

(c) to (f) As per extant rules, in case an unmanned level crossing provided initially and maintained at the cost of the railways needs manning/upgrading/posting of additional gatekeeper due to increase in road traffic, the cost both initial capital as well as capitalized cost of annual recurring maintenance and operational cost has to be borne by the State Government/Road Authority concerned. However, keeping in view the grave consequences of accidents at unmanned level crossings, Railway have decided to man vulnerable level crossings based on the traffic volume and visibility conditions at the unmanned level crossings for which railways have laid down the under mentioned criteria:

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| Category-I   | — Clear visibility level crossings where train Vehicle unit (TVU) is more than 6000 AND Road Vehicles more than 180.      |
| Category-II  | — Restricted visibility level crossings where Train Vehicle Unit (TVU) is more than 6000 AND Road Vehicles more than 120. |
| Category-III | — Restricted visibility level crossings where Train Vehicle Unit (TVU) is between 300-6000.                               |

Further, it has been decided that no manning of any unmanned level crossing shall be done if motor vehicles do not ply regularly.

Manning of Category-III will be considered once manning of first two categories is over. Priority to be followed will be route-wise, 'A' route followed by 'B', 'C' 'D' Spl. D, 'E Spl.' and 'E'.

Also, if any unmanned level crossing gets involved in more than 3 accidents in 3 years, it should be manned immediately irrespective of the category to which it belongs.



As on 1.4.2005, there were 1018 unmanned level crossings in the country qualifying the above criteria out of which 291 level crossings have already been manned during 2005-06. There is a proposal to man 369 unmanned level crossings during 2006-07.

Traffic census at Level crossings is conducted as per laid down procedure and level crossings qualifying

for manning/upgradation as per laid down criteria are sanctioned for manning/upgradation. Efforts are made to man/upgrade as many level crossings as possible on year to year basis. Number of level crossings manned during the last three years (zone-wise) and number of level crossings proposed to be manned during 2006-07 is as under:

Railway	Number of Level Crossings Manned During last three years.			Number of Level Crossings Proposed for manning During 2006-07
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	
Central	0	0	6	0
Eastern	0	11	11	1
East Central	0	21	10	10
East Coast	0	20	22	26
Northern	0	10	43	80
North Central	2	24	2	15
North Eastern	34	24	21	40
North East Frontier	0	6	14	0
North Western	7	18	5	25
Southern	13	5	51	60
South Central	8	15	37	27
South Eastern	9	4	2	3
South East Central	9	13	19	3
South Western	0	12	22	21
Western	0	4	26	53
West Central	13	3	0	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>369</b>

#### **Petroleum Hub in Haryana**

3156. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Oil Corporation proposes to set up a petroleum hub in Haryana;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated cost of the project; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF  
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA

PATEL): (a) Indian Oil Corporation (IOCL) and Government of Haryana have reached an understanding to setup a petrochemical Hub at Panipat based on the feed stock available from IOCL's Refinery and Petrochemical complex. Government of Haryana have nominated Haryana State Industrial Development Corporation Ltd. (HSIDC) as the nodal agency for the same. It has been decided by IOCL and HSIDC to form a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) for creation of the Hub including the infrastructure and marketing of the hub.

(b) Details of the same are under finalization with HSIDC.

(c) and (d) Cost and time schedule shall be worked out after the finalization of SPV.

#### **Revamping of Boards of Directors in IA and AI**

3157. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal for revamping the Boards of Directors of Indian Airlines (IA) and Air India (AI);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these Boards of Directors are likely to be revamped?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) Government have appointed three Functional Directors in Air India and four in Indian Airlines as per the Public Enterprises Selection Board procedure.

#### **New Building for Ahmedabad Railway Division**

3158. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are planning to construct a new building for Ahmedabad Railway Division at Asarwa railway station;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Original cost Rs. 3.40 crore. Estimate is under revision. The revised estimated cost is expected to Rs. 6.25 crore.

(c) By December' 2006.

#### **Peace Talks with ULFA**

3159. SHRI RANEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tezpur based 4 Corps Headquarters issued a statement in September, 2005 indicating that United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA) continued to indulge in heinous activities against the Nation and has shown no signs of giving up its terrorist activities of eschew the path of violence;

(b) if so, whether the Government has begun peace talks with ULFA and Army units have been asked to halt their operations against them; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) A statement was issued by 4 Corps Headquarters in September 2005 in which it was mentioned that "United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA) continues to carry out extortion, recruitment, killing and kidnapping of innocent people and has shown no signs of giving up its terrorist activities or eschew the path of violence".

The Government of India have held two rounds of talks with the People's Consultative Group (PCG) of Assam on 26th October 2005 and 7th February 2006. During second round of talks with PCG on 7.2.2006, it was agreed to examine and initiate a series of confidence building measures with regard to human right violations, issue of release of certain detainees in consultation with the State Government and maintenance of peaceful atmosphere in the State. The Army operations against the ULFA have not been called off so far.

*[Translation]*

#### **Survey for Railway Lines**

3160. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the railway lines for which survey have been conducted recently to lay new railway lines under Western Railway and West Central Railway and the status thereof;

(b) whether the Railways have received representations from various quarters regarding survey for laying new railway lines;

(c) if so, the number of such representations received during the last one year and the action taken by the Railways thereon;

(d) whether the Railways propose to lay a new railway line between Ujjain and Ramganj Mandi; and

(e) if so, the time by which the work on the railway line is likely to be executed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) Surveys for new rail lines conducted during 2005-06 under Western and West Central Railways and the status thereof is as under:

Sl.No.	New Line	Status
<b>Western Railway</b>		
1.	Kharaghoda to Santalpur	In view of unremunerative nature of the line, heavy throwforward of ongoing projects and acute constraint of resources it has not been found feasible to consider this proposal.
2.	Chhota Udepur to Dhar	The proposal has been processed for necessary approvals.
3.	Jaisalmer to Kandla	Survey has been completed recently.
4.	Porbandar-Veraval	Survey has been taken up.
5.	Bari Sadri-Nimach	Survey has been taken up.
6.	Bhavnagar-Tarapur	Survey has been taken up.
7.	Ningala-Gadhad-Babra-Khijadia	Survey has been taken up.
<b>West Central Railway</b>		
1.	Ujjain-Jhalawar/Ramganjmandi	Survey has been taken up.
2.	Damoh-Kundalpur	Survey has been taken up.

(b) and (c) No record of each and every representations received from various quarters is being maintained. However, some of the proposals received

during the last one year and action taken thereon is as under:

Sl.No.	Proposal	Action Taken
1	2	3
<b>Western Railway</b>		
1.	Modasa-Shamlaji	Survey has been completed recently.
2.	Extension of Ahmedabad-Khedbrahma Broad Gauge line upto Ambaji-Abu Road	There is no proposal for extension of rail line from Khedbrahma to Ambaji-Abu Road.

1	2	3
3.	Survey for new line between Surat and Nasik	On the suggested alignment area, survey for Dahanu Road-Nasik Road new line was completed during 2000-01. In view of unremunerative nature of the line and acute resource constraint with the Railways, the proposal could not be considered.
4.	Extension of Broad Gauge track between Chhota Udepur and Indore via Alirajpur and Dhar	The proposal has been processed for necessary approvals.
5.	Extension of railway line upto Diu	There is no proposal for extension of rail line upto Diu.
6.	Rail-Road linkage to Minor Ports of Gujarat	Most of the major ports in Gujarat have already been linked with broad gauge rail line. In view of heavy throwforward of on going projects and acute resource constraints, it is not feasible to consider providing rail link to all ports in Gujarat.

#### West Central Railway

1.	Ujjain to Jhalawar	Updating survey for Ujjain-Jhalawar/Ramganjmandi has been taken up.
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(d) and (e) No, Sir. However, updating survey for construction of rail line between Ujjain and Ramganjmandi has been taken up.

#### Allocation of Funds by NSKFDC

3161. SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes being run by the Government through National Safai Karamacharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC);

(b) the details of the funds allocated and released by the corporation during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;

(c) the details of funds actually utilised by States/UTs and number of Safai Karamacharis benefited therefrom during the said period; and

(d) the measures taken by the Government for monitoring of funds allocation by the Corporation and its better utilisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) Details of the schemes being run by the Government through the National Safai Karamacharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC) are available at the website of the Ministry, [www.socialjustice.nic.in](http://www.socialjustice.nic.in).

(b) and (c) Statement showing State/UT-wise details of funds allocated and released by NSKFDC during each of the last three years and the current year, funds utilised by the States/UTs and number of Safai Karamacharis benefited during the same period, is enclosed.

(d) The process of allocation of funds by NSKFDC is regularly monitored by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment by seeking periodical reports. Officers of the Ministry are on the Board of Directors of the Corporation and they attend the Board meetings. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) 2006-07 to be signed with the Corporation assigns annual targets to the Corporation for sanction, disbursement, utilisation and recovery of funds. Norms for disbursement of funds to State Channelising Agencies are strictly adhered to. The

Corporation has also been advised to ensure improvement in the recovery of SCAs from the beneficiaries. Assistance

is provided to SCAs for computerization and training of staff to improve their functioning.

**Statement**

*State-wise Funds released during the last three years and current year*

(Rs. in lacs)					
Sl.No.	Name of the State/UT	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07 (for April-06)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1035.30	390.00	1842.07	0.00
2.	Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.	Bihar	0.00	122.03	0.00	0.00
4.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	6.75	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	217.59	364.48	58.79	0.00
6.	Delhi	0.00	350.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Gujarat	196.13	442.07	125.10	0.00
8.	Haryana	0.00	4.50	0.00	0.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	90.88	0.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	0.00	37.45	0.00
11.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	363.24	0.00
12.	Karnataka	50.00	557.98	0.00	0.00
13.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	440.07	0.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	282.50	247.50	0.00	37.80
15.	Maharashtra	434.54	404.92	880.91	132.82
16.	Manipur	0.00	0.00	361.22	0.00
17.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
18.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
19.	Orissa	28.39	0.00	0.00	23.65
20.	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.28	0.00
21.	Punjab	0.00	11.57	18.96	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
22.	Rajasthan	247.03	232.79	16.65	31.04
23.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	114.42	0.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
25.	Uttar Pradesh	553.78	1190.10	0.00	160.31
26.	Uttaranchal	31.00	59.30	932.78	0.00
27.	West Bengal	31.11	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total	3398.25	4377.23	5198.68	385.62

*State-UT-wise Funds Utilized during the last three years & Current year*

## Funds Utilised by SCAs during the year

Sl.No.	SCA	2003-04	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007 (April, 2006)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3232.54	738.54	210.00	10.09
2.	Assam	138.02	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.	Bihar	24.47	0.00	29.36	0.00
4.	Chandigarh	62.72	8.93	0.01	3.26
5.	Chhattisgarh	287.90	0.00	429.35	0.00
6.	Delhi	41.58	0.00	178.52	0.00
7.	Gujarat	888.78	0.00	485.21	0.00
8.	Haryana	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	194.50	20.71	37.94	0.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
11.	Jharkhand	50.96	38.27	6.45	0.00
12.	Karnataka	353.95	290.89	320.54	0.00
13.	Kerala	15.26	4.15	8.61	0.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	532.84	463.37	213.76	24.35
15.	Maharashtra	459.26	323.72	438.57	131.61
16.	Manipur	112.00	3.00	0.23	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
17.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
18.	Mizoram	104.96	0.00	0.00	0.00
19.	Orissa	43.00	12.25	22.99	0.00
20.	Pondicherry	23.42	0.00	26.51	0.00
21.	Punjab	99.86	0.00	20.38	0.00
22.	Rajasthan	296.68	78.72	147.97	6.42
23.	Tamil Nadu	751.23	0.00	207.27	0.00
24.	Tripura	115.90	31.55	8.80	0.00
25.	Uttar Pradesh	936.85	884.15	881.33	102.50
26.	Uttaranchal	37.13	3.09	50.77	100.81
27.	West Bengal	51.45	0.00	30.22	0.00
		8855.26	2901.34	3754.79	379.04

*State-UT-wise beneficiaries covered during the last three years and current year*

Sl.No.	Name of the State/UT	Beneficiaries Covered			
		2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5877	3650	29340	0
2.	Assam	0	0	0	0
3.	Bihar	0	129	0	0
4.	Chandigarh	0	0	30	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	431	188	1040	0
6.	Delhi	0	583	0	0
7.	Gujarat	27	423	578	0
8.	Haryana	0	5	0	0
9.	Himachal Pradesh	560	0	0	0
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	203	0
11.	Jharkhand	0	0	686	0
12.	Karnataka	83	921	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6
13.	Kerala	0	0	1128	0
14.	Madhya Pradesh	810	638	0	30
15.	Maharashtra	237	402	2211	40
16.	Manipur	0	0	169	0
17.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0
18.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0
19.	Orissa	34	0	0	60
20.	Pondicherry	0	0	18	0
21.	Punjab	0	31	71	0
22.	Rajasthan	213	275	40	77
23.	Tripura	0	0	334	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	333	0	0	0
25.	Uttar Pradesh	620	2185	0	289
26.	Uttaranchal	200	109	1451	0
27.	West Bengal	19	0	0	0
Total		9444	9539	37299	496

### Revival of Railway Workshops

3162. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of rail workshops in the country as on date;

(b) whether the Railways are aware that some of the workshops in Maharashtra are on the verge of closure in Mumbai and Parel workshop and Kurdwadi railway workshop of Solapur district which were one of the renowned workshops of Asia;

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

(d) the steps taken by the Railways for its revival?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) A statement is enclosed.

(b) No, Sir. There are no plans to close down Parel, Kurdwadi or any other workshop in Maharashtra.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

### Statement

### Details of Railways Workshops

Railway Workshops can be broadly categorized into four types:

1. Mechanical Workshops
2. Signal workshops
3. Electrical Workshops
4. Engineering Workshops.

**Mechanical Workshops:** Mechanical Workshops undertake maintenance of all Rolling stock of Indian



Railways *viz.* Locomotives, Carriages, Wagons, etc. on the Indian Railways along with certain manufacturing activities. There are 44 Mechanical workshops spread all over the Indian Railway system. A list of these workshops, showing their Railway-wise location is attached at enclosed Annexure-I.

**Signal Workshops:** Signal workshops overhaul the various types of Signaling and telecommunication equipment used by Indian Railways and also manufacture various types of items like Relays, block Instruments, Axle counters etc. A list of Signal Workshops is given in the enclosed Annexure-II.

**Electrical Workshops:** There is one Electrical Engineering Workshop and one Traction Machine Workshop in Central Railway. The list is given in the enclosed Annexure-III.

**Engineering Workshops:** There are 10 Engineering Workshops on Indian Railway where Civil Engineering related works are undertaken. The list is given in the enclosed Annexure-IV.

#### *Annexure I*

*Table I—List of Railway Workshops (Mechanical)*

Sl.No.	Railway	Sl.No. & Name of Workshop
1	2	3
1.	Central	Kurduwadi
2.		Matunga
3.		Parel
4.	Eastern	Jamalpur
5.		Kanchrapara
		Lilluah
7.	East Central	Samastipur
8.	East Coast	Mancheswar
9.	Northern	Alambagh
10.		Amritsar
11.		Charbagh
12.		Jagadhari
13.		Kalka

1	2	3
14.	North Central	Jhansi
15.		Rail Spring Karkhana/ Sithouli
16.	North Eastern	Gorakhpur
17.		Izzatnagar
18.	Northeast Frontier	Dibrugarh
19.		Lumding
20.		New Bongaigaon
21.		Tindharia
22.	North Western	Ajmer (Carriage)
23.		Ajmer (Loco)
24.		Bikaner
25.		Jodhpur
26.	Southern	Golden Rock
27.		Perambur (C&W)
28.		Perambur (Loco)
29.	South Central	Lallaguda
30.		Tirupati
31.		Guntapalli
32.	South Eastern	Kharagpur
33.	South East Central	Raipur
34.		Nagpur
35.	South Western	Hubli
36.		Mysore
37.	Western	Bhavnagar
38.		Dahod
39.		Junagarh
40.		Parel
41.		Mahalaxmi
42.		Pratapnagar
43.	West Central	Bhopal
44.		Kota

**Annexure II***List of Railway Workshops (Signal)*

Sl.No.	Railway	Name of Workshop
46.	Central	Byculla
47.	Eastern	Howrah
48.	Northern	Ghaziabad
49.	North Eastern	Gorakhpur
50.	North Western	Ajmer
51.	Northeast Frontier	Pandu
52.	Southern	Podanur
53.	South Central	Mettuguda
54.	South Eastern	Kharagpur
55.	Western	Sabarmati

**Annexure III***List of Railway Workshops (Electrical)*

Sl.No.	Railway	Name of Workshop
65.	Central	Bhusawal
66.	Central	Nasik Road

**Annexure IV***List of Railway Workshops (Engineering)*

Sl.No.	Railway	Name of Workshop
56.	Central	Manmad
57.	East Central	Mughalsarai
58.	Northern	Jalandhar
59.	North Eastern	Gorakhpur
60.	Northeast Frontier	Gonda
61.	Southern	Arakkonam
62.	South Central	Lallaguda
63.	South Eastern	Sini
64.	Western	Sabarmati

**Deployment of UAV by Navy**

3163. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Navy has failed to deploy Unammned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) for reconnaissance causing loss of Rs. 567 crores to the exchequer as reported in the *Dainik Jagran* dated March 26, 2006;

(b) if so, whether the Government has conducted any inquiry in this regard;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d) The deployment of equipment is a dynamic process and depends upon operational requirement as well as other factors like support facilities. Sometimes, there is a time lag between acquisition of equipment and its deployment for reasons such as training of personnel, setting up of infrastructure, etc. However, all efforts are made that equipment procured are deployed as early as possible. The UAVs procured by the Indian Navy have since been deployed and are being utilized for operational tasks.

**Missing of Confidential Documents**

3164. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain confidential documents of army are missing at Indo-China border as reported in the *'Navbharat Times'* dated March 17, 2006;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the action taken against the officers found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (e) A case of missing classified documents of the Army has come to the notice of the Government as reported in the *'Navbharat Times'* of 17th March 2006. The case was detected in Head Quarters

4 Corps at Tezpur in July 2005 in which it was found that a Service personnel attached to the Head Quarters was involved in stealing a few classified documents and data. A Court of Inquiry was convened in this regard.

The Court of Inquiry found the concerned Service person guilty and ten others blame worthy of negligence. Disciplinary and Administrative proceedings against these Service personnel have been initiated as per rules.

[English]

#### **Cooking Free Railway Stations**

3165. DR. M. JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways propose to make railway stations 'cooking-free';

(b) if so, the details thereof along with progress made in this regard so far;

(c) the names of the railway stations in the country proposed to be covered under the said scheme and the criteria adopted for their selection; and

(d) the time by which these railway stations are likely to be made 'cooking-free'?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) to (d) As per extant catering policy, there should be no cooking on platforms at suburban stations and for other categories of stations there should be an attempt for no cooking on stalls and trolleys on the platforms, except for making tea. All cooking should be done in the main kitchen.

#### **International Cooperation to Improve Safety Performance**

3166. SHRI DHANUSKODI R. ATHITHAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Air Force was in critical situation because of low fleet serviceability;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Indian Air Force is seeking international cooperation to improve its safety performance; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The IAF regularly interacts with the Air Forces of other countries for mutual benefit through sharing of information on flight safety and associated matters. This is an ongoing process.

[Translation]

#### **Irregularities in Purchase of Executive Jet Planes**

3167. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General has pointed out irregularities in purchase of executive jet planes and extravagant expenditure on their upkeep and purchase of missiles for the Air Force as reported in the 'Dainik Jagran', dated March 22, 2006;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) Report No. 5 of 2006 (Air Force and Navy) of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, presented to the Parliament on 21.3.2006, contains, *inter alia*, the following Audit Paras:

(i) Para 2.1 relating to Acquisition of Executive Jets for Communication Squadron;

(ii) Para 2.3 relating to Acquisition of Missiles by Indian Air Force (IAF).

A contract was signed by the Government on 19.9.2003 with M/s Embraer, Brazil for purchase of five Executive Jets for IAF and Border Security Force. The above mentioned Report states that while the property of the acquisition for replacement of the existing fleet was open to question, commitment of an additional expenditure of Rs. 126.90 crore for providing upgraded facilities in the aircraft did not reflect adequate concern for deriving value for money.

A contract was signed by the Government on 19.5.2003 with M/s ARTEM, Ukraine for purchase of 216 missiles. The Report states that absence of effective negotiation and a competitive and transparent process resulted in the payment of at least USD 10.52 million (Rs. 50.60 crore) over the reference price.

Action Taken Notes on the Audit paras will be furnished to the Lok Sabha Secretariat through the Ministry of Finance.

*[English]*

#### **Renovation of Rail Yatri Niwas**

3168. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the restaurant owned by the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) at Rail Yatri Niwas, New Delhi station has been closed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Railways to make Rail Yatri Niwas a new look;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the work is likely to be started and completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The restaurant has been closed down due to poor patronage.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) There is a proposal for complete renovation of the Rail Yatri Niwas, which includes civil and structural works, plumbing and drainage, electrical wiring and fittings, replacement of doors and windows, interior decoration, landscaping etc. Work on the proposal will be taken up after due approval from concerned authorities.

#### **Thar Express**

3169. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Thar Express linking southern Pakistan and India has started operating;

(b) if so, the details of its capacity and occupancy thereof;

(c) whether the train has been incurring any losses; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to make it viable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) Yes, Sir. It has started operating with effect from 18.2.2006.

(b) Initially it was started with 5 GSCN (Second Class Sleeper Coach) & 2 SLR (Second Class cum luggage cum Guards brake van). With an increase in occupancy, it has been augmented to 7 GSCN, 2 SLR & 1 GS (General Second Class). Its occupancy ranges between 90-100%.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) All short distance passenger trains with less composition are incurring losses on Indian Railways.

#### **Private Participation for Creating Modern Infrastructure at Railway Stations**

3170. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:  
SHRI A.V. BELLARMIN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have taken any decision to invite private participation for creating modern infrastructure at major Railway Stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the Railway Stations identified in this regard, zone-wise; and

(d) the time by which the work is likely to be commenced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, at the request of the hon. Members of the Opposition Parties, I adjourn the House till 12 noon only for lying of the papers, as you have requested.

11.34 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till  
Twelve of the Clock.*

12.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Twelve of the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

## PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[*English*]

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Papers to be laid.

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 hon. Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Implementation of the India-US Joint Statement of July 18, 2005: India's Separation Plan (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 4137/2006]

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Bharat Dynamics Limited and the Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence, for the year 2006-2007.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 4138/2006]

- (2) A copy of the Notification No. SRO 121 (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th October, 2005 making certain amendments in the Notification No. SRO 11 dated the 15th February, 1992, issued under section 12 of the Army Act, 1950.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 4139/2006]

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Maulana Azad Education Foundation, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Maulana Azad Education Foundation, 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 Maulana Azad Education Foundation, New Delhi, 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. 4140/2006]

- (3) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 9 of the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992:-

- (i) The Annual Report of the National Commission for Minorities, for the year 1996-1997.
- (ii) The action taken memorandum on the recommendations contained in the report for the year 1996-1997.
- (iii) Review by the Government of the working of the National Commission for Minorities, for the year 1996-1997.

- (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. 4141/2006]

MR. SPEAKER: Item No. 5—Shri Sushil Kumar Shinde—Not present.

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): 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:

(a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Punjab Ashok Hotel Company Limited, Chandigarh, for the year 2003-2004.

(ii) Annual Report of the Punjab Ashok Hotel Company Limited, Chandigarh, for the year 2003-2004, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 4142/2006]

(b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Kumarakruppa Frontier Hotels Private Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005.

(ii) Annual Report of the Kumarakruppa Frontier Hotels Private Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(2) Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 4143/2006]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the West Zone Cultural Centre, Udaipur, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the West Zone Cultural Centre, Udaipur, for the year 2002-2003.

(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. 4144/2006]

(5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the West Zone Cultural Centre, Udaipur, 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 West Zone Cultural Centre, Udaipur, 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. 4145/2006]

(7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre, Kolkata, 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 Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre, Kolkata, for the year 2003-2004.

(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. 4146/2006]

(9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Culture Fund, New Delhi, 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 Culture Fund, New Delhi, 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. 4147/2006]

(11) A copy of the Corrigendum (Hindi and English versions) to the delay Statement\* in laying the Annual Report, Audited Accounts and Review of the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, for the year 2002-2003.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 4148/2006]

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\*Delay statement was laid on the Table on 12.5.2005.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Vayudoot Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Vayudoot Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 4149/2006]

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 Shri Suresh Pachouri, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Union Public Service Commission (Exemption from Consultation) Amendment Regulations, 2006 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 204(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd April, 2006 under article 320(5) of the Constitution.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 4150/2006]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): On behalf of Dr. Shakeel Ahmad, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy of the Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India-Union Government (Commercial) No. 9 of 2006)-Telecommunications Sector-Performance Audit for the year ended the March, 2005, under Article 151(1) of the Constitution.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 4151/2006]

- (2) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited and the Department of Telecommunications for the year 2006-2007.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 4152/2006]

- (3) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, New Delhi for the year 2004-2005.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (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. 4153/2006]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): On behalf of K.H. Muniyappa, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 10 of the National Highways Act, 1956:

- (i) S.O. 1713 (E), S.O. 1714 (E), S.O. 1716 (E) and S.O. 1719 (E) to S.O. 1721 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th December, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for the public purpose of building (four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 7 (Madurai-Kanniyakumari section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (ii) S.O. 1751 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th December, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning), maintenance, management

and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Madurai-Kanniyakumari section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.

- (iii) S.O. 1752 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th December, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for widening of National Highway No. 47, including construction of bypasses (Salem-Coimbatore section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (iv) S.O. 163 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 7th February, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for the public purpose of building (four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Madurai-Kanniyakumari section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (v) S.O. 593 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th April, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning) of National Highway No. 46 (Krishnagiri-Ranipet section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (vi) S.O. 1690 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th December, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning) of National Highway No. 46 (Krishnagiri-Ranipet section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (vii) S.O. 1691 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th December, 2005 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 406 (E) dated the 24th March, 2005.
- (viii) S.O. 1692 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th December, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for the public purpose of building (four-laning) of National Highway No. 46 (Krishnagiri-Ranipet section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (ix) S.O. 1715 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th December, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning), maintenance, management

and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Madurai-Kanniyakumari section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.

- (x) S.O. 1717 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th December, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for the public purpose of building (four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Bangalore-Salem-Madurai and Madurai-Kanniyakumari sections) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xi) S.O. 1718 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th December, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for the public purpose of building (four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Madurai-Kanniyakumari section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xii) S.O. 1739 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th December, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for the public purpose of building (four-laning), of National Highway No. 4 (Chennai-Ranipet section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xiii) S.O. 1749 (E) and S.O. 1750 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th December, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 7 (Madurai-Kanniyakumari section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xiv) S.O. 1756 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th December, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for the public purpose of building (four-laning), of National Highway No. 46 (Krishnagiri-Ranipet section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xv) S.O. 1757 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th December, 2005 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1404 (E) dated the 27th September, 2005.



- (xvi) S.O. 1761 (E) to S.O. 1766 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th December, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for the public purpose of building (four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 7 (Madurai-Kanniyakumari section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xvii) S.O. 1772 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th December, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning) of National Highway No. 46 (Krishnagiri-Ranipet section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xviii) S.O. 1773 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th December, 2005 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 593(E) dated the 26th April, 2005.
- (xix) S.O. 1800 (E) to S.O. 1802 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd December, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for the public purpose of building (four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 7 (Madurai-Kanniyakumari section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xx) S.O. 1825 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th December, 2005 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 406 (E) dated the 24th March, 2005.
- (xxi) S.O. 406 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th March, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning) of National Highway No. 46 (Krishnagiri-Ranipet section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxii) S.O. 1753 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th December, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for the public purpose of building (widening) of National Highway No. 7 (Hyderabad-Bangalore section), in the State of Andhra Pradesh.
- (xxiii) S.O. 1710 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th December, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for the public purpose of building (four-laning) of National Highway No. 75 (Madhya Pradesh-Uttar Pradesh Border), in the State of Madhya Pradesh.
- (xxiv) S.O. 236 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd February, 2006 authorizing the Chief Engineer (NH), Uttaranchal P.W.D. or his authorized legal representative to collect the fees from the users of the bridge across Rawasan River on National Highway No. 74 (Haridwar-Najibabad-Kashipur-Pilibhit-Bareilly section) in the State of Uttaranchal.
- (xxv) S.O. 230 (E) to S.O. 232 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st February, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (construction), maintenance, management and operation of Chennai bypass (Phase-II) connecting National Highway Nos. 4 and 5 in different villages of Thiruvallur district in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxvi) S.O. 6 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd January, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for the public purpose of building (construction) of Grade Separator for Chennai By-Pass (Phase-II), connecting National Highway Nos. 4 and 5 in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxvii) S.O. 16 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th January, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for the public purpose of building (construction) of Grade Separator for Chennai By-Pass (Phase-II), connecting National Highway Nos. 4 and 5 in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxviii) S.O. 17 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th January, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (construction) of Grade Separator for Chennai By-Pass (Phase-II) on National Highway No. 5 in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxix) S.O. 21 (E) to S.O. 23 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th January,

- 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 7 (Madurai-Kanniyakumari section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxx) S.O. 62 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th January, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning) of National Highway No. 46 (Krishnagiri-Ranipet section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxxi) S.O. 63 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th January, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for the public purpose of building (four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Madurai-Kanniyakumari section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxxii) S.O. 113 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st January, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for the public purpose of building (four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Madurai-Kanniyakumari section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxxiii) S.O. 125 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st February, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for the public purpose of building (four-laning) of National Highway No. 46 (Krishnagiri-Ranipet section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxxiv) S.O. 234 (E) and S.O. 235 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd February, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning) of different stretches of National Highway No. 46 (Krishnagiri-Ranipet section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxxv) S.O. 247 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th February, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for the public purpose of building (four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Madurai-Kanniyakumari section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxxvi) S.O. 292 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 7th March, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for the public purpose of building (four-laning) of National Highway No. 45B (Tiruchirapalli-viralimalai-Madurai section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxxvii) S.O. 311 (E) to S.O. 313 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th March, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 46 (Krishnagiri-Ranipet section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxxviii) S.O. 321 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th March, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/ four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Bangalore-Salem-Madurai and Madurai-Kanniyakumari sections) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxxix) S.O. 322 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th March, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/ four-laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Madurai-Kanniyakumari section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xl) S.O. 323 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th March, 2006 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1628 (E) dated the 21st November, 2005.
- (xli) S.O. 369 (E) and S.O. 370 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st March, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning) of different stretches of National Highway No. 46 (Krishnagiri-Ranipet section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xlii) S.O. 394 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th March, 2006 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 556 (E) dated the 7th June, 2000.

- (xliii) S.O. 304 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th March, 2006 regarding levy of fee to be recovered from the users of four-laned stretches of National Highway No. 4 in the State of Maharashtra.
- (xliv) S.O. 305 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th March, 2006 regarding levy of fee to be recovered from the users of four-laned stretches of National Highway No. 8 in the State of Rajasthan.
- (xlv) S.O. 1823 (E) and S.O. 1824 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th December, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for the public purpose of building (widening) of different stretches of National Highway No. 47 (Mannuthy to Aluva section) in the State of Kerala.
- (xlvii) S.O. 5 (E), S.O. 7 (E) to S.O. 9 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd January, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for the public purpose of building (widening) of different stretches of National Highway No. 47 (Mannuthy to Aluva section) in the State of Kerala.
- (xlviii) S.O. 1782 (E) to S.O. 1784 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th December, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for the public purpose of building (four-laning) of different stretches of National Highway No. 76 in the State of Rajasthan.
- (xlix) S.O. 1807 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th December, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning) of National Highway No. 79 in the State of Rajasthan.
- (l) S.O. 1711 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th December, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning) of National Highway No. 14 in the State of Gujarat.
- (li) S.O. 1732 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th December, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building of National Highway No. 76, including construction of Kota Bypass, in the State of Rajasthan.
- (lii) S.O. 1733 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th December, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for the public purpose of building of National Highway No. 76, in the State of Rajasthan.
- (liii) S.O. 1754 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th December, 2005 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1352 (E) dated the 8th December, 2004.
- (liiii) S.O. 19 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th January, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building of National Highway No. 76, in the State of Rajasthan.
- (liv) S.O. 12 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th January, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening) of National Highway No. 7 (Hyderabad-Bangalore section), in the State of Andhra Pradesh.
- (lv) S.O. 338 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th March, 2006, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1435 (E) dated the 29th September, 2005.
- (lvi) S.O. 339 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th March, 2006, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1436 (E) dated the 29th September, 2005.
- (lvii) S.O. 340 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th March, 2006, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1436 (E) (in Hindi version only) dated the 29th September, 2005.
- (lviii) S.O. 341 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th March, 2006, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1437 (E) dated the 29th September, 2005.

- (lix) S.O. 342 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th March, 2006, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1438 (E) (in English version only) dated the 29th September, 2005.
- (lx) S.O. 343 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th March, 2006, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1439 (E) dated the 29th September, 2005.
- (lxi) S.O. 344 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th March, 2006, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1442 (E) dated the 29th September, 2005.
- (lxii) S.O. 345 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th March, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for widening of National Highway No. 11 (Bharatpur-Jaipur section) including construction of bypasses in the State of Rajasthan.
- (lxiii) S.O. 346 (E) and S.O. 347 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th March, 2006, authorizing Sub-Divisional Officer, Sikrai as the Competent authority to acquire land for widening of different stretches of National Highway No. 11 (Bharatpur-Jaipur section) including construction of bypasses in the State of Rajasthan.
- (lxiv) S.O. 355 (E) and S.O. 356 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th March, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 11 (Mahua-Jaipur section) in the State of Rajasthan.
- (lxv) S.O. 372 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st March, 2006, authorizing Sub-Divisional Officer, Dausa as the Competent authority to acquire land on National Highway No. 11A (Extension) for the construction, maintenance, management and operation, in the State of Rajasthan.
- (lxvi) S.O. 20 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th January, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for the public purpose of building (widening), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Lakhnadon-Madhya Pradesh/Maharashtra Border section), including construction of by-passes in the State of Madhya Pradesh.
- (lxvii) S.O. 392 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th March, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening) of National Highway No. 28 (Lucknow-Uttar Pradesh/Bihar Border section), in the State of Uttar Pradesh.
- (lxviii) S.O. 428 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th March, 2006, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 457 (E) dated the 31st March, 2005.
- (lxix) S.O. 326 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th March, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening) of National Highway No. 3 (Indore-Khalghat section), including construction of bypasses, in the State of Madhya Pradesh.
- (lxx) S.O. 328 (E) to S.O. 331 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th March, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 26 (Jhansi-Lakhnadon section), including construction of by-passes in the State of Madhya Pradesh.
- (lxxi) S.O. 332 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th March, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 26 (Sagar-Rajmarg Chouraha section) in the State of Madhya Pradesh.
- (lxxii) S.O. 333 (E) to S.O. 336 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th March, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening), maintenance,

management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 26 (Jhansi-Lakhnadon section), including construction of by-passes in the State of Madhya Pradesh.

- (2) Six statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i to xxiv) of Item, No. (1) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 4154/2006]

- (3) A copy of the Central Motor Vehicles (Regulation of Bus Service between Amritsar and Lahore) Rules, 2006 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 68 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 16th February, 2006 under sub-section (4) of section 212 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.

- (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. 4155/2006]

- (5) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 251 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th February, 2006 entrusting the stretches of Jalandhar-Amritsar Section of National Highway No. 1 to the National Highways Authority of India, issued under section 11 of the National Highways Authority of India Act, 1988.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 4156/2006]

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR): On behalf of Shrimati Subbulakshmi Jagadeesan, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation, Faridabad, for the year 2002-2003.

- (ii) Annual Report of the National Handicapped Finance and Development

Corporation, Faridabad, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 4157/2006]

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):

- (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Rajasthan Electronics and Instruments Limited and the Department of Heavy Industry, Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises for the year 2006-2007.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 4158/2006]

- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Scooters India Limited and the Department of Heavy Industry, Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 4159/2006]

- (2) A copy of the Statement of Affairs Part-I (Hindi and English versions) of the Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation Limited (a company in liquidation), Durgapur, as on 24th January, 2003 and Statement of Receipt and Payment of Account Part-II (Hindi and English versions) for the period from the 25th June, 2003 to the 28th February, 2005, together with audit reports thereon.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 4160/2006]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under sub-sections

(1) & (4) of section 15 of the Oil Industry (Development) Act, 1974:

- (i) S.O. 252 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th February, 2006 rescinding the Notification No. S.O. 259 (E) dated the 28th February, 2002.
- (ii) S.O. 253 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th February, 2006 specifying the rate of duty of excise in respect of crude oil.
- (iii) S.O. 262 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th February, 2006 regarding exemption of duty of excise on crude oil production from the fields under the production Sharing Contracts mentioned therein.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 4161/2006]

(2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions):

- (i) Memorandum of understanding between the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited and Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the year 2006-2007.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 4162/2006]

- (ii) Memorandum of understanding between the Indian Oil Corporation Limited and Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the year 2006-2007.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 4163/2006]

(3) A copy of the Motor Spirit and High Speed Diesel (Regulation of Supply, Distribution and Prevention of Malpractices) Order, 2005, (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 729 (E) dated the 21st December, 2005 under sub-section (3) of section 6 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 4164/2006]

(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) Review by the Government of the working of the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation limited and its subsidiaries, New Delhi, for

the year 2004-2005.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited and its subsidiaries, 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. 4165/2006]

(b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Oil India Limited, Dibrugarh, for the year 2004-2005.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Oil India Limited, Dibrugarh, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith 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 (4) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 4166/2006]

12.03 hrs.

## ASSENT TO BILLS

[*English*]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I beg to lay on the Table the following 14 Bills passed by the Houses of Parliament during the First part of Seventh Session of Fourteenth Lok Sabha and assented to by the President since a report was last made to the House on the 17th February, 2006:

- (1) The Government of Union Territories and the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Bill, 2006;
- (2) The Cost and Works Accountants (Amendment) Bill, 2006;
- (3) The Company Secretaries (Amendment) Bill, 2006;
- (4) The Chartered Accountants (Amendment) Bill, 2006;
- (5) The Appropriation (Railways) Vote on Account Bill, 2006
- (6) The Appropriation (Railways) Vote on Account Bill, 2006

- (7) The Appropriation (Railways) No. 2 Bill, 2006
- (8) The Appropriation Bill, 2006
- (9) The Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 2006
- (10) The Appropriation (Railways) No. 3 Bill, 2006
- (11) The Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 2006
- (12) The National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions (Amendment) Bill, 2006
- (13) The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board Bill, 2006
- (14) The Finance Bill, 2006.

12.04 Hrs.

**RESIGNATION BY MEMBERS***[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House that I had received a letter dated 23 March, 2006 from Shrimati Sonia Gandhi, an elected Member from Raibareilly Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh resigning from the membership of Lok Sabha with immediate effect.

I accepted her resignation with effect from 23 March, 2006.

I have also to inform the House that I received a letter dated 10th May, 2006 from Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, an elected Member from Vidisha Parliamentary Constituency of Madhya Pradesh resigning from the membership of Lok Sabha with immediate effect.

I accepted his resignation with effect from 10th May, 2006.

12.04½ hrs.

**COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES****Tenth Report***[English]*

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad): I beg to present the Tenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Government Assurances regarding requests for dropping of assurances.

12.05 hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE****Thirty-fourth Report***[English]*

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha): I beg to lay\* the Thirty-fourth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Finance on the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) and Financial Institutions Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2005.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Item No. 17—Statement by Minister. Shri Praful Patel.

*...(Interruptions)*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): No, Sir. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It will just take two minutes. He is just making a statement. It will be laid on the Table of the House.

*...(Interruptions)*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Sir, then the regular business of the House starts. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: There are only two items. One is a statement and second is a Motion for Election to the Coffee Board.

*...(Interruptions)*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: No, Sir. We agreed only for Papers to be laid on the Table of the House. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Prof. Malhotra, you have made a request and I have read that. On the definite assurance that from tomorrow it will be all business like, I am agreeing.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again on Friday, 12th of May, 2006 at 11.00 a.m.

12.06 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the clock on Friday, May 12, 2006/Vaisakha 22, 1928 (Saka).*

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\*This Report was presented to Hon'ble Speaker on 24th April, 2006 under Direction 71A when the House was not in Session and the Speaker was pleased to order the printing, publication and circulation of the Fourteenth Report under Rule 280 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha.

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