

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES**

## **(English Version)**

**Tenth Session**  
**(Fourteenth Lok Sabha)**



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## LOK SABHA DEBATES

### LOK SABHA

*Monday, March 12, 2007/Phalgun 21, 1928 (Saka)*

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock*

*[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]*

### WELCOME TO NORWEGIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, at the outset, I have to make an announcement.

On behalf of the hon. Members of the House and on my own behalf, I have great pleasure in welcoming His Excellency Mr. Thorbjorn Jagland, President of the Storting of the Kingdom of Norway and members of the Norwegian Parliamentary Delegation, who are on a visit to India as our honoured guests.

They arrived in India on Sunday, 11 March, 2007. They are now seated in the Special Box. We wish them a happy and fruitful stay in our country. Through them we convey our greetings and best wishes to His Majesty the King Harald V, the Storting, the Government and the friendly people of the Kingdom of Norway.

Welcome.

11.01 hrs.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Question Hour.

Q.No. 181 – Shri Raghuraj Singh Shakya – Not present.

Shri Raosaheb Danve Patil – Not present.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing is being recorded.

*(Interruptions)\**

MR. SPEAKER : Question No. 182 – Shri Ilyas Azmi – Not present.

Q.No. 183 – Shri Thawarchand Gehlot – Not present.

Shri Sanjay Dhotre – Not present.

Q.No. 184 – Shri Rayapati Sambasiva Rao – Not present.

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

#### Decline in Ground Water Level

+

\*185. SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA :

SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has made any survey on the constantly declining ground water level in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the follow-up action taken by the Government on the survey report;

(d) whether some Multi-national soft-drink companies are engaged in extracting water illegally for their use without prior permission;

(e) if so, the action taken against such companies;

(f) whether the Central Ground Water Authority has organized training programmes in the country with a view

\*Not recorded.

to create public awareness about roof-top rain-water harvesting;

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

(h) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(i) the other measures being taken by the Government for improving the ground water level?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ) : (a) to (i) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Statement**

(a) and (b) Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), carries out ground water surveys, exploration and monitoring of ground water levels on a regional basis. The CGWB also carries out Ground Water Resource Estimation in consultation with State Governments at Blocks/Mandals/Talukas level. As per the latest assessment of ground water resources carried out in 2004, out of 5723 assessment units (Blocks/Mandals/Talukas), 839 units are 'over-exploited' (where stage of ground water exploitation is more than 100% with significant decline in long term trend of ground water level in either pre-monsoon or post-monsoon or both), 226 units are 'critical' (where ground water exploitation is between 90% and 100% with significant decline in long term trend of water level in both pre-monsoon and post-monsoon periods). State/UT-wise numbers of blocs/mandals/talukas having declining trend in ground water level is given in the enclosed Annexure.

(c) The scientific data generated through ground water surveys and exploration have been provided to the State Governments, which help them in planning of ground water resource use and management. 'Water' being a State subject, it is the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to take suitable actions for arresting the declining ground water levels in their respective States. However, based on the survey reports the following measures have been taken by the Central Government for improvement of ground water levels in the country:

- (i) Circulation of a Manual on Artificial Recharge of ground water to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific Artificial Recharge Schemes to check the declining trend in ground water levels.
- (ii) Preparation of a conceptual report titled "Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Ground Water".
- (iii) Constitution of a Central Ground Water Authority under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for regulation and control of ground water management and development.
- (iv) A demonstrative scheme on "Rain Water Harvesting and Artificial Recharge to Ground Water" has been taken up by the Central Ground Water Board at a total cost of Rs. 12 crore during the year 2006-07. The scheme is being implemented under the on-going central sector scheme of "Ground water surveys, exploration and investigation".
- (v) The Union Government has constituted "Artificial Recharge of Ground Water Advisory Council" in the Ministry of Water Resources with an objective to popularize the concept of artificial recharge among all stake holders and its adoption. The Advisory Council has representation from various Ministries/Departments concerned with rain water harvesting, States/UTs, Financial Institutions, Industries/Public Undertakings as well as NGOs and renowned Subject Experts.

(d) and (e) 'Water' being a state subject, it is the responsibility of the State Government to regulate the extraction of ground water by industries, including multinational soft drink companies. However, the following measures have been initiated by the Central Government for ensuring regulation of ground water extraction by industries.

- (i) The Union Ministry has circulated a Model Bill on regulation and control of development and management of ground water resources to States in 1970, 1992, 1996 and 2005 to facilitate the States to enact and implement legislation on ground water.
- (ii) Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) constituted under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, is regulating extraction of ground water by new industries including soft drink companies located in Over-exploited/Critical areas on case to case basis.

(f) and (g) The CGWA promotes rain water harvesting and artificial recharge of ground water by conducting mass awareness/training programmes throughout the country involving Central/State Governments/Non-Government Organizations/Voluntary Organizations/Resident Welfare Associations/Educational Institutions/Industries and Individuals. So far, the CGWA has conducted 207 training programmes and 290 mass awareness programmes. During 2006-07, 26 mass awareness programmes and 32 training programmes have been conducted.

(h) Does not arise.

(i) The Union Government has taken several other measures for improving the ground water level in the country which includes :-

- Ministry of Water Resources has requested other Central Ministries/Departments of Railways, Defence, Posts, Telecommunications, Central Public Works Department and National Highways Authority of India to provide roof top rain water harvesting structures in the buildings under their control.
- To promote roof top rain water harvesting in rural areas, Ministry of Water Resources is implementing a demonstrative scheme through Non-Government Organizations under which funding is provided for construction of roof top

rain water harvesting structures for collection of rain water for drinking and use in toilets constructed for girls in Girls' Schools in the States.

- The Central Ground Water Authority has directed the Chief Secretaries of the concerned States to take all measures to adopt artificial recharge to ground water/promote rain water harvesting in all the Over-exploited areas falling under their jurisdiction and ensure inclusion of roof top rain water harvesting in the building bye-laws.
- Central Ground Water Authority has issued directions to Group Housing Societies, Institutes, Hotels, Industries, Farm Houses, etc. in the notified areas of Delhi, Faridabad, Gurgaon and Ghaziabad and other areas of NCT Delhi where ground water table is below 8 metres from ground surface, to adopt rain water harvesting system.

#### *Annexure*

#### *Blocks/Mandals/Talukas showing declining Trend in Ground Water Levels*

S.No.	State/UT	Remarks
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Declining trends observed in isolated pockets of 296 Mandal.
2.	Delhi	Declining trends observed in isolated pockets of 7 Districts
3.	Gujarat	Declining trends observed in isolated pockets of 43 Talukas
4.	Haryana	Declining trends observed in isolated pockets of 66 Blocks
5.	Karnataka	Declining trends observed in isolated pockets of 68 Talukas



1	2	3
6.	Kerala	Declining trends observed in isolated pockets of 20 Blocks
7.	Madhya Pradesh	Declining trends observed in isolated pockets of 29 Blocks
8.	Maharashtra	Declining trends observed in isolated pockets of 8 Talukas
9.	Punjab	Declining trends observed in isolated pockets of 108 Blocks
10.	Rajasthan	Declining trends observed in isolated pockets of 190 Blocks
11.	Tamil Nadu	Declining trends observed in isolated pockets of 175 Blocks
12.	Uttar Pradesh	Declining trends observed in isolated pockets of 50 Blocks
13.	Uttaranchal	Declining trends observed in isolated pockets of 2 Blocks
14.	West Bengal	Declining trends observed in isolated pockets of 1 Block
15.	Daman and Diu	Declining trends observed in isolated pockets of 1 Block
16.	Pondicherry	Declining trends observed in isolated pockets of 1 Block

MR. SPEAKER : Q. No. 185 — Shri Abdul Rashid Shaheen — Not present. Shri Mahavir Bhagora, I thank you very much.

[Translation]

SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA : Mr. Speaker, as per the latest assessment of ground water resources carried out in 2004, has been as given in the Minister's reply, out of 5723 assessment units (Blocks/Mandals/Talukas), 839 units

are over-exploited. In 226 blocks there has been 90 to 100 per cent exploitation of ground water. As per the figures given therein, Rajasthan is the largest State after Andhra Pradesh where 190 blocks have been witnessing constant decline in ground water level due to exploitation. I would like to know from the hon. Minister the total expenditure incurred by the Union Government under the Artificial Recharge Scheme for Rajasthan so far and how much provision has been made for how many blocks under the Eleventh Five Year Plan?

PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is no question of any allocation. The question is that water level is fast declining in several parts of the country and it is a matter of serious concern. The figures quoted by the hon. Member are correct. This work is continuing in all the regional offices across the country. This work is continuous and ongoing. We have 18 regional offices and 15553 wells known as observation wells. This is an ongoing process. We send the data wherever the water level is declining. Hon. Member has correctly said that the assessment units observe where assessment is to be made. In our country somewhere these are called blocks or districts and somewhere Talukas or Mandals. A survey has been conducted of such assessment units. Out of these, 839 units have been over exploited and 226 units are critical. There is over exploitation if the areas declared critical continue to have ground water exploitation. Thereafter notices are served and we have notified certain areas. If he wishes to know the areas which have been notified I would like to tell him that extraction of water after the notification by the Central Ground Water Authority is prohibited. We have notified certain such areas. We have notified certain areas for the registration of ground water exploitation structure. There is no question of making any allocation since it is a State Government's subject. We provide complete technical assistance.

SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA : Mr. Speaker, in reply to the question he stated that an assessment was made in the year 2004, we are in the year 2007 now, I would like to know as to what works have been done during there

three years? Secondly, a training programme has been referred to which includes training the masses with a view to create public awareness. I would like to ask him as to how many of such camps have been organised by him so far?

PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ : Sir, I will have to give him a comprehensive reply. I said just now that ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : If it is a lengthy reply, you may send him the details.

PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ : These will have to be stated so that it may not raise other issues. ...*(Interruptions)*. We have notified it across the country. There are 43 such places wherein structures for ground water exploitation cannot be raised without the sanction of C.G.W.A. There were 11 such areas in the year 2000 which have gradually increased to 43 from where water cannot be extracted. The situation is very critical in certain areas. I would like to tell you about them. For example, there are some deficiency in Delhi, Rajasthan, Punjab and Haryana. The condition in Tamil Nadu is not so critical, however more than 100% water exploitation is possible in Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, Daman and Diu and Pondicherry. Besides, such a notification has been issued in 43 areas and there are more areas where registration is about to take place. I would like to tell the House that we have made considerable efforts for this purpose. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow a Half-an-Hour discussion on this.

PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ : Sir, I will give a comprehensive answer. *[Translation]* I will come to your point. Hon. Prime Minister has made efforts in this direction. There have been efforts to arrest a major portion of four thousand billion cubic meter surface water available in our country which gets drifted into the oceans. However, we can make efforts in regard to the four hundred thirty three billion cubic metre ground water. There are difficulties in

utilizing the rain water since we have very few dams. The number of check dams and irrigation dams in the country are very few in comparison to the number of dams across the world. A lot needs to be done in this direction. However, the hon. Prime Minister is concerned to save the Ground Water. It is like the deposit in a saving bank from which one can draw interest but touching the principal amount would mean heavy loss of profit to the bank. So ground water should be utilized to the extent it is naturally available through rains during a year. That is why we have notified and the Prime Minister has constituted an Advisory Council for the Recharge of the Ground Water ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : I will give you two days in a week for your Questions.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ : It's first meeting was chaired by the hon. Prime Minister. Thereafter its six sub-committees were set up. Report of one Committee has been submitted. Its title is "More Cry and Income per drum of water. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Member, I think you are satisfied with his answer.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ : The report states how we can get more yield from every drop of rain. The report has come. A model Bill has been prepared for the entire country. There is Recharge of Ground and Rain Water Harvesting component in the Model Bill and I am glad to inform the House that ever since I have joined the Ministry I have been pursuing the states and they are finally convinced.

Chief Ministers remain quite busy, however, two more States have made laws on ground water during my office. 20 other states are enacting laws and now negotiations are to be made with Punjab only...(Interruptions) North East is a different issue, there is no water problem.... (Interruptions) I shall give a separate reply after this ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : All right, everyone will get a chance. No need to give a separate reply.

PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ : Sir, I was saying that apart from North-East, Punjab is the only region with which talks are yet to be held. Several States have accepted the Model Bill and recharge of ground water and rain water harvesting will be there accordingly. One of our colleagues was asking me just now as to what have I done for awareness. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Thank you very much. I wanted to ask you about rainwater harvesting. But I will do it next time, not now.

#### Decline In Chicken and Egg Production

+

\*186. SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY :

SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total production of chicken and egg recorded in the country during each of the last three years and the current financial year;

(b) whether chicken and egg production are decreasing alarmingly in the country;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the cost of chicken and eggs in the market is almost 30 per cent higher than the last year;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the production of chicken and egg?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) (i) Following is the position of egg production in the country during each of the last three years and in the current financial year:-

Year	Production (in billion numbers)
2003-04	40.4
2004-05	45.2
2005-06	46.2
2006-07 (estimated)	47.3

Source: Animal Husbandry Statistic.

(ii) Following is the position of chicken meat production from 2002 to 2005 in the country for which data is available:-

Year	Production (in million metric tonnes)
2002	1.40
2003	1.60
2004	1.65
2005	1.90

Source: FAO Data

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) As per statistics published by the National Egg Coordination Committee, the average prices of eggs at prominent consumption centres in the country in January 2007 were higher by 22% to 26% as compared to the average prices prevailing at the said centres in January 2006.

The statistics available in trade publications reveal that the average broiler lifting rates at prominent centres in the country in January 2007 were 5% to 10% higher as compared to the average rates prevailing at the same centres in January 2006.

(e) The main factors responsible for increase in the prices of chicken and eggs in the country this year, as compared to the last year, are:-

- (i) Increase in the price of maize, which constitutes, on an average, 50% of the poultry feed.
- (ii) Reduction in installed capacity after occurrence of bird flu in February/March 2006.

(f) The Government has taken a number of measures, both short-term and long-term, to improve the production of chicken and eggs in the country. The short-term measures include:-

- (i) Implementation of a financial relief package for the poultry industry in April 2006.
- (ii) Distribution of 35.6 lakh quintals of subsidized maize to various States at a price of Rs. 450 per quintal from the Government's stock for further distribution to poultry farmer for use in poultry feed.
- (iii) Permission to import maize under OGL at zero duty upto 31.12.2007.

The following schemes implemented by the Govern-

ment seek to promote the development of poultry and, in turn, the production of chicken and eggs in the country on a long-term basis:-

- (i) Centrally sponsored scheme 'Assistance to State Poultry/Duck Farms'.
- (ii) Central Sector scheme 'Dairy/Poultry Venture Capital Fund'.

SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY : Sir, the production of poultry stock is decreasing day by day because of which the cost is going up. What is the action taken by the Government to increase the production? In the reply it has been said that because of the cost of the maize and other things, the production is less and the cost is more. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what is the steps taken to increase the production of feedstock to the poultry and what are the steps taken to increase the poultry production?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : Sir, if you kindly see the figures, right from the years 2003-2004, 2004-2005, 2005-2006 and 2006-2007, India's production has definitely increased and improved irrespective of the bird flu. The total production has not been affected and it is a good thing. But this year, the problem which is being faced, as mentioned rightly by the hon. Member just now, regarding the cost, fifty per cent cost is depending on the price of the maize. Unfortunately, this year not only in India but internationally maize is not available. Whatever maize was available with the Government of India has been distributed at cheaper rate to many States. Hon. Speaker, Sir, I got a request from your side also and we have implemented that also.

MR. SPEAKER : I am thankful to you.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : In the western world, especially in the United States of America, corn has been diverted for manufacturing of ethanol and that is the reason that the availability of corn, maize is not there upto the mark. This year a major programme has been taken up

in our own country. Our efforts will be to see that the basic raw material will be available here which will ultimately bring down the cost.

**SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY :** Thank you, Sir. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what India's place in international market for poultry and poultry products and what are the steps taken by the Government to increase it.

**MR. SPEAKER :** He said about it.

**SHRI SHARAD PAWAR :** To be frank, production-wise we are not upto the mark. China, USA and Indonesia are the highest chicken producers in the world. In world egg production, fortunately India's production is the third. China comes first followed by the USA in egg production. As far as selling in the international market is concerned, there are very few countries where we can send our poultry and poultry products. There are five, six different types of categories in poultry products. Market for live poultry is Bangladesh, USA, Kuwait, Sri Lanka and Nepal. For hatching eggs, UAE, Oman, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia are the markets. For table eggs, it is the UAE, Oman, Kuwait and Qatar. For egg powder, Japan, Denmark, Saudi Arabia, Poland and Belgium are the markets. For frozen eggs, UAE, Oman, Japan, Angola, Kuwait are the markets. For poultry meat, UAE, Bahrain, Yemen and Qatar are the big markets. Our total exports are not very high value-wise. About Rs. 160 crore to Rs. 165 crore worth material has been exported in the last two years. It was only in the year 2003-04 that more than Rs. 200 crore worth products were exported.

**SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI :** In the wake of bird flu last year, our poultry industry had faced a huge crisis. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what regulatory measures were taken by the Government to govern the health of poultry livestock to prevent spread of infections such as Avian Influenza and to ensure the quality of poultry products in the production chain.

**MR. SPEAKER :** That does not arise from the main question.

**SHRI SHARAD PAWAR :** That was a serious issue. In fact, it affected Indian poultry. Many countries had banned Indian products also. There are a number of countries which are facing bird flu. Countries like China and Indonesia have been facing the problem of bird flu for the last more than one and a half years and yet they have not been able to succeed in controlling it fully. I am happy to inform the august House that India has succeeded in arresting this problem within three to four months period of its surfacing. There is an international organization which has declared India a bird flu free country today. As a result of that, international markets are totally open for India. However, availability is a little bit of a problem now and yet we are trying to export. When there were a lot of losses because of bird flu, the Government of India had taken two programmes one of them, which was announced March, 2006 and operated through financial institutions is a financial relief package, which allows moratorium of one year on repayment of principle and interest for term loan and working capital, to all scheduled banks, cooperative banks and regional banks. The other is conversion of working capital into term loan, rescheduling of term loan availed by poultry units over an additional period of two years from the agreed tenure. Also, as I said, we have provided maize at cheaper rates to some of the States. These actions were taken by the Government of India.

**SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI :** Poultry in India are amongst the worst-run in the world. There is absolutely no system of checking on them. As a result, Salmonella and Cholera are the two epidemics that run consistently twelve months of the year. Thirty thousand people, many of them older people, have died of Salmonella every year and this number is increasing. There are BIS standards for setting up of poultry but not a single poultry adheres to them. Undercover video recordings show the complete filth that actually exists in even the so-called bigger poultrys like Venky's in Pune. What is the point of spreading disease? You are asking for more eggs and more chicken. All we are doing is spreading more Salmonella because there is

absolutely no way in which the poultries are being regulated.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : By and large, we have not received these types of complaints. Complaints were essentially about bird flu. Effective steps have been taken to control bird flu. There are some minor instances here and there. There might be some disease, which is not very important, which would ultimately affect either the health of the people at large or affect the export of our country. ...*(Interruptions)* But if there is any specific area or a particular disease in a particular area, I would be too happy to look into the matter and take corrective steps. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Minister, she would inform you in this matter.

SHRI K.S. RAO : Sir, in the rural areas, it is more the income from poultry and dairy which is saving the people than paddy and wheat in agriculture. This plays a vital role. Protein is available at the cheapest rate in India from eggs and chicken. But as per the hon. Minister, this is suffering because in the country there is a shortage of maize now. I understand that forward trading is being done in maize because of which there are a lot of hoarding in maize, thereby, the prices of maize have gone up by almost double in the last couple of months. I wish to know from the hon. Minister as to whether he is thinking in terms of banning forward trading in maize as he has done in wheat and paddy.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : As I said, regarding maize, prices have definitely gone up not only in India but it is a global trend. I have also explained the reason as to why and where it is diverted. The Government of India took a decision to allow duty-free maize from any other country in the world. We have removed entire duty. Practically, anybody can import. The idea behind this is to see that availability is there.

There is a request which I have received recently from some of the poultry dealers that the Government should

remove maize from forward trading, which we are studying. In the case of wheat and rice, purchase was something different. But availability of rice, wheat and pulses is directly affecting the common man. Here, the availability of maize and the prices of maize is affecting the poultry also. There is, in fact, a request from some of the farmers' organizations also that we should not remove forward trading because for the first time we are getting price to maize. These are different types of requests that are with the Government. The Government would apply its mind and take proper action.

*[Translation]*

### Diversion of Foodgrains

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\*187. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA :  
SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has not agreed with the findings of the Planning Commission regarding diversion of foodgrains from Public Distribution System (PDS);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has conducted a separate study/survey to ascertain the level of diversion from PDS;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken thereon alongwith the details of the mechanism for monitoring of PDS by this Government on a monthly basis;

(e) whether all the States have submitted Form 'C' as required under PDS Control Order, 2001;

(f) if so, the steps taken by the Government to strengthen PDS on the basis of the information provided therein;

(g) if not, the names of States which have failed to do so; and

(h) the time by which they are likely to submit the said form?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (h) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement**

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. An Evaluation Study on TPDS and AAY was undertaken by the ORG Centre for Social Research, New Delhi. As per the findings of the Study there was diversion of wheat and rice of 53.3% and 39% respectively at the all India level. The final report has been received in September, 2005 and forwarded to States/UTs for necessary action.

The issue of diversion has been discussed in five Regional Conferences with the State Governments during 2005-06. The issue was also discussed in the Food Ministers/Food Secretaries Conference held on 29-03-2006. The State Governments have however expressed reservations in these Conferences on the findings of the study. The participants States/UTs were requested to take necessary immediate steps to strengthen TPDS and to curb diversion/leakage. On the basis of the discussions, this Department has drawn a 9 points Action Plan and sent to all State Governments for taking necessary action thereon. The Action Plan contains the following points:-

1. States should undertake a campaign for Review of BPL/AAY lists, to eliminate ghost ration cards.

2. Strict action should be taken against the guilty to ensure leakage free distribution of foodgrains. In this respect information asked for under clause 8 and 9 of PDS Control Order, may also be sent.

3. For sake of transparency involvement of elected PRI members in distribution of foodgrains be ensured. As far as possible, FPS licences be given to SHGs, gram panchayats, cooperatives, etc.

4. BPL/AAY lists should be displayed on all FPSs.

5. District-wise and FPS-wise allocation of foodgrains should be put up on websites and other prominent places, for public scrutiny.

6. Wherever possible, door step delivery of foodgrains should be ensured by States, instead of letting private transporters/wholesalers to transport goods.

7. Timely availability of foodgrains at FPS level and fixed dates of distribution to ration card holders should be ensured.

8. Training of members of FPS level Vigilance Committees should be ensured. Proposals for funding training can be sent to the GOI.

9. Computerisation of TPDS operations be undertaken.

(e) A statement is attached as per annexure.

(f) The shortcomings brought out in the Form 'C' are discussed/reviewed in subsequent meetings/conferences held with the Food Ministers/Food Secretaries and concerned States/UTs are requested to take all necessary steps to strengthen TPDS. A nine point action plan has been formulated to strengthen TPDS and to curb leakage/diversion. All States/UTs have requested to take necessary action as per this plan.

(g) and (h) The States and UTs who have not furnished any information till date as required in Form-C, has been indicated in the Statement of States/UTs enclosed as annexure. In this connection it may be mentioned that on 18.9.2006, a meeting of

all State Food Secretaries was held in Delhi wherein all the States/UTs were requested to send the information in Form 'C' afresh, in order to review the progress of PDS in the States/UTs. They have been reminded again.

### **Annexure**

(As on 28.2.2007)

#### **Status of receipt of monthly returns in Form 'C' from States/UTs under PDS (Control) Order, 2001**

S.No.	State/UT	Return's Position	Remarks
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Received for the month of Sept., 2001 to Oct., 2006	
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Received for the month of Sept., 01 to June 02 and April 03 to March 2004	
3.	Assam	Received for the month of Sept., 01 to Dec., 2005	
4.	Bihar	Not received at all.	
5.	Chhattisgarh	Received for the month of Sept., 2001 to March, 2003	
6.	Delhi	Received for the month of April 03 to August, 2006	
7.	Goa	Received for the month of Sept., 2001 to Sept., 2006	
8.	Gujarat	Received for the month of July 2002 and upto May 2003 to Oct., 2006	
9.	Haryana	Received for the month of Sept., 01 to July 02 and May 04 to Dec., 2006	
10.	Himachal Pradesh	Received for the month of September 01 to July, 2005	
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	Not received at all	



1	2	3	4
12.	Jharkhand	Not received at all	
13.	Karnataka	Received for the month of Nov., 02 to Dec., 2006	
14.	Kerala	Received for the month of Sept., 01 to Dec., 01 and April, 02 to Sept., 2006	
15.	Madhya Pradesh	Not received at all	
16.	Maharashtra	Received for the month of Sept., 2001 to Feb., 2004	
17.	Manipur	Not received at all	
18.	Meghalaya	Received for the month of Sept., 01 to August 02, Sept. 03 and Jan., 04 to Sept., 2006	
19.	Mizoram	Received from the month of June 2001 to Oct., 02 and August 04 to Dec., 2006	
20.	Nagaland	Received from the month of Sept., 01 to Feb., 2005	
21.	Orissa	Received for the month of Sept., 2001 to July, 2005	
22.	Punjab	Received for the month of Sept., 2001 to Oct., 2003	
23.	Rajasthan	Received for the month of Sept., 2001 to May, 2005	
24.	Sikkim	Received for the month of Sept., 2001 to May, 2005	
25.	Tamil Nadu	Not received at all	
26.	Tripura	Received for the month of Sept., 2001 to June, 2006	
27.	Uttar Pradesh	Not received at all	
28.	Uttaranchal	Received for the month of November, 2005 and Nov., 2006	
29.	West Bengal	Received for the month of Dec., 2001 to Dec., 2005	

1	2	3	4
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Received for the month of Sept., 2001 to June, 2005	
31.	Chandigarh	Received from Sept., 2001 to Nov., 2006	
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Received for the month of Sept., 2001 to August 2002 and August and May, 2005	
33.	Daman and Diu	Received for the month of Nov., 2001 to April 2002	
34.	Lakshadweep	Received for the month of January to August, 2002	
35.	Pondicherry	Received for the month of Nov., 2001 to Dec., 2006.	

*[Translation]*

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Hon'ble Minister, my question is very good.

MR. SPEAKER : The reply is not that good.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : The reply is also good, but action has not been taken in that regard. Through you, I would like to know the names of State Governments representatives of which were present there, the details of directions given to them by the Government, the details of their report and the names of States which have refused to take any action. Please state all these things.

DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is true that diversion on a large scale was exposed in ORG and Planning Commission's survey, particularly in North-Eastern States, Bihar, Punjab, and Rajasthan. There are a few complaints in regard to diversion from Southern States. The Government have apprised the Food Ministers of all those States, from where most complaints of diversion were received by letter and by holding regional conferences, and wherever it was possible Shri Sharad Pawar has called Chief Ministers of concerned States and has informed them. Fourteen States have taken remedial actions in this regard. Some States did not accept that

diversion on such a large scale. ORG sample survey and Planning Commission sample survey was very small. In ORG survey there were 25,004 respondents and this survey was conducted in 35 states, PEO was even smaller than this. This survey was conducted in year 2001, but its report was submitted in year 2005 after a lapse of four years. Therefore, the Government of India decided to reconduct the survey through NCER. Diversion and Leakage take place particularly in regard to AAY and BPL families in six states, Assam, Mizoram, Bihar, U.P., Chhattisgarh. It has been said to reconduct survey in these states. Its report was supposed to be submitted in April, 2006, but till now the report has not been submitted. They have been asked to submit the report by December. Six States Kerala, Maharashtra, Uttaranchal, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh and Delhi have been asked to submit their report again. This report was supposed to be submitted in October 2006. IIPA has been told to submit its report in regard to six States viz Orissa, West Bengal, Nagaland, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur. The Government of India is awaiting for report of remaining eight States, i.e. Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Chandigarh, Punjab, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, which was to be submitted in November, 2006. The Government will definitely take required remedial actions after submission of report.

MR. SPEAKER : Bhargavaji, you might have got all the information.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : No, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have not got all the information. I was asking about the Nine Point Programme under which States should undertake a campaign to review the Below Poverty Line list and Antyodaya Anna Yojna to eliminate ghost ration cards. Strict action should be taken against the people involved in leakage or theft of these foodgrains. Under it, for sake of transparency, involvement of elected Panchayati Raj Institute Members in distribution of foodgrains be ensured, and Self Help Groups, Gram Panchayats, Cooperative Societies have been asked to monitor the issuance of licence to Fare Price Shops. Not only this, all suggestions in regard to display of list of Below Poverty Line/Antyodaya Anna Yojna and area covered by Fare Price Shop, and making information available in regard to foodgrains allotted to particular shop, and state-wise allocation of foodgrains were important if all these suggestions have been implemented, the poor must have got the foodgrains. I am asking you only that the shops should display the list of quota allocated to them. I am not talking if any theft, otherwise people in Jaipur will tell me that I have labelled them as thieves. I am saying just that irregularities should be checked. All shopkeepers do not commit irregularities, but only a few shopkeepers do it. What are hon'ble Minister's options in regard to displaying of list to ensure transparency?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : The hon. Member has asked about the Nine Point Programme and the action that was taken on that.

I do not want to give all the details; the first item in that was about review of BPL list and the AAY list. Fourteen States have taken action; out of that, three have completed

the review and the rest of the States are taking action on review. I have got that information.

The second item was about taking strict action against the guilty to ensure leakage-free distribution of foodgrains. Fourteen States have started taking action; three have completed taking action till two months back. In the other States, the action is going on.

The third was about involvement of PRI members in the entire process of distribution. Fourteen States have taken action. The hon. Member has just now raised the issue of display of BPL lists on all FPSs. That process has been completed by seven States and other four States are in the process of doing it. Two States have not furnished the information till today. They have been reminded about it.

Whatever allocation has been made to each Fair Price Shop should be available outside the shop plus on the website. Two States, that is Gujarat and Meghalaya, have already implemented it and the rest of the States are in process.

There is also a suggestion about the doorstep delivery of foodgrains. Four States have implemented it and others are in the process of implementing it.

Timely availability of foodgrains to the Fair Price Shop is another suggestion. Practically 13 States have implemented it and the rest are in the process of implementing it.

Nobody has implemented the suggestion regarding training members for the Fair Price Shops Level Vigilance Committee but the process has been started in 14 States.

Nobody has started computerisation of operation but about 14 States are in the process of starting it.

Like this, a number of actions have been taken. We are making a regular review. At my level, I have called a meeting of the Ministers and Secretaries in various regions.

In some States the situation is bad. There also, I have discussed personally with the concerned officers, Secretaries and Chief Ministers also. One national level meeting was also called. We are taking up this issue very seriously. When we are providing such a huge subsidy if substantial foodgrains are diverted, it is not proper and we have to take all corrective actions.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : You are an efficient Ministry in this way you will complete all the formalities at the earliest.

[English]

SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL : I would like to know about Andhra Pradesh. In the years 2000 to 2003 more than 50 lakh tonnes of rice were given to Andhra Pradesh. It is widely known and believed also that more than 70 per cent of rice was diverted. In fact, in Andhra Pradesh there are cases where people have been calling Rice Reddys and Rice Naidus. Out of 40 per cent of the rice diverted all over India, there is a strong belief that more than 70 per cent of it is diverted from Andhra Pradesh. I would like to know from the Minister the actual quantity diverted, the proposed action and the persons involved in it.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : Sir, this Question is restricted to the Planning Commission's Report and ORG Marg Report. I have got the information about these two Reports, as mentioned in the Question.

We have got a report from Andhra Pradesh from the month of September 2001 to October 2006 about the monthly returns. We do not see any problem in that. Hon. Member is referring to a little different case. I know a little bit about that case. In calamity, a particular quantity of rice was allocated and there were complaints of diversion. We have requested the State Government to go in detail into it and submit a report to us.

SHRI KHAGEN DAS : By making PDS available to a

select few, the problem of diversion from the PDS has increased. To overcome the problem, is the Government considering universalisation of the Public Distribution System and whether the Government is planning to add essential commodities like pulses and edible oils to the PDS?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : The total approach of the Government is targeted to that section of the society which is really facing serious problem, which is the poorest of poor which comes under the BPL. The idea or proposal which we have received from some States for universalisation of the system has not been accepted. It will be difficult for us to accept it.

For additional items, we have written to the States. The Government of India has essentially taken up the responsibility of four items, that is, rice, wheat, sugar and kerosene through the Petroleum Ministry. Four items are supplied by the Government of India. Regarding rest of the items, we have requested the States that they can take action in their respective States. Some of the States like Kerala have taken a decision. They are providing some of the items. But this responsibility is a joint responsibility. The particular responsibility has been taken by the Government of India and rest of the responsibility has to be taken by the States.

MR. SPEAKER : On his assurance that he will change his dress, I am allowing him.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Sir, I agree that from tomorrow onwards I would not be wearing this dress. The guidelines of the hon. Minister mentioned in the reply are all right, but the hon. Minister has written that in order to do away with the fake ration cards, the State Governments are made to prepare the list of the BPL, but they do not give a free hand to the States. Sitting here, they fix a target that this much of kerosene should be supplied to a certain State, this much of sugar has been supplied, all the said

targets are fixed by them but the common man living below the poverty line is left out in this and as a result, the state of affairs at the supply centres culminate into scuffles. One man from the village gets the goods, 50 people stranded in the queue go empty handed. They should give the States a free hand in this regard. They have fixed the targets, in some States it is 15 point and in some other States it is 13 point. They want to provide facilities to the people of the States or do they want to create disputes among the people by disbanding the villages? I would like to know clearly from him whether they would give relaxation to the States according to its population and to the eligible people. After preparing a complete list of the people living below the poverty line, they should supply the commodities to the tune to which the States demand and should make arrangements to display the said list in shops or ....\* Please say in no uncertain terms whether they want to give the States a free hand in this regard?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : That will not go on record. It is a suggestion for action.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : It is a suggestion for no action [Translation] We have given the rights to the State Governments for preparing the list of the BPL. But the actual implementation of the said rights should be done keeping in view of guidelines issued by the Planning Commission in this regard.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : All those guidelines have ceased to exist.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : As the Planning Commission has prepared the list of BPL for the whole country, they themselves formed the guidelines, fixed the criteria. [English] These criteria are applicable to all the States. [Translation] but those States have also been told that while preparing the list they should convene the Gram Sabha and the list should be displayed outside the Panchayat and they should elicit the views of the people about the list

and keeping in view the ultimate recommendation made by the Gram Sabha, the said list should be accepted. The allocation of ration is carried out based on the total number given in the list.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not putting any question. You are a patron of the destitutes, that's why I am requesting you...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I also require protection.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reply given by the Minister...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : On this matter, I am prepared to allow half-an-hour discussion. You give a notice

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : They should amend the guidelines which have been, states be given a free hand and include all the people who are living below the poverty line in this...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : No more reply.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing more will be recorded now. I am giving you more opportunity to put supplementaries.

(Interruptions)\*

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU : The Targeted Public Distribution System is the most important and vital thing for the poorest of the poor of the country. According to the ORG survey, the diversion of wheat and rice is 53 per cent and 39 per cent respectively which is a very alarming issue. You have given a nine-point action plan.

According to me, in my own State nobody has implemented all these nine points. If any State implemented all these nine points, the diversion would have been very small percentage.

Even we are providing food subsidy worth Rs. 24,000 crore, a subsidy worth more than Rs. 10,000 crore is being provided for kerosene. But everything is being diverted. In the State of Andhra Pradesh during the last three years, the Government has removed the fair price shops set up the SHGs, the Gram Panchayats and all. They have given 80 per cent to the Congress workers...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This is the problem. Mr. Yerrannaaidu, you may just seek information.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU : Sir, the hon. Minister has stated...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You may ask the question without making provocations.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU : Sir, it has been stated:

"For sake of transparency, involvement of elected PRI members in distribution of foodgrains be ensured. As far as possible, FPS licences be given to the SHGs, Gram Panchayats, cooperatives etc."

MR. SPEAKER : A supplementary cannot be such a long one.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU : Sir, I would like to know if what has been stated in the reply by the hon. Minister would be implemented or not.

MR. SPEAKER : Your preface has nothing to do with this.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : Sir, I think, I need not reply about the allegations.

MR. SPEAKER : You can deal with them. No. This is not on record.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : Sir, this is a very important issue. The Government is taking this entire subject very seriously. Diversion is a serious problem. In fact, in some of the States in the North-Eastern region, the diversion of wheat is upto 100 per cent. There are about six States where there is a diversion upto 100 per cent. That is why I had called the Chief Ministers and the concerned Ministers to discuss this matter. In fact, this week I am sending written communication to them stating that until and unless this is improved, we would stop the allocation ...*(Interruptions)* I have not received any complaints ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Q. No. 188. Shri Srinivas Dadasaheb Patil — Absent.

Q. No. 189. Shri Chandra Bhushan Singh — Absent.

*[Translation]*

#### Pending subsidy Bills of Fertilizer Companies

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\*190. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :  
PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether various fertilizer companies are given subsidy by the Government;

(b) if so, the details of subsidy given to various fertilizer companies during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government owes about one thousand crores of rupees of subsidy to various fertilizer companies;

(d) if so, whether the fertilizer companies have manufactured lesser quantity of urea for Rabi crops due to the outstanding amount of subsidy due from the Government;

(e) if so, the reasons for outstanding dues in this regard; and

(f) the time by which these dues are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN):

(a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The amount of subsidy given to the fertilizer companies during the last three years is as given below:-

(Rs. in crore)

Fertilizers	Years		
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4
Imported decontrolled P and K fertilizers	720.00	1165.18	2097.00

Annexure I

1	2	3	4
Indigenous decontrolled P and K fertilizers	2606.00	3976.99	4499.19
Annexure II			
Indigenous Urea	8521.00	10243.15	10460.17
Annexure III			
Total	11847.00	15385.32	17056.36

(c) An amount of Rs. 11476.04 Crores of subsidy is due to various fertilizer companies.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) While Government is making efforts to clear the dues expeditiously, no time-frame can be fixed for clearance of dues as this is dependent on budgetary allocation.

#### Annexure-I

Amount of subsidy given to fertilizer companies for Imported Decontrolled (P and K) Fertilizers

(Rupees in crore)

S.No.	Name of the Company	Expenditure		
		2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Chambal Fertilisers and Chemicals Ltd.	47.97	41.27	127.90
2.	Coromandel Fertilisers Ltd.	20.07	39.32	58.20
3.	Deepak Fertilisers and Petrochemicals Corp.	5.35	0.45	0.03
4.	Duncan Industries Ltd.	3.28	0.05	0.74
5.	EID PARRY	17.32		0.02

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Fertilisers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd.	9.51	5.11	0.99
7.	Godavari Fertilisers and Chemical Ltd.	10.46	1.38	3.19
8.	Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilisers Co. Ltd.	17.70	17.34	71.64
9.	Gujarat State Fertiliser and Chemical Ltd.	0.03	0.06	
10.	Hind Lever Chemical Ltd.	32.27		
11.	Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Ltd. (IFFCO)	0.56	22.96	169.70
12.	Indian Potash Ltd.	374.26	685.36	979.80
13.	Madras Fertiliser Ltd.	4.90	2.14	8.84
14.	Mosaic India Pvt. Ltd.	33.58		137.80
15.	Minerals and Metals Trading Corp. Ltd. (MMTC)	3.83	5.35	0.61
16.	Nagarjuna Fertiliser and Chemical Ltd.	0.49	3.98	6.95
17.	Paradeep Phosphates Ltd.	8.14	29.17	49.22
18.	Rallis India Ltd.	4.95		2.04
19.	Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilisers Ltd.	33.58	48.29	82.70
20.	Sriram Fertilisers and Chemicals	55.50	135.92	175.09
21.	Southern Petrochemical Industries Corp. Ltd.	7.31	0.52	0.38
22.	Tata Chemicals Ltd.	12.39	58.54	120.21
23.	Zuari Industries Ltd.	16.53	25.47	81.47
24.	Dharamsi Morarji Chemical Co. Ltd.		0.13	
25.	Cargill India Pvt. Ltd.		42.35	18.76
26.	National Fertilisers Ltd.			0.07
27.	Tungabhadra Fertilisers and Chemicals Ltd.			0.65
Total		720.00	1165.18	2097.00



**Annexure-II***Amount of subsidy given to fertiliser companies for Indigenous Decontrolled (P and K) Fertilizers**(Rupees in crore)*

S.No.	Company	Expenditure		
		2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Aarti Fertilisers			4.91
2.	The Andhra Sugars Ltd..	2.68	2.79	3.39
3.	Arawali Phosphates Ltd.	1.67	1.57	2.50
4.	Arihant Phosphates and Fertilisers Ltd.	2.08	1.28	0.52
5.	Arihant Fertilisers and Chemicals India Ltd.	0.00	0.00	0.06
6.	Asha Phosphates Ltd.	0.00	0.17	0.00
7.	Agri Green Fertilisers and Chemicals Pvt. Ltd.	0.00	0.00	0.76
8.	Agro Phos (India) Ltd.	0.00	0.01	0.89
9.	Asian Fertilisers Ltd.	3.86	3.78	4.19
10.	Balaji Fertilisers Pvt. Ltd.	0.30	0.86	0.85
11.	Basant Agrotech (India) Ltd.	3.46	3.49	6.05
12.	Bhilai Engineering Corp. Ltd. Pulgaon	3.28	4.52	4.59
13.	Bhilai Engineering Corp. Ltd. Bilaspur	7.17	5.83	6.20
14.	Bharat Fertilisers Industries Ltd.	0.84	0.35	0.06
15.	Bhawani Mishra Fertilisers	0.74	0.59	1.03
16.	Bohra Industries Ltd.	4.06	3.01	2.93
17.	Coromandel Fertilisers Ltd.	155.13	301.52	370.06
18.	Chemtech Fertilisers Ltd.	1.05	1.28	1.60

1	2	3	4	5
19.	Coimbatore Pioneer Fertilisers Ltd.	3.08	2.76	3.45
20.	Deepak Fertilisers and Petrochemicals Corp.	17.57	14.07	6.70
21.	Dharamsi Morarji Chemicals Co. Ltd.	12.70	7.35	11.98
22.	EID (PARRY) India Ltd.	22.34	0.00	0.00
23.	Fertilisers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd.	122.41	211.66	281.05
24.	Gayatri Spinners Ltd.	0.78	0.83	0.94
25.	Godavari Fertilisers and Chemical Ltd.	182.10	328.97	418.97
26.	Godavari Fertilisers and Chemical Ltd. (IFFCO)	8.69	0.00	0.00
27.	Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilisers Co. Ltd.	38.28	48.15	68.17
28.	Gujarat State Fertiliser and Chemical Ltd. (S)	33.20	263.47	225.48
29.	Gujarat State Fertiliser and Chemical Ltd. (Vadodra)	161.19	0.00	74.42
30.	Hindalco Industries Ltd.	58.21	114.73	105.87
31.	Hind Lever Chemical Ltd.	166.04	0.00	4.74
32.	India Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Ltd. (IFFCO)	647.43	971.71	1097.33
33.	IFFCO(GFCL)	34.12	23.99	24.80
34.	Indian Potash Ltd.	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.	Indian Potash Ltd. (SSP)	0.00	0.00	2.86
36.	Indo Gulf Corporation Ltd.	17.98	0.00	0.83
37.	Jairam Phosphate Ltd.	3.11	2.54	0.77
38.	Jairam Phosphate Ltd.	0.00	0.00	3.01
39.	Jai Shree Chemicals and Fertilizers-(I)	3.33	2.29	2.33
40.	Jai Shree Chemicals and Fertilizers-(II)	3.63	2.74	4.03
41.	Jai Shree Chemicals and Fertilizers-(III)	0.03	0.00	0.00
42.	Jubilant Organocsys Limited	0.00	0.00	9.28

1	2	3	4	5
43.	Jubilant Organosys Limited (Sadhna Phos.)	6.90	0.33	3.50
44.	Kashi Urvarak Limited	0.03	0.01	0.00
45.	Khaitan Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited (I)	11.70	11.53	5.48
46.	Khaitan Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited (II)	4.17	3.07	4.80
47.	Khaitan Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited (III)	0.00	0.07	1.04
48.	Kothari Industrial Corp. Limited	0.03	0.00	0.00
49.	Krishna Industrial Corp. Ltd.	1.66	1.47	2.72
50.	Liberty Urvarak Limited	0.00	3.63	4.49
51.	Liberty Phosphate Ltd. (K)	0.00	0.00	0.42
52.	Liberty Phosphate Ltd.	14.61	12.00	14.69
53.	Mahadeo Fertilizers Ltd.	0.31	0.19	0.00
54.	Mangalam Phosphate Ltd.	0.27	0.34	0.01
55.	Mardia Chemicals Ltd.	0.29	0.00	0.00
56.	Madhya Bharat Phosphate Ltd.	0.05	0.26	0.92
57.	Madhya Bharat Agro Products Ltd.	0.16	0.42	2.55
58.	Madhya Pradesh Orgochem Ltd.	0.00	0.00	0.02
59.	Mangalore Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd.	30.13	72.51	66.00
60.	Maharashtra Agro Development Industrial Corp.	0.00	0.00	0.00
61.	Mexican Phosphate Ltd.	0.45	0.00	0.00
62.	Madras Fertilizers Ltd.	116.68	138.97	99.18
63.	Madhya Pradesh Orgochem Ltd.	0.03	0.04	0.00
64.	Mukteshwar Fertilizers Ltd.	0.11	0.11	0.12
65.	Munak Chemicals Ltd.	0.09	0.00	0.00
66.	Narmada Agro Chemicals Pvt. Ltd.	0.16	0.07	0.12

1	2	3	4	5
67.	Natraj Organics Ltd.	0.64	0.09	0.05
68.	Nirma Ltd.	6.15	6.15	615
69.	Oswal Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd.	85.10	264.45	72.21
70.	Oriental Carbon Ltd.	0.01	0.00	0.00
71.	The Phosphate Co.	5.62	5.26	7.91
72.	Paradeep Phosphata Ltd.	204.05	310.32	494.69
73.	Pragati Fertilizers Ltd.	1.27	1.22	0.83
74.	Pratyusha Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd.	1.53	0.28	0.01
75.	Prem Sakhi Fertilizers Ltd.	2.25	1.53	0.25
76.	Priyanka Fertilizers and Chemicals	0.73	0.67	0.68
77.	Madhya Bharat Phosphate Ltd.	0.00	0.00	0.00
78.	Rajlaxmi Agrotech India Ltd.	0.02	0.00	0.00
79.	Rama Phosphate Ltd. (M)	6.23	6.43	8.90
80.	Rama Phosphate Ltd. (U)	7.66	2.90	3.74
81.	Rashi Fertilisers Ltd.	0.03	0.00	0.00
82.	Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilisers Ltd.	92.76	114.10	118.88
83.	Revati Minerals and Chemicals Ltd.	0.01	0.01	0.00
84.	Rama Krishi Rasayan Ltd.	5.78	4.48	6.15
85.	Sadhna Phosphate and Chemical Ltd.	1.00	0.34	0.15
86.	Sarada Fertilisers Ltd.	0.00	0.00	0.00
87.	Shaw Wallace	0.00	0.00	0.00
88.	Shiva Fertilisers Ltd.	3.98	4.00	4.86
89.	Shri Acids and Chemicals Ltd.	0.00	0.00	0.00
90.	Shri Ganpati Fertilisers Ltd.	0.00	0.34	0.04

1	2	3	4	5
91.	Sreeji Fertilisers Ltd.	0.00	0.00	0.00
92.	Shree Gajraj Fertilisers	0.00	0.00	0.00
93.	Shri Krishna Fertilisers Ltd.	0.00	0.43	0.09
94.	Shree Niwas Fertilisers	0.26	0.00	0.42
95.	Sona Phosphate Ltd.	0.02	0.01	0.05
96.	Southern Petrochemical Industries Corp. Ltd.	91.53	157.23	171.03
97.	Subhodya Chemicals Ltd.	0.71	0.81	1.76
98.	Shurvi Colour Chemical Ltd.	0.32	0.32	0.19
99.	Swastic Fertilisers and Chemicals Ltd.	1.42	1.20	1.61
100.	Tedco Granites Ltd.	1.58	3.38	2.83
101.	Teesta Agro Industries Ltd.	6.26	7.42	8.41
102.	Tungabhadra Fertilisers and Chemicals Co. Ltd.	1.51	1.71	3.09
103.	Vam Organic Ltd. organics Ltd.	1.48	0.00	0.04
104.	Zuari Industries Ltd.	139.70	243.99	304.83
105.	Jubilant Organosys Limited (Vam Organic Ltd.)	0.00	8.13	0.00
106.	Khaitan Chemicals and Fertilisers (F)	0.00	1.05	13.92
107.	Oriental Carbon Corp. Ltd.	0.00	0.00	0.00
108.	TJ Agro Industries Ltd.	0.00	1.23	1.68
109.	Tata Chemicals Ltd. (HLL)	0.00	233.98	265.52
110.	V.K. Phosphates Ltd.	0.00	0.00	0.74
<b>Total</b>		<b>2579.96</b>	<b>3954.77</b>	<b>4485.45</b>
<b>ADD</b>				
Expenditure. Pre OCT 2000		23.46	13.76	29.73
Expenditure on special freight		2.58	8.46	4.01
<b>Gross Total</b>		<b>2606.00</b>	<b>3976.99</b>	<b>4499.19</b>

**Annexure-III***Amount of subsidy given to fertiliser companies for Indigenous Urea*

(Rs. in Crores)

S.No.	Company	Expenditure		
		2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilisers Ltd., Thal	669.42	671.09	852.01
2.	Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilisers Ltd. Trombay	1.57	0.00	1.91
3.	Madras Fertilisers Ltd.	409.76	496.74	676.39
4.	National Fertilisers Ltd.-Bhatinda	502.01	434.37	353.64
5.	National Fertilisers Ltd.-Panipat	456.88	404.68	309.35
6.	National Fertilisers Ltd.-Vijaipur I	164.49	146.45	123.93
7.	National Fertilisers Ltd.-Vijaipur II	284.14	320.83	350.06
8.	national Fertilisers Ltd.-Nangal	544.85	452.51	420.85
9.	Bramaputra Valley Fertilisers Corp. Ltd. (BVFCL)- Namrup-III	14.40	28.64	20.70
10.	Fertilisers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd.	-10.46	-8.63	-1.05
11.	Fertiliser Corporation of India (Ramagundam)	8.39	0.00	0.00
12.	Fertiliser Corporation of India (Sindri)	40.46	0.00	0.00
13.	Fertiliser Corporation of India (Talcher)	6.90	0.00	0.00
14.	Neyveli Lignite Corp.	50.61	-0.15	0.00
15.	Gujarat State Fertiliser and Chemical Ltd.	70.01	217.68	57.69
16.	Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilisers Co. Ltd.	224.85	265.46	293.96
17.	KRIBHCO	322.21	197.59	245.94
18.	IFFCO-PHULPUR-II	577.55	865.60	913.65
19.	IFFCO-PHULPUR-I	460.95	526.58	536.03

1	2	3	4	5
20.	IFFCO-KALOL	286.94	319.76	151.92
21.	IFFCO-AONLA-I	147.35	158.17	95.03
22.	IFFCO-AONLA-II	143.89	245.56	125.55
23.	Nagarjuna Fertilisers and Chemicals Ltd. (I)	146.51	184.25	144.44
24.	Nagarjuna Fertilisers and Chemicals Ltd. (II)	207.81	298.05	479.39
25.	Chambal Fertilisers and Chemicals Ltd. (I)	230.62	366.49	329.26
26.	Chambal Fertilisers and Chemicals Ltd. (II)	617.47	821.19	828.45
27.	TATA Chemicals Ltd.	176.21	382.66	329.67
28.	Zuan Industries Ltd.	381.41	484.61	623.09
29.	Sriram Fertilisers and Chemicals	299.37	310.48	436.36
30.	Indo Gulf Corp. Ltd.	106.28	215.97	278.39
31.	Southern Petrochemical Industries Corp. Ltd.	520.03	668.13	896.06
32.	Oswal Chemicals and Fertilisers Ltd.	222.91	361.76	87.24
33.	Mangalore Chemicals and Fertilisers Ltd.	226.21	384.63	461.32
34.	Duncan Industries Ltd.	0.00	0.00	38.90
Grand Total		8521.00	10243.15	10460.17

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to tell the hon. Minister that in his reply he has stated that certain fertilizer companies are given funds, Government owes a portion of subsidy to various companies and no time-frame can be fixed for this purpose and when the time is ripe, the outstanding dues of the companies will be cleared. But, will he fix any time limit for this purpose? Secondly, whether the hon. Minister is aware of the fact that certain fertilizer companies which are given subsidies show an inflated picture of the quantity of their production whereas the actual production is far less than the one which they have shown and these companies get subsidies. So, I would like to know from

hon. Minister about the action taken by him on such complaints.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : What was your first question?

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : It has been said about the outstanding dues of the subsidy that there cannot be any time-frame fixed for it and efforts are on to clear the said dues expeditiously, we will soon make the payments—this statement makes on sense. The Minister has said so in his statement—please check. However, Government is making efforts to clear the dues expeditiously, but no time

frame can be fixed for clearance of dues. After all for how long will they keep it pending?

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Sir, subsidy entails huge funds. Last year the amount of subsidy was Rs. 34,000 crore. Of this, a payment of Rs. 22,000 crore had been made, however Rs. 11,000 crore are outstanding. In the latest third supplementary Rs. 3500 crore were given and for the remaining Rs. 8000 crore, we have written to the hon. Prime Minister, held talks with the hon. Minister of Finance and he has given an assurance that payment of the said dues would be made as soon as possible. But this is not a fresh development. Every year some or other part of the subsidy remains unutilised and the payment of the said dues are made in course of the time. Therefore, I cannot say for sure that these payments will be made within 15 or 20 days, but the Minister of Agriculture is present here, we also are present here and we are making joint efforts to clear the dues expeditiously.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the second part of my question has not been replied to.

MR. SPEAKER : In the second supplementary you will be provided with the answer.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit that some companies despite receiving the subsidy have not produced upto the required quantity. Have such complaints been received? Second part of my question is whether subsidy was received or not. Production of urea was not upto the required amount which led to crisis and black marketeering of urea in the whole country.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : As far as subsidy is concerned, we provide it only when the State Government issues the certificate. Initially, subsidy upto 85% is given on basis of the place from where they send their goods but afterwards the remaining amount is paid after the State Government issues the certificate regarding the arrival of their goods. Secondly in this matter action is taken on the complaints received.

Now, we are making the system online. As far as urea is concerned we get complaints from several states regarding shortage of urea but it is also a fact that the State Governments always mention their requirement and the quantity is given by us. The department always considers the fact regarding availability and the sale made. We have full data. If you want we will lay it on the table of the House. There is not a single State, which has distributed the entire quantity available with it. There are difficulties in the distribution system at some points. In the present system, many State Governments tie-up with the Ministry of Agriculture and the company and try to find out about the requirement of fertilizer in the state. The issues involved in tie-up are as to which company will provide the fertilizer, the method involved, the place and time and also the means i.e. by rail or by road. As far as Urea is concerned, 50 per cent of it is in control. We take the responsibility for it. 50 per cent is de-controlled. MoP is totally de-controlled. DAP is fully de-controlled. All these things are included in the tie-up. The problem arises when suppose the goods have reached to a big junction—say Gaya junction but is not further reaching to Aurangabad even though the State Governments are responsible for the distribution system, we take immediate action on the complaints received by us. From 1st April, the system is going to be online. We will monitor the whole system from here itself and now onwards the company will receive the payments only after it has delivered the goods to the districts. We are making separate provision for it. Earlier a lump sum amount was allocated. The companies having rights in regard to de-controlled items like fertilizer prefer to sell these items in the neighbouring States. They feel that they are getting less for it. Therefore, this issue of less amount, which comes to around Rs. 197 crore was taken up and it has been decided to enhance it further. Therefore, I think there will be no problem during the Kharif season from 1st April. However, I would like to point out to the hon'ble Member that as he said, our total capacity is 197 lakh tonnes and we are producing upto 200 lakh tonnes; it means we have 100% capacity. There are two types of plants in which some are being run Naptha while others are being run on gas. We are producing 65% through gas



based plants but 35% subsidy is given on it. 35% production is achieved through Naptha based plants but 65% subsidy is given on it. We have said that all the old Naptha plants will be converted into Gas based plants by the next year. We are providing incentive for it as well. We have declared that if any company produces 110%, then 65% of the profit will go to the Centre and the remaining 35% will go to the company. If the companies produce more than 110%, they will get 100% profit. That is why, we are promoting the main thing. Secondly, the consumption of urea in the current year was 252 lakh tonnes whereas the annual production was 197 lakh tonnes. So, we have to import the remaining quantity. We want to import only that quantity of urea about which there is shortage. We had called a meeting of the Agriculture Ministers of the States wherein I had requested all of them to go to the block level and assess the requirement of urea and then tell us about the requirement, we will fulfill it. As the question has been raised by the hon'ble Member, we regularly monitor the production of the companies in order to ensure 100% utilization of their capacity.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Is there any more supplementary to be asked? I think every aspect of the question has been covered.

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr., Speaker, Sir, many a times the Government has declared that the subsidies being given to the companies may directly be given to the farmers. Various schemes were formulated and deliberated upon in this regard. Through you, I would like to know from the Government as to what action has been taken in this regard? Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to inform the government that the companies which are being provided subsidy are misusing the same. Why don't the Government consider the fact that subsidy should be provided directly to the farmers.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as you are aware that the hon. Minister of Finance in his Budget presented this year has mentioned the issue of direct

subsidy as pilot project but this is still under consideration of the Government. As far as my ministry's and my personal view is concerned, I oppose the same because farmers are not going to get any benefit from it. If farmers get Rs. 4530 as subsidy and will continue to get subsidy on same rate but it will also lead to 'Inspector Raj'. If we now announce that farmers will directly get the subsidy instead of the company, farmers will have to pay more. Firstly he will have submit certificate and on the basis of that certificate he will get the money. We had raised this point in the sitting of advisory committee of the ministry. We are thoroughly studying this point. It is very easy to say that subsidy should be provided directly to the farmers but then it will indirectly lead to 'Inspector Raj'. Therefore, we are seriously considering this point. As the hon. Minister of Finance had declared it as a pilot project, accordingly one district will be selected from each state.

[English]

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : Are you a revenue protagonist against inspector raj?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing is to be recorded.

*(Interruptions)\**

MR. SPEAKER : I have not allowed him. Do not respond to not-permitted questions.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Sir, the Fertilisers and Chemicals Limited, Allawaye, is considered to be the largest and oldest public sector concern in Kerala. Now it is declining due to wrong policies followed time and again. What is the proposal for reviving that oldest public concern of the State?

MR. SPEAKER : This Question is about pending subsidy bills.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : There was a proposal to amalgamate Rashtriya Chemicals with FACT.

\*Not recorded.

Thereby, a united concern may be started and by that way, there was a proposal for reviving it. What exactly is the Government doing for it and how are you going to revive it?

MR. SPEAKER : This supplementary does not arise. You may send the reply to him in writing.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Sir, it has already been revived.

MR. SPEAKER : All right. It has already been revived. I think it has not reached him.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : I have a thorough personal knowledge about it. The revival proposal has not been considered. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Do not record a word.

*(Interruptions)\**

MR. SPEAKER : You have got enough remedies open to you, Shri Radhakrishnan. If he has given a wrong answer, you may take action. Please take your seat now.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : If he has given a wrong answer, you can take action. Shri Tathagata Satpathy.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY : Sir, to say is a rainy day and there is a very pleasant weather outside. It is a happy occasion that Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, a very senior Member of the Cabinet, has differed with the Finance Minister...*(Interruptions)*

Shri Paswan has opposed part of the Budget proposals of the Finance Minister. We welcome his stand. Shri Paswan is known as the revolutionary. ...*(Interruptions)*

\*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan, sitting here I cannot decide about that. Can I?

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan, you should become a role model. Rather you are disrupting the proceedings of the House.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know whether the Government is aware that it has been a chronic problem in this country for more than a decade where companies manufacturing fertilizers have created knowingly shortages to jack up market prices. ...*(Interruption)*

MR. SPEAKER : It is a Question about pending subsidy. We have traveled much farther from that. Please ask about subsidy.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY : They are doing this to sell their non-subsidised fertilizers. ...*(Interruptions)* Mr. Speaker, Sir, please listen to me. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I cannot listen indefinitely.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY : Products like DAP which are de-controlled are much more in demand, whereas items that are controlled are not much in demand. It is for these items that the Government is shelling out thousands of crores of rupees as subsidy, which only goes to add to the profit of the fertilizer companies, which do no research, development or field education.

So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister how does he plan to handle the items that are controlled and items which are not controlled.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, you please deal only with the subsidy part of the question.

*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Please speak on subsidy only.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : There is no question of subsidy in it. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You may approach hi, separately.

[English]

### Storage Capacity for Foodgrains

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\*191. SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY :

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the present storage capacity of godowns of Food Corporation of India (FCI) and other agencies in different parts of the country, State-wise;

(b) the number of godowns constructed during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether the present storage capacity is adequate to store foodgrains;

(d) If so, the details thereof; and

(e) If not, the steps being taken to create additional storage capacity?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### Statement

(a) The Food Corporation of India (FCI) has a 251 lakh tonnes storage capacity (owned and hired/covered and CAP) as on 31st January, 2007 including capacity hired from CWC, SWCs and other agencies. The State-wise details are given in the enclosed Annexure-I.

(b) The year-wise number of storage godowns, alongwith capacity, constructed by the Food Corporation of India (FCI), Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and State Warehousing Corporations during the last three years are as under:-

Year	FCI		CWC		SWCs	
	Number of storage godowns	Capacity (in lakh MTs)	Number of storage godowns	Capacity (in lakh MTs)	Number of storage godowns	Capacity (in lakh MTs)
2003-04	15	1.33	19	3.14	11	3.63
2004-05	11	0.96	15	1.17	12	(-)17.33
2005-06	05	0.22	06	2.76	07	1.48

The State-wise details are given in the enclosed Annexure-II.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. The overall storage capacity available with FCI is adequate to store the foodgrains. As on 31.1.2007 capacity utilization was 46% of storage

capacity. In North East and Jammu and Kashmir however, additional godown capacity has been created as per details given in Annexure-II. Moreover, in case of specific requirement in any State, the General Managers of Regions of FCI are vested with full powers to hire the godowns of CWC/SWCs.

## Annexure-I

## State-wise Storage Capacity with the FCI

As on 31.1.2007

(figures in lakh MTs)

Zone	Sl. No.	Region/ UT	COVERED											Grand Total	Utilisa- tion (%age)
			FCI			Hired				CAP					
			Owned			Hired				Owned					
			State Govt.	CWC	SWC	Private Parties	Total Hired	Total Covered	Owned	Hired	Total				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
East	1.	Bihar	3.66	0.03	0.50	0.59	0.48	1.60	5.26	0	0	0	5.26	1.71	33
	2.	Jharkhand	0.66	0	0.11	0.18	0.23	0.52	1.18	0	0	0	1.18	0.58	47
	3.	Orissa	2.93	0	0.48	2.55	0.15	3.18	6.11	0	0	0	6.11	3.08	50
	4.	West Bengal	8.64	0.23	0.55	0	0.56	1.34	9.98	0	0	0	0.98	2.62	26
	5.	Sikkim	0.10	0.01	0	0	0	0.01	0.11	0	0	0	0.11	0.06	56
		Total	15.99	0.27	1.64	3.32	1.42	6.65	22.64	0	0	0	22.64	8.03	35
NE	6.	Assam	1.99	0.02	0.10	0.07	0.37	0.56	2.55	0	0	0	0.55	0.80	31
	7.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.18	0	0	0	0	0	0.18	0	0	0	0.18	0.02	11
	8.	Meghalaya	0.14	0	0.11	0.05	0	0.16	0.30	0	0	0	0.30	0.20	90

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	9.	Mizoram	0.17	0.01	0	0	0	0.01	0.18	0	0	0	0.18	0.09	50
	10.	Tripura	0.22	0.05	0.07	0	0	0.12	0.34	0	0	0	0.34	0.19	56
	11.	Manipur	0.20	0.02	0	0	0	0.02	0.22	0	0	0	0.22	0.05	23
	12.	Nagaland	0.20	0	0.10	0	0	0.10	0.30	0	0	0	0.30	0.14	47
	Total		3.10	0.10	0.38	0.12	0.37	0.97	4.07	0	0	0	4.07	1.49	37
North	13.	Delhi	3.36	0	0	0	0	0	3.36	0.34	0	0.34	3.70	1.18	32
	14.	Haryana	7.70	3.89	1.88	3.99	1.00	10.76	18.46	3.17	0	3.17	21.63	8.20	38
	15.	Himachal Pradesh	0.14	0.06	0.07	0	0	0.13	0.27	0	0	0	0.27	0.21	78
	16.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.96	0.15	0	0	0.10	0.25	1.21	0	0	0	1.21	0.78	64
	17.	Punjab	21.84	0.02	0.60	32.32	2.71	32.65	57.49	6.33	0.12	6.45	63.94	33.32	52
	18.	Chandigarh	0.40	0	0.41	0.21	0	0.62	1.02	0.08	0	0.08	1.10	0.80	73
	19.	Rajasthan	7.06	0	0.13	0	0.16	0.29	7.35	1.58	0.19	1.77	9.12	3.74	41
	20.	Uttar Pradesh	14.96	0.09	1.82	4.04	0.20	6.15	21.11	4.19	0	4.19	25.30	5.80	23
	21.	Uttaranchal	0.66	0.10	0.23	0.43	0.05	0.81	1.47	0.09	0.02	0.11	1.58	0.71	46
	Total		57.08	4.31	5.14	40.99	4.22	54.66	111.74	15.78	0.33	16.11	127.85	54.74	43
South	22.	Andhra Pradesh	12.73	0	2.39	17.77	0	20.16	32.89	1.97	0	1.97	34.86	16.78	48

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	23.	Kerala	5.12	0	0	0	0	0	5.12	0.21	0	0.21	5.33	2.21	41
	24.	Karnataka	3.73	0	0.38	0.44	0	0.82	4.55	1.37	0	1.37	5.92	2.17	37
	25.	Tamil Nadu	5.83	0	0.80	0.33	0	1.13	6.96	0.60	0	0.60	7.56	4.52	65
	26.	Pondicherry	0.42	0	0	0.02	0	0.02	0.44	0.08	0	0.08	0.52	0.19	37
		Total	27.83	0	3.57	18.56	0	22.13	49.96	4.23	0	4.23	54.19	25.87	48
West	27.	Gujarat	5.00	0.14	0.42	0	0	0.56	5.56	0.49	0	0.49	6.05	3.56	59
	28.	Maharashtra	11.77	0.26	0.75	0.98	0.49	2.46	14.23	1.42	0	1.42	15.65	5.46	35
	29.	Goa	0.15	0	0	0	0	0	0.15	0	0	0	0.15	0.05	33
	30.	Madhya Pradesh	3.37	0	0.50	0.75	0.37	1.62	4.99	0.36	0	0.36	5.35	3.66	68
	31.	Chhattisgarh	5.12	0.03	0.26	1.97	0.05	1.31	6.43	0.05	8.57	8.62	15.05	12.93	86
		Total	25.41	0.43	1.93	2.68	0.91	5.95	31.36	2.32	8.57	10.89	42.25	25.66	61
		Grand Total	129.41	5.11	12.66	65.67	6.92	90.36	219.77	22.33	8.90	31.23	251.00	115.79	46

**Annexure-II**

*State-wise details of godown capacity created by the FCI, CWC and SECs during the last Three Years*

**Food Corporation of India (FCI)****2003-04**

S. No.	State	Centre	Capacity Created (in MTs)
1	2	3	4
1.	Uttar Pradesh	Raibareilly	20000
2.	Haryana	B.G. Sirsa	16670
3.	Punjab	NG Tanda	23340
4.	Andhra Pradesh	Dichapally	5000
5.	"	Hanumanjunction	10000
6.	Tamil Nadu	Salem	3340
7.	Karnataka	Shimoga	15000
8.	Maharashtra	Manmad	6680
9.	Gujarat	Godhra	15000
10.	Orissa	Ongole	5000
11.	"	Dhankana	2500
12.	"	Keonjhar	2500
13.	"	Phulbani	2500
14.	"	Nowrangpur	2500
15.	Tripura	Agartala	2500
<b>Total</b>			<b>132530</b>

1	2	3	4
<b>2004-05</b>			
1.	Uttar Pradesh	Vyasnagar	13340
2.	Haryana	B.G. Sirsa	10000
3.	Andhra Pradesh	Nellore Ph-III	15000
4.	Tamil Nadu	Salem	3340
5.	Karnataka	Koppal	10000
6.		Tumkur	5000
7.	Maharashtra	Manmad	11920
8.	Gujarat	Godhra	10000
9.	Chhattisgarh	Tilda	13340
10.	Manipur	Jiribam	2500
11.	Nagaland	Dimapur	2500
<b>Total</b>			<b>96940</b>

**FCI****2005-06**

1.	Jammu and Kashmir	Badgaon	1250
2.		Leh	10000
3.	Tamil Nadu	Salem	3340
4.	Karnataka	Tumkur	5000
5.	Mizoram	Lunglei	2920
<b>Total</b>			<b>22510</b>

**Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC)****2003-04**

1.	Uttar Pradesh	Shahganj	18000
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1	2	3	4
2.	Greater Noida ICD	13200 (covered)	
3.		36000 (open)	
4.	Karnataka	Hubli	9311
5.	Kerala	Kanzikode (Pallakad)	15000
6.		Edathala (Aluva)	10000
7.	Rajasthan	Srimadhampur	10600
8.		Bharatpur	1829 (covered)
9.			10760 (open)
10.	Tamil Nadu	Madurai-II	1550
11.	Andhra Pradesh	Gadwal	10000
12.	Madhya Pradesh	Sheopurkalan	10000
13.	Gujarat	Kandla CFS	21600 (P. Fab.)
14.			43200 (open)
15.	West Bengal	Petrapole	16000 (open)
16.		Petrapole	36000 (open)
17.	Assam	Amingaon (Guwahati)	20000
18.	Maharashtra	D'node Ph-II, 12.5Ha	29400 (P.Fab.)

1	2	3	4
19.	Himachal Pradesh	Dera	1670
	Total		314120
	CWC		
	2004-05		
1.	Uttar Pradesh	ICB Bhadohi	5000 (covered)
2.	Karnataka	Tumkur	9660
3.		EPIP Whitefield	1480
4.	Madhya Pradesh	Malanpur (Gwalior)	6000
5.	Rajasthan	Kushalgarh	3400
6.		Sitapura-II Jaipur	1700
7.		Bharatpur Yard 4000 Sqmt.	7200 (open)
8.		Kotputli	5000
9.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Port Blair	2700
10.	West Bengal	Petrapole	2000 (covered)
11.		(6000 sqmt.)	10800 (Open)
12.	Bihar	Madhepura	5000
13.	Maharashtra	D'node Logistic Park OCY Ph.I (23400 Sq mt.)	42100 (open)
14.		Kalamboli	5000



1	2	3	4
15. Delhi	Narela	10000	
	Total	117040	
<b>2005-06</b>			
1. Uttar Pradesh	ICD Bhadohi (2000 sqm.)	3600 (open)	
2.	Surajpur. Greater Noida (4305 sqm)	7750	
3. Maharashtra	Logistics Park, D. Node, Navi Mumbai (39900 sqm.)	71550 (Open)	
4.	Logistics Park, D. Node, Navi Mumbai (Development of open area/drains (49000 sqm)	88200 (open)	
5.	Distripark, D. Node, Navi Mumbai. (28500 sqm)	51300 (open)	
6. Gujarat	CW, Kandla-III (plot No. 2 and 3) (30000 sqm)	54000 (open)	
Total		276400	

#### State Warehousing Corporations (SWCs)

S.No.	SWCs	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.08	0.03	Nil

1	2	3	4	5
2. Assam	Nil	0.01	0.04	
3. Bihar	0.05	Nil	0.36	
4. Chhattisgarh	0.58	0.01	Nil	
5. Gujarat	Nil	(-)0.06	Nil	
6. Haryana	Nil	0.09	0.02	
7. Karnataka	0.59	0.71	0.22	
8. Kerala	0.06	0.04	Nil	
9. Madhya Pradesh	0.06	0.02	0.68	
10. Maharashtra	1.35	(-)0.04	(+)0.04	
11. Meghalaya	Nil	Nil	Nil	
12. Orissa	2.11	Nil	Nil	
13. Punjab	(-)1.40	(-)18.40*	Nil	
14. Rajasthan	0.12	0.17	0.12	
15. Tamil Nadu	Nil	Nil	Nil	
16. Uttar Pradesh	0.03	0.09	Nil	
17. West Bengal	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Total		3.63	(-)17.33	1.48

\*The storage capacity so created by Punjab SWC has been discontinued/dehired due to decrease in procurement.

SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY : Hon. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that a large quantities of foodgrains are damaged every year during handling, storage and transportation and also due to dilapidated conditions of FCI godowns, which are not properly maintained. If so, I would like to know the losses incurred as a result thereof during each of the last

three years, including the quantity of foodgrains eaten or damaged by rats; and the remedial measures taken to minimize these losses.

**SHRI SHARAD PAWAR :** Sir, out of the total capacity that has been created in this country, only 46 per cent capacity has been utilized. So, we are not in a position to utilize them. That is why we have started de-hiring some of the private godowns. Only some States, like the North-Eastern States and the State of Jammu and Kashmir, require them and they face shortages also. So, we are taking steps to construct godowns in those areas.

The other question raised by the hon. Member does not pertain to the main Question.

**MR. SPEAKER :** Mr. Minister, you need not reply. This is the problem. The questions are too long and too irrelevant.

**SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY :** Sir, I would also like to know whether the Government has received any complaints of replacing the good quality of foodgrains with that of damaged ones, in connivance with the traders. If so, how many such cases have come to the notice of the Government during the last three years? What action has been taken by the Government in this regard?

**MR. SPEAKER :** This question does not arise from the main Question. So, it is not allowed.

Shri N.N. Krishna Das — not present.

[Translation]

**SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a very important question. In his reply the hon'ble Minister has stated that storage of foodgrain is done through Central Warehousing Corporation, Food Corporation of India and State Warehousing Corporations. From geographical point of view, Rajasthan is the largest State of the country and the Central Warehousing Corporation there has mostly open storage capacity. It is damaging the foodgrains. Moreover, no storage godown of Food

Corporation of India is situated there. Do the Central Government proposed to provide some more new godowns to Rajasthan?

[English]

**MR. SPEAKER :** The time is over.

**SHRI SHARAD PAWAR :** I thought you said that the time is over.

**MR. SPEAKER :** However, I am giving an opportunity.

(Interruptions)

**MR. SPEAKER :** The CWC has developed capacity in the State of Rajasthan also. In fact, if you kindly see, in the year 2003-04, a place called Bharatpur where capacity of 1,829 tonnes has been developed and then in Srimadhavpur, 10,000 tonnes capacity has been developed in the year 2005-06. There was a programme. ... (Interruptions)

**MR. SPEAKER :** Nothing will go on record except what the hon. Minister says.

(Interruptions)\*

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

### Beneficiaries under Antyodaya Anna Yojana

\*181. **SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA :**  
**SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL :**

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of people benefited under the Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) as on January, 2007;

\*Not recorded.

(b) the categories of people included under the AAY after the latest expansion of the scheme;

(c) whether a large number of people belonging to these newly added categories have been excluded from AAY;

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

(e) the steps being taken to include all such people under the scheme;

(f) whether the Government has conducted any feasibility study for extending the scheme to remote, rural and hunger prone areas in the country; and

(g) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) As on 31st January, 2007, 224.568 lakh households are benefited under Antyodaya Anna Yojana as in enclosed Statement-I.

(b) The categories of people included under the

AAY is enclosed as Statement-II as on 31st January, 2007.

(c) to (e) The identification of the Antyodaya families and issuing of distinctive Ration Cards to these families is the responsibility of the concerned State Governments. Detailed guidelines were issued to the States/UTs for identification of the Antyodaya families under the AAY and additional Antyodaya families under the expanded AAY. As per the Guidelines, the identification of beneficiaries under this scheme is to be done by the respective State Governments with the involvement of Panchayats/Gram Sabhas in rural areas and urban local bodies in the urban areas. In cases where elected bodies in rural/urban areas are not in position, the State Government/UT Administration may involve suitable mechanism for identification of beneficiaries in an impartial and objective manner. Allocation of foodgrains under the scheme is being released by the Central Government to the States/UTs on the basis of issue of distinctive AAY Ration Cards to the identified Antyodaya families.

Out of 2.50 crore AAY families 224.568 lakh families have already been covered as on January, 2007.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Does not arise.

#### Statement-I

##### Status of Identification of Households under AAY (Normal and Additional)

(Fig. in lakh)

S. No.	State/UT	No. of BPL families as on 1.3.2000	Estimated No. of AAY families					AAY families identified and RC issued				
			Normal	1st exp.	*2nd exp.	**3rd exp.	Total	Normal	1st exp.	2nd exp.	3rd exp.	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1.	Andhra Pradesh	40.63	6.228	3.117	2.991	3.242	15.578	6.228	3.117	2.991	3.242	15.578

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.99	0.151	0.077	0.073	0.079	0.380	0.151	0.077	0.073	0.079	0.380
3.	Assam	18.36	2.815	1.408	1.352	1.465	7.040	2.815	1.408	1.352	1.430	7.005
4.	Bihar	65.23	10.000	5.003	4.802	5.205	25.010	10.000	5.003			15.003
5.	Chhattisgarh	18.75	2.874	1.439	1.380	1.496	7.189	2.874	1.439	1.380	1.496	7.189
6.	Delhi	4.09	0.626	0.315	0.301	0.326	1.568	0.320	0.235			0.555
7.	Goa	0.48	0.073	0.037	0.035	0.039	0.184	0.073	0.037	0.035		0.145
8.	Gujarat	21.20	3.250	1.626	1.561	1.691	8.128	3.250	1.626	1.561	1.661	8.098
9.	Haryana	7.89	1.209	0.606	0.581	0.629	3.025	1.209	0.606	0.581	0.528	2.924
10.	Himachal Pradesh	5.14	0.787	0.395	0.378	0.411	1.971	0.787	0.395	0.378	0.411	1.971
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	7.36	1.129	0.564	0.542	0.587	2.822	1.129	0.564	0.542	0.322	2.557
12.	Jharkhand	23.94	3.665	1.841	1.762	1.911	9.179	3.665	1.841	1.762		7.268
13.	Karnataka	31.29	4.797	2.400	2.303	2.497	11.997	4.797	2.400	2.303	2.497	11.997
14.	Kerala	15.54	2.382	1.192	1.144	1.240	5.958	2.382	1.192	1.144	1.240	5.958
15.	Madhya Pradesh	41.25	6.324	3.164	3.037	3.291	15.816	6.324	3.164	3.037	3.120	15.645
16.	Maharashtra	65.34	10.017	5.011	4.810	5.215	25.053	10.017	5.011	4.810		19.838
17.	Manipur	1.66	0.255	0.127	0.122	0.132	0.636	0.255	0.127	0.122		0.504
18.	Meghalaya	1.83	0.281	0.140	0.135	0.146	0.702	0.281	0.140	0.135	0.146	0.702
19.	Mizoram	0.68	0.105	0.051	0.050	0.055	0.261	0.105	0.051	0.050	0.055	0.261
20.	Nagaland	1.24	0.189	0.096	0.091	0.099	0.475	0.189	0.096	0.091	0.099	0.475
21.	Orissa	32.98	5.055	2.530	2.428	2.632	12.645	5.055	2.530	2.428	2.632	12.645
22.	Punjab	4.68	0.717	0.359	0.345	0.373	1.794	0.717	0.359	0.312		1.388
23.	Rajasthan	24.31	3.726	1.865	1.790	1.940	9.321	3.726	1.839	1.790	1.924	9.279
24.	Sikkim	0.43	0.067	0.032	0.032	0.034	0.165	0.067	0.032	0.032	0.034	0.165
25.	Tamil Nadu	48.63	7.455	3.730	3.580	3.881	18.646	7.455	3.730	3.580	3.881	18.646

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
26. Tripura		2.95	0.452	0.227	0.217	0.235	1.131	0.452	0.227			0.679
27. Uttar Pradesh		106.79	16.371	8.191	7.861	8.522	40.945	16.371	8.191	7.861	8.522	40.945
28. Uttarakhand		4.98	0.763	0.382	0.367	0.397	1.909	0.763	0.382	0.367		1.512
29. West Bengal		51.79	7.939	3.973	3.813	4.132	19.857	7.939	3.973	2.887		14.799
30. Andaman and Nicobar Islands		0.28	0.043	0.021	0.021	0.022	0.107	0.043				0.043
31. Chandigarh		0.23	0.035	0.018	0.017	0.018	0.088	0.021				0.021
32. Dadra and Nagar Haveli		0.18	0.028	0.013	0.013	0.015	0.069	0.028	0.013	0.011		0.052
33. Daman and Diu		0.04	0.006	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.015	0.006	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.015
34. Lakshadweep		0.03	0.004	0.003	0.002	0.003	0.012	0.004				0.004
35. Pondicherry		0.84	0.128	0.065	0.062	0.067	0.322	0.128	0.065	0.062	0.067	0.322
Total		652.03	99.946	50.021	48.001	52.030	249.998	99.626	49.873	41.680	33.389	224.588

\*Out of the 50 lakh households in the 2nd expansion, 48 lakh households (from BPL) had been earmarked for expansion state-wise and the remaining 2 lakh households were to be identified subsequently by the State where error of inclusion came to light.

\*\*The left over expansion of 2 lakh families of 2nd expansion have been included in the 3rd expansion of AAY scheme to 52 lakh families from 50 lakh families.

#### Statement-II

##### 1. Antyodaya Anna Yojana:

1.1 A National Sample Survey Exercise pointed out that about 5% of the total population in the country sleeps without two square meals a day. This section of the population can be called as "hungry". In order to make TPDS more focused and targeted towards this category of population, the "Antyodaya Anna Yojana" (AAY) was launched in December, 2000 for one crore poorest of the poor families.

1.2 AAY contemplates identification of one crore poorest

of the poor families from amongst the number of BPL families covered under TPDS within the States and providing them foodgrains at a highly subsidized rate of Rs. 2/ per kg. for wheat and Rs. 3/ per kg. for rice. The States/UTs are required to bear the distribution cost, and make available foodgrains to the beneficiaries at the price fixed by Government of India as above.

1.3 The scale of issue that was initially 25 kg. per family per month has been increased to 35 kg. per family per month with effect from 1st April, 2002.

**2. 1st Expansion of AAY:**

2.1 The AAY Scheme has been expanded in 2003-2004 by adding another 50 lakh BPL families with special focus to the following priority groups:-

- Households headed by widows or terminally ill persons or disabled persons or persons aged 60 years or more with no assured means of subsistence or societal support.
- Widows or terminally ill persons or disabled persons or persons aged 60 years or more or single women or single men with no family or societal support or assured means of subsistence.
- All primitive tribal households.

**3. 2nd Expansion of AAY:**

3.1 As announced in the Union Budget 2004-05, the Scheme has been further expanded w.e.f. 1st August, 2004 by another 50 lakh BPL families by including, inter alia, all households at the risk of hunger. The guidelines have been issued to all States/UTs on 3rd August, 2004. The following criteria was adopted for identification of additional Antyodaya families:-

- (a) Landless agriculture labourers, marginal farmers, rural artisans/craftsmen such as potters, tanners, weavers, blacksmiths, carpenters, slum dwellers, and persons earning their livelihood on daily basis in the informal sector like porters, coolies, rickshaw pullers, hand cart pullers, fruit and flower sellers, snake charmers, rag pickers, cobblers, destitutes and other similar categories in both rural and urban areas provided they are the poorest among BPL families.
- (b) Households headed by widows or terminally ill persons/disabled persons/persons aged 60 years or more with no assured means of subsistence or societal support.

(c) Widows or terminally ill persons or disabled persons or persons aged 60 years or more or single women or single men with no family or societal support or assured means of subsistence.

(d) All primitive tribal households.

Out of the 50 lakh households in the 2nd expansion, 48 lakh BPL households have been distributed state wise and the remaining 2 lakh households to be identified subsequently by the States where 'error of exclusion' comes to light.

**4. 3rd Expansion of AAY:**

4.1 As announced in the Union Budget 2005-06, the AAY has further been expanded with effect from 1st April, 2005 to cover another 50 lakh BPL households thus increasing its coverage to 2.5 crore households. With this increase more than 38% of the total estimated BPL families have been covered in AAY.

**5. Identification of Antyodaya families and allocation of food grains:**

5.1 The identification of the Antyodaya families and issuing of distinctive Ration Cards to these families is the responsibility of the concerned State Governments. Detailed guidelines were issued to the States/UTs for identification of the Antyodaya families under the AAY and additional Antyodaya families under the expanded AAY. The main thrust of these guidelines is that they should be the poorest among BPL families. Allocation of foodgrains under the scheme is being made to the States/UTs on the basis of issue of distinctive AAY Ration Cards to the identified families.

5.2 The status of identification of households under AAY (Normal, 1st expansion, 2nd expansion and 3rd expansion) is given in Annexure-I. The defaulting States/UTs are reminded regularly as a part of monitoring.

### Recommendations of Pasawat Commission

\*182. SHRI ILYAS AZMI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government has received the Report of the Pasawat Commission;
- (b) if so, whether the recommendations of the Commission have been implemented;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether any complaints have been received from the Part-Time Correspondents about the non-implementation of the recommendations; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the action thereon?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

### Alternative Arrangements for Affected Child Labourers

\*183. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT :  
SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of child labourers freed from labour in the country during the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) the number of child labourers and their families facing hardships for their livelihood due to the implementa-

tion of the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986;

(c) whether the Government has made any alternate arrangements to take care of the affected child labourers and their families; and

(d) If not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) The Government is implementing the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme in 250 districts of 20 States in the country for withdrawing and rehabilitating children working in hazardous occupations and processes. Under the NCLP Scheme, children withdrawn from work are put in special schools where they are provided education, nutrition, vocational training, stipend and health care so as to prepare them in a maximum of three years time to join the mainstream education system. This is done in close coordination with Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan of Ministry of Human Resource Development. In 2003-04 172725, in 2004-05 167825 and in 2005-06, 283943 children withdrawn from hazardous occupations and processes were enrolled in Special Schools for child labour under the National Child Labour Project Scheme. The State-wise break-up of the number of children enrolled in the Special Schools for child labour under the National Child Labour Project Scheme during the last 3 years from 2003-04 to 2005-06 is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) The National Child Labour Project Scheme also envisages close convergence with income and employment generation schemes of other Ministries such as Women and Child Development, Rural Development, Social Justice and Empowerment and Urban Housing and Poverty Alleviation to cover the families of these children under these schemes for their economic rehabilitation.

(d) Does not arise.

**Statement**

*State-wise no. of children enrolled in special schools for child labour under the National Child Labour Project Scheme during 2003-04 to 2005-06*

Sl. No.	Name of the State	No. of children enrolled in special school 2003-04	No. of children enrolled in special school 2004-05	No. of children enrolled in special school 2005-06
1.	Andhra Pradesh	48792	49193	37882
2.	Assam	*	*	4750
3.	Bihar	6500	6500	8500
4.	Chhattisgarh	5538	5899	11639
5.	Jharkhand	5700	5700	7375
6.	Karnataka	8385	7339	13212
7.	Madhya Pradesh	4130	4091	17404
8.	Maharashtra	1889	2554	6615
9.	Orissa	34895	34679	83557
10.	Punjab	4599	4571	4658
11.	Rajasthan	9075	8706	19545
12.	Tamil Nadu	16082	16764	17540
13.	Uttar Pradesh	9975	8563	34171
14.	West Bengal	17165	13266	17095
Total		172725	167825	283943

\*National Child Labour Project was sanctioned in Assam in 2005-06.

The special schools for child labour were sanctioned in the State of Gujarat in 2005-06 and enrolment would be done in 2006-07. With respect to Haryana, Jammu and Kashmir, Mizoram, Nagaland and Uttaranchal the special schools for child labour are yet to start.

[English]

**Prices of Life Saving Drugs**

\*184. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to reduce the prices of life saving drugs to help the poor and the needy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) :

(a) to (c) The 74 bulk drugs specified in the First Schedule of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO, 95) and the formulations based thereon are under price control and their prices are fixed/revised by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) in accordance with the provisions of the DPCO, 95. These drugs have been kept under price control on the basis of criteria mentioned in 'Modifications in Drug Policy, 1986', announced in September, 1994 the price fixation/revision of the Scheduled Drugs and formulations is a continuous process under DPCO, 95.

Prices of non-Scheduled formulations are fixed by the manufacturers themselves keeping in view the various factors like cost of production, marketing/selling expenses, R and D expenses, trade commission, market competition, product innovation, product quality etc. The Government takes corrective measures where the public interest is found to be adversely affected.



The Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 does not distinguish between life saving and other drugs. There are no specific norms or guidelines to determine as to which drug can be classified as life saving drugs. Every drug in general is considered useful in saving and prolonging of life.

Draft National Pharmaceuticals Policy-2006 has been prepared by this Department after extensive discussions with various stakeholders including drug industry associations, and in line with the declared objective of the Government in the National Common Minimum Programme to make available life saving and essential drugs at reasonable prices to the poor. In this Policy some of the schemes for improving accessibility of free medicines to the poor are: National Health Insurance Policy for the BPL families; Larger allocation to be made for National illness Assistance Fund/State illness Assistance Funds; District illness Assistance Fund to be set up; Revolving Funds for BPL families to be set up; States would also be asked to set up revolving funds in all the government hospitals for free treatment of BPL families; Rajasthan model of Medicare Relief Societies to be replicated in all the states in the form of Drug Banks. The draft Policy also proposes to bring under Price Control 354 essential medicines listed in the 'National List of Essential Medicines, 2003' which has been prepared by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court. All these measures would help in reducing the cost of drugs to the poor.

The draft Policy was submitted before the Cabinet for its approval. The Cabinet considered the Policy in its meeting held on 11-1-2007 and has referred the matter to a Group of Ministers (GoM). A GoM has since been constituted and would be making its recommendations to the Cabinet.

#### Production of Pulses

\*188. SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether cultivation and production of pulses have remained the same all through this decade, thus leading to shortfall in the indigenous supply of pulses;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to increase the cultivation and production of pulses in the country;

(d) whether export of pulses would be banned in view of the shortfall in the country; and

(e) the quantum of pulses imported by India and the countries from which they are imported?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) The position of area and production of total pulses from 1996-97 to 2006-07 is given below:-

Year	Area (Million Hectares)	Production (Million Hectares)
1996-97	22.45	14.24
1997-98	22.87	12.98
1998-99	23.50	14.91
1999-00	21.12	13.42
2000-01	20.35	11.08
2001-02	22.01	13.37
2002-03	20.50	11.13
2003-04	23.46	14.91
2004-05	22.78	13.13
2005-06	22.36	13.36
2006-07*	22.31	14.52

\*2nd advance estimates released on 05.02.2007.

It may be observed that the area under cultivation of pulses fluctuated between 20.4 to 23.5 million hectares and the production of pulses between 11.1 million tonnes to 14.9 million tonnes during the last decade.

(c) A Centrally Sponsored Integrated Scheme on Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize is under implementation with effect from 01.04.2004 for increasing production and productivity of pulses in 14 States of the Country. Under the scheme financial assistance is provided for purchase of breeder seeds, production of foundation seeds, distribution of seed minikits, infrastructure development, block demonstrations on improved technology, integrated pest management, weedicides, sprinkler sets, farmers training for increasing production and productivity of pulses.

(d) The Government has banned export of pulses in June 2006 in view of the overall shortfall in the country. However, recently, the export of kabuli chana has been permitted.

(e) The quantity of pulses imported by the country during the last six years is given in the following table:-

Year	Quantity Imported ('000 Tonnes)
2000-01	349.84
2001-02	2217.82
2002-03	1992.29
2003-04	1723.33
2004-05	1339.45
2005-06	1608.24

The import of pulses is mainly from Australia, China, USA, Canada, Myanmar, Pakistan, Iran, France, Tanzania and Ukraine.

[Translation]

### Revival of Chemical Companies

\*189. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to revive various sick chemical companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the sum allocated for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) :

(a) to (c) There are two Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) under the administrative control of the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals which deal with chemicals viz. Hindustan Organic Chemicals Limited (HOCL) and Hindustan Insecticides Limited (HIL). As the net worth of both the CPSEs had turned negative, they stand referred to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR). The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) in its meetings held on 9.3.2006 and 27.7.2006, approved the revival proposals in respect of HOCL and HIL respectively. As part of the revival proposal, Government has provided an amount of Rs. 250 crores to HOCL in the form of 8% redeemable non-cumulative preference shares to be redeemed @ 20% each year from 4th year onwards for (i) repayment of high cost overdue Bonds; (ii) introduction of fresh VRS costing Rs. 36 crores for estimated 590 employees; (iii) repayment of VRS loan of Rs. 31 crores availed from Bank of Baroda in 2001 for 685 employees and (iv) Rs. 8 crores towards part repayment of Bonds.

Apart from the above, CCEA, in its meeting held on 8.2.2007, approved the release of Rs. 20 crores from the Budget Grant 2006-07 for restarting of Caustic Chlorine Plant of HOCL at Rasayani, Maharashtra. This amount will be paid back to the Government by HOCL from the sale proceeds of their land at Panvel, Maharashtra.

In case of HIL, there is no direct cash infusion but waiver of Government of India loans amounting to Rs. 66.40 crores, conversion of Government of India loan amounting to Rs. 31.55 crores as on 31st March, 2006 into equity and writing off the interest amounting to Rs.126.69 crores on GOI loans as on 31.3.2006.

[English]

### Plastic Processing Units

\*192. SHRI PRASANTA PRADHAN :  
SHRI ANANTA NAYAK :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of downstream plastic processing units operating with outdated technology in the country at present;

(b) the average consumption of polymers per unit recorded;

(c) whether 75 per cent of these units are in Small Scale Sector;

(d) if so, the incentives provided to the said units during the last three years and the current financial year; and

(e) the criteria fixed for providing incentives to them?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) :

(a) and (c) As per the 3rd All India Census of registered SSI Units there are 25,564 registered units manufacturing different consumer and industrial plastic products. As per the Report of Task Force on Petrochemicals, constituted by the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, approximately 75% of plastic processing units are SSI units. These are generally operating with conventional technology.

(b) Polymer consumption in the units vary

from 5 tonnes to 2000 tonnes per month, average consumption is approximately between 10 to 20 tonnes per month.

(d) The Ministry of Small Scale Industries assists Small Scale Plastic Processing unit for technology up-gradation under Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme (CLCSS) whereby Capital subsidy to the extent of 15% is provided for modernization of their technology/ machinery. In addition incentives, provided to other group of industries, like Excise Duty Exemption upto clearance of Rs. 1 crore, 15% price preference in Govt. purchase programme, 75% reimbursement of the cost for obtaining ISO-9000/14001 Certification subject to maximum Rs. 75,000/- are also available to small scale plastic processing units.

As per the information received from Ministry of Small Scale Industries the incentives provided during the last three years and current financial year is as follows:-

### ISO 9000/14001 Certification reimbursement scheme:

No of units benefited under the plastics and rubber product:

Year	No. of units	Amount in lakhs
2003-04	73	26.84
2004-05	263	73.10
2005-06	368	85.51
2006-07 (upto 17.2.2007)	207	56.46

### Technology Upgradation under CLCSS Scheme

Number of Plastic processing SSI units benefited under credit linked Capital Subsidy Scheme are as follows:-

Year	No. of units	Amount in lakhs
2003-04	1	4.2
2004-05	29	99.63
2005-06	46	111.59
2006-07 (upto 17.2.2007)	70	240.85
<b>Total</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>456.27</b>

(e) The above incentives are provided to such small enterprises whose investment in plant and machinery does not exceed Rs. 5 crores. For availing exemption of Central Excise duty, the turnover of the unit should not exceed Rs. 4 crores per annum.

[Translation]

#### Funds for Wildlife Protection

\*193. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI :  
SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS  
be pleased to state :

(a) the funds demanded by various State Governments, particularly by the Government of Rajasthan for the purpose of Wildlife protection;

(b) whether the said funds have been released;

(c) If so, the details thereof, State-wise alongwith the dates on which the said funds have been released; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS  
(SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) to (c) The financial assistance to the States for the purpose of Wildlife Protection is provided under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of "Assistance for Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries", "Project Tiger" and "Project Elephant" on the basis of Annual Plans of Operation (APOs) submitted by the Concerned State Governments and availability of funds. The details of funds demanded by various State Governments and the funds released under various schemes for the year 2006-07 till date, State-wise are enclosed as Statement-I, II and III.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Statement-I

##### Details of funds under CSS—'Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries'

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S. No.	Name of States/UTs	Fund Demanded	Amount Approved	Amount Released	Date of fund released
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	119.22	68.09	6.00	22.8.2006;
				15.39	24.8.2006;
				12.50	25.9.2006
				7.00	31.8.2006

1	2	3	4	5	6
				8.00	18.10.2006
				8.86	28.8.2006
				57.75	
2.	Andhra Pradesh	549.10	188.086	10.36	18.7.2006; 27.7.2006;
				8.65	18.10.2006;
				14.00	28.7.2006;
				13.45	25.7.2006;
				19.40	19.10.2006; 31.8.2006
				7.00	3.10.2006; 24.10.2006
				3.50	17.11.2007; 26.12.2006
				14.00	1.2.2007; 26.2.2007
				5.00	
				6.00	
				15.508	
				12.60	
				13.77	
				143.238	
3.	Bihar	316.89	30.277	4.00	5.12.2006; 4.12.2006
				6.50	
				10.50	
4.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	43.094	20.214	14.50	25.10.2006
				14.50	
5.	Goa	139.859	47.878	5.00	15.11.2006
				5.00	

1	2	3	4	5	6
6.	Gujarat	533.69	425.76	8.00	17.11.2006
				6.50	20.12.2006
				4.00	14.11.2006
				11.67	10.1.2007
				14.00	31.10.2006
				11.675	15.2.2007
				14.25	30.10.2006
				21.84	20.2.2007
				5.00	15.9.2006
				8.67	28.8.2006
				33.80	14.8.2006
				38.98	4.8.2006
				1.50	22.2.2007
				3.50	3.8.2006
				20.24	27.12.2006
				17.16	28.7.2006
				11.27	27.7.2006
				7.50	25.7.2006
				8.60	18.7.2006
				14.14	15.2.2007
				19.00	11.7.2006
				4.68	10.1.2007
				11.00	27.6.2006
				17.70	14.6.2006
				<b>314.675</b>	

1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	Chhattisgarh	1271.745	450.108	36.97	22.2.2007
				15.00	20.11.2006
				6.75	15.2.2007
				11.00	25.2.2006
				39.475	26.2.2007
				26.85	11.10.2006
				6.00	5.10.2006
				46.848	1.3.2007
				84.65	3.10.2006
				16.75	27.9.2006
				17.25	9.2.2007
				13.13	13.9.2006
				16.49	11.9.2006
				5.61	5.2.2007
				13.09	1.9.2006
				355.863	
8.	Haryana	120.80	103.89	4.00	25.10.2006
				8.00	18.10.2006
				5.95	24.8.2006
				42.50	30.6.2006
				60.45	
9.	Himachal Pradesh	421.04	257.88	2.00	20.2.2007
				2.50	11.10.2006
				9.50	27.9.2006

1	2	3	4	5	6
				6.545	18.1.2007
				18.006	24.1.2007
				17.62	21.1.2007
				5.00	13.9.2006
				22.43	5.9.2006
				18.14	4.9.2006
				11.71	5.2.2007
				23.63	1.9.2006
				16.95	1.3.2007
				26.32	31.8.2006
				2.115	8.2.2007
				7.60	20.2.2007
				43.57	26.8.2006
				5.30	6.2.2007
				25.5	26.5.2006
				<b>264.636</b>	
10. Jammu and Kashmir	517.30	274.085		22.42	18.8.2006; 25.9.2006;
				39.33	31.8.2006; 1.9.2006;
				12.55	13.9.2006; 17.8.2006;
				39.00	7.11.2006;
				18.41	24.1.2007
				9.03	
				14.00	



1	2	3	4	5	6
				5.00	
				159.74	
11. Jharkhand	301.64	144.98	18.73	17.8.2006; 14.8.2006;	
			62.31	24.10.2006; 28.8.2006	
			13.10		
			4.00		
			98.14		
12. Karnataka	301.64	559.283	21.97	26.2.2007	
			27.00	11.10.2006	
			26.07	15.2.2007	
			31.40	26.9.2006	
			44.00	25.9.2006	
			34.77	20.2.2007	
			9.00	21.9.2006	
			20.00	18.9.2006	
			20.68	15.9.2006	
			18.00	13.9.2006	
			15.00	11.7.2006	
			12.93	23.11.2006	
			50.00	5.7.2006	
			34.5	30.6.2006	
			16.75	23.3.2007	
			30.74	27.6.2006	
			3.649	9.2.2007	

1	2	3	4	5	6
				19.80	14.6.2006
				14.32	17.11.2006
				40.00	26.5.2006
				<b>490.579</b>	
13. Kerala		488.41	463.02	10.00	19.12.2006
				20.00	22.9.2006
				8.00	5.2.2007
				26.00	21.9.2006
				38.37	9.2.2007
				42.87	31.8.2006
				17.375	22.2.2007
				15.46	6.2.2007
				15.00	14.8.2006
				13.00	4.8.2006
				17.145	1.2.2007
				69.00	3.8.2006
				7.00	5.9.2006
				21.50	9.1.2007
				7.65	26.2.2007
				6.95	8.1.2007
				5.70	15.6.2006
				7.60	26.5.2006
				13.50	10.1.2007
				<b>362.12</b>	

1	2	3	4	5	6
14. Madhya Pradesh	1954.27	852.457	215.84	18.1.2007	
			74.5	7.11.2006	
			118.543	8.1.2007	
			10.00	20.2.2007	
			4.10	5.2.2007	
			13.00	25.10.2006	
			11.38	4.9.2006	
			4.97	9.1.2007	
			8.57	31.8.2007	
			10.80	29.12.2006	
			69.00	27.6.2006	
			2.698	1.2.2007	
			25.00	15.6.2006	
			29.349	18.1.2007	
			53.7	14.6.2006	
			19.80	3.1.2007	
			18.50	13.6.2006	
			3.89	15.2.2007	
			16.90	26.5.2006	
			710.84		
15. Maharashtra	761.03	368.32	16.00	21.9.2006	
			5.96	18.10.2006	
			16.7	5.7.2006	
			2.91	11.7.2006	

1	2	3	4	5	6
				1.76	27.7.2006
				4.00	25.10.2006
				4.385	21.9.2006
				2.5	24.10.2006
				4.28	13.9.2006
				57.64	18.7.2006
				12.00	21.9.2006
				0.799	28.8.2006
				18.09	20.7.2006
				3.20	4.9.2006
				20.5	11.7.2006
				12.00	19.9.2006
				4.68	1.9.2006
				13.50	19.9.2006
				9.20	25.7.2006
				7.50	23.11.2006
				217.604	
16. Orissa		868.40	458.395	29.13	22.2.2007
				25.55	26.2.2006
				63.05	20.2.2007
				17.00	19.2.2007
				21.50	4.12.2006
				10.26	1.3.2007
				17.15	30.10.2006

1	2	3	4	5	6
				12.50	13.10.2006
				10.00	27.9.2006
				18.25	22.2.2007
				15.00	26.9.2006
				31.60	11.7.2006
				56.97	5.7.2006
				12.895	1.3.2007
				<b>340.855</b>	
17. Punjab		422.66	4.00	3.00	5.12.2006
				3.00	
18. Rajasthan		1273.27	243.515	7.75	20.11.2006
				6.00	6.11.2006
				25.96	5.3.2006
				25.00	26.9.2006
				14.00	21.9.2006
				15.11	15.9.2006
				12.00	22.8.2006
				15.01	9.2.2007
				61.86	4.8.2006
				5.625	15.2.2007
				15.30	3.8.2006
				<b>203.615</b>	
19. Tamil Nadu		422.33	281.25	30.00	22.9.2006
				42.60	26.7.2006

1	2	3	4	5	6
				17.05	24.3.2007
				15.00	15.9.2006
				19.20	4.8.2006
				22.06	3.8.2006
				6.50	20.11.2006
				8.01	20.7.2006
				7.50	27.7.2006
				5.00	13.9.2006
				6.41	14.8.2006
				7.00	23.7.2006
				3.25	18.10.2006
				12.66	5.3.2007
				3.00	3.10.2006
				205.24	
20. Uttar Pradesh	1153.581	384.77		25.67	25.9.2006
				26.37	21.9.2006
				30.619	1.3.2007
				28.00	8.9.2006
				5.00	22.8.2006
				2.00	3.8.2006
				16.00	11.7.2006
				32.46	5.7.2006
				4.725	26.2.2007
				8.07	2.3.2007

1	2	3	4	5	6
				64.8	27.6.2006
				1.70	28.2.2007
				24.30	14.6.2006
				<b>269.714</b>	
21. Uttaranchal		294.291	123.075	10.66	12.7.2006
				36.23	20.7.2006
				9.5	28.7.2006
				6.00	23.11.2006
				10.26	12.7.2006
				8.42	1.3.2007
				6.00	27.9.2006
				8.65	1.3.2007
				4.40	20.2.2007
				<b>100.12</b>	
22. West Bengal		668.75	359.58	9.91	1.2.2007
				13.90	20.12.2006
				30.00	22.9.2006
				18.67	19.12.2006
				24.68	15.9.2006
				<b>94.725</b>	21.12.2006
				19.00	25.6.2006
				44.54	14.8.2006
				22.00	4.8.2006
				74.00	3.8.2006

1	2	3	4	5	6
				5.80	22.1.2007
				<b>357.225</b>	
23. Arunachal Pradesh	1205.161	137.89		11.81	7.9.2006
				21.82	1.9.2006
				4.72	31.8.2006
				23.19	4.9.2006
				12.00	7.11.2006
				<b>73.54</b>	
24. Assam	351.41	172.43		27.20	5.7.2006
				5.00	13.9.2006
				8.50	25.10.2006
				7.67	11.9.2006
				7.50	6.7.2006
				4.00	15.9.2006
				8.00	26.8.2006
				5.00	3.10.2006
				<b>72.87</b>	
25. Manipur	193.8	96.986		7.00	18.9.2006
				32.79	6.9.2006
				10.00	19.9.2006
				17.48	7.9.2006
				<b>67.27</b>	
26. Meghalaya	93.34	54.68		29.20	5.7.2006
				9.00	30.6.2006
				<b>38.20</b>	



1	2	3	4	5	6
27. Mizoram		234.99	169.174	32.50	18.10.2006
				21.5	11.10.2006
				16.50	24.10.2006
				70.50	
28. Nagaland		65.00	17.00	8.00	11.10.2007
				8.00	
29. Sikkim		212.47	145.57	25.00	7.11.2006
				18.84	28.7.2006
				20.00	25.9.2006
				5.11	3.8.2006
				12.00	19.10.2006
				8.07	1.9.2006
				89.02	
30. Tripura		356.41	47.75	9.60	25.9.2006
				12.00	25.10.2006
				21.60	

**Statement-II**

*State-wise details of Fund Released under Project Tiger Scheme during 2006-07*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S. No.	Name of State	Fund Demanded	Amount Approved	Amount Released	Date of fund released
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	220.00	64.55	35.00	12.6.2006
				11.675	7.3.2007
				46.675	

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	220.00	64.55	75.00	10.8.2006
				26.90	27.2.2007
				60.00	17.8.2006
				75.4725	20.1.2007
				<b>237.3725</b>	
3.	Assam	398.626	187.17	30.00	10.1.2007
				35.00	8.8.2006
				22.431	19.2.2007
				<b>87.431</b>	
4.	Bihar	495.00	106.663	37.1454	14.7.2006
				<b>37.1454</b>	
5.	Chhattisgarh	64.70	18.15	10.00	5.10.2006
				<b>10.00</b>	
6.	Karnataka	1798.813	427.637	19.17	17.7.2006
				24.887	29.12.2006
				175.00	14.7.2006
				48.75	27.2.2007
				<b>267.817</b>	
7.	Kerala	230.00	294.56	40.00	23.8.2006
				12.00	6.11.2006
				57.00	2.2.2007
				<b>109.00</b>	
8.	Jharkhand	539.027	217.927	100.00	17.7.2006
				55.967	27.1.2007
				<b>155.967</b>	

1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	Madhya Pradesh	2298.66	1142.083	150.00	15.9.2006
				147.255	29.6.2006
				80.39	8.12.2006
				134.97	6.11.2006
				16.686	19.2.2007
				30.00	21.2.2007
				150.00	4.10.2006
				61.34	26.12.2006
				31.919	6.3.2007
				18.595	17.1.2007
				821.155	
10.	Maharashtra	1248.476	402.356	50.00	31.7.2006
				9.05	2.3.2007
				86.39	15.9.2006
				48.12	31.1.2007
				45.00	5.10.2006
				238.56	
11.	Mizoram	174.42	87.66	50.00	17.7.2006
				28.16	22.1.2007
				37.00	20.2.2007
				115.16	
12.	Orissa	346.47	189.75	60.00	18.9.2006
				90.25	19.12.2006
				150.25	

1	2	3	4	5	6
13. Rajasthan		458.25	275.90	80.00	14.7.2006
				20.876	17.7.2006
				<b>100.876</b>	
14. Tamil Nadu		11544.05	119.31	60.00	17.7.2006
				25.165	19.1.2007
				<b>85.165</b>	
15. Tripura		—	—	—	—
16. Uttaranchal		214.31	280.33	30.295	23.6.2006
				130.00	3.11.2006
				32.485	6.3.2007
				<b>192.78</b>	
17. Uttar Pradesh		1727.39	138.25	75.00	10.8.2006
				108.265	7.3.2007
				<b>183.265</b>	
18. West Bengal		678.60	270.70	60.00	27.7.2006
				100.00	14.7.2006
				17.30	8.12.2006
				<b>177.30</b>	

**Statement-III**

*State-wise details of Fund Released under Project Elephant Scheme during 2006-07*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S. No.	Name of States	Fund Demanded	Amount Approved	Amount Released	Date of fund released
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	500.00	72.50	40.00	4.7.2006

1	2	3	4	5	6
				24.774	14.2.2007
				64.774	
2.	Orissa	258.60	161.30	37.19	29.6.2006
				71.75	18.12.2006
				45.00	1.3.2007
				153.94	
3.	Karnataka	600.00	169.50	110.00	29.6.2006
				57.82	10.1.2007
				167.82	
4.	West Bengal	328.20	165.97	99.00	4.7.2006
				1.15	12.10.2006
				56.24	18.12.2006
				2.50	12.1.2007
				2.00	17.1.2007
				160.89	
5.	Jharkhand	335.94	149.00	50.00	30.8.2006
6.	Tamil Nadu	524.12	153.69	110.00	4.7.2006
7.	Kerala	264.00	169.40	110.00	4.7.2006
				59.40	22.2.2007
				169.40	
8.	1. Uttaranchal	258.20	154.00	50.00	21.8.2006
	2. Gujjar	44.00		44.00	5.9.2006
				59.12	1.3.2007
				153.12	

1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	Chhattisgarh	371.88	80.00	45.00	22.8.2006
				35.00	2.3.2007
				80.00	
10.	Haryana	135.25	90.75	50.00	8.11.2006
11.	Uttar Pradesh	37.47	22.44	6.20	17.1.2007
12.	Maharashtra		25.00	25.00	2.3.2007
13.	Nagaland	95.62	52.45	45.00	30.6.2006
				7.45	14.2.2007
				52.45	
14.	Meghalaya	100.00	61.55	42.00	4.7.2006
				19.55	29.11.2006
				61.55	
15.	Assam	263.63	174.38	70.00	27.12.2006
16.	Arunachal Pradesh	421.715	98.32	53.00	7.8.2006

#### Damage of Potato Crop Due to Disease

\*194. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether potato crop has been damaged due to blight despite use of T.P.S. seeds in some States particularly in Bihar; and

(b) If so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) No, Sir. The Government of Bihar has reported that "True Potato Seed;

(TPS) potato crop was free from late blight of potato in Bihar. However, the incidence of late blight of potato has been reported in susceptible varieties in the districts of Purnea and Katihar, of Bihar State. There were also reports of incidence of late blight of potato in certain pockets, in the States of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Karnataka and Maharashtra with damage varying from 15 to 50% during November, 2006 on susceptible varieties of potato.

(b) In Bihar, Potato crop of about 7,000 acres in Katihar and 4,800 acres in Purnea districts have been damaged by late blight of potato. The incidence of the disease is mainly due to favourable climatic conditions and use of seed tubers without proper seed treatment. The

problem has been aggravated because of use of susceptible varieties and congenial environment especially high showers, low night temperature and foggy weather. Government of Bihar got the area surveyed through the scientists of Rajendra Agricultural University, Pusa, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Purnea and Katihar, Central Potato Research Station, Patna and officials of National Horticulture Mission in December, 2006. The team has recommended a number of mitigation measures, inter alia, harvesting the crop of more than 60 days old for table purposes, preventing the use of infected tubers for raising the next crop, spraying of recommended pesticides for the standing crop, constant vigil and pest surveillance, awareness creation among the farmers for seed treatment and use of resistant varieties like TPS, Arun, Kufri, Pukhraj, Kufri Pushkar, Kufri Jyoti, etc.

The incidence of late blight of potato has been reviewed by the Central Government with the affected States and advised the State Governments for ensuring availability of disease free seed potato and promoting good agricultural practices in the coming season.

#### Production of Steel

\*195. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the target fixed for steel production particularly with reference to Jharkhand during the next five years;

(b) the policy of the Government with regard to providing the iron ore required for the purpose;

(c) whether any proposal in this regard has been received from the SAIL;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) No, target has been fixed for steel production in Jharkhand by the Ministry of Steel. However, Memoranda of

Understanding (MoU) have been entered into between the State Government of Jharkhand and private sector entrepreneurs.

(b) Iron ore mining leases are allocated by the concerned State Governments after taking the approval of the Ministry of Mines, Government of India.

(c) and (d) Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) has, at present, one Integrated Steel Plant at Bokaro in Jharkhand and SAIL intends to increase the crude steel capacity of Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL) from the present level of 4.2 Million Tonnes Per Annum (MTPA) (2005-06) to 7 MTPA by 2010. In addition, plans are also being formulated to set-up a Green Field Steel Plant initially for 6 MTPA and to be expanded further.

For the expansion plan of Bokaro Steel Plant and the new green field steel plant in Jharkhand, Chiria and Gua mines are proposed to be the main source for iron ore. SAIL has applied for renewal of mining leases of Chiria to the Government of Jharkhand.

(e) Ministry of Steel and SAIL have held several meetings with the Government of Jharkhand for early renewal of mining leases in Chiria and Gua in favour of SAIL. Final outcome is awaited.

[English]

#### Strengthening of Embankments of Rivers

\*196. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the embankments have not yet been strengthened to check floods due to silting in the rivers coming from Nepal side into India;

(b) if so, the financial and physical targets set for strengthening of embankments, State-wise in the last three years and the actual achievements thereof; and

(c) the reasons for shortfall in achievements and by when the work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ) : (a) Flood Management is a State subject. The flood control schemes are planned and executed by the State Governments with their own funds as per the priorities within the State. The assistance provided by the Union Government is primarily technical, catalytic and promotional in nature. However, the Government of India is providing financial assistance to the state

Governments of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh to strengthen the embankments to check floods due to silting in the rivers coming from Nepal side into India.

(b) and (c) The State-wise financial and physical targets, actual achievements, shortfalls with reasons during last three years (2004-07) and likely completion time thereof are given in the enclosed statement.

### Statement

*State-wise Targets and Achievements of Strengthening of Embankments during last three years (2004-07) on Rivers coming from Nepal side into India*

S. No.	Name of State/ State/Scheme/ River	Targets		Achievements		Likely time of completion	Shortfall/Reasons
		Financial (Rs. in crore)	Physical (length of embankment in Km)	Financial	Physical (length of embankments completed)		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>A. Bihar</b>							
<b>1. Raising, Strengthening and Extension of Existing of Embankments on Rivers Lalbakeya, Bagmati, Kamla and Khando Rivers</b>							
(i)	Lalbakeya River	Works in total length of 36.76 km. have been completed in IX Plan.					
(ii)	Kamla River	30.00	174.54	22.85	51.78	June, 2007	Works are in progress.
(iii)	Bagmati River	13.59	27.22	2.17	0.000	June, 2007	Delay in submission of technically sound proposal by the State Government for approval.
<b>2. Critical Anti-erosion Works in Ganga Basin States</b>							
	Gandak/Burhi Gandak	30.49	394.30	26.80	204.50	March, 2007	No shortfall. Works are in progress.
<b>Sub-Total (Bihar)</b>		<b>74.08</b>	<b>596.06</b>	<b>51.82</b>	<b>256.28</b>		



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
B. Uttar Pradesh							
1. Critical Anti-erosion Works in Ganga Basin States							
Rapti River	10.81	40.05	3.79	32.60	March, 2007	Progress of works is as per work plan.	
Rohin River	3.08	19.37	2.52	19.37	Completed	No shortfall.	
Sub-total (Uttar Pradesh)	13.89	59.42	6.31	51.97			
Total	87.97	655.48	58.13	308.25			

[Translation]

#### Groundnut Cultivation

\*197. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA :  
SHRI V.K. THUMMAR :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total area covered under groundnut cultivation in the country, State-wise in the last three years;

(b) the extent of production recorded during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(c) whether there has been steep decline in the production of groundnut;

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

(e) the steps taken by the Government to promote the production of groundnut and provide remunerative prices to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) The State-

wise and all-India area covered and extent of production of groundnut during the years 2003-04 to 2006-07 are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) The groundnut production declined from 81.27 lakh tonnes during 2003-04 to 67.74 lakh tonnes during 2004-05. During 2005-06 it increased to 79.93 lakh tonnes. It is estimated to have again declined to 44.11 lakh tonnes during 2006-07 as per 2nd advance estimates released on 05.02.2007. The sharp decline in production during 2006-07 was due to decline in area from 67.36 lakh hectares to 55.76 lakh hectares. The other reasons for low production of groundnut are aberrant weather conditions during this period and low productivity of groundnut due to their cultivation largely under rainfed conditions, no major break through in high yielding varieties and low seed replacement rate.

(e) A Centrally Sponsored Integrated scheme on Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize is under implementation with effect from 01.04.2004 for increasing production and productivity of groundnut in 14 States of the Country. Under the scheme financial assistance is provided for purchaser of breeder seeds, production of foundation seeds, distribution of seed minikits, infrastructure development, block demonstrations on improved technology, integrated pest management, weedicides, distribution of

sprinkler sets, farmers training for increasing production and productivity of groundnut and other oilseeds.

For protecting the interest of farmers and for encouraging production of groundnut by the farmers, the

Government announces minimum support prices (MSP) for groundnut before the sowing season begins and authorizes the nodal agencies to undertake price support operation in the event of market prices falling below the MSP level.

### Statement

#### State-wise Area and Production of Groundnut during 2003-04 to 2006-07

State	Area (000 Hectares)				Production (000 Tonnes)			
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07*	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Andhra Pradesh	1493.6	1841.4	1876.0	1321.0	986.0	1639.5	1366.0	709.0
Bihar	0.5	0.5	0.9	1.0	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.0
Chhattisgarh	36.3	29.1	29.3	30.0	40.2	32.3	31.6	19.0
Goa	3.3	3.4	3.3	#	5.7	5.4	7.9	#
Gujarat	2003.4	2000.4	1954.0	1713.0	4477.6	1886.6	3389.0	1304.0
Haryana	1.5	1.6	3.0	5.0	1.1	1.2	2.2	4.0
Himachal Pradesh	0.2	0.0	0.1	#	0.2	0.0	0.0	#
Jharkhand	NG	NG	NG	25.0	NG	NG	NG	38.0
Karnataka	817.3	969.0	1040.0	770.0	433.5	742.0	671.0	405.0
Kerala	2.7	1.8	3.3	2.0	2.0	1.7	2.4	3.0
Madhya Pradesh	217.7	209.5	208.2	194.0	252.3	242.7	234.4	153.0
Maharashtra	379.0	447.0	428.0	420.0	437.0	502.0	410.0	407.0
Nagaland	2.0	5.5	0.3	#	3.0	7.0	0.3	#
Orissa	77.2	86.0	90.8	84.0	93.2	106.0	106.3	94.0
Punjab	4.4	4.3	3.4	4.0	4.0	3.6	3.0	4.0
Rajasthan	212.0	287.8	317.0	311.0	331.9	446.8	491.0	216.0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Tamil Nadu	591.7	615.9	618.8	547.0	918.2	1005.3	1098.2	906.0
Tripura	0.7	0.9	0.9	#	0.7	0.9	0.8	#
Uttar Pradesh	93.3	85.1	106.3	100.0	59.4	69.4	90.5	74.0
Uttaranchal	3.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	2.0
West Bengal	45.9	46.6	48.8	40.0	75.8	75.5	83.1	62.0
Pondicherry	1.3	1.6	1.6	#	2.5	3.2	3.1	#
Others	NA	NA	NA	8.0	NA	NA	NA	11.0
All India	5987.0	6640.4	6736.0	5575.0	8126.5	6774.4	7993.3	4411.0

NG : Either not grown or area less than 50 hectares/production less than 50 tonnes.

NA : No Applicable.

# Including in others.

\*2nd advance estimates as on 05.02.2007.

[English]

**Recommendations of National Commission on Farmers**

\*198. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Conference of State Ministers of Agriculture was held recently to discuss the recommendations of the National Commission of Farmers;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) whether any consensus has been evolved at the conference for implementation of the recommendations of the Commission;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the recommendations are

likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) to (e) The Conference of State Ministers for Agriculture and Allied Sectors was held on 22nd December, 2006 to discuss and obtain their views on the recommendations made by the National Commission on Farmers in its Reports including Revised Draft National Policy for Farmers. The States are broadly in agreement with most of the recommendations. Government has taken necessary action to expedite examination of the Revised Draft National Policy for Farmers and other recommendations. While examining the Reports as well as Revised Draft National Policy for Farmers it was observed that many of the recommendations of NCF are already under implementation through several initiatives and programmes/schemes launched.

**Cadre Review of Indian Information  
Service**

\*199. SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of vacancies in Grade A and B of Indian Information Service alongwith the steps taken to fill up the vacancies;

(b) whether a Cadre Review was conducted in the organization;

(c) if so, the details and outcome thereof indicating the date of conducting the said review; and

(d) the reason for delay in conducting the next review?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) The number of vacancies in Group A and B of IIS as on date is given in the enclosed Statement-I. These vacancies are filled up as per procedures prescribed in the Indian Information Service (Group 'A') Rules, 1987 and Indian Information Service (Group 'B' posts) Rules 1989, as amended from time to time.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The Cadre Review of IIS Group 'A' initiated on 10.02.1994, was approved by the Cabinet on 03.04.2006 and necessary orders were issued on 20.04.2006. The sanctioned strength of each grade of IIS Group 'A' prior and after Cadre Review is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

The Cadre Review proposal of IIS Group 'B' is now required to be taken up with Sixth Central Pay Commission as per Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure's O.M. No. 5/16/2006-E.III.A. dated 21st December 2006. The necessary action has already been initiated in the Ministry.

From the above it can be sent that there is no delay in conducting the next Cadre Review of Indian Information Service.

**Statement-I**

*Vacancy Position of IIS*

Grade	Sanctioned Strength	In Position	Vacancy
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)

**Group A**

Higher Grade	01	—	01
Selection Grade	06	06	—
SAG	37	32	05
JAG	121	83	38
STS	159	73	86
JTS	151	100	51

**Group B**

Sr. Grade	410	300	110
Jr. Grade	134	67	67

**Statement-II**

Sanctioned Strength→ Grade↓	Grade-wise sanctioned strength prior to Cadre Review	Grade-wise sanctioned strength after Cadre Review
1	2	3
Higher Grade	01	01
Selection Grade	04	06

1	2	3
Senior Administrative Grade	25	37
Junior Administrative Grade/NFSG	103	121
Senior Grade	155	159
Junior Grade	202	151

#### Research and Development

\*200. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the funds allocated for Research and Development (R and D) under the Ministry during the years 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 was under-utilised though the budget allocation is being enhanced every year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether due to non-utilisation of funds, all the on-going R and D programmes are getting adversely affected resulting in non-completion of the project under the schemes; and

(d) if so, the efforts being made to ensure timely and judicious utilisation of the amount allocated for R and D?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) Under the scheme for Research and Development (R and D) of the Ministry of Water Resources, various research organisations/academic institutions are provided assistance for taking up research in specific areas of water resources. The support is provided by way of grants to academic/research organisations. The scheme also has a component for providing assistance for organisation of workshops / symposiums / seminars etc. on important issues related to water resources and mass awareness programmes.

The budget allocation in the last three years for the above scheme were Rs. 6.00 crore for 2004-05, Rs. 10.00 crore for 2005-06 and Rs. 14.96 crore for 2006-07. The expenditure in the year 2004-05 and 2005-06 were Rs. 3.00 crore and Rs. 7.63 crore respectively. The revised estimate for the year 2006-07 is Rs. 10.10 crore. The allocated fund could not be utilised fully mainly due to (a) non-receipt of expected number of proposals from research organisations / academic institutions; (b) non-recommendation of some of the proposals; and (c) non-submission of the requisite progress report of the on-going schemes; and (d) delay in submission of proposal for release of next installment etc.

(c) and (d) The research activities are primarily undertaken by premier organisations of the Ministry i.e., Central Water and Power Research Station, Pune, Central Soil and Materials Research Station, New Delhi, National Institute of Hydrology, Roorkee and Central Ground Water Board. The scheme for R and D as stated above is to provide incentive to various academic/research organisations which helps in addressing specific issues. The overall objectives of R and D are not adversely affected as the major activities related to research are undertaken by premier research institutes. Various measures are taken by the Ministry to ensure timely utilisation of funds earmarked to research judiciously. These measures include examination of proposal by Indian National Committees, monitoring of the progress, evaluation of reports etc.

#### Water Users Associations

1702. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Water Users Associations are functioning in all the States;

(b) if so, their numbers, State-wise;

(c) whether farmers and women are duly represented in these Associations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir, Water Users Associations (WUAs) are reported functioning in all the States except Sikkim and Tripura. At present 50764 WUAs are functioning in the country. State-wise break-up is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir, farmers and women are duly represents as members in WUAs. However, representation of women in the WUAs is marginal. Details are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

**Statement-I**

S. No.	State	Number of WUAs functioning in the State
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10799
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	30
3.	Assam	647
4.	Bihar	46
5.	Chhattisgarh	1324
6.	Goa	46
7.	Gujarat	377
8.	Haryana	4085
9.	Himachal Pradesh	876
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	90
11.	Jharkhand	10
12.	Karnataka	2377

1	2	3
13.	Kerala	4115
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1687
15.	Maharashtra	1100
16.	Manipur	69
17.	Meghalaya	112
18.	Mizoram	110
19.	Nagaland	24
20.	Orissa	12500
21.	Punjab	2371
22.	Rajasthan	859
23.	Sikkim	Nil
24.	Tamil Nadu	1136
25.	Tripura	Nil
26.	Uttar Pradesh	192
27.	Uttaranchal	5646
28.	West Bengal	136
Total (States)		50764

**Statement-II**

1. Andhra Pradesh

As per the Andhra Pradesh Farmers Management of Irrigation Systems (APFMIS) Act, 1997 all the land holders are entitled to the voting rights while electing WUA Managing Committee. Since majority of the land holdings are in the name of male farmers, entry of women members into the WUA governance is very

limited. About 3 to 5% women participation is observed in the State.

**2. Arunachal Pradesh**

Women had been playing important role in farming and decision making in the management of farms since age old. Even now women participate in decision making in farm management.

**3. Assam**

Farmers and women are duly represented in the WUAs.

**4. Bihar**

Farmers and women are duly represented in the WUAs.

**5. Chhattisgarh**

33% women are representing these Associations.

**6. Goa**

Farmers have been duly associated, but it has not been possible to secure women's participation in the associations so far in WUAs. WUAs are being motivated to involve more and more women in their associations and are being encouraged to take up an active role in the functioning of the association.

**7. Gujarat**

Farmers including women representatives are members of WUAs.

**8. Haryana**

All the land owners and their representatives (including women) are eligible to be members of WUAs.

**9. Himachal Pradesh**

In general, the participation is by male members

as they are the land owners. However, participation of women is notional and of the order of about 5%.

**10. Jammu and Kashmir**

There is a proper representation of farmers in ad-hoc WUAs. The land holdings in the jurisdiction of CAD and WM activities generally belong to male population so the representation of women in WUAs is marginal.

**11. Jharkhand**

Farmers of different land holding are represented in the associations. Efforts are being made to provide due representation of women in the association.

**12. Karnataka**

All the Aichkatdars (members) coming under Water Users Cooperative Society (WUCS) are eligible members of the Society. Women land holders are also members of WUCS. The managing committee of WUCS comprises of nine persons and consists of at least one women.

**13. Kerala**

Women members are also participating in the activities of Beneficiary Farmers Associations (BFAs).

**14. Madhya Pradesh**

Farmers having land in command area is a member of General body of WUAs. Women (wife) of Water Users who does not hold land shall be deemed to be the land holders and become members of general body of WUAs.

**15. Maharashtra**

There is a prescribed representation of women in the managing committee under the provisions 12(5) of the Maharashtra Management of Irrigation System by Farmers Act 2005.

**16. Manipur**

The farmers and women are duly represented in the WUAs. In each WUA the representation of women members are about 20-30%.

**17. Meghalaya**

Farmers and women are duly represented in the WUAs.

**18. Mizoram**

The WUAs comprise both male and female members of the farming community.

**19. Nagaland**

Farmers and women are duly represented in the WUAs.

**20. Orissa**

Farmers are duly represented in the associations. Due stress is being given on inclusion of women as representative of farmers organizations.

**21. Punjab**

Farmers duly represent these associations. The ownership is transferred patriachially in the name of male members, as such representation of women in WUAs is negligible.

**22. Rajasthan**

Women are nominated under the Rajasthan Farmers Participation in Management of Irrigation System Act 2000 and Rules 2002.

**23. Sikkim**

WUAs are not functioning in the State.

**24. Tamil Nadu**

All land owners are members of sluice committee or

WUAs Earlier participation of women in WUAs activities was meager but it has significantly increased due to training programmes organized by State.

**25. Tripura**

WUAs are not functioning in the State.

**26. Uttar Pradesh**

All WUAs have farmers as members. However, representation of women is about 3 to 4%.

**27. Uttarakhand**

Farmers and women are represented in Users Group.

**28. West Bengal**

Farmers and women are duly represented in the WUAs.

**Electronic Market**

1703. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up electronic market at national level;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) Two commodities derivatives trade exchanges, viz: National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange (NCDEX) and Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX) have been recognized by Government for forward trading in commodities, which have floated their subsidiaries and mooted concept papers to start National Spot Exchanges to trade in commodities.



Forward Market Commission is entrusted with the regulation of forward contracts in commodities. The Electronic spot markets would be subject to laws governing to the spot markets in commodities.

(c) Question does not arise.

[Translation]

#### **Corruption in Relief Package for Farmers**

1704. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Intelligence Bureau (IB) has initiated an investigation into the alleged corruption in implementation of the relief package declared by the Prime Minister for the farmers of Vidarbha; and

(b) if so, the details and outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **National Child Labour Project**

1705. SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has decided to open Central Child Labour Schools in three districts of Haryana under National Child Labour Project Scheme;

(b) if so, the reasons for not implementing this project even after expiry of one year; and

(c) the time by which these Child Labour Schools in three districts of Haryana including Faridabad are likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) Government has sanctioned the National Child Labour Project Scheme in three districts of Haryana viz. Faridabad, Gurgaon and Panipat based on the 2001 Census. This scheme is being implementation for the rehabilitation of Child Labour.

(b) and (c) Ministry of Labour and Employment is continuously pursuing with the State Government for implementation of National Child Labour Project Scheme in three districts of Haryana viz. Faridabad, Gurgaon, and Panipat. Funds have already been allocated to these districts for conducting survey of child labour and the special schools for working children can be sanctioned on the basis of results of child labour survey.

[English]

#### **Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Limited**

1706. SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV :

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA :

SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the production in Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizers Corporation Ltd. (BVFCL), Namrup has come to a standstill due to spurt in ULFA activities in Assam and exodus of non-Assamese from there;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent of loss incurred as a result thereof;

(d) the compensation provided to BVFCL for the purpose; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to deal with the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE) : (a) to (d) No Sir, the production in Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizers Corporation Ltd. (BVFCL) did not come to a standstill due to ULFA activities but the dispatches of the company suffered. However, the production of the company suffered due to the law and order problem in Assam. The company suffered production loss of 49000 MT in 2005-06 and 8177 MT during current year till now. As a result the company incurred a loss of Rs. 164 lacs during the year 2006-07.

As per the contracts with M/s. Oil India Ltd. and/or M/s. Assam Gas Company Ltd. by the company no compensation is payable.

(e) Necessary steps for safety have been taken by the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF).

#### Death In Industries

1707. SHRI NARHARI MAHATO : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the workers killed in mishaps while at work in medium and heavy industries in the country during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the details of the minor children alongwith women and men killed in these mishaps; and

(c) the details of the amount of compensation prescribed and that of insurance provided to the families of deceased workers, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) The year-wise information made available by the State Governments regarding workers killed in factories registered under the Factories Act,

1948 for the last three years, is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) As per Section 67 of the Factories Act, 1948, children below 14 years of age are not allowed to work in any factory. The details of men and women killed in mishaps in factories during 2004-06 are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(c) State-wise information on compensation paid in the case of deaths and employment injuries, as available in respect of State Governments, is given in the enclosed Statement-III.

#### Statement-I

*Details of the workers killed in mishaps while at work in medium and heavy industries in the country during the last three years – Year-wise and State-wise*

State	2004	2005	2006
Andhra Pradesh	90	134	157
Bihar	8	12	6
Delhi	5	17	15
Goa	12	16	8
Gujarat	183	175	127
Haryana	77	59	50
Karnataka	48	34	64
Kerala	10	18	13
Maharashtra	64	57	88
Rajasthan	60	52	61
Tamil Nadu	54	57	78
West Bengal	63	54	75

**Statement-II**

*Details of women and men killed in the mishaps during 2004-2005*

State	Women	Men
Andhra Pradesh	37	342
Bihar	0	26
Chandigarh	0	1
Delhi	1	36
Goa	0	36
Gujarat	8	477
Haryana	0	186
Karnataka	3	143
Kerala	1	40
Maharashtra	2	207
Orissa	1	86*
Punjab	0	95**
Rajasthan	10	163
Tamil Nadu	33	155
West Bengal	0	192

\*In respect of years 2005 and 2006 for which figures are available.

\*\*In respect of years 2004 and 2005 for which figures are available.

**Statement-III**

*State-wise Information on compensation paid in the case of Deaths and Employment Injuries*

S. No.	State	Amount paid (In Rupees)		
		2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1		2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	29661913	29798582	32586883

	1	2	3	4
2. Assam and Meghalaya	1457299	1442235	1414202	
3. Bihar	15554710	15155730	15760497	
4. Chandigarh	1547591	1612578	2102090	
5. Chhattisgarh	1957915	1756764	1792135	
6. Delhi	16552821	16425457	16785825	
7. Goa	1905918	2014659	2646791	
8. Gujarat	37699244	36211225	36204362	
9. Haryana	17854230	17817524	17534798	
10. Himachal Pradesh	1235692	1037869	1184286	
11. Jammu and Kashmir	541851	529412	682921	
12. Jharkhand	2518178	2937043	3097392	
13. Karnataka	23964460	23143233	24138637	
14. Kerala	19032970	18640728	18690190	
15. Madhya Pradesh	14278770	13512081	15367278	
16. Maharashtra	65114078	61486429	61901426	
17. Orissa	8044176	8288823	8128113	
18. Pondicherry	826555	951242	989824	
19. Punjab	22956270	22104795	23341316	
20. Rajasthan	25452857	24773379	24537236	
21. Tamil Nadu	39228636	38174026	39431359	
22. Uttar Pradesh	47597919	48695967	50526594	
23. Uttaranchal	1583696	1392422	1644910	
24. West Bengal	35670160	32665530	32317638	

### Acquisition of Forest Land

1708. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the forest land acquired for establishment of industries in West Bengal and Orissa during the last three years and the current year;

(b) the number of farmers affected thereby in each State; and

(c) the area of land out of the above used by the Industrial Development Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) The forest land diverted for establishment of Industries in West Bengal and Orissa during the last three years and current year is as under:-

(i) West Bengal

1. Land diverted during the last 3 years = 18.531 ha.
2. Land diverted during the current year = 35.633 ha.

(ii) Orissa

1. Land diverted during the last 3 years = 166.297 ha.
2. Land diverted during the current year = Nil.

(b) The number of farmers affected due to diversion of forest land under reference in West Bengal and Orissa is nil.

(c) The area of the land out of the above being used by the Industrial Development Corporation is nil.

### Employment Opportunities for Women

1709. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the comparative status with regard to women employment, State-wise;

(b) the details of the schemes being formulated and implemented by the Government to create employment opportunities for them; and

(c) the amount allocated and released by the Government in this regard during the last three years and the amount utilised thereunder so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) Estimates of employment and unemployment are obtained through quinquennial labour force surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation. Last such survey, for which results are available, was conducted during 2004-05. As per these surveys, worker-population ratios on usual status basis have increased from 29.9% in 1999-2000 to 32.7% in 2004-05 for rural females and in case of urban females from 13.9% to 16.6%. State-wise details of worker-population ratios of female on usual status basis during 1999-2000 and 2004-05 are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) Government is attempting employment generation through normal growth process of the economy as well as through special employment generation programmes. Details of Schemes for creation of employment opportunities including women are given in the enclosed Statement-II. Besides, Government is also implementing National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) presently in the 200 identified districts (the number of districts will be raised to 330 in the coming year) of the country, which provides for at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to every household in the rural areas whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. Rupees 11,300 crore was allocated for NREGS in 2006-07 BE. Under this scheme, upto December, 2006, of the 53.65 crore person-days of employment generated, 21.13 crore were for women.

(c) Trend of Public Expenditure allocated for Women-Union Budget for the year 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 are given below:-

(Rs. in crores)

Schemes	Budget Estimates 2002-03	Budget Estimates 2003-04	Budget Estimates 2004-05
Women Specific Schemes	3358.21	3675.37	3555.49
Pro-women Allocation in Pro-women Schemes	13036.01	13297.40	15001.24

**Statement-I**

*State-wise worker population ratios of female (percentage) on usual status  
basis during 1999-2000 and 2004-05*

S. No.	State/Union Territory	1999-2000		2004-05	
		Rural Female	Urban Female	Rural Female	Urban Female
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	47.8	17.8	48.3	22.4
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	31.0	10.0	41.0	14.8
3.	Assam	15.1	11.2	20.9	10.9
4.	Bihar	17.3	7.5	13.8	6.5
5.	Chhattisgarh	—	—	45.4	18.1
6.	Delhi	2.9	10.5	4.7	8.8
7.	Goa	18.1	10.6	18.8	18.8
8.	Gujarat	41.3	13.5	42.7	15.1
9.	Haryana	20.2	9.8	31.7	13.2
10.	Himachal Pradesh	47.1	13.0	50.6	24.1
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	32.7	6.2	26.7	11.2
12.	Jharkhand	—	—	31.3	13.4
13.	Karnataka	38.0	17.8	45.9	18.1
14.	Kerala	23.8	20.3	25.6	20.0

1	2	3	4	5	6
15. Madhya Pradesh		38.2	13.4	36.6	15.4
16. Maharashtra		43.4	13.7	47.4	19.0
17. Manipur		25.3	21.1	35.1	22.1
18. Meghalaya		41.8	19.7	47.8	30.3
19. Mizoram		44.0	25.9	44.1	28.1
20. Nagaland		44.1	19.9	50.4	25.7
21. Orissa		29.9	14.5	32.2	14.8
22. Punjab		28.0	12.5	32.2	13.3
23. Rajasthan		38.8	13.8	40.7	18.2
24. Sikkim		24.1	20.0	31.8	16.8
25. Tamil Nadu		43.0	21.5	46.1	24.1
26. Tripura		7.3	7.5	8.5	10.0
27. Uttaranchal <sup>⊙</sup>		—	—	42.7	12.7
28. Uttar Pradesh		20.1	9.4	24.0	11.7
29. West Bengal		16.0	11.7	17.8	15.5
30. Andaman and Nicobar Islands		18.0	20.6	24.3	15.5
31. Chandigarh		12.8	13.6	5.4	14.2
32. Dadra and Nagar Haveli		35.4	11.2	47.8	19.4
33. Daman and Diu		30.0	18.6	16.8	22.5
34. Lakshadweep		11.5	17.9	5.0	10.8
35. Pondicherry		28.7	16.9	36.1	15.4
All India		29.9	13.9	32.7	16.6

\*As per usual status approach.

⊙ State was not created.

**Statement-II**

*Performance of various Employment Generation Schemes during the year  
2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06*

(updated as on 25.7.2006)

S. No.	Name of the scheme	Funds Allocation and Employment Generation				Name of the Ministry concerned	Remarks
		Year	Year	Year	Year		
		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>1. Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY)</b>							
(i)	Central Allocation (Rs. in crores)	3552.53	4120.25	4495.25	5396.50**	M/o Rural Development 25.09.2001	
(ii)	Central Released (Rs. in crores)	3684.64	4121.04	4496.19	3229.09**		
(iii)	Employment Generated (In lakh Mandays)	7482.93	8560.24	8223.08	5199.55*		
<b>2. Swarn Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGRY)</b>							
(i)	Central Allocation (Rs. in crores)	567.90	800.00	1000.00	1000.00**	M/o Rural Development 01.04.1999	
(ii)	Central Release (Rs. in crores)	504.56	645.12	900.10	482.35**		
(iii)	Swarozgaries assisted (In lakh numbers)	8.26	8.97	11.16	5.89*		
<b>3. Swarn Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY)</b>							
(i)	Funds Allocated (Rs. in crores)	100.74	100.74	99.10	154.59	M/o Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation 01/12/97	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
(ii) Funds Released (Rs. in crores)		100.92	100.74	122.00	24.64		
(iii) Persons assisted to set up Micro Enterprises for Self Employment (In lakh numbers)		1.28	1.01	1.03	NR		
(iv) Employment Generated (In lakh mandays)		31.26	49.74	36.21	NR		
<b>4. Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY)</b>							
(i) Funds Allocated (Rs. in crores)		169.00	169.00	218.90	218.50	M/o Agro and Rural Industries 02/10/93	
(ii) Funds Released (Rs. in crores)		168.10	167.83	218.17	31.19*		
(iii) Employment Generated (In lakh mandays)		2.86	3.27	2.91	0.04**		
(iv) Persons assisted for self Employment (In lakh number)		1.91	2.18	1.94(P)	0.02●		
<b>5. Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP)</b>							
(i) Funds Allocated to KVIC (In crores)		202.67	281.75	282.00	NR	M/o Small Scale Industries 95-96	
(ii) Funds Released (M.M. Disbursed Rs in crores)		193.71	264.38	292.36	322.47#		
(iii) Employment Generated (In lakh numbers)		3.61	4.71	5.50	3.33#		
<b>6. National food for work Programme (NFFWP)</b>		—	—	785.18	1865.75	—	

Note: \* = Upto Dec., 2005; \*\* = Upto Sep. 2005; \$ = Upto 16.06.2006; P = Provision,

● = Upto May 2005; # = Upto Jan., 2006; NR = Not received.



[Translation]

### Cost of Stored Foodgrains

1710. SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether any assessment has been made regarding the cost/value of wheat and rice stored in Godowns of the Food Corporation of India (FCI) during the year 2006-07;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the heads of expenditure kept in view while calculating the cost/value; and

(d) the increase in percentage of annual expenditure under each head during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As per revised estimates of Food Corporation of India (FCI), different heads of the economic cost of wheat and rice during the year 2006-07 are given in enclosed Statement-I.

(d) The details of percentage increase in annual expenditure over the last year under each head for the last three years are given in enclosed Statement-II.

### Statement-I

#### Element-wise break-up of Economic Cost for 2006-2007 (RE)

(Rs. per quintal)

S.No.	Description	Wheat	Rice
1	2	3	4
1.	Pooled cost (MSP + Bonus/Adjusted Imported Cost)	761.87	910.20
2.	Procurement Incidentals		
A.	Statutory/Obligatory Cost		
(i)	Mandi charges and Purchase Tax	78.18	81.38
(ii)	Milling Charges and Driage Allowance	0.00	26.41
(iii)	Gunny Cost	47.35	55.82
	Total	125.33	163.61
B.	Labour and Transport Charges		
(i)	Mandi Labour	9.87	10.82
(ii)	Forwarding charges	1.69	0.07

1	2	3	4
	(iii) Internal Movement	14.26	6.67
	Total	25.82	17.36
C.	Storage and Interest charges paid to State Agencies		
	(i) Storage charges	0.79	2.98
	(ii) Interest	2.69	8.86
	(iii) Previous year Arrears Expenses	—	2.10
	Total	3.48	13.94
D.	Administrative Charges to State/Agencies	14.93	2.57
E.	Other (Guarantee Fee etc.)	0.70	0.63
	Total Procurement Incidentals	170.46	198.11
3.	Acquisition Cost	932.33	1108.31
4.	Distribution Cost		
	(i) Freight	104.49	57.77
	(ii) Handling Charges	47.64	47.66
	(iii) Storage Charges	28.43	28.38
	(iv) Interest	92.13	109.54
	(v) Shortages	1.97	8.63
	(vi) Administrative Overhead	25.59	25.63
	Total Distribution Cost	300.25	277.61
5.	Economic Cost	1232.58	1385.92

**Statement-II**

*Details of percentage increase in each head over the last year in Annual Expenditure for the last three years*

(Amount in Rs. Crore)

Acquisition cost of Grain sold	2003-04 Amount	2004-05		2005-06 (Provisional)		2006-07 (RE of FCI)	
		Amount	% increase	Amount	% increase	Amount	% increase
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Wheat	4134	4005	(-)3.12	4327	8.04	5742	32.70

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Rice	5938	6529	9.95	7506	14.96	8870	18.17
Coarsegrain	2	10	400.00	—	—	—	—
Total	10074	10544	4.67	11833	12.22	14612	23.49
Freight	3671	3055	(-)16.79	2992	(-)2.06	3413	14.07
Handling	1359	1430	5.22	1368	(-)4.34	1731	26.54
Storage	1191	1348	13.18	1129	(-)16.25	1366	20.99
Interest for FCI operation	1730	1401	(-)19.02	854	(-)39.04	1330	55.74
Shortages	279	92	(-)67.03	281	205.43	331	17.79
Administration Overheads	671	764	13.86	725	(-)5.10	931	28.41
Interest on outstanding from Ministries of Rural Development/Human Resource Development	698	1228	75.93	2058	67.59	2392	16.23
Carryover charges paid	1914	912	(-)52.35	220	(-)75.88	159	(-)27.73
Total Expenditure	21587	20774	(-)3.77	21460	3.30	26265	22.39

Acquisition cost includes Minimum Support Price, Procurement Incidentals and Bonus.

For 2006-07, Landed Cost of imported wheat has also been taken into account.

[English]

#### Satellite Channels in NE Region

1711. SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is planning to give license for more Satellite Television Channels in the North Eastern Region; and

(b) If so, the number of applications received therefore till now?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) As per 'Guidelines for Uplinking from India' issued on 2.12.2005, permissions are granted by the Ministry to various companies to uplink satellite television channels from India which are for operation on an all-India basis and are not region-specific.

(b) As on 28.2.2007, applications of 44 companies seeking permission to uplink their satellite TV channels from India are under consideration in the Ministry. Out of

these, only 4 companies have their registered/head offices in North Eastern Region.

#### Fisheries Training and Extension Units

1712. SHRI SUBRATA BOSE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Fisheries Training and Extension Units sanctioned by the Union Government since 2004, State-wise;

(b) the total amount released for the purpose during the last three years and the current financial year, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government of West Bengal has requested for sanction of such units in the State;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the number of such units sanctioned for the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) Twenty (20) Fish Farmers' Training Centres and Fisheries Awareness Centres have been sanctioned to the States of Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram, Rajasthan, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Fisheries Training and Extension since 2004-05.

(b) State-wise details of funds released for the purpose since 2003-04 till date are as under:-

S.No.	Name of State	Amount (Rs. in lakh)
1	2	3
1.	Bihar	17.25
2.	Chhattisgarh	41.34

1	2	3
3.	Gujarat	5.25
4.	Madhya Pradesh	44.26
5.	Manipur	10.00
6.	Mizoram	39.60
7.	Rajasthan	8.75
8.	Tripura	62.80
9.	Uttar Pradesh	53.65
10.	West Bengal	31.91
Total		314.81

(c) to (e) In addition to one fish farmers' training centre and one awareness centre already sanctioned, one more fish farmers' training centre was sanctioned in 2004-05 based on the proposal received from Government of West Bengal.

[Translation]

#### Proposals of Dairy Development in A.P.

1713. SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the proposals received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for the dairy development during the last two years; and

(b) the action taken by the Government on these proposals and the number of proposals rejected alongwith the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) and (b) The

details of the proposals received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for the dairy development during last two year i.e. 2004-05 and 2005-06 under the Scheme "Intensive Dairy Development Programme" and

"Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production" and action taken on these proposals by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries are enclosed.

**(A) Details of the proposals received during the year 2004-05 and 2005-06 and action taken under the scheme "Intensive Dairy Development Programme"**

Details of proposal received from the State Government during last two years.	Action taken by the Department of AHDF
Proposal for districts of Medak and Nizamabad for a total cost of Rs. 550.07 lakh for a period of three years.	The revised proposal, as received from State Government during the current financial year for the districts of Medak, Nizamabad, Khammam and Mahbubnagar costing Rs. 1187.94 lakh for a period of three years has been circulated to appraisal agencies for their comments.

**(B) Details of proposals received during 2004-05 and 2005-06 and action taken under the scheme "Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production"**

S. No.	Details of proposal received from the State Government	Action taken by the Department of AHDF
1.	Government of Andhra Pradesh vide its letters dated 11/11/2004 and 5/3/2005 has submitted two proposals for Medak and Nizamabad and Ananthapur districts at a total estimated cost of Rs. 300.12 and 249.70 Lakh respectively to be implemented over a period of two years by the Andhra Pradesh Dairy Development Cooperative Federation Ltd., Hyderabad.	This department has approved two projects on 30.03.2005 and 01.08.2005 at a total cost of Rs. 339.00 lakh with central share of Rs. 299.01 Lakh, to be implemented over a period of two years in Medak and Nizamabad and Ananthapur districts. Sum of Rs. 39.37 lakhs for Medak and Nizamabad District and Rs. 665.50 lakh for Ananthapur District as central share was released to state government during 2004-05 and 2005-06 respectively. Based on the progress report and utilization certificate received, another sum of Rs. 20.00 lakh as central share for Ananthapur district has also been released on 28-02-2007 to the state Government.
2.	Government of Andhra Pradesh vide its letter dated 09/12/2005 has submitted the proposal for Karim Nagar District at a total estimated cost of Rs. 576.50 lakh to be implemented over a period of two years by Andhra Pradesh Dairy Development Cooperative Federation Ltd., Hyderabad.	It was examined in this Department and the State Government has been requested to clarify the observations conveyed vide this Department letter No. 3-3/2006-DP dated 2/2/2006. A response in the matter is still awaited from the State Government.

[English]

### Objections from Bangladesh on Rivers Linking Project

1714. SHRI HITEN BARMAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Bangladesh has opposed the Union Government's proposal to link certain rivers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to resolve the issue with Bangladesh and the stage at which the matter stands as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Bangladesh side urged that no plan be undertaken to transfer water from the Ganges and the Brahmaputra as part of the River Inter-Linking Project as this would have disastrous effects on Bangladesh where water of these two rivers act as the life-line to the millions of peoples of Bangladesh.

(c) The issue was discussed during 36th meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission held at Dhaka from 19th to 21st September, 2005. The Indian side informed that 30 links were identified where some surplus water could be diverted in certain regions to other water stressed areas. Of these, 14 links involved the Himalayan region would be attempted until the concerns of the neighbouring countries were examined and addressed in an open and transparent manner. Indian side informed that the other 16 links, where a prima facie feasibility had been established, did not relate to any rivers emerging from the Himalayas, and therefore, the Government and the people of Bangladesh need not have any anxiety on this score.

### Modernisation of IISCO

1715. SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Iron and Steel Company (IISCO) has been incurring losses;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons thereof during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to expand and modernise the IISCO;

(d) if so, the amount earmarked for the same; and

(e) the time by which the expansion and modernisation plan would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS) : (a) and (b) IISCO Steel Plant (ISP)/SAIL has incurred losses over the years due to factors like its old plants and machinery, obsolete technology, lack of capital investment due to poor financial health and increase in input prices of coal and coke. However, in the years 2003-04 and 2004-05 ISP had earned Profit Before Tax (PBT) of Rs. 27 crores and Rs. 47 crores respectively. Profit/Loss (before tax) of ISP during the last three years and 9 months (9M) of 2006-07 (upto December, 2006) is as under:-

(Rupees in crores)

Plant	Profit/Loss(-) before tax			
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	9M 2006-07
ISP	27	47	-258	-149

(c) to (e) After merger of ISP with SAIL, a proposal for expansion and modernisation of ISP has been approved by the Board of Directors of SAIL. The proposal envisages an investment of about Rs. 9,592 crores with completion scheduled by the year 2010.

[Translation]

### NRCP

1716. SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has sanctioned any pollution prevention scheme for Chambal river in Kota and Keshavraipatan cities of Rajasthan under National River Conservation Plan (NRCP);

(b) if so the details thereof;

(c) whether a revised project report has been received for this project from the State Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any funds has been released for the said project; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (f) Based on the Detailed Project Reports submitted by the Rajasthan Government, seven schemes having an estimated cost of Rs. 136.40 lakhs have been sanctioned so far for abatement of pollution of river Chambal at Keshoraipatan and Kota under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP). Till date, six out of the seven sanctioned schemes have been completed. An amount of Rs. 112.17 lakhs has been released by the Government of India for implementation of the sanctioned schemes, against which an expenditure of Rs. 88.11 lakhs has been incurred till end of January, 2007.

For Keshoraipatan town, four schemes have been sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 72.55 lakhs for Interception and Diversion (I and D) and sewage treatment plant (STP), river front development, crematoria and low cost sanitation. Out of these, three schemes of river front development, crematoria and low cost sanitation have been completed while the I and D and STP scheme is under implementation. For Kota town, three schemes have been sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 63.85 lakhs for river front development, crematoria and low cost sanitation. All the three schemes have been completed.

The State Government had also submitted a Detailed

Project Report for the I and D and STP scheme at Kota amounting to Rs. 23.60 crore. The State Government has been requested to revise the DPR as per the guidelines of the Ministry.

[English]

#### Assistance to State Poultry Farms

1717. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal of Rs. 170 lakhs for strengthening of State Poultry Farm at Hesaraghatta, Bangalore and Regional Poultry Farm at Gangavathi, Koppal District under Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Assistance to State Poultry Farms' submitted by the Government of Karnataka on May 18, 2006 for sanction and release of grants with the assistance pattern of 80:20 is pending;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for delay; and

(d) the time by which the said proposals are likely to be approved and amount released therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) The said proposal was approved and the first installment of Rs. 80.00 lakhs for both the farms released to the State in August 2006.

(b) to (d) Question does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Penalty on NDMC

1718. SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Consumer Court in Delhi has recently imposed a fine on the New Delhi Municipal Council for negligence as regards upkeep of the Talkatora Garden and organizing marriage and other functions there; and

(b) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Delhi State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission vide its Order dated 4th January, 2007 passed in Complaint Case No. CC-43/2005 titled — Talkatora Garden Morning Walkers' Association and Others Vs. New Delhi Municipal Council and Others has imposed the punitive damages of Rs. 25 lakhs on the New Delhi Municipal Council for depositing in the State Consumer Welfare Fund (Legal Aid) with other directions. The details of the Order as mentioned at para 34 of the Order are reproduced as under:-

"34. While allowing this complaint, we pass the following orders and directions:-

(i) We impose punitive damages of Rs. 25,00,000/- (Twenty Five Lacs) upon O.P. 1, NDMC, to be deposited in favour of the "State Consumer Welfare Fund (Legal Aid)". Out of this, Rupees 5,00,000/- shall be recovered personally from the Chairperson of the NDMC and from the Director (Horticulture), NDMC, in equal shares by the Secretary of NDMC and shall be remitted in the account of NDMC. This will serve as deterrent and a lesson to the persons at the helm of affairs of the local or civic or government bodies who adopt highly indifferent, insensitive attitude towards the complaints of the complainants and for not protecting the public properties causing huge loss to the exchequer.

(ii) O.P. — NDMC shall pay Rs. 25,000/- (Twenty Five Thousand) to the complainant Association as cost of the proceedings.

(iii) NDMC is hereby restrained from holding any marriage function or parties or any other event in the premises of Talkatora Garden or for that purpose in any other parks maintained by it as the aftermath turns the place in a tiny hell due to stink and stench of leftovers, heaps of garbage and cause nuisance to the morning walkers, picnickers and tourists. For this purpose, it may construct new Community Centres.

(iv) NDMC shall restore the playing field in its original condition and shall not use this garden for any purpose like holding any Mela, functions or other event as these cannot be allowed to be a source of income by the O.Ps on the one hand and a source of nuisance for the morning walkers and others and nearby residents as these functions are held for days together, these parks cannot be used by morning walkers and the playfield by the players and other people who come for picnic or even as tourists as blaring music and loud speakers are used in these events throughout the night.

(v) The Deputy Commissioner of Police concerned and the SHO of the area shall be responsible for seeing that this park is maintained and its property is protected and no marriage functions or parties or any other event are held.

(vi) OP-NDMC and for that purpose every local authority, civic authority or Governmental organization like MCD, DDA is restrained from using any portion of any park or any establishment under its control, for which it is the custodian and responsible for maintenance, for the



purpose or for the use of its own employees either under the name of club or institution. No portion of the park shall be used for any purpose other than the public purpose, i.e. allowing people for morning walks or games or for the purpose for which particular area is originally earmarked like open air theatre, swimming pools open for public etc.

The full text of the Order is available at the website of the Commission vide its address [www.delhistatecommission.nic.in](http://www.delhistatecommission.nic.in).

Against the aforesaid Order, a Writ Petition No.141 of 2007 has been filed by the New Delhi Municipal Corporation before Hon'ble High Court of Delhi instead of filing an Appeal before the National Commission under Section 19 of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986. The Hon'ble High Court vide its Order dated 25.1.2007 passed in CM No.1203 of 2007 has stayed the execution of the Order of the State Commission.

[English]

#### PDS in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

1719. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has strengthened the Public Distribution System in the poorest and most backward blocks of Andaman and Nicobar Islands;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has adopted any special schemes to provide foodgrains to the destitute and infirm in the said areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As reported by the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Administration, under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), the foodgrains are issued through 465 Fair Price Shops spread over all the three Districts of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. There are 88518 Facility Identity Cards for the beneficiaries as under:-

APL	71592 Nos.
BPL	7660 Nos.
AAY	9266. Nos.

Rice, Wheat, Sugar and K. Oil is distributed per month through these cards as per following details:

Category	Rice	Wheat	Sugar	K. Oil
APL	7 Kg/adult, 3.5 Kg/child	1-3 Unit: 8 Kg/4 and above: 15 Kg	1 Kg per unit	1-3 units: 5 Ltrs./4 and above units: 10 Ltrs.
BPL	27 Kg/card	8 Kg/card	-do-	-do-
AAY	31 Kg/card	4Kg/card	-do-	-do-

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Destitute and infirm are provided free ration under Annapurna Scheme. Every beneficiary is

provided 10 kg free rice per month under this scheme. As on today there are 167 Nos. of beneficiary under this scheme.

### Linking of Indian and Foreign Agriculture Universities

1720. SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has any plan for Linking of Indian Agriculture Universities with Foreign Agriculture Universities for exchange the farmers and agricultural experts for promotion of agriculture;

(b) If so, whether the Government has signed any Memorandum of Understanding in this regard with foreign countries; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) No, Sir.

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

### Closure of Kudremukh Iron Ore Company

1721. SHRIMATI MANORAMA MADHAVRAJ : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited, a public sector enterprise, has ceased to be in operation due to Apex Court's directives regarding environmental concerns; and

(b) If so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, vide order dated 31.10.2002 in I.A. No. 670 of 2001, directed that mining by Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited (KIOCL) should be allowed till the end of 2005. The said I.A. was filed by Shri K.M. Chinnappa

on account of environmental concerns, seeking directions from the Hon'ble Court, *inter-alia*, for stopping of the mining activities by KIOCL.

### Bio-diversity

1722. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of flora/fauna identified under Bio-diversity;

(b) whether the Government proposes to review the scheme for conservation of Bio-diversity; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) According to Botanical Survey of India, about 44321 species of plants belonging to Angiosperms (17450), Gymnosperms (65), Pteridophytes (1200), Bryophytes (2426), Fungi (14500), Lichens (2180) and Algae (6500) have been recorded so far. Similarly, according to Zoological Survey of India, a total of 91206 species of animals [Invertebrates and Hemichordata (86212), Chordata (4994) = 91206] are known from India.

(b) and (c) There has been no formal or structured review of the Biodiversity Conservation Plan Scheme. However, keeping commitments for biodiversity conservation in view, the scope of the Scheme has been extended embodying new thrust areas by revising the Standing Finance Committee (SFC) Memo on it in September, 2005. The thrust areas, among others, include implementation of Biodiversity Act (2002) and support to National Biodiversity Authority, State Biodiversity Boards and other relevant organizations; streamlining of bio-safety regulatory framework and studies related to transgenic materials; documentation of traditional knowledge and studies on access and benefits sharing related to genetic resources; sensitization workshops, training programmes and capacity building for biodiversity conservation and biosafety; and synergy and

linkages among the country driven programmes under various multilateral environment agreements relating to Biodiversity.

[Translation]

#### **Disease Affected Tomato Crop**

1723. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the tomato crop was destroyed due to a disease in Punjab and other States;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the extent of loss suffered by farmers as a result thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of Punjab has reported incidence of blight on tomato during November and December, 2006. There are no reports from other States about the incidence of blight on tomato crop.

(b) Tomato crop in 18 districts of Punjab are reported to have been affected due to blight disease, with an estimated loss of about 25% of crop area.

(c) The Central Government advises the State Governments/Departments of Horticulture/Agriculture to monitor the pest and disease situation in various crops and provide advisories, so that the States can take appropriate control measures to avoid crop losses. Further, to assist the States, Central Government has established 31 Central Integrated Pest Management Centres in 28 States and one Union Territory under the scheme "Strengthening and Modernization of Pest Management Approach In India". The mandate of these Centres is pest/disease monitoring,

production and release of bio-control agents/bio-pesticides, conservation of bio-control agents and Human Resource Development in Integrated Pest Management (IPM) by imparting training to Agriculture/Horticulture Extension Officers and farmers at grass root level by organizing Farmers Field Schools (FFSs). Under the scheme 10041 FFSs have been organized over the years, wherein 41154 Agriculture/Horticulture Extension Officers and 302641 farmers in different States/Union Territories have been trained on latest IPM technology in various crops. IPM package of practices for pest/disease management in 77 major crops including tomato have been developed in collaboration with State Department of Agriculture/Horticulture/Indian Council of Agricultural Research Institutions/State Agriculture universities which have been circulated to all States/Union Territories for their use.

#### **Tourism Projects for Environmental Clearance**

1724. SHRI FURKAN ANSARI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some projects for development of tourism forwarded by the Government of Jharkhand are pending with the Union Government for environmental clearance;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to expedite clearance of the said projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[English]

#### **Agriculture Export Zones**

1725. SHRI MILIND DEORA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to put an embargo on creation of Agriculture Export Zones (AEZs);

(b) If so, the factors attributed thereto;

(c) the number of proposals pending with the Government for setting up the AEZs and since when;

(d) the time by which they are likely to be cleared;

(e) the date on which the policy for AEZs was framed;

(f) the aims and objectives of AEZs and Special Economic Zones separately;

(g) whether the scheme has been successful in achieving its objective; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefore and the steps proposed to be taken to make it successful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (d) As intimated by the Department of Commerce, there is no proposal for setting up of Agri Export Zones (AEZs) pending with the Government. 35 proposals for setting up of AEZs including 3 from Andhra Pradesh were received. Based on an action plan devised on the basis of findings of a peer evaluation of the existing AEZs it was decided that there shall be self imposed embargo on creation of new AEZs unless there are strong and compelling reasons for the same. The State Governments have been asked to reconsider the proposals in the light of the decision.

(e) The AEZs policy was introduced in EXIM policy for the year 2001-02.

(f) As intimated by the Department of Commerce, the AEZs aim to take a look at an agriculture produce in

a comprehensive manner so as to be able to deliver an appropriately priced and attractively packaged quality product in the international market. The objective of the Special Economic Zones is to generate additional economic activity, promote export of goods and services, and promote investment from domestic and foreign sources, creation of employment opportunities and development of infrastructure facilities.

(g) and (h) The projected and actual investments and estimated and actual exports of the AEZs are given below as intimated by the Department of Commerce:-

	(Rupees in Crore)	
	Projected/Estimated	Actual
Investment	1717.95	859.46
Exports	11821.47	5353.85

An Action plan based on the findings of the peer evaluation drawn up in consultation with the State Governments includes constitution of the State Level Coordination Committee and Monitoring Committee and nomination of nodal agencies for the AEZ. It also been decided to engage M/s. Yes Bank as advisor for fast tracking development of AEZs and support export infrastructure projects in the AEZs with funds from the Scheme of Department of Commerce for Assistance to States for Infrastructure Development.

#### Excessive Advertisements

1726. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether excessive advertisements are shown during sponsored programmes and Doordarshan guide-<sup>1</sup>, lines are often flouted in this regard;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken against the TV channels/ producers of such programmes for flouting the guidelines?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) No, Sir. Prasar Bharati have informed that Doordarshan strictly follows the guidelines. Advertisements are permissible in a sponsored programme, as per rate card.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### Consumer Product Testing Mechanism

1727. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up Consumer Product Testing Mechanism:

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) the areas identified for setting up of the same, State-wise; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) to (d) No, Sir. However, financial assistance under Consumer Welfare Fund (CWF) is provided to eligible and reputed Voluntary Consumer Organisations (VCOs) that are already engaged in comparative testing of products.

#### Cultivation of Fruits and Vegetables

1728. SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total area covered under cultivation of fruits and vegetables in the country at present, State-wise;

(b) whether the Union Government proposes to implement any scheme to increase areas for cultivation of more fruits and vegetables in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) State-wise area covered under fruits and vegetable crops for the year 2005-06 is enclosed as Statement.

(b) and (c) For enhancing horticulture production including fruits and vegetables, two Centrally Sponsored Schemes namely National Horticulture Mission and Horticulture Technology Mission for North Eastern and Himalayan States, are being implemented in the country wherein assistance for area expansion under horticulture crops alongwith technical guidance for quality seed production to the growers is provided through extension programmes, which help in enhancement of area, production and productivity of fruit and vegetable crops.

#### Statement

*State-wise estimates of area under fruits and vegetables crops for the year 2005-06  
(Provisional)*

(Area in '000' hectares)

State/UT	Fruits Area	Vegetables Area
1	2	3
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2.9	1.3
Andhra Pradesh	652.0	258.4

1	2	3
Arunachal Pradesh	51.8	20.4
Assam	93.3	194.5
Bihar	276.4	780.6
Chandigarh	0.1	0.1
Chhattisgarh	75.8	195.6
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.7	1.5
Daman and Diu	0.0	0.1
Delhi	0.0	39.1
Goa	10.5	8.1
Gujarat	269.8	380.2
Haryana	24.1	207.8
Himachal Pradesh	180.1	64.9
Jammu and Kashmir	167.5	52.1
Jharkhand	33.3	224.1
Karnataka	263.0	382.2
Kerala	218.2	96.0
Lakshadweep	0.3	0.2
Madhya Pradesh	45.9	210.5
Maharashtra	1618.6	398.5
Manipur	53.1	11.1
Meghalaya	28.2	41.7
Mizoram	21.2	5.7
Nagaland	13.3	10.7
Orissa	237.5	656.7

1	2	3
Pondicherry	1.0	4.5
Punjab	51.6	152.1
Rajasthan	24.8	122.9
Sikkim	8.9	17.5
Tamil Nadu	255.0	232.0
Tripura	33.2	31.5
Uttar Pradesh	279.3	895.5
Uttaranchal	181.7	72.9
West Bengal	172.7	1276.2
Total	5345.9	7047.4

**Decentralisation of Green Clearance**

1729. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of the Union Government to allow State level clearance in respect of select projects below a prescribed threshold limit;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be finalised and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

#### Production of Maize

1730. SHRI AMITAVA NANDY :

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN :

SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE :

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK :

SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE :

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total production and consumption of maize recorded in the country during the last three years and the current financial year, State-wise;

(b) whether there is huge gap between the demand and supply of maize in the country;

(c) If so, the details thereof during the said period;

(d) the reasons therefor and the action taken thereon; and

(e) the quantum of maize imported and exported during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) The all-India production and consumption of maize by households in the country during the years 2003-04 to 2006-07 are given below. The state-wise production of maize during this period is shown in the enclosed Statement. The consumption has been estimated using the results of the Household Consumer Expenditure Survey conducted by National Sample Survey Organization during 2004 and the population projections provided by the office of the Registrar General of India. Non Household consumption

estimates of maize are not available. The state-wise consumption of maize is also not available.

#### All India Production and Consumption of Maize

('000 Tonnes)

Year	Production	Household Consumption
2003-04	14984.3	3084.6
2004-05	14172.0	3124.4
2005-06	14709.9	3163.6
2006-07*	13562.0	3202.0

\*2nd advance estimates released on 05.02.2007.

(b) to (d) From the above table it may be seen that production of maize at the current level can safely meet the demand of maize for Household Consumption. However, assessment of demand for maize by the Non-Household sector is not available.

(e) The quantum of maize imported and exported during the years 2003-04 to 2006-07 are shown in the table below:-

Year	Import ( '000 Tonnes )	Export ( '000 Tonnes )
2003-04	0.71	543.27
2004-05	1.19	1082.26
2005-06	1.63	419.95
2006-07 (upto July)	0.02	159.46

Source: Ministry of Commerce, Kolkata.

**Statement**

*State-wise estimates of Production of Maize  
during 2003-04 to 2006-07*

State/UT	Production ('000 Tonnes)			
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07*
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	2477.0	2064.0	3087.0	2086.0
Arunachal Pradesh	54.5	55.0	57.9	#
Assam	14.0	13.9	13.7	14.0
Bihar	1473.5	1465.7	1361.1	1193.0
Chhattisgarh	135.0	131.7	106.2	104.0
Goa	0.8	0.8	0.5	#
Gujarat	831.9	412.5	560.0	462.0
Haryana	41.0	40.0	34.0	44.0
Himachal Pradesh	729.6	736.0	543.1	486.0
Jammu and Kashmir	532.6	492.3	453.5	512.0
Jharkhand	300.0	286.0	238.5	397.0
Karnataka	1209.9	2512.0	2728.0	2386.0
Madhya Pradesh	1866.2	1252.6	1249.0	1048.0
Maharashtra	752.0	753.0	996.0	1042.0
Manipur	7.5	8.9	7.9	#
Meghalaya	25.9	24.0	24.1	#
Mizoram	20.3	15.7	22.7	#
Nagaland	80.3	83.5	92.9	#

	1	2	3	4	5
Orissa		78.8	106.0	101.9	100.0
Punjab		459.0	422.0	403.0	464.0
Rajasthan		2070.5	1262.6	1102.1	1096.0
Sikkim		57.1	58.2	56.5	#
Tamil Nadu		251.0	294.7	241.2	417.0
Tripura		2.2	3.0	2.2	#
Uttar Pradesh		1318.5	1494.0	1054.3	1264.0
Uttaranchal		68.0	44.0	44.0	40.0
West Bengal		126.5	139.6	128.4	168.0
Andaman and Nicobar Islands		0.2	0.1	0.1	#
Delhi		0.5	0.2	0.1	#
Others		NA	NA	NA	235.0
All India		14984.3	14172.0	14709.9	13562.0

\*2nd advance estimates released on 05.02.2007.

#Included in others.

NA : Not Applicable.

[Translation]

**Subsidy on Fertilisers**

1731. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD :  
SHRI ABDULLAKUTTY :  
SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS  
be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to formulate  
a clear cut policy to fix subsidy levels of fertilizers at the



beginning of the year instead of micro-managing and based on input costs;

(b) if so, whether any representation from the industry has been received in this regard;

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

(d) whether the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has deliberated this issue in the recent past;

(e) if so, the details and outcome thereof;

(f) whether there is any proposal to increase subsidy on fertilizers; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE) : (a) There is no proposal to fix subsidy levels of fertilizers at the beginning of the year.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) In view of (b) above, question does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

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

(f) and (g) There is no proposal to increase subsidy on fertilizers.

[English]

#### National Cooperative University

1732. SHRIMATI C.S. SUJATHA :

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has finalized the proposal to give permission to National Cooperative Federation and National Cooperative Training Council for opening National Cooperative University;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the manner of funding and the locations of the said University;

(c) the details regarding controlling authority for general administration of the proposed University;

(d) whether the Government proposes to maintain its control over the Cooperative University; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) No, Sir. However, Government has received a proposal from National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI), New Delhi requesting to grant "No Objection Certificate" for the establishment of Cooperative University. NCUI has also appointed a Consultant for preparing a detailed project report in this regard.

(b) to (e) Question does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Release of Central Share for Gas Victims Scheme

1733. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether expenditure on schemes being launched for gas victims of Bhopal Gas Tragedy has been borne by the Union Government and Government of Madhya Pradesh in ratio of 75 and 25 per cent respectively;

(b) if so, whether Union Government has released its share; and

(c) If not, the time by which it is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE) : (a) to (c) The Central Government has approved a five year Action Plan for the Medical, Social, Economic and Environmental rehabilitation of Bhopal Gas Victims with a total outlay of Rs.163.10 crore which was increased in stages to an outlay of Rs. 258 crore. This outlay was to be shared between the Government of India and the State Government of Madhya Pradesh in the ratio of 75:25. The Central Government has already released its entire share of Rs. 193.50 crore and the Action Plan has been completed in the year 1999-2000.

[English]

#### Production of Spices

1734. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a vast scope to increase the production of spices in Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, the assistance provided for the purpose during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) Yes, Sir. There is scope to increase the production of spices in Rajasthan specially coriander, cumin and fenugreek crops.

(b) The assistance provided for production of spices to the farmers in the State of Rajasthan under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Macro Management for agriculture during 2003-04 to 2005-06. The level of assistance was 25% of cost of inputs (minikits/demonstra-

tions/area expansion/pest and disease management components). The year wise assistance is given as under:-

Year	Assistance provided
2003-04	Rs. 145.81 lacs
2004-05	Rs. 187.88 lacs
2005-06	Rs. 144.46 lacs

In addition, an assistance of Rs. 349.79 lacs was also provided to the farmers in the State of Rajasthan at 75% cost of inputs for coriander, cumin and fenugreek crops under National Horticulture Mission during 2005-06.

[Translation]

#### National Cooperative Development Corporation

1735. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR :

SHRI MOHD. TAHIR :

SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE :

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) proposes to provide financial assistance to strengthen the cooperative sector as reported in 'Dainik Jagran' dated January 5, 2007; and

(b) if so, the total amount sanctioned for such cooperatives alongwith the number of cooperatives benefited there-from, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

NCDC has approved proposals to provide financial assistance for the benefit of the cooperatives in various States.

(b) During the year 2006-07, NCDC has sanctioned financial assistance of Rs. 5017 crores

approximately to 647 cooperatives in the country till the end of February, 2007. State-wise details of the total financial assistance sanctioned and the number of cooperatives/units benefitted are indicated in the enclosed statement.

**Statement**

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	State	No. of Societies Sanctioned as on 28.2.2007	Amount			Remarks
			Loan	Subsidy	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>I. Marketing and Inputs</b>						
	Andhra Pradesh	2	24.400	6.100	30.500	
	Uttaranchal	1	24.000	6.000	30.000	
	Himachal Pradesh	1	9.600	2.400	12.000	
	NAFED	1	300.000	0.000	300.000	
	Chhattisgarh	1	1000.030	0.000	1000.030	
	IFFCO	1	600.000	0.000	600.000	
	West Bengal	3	0.250	0.020	0.270	
	Kerala	5	0.730	0.000	0.730	
	Nagaland	3	0.210	0.080	0.290	
	Maharashtra	1	0.810	0.000	0.810	
	<b>Total (Marketing)</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>1960.030</b>	<b>14.600</b>	<b>1974.630</b>	
<b>II. Storage</b>						
	Nagaland	4	0.120	0.040	0.160	
	Andhra Pradesh	1	0.450	0.230	0.680	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Madhya Pradesh	60	2.900	1.930	4.830	
	Rajasthan	413	15.830	5.020	20.850	
	Uttarakhand	5	0.620	0.240	0.860	
	Gujarat	9	1.150	0.570	1.720	
	Haryana	1	0.750	0.380	1.130	
	Karnataka	11	1.120	0.210	1.330	
	Kerala	2	0.050	0.020	0.070	
	Maharashtra	2	0.380	0.190	0.570	
	Pondicherry	1	0.390	0.150	0.540	
	Total (Storage)	509	23.760	8.980	32.740	

### III. Cold Storage

	West Bengal	1	2.9240	1.0000	3.9240	
	Himachal Pradesh	1	8.3005	3.1925	11.4930	
	Total (Cold Storage)	2	11.2245	4.1925	15.4170	

### IV. Processing

#### A. Sugar

	Andhra Pradesh	1	250.00	0	250.000	
	Gujarat	2	158.900	0	158.900	
	Karnataka	1	57.400	0	57.400	
	Madhya Pradesh	1	12.270	0	12.270	
	Maharashtra	8	617.970	0	617.970	
	Pondicherry	1	20.000	0	20.000	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Tamil Nadu	1	6.750	0	6.750	
	Uttar Pradesh	1	305.000	0	305.00	
	Sub Total	16	1426.290	0	1426.290	
	<b>B. Fruit and Vegetable</b>					
	Maharashtra	1	3.760	0	3.760	
	Nagaland	11	0.326	0.115	0.441	
	Sub Total	12	4.086	0.115	4.201	
	<b>C. Plantation Crops</b>					
	Kerala	3	1.350	0	1.350	
	Maharashtra	1	0.800	0	0.800	
	Sub Total	4	2.150	0	2.150	
	<b>D. Foodgrains</b>			-		
	Andhra Pradesh	1	0.250	0.100	0.350	
	<b>E. Spinning</b>					
	Rajasthan	1	16.680	4.250	20.930	
	Kerala	2	12.760	2.410	15.170	
	West Bengal	1	6.970	1.030	8.000	
	Madhya Pradesh	1	20.000	0.000	20.000	
	Maharashtra	2	13.710	0.000	13.710	
	Sub Total	7	70.120	7.690	77.810	
	<b>F. Powerloom</b>					
	Maharashtra	4	29.110	0.000	29.110	
	<b>Total (Processing)</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>1532.006</b>	<b>7.905</b>	<b>1539.911</b>	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>V. Weaker Section</b>						
<b>A. Fisheries</b>						
	Maharashtra	4	7.729	0	7.729	
	Kerala	1	12.936	0.548	13.484	
	West Bengal	1	6.192	1.769	7.961	
	Sub Total	6	26.857	2.317	29.174	
<b>B. Dairy and Livestock</b>						
	Bihar	2	8.605	2.796	11.401	
	Nagaland	16	0.658	0.235	0.893	
	Uttar Pradesh	1	2.400	0.600	3.000	
	Sub Total	19	11.663	3.631	15.294	
<b>C. Tribal Development</b>						
	Kerala	1	0.010	0.003	0.013	
	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1	7.000	2.000	9.000	
	Jharkhand	1	3.000	1.000	4.000	
	Orissa	1	0.016	0.004	0.020	
	Sub Total	4	10.026	3.007	13.033	
<b>D. Handloom</b>						
	Andhra Pradesh	7	43.060	10.760	53.820	
	Bihar	1	0.075	0.025	0.100	
	Himachal Pradesh	1	1.000	0.000	1.000	
	Sub Total	9	44.135	10.785	54.920	
<b>E. MIS</b>						
	West Bengal	3	0.470	0.188	0.659	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Jharkhand	1	0.059	0.030	0.089	
	Sub Total	4	0.530	0.218	0.748	
<b>F.</b>	<b>Consumer</b>					
	Kerala	3	0.180	0.000	0.180	
	Rajasthan	2	1.480	0.370	1.850	
	Nagaland	3	0.037	0.012	0.049	
	Sub Total	8	1.697	0.382	2.079	
<b>G.</b>	<b>Industrial and Services Coop.</b>					
	Tamil Nadu	1	300.000	0	300.000	
	Kerala	2	100.060	0	100.060	
	Andhra Pradesh	2	470.000	0	470.000	
	Gujarat	1	100.000	0	100.000	
	Orissa	1	200.000	0	200.000	
	Delhi	1	0.100	0	0.100	
	Sub Total	8	1170.16	0	1170.16	
	<b>Total (Weaker Section).</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>1265.068</b>	<b>20.34</b>	<b>1285.408</b>	
<b>VI.</b>	<b>ICDP</b>					
	Rajasthan	8	99.490	27.690	127.180	
	Haryana	1	7.150	1.060	8.210	
	Uttar Pradesh	1	2.660	0.670	3.330	
	Jharkhand	3	12.510	3.310	15.820	
	Uttaranchal	2	9.360	3.980	13.340	
	Sub Total	15	131.170	36.710	167.880	
	Misc.		1.290	0	1.290	
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>647</b>	<b>4923.2585</b>	<b>92.7275</b>	<b>5017.276</b>	

**Research and Development Work in  
Agriculture Sector**

1736. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN" :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has made any assessment regarding the necessity of research and development work in agriculture sector of the country;

(b) if so, the names of areas where research and development work in agriculture sector is urgently required;

(c) whether any target has been fixed by the Government for the research and development in said identified sectors;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the manner in which the funds proposed to be raised and utilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) Assessment of research and development requirements in agriculture sector of the country is a continuous process. Steering Group on Agriculture and Allied Sectors and the Working Groups for Agricultural Research and Education constituted by the Planning Commission, Government of India are important mechanisms to assess the research and development requirements of agriculture sector. Different Committees constituted at the national level have also reviewed the requirements. In different constituents of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), the assessment is conducted through various mechanisms like Research Advisory Committees, Institute Management Committees, Quinquennial Review Teams, Five-Year Plan Document Formulation, preparation of Perspective Plans

(Vision documents) etc. ICAR-DAC (Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Government of India) inter-phase meetings are also regularly conducted for the purpose. Recommendations also come from Seminars, Symposia, Workshops Study Tours, other interactions etc. organized on relevant themes/subjects.

(b) The approach paper to 11th Five Year Plan, entitled "Towards Faster and More Inclusive Growth-An Approach to the 11th Five Year Plan", mentions seven broad areas to raise agricultural output: (i) Water management and irrigation, (ii) Reclamation of degraded land and focus on soil quality, (iii) Bridging the knowledge gap to revitalize agricultural extension system, (iv) Diversification to high value output while ensuring food security, (v) Animal husbandry and fishery, (vi) Access to credit and risk management and (vii) Land reforms. Thrust areas are identified and pursued in ICAR through its different Subject Matter Divisions and various constituents.

(c) and (d) All Plan Schemes and Externally Aided Schemes are subjected to Outcome budgeting with targeted deliverables. Also, activity milestones are fixed scheme wise. Relevant information is also laid in the Parliament. The targets are revisited under different review mechanisms and the next review shall be during sanction of the different schemes for the 11th Five Year Plan period.

(e) Funds are raised from Government of India budget as Gross Budgetary Support, besides the externally-aided projects. These are utilized as per projected activities in each scheme.

*[English]*

**Projection of Sea-based Bio-diversity**

1737. SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL :

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :



(a) whether the Government has taken measures to safeguard the sea-based bio-diversity; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Protection of sea-based bio-diversity is covered under the provisions of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 as amended subsequently. Several important marine species are listed in Schedule-I, II and IV of the said Act and 5 marine national parks, namely, Gulf of Kutch Marine National Park (Gujarat); Mahatma Gandhi National Park (Andaman and Nicobar Islands); Rani Jhansi National Park (Andaman and Nicobar Islands); Bhitarkanika National Park (Orissa); and Gulf of Mannar National Park (Tamil Nadu) have been notified. The Government has also enacted the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and Biological Diversity Rules, 2004 which primarily aim at regulating access to our biological resources, including sea-based bioresources and associated traditional knowledge, so as to ensure sharing of benefits arising out of their use. Further, the Government has issued Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991 for conservation and protection of the coastal environment.

#### **Production and Productivity of Cash Crops**

1738. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH :

SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL :

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the production and productivity of various cash crops including coconut recorded in the country in comparison to other developing countries during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government has conducted any

study regarding the reasons for low productivity of these crops in the country;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof;

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to increase the production, productivity and marketing of cash crops in the country; crop-wise and

(e) the funds allocated for the purpose, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) The State-wise production and productivity of major cash crops namely Groundnut, Rapeseed and Mustard, Soyabean, Total Oilseeds, Sugarcane, Cotton, Jute and Mesta and Coconut for the years 2003-04 to 2005-06 are given in the enclosed Statement-I. The production and productivity of these crops in selected developing countries during 2001 to 2003 are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(b) to (d) The productivity of most of these crops is low because generally these are grown in the rainfed conditions. Lack of high yielding varieties, low seed replacement rate, vulnerability to pest and diseases and climatic aberrations also contribute to the low yields. The steps taken by the Government to increase the production, productivity and marketing of cash crops in the country are given below:-

A Centrally Sponsored Integrated scheme on Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize is under implementation with effect from 01.04.2004 for increasing production and productivity of groundnut in 14 States of the Country. Under the scheme financial assistance is provided for purchase of breeder seeds, production of foundation seeds, distribution of seed minikits, infrastructure development, block demonstrations on improved technology, integrated pest management, weedicides, distribution of sprinkler sets, farmers training for increasing production and productivity of oilseeds.

Coconut Development Board is implementing programmes relating to production and distribution of quality planting material, expansion of area, integrated farming in the country for increasing production and productivity of coconut.

In the jute sector a jute technology mission pertaining to agricultural research and seed development, agronomic practices, harvest and post harvest techniques, primary and secondary processing of raw jute, diversified product development, market development, market and distribution has been adopted by the Government.

For cotton, a scheme is under implementation in 13 states to increase production and productivity of cotton by focusing on increasing availability of cotton seeds, covering more area under hybrids, thrust for evolving, area specific technology, popularization of integrated pest

management, increasing efficient use of irrigation water, field demonstrations for transfer of technology to farmers and farmers training.

For increasing production and productivity of sugarcane, seeds of improved varieties are made available to growers, inter cropping of sugarcane has been developed to provide mid-term income to sugarcane growers, trash mulching and drought management technology have been developed for management of moisture stress, bioagents have been mass multiplied and released for biocontrol of woolly aphid.

(e) The state-wise funds allocated for improving the production and productivity of major crops (except sugarcane for which there is no separate state-wise allocation of funds) are given in the enclosed Statement-III.

#### Statement-I

##### State-wise production and productivity of major cash crops

##### 1. Rapeseed and Mustard

State	Production ('000 Tonnes)			Productivity (Kg/Hectare)		
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	0.0	1.0	2.0	—	250	333
Arunachal Pradesh	21.7	21.8	18.4	1014	1019	829
Assam	138.0	129.4	97.0	523	528	456
Bihar	69.0	66.9	76.0	824	805	926
Chhattisgarh	22.8	21.4	18.9	412	375	330
Gujarat	395.5	404.9	456.0	1469	1390	1349
Haryana	965.0	826.0	792.0	1559	1177	1117
Himachal Pradesh	5.0	8.0	2.6	556	667	292
Jammu and Kashmir	39.3	121.0	1.3	696	1175	406

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Karnataka	1.7	2.0	2.0	283	333	400
Madhya Pradesh	580.4	673.6	847.5	1081	988	1047
Maharashtra	3.0	3.0	4.0	300	333	308
Meghalaya	4.6	4.7	4.8	639	653	667
Mizoram	1.4	1.7	1.0	636	773	833
Nagaland	12.8	20.5	21.2	800	779	800
Orissa	3.1	3.0	3.3	195	188	190
Punjab	62.0	62.0	54.0	1192	1033	1102
Rajasthan	2740.2	3970.7	4416.9	1279	1078	1205
Sikkim	4.2	4.3	3.9	700	717	661
Tamil Nadu	0.1	0.1	0.1	250	167	200
Tripura	2.4	2.3	2.3	800	793	821
Uttar Pradesh	787.1	801.4	907.8	1008	979	1149
Uttaranchal	11.0	11.0	12.0	846	647	667
West Bengal	419.4	427.0	383.0	928	934	909
Delhi	1.7	5.0	2.9	405	1220	763
All India	6291.4	7593.1	8131.2	1159	1038	1117

Source: Directorate of Economic and Statistics, New Delhi (DES).

## 2. Soyabean

State	Production ('000 Tonnes)			Productivity (Kg/Hectare)		
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	107.3	120.5	191.0	1569	1567	1949

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Arunachal Pradesh	4.7	4.3	3.6	1237	1344	947
Chhattisgarh	18.4	33.8	36.8	885	1018	900
Gujarat	10.0	15.0	29.0	714	556	853
Himachal Pradesh	1.0	1.0	0.8	1000	1000	1333
Karnataka	45.3	96.0	71.0	482	604	534
Madhya Pradesh	4652.6	3747.1	4500.7	1105	835	1058
Maharashtra	2219.0	1892.0	2527.0	1396	900	1077
Meghalaya	1.0	0.9	1.0	1000	900	1000
Mizoram	2.0	1.6	2.7	1000	1067	1929
Nagaland	36.0	48.0	32.0	1365	1600	1199
Rajasthan	691.4	886.5	856.3	1400	1425	1150
Sikkim	3.2	3.3	3.3	821	846	825
Uttar Pradesh	6.0	3.0	3.0	1071	441	769
Uttaranchal	21.0	23.0	15.0	12105	1278	1154
All India	7818.9	6876.3	8273.5	1193	908	1073

Source: Directorate of Economic and Statistics, New Delhi (DES).

### 3. Groundnut

State	Production ('000 Tonnes)			Productivity (Kg/Hectare)		
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	986.0	1639.5	1366.0	660	890	728
Bihar	0.2	0.3	0.5	400	600	556
Chhattisgarh	40.2	32.3	31.6	1107	1110	1078

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Goa	5.7	5.4	7.9	1727	1568	2394
Gujarat	4477.6	1886.6	3389.0	2235	943	1734
Haryana	1.1	1.2	2.2	733	750	733
Himachal Pradesh	0.2	0.0	0.0	1000		0
Karnataka	433.5	742.0	671.0	530	766	645
Kerala	2.0	1.7	2.4	741	944	727
Madhya Pradesh	252.3	242.7	234.4	1159	1158	1126
Maharashtra	437.0	502.0	410.0	1153	1123	958
Nagaland	3.0	7.0	0.3	1500	1273	1000
Orissa	93.2	106.0	106.3	1207	1233	1171
Punjab	4.0	3.6	3.0	909	837	882
Rajasthan	331.9	446.8	491.0	1566	1552	1549
Tamil Nadu	918.2	1005.3	1098.2	1552	1632	1775
Tripura	0.7	0.9	0.8	1000	1000	889
Uttar Pradesh	59.4	69.4	90.5	637	816	851
Uttaranchal	2.0	3.0	2.0	667	1000	1000
West Bengal	75.8	75.5	83.1	1651	1620	1703
Pondicherry	2.5	3.2	3.1	1923	2000	1938
All India	8126.5	6774.4	7993.3	1357	1020	1187

Source: Directorate of Economic and Statistics, New Delhi (DES).

#### 4. Oilseeds

State	Production ('000 Tonnes)			Productivity (Kg/Hectare)		
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	1614.1	2209.4	2041.0	634	757	698

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Arunachal Pradesh	27.3	27.0	22.7	1030	1042	838
Assam	157.0	146.8	113.2	525	529	465
Bihar	123.8	116.9	136.5	881	887	982
Chhattisgarh	127.0	123.7	126.5	432	426	419
Goa	5.7	5.4	7.9	1727	1588	2394
Gujarat	5665.0	2986.9	4682.0	1901	990	1544
Haryana	997.8	840.5	825.2	1547	1176	1124
Himachal Pradesh	9.2	12.0	5.2	568	632	344
Jammu and Kashmir	42.1	124.2	2.7	668	1125	429
Jharkhand	8.0	7.0	8.5	235	241	311
Karnataka	934.1	1570.0	1715.0	412	587	600
Kerala	2.3	1.9	2.6	590	792	667
Madhya Pradesh	5623.6	4797.7	5721.9	1049	833	1009
Maharashtra	2921.0	2744.1	3373.0	1057	817	925
Manipur	0.4	0.8	0.7	500	444	7000
Meghalaya	6.4	6.5	6.7	653	663	684
Mizoram	5.4	5.6	5.4	720	767	1125
Nagaland	66.8	81.9	62.8	1148	1165	926
Orissa	156.9	179.5	187.7	515	568	565
Punjab	103.8	100.4	89.6	1189	1098	1097
Rajasthan	3996.8	5541.1	5964.0	1239	1079	1134
Sikkim	7.4	7.6	7.2	747	768	727
Tamil Nadu	963.6	1081.1	1152.9	1386	1483	1624
Tripura	3.8	3.9	3.9	731	722	709

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Uttar Pradesh	927.8	952.3	1066.5	852	861	993
Uttaranchal	34.0	38.0	30.0	919	927	857
West Bengal	650.7	652.9	610.4	952	964	952
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.1	0.1	0.1	1000	1000	1000
Delhi	1.7	5.0	2.9	405	1220	763
Pondicherry	2.5	3.3	3.2	1667	1941	1778
All India	25186.1	24353.5	27977.9	1064	885	1004

Source: Directorate of Economic and Statistics, New Delhi (DES).

#### 5. Coconut

State	Production ('000 Tonnes)			Productivity (Kg/Hectare)		
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	1933.7	1199.3	892.0	12178	11532	8577
Assam	154.3	154.3	204.9	7244	4244	10728
Goa	122.2	123.5	125.3	4920	4901	4953
Gujarat	111.7	138.3	138.3	8644	8433	8433
Karnataka	1529.1	1209.8	1209.8	3218	3139	3139
Kerala	5484.0	5727.0	6326.0	6320	6379	7046
Maharashtra	273.4	273.4	273.4	15189	15189	15189
Nagaland	1.2	1.2	1.2	1333	1333	1333
Orissa	243.4	274.6	274.6	4957	5406	5406
Tamil Nadu	2560.5	3243.5	4867.1	9196	9083	13137
Tripura	7.0	7.0	7.0	2121	2121	2121

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
West Bengal	317.5	310.9	323.5	12742	12794	12992
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	95.2	87.1	87.1	3429	3402	3402
Lakshadweep	53.0	53.0	53.0	19630	19630	19630
Pondicherry	30.7	30.0	27.9	13043	13636	13286
All India	12916.9	12832.9	14811.1	7017	6632	7608

Source: Directorate of Economic and Statistics, New Delhi (DES).

#### 6. Jute and Mesta

State	Production ('000 bales of 180 Kg. each)			Productivity (Kg/Hectare)		
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
Andhra Pradesh	470.0	458.0	455.0	1434	1555	1638
Assam	692.0	435.8	603.6	1805	1243	1733
Bihar	1286.3	1180.2	1386.6	1326	1416	1692
Chhattisgarh	2.5	2.0	3.0	375	360	360
Jharkhand	6.5	6.3		1064	1260	
Karnataka	6.1	2.9	2.7	268	237	231
Madhya Pradesh	1.8	1.4	1.2	360	360	360
Maharashtra	27.0	35.5	36.0	256	265	270
Meghalaya	56.2	39.2	55.7	1190	860	1194
Nagaland	6.1	6.7	10.5	549	603	900
Orissa	127.3	145.9	141.5	785	872	991
Tamil Nadu	3.5	1.1		6300		
Tripura	22.1	22.5	23.3	1473	1446	1498
West Bengal	8465.5	7934.8	8114.5	2418	2473	2566
All India	11172.9	10272.3	10833.6	2008	2019	2175

Source: Directorate of Economic and Statistics, New Delhi (DES).



**7. Cotton**

State	Production ('000 bales of 170 Kg. each)			Productivity (Kg/Hectare)		
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
Andhra Pradesh	1890.0	2190.0	2108.0	384	316	347
Assam	1.0	1.0	0.6	170	170	73
Chhattisgarh	0.2	0.8	0.4	340	272	227
Gujarat	4026.9	4724.8	6772.0	417	421	604
Haryana	1405.0	2075.0	1499.0	454	568	437
Karnataka	264.6	688.0	554.0	142	224	228
Kerala	4.7	4.4	3.5	276	277	220
Madhya Pradesh	639.0	626.1	745.1	193	185	204
Maharashtra	3080.0	2939.0	3160.0	190	176	187
Meghalaya	7.8	7.8	7.8	182	184	184
Mizoram	1.3	1.3	0.2	737	442	113
Nagaland	0.2	0.2	1.7	17	23	269
Orissa	88.2	111.2	144.8	409	412	435
Punjab	1478.0	2087.0	2395.0	556	697	731
Rajasthan	709.0	764.6	880.5	351	297	317
Tamil Nadu	122.7	194.8	213.3	213	256	258
Tripura	1.7	1.5	1.6	241	232	227
Uttar Pradesh	4.2	5.1	5.2	162	177	201
West Bengal	2.8	3.0	6.0	340	255	510
Pondicherry	1.7	2.9	0.3	578	704	128
All India	13729.0	16428.6	18499.0	307	318	362

Source: Directorate of Economic and Statistics, New Delhi (DES).

**8. Sugarcane**

State	Production ('000 Tonnes)			Productivity (Kg/Hectare)		
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	15070.0	15739.0	17656.0	72105	74948	76765
Arunachal Pradesh	15.2	14.1	16.8	21714	20143	18667
Assam	981.0	883.9	871.2	39240	36983	37231
Bihar	4285.9	4111.7	4337.9	41370	39480	42822
Chhattisgarh	13.3	15.6	16.4	2608	2476	2563
Gujarat	12669.1	14570.0	14580.0	71820	74072	74010
Goa	57.6	60.6	55.9	48000	50500	50818
Haryana	9280.0	8060.0	8180.0	58000	62000	64409
Himachal Pradesh	50.0	61.9	25.1	16667	21345	9654
Jammu and Kashmir	0.6	0.5	0.8	3000	5000	4000
Jharkhand	136.0	141.6	142.0	34000	36308	35500
Karnataka	16015.4	14276.0	18267.0	65826	80202	83411
Kerala	291.0	283.0	916.5	83143	94333	134779
Madhya Pradesh	1873.7	2148.0	2425.0	43273	40914	43694
Maharashtra	25668.0	20475.0	36853.0	57941	63194	77551
Manipur	22.0	21.8	23.0	73333	36333	230000
Meghalaya	0.2	0.2	0.2	2000	2000	2000
Mizoram	3.6	5.7	4.6	36000	4750	3286
Nagaland	130.0	142.1	210.9	43333	47367	47932
Orissa	858.1	859.9	1073.0	58774	55838	65828
Punjab	6620.0	5170.0	4860.0	53821	60116	57857

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Rajasthan	309.4	276.6	482.6	53345	48526	61089
Tamil Nadu	17656.0	23396.0	35106.5	91910	100845	104671
Tripura	47.5	52.4	52.6	43182	47636	47818
Uttar Pradesh	112754.0	118715.6	125469.9	55541	60733	58201
Uttaranchal	7651.0	6441.0	6134.0	59773	60196	60733
West Bengal	1252.6	1033.2	1247.7	74118	66231	83180
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2.9	5.7	5.9	9667	28500	19667
Pondicherry	147.7	127.3	157.3	86882	84867	74905
All India	233861.8	237088.4	281171.8	59380	64752	66928

Source: Directorate of Economic and Statistics, New Delhi (DES).

**Statement-II**

*Production / Productivity of Cash Crops in Selected Countries*

**1. Groundnut in Shell**

Production : 1000 Tonnes

Yield : Kg/Hectare

Country	Production 2001	Production 2002	Production 2003	Yield 2001	Yield 2002	Yield 2003
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chad	448	450	450	939	938	938
Egypt	205	207	207	3237	3234	3234
Ghana	258	520	450	1016	1354	1286
Nigeria	2683	2699	2700	980	970	964
Sudan	990	1267	1200	647	667	632
USA	1940	1506	1880	3395	2870	3240

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
China	14472	14895	13447	2885	3011	2624
India	7028	4363	7500	1127	733	938
Iran	3	3	3	2727	2727	2727
Indonesia	1245	1267	1377	1901	1958	2016
Myanmar	731	723	730	1247	1274	1270
Vietnam	363	400	400	1484	1623	1665
World	36083	33303	35658	1501	1382	1347

Source — FAO Year book 2003.

## 2. Soyabean

Production : 1000 Tonnes

Yield : Kg/Hectare

Country	Production 2001	Production 2002	Production 2003	Yield 2001	Yield 2002	Yield 2003
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Nigeria	436	437	484	733	700	712
Canada	1635	2336	2268	1530	2281	2167
USA	78671	74825	65795	2664	2552	2248
Argentina	26883	30000	34819	2585	2630	2803
Iran	130	135	115	1477	1500	1386
Myanmar	110	121	130	968	1023	1040
Bolivia	834	1298	1551	1501	1979	2374
Brazil	37881	42125	51532	2711	2574	2790
China	15407	16507	16500	1625	1893	1737
India	5963	4558	6800	940	777	1054

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Indonesia	827	673	672	1218	1236	1277
Thailand	261	260	268	1479	1487	1217
Italy	895	566	424	3812	3724	2788
World	176794	180729	189234	2301	2292	2281

Source — FAO Year book 2003.

### 3. Rapeseed and Mustard

Production : 1000 Tonnes

Yield : Kg/Hectare

Country	Production 2001	Production 2002	Production 2003	Yield 2001	Yield 2002	Yield 2003
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Algeria	29	27	27	1933	1800	1800
Canada	5017	4178	6669	1325	1281	1422
USA	908	706	686	1539	1365	1586
Argentina	17	10	10	1889	1250	1361
Brazil	42	55	56	1750	1719	1697
China	11331	10552	11410	1597	1477	1585
India	4187	5083	3842	935	1002	869
Pakistan	262	259	250	889	835	862
France	2878	3317	3341	2657	3202	3094
Germany	4160	3849	3638	3656	2968	2869
Hungary	205	208	104	1871	1604	1465
UK	1157	1468	1771	2565	3398	3268
Australia	1757	841	1622	1319	707	1614

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Russian FED	113	115	192	960	960	973
World	35925	34044	36146	1593	1514	1575

Source — FAO Year book 2003.

#### 4. Jute and Jute Like Fibres

Production : 1000 Tonnes

Yield : Kg/Hectare

Country	Production 2001	Production 2002	Production 2003	Yield 2001	Yield 2002	Yield 2003
Thailand	61	46	62	1704	1689	1680
Bangladesh	860	801	801	1878	1830	1830
Brazil	7	10	11	1245	1474	1393
India	2128	2051	1976	2002	1975	1983
China	106	159	180	2044	2870	3103
Myanmar	42	47	50	953	1000	1000
World	3356	3273	3232	1910	1909	1918

Source — FAO Year book 2003.

#### 5. Sugarcane

Production : 1000 Tonnes

Yield : Kg/Hectare

Country	Production 2001	Production 2002	Production 2003	Yield 2001	Yield 2002	Yield 2003
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Argentina	19050	19250	19250	65240	65254	65254
Australia	31228	32260	36012	75981	77362	85135

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Bangladesh	6742	6502	6838	39935	39950	41212
Brazil	345942	363721	386232	89780	71311	72290
China	77966	92203	92370	60863	64817	69556
Colombia	33400	358000	36600	82855	83256	84138
Cuba	32100	34700	22902	31874	33327	35000
Egypt	15572	15000	12000	118813	113636	90909
Guatemala	16935	17490	17500	93049	93860	93914
India	295956	297208	289630	68577	67370	62859
Indonesia	25185	25530	25600	65232	72943	73143
Mauritius	5792	4874	5199	79133	67496	72587
Mexico	47250	45835	45126	75753	72183	70614
Thailand	60013	74258	64408	70597	93641	66400
Pakistan	43606	48042	52056	45385	48056	47934
Philippines	28541	27303	25835	73738	70657	67104
U.S.A.	31377	32253	31301	75436	77891	77515
World	1274560	1338169	1333253	64799	66310	65293

Source — FAO Year book 2003.

## 6. Coconut

Production : 1000 Tonnes

Yield : Kg/Hectare

Country	Production 2001	Production 2002	Production 2003
1	2	3	4
Mozambique	265	265	265

1	2	3	4
Mexico	1100	959	959
Brazil	2131	2892	2834
India	9530	9500	9500
Indonesia	15164	16086	15630
Malaysia	700	738	740
Phillippines	13208	13683	13700
Sri Lanka	2104	1818	1850
Thailand	1396	1418	1420
Vietnam	892	915	920
Papuan Guin	760	513	570
World	51641	53313	52940

NB: Yield data are not available.

Source — FAO Year book 2003.

#### 7. Cotton Lint

Production : 1000 Tonnes

Yield : Kg/Hectare

Country	Production 2001	Production 2002	Production 2003	Yield 2001	Yield 2002	Yield 2003
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Argentina	167	62	62	503	419	445
Brazil	832	713	726	986	928	1015
China	5324	4916	5200	1107	1175	1156
India	1987	1583	2100	218	212	250
Mexico	97	43	65	1090	1075	1016



1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Pakistan	1805	1736	1690	579	621	563
Sudan	71	59	107	418	410	510
Turkey	901	850	946	1308	1181	1331
Egypt	330	285	250	1075	960	862
U.S.A.	4420	3747	3968	790	745	813
Uzbekistan	1015	1008	946	699	722	679
Australia	745	386	287	1822	1723	1428
World	21100	18268	19529	610	595	607

Source — FAO Year book 2003.

**Statement-III**

1. *Financial assistance provided to different States/  
UTs under ISOPOM (including oilseeds)*

(Rs. lakh)			
State	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07 (Allocation)
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	3559.97	4816.0	2750.00
Bihar	145.00	245.00	490.00
Chhattisgarh	625.00	400.00	425.00
Goa	10.00	16.50	33.00
Gujarat	1883.00	1850.00	1950.00
Haryana	497.00	434.00	375.00
Himachal Pradesh	40.00	75.50	75.00

	1	2	3	4
Jammu and Kashmir	85.00	142.50	302.00	
Karnataka	2155.00	1800.00	1900.00	
Kerala	5.00	7.50	15.00	
Madhya Pradesh	2925.00	2400.00	2500.00	
Maharashtra	1040.00	2739.00	1850.00	
Orissa	455.00	500.00	525.00	
Punjab	52.50	87.50	175.00	
Rajasthan	2000.00	2840.00	2450.00	
Tamil Nadu	990.00	1245.00	1345.00	
Uttar Pradesh	785.00	1065.00	1115.00	
West Bengal	260.00	450.00	475.00	
Assam	4.00	3.00	30.00	

1	2	3	4
Mizoram	107.00	90.00	180.00
Tripura	5.00	7.00	40.00
All India	17628.47	21214.00	19000.00

Source: Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, New Delhi.

2. Financial assistance provided to different States/UTs under Cotton

(Rs. lakh)			
State	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07 (Allocation)
Andhra Pradesh	623.62	440.00 (640.00)	1320.00
Gujarat	750.00	750.00	1200.00
Haryana	225.00	280.00	300.00
Karnataka	486.03	500.00	560.00
Madhya Pradesh	607.59	400.00	450.00
Maharashtra	784.79	786.00	1000.00
Orissa	80.00	78.00	125.00
Punjab	1.00	1.00	10.00
Rajasthan	719.21	500.00	580.00
Tamil Nadu	339.41	350.00	245.00
Tripura	25.00	50.00	200.00
Uttar Pradesh	80.00	65.00	80.00
West Bengal	50.00	75.00	80.00
All India	4771.65	4275.0 (4475.0)	6150.00

Source: Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, New Delhi.

3. Financial assistance provided to different States/UTs under Jute

(Rs. lakh)

State	2006-07 (Allocation*)
Assam	20.00
Bihar	120.00
West Bengal	270.00
Andhra Pradesh	50.00
Orissa	40.00
Uttar Pradesh	8.00
All India	508.00

\*Jute Technology Mission was approved by Government of India from June, 2006.

Source: Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, New Delhi.

Harmful Effects of GM Seeds

1739. SHRI UDAY SINGH :

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Multinational companies engaged in production of Genetically Modified (GM) seeds are not disclosing the harmful effects of their seeds on long term use in traditional farming;

(b) If so, the facts and the details thereof;

(c) whether the farming community has also been demanding ban on use of GM crops;

(d) If so, whether the Government proposes to ban

production and sale of GM seeds by such multinational companies; and

(e) If so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to provide safe/indigenous seeds to farmers at a reasonable price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) Bt. Cotton is the only Genetically Modified (GM) crop approved for commercial cultivation by Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) in the Ministry of Environment and Forests, on the basis of environmental and bio-safety evaluations. Harmful effects of Bt. Cotton seeds on human and animal health, plant life and environment have not been reported.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal with the Government to ban production and sale of GM seeds duly approved by the GEAC on the basis of their suitability in the various agro-climatic zone with regards to their performance.

(e) Bt. Cotton seeds are being produced and marketed in the country by private seed companies. The Government has organized Public Awareness Programmes to educate the farmers about the risks and benefits associated with the GM crops.

[Translation]

#### Forest Land for Indira Sagar Project

1740. SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has requested to reduce the area of forest land for the main canal under Indira Sagar Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) No, Sir. No such proposal has been received by this Ministry from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### Forest Development Projects

1741. SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has received project proposals from various States for development of forests;

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

(c) the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) The Ministry of Environment and Forests is implementing the National Afforestation Programme (NAP) Scheme, which is mainly aimed at development of forests. The scheme is being implemented through a two-tier decentralised institutional set up of Forest Development Agency (FDA) at the Forest Division level and Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) at the village level. As on 31.10.2006, 715 FDA projects has been approved out of 751 project proposals received from States at the total cost of Rs. 1521.10 crores to cover a project area of 9.24 hectares through 23,750 JFMCs. The State-wise details of FDA project proposals received and approved are given in the enclosed statement. The pending proposals will be approved subject to their suitability according to the Guidelines of NAP Scheme and availability of funds.

**Statement**

**Number of FDA project proposals received and approved**

(As on 31.10.2006)

S. No.	Name of State/ UT	No. of FDA Project proposals received upto 31.10.2006	No. of FDA Project proposals sanctioned upto 31.10.2006	Total Approved Cost upto 10th Plan (Rs. in Crore)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	32	32	83.02
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	19	19	27.04
3.	Assam	29	29	37.12
4.	Bihar	10	10	15.87
5.	Chhattisgarh	32	32	73.83
6.	Goa	3	3	2.39
7.	Gujarat	22	21	61.21
8.	Haryana	18	18	53.44
9.	Himachal Pradesh	30	27	52.38
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	31	31	74.61
11.	Jharkhand	32	30	56.43
12.	Karnataka	45	45	112.15
13.	Kerala	24	24	47.54
14.	Madhya Pradesh	51	49	112.48
15.	Maharashtra	45	45	99.77
16.	Manipur	14	13	26.58

1	2	3	4	5
17.	Meghalaya	7	7	12.00
18.	Mizoram	30	19	60.12
19.	Nagaland	18	16	37.71
20.	Orissa	40	40	69.65
21.	Punjab	15	9	17.65
22.	Rajasthan	33	33	39.35
23.	Sikkim	7	7	31.33
24.	Tamil Nadu	32	32	93.98
25.	Tripura	13	12	25.57
26.	Uttar Pradesh	61	58	104.35
27.	Uttaranchal	38	37	54.17
28.	West Bengal	20	17	39.36
Total		751	715	1521.10

[English]

**Unclaimed Money with EPF Account**

1742. SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of unclaimed money with Employees Provident Fund (EPF) account as on date, State-wise;

(b) the amount earmarked for the last financial year towards interest for the above amount;

(c) whether the Government has drawn up any scheme for the utilization of this unclaimed/dead money; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) The amount lying in Unclaimed Deposit Account was Rs. 1351.38 crore as on 31st March, 2006. The region-wise details are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) While compiling the annual accounts of members every year, interests at the statutory rate declared by the Government is credited to all members' account including the amount lying under Unclaimed Deposit Account. The interests on Unclaimed Deposits Account is not reflected in the balance sheet separately.

(c) and (d) As per existing provisions, the amount lying under Unclaimed Deposit Account cannot be utilised for any other purpose except for refunding/paying back the same to the rightful claimants.

**Statement**

**Unclaimed Deposit Account**

Regional Office	Balance as on 31.03.2006
1	2
Andhra Pradesh Hyderabad	1,648,837,036.84
Andhra Pradesh Guntur	883,705,552.00
Bihar	640,455.03
Chhattisgarh	—
Delhi-North	36,617,304.55
Delhi-South	29,973,933.04
Goa	48,309,491.81
Gujarat Ahmedabad	20,303,212.69
Gujarat-Baroda	3,305,029.31
Haryana	31,960,212.60

1	2
Himachal Pradesh	136,194,000.00
Jharkhand	,503,214.65
Karnataka Bangalore	31,901,486.00
Karnataka Mangalore	324,000.00
Kerala	1,902,530.45
Madhya Pradesh	3,122,750,000.00
Maharashtra-I (Bandra)	90,352,023.49
Maharashtra-II (Thane)	—
Maharashtra Nagpur	237,248,451.80
Maharashtra Pune	1,847,671,006.12
N.E. Region	4,281,464.58
Orissa	1,142,242.08
Punjab-Chandigarh	44,948,373.00
Punjab-Ludhiana	81,692,000.37
Rajasthan	11,634,578.14
Tamil Nadu Chennai	218,612,935.58
Tamil Nadu Coimbatore	90,138,922.74
Tamil Nadu Madurai	46,815,308.80
Uttaranchal	26,790,140.43
Uttar Pradesh	107,160,561.73
West Bengal Kolkata	3,549,989,820.49
West Bengal Jalpaiguri	1,158,093,537.83
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,513,828,826.19</b>

### Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Projects

1743. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has requested for revalidation order for implementation of projects under Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Projects in Sankily, Watershed, Thiruvananthapuram and Kakkad Watershed and Pathanamthitta;

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

(c) the details of expenditure involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. The Government of Kerala has not requested for revalidation of projects sanctioned under the Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Projects Scheme (IAEPS) for Sankily watershed, Thiruvananthapuram and Kakkad watershed, Pathanamthitta. The IAEPS projects for Sankily and Kakkad watersheds were approved at a total cost of Rs. 205.52 lakhs and Rs. 189.99 lakhs respectively. The period of the projects was from 1997-98 to 2001-02. As per the approved projects, funds to the tune of Rs. 202.94 lakhs and Rs. 173.19 lakhs were released to the Government of Kerala for Sankily and Kakkad IAEPS projects respectively. Thus, full amount as per the physical achievement was released in the case of Sankily watershed. In case of Kakkad watershed, the Progress report and Utilisation Certificate of funds released upto 25-3-2004 are still awaited from the State Government.

### Development of Forests in West Bengal

1744. SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals submitted by the

Government of West Bengal for the development of forests and environment;

(b) whether all of these proposals have been approved;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the time by which they are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) A total of 40 proposals have been received from the Government of West Bengal during 2006-07.

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	No. of Proposals Received
1.	Mangrove	1
2.	Integrated Forest Protection Programme	1
3.	National River Conservation Plan	1
4.	National Lake Conservation Plan	2
5.	National Parks and Sanctuaries	8
6.	Biosphere Reserves	1
7.	Wetlands	4
8.	National Afforestation Programme	20
9.	Project Tiger	2
Total		40

(b) to (d) All the proposals, except three under National Afforestation Programme (NAP), have been approved. The remaining proposals will be cleared during the year depending upon availability of funds and their suitability to NAP guidelines.

**Felling of Trees**

1745. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether several trees on Delhi roads are being felled for widening the roads;
- (b) if so, whether there is any norm to replace the felled trees;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (d) Yes Sir, for widening of roads sometimes trees are required to be felled. The permission for felling of trees is granted under The Delhi Preservation of Trees Act 1994. For every single tree felled, compensatory plantation of ten trees and for every tree transplanted, compensatory plantation of five trees is prescribed by the Tree Officer.

**Funds from WWF**

1746. SHRI SARVEY SATYANARAYANA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the World Wildlife Fund is funding several forest departments for issuing eco cards;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) the main purpose behind such move?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) As per the information available, no such funding is being provided by World Wildlife Fund to forest departments for issuing eco-cards.

- (b) and (c) Does not arise.

**Tree Borne Oilseeds**

1747. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of developmental promotional and extension activities undertaken in Andhra Pradesh under Integrated Development of Tree Borne Oilseeds (IDTBO) during each of the last three years;
- (b) whether there is a great fluctuation in the amount spent on the IDTBO in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to set up IDTBO parks in the country particularly in Andhra Pradesh;
- (e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and location-wise; and
- (f) the funds allocated for the purpose, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (c) The details of developmental, promotional and extension activities undertaken in Andhra Pradesh under Central Sector Scheme "Integrated Development of Tree Borne Oilseeds (IDTBO)" during each of the last three years is given in the enclosed statement.

The fluctuation in the amount spent under the Scheme in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years is due to various reasons like receipt of proposals from the States, completion of previously sanctioned programme and availability of funds.

- (d) to (f) There is no proposal under consideration for setting up of IDTBO Parks under the Scheme in the Country including Andhra Pradesh.

**Statement**

*Year-wise details of developmental, promotional and extension activities on  
TBOs under NOVOD Board Programme in Andhra Pradesh*

S. No.	Implementing agency	Name of TBOs/ Programme	Component	Sanctioned	
				Physical (in Nos.)	Financial (Rs. in lakh)
2004-05					
1.	International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRI-SAT)	Jatropha	Model plantation (ha.)	300	75.00
2.	Central Research Institute for Dryland Areas (CRIDA)	Jatropha	Research and Development	—	5.35
			Farmers training (No.)	5	1.00
			Trainers training (No.)	2	0.81
2005-06					
1.	Central Research Institute for Dryland Areas (CRIDA)	Jatropha	Research and Development	—	7.84
2006-07					
1.	Central Research Institute for Dryland Areas (CRIDA)	Jatropha	Research and Development	—	7.79
2.	International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRI-SAT)	Jatropha	Development of elite	100	25.00
		Karanja	planting material and model Plantation (Ha.)	100	13.00

[Translation]

**Funds for Plantation**

1748. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA :  
SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS  
be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated by the Government for  
plantation during the last three years, State-wise;



(b) whether the Government has taken steps to find out whether some States have not adequately utilized the funds; and

(c) if so, the names of such States and the action taken thereon so far by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) The Ministry of Environment and Forests is implementing National Afforestation Programme (NAP) Scheme in the country for regeneration of degraded forest and adjoining lands. The scheme is being implemented through a two-tire decentralized mechanism of Forest Development Agency (FDA) at the Forest Division level and Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) at village level. During the last three years (2003-04 to 2005-06), FDA projects covering a project area of 4.46 lakh hectares have been approved by the Ministry. An amount of Rs. 689.56 crores has been released during the last three years (2003-04 to 2005-06) under the scheme. The state-wise funds released during last three years are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) The State-level Coordination Committee of the respective State and the National level Steering Committee of NAP monitors the progress of the utilization of funds. In addition, the Quarterly and Annual Progress Report of Forest Development Agencies are also reviewed at respective levels for speedier utilization of funds. The reports of first concurrent evaluation of FDA projects by independent agencies, commissioned on a sample basis is also shared with State Forest Department for follow-up on recommendations. The implementation of NAP scheme has been particularly slow in Goa State. The matter has been pursued through letters from Director General of Forests and Special Secretary to the Chief Secretary of the Government of Goa and meeting of the Joint Secretary and Nodal Officer of this Ministry and officials of Government of Goa.

### Statement

#### State-wise funds released during 2003-04 to 2005-06

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Total Amount Released (Rs. in Crore)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	32.19
2.	Chhattisgarh	45.33
3.	Gujarat	24.02
4.	Haryana	19.57
5.	Himachal Pradesh	26.63
6.	Jammu and Kashmir**	16.05
7.	Karnataka	59.74
8.	Madhya Pradesh	40.71
9.	Maharashtra	39.72
10.	Orissa	29.27
11.	Punjab	5.85
12.	Rajasthan	17.62
13.	Tamil Nadu	49.62
14.	Uttar Pradesh	56.54
15.	Uttaranchal	29.45
16.	Goa	0.64
17.	Jharkhand	25.8
18.	Bihar	8.04
19.	Kerala	9.5

1	2	3
20. West Bengal		17.5
Total (Other States)		553.79
21. Arunachal Pradesh		8.14
22. Assam		19.07
23. Manipur		16.81
24. Nagaland		19.91
25. Sikkim		14.23
26. Tripura		12.87
27. Mizoram		37.11
28. Meghalaya		7.63
Total (NE States)		135.77
Total		689.56

**Environmental Protection of Historical  
Monuments**

1749. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken steps to prevent the historical monuments from the ill effects of pollution;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of historical monuments which have been made pollution free in the country as on date, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

**Death of Workers at Alang Ship  
Breaking Yard**

1750. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of workers injured/died in accident during the last three years at Alang ship breaking yard in Gujarat;

(b) the action taken/proposed by the Government against the persons found responsible therefor;

(c) the compensation paid to each of the injured and family of the deceased in such cases; and

(d) the remedial steps taken by the Government to prevent recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS) : (a) The number of accidents reported at Alang ship breaking yard during the last three years is as under:-

Year	Fire/Accident	
	Injured	Death
2004-05	1	3
2005-06	11	7
2006-07 (upto Jan' 07)	5	5
Total	17	15

(b) In the event of major accident leading to death or serious bodily injury to any person, all the activities of the concerned plot are suspended by the Gujarat Maritime Board (GMB) and inquiry is commissioned by authorized persons and penal action is taken as per 'Gujarat Maritime Board Ship Recycling Regulations'. In case, on the basis

of the inquiry report, negligence is proved then a sum of Rs. 5 lakhs is levied and the same is deposited in workers' welfare fund. The plot holder is also penalized upto Rs. 10,000/- in case of breach of any clause of the Safety Regulations.

(c) In case of death, the next kin of deceased is paid Rs. 25,000/- immediately as ex-gratia compensation and also a minimum amount of Rs. 2 lakhs. In case of injury to any person he is paid Rs. 5,000/-.

(d) The State Government of Gujarat through GMB and the Labour Department has taken a number of preventive steps to reduce the accidents rate. These include risk awareness campaigns among workers, training to the workers and safety supervisors, mandatory use of personal protective equipments by the workers, mandatory use of gas detectors during cutting operations, investigation of fatal accident cases and taking punitive actions, strict implementation of various rules/regulations etc.

[Translation]

**Investment by NAFED in Non-Agricultural Activities**

1751. SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL :

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount invested by National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED) in non-agricultural activities during the last three years, Year-wise;

(b) the number of officers found guilty and the action taken by the Government thereon;

(c) the profit and loss earned from the investment made during the last three years, Year-wise;

(d) the loan taken by NAFED from Banks and other financial institutions during the said period, Year-wise; and

(e) the expenditure incurred by the NAFED on Minimum Support Price during the last three years, Year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (c) NAFED, being an autonomous body without any Government share holding started Public Private Partnership (PPP) business with the approval of its Board, on commercial lines followed by other Public Sector Undertaking like STC, MMTC, PEC Etd. NAFED arranged the funds from commercial borrowings and also utilized its own funds for this purpose. The total amount invested for non-agricultural activities during last three years and the profit and loss earned during the same period is as under:-

Year	Amount Invested	Profit Earned
2003-04	171.11 crore	2.94 crore
2004-05	1483.93 crore	13.34 crore
2005-06	541.01 crore	18.50 crore

Due to certain omissions and commissions on the part of some officers in the implementation of PPP business, five such officials of NAFED have been charge-sheeted under Departmental Proceedings. Besides, a complaint has also been registered with CBI by NAFED for further investigation.

(d) The details of loan taken by NAFED from Bank and Other Financial Institutions during last three years:-

Years	Loan for PSS Operation	Loan for Commercial Operation
1	2	3
2003-04	152.07	267.80

1	2	3
2004-05	428.06	1295.76
2005-06	3244.37	1400.33

(e) To meet out the losses (including expenditure) incurred to NAFED on implementation of Minimum Support Price operations for oilseeds and pulses, following amounts have been released to them by the Government, during last three years:-

Year	Value (in Rs. Crore)
2003-04	120
2004-05	260
2005-06	260

[English]

#### Special Courts for Wildlife Conservation

1752. SHRI K.C. SINGH 'BABA' : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up special courts to deal with the poaching and other conservation related issues;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) The National Wildlife Action Plan (2002-2016) adopted during the XXI meeting of the Indian Board for Wildlife held on 21st January 2002 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Prime Minister, has recommended creation of special courts for effective implementation of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. All the State Governments have been requested to do the needful in

this regard. The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has designated court for speedy trial of wildlife offence cases.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Projects under World Food Programme

1753. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any assistance under World Food Programme (WFP);

(b) if so, the details of the assistance received under WFP—India projects during 2005-06 and 2006-07; and

(c) the names of the States benefited by the said programme alongwith the assistance provided to them?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) to (c) The details of the assistance received under World Food Programme (WFP) — India projects and the names of the States benefited by the various programme during the years 2005, 2006 and 2007 (upto February 28th) are as under:-

State	Commodity Distribution*			
	(metric tonnes)			
	2005	2006	2007 (till 28th February, 2007)	Total
1	2	3	4	5
Chhattisgarh	8,355	6,246	1,697	16,298
Gujarat	1,915	2,016	376	4,307

1	2	3	4	5
Jharkhand	4,332	4,010	422	8,764
Madhya Pradesh	17,318	17,612	4,763	39,693
Orissa	30,382	29,853	5,443	65,678
Rajasthan	14,324	14,411	2,844	31,579
Uttaranchal	14,900	10,529	2,069	27,498
Uttar Pradesh	1,998	1,473	322	3,793
<b>Total</b>	<b>93,524</b>	<b>86,150</b>	<b>17,936</b>	<b>197,610</b>

\*Inclusive of wheat, rice and pulses.

#### Retceding Himalayan Glaciers

1754. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE :  
SHRI JUAL ORAM :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS  
be pleased to state:

- whether the Himalayan Glaciers are receding constantly;
- if so, the details thereof; and
- the remedial steps proposed/initiated by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) The studies carried out by Geological Survey of India have revealed that the majority of Himalayan glaciers are passing through a phase of recession, which is a worldwide phenomenon.

- The rate of recession in different climatic zones of Himalayan is found to be variable both on average and on year to year basis. The recession of glaciers is a part of the natural cyclic process of changes in size and other

attributes of the glaciers. The causative factors may be subnormal snowfall, higher temperature during summer, less severe winter or a combination of all of them. These changes could be attributed to various reasons including global warming.

(c) Geological Survey of India is monitoring some of the Himalayan Glaciers in different basins. The recession of glaciers can be checked to a very limited extent (site specific only) through artificial measures. But such projects cannot be undertaken on large scale in view of the nature of Indian Himalayan Glaciers (Debris covered), economic feasibility, scale of operation and likely pollution.

#### Assistance for Reintroduction of Tigers

1755. SHRI K.S. RAO : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- whether the Government proposes to reintroduce tigers in Sariska reserve;
- if so, the details thereof; and
- the time by which it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) Action has been initiated for providing Central Assistance to the State for relocation of villages from the core area of Sariska Tiger Reserve. This is an essential prerequisite for providing undisturbed habitat prior to tiger reintroduction, which is based on the assessment of tiger status in Sariska by the Wildlife Institute of India.

#### Grants from Consumer Welfare Fund

1756. PROF. M. RAMADASS : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- the number of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs)/Voluntary Consumer Organisations (VCOs) working in field of Consumer Awareness;

(b) the details of grant-in-aid made available to NGOs/VCOs from the Consumer Welfare Fund during the last three years and current year, year-wise;

(c) whether the utilisation certificates have been received from all NGOs/VCOs to which the funds were released;

(d) If not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government proposes to review the terms and conditions under which the grant-in-aid is made available to NGOs/VCOs; and

(f) If so, the details of such proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) to (d) This Department is not maintaining any list of NGOs/VCOs working in the Country. The details of Grant-in-aid released to NGOs/VCOs on consumer awareness and advocacy during the last three year's i.e. 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06, and 2006-07 upto 28-02-2007 and those who have furnished the utilization certificate are given in the enclosed statement.

(e) and (f) Grant in aid is sanctioned as per the terms and conditions of the General Financial Rules and also subject to Consumer Welfare Fund Rules.

#### Statement

Grants 2003-2004

#### Andhra Pradesh

S. No.	Name of Organisation	Amount	Whether UC received
1	2	3	4
1.	Narsipatnam Consumers Awareness Society B.C. Colony, Narsipatnam, Distt. Vishakhapatnam	1,53,000/-	Yes
2.	Global Welfare Society, 6-3-10/3 Bank Colony Khamman Distt.	1,80,000/-	Yes
3.	Jagajeevan Balabeena Varga Abhirudhi Sangam, Cuddapah, (DCIC-Cuddapah)	2,50,000/-	Yes
4.	Navyug Educational and Economical Dev. Society, Velavadi Nagari Mandal, Chittoor Distt. (AP)	1,35,000/-	Yes
5.	Sarvodaya Youth Organisation, H.No. 6-1-76/A, Opp. Sri Devi Theatre, Hanamkonda, Warrangal	1,53,000/-	Yes
6.	Chaitanya Welfare Institute of Medical Science, Chintalapudi, (AP)	1/35,000/-	Yes

1	2	3	4
7.	Young Mens Mohammaden Association Social Service Society, Distt. Anantpur (AP)	1,53,000/-	Yes
8.	Consumer Welfare Society, H.No. 3-8-8/1 Ravindra Nagar, Mehboobnagar	1,71,000/-	Yes
9.	Peoples Organisation for Women Empowerment and Reconstruction Hindupur, Anantpur Distt.	1,57,500/-	Yes
10.	Society for Tribal and Rural Integrated Development Empowerment, Warangal (AP)	2,02,500/-	Yes
11.	Action for Integrated Development, H.N. 4-79 UPS Street, Kollura Khamman Distt.	45,000/-	Yes
12.	Peoples Action in Development, Tirupati	2,25,000/-	Yes
13.	Dasari Adivaiah Memorial Ele-School Committee, Harijan Colony, Ulavapadu-523292 1/2003	1,98,000/-	Yes
14.	Bharat Ratna Mahila Mandali, 4/369-J, Vivekanand Nagar, Cuddapah-516001 92/2003	1,89,000/-	Yes
<b>Assam</b>			
1.	Manav Sarathi, Ganeshguri, Guwahati	1,98,000/-	Yes
2.	PVI Pathar Vocational Institute, Nagaon	1,44,000/-	Yes
<b>Bihar</b>			
1.	Hanuman Prasad Gramin Vikas Sewa Samity, District. Muzaffarpur (DCIC-Muzaffarpur)	2,50,000/-	Yes
2.	M/s. Vivekanand Memorial Trust, Thakur Adan, Ramna Road, Rajju Shah, Muzaffarpur	1,53,000/-	Yes
3.	EPIC Development, Rohtas	1,90,588/-	Yes
<b>Delhi</b>			
1.	Consumer Coordination Council Mayur Vihar, New Delhi	1,50,000/-	Yes
2.	Consumer Coordination Council Mayur Vihar, New Delhi	5,00,000/-	Yes

1	2	3	4
3.	BINTI, Kishan Garh, New Delhi (Consumer Club)	5,00,000/-	Yes
4.	Delhi School of Economics	1,00,000/-	Yes
5.	SHRUTI, F. No 135, Patparganj, New Delhi	2,07,000/-	Yes
<b>Gujarat</b>			
1.	Rajkot Saher Jilla Grahak Suraksha Mandal, Rajkot (DCIC-2nd installment)	2,50,000/-	Yes
2.	Bhavnagar Grahak Suraksha Mandal (DCIC-Bhavnagar)	2,50,000/-	Yes
3.	South Gujarat Consumer Protection Education and Research Centre (DCIC-Surat)	2,50,000/-	Yes
<b>Haryana</b>			
1.	Development Alternatives of India Society, Gurgaon	67,500/-	Yes
<b>Jharkhand</b>			
1.	Shree Narsinh Memorial Trust, Katras Road, Vikas Nagar, Dhanbad (DCIC-Dhanbad)	2,50,000/-	Yes
<b>Karnataka</b>			
1.	Indian Youth Organisation, Bangalore	1,44,000/-	Yes
2.	Indira Memorial Voluntary Organisation, Bangalore	1,53,000/-	Yes
3.	Gram Vikas Society, Kolar Distt.	2,52,000/-	Yes
4.	Sri Siddhilingeshwar Unni-Nakaran Kshenabivruddi Sangh, Kolar Distt.	2,52,000/-	Yes
5.	Sharana Tatva Prasara and Rural Dev. Service Samethan, Bidar	1,35,000/-	Yes
6.	Jnana Vikas Social and Educational Trust Bangalore	1,26,000/-	Yes
7.	Balakodara Vedike, Near Kalpana Cinema, UDUPI, (DCIC-UDUPI)	2,50,000/-	Yes
8.	Sri Basavaseewar Rural Dev. Trust Fulbarga, (DCIC-Gulbarga)	2,50,000/-	Yes



1	2	3	4
9.	Karnataka Rural Development Service Centre, Magadi, Bangalore	1,17,000/-	Yes
10.	Pragathi Ladies Association, Bangalore	1,17,000/-	Yes
<b>Kerala</b>			
1.	Solidarity Movement of India, Central Committee, Idukki	1,98,000/-	Yes
2.	Indira Gandhi Charitable Foundation, Trivandrum	1,17,000/-	Yes
<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>			
1.	Indian Association for the Development of Rural Areas and Masses, Pipariya Road, Hoshangabad	3,24,000/-	Yes
2.	National Centre for Human Settlement and Environment, Bhopal, (DCIC-2nd installment)	2,50,000/-	Yes
3.	Prakhar Pragya Shiksha Prasara, Society, Sagar	1,80,000/-	Yes
4.	All India Consumer Protection Organisation, Katni (DCIC-Katni)	2,50,000/-	Yes
5.	Baghel Education and Welfare Society, Bhopal	1,57,500	Yes
6.	Consumer and Civil Rights Association, Gwalior (DCIC-2nd Installment)	1,75,000/-	Yes
7.	Devi Ahilya village Development Association, Gram Arawad Bujurg, Indore	2,79,000/-	Yes
8.	Subedar Bhagwan Das Shukla Shiksha Evam Jan Vikas Samiti, Gwalior	1,99,000/-	Yes
<b>Maharashtra</b>			
1.	Ahmednagar District Madhyavarti Grahak Seva Mahasangh, 4037 B, Shah Sadan, Ahmednagar	1,75,000/-	Yes
2.	Laximibai Sewabhavi Gram Vikas Mandal Akhmapuri, TQ Ambad Distt., Jalna		Yes
3.	Swami Samarth Mahila Bahu Udeshiya Sewa Sansthan, Jalna	2,52,000/-	Yes

1	2	3	4
<b>Manipur</b>			
1.	Manipur Border Area Development Society, P.O. Chakibarang, Zaphu Bazar, Chandel District (DCIC)	2,50,000/-	Yes
2.	The Manipur Rural Service Association, Imphal East, District (DCIC)	2,50,000/-	Yes
3.	Development of Rural Education and Sporting Organisation, Khangabok, Thoubal District	1,35,000/-	Yes
4.	Village Welfare Association, Sanghaiyumpa Cherapur Wangjing Thoubal	1,25,000/-	Yes
5.	Foundation for Rural Development and Technology Achievement, Thanmeiband	1,62,000/-	Yes
6.	Sega Road Maning Takhel Leikai Khadi and Village Industry, Takhel Leikai, Imphal	1,08,000/-	Yes
7.	The Keishampat Mutum Leirak Machin Haophat	1,12,500/-	Yes
8.	Greenland Development Organisation, Imphal	1,62,000/-	Yes
9.	Urban and Rural Progressive Association, Imphal	1,35,000/-	Yes
10.	Chingamathak Nameirappam Mashaleikai Development, Imphal	1,17,000/-	Yes
11.	Rural Women Society, Imphal West	1,08,000/-	Yes
12.	The Rural Development Association, Thangmeiband, Imphal	1,53,000/-	No
<b>Nagaland</b>			
1.	Brotherhood Multipurpose Society, Dimapur, Nagaland	1,35,000/-	No
2.	Tekichang Valley Multipurpose Society, Wokha, Nagaland.	1,25,000/-	Yes
3.	ASA Multi purpose Coop. Society, Ltd., Dimapur Nagaland	1,44,000/-	No

1	2	3	4
4.	Teens Club, Distt. Wokha, Nagaland	1,24,200/-	Yes
<b>Orissa</b>			
1.	National Institute of Social Research for Utkal Rural Tribals, At and Post: Kabada Madhapur Mahimagarhi, Dhenkanal	1,35,000/-	Yes
2.	Poor Peoples Benevolent Harijan Adivasi Institute of kind action and Service, At Dalsingha Marthapur Post: Santhapur, Distt-Dhenkanal	54,000/-	Yes
3.	M/s. Gandhian Association for Rural Development, AT PO-Antel-Kalar	1,35,000/-	Yes
4.	Project Swaraj, Ganesh Ghat, Bakharbad, Cuttack (DCIC-Cuttack)	2,50,000/-	Yes
5.	Project Swaraj, Ganesh Ghat, Bakharbad, Cuttack	1,35,000/-	Yes
6.	Sri Jagannath Rural Development Organisation, Jaipur Distt.	1,26,000/-	Yes
<b>Rajasthan</b>			
1.	Consumer Unity and Trust Society, D-217 Bhaskar Marg, Benipark, Jaipur	1,50,000/-	
2.	Consumer Unity and Trust Society, D-217 Bhaskar Marg, Benipark, Jaipur	2,90,000/-	Yes
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>			
1.	Mari Amman Services Society, No. 3 Vayalur Main Road, Ramalinganagar Trichy 377/2003	1,00,000/-	
2.	Sarvodaya Trust, Plot No. 52, Rajeev Street Muniswara Nagar, Thirupallai, Madurai 145/2000	1,53,000/-	Yes
3.	SNEKITHI, Sathiya Mangalam Post, Kulithali Karur Distt. 76/01	1,26,000/-	Yes
4.	Village Peoples Education for Rural Dev. Association, 16 A/2, East Mudaliar Street, Kulithalai Karur Distt. 524/2000	1,44,000/-	Yes

1	2	3	4
5.	Health Education and Development Society, Nallur-Village and Post, Karur Distt. 653/2002	1,44,000/-	Yes
6.	Society for Emancipating Neosocial Education, Shivgangai, DCIC	2,50,000/-	Yes
<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>			
1.	Bhartiya Gyan Bithika, 21/1013. Indira Nagar, Lucknow (U.P.) DCIC	2,50,000	Yes
2.	Kisan Mazdoor Evam Mahila Utthan Samiti, PO Ramapur, Gonda	1,62,000/-	Yes
3.	Upbhokta Jagruk Samiti, Meerut	1,89,000/-	Yes
4.	Janta Sewa Samiti, Village: Pakardon, P.O. Mahson Distt. Basti (U.P.) DCIC	2,50,000	Yes
5.	Nav Srijan, 385/7, Sadar Bazaar, Lucknow (U.P.) DCIC	2,50,000	Yes
6.	Gramin Vikas Seva Sansthan, Vill: Gadauna, PO Govindpur, Basti (U.P.) DCIC	2,50,000	Yes
7.	Upbhokta Sanrakshan Evam Kalyan Samity, 354, Darahanpurva, Gumti No. 5, Kanpur	1,08,000/-	Yes
8.	Sarvjan Kalyan Samity, 275, Katghar, Allahabad	90,000/-	Yes
9.	Nav Jagriti Seva Sansthan, 116 Radha Nagar, Bulandshahr, 214/99	99,900/-	Yes
10.	Sri Nageshwar Jan Kalyan Samity, 125/1 Chhota Baghara, Allahabad	1,50,000/-	Yes
11.	Rashtriya Nav Chetana Sansthan, Ashapur, Allahabad	1,35,000/-	Yes
12.	Nav Jagriti Seva Sansthan, 16 Radha Nagar, Bulandshahr (U.P.) DCIC	2,50,000/-	Yes
13.	Prerna Gramodyog Seva Sansthan, Rajna Khara, Auras, Unnao (U.P.) DCIC	90,000/-	Yes
14.	Samta Nav Nirman Samity, Distt. Auralya, (U.P.) DCIC	2,50,000/-	Yes

1	2	3	4
15.	Bhartiya Samaj Sudhar Sewa Shiksha Samkiti, Chil Station, Katra, Distt. Basti (U.P.) DCIC	2,50,000/-	Yes
16.	Madhav Mohan Samaj Seva Sansthan, Chli Brahau, Kannauj (U.P.) DCIC	2,50,000/-	Yes
17.	Jagriti, Ashtbhuji, Pratapgarh (U.P.) DCIC	2,50,000/-	Yes
18.	Sariti Sewa Sansthan, Kanpur (U.P.) DCIC	2,50,000/-	
19.	Rawat Shiksha Samiti, Chmer Gate, Jalesar Adda, Hathras (U.P.) DCIC		Yes
20.	Diggi Nirbaluthan Samity, Meerut (U.P.)	2,50,000/-	Yes
21.	Akhil Bhartiya Brij Samaj Kalyan Sanstha, Krishna Puri, Mathura (U.P.) DCIC	2,50,000/-	Yes
22.	Chanddra Shiksha Sansthan, Jaunpur, (U.P.) DCIC	2,50,000/-	Yes
23.	Gramin Krishi Pashudhan Evam Udyan Vikas Sansthan, Ballia, (U.P.) DCIC	2,50,000/-	Yes
24.	Maneesh Sarvodaya Gramodyog Sewa Sansthan, Mainpur (U.P.) DCIC	2,50,000/-	Yes
25.	Integrated Rural Development Society, Hardoi (U.P.) DCIC	2,50,000/-	Yes
26.	Nirbal Varg Gramodyog Vikas Samiti, Chazipur (U.P.) DCIC	2,50,000/-	Yes
27.	Dwarika Gramodyog Sansthan, Aligarh (U.P.) DCIC	2,50,000/-	Yes
28.	Gramodyog Sewa Ashram, Meerut	2,11,500/-	Yes
29.	Satyamev Sewa Sansthan, Lucknow	2,70,000/-	Yes
30.	SHRINKHALA, Ashiyana, Lucknow	1,53,000/-	No
31.	Younik Social and Cultural Society, Lucknow	1,62,000/-	Yes
32.	Janta Sewa Samiti, Village: Pakardon P.O. Mahson Distt. : Basti	1,28,000/-	Yes

1	2	3	4
33.	Bindhya Gramodyog Sanstha, Village Bharhuna, Bindhya Colony, Mirzapur, U.P. DCIC	2,50,000/-	Yes
<b>Uttaranchal</b>			
1.	Himalyan Sewa Samiti, Pithoragarh	1,99,000/-	Yes
2.	Uttarakhand Gramin Vikas Samity Gwaldam, Chmoli Distt., Uttranchal. DCIC	1,75,000/-	Yes
3.	KAFAL, Haldwani	1,62,000/-	Yes
4.	Uttarakhand Gramin Vikas Samity Gwaldam, Chamoli Distt., Uttaranchal	1,53,000/-	Yes
5.	Shivani Bahudeshiya Parshikshan Sansthan, Gopeshwar	1,53,000/-	Yes
<b>West Bengal</b>			
1.	Dakshin Laxminarayanpur Yuba Sangha and Pathagar, Patharpratima	1,75,000/-	Yes
2.	Kapsaria Sarbik Village Service Society, Purba Medinipur	1,26,000/-	Yes
3.	Resident and Consumer Association, Hooghly	1,80,000/-	Yes
4.	Hijli Inspiration, Kolkata (W.B.)	1,30,500/-	Yes
5.	Behrampore Consumer Forum, Murshidabad	1,50,000/-	Yes
6.	Jalpaiguri Zilla Kreta Suraksha Samiti Hakimpara, Jalpaiguri	1,17,000/-	Yes
7.	Amherst Street Indira Sevashram, Kolkata	45,000/-	Yes
8.	Alipurduar Consumers Protection Society, Jalpaiguri	45,000/-	Yes
9.	The Association of All India Womens Conference, Lake Constituency, Kolkata	45,000/-	Yes
10.	Hooghly Zilla Kreta Suraksha Samity, Prasad Das Sen Road, Hooghly	45,000/-	Yes
11.	Port Area Consumers Association, 71/11 Harbour Road, Kolkata	54,000/-	Yes

1	2	3	4
12.	North East Calcutta Consumers Association, 43/C/1, Biplati Barin Ghosh Sarani, Kolkata	45,000/-	Yes
13.	Indian Institute of Bio Social Research and Development (IBRAD), Kolkata	4,67,500/-	Yes

**Pondicherry**

1.	Consumer Association of Pondicherry, Ayyenkuttipalayam, Pondicherry	1,50,000/-	Yes
2.	National Community Welfare and Consumer Protection Cell, Ezil Nagar	1,44,000/-	Yes

**Grants Released 2004-05****Andhra Pradesh**

Sl. No.	Name of Organisation	Amount (in Rs.)	Whether UC received
1	2	3	4
1.	Sai Ram Yuvathi Mahila Mandali, D. No. 6/160, Art College Road, Proddatur-516360, Cuddapah Distt. A.P.	1,57,500/-	Yes
2.	Rural Integrated and Social Education Society, Chennakothapalli, PO and Mandal Anantpur Distt.	2,83,500/-	Yes
3.	Narsipatnam Consumer Awareness Society, Vishakhapatnam DCIC, Vishakhapatnam	2,50,000/-	Yes
4.	Aravinda Consumer Welfare Society, East Madhavaram, A. Konduru Mandal, Krishna Distt.	1,44,000/-	Yes
5.	ASHRITHA, plot No. 59, Java Nagar Secunderabad	1,53,000/-	Yes
6.	Christian Harijan and Weaker Section S Dev Samikshana Sangam Holmes Pet Proddatur, Cuddapah	1,44,000/-	Yes
7.	Organisation for Rural Reconstruction Movement (ORRM) 16-3212, Sai Nagar, Bengal Road, Anant Pur	1,62,000/-	Yes

1	2	3	4
8.	Pragathi Rural Educational Service Society, Prakasam Distt. AP	1,48,500/-	No
<b>Assam</b>			
1.	United Rural Development Organisation, Vill. and PO Eradignai Pari, via Howrahghat, Distt. Karbi Anglong (Assam)	1,71,000/-	Yes
2.	Gram Vikas Parishad, At. Rengaloo, PO—Jamarmur, via Katghiatoli, Distt. Nagaon (Assam)	2,50,000/-	Yes
<b>Biher</b>			
1.	Baba Chauharmal Samarak Samiti, Bahadurpur Housing Colony, Patna	2,16,000/-	Yes
<b>Chandigarh</b>			
1.	Consumer Forum, Sector 11-B Chandigarh	88,000/-	Yes
<b>Delhi</b>			
1.	Consumer Coordination Council, Mayur Vihar, New Delhi	4,10,400/-	Yes
2.	Vikas Charitable Society, A-Block, 25 Fute Main Road, 1st Pusta Sonia Vihar, Delhi	1,57,000/-	Yes
3.	Consumer Coordination Council, Mayur Vihar, New Delhi	57,85,000/-	Yes
4.	Voice 441, Jung Pura, New Delhi	5,00,000/-	Yes
5.	Consumer Coordination Council, New Delhi	4,95,000/-	Yes
6.	South Delhi Housewives Association, Kailash Colony, New Delhi (Consumer Clubs)	3,00,000/-	Yes
7.	VOICE, 441, Jungpura Extension, New Delhi	500,000/-	Yes
8.	VOICE Society, 441, Jungpura Extension, New Delhi	50,00,000/-	Yes
<b>Gujarat</b>			
1.	Jagruk Grahak Mandal, Patan (DCIC Patan)	2,50,000/-	Yes
2.	Shree Sewa Bharti Foundation, Bhuj Kutchh (DCIC Bhuj)	2,50,000/-	Yes



1	2	3	4
3.	M/s. Gujarat State Rachnatmak Karyakar Sangh, Gotlib Santrampur, Godhra (DCIC - Godhra)	2,50,000/-	Yes
4.	Grahak Suraksha Mandal, Dahod	2,50,000/-	Yes
<b>Jammu and Kashmir</b>			
1.	Modern Cultural Club, Ward No. 2 Rajouri District	99,000/-	Yes
<b>Karnataka</b>			
1.	Ammaji Mahila Sangha C/o Sagar Art Studio, DVG Road Baghepalli, Kolar Distt.	2,07,000/-	No
2.	Oom Sriniketana Trust, B-1/33, near Karnataka Bank, Srirangapatna 571438, Mandhya distt.	1,44,000/-	No
3.	Kolar Distt. SC/ST and Orphan, Women and Child Association, Mulpejet, Kolar Distt.	1,26,000/-	Yes
4.	Rayala Sewa Samithi Yadrami, Tewarji Taluk, Gulbarga Distt.	1,98,000/-	Yes
5.	Jeevan Jyothi Vidya Samastha, Mandya	1,98,000/-	Yes
6.	Consumer Protection and Research Foundation, Hubli DCIC-Hubli	2,50,000/-	Yes
7.	DHWANI, Institute of Rural Development, 3rs Cross Near Seehineery Kola, Mandya-571401, Karnataka	1,26,000/-	Yes
<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>			
1.	MP Prakritik Chikitsalaya Tatha Mahavidyalaya Samity, Gwalior, MP	2,07,000/-	Yes
2.	Ashram Shanti Niketan Shiksha Samiti, Motilal Mill, Birlanagar Gwalior, MP	1,80,000/-	Yes
3.	Krestar Educational Welfare Society, Thalipur, Chauraha, Gwalior	2,07,000/-	Yes
4.	Sri Krishna Shiksha Prasar Samity, Bhopal DCIC Gwalior	2,50,000/-	Yes
5.	Avtar Smriti Shiksha Evam Kalyan Samiti, Morena, Vivekanand Colony Ganeshpur, Tah. and Distt. Morena	1,80,000/-	No

1	2	3	4
6.	Rural Development Society, Laskar, Gwalior	1,80,000/-	Yes
7.	Prakhar Pragya Shiksha Prasar Samiti, 236, Madhukar Shah Ward, Sagar (DCIC-Sagar)	2,50,000/-	Yes
8.	Dalit Sangh, House No. 13, "Mitra Kunj", Street: Lata Marg, Sohagpur, Distt. Hoshangabad, M.P.	1,84,500/-	Yes
9.	Sandeep Shiksha Prasar Evam Samaj Kalyan Kendra, N-9, Gandhinagar Gwalior	1,17,000/-	No
10.	Nandalal Bal Kalyan Samiti, Vill. Mohanpur, Post Bandholl, Murar, Gwalior, MP	1,71,000/-	Yes
11.	Rural Consumer Awareness and Research Centre, Upbhokta Bhawan, Civil Lines, JAORA-457226, Distt. Ratlam (M.P.)	1,44,000/-	Yes
12.	Sri Kush Shiksha Prasar Samity, Tara Ganj, Gwalior		
13.	SHRI GAHOI SHIKSHA PRASAR SAMITI, Urai Road Galla Mandi, Mihona Distt., Bhind (M.P.)	1,35,000/-	Yes
<b>Maharashtra</b>			
1.	Jai Kisan Sewa Bhavbi Gram Vikas Mandal, Mangrul Distt. Jalna	1,80,000/-	Yes
2.	Bahujan Education Society Tembhari, District Nagpur	1,26,000/-	Yes
3.	Lok Deep Manav Vikas Sanstha, Vidya Nagar, Parbani	2,50,000/-	Yes
4.	Sarodaya Educational and Voluntary Associatio, Nanded	2,50,000/-	Yes
5.	Purushottam Maharaj Guru Narayan Maharaj Shaikshanik, and Sevabhavi Sansthan Parbhani, Tq. and Dist. Parbhani-431401	1,62,000/-	Yes
6.	Lok Kalyan Shiksha Sansthan, Gondia	2,50,000/-	Yes
7.	Ahmed Nagar Zila Madhga Varti Grahak Seva Sangh, Ahmednagar	75,000/-	Yes
<b>Uttaranchal</b>			
1.	KAFAL Samity, Haldwani, Distt. Nanital	250,000/-	Yes

1	2	3	4
2.	Bawangarh Lok Kalyan Evam Vikas Parishad, Band Vikas Nagar, PO Ghatpattimal, Basoli Distt. Chamoli	2,25,000/-	Yes
3.	Himalayan Society for Nature, Health, Education and Social Development Society, 130-Azad Colony Govind Garh, Dehradun-248001 (Uttaranchal)	1,35,000/-	Yes
4.	IRAM 34, Tagore Villa Chakrata Road, Dehradun	1,80,000/-	Yes
5.	Omjan Vikas Samiti, Pithoragarh	1,87,200/-	Yes
6.	Nagbhumi Chetna Samiti, Berinag Distt. Pithoragarh	1,80,000/-	Yes
7.	Welfare Association of Downtrodden, Deena pani, District- Almora (Uttaranchal)	1,89,000/-	Yes
<b>West Bengal</b>			
1.	Consumer's Action Forum, 5/1 Red Cross Place, Kolkata	1,85,000/-	Yes
2.	Islampur Ramakrishna palli Rural Welfare Society, Uttar Dinajpur, West Bengal	1,62,000/-	Yes
3.	Kalyani North Jaiprakash Memorial Development Mission, Nadia	1,48,500/-	Yes
4.	Prabudha Bharti Shishtirtha, Krishnapriya, Paschim Medinipur	1,80,000/-	Yes
5.	Alinan Ramakrishna Vivekanand Yuva Sangha, Vill. and PO Alinan, Distt. Purba Medinipur	1,62,000/-	Yes
6.	COSMOS, Bose Road, Kolkata (WB) DCIC-Jalpaiguri	2,50,000/-	Yes
7.	Barbasudevapur, Deshaparan, Pragati Sangha, Purba Medinipur Distt.	1,71,000/-	Yes
8.	Nutanhat Hospitalpara Khadi Unnayan Samity, P.O. Nutanhat, Distt. Burdwan-713147 W.B.	1,48,000/-	Yes
9.	Midnapore Madhusudan Nagar Craft Centre (MMNCC), M.M. Nagar, PO : Midnapore, Distt.: Paschim Medinipur-721101, W.B.	135,000/-	Yes

1	2	3	4
10.	Bagaria Relief Welfare Ambulance Society 24 Parganas South, West Bengal (DCIC)	2,50,000/-	Yes
11.	Dharaminagar Rural Development Society, PO: Moliarpur, Distt.: Birbhum, Pin-731216, W.B.	1,25,000/-	Yes
12.	Women's Interlink Foundation, Ward No. 8 Distt. Birbhum, WB (DCIC-Birbhum)	2,50,000/-	Yes
<b>Pondicherry</b>			
1.	The Society for Social Justice and Human Resources Development	1,35,000/-	No
<b>Rajasthan</b>			
1.	Tagore Public School Shiksha Samity, Ward No. 25, Pillibangan Distt. Hanumangarh, Rajasthan	1,98,000/-	Yes
2.	Annapurna Lok Sewa and Shikshan Samiti, Ward No. 1, Sureshian, Hanumangarh	1,80,000/-	Yes
3.	Maharishi Dayanand Vikas Samity, No. 365, Patel Nagar, Sriganganagar	2,30,500/-	Yes
4.	S.L. Adarsh Vidyalaya Prabandhank Samiti, Keserisihapur Distt. Sri Ganganagar (Rajasthan)	2,25,000/-	Yes
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>			
1.	Nugarvore Urimori Padukappu Kazhagam, Paramakudi, Distt. Ramanathapuram (DCIC Ramanathapuram)	2,50,000/-	Yes
2.	Tamil Nadu Consumer Protection Council, Madurai	1,44,000/-	Yes
3.	Society for Community Development Project, Salem (DCIC-Salem)	2,50,000/-	Yes
4.	Oligyagm Trust, Chekkanurani, Madurai Distt. Tamil Nadu	1,62,000/-	Yes
5.	Trust for Socio Economic Development, Trichy	1,62,000/-	Yes
6.	Child Jesus Educational and Charitable Trust, Trichy	1,80,000/-	Yes

1	2	3	4
7.	Community Action Trust, 55, 6th Cross, Saravanapuram, Allithurai Post, Trichi-620102	1,167,400/-	Yes
8.	The Concert Trust, No.:3/242., Rajendra Garden, VETTUVANKENI, CHENNAI	2,25,000/-	No
9.	Society of Community Org. and Rural Education, Karur	1,26,000/-	Yes
10.	CONCERT, Chennai	4,95,000/-	No
<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>			
1.	Indian Human Welfare Society, 91 Subhash Nagar, Gali No. IC, Meerut	1,17,000/-	Yes
2.	Guru Nanak Vikas Dhara, Jhalkari Nagar, Pulia No. 9, Jhansi	1,62,000/-	No
3.	Public Welfare Society for Urban and Rural Development, PO and Village Jagatpur, Distt Mainpuri	1,30,000/-	Yes
4.	Samanvit Vikas Evam Paryavearan Sansthan, 1-Arunachalam Apartments, 5-Clay Square, Kabir Marg, Lucknow	1,62,000/-	No
5.	Pratap Singh Seva Sansthan, Lucknow	1,80,000/-	Yes
6.	Gram Vikas Sewa Samity Village and Post Office Baghaura, Mirzapur	1,80,000/-	No
7.	UP Bhartiya Gramin Vikas Sansthan Yojana, Lucknow (DCIC Barabanki)	2,50,000/-	Yes
8.	Nevada Gramodyog Vikas Samity, Mah. Bagla, Amroha, J.P. Nagar	2,25,000/-	Yes
9.	Pragati Sewa Niketan, 547, Sata Niketan, Behind Eye Hospital, Near Office of Supdt. Post Office, Raebareilly (DCIC Raebareilly)	2,50,000/-	Yes
10.	Special Educational Welfare Association (SEWA), Mirzapur, (DCIC) (Sant Ravidas Nagar)	2,50,000/-	Yes
11.	Dehati Gramodyog Vikas Samiti, 437, Paschimi Saron, Hamirpur, DCIC Hamirpur	2,50,000/-	Yes

1	2	3	4
12.	Dr. Radhakrishnan Memorial Educational Society, Village-Ranibari, Post-Rajapur, Distt.-Mirzapur	1,44,000/-	Yes
13.	Shiv Shakti Gramodyog Sansthan, Main Road Bus Stand, Muradnagar-201206, Ghaziabad	1,08,000/-	Yes
14.	Tharu Janjati Mahila Vikas Samiti, 638, Awas Vikas Colony, Gonda	1,48,500/-	Yes
15.	Awadh Sewa Sansthan, Village-Pratappur, P.O. Chatrauli, Distt. Gonda (U.P.)	1,75,500/-	No
16.	Jyoti Gramodyog Sewa Sansthan, Village Ghaurahara, PO:Sindhoura, Distt. Mirzapur	1,62,000/-	Yes
17.	Dehati Gramudyog Vikas Samiti, Hamirpur-210507	1,25,000/-	Yes
18.	Gramoudyog Sewa Samiti Mubarakpur, Vill.-Mustafabad, PO-Gujarpar, Aajamgarh, (U.P.)	1,80,000/-	Yes
19.	Homage Welfare Society 'Anita Villa', 117/K/11, R.S. Puram, Sarvodya Nagar, Kanpur-208 025 (U.P.)	1,35,000/-	No
20.	Trishul Sewa Sansthan Office Complex No. H, Indira Market, Chhaya Chauraha, Barabanki <u>Branch Office</u> : 64-A, New Market Kaiserabagh, Lucknow	1,53,000/-	Yes

**Manipur**

1.	Dedicated Peoples Organization Keishampat, Leimajam, Keikai, Imphal Manipur	2,50,000/-	
2.	Community Development Association, Thingakham Square Tomoglong, Manipur	1,44,000/-	Yes
3.	Environment and Economic Management Association, Imphal East	1,44,000/-	Yes
4.	Peoples Development Agency, Lamlong, Imphal	1,80,000/-	
5.	Bright Ways, Terakhong, P.O. Moirang, B.P.O. Kumbi-785133, Manipur	1,80,000/-	Yes

1	2	3	4
6.	SC/SC Backward Children Women Organisation, Thoubal, Khunou, Post and Distt. Thoubal, Manipur	1,75,000/-	Yes
7.	Rural Voluntary Services, Wangval Nayai Leikai, Distt.: Thoubal-795138, Manipur	1,75,000/-	Yes
8.	Goodwill and Thrive Society, Haochong Village, Tamenglong District, Manipur	1,80,000/-	No
9.	Society for Progressive Development, Manipur	99,000/-	Yes
10.	Yumman Leikai Lairembi Maning Women's Welfare Association, Manipur		Yes
11.	Rural Voluntary Services, Wangval, Nayai Leikai, Distt: Thoubal-795135, Manipur	1,75,000/-	Yes
12.	Organization for Rural Development, Sagoltongba Awang Leikal, P.O. Langjing, Pint No. 795113, Imphal West Dist. Manipur	1,26,000/-	No
<b>Mizoram</b>			
1.	Mizoram Consumers' Union, Treasury Square, Aizawl-796001	1,26,000/-	Yes
<b>Nagaland</b>			
1.	Rengma Women Society, Dimapur, Nagaland	1,44,000/-	Yes
2.	Nzonye Society, Kohima, Nagaland	1,35,000/-	No
3.	Potina Kup Students Union, C/o Govt. High School, Sanis Wokha, Nagaland	85,000/-	Yes
4.	Sanis Welfare Club, B.P.O. Sanis Wokha, Nagaland	1,17,000/-	No
5.	Nagaland Tribal Rural Development Association, Dimapur	2,50,000/-	Yes
<b>Orissa</b>			
1.	Nari Chetana Mahila Institute (NAMI), Housing Board, Qr. No. W/1 PO/Distt. Dhenkanal DCIC Dhenkanal	2,50,000/-	Yes
2.	DRUSHTI, Mangalaghat Puri	58,050/-	Yes

1	2	3	4
3.	Bhanja Institute for Rural Development, Kullada, Ganjam	1,21,500/-	Yes
4.	Nari Mangal Mahila Samiti, NMMS, at Panchpalia Distt.	1,89,000/-	Yes
5.	Adivasi Harijana Integrated Mass Social Agency (AHIMSA), Kendupadar, Phulbani, Kandhamal	2,20,500/-	No
6.	The Noble Institute of Community Empowerment (The Nice) At. Dakhinkali Road, PO/Distt. Dhenkanal	1,57,000/-	Yes
7.	SEVA, At Jaleswar, PO Khanpal Distt. Cuttack - 754104	2,34,000/-	Yes
8.	Unnayan, At-Rengalo, Distt. Puri	1,62,000/-	Yes
9.	National Institute for Commodity and Child Development (NICCD), Khurda, Orissa	121,500/-	Yes
10.	Nari Mangal Mahila Samiti, NMMS, at Panchpalia Distt. DCIC Puri	2,50,000/-	Yes
11.	Bright Association for Noble and decent Understanding, (BANDHU), Puri	1,44,000/-	Yes
12.	Jai Kisen Youth Club, At Janakgarh, PO Gadasahi, Distt. Puri, Orissa	5,00,000/-	Yes
13.	Basti Area Dev. Council, Balasore, Orissa	1,75,000/-	Yes

*Grants Released 2005-06*

**Andhra Pradesh**

S. No.	Name of Organisation	Amount (in Rs.)	Whether UC received
1	2	3	4
1.	Garthapuri Consumer Council, Guntur	2,50,000/-	Not Due
2.	Narsipatnam Consumer Awareness Society, B.C. Colony, Narsipatnam, Vishakhapatnam	2,50,000/-	Yes
3.	Jagajeevan Balaheera Varega Abhiruddhi Sanga, Vempalli Cudappah	2,50,000/-	Yes



1	2	3	4
4.	Shalem Church Development Society, Srinagar, Guntur	75,360/-	Yes
5.	Consumer Protection Council, Vishakhapatnam	50,000/-	Yes
6.	Women and Children Development Society, Guntur	80,000/-	Not Due
7.	Society for Helping Action for Rural Poor, Nenali	50,000/-	-Do-
<b>Assam</b>			
1.	Grama Vikas Parishad, Distt. Nagaon	2,50,000/-	Not due
<b>Biher</b>			
1.	Kautilya Institute of Economic Administration, Patna	67,000/-	Yes
2.	Sangya Samiti, East Gandhi Nagar, Patna	50,000/-	Yes
3.	Pidit Samaj Kalyan Samiti, Gaya	50,000/-	Yes
<b>Chandigarh</b>			
1.	Consumers Forum, Chandigarh	2,50,000/-	Not due
<b>Delhi</b>			
1.	BINTY, H.No. 4/9 (FF) Kishan Garh, PO Vasant Kunj, New Delhi	3,24,000/- C. Clubs	Yes
2.	VOICE Society, 441, Jangpura, New Delhi	63,30,000/-	Yes
3.	Formative Research and Development Services, Malviya Nagar, Delhi	3,47,000/-	Yes
4.	Global Environment and Welfare Society, Friends Colony, New Delhi	70,000/-	Not Due
<b>Gujarat</b>			
1.	Rajkot Shaheer Jilla Grahak Suraksha Mandal, 329, Popabhai, Sorathia Bhawan, Sadar Bazar, Rajkot	75,000/-	Yes
2.	Grahak Hit Suraksha Mandal, Kodinar, Junagarh	1,00,000/-	Not Due

1	2	3	4
<b>Haryana</b>			
1.	CII, Confederation of Indian Industry (NR), No 249-Faec-18, Udyog Vihar, Phase IV, Gurgaon	7,00,000/-	Yes
<b>Karnataka</b>			
1.	Balakedara Vedike Udupi, (Consumers Forum), Corporation Bank Road, North School Compound, Udupi	2,50,000/-	Not Due
2.	Akkamabadevi Mahila Mandal, Bidar	1,00,000/-	-Do-
3.	District Cooperative Union Limited, Koppal	70,000/-	-Do-
<b>Jharkhand</b>			
1.	All India Chamber of Consumers, Jamshedpur	1,00,000/-	Not Due
<b>Kerala</b>			
1.	Centre of Indian Consumer Protection and Research (COINPAR), Trivandrum	2,50,000/-	Yes
<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>			
1.	National Centre for Human Settlement and Environment, E5/4, Girish Kunj, Arera Colony, Bhopal	75,000/-	Yes
2.	Career Motivation Centre, Sagar	19,500/-	Yes
3.	XIDAS (Xavier Institute of Development Action and Studies, Jabalpur	40,500/-	No
4.	Ashutosh Samaj Kalyankal Samiti, Morena	1,00,000/-	Not Due
5.	Women Consumer Protection Association, Madurai	15,000/-	No
<b>Maharashtra</b>			
1.	Mumbai Grahak Panchayat, Mumbai	10,000/-	Yes
<b>Manipur</b>			
1.	Rural Voluntary Services, Wangai Mayai Leikai, Thoubal	2,50,000/-	Yes
2.	Manipur Border Area Dev. Society, Zaphu Bazar, Chandel	2,50,000/-	Yes

1	2	3	4
3.	Manipur Women Coordinating Council, Children Home Complex, opp Manipur University, Canchipur, Imphal-75503	2,50,000/-	Yes
4.	Backward Development Services, Wangaging Thoubal Distt.-795118	75,000/-	Yes
5.	Manipur Rural Services Association, Imphal East Distt.-795001	2,50,000/-	Yes
6.	Greenland Development Organisation, Safolband, Teza Sapam, Imphal	2,50,000/-	Yes
<b>Mizoram</b>			
1.	Mizoram Consumers Union, Aizawl, Treasury Square, Aizawl	2,50,000/-	Yes
<b>Orissa</b>			
1.	Project Swaraj, Ganesh Ghat, Bakhraabad, Cuttack	2,50,000/-	Yes
2.	Council for Tribal Urban and Rural Development, Bhubneshwar	1,76,000/-	No
<b>Rajasthan</b>			
1.	CUTS, D-217, Bhaskar Marg, Bani Park, Jaipur-302016	2,10,000/-	
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>			
1.	Citizen and Consumer Civic Action Group, (CAG), No. 8, 4th Street, Ventateshwara Nagar, Adyar, Chennai	4,72,000/-	Yes
2.	Nugavore Urimai Padduppu Kazhagam, Paamkudi, Madurai, Rameswaram Road, Ramanathapuram	2,50,000/-	Yes
3.	Women Consumer Protection Association, Madurai	70,000/-	Not Due
4.	Kodal Nagar Consumer Protection Movement, Madurai	25,250/-	-Do-
<b>Uttaranchal</b>			
1.	Uttarakhand Gramin Vikas Samiti, Gwaldam, Distt. Chamoli	75,000/-	Not Due
2.	Ganga Parvatiya Lok Vikas Sansthan, Village-Sarai khet, Tehsil-Bhikvasain, Distt. Almora	2,50,000/-	-Do-

1	2	3	4
<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>			
1.	Rawat Shiksha Samity, Chamar Gati, Jalesar Adda, Distt. Hathras	1,75,000/-	Yes
2.	Gramin Vikas Shiksha Sansthan, Village Gaduana, Post Govindpura, Distt. Basti	1,75,000/-	Yes
3.	Diggi Nirbalottan Samity, Aurangshampur, Diggi, Meerut	2,50,000/-	Yes
4.	Dwarka Gramodyog Sansthan, Brij Vihar, G.T. Road, Distt. Aligarh	2,50,000/-	Yes
5.	Bharat Jyoti, 46, Diamond Harbour, Kabir Marg, Lucknow	15,000/-	Yes
6.	Janta Sewa Samiti, Village-Pakadaon, Post Mahson, Distt-Basti	2,50,000/-	Yes
7.	Maneesh Sarvodaya Gramodyog Sewa Sansthan, Village and Post-Ghiror, Distt. Mainpuri	2,50,000/-	Not Due
8.	Integrated Rural Development Society, New Civil Lines, Hardoi	2,50,000/-	Not Due
9.	Gramin Vikas Sewa Sansthan, Village-Gaduana, P. Govindpur, Distt. Basti	75,000/-	Not Due
10.	Nav Jagriti Sewa Sansthan, 116, Radha Nagar, Bulandshahr	2,50,000/-	Not Due
11.	Rawat Shiksha Samiti, Distt. Hathras,	75,000/-	Not Due
12.	Pragati Sewa Niketan, 547, Satya Nagar, (Behind Eye Hospital), Near office of Suptd. Post Office, Raebareli-229001	2,50,000/-	Not Due
13.	Madhav Mohan Samaj Sewa Sansthan, Suraj Devi Netra Chikitsalaya, Saurikh Tiraha, Chhibaramau, Distt. Kannauj	2,50,000/-	Not Due
14.	Bhartiya Samaj Sudhar Sewa Shiksha Samiti, Civil Station, Katra, Kutchhery, Basti	2,50,000/-	Yes
15.	Consumer Coordination Council, NITS, NOIDA	2,80,800/-	Yes
16.	Consumer Coordination Council, NITS, NOIDA	32,52,529/-	Yes

1	2	3	4
17.	Consumer Coordination Council, NITS, NOIDA	39,42,471/-	Yes
18.	Indian Institute of Public Administration, Local Branch, Bareilly	50,000/-	Not Due
19.	Institute of Applied Research and Development, Indira Nagar, Lucknow	70,000/-	-Do-

**West Bengal**

1.	Nadia Distt. Consumers Forum, Padia Building, R.N. Tagore, Road, Distt. Nadia	1,75,000/-	Yes
2.	Nadia Distt. Consumers Forum, Padia Building, R.N. Tagore, Road, Distt. Nadia	75,000/-	Not Due
3.	Hooghly Zilla Kreta Suraksha Samity, Chinsurad, Distt. Hooghly	2,50,000/-	Yes
4.	Port Area Consumer Association, DUVA, 71/IC Diamond Harbour Road, Kidderpore, Kolkata	2,50,000/-	Not Due

**Pondicherry**

1.	Consumer Association of Pondicherry, MIG-15 ayyenkuttipalayan, Pondicherry	2,50,000/-	Yes
2.	Consumer Association of Pondicherry, MIG-15 ayyenkuttipalayan, Pondicherry	1,00,000/-	Not Due

*Grants 2006-07 (Up to 28th February 2007)***Andhra Pradesh**

S. No.	Name of Organisation	Amount	Whether UC received
1	2	3	4
1.	Shri Sai Social Organisation, Guntur	50,000/-	Not Due
2.	Rural Action and Comprehensive Enlightenment, Prakasham	50,000/-	-Do-
3.	Arundhati Harijan Mahila Mandali, Prakasham	1,00,000/-	-Do-

1	2	3	4
4.	Vudaya Shree Mahila Mandali, Guntur	90,270/-	Not Due
<b>Biher</b>			
1.	Sankarshan, Patna	1,00,000/-	Not Due
<b>Orissa</b>			
1.	Nari Mangal Mahila Samiti, At-Panchupalla, PO-Gualipada, District-Puri (DCIC-Puri)	2,50,000/-	Not Due
2.	Nari Chetna Mahila Institute (NAMI), At-M/1, Housing Board Colony, District-Dhenkanal (DCIC-Dhenkanal)	2,50,000/-	-Do-
3.	Basti Area Development Council, District-Balasore (DCIC-Balasore)	75,000/-	-Do-
4.	National Peace Unison India, Bolangir	99,000/-	-Do-
<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>			
1.	Jagriti Ashtbhuja Nagar, District-Pratapgarh (DCIC-Pratapgarh)	2,50,000/-	Not Due
2.	Chandra Shiksha Samiti, 629-A, Kharka Road, Jaunpur (DCIC-Jaunpur)	2,50,000/-	-Do-
3.	Vindhya Gramodoyog Sanstha, Village-Bharhuna, Mirzapur, (DCIC-Mirzapur)	2,50,000/-	-Do-
4.	Grameen Krishi Pashudhan Evam Udyan Vikas Sansthan, 103/113, Sundar Bagh, Lucknow (DCIC-Ballia)	2,50,000/-	-Do-
5.	Akhil Bhartiya Braj Samaj Kalyan Sanstha, 44/1, Krishnapuri, Mathura (DCIC-Mathura)	2,50,000/-	-Do-
6.	Bhartiya Gyan Bithika, 21/1013, Indira Nagar, Lucknow (DCIC-Lucknow)	2,50,000/-	-Do-
7.	Indian Council for Scientific Research and Social Development, Varanasi	78,250/-	-Do-
8.	Bhartiya Mahila Kalyan Samiti, Faizabad	1,00,000/-	-Do-

1	2	3	4
<b>Jharkhand</b>			
1.	Shree Narsinh Memorial Trust, J.C. Maliha Road, Dhanbad (DCIC-Dhanbad)	2,50,000/-	Not Due
<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>			
1.	Consumer and Civic Rights Association, Hanuman Chauraha, Janak Ganj, Laskar, Gwalior (DCIC-Gwalior)	75,000/-	Not Due
2.	Prakhar Pragya Shiksha Prasar Samiti, 236, Madhukar Shah Ward, Sagar (DCIC-Sagar)	2,50,000/-	-Do-
3.	Shree Krishna Shiksha Prasar Samiti, 64-A, Ambedkar Nagar, Bhopal (DCIC-Gwalior)	2,50,000/-	-Do-
<b>Gujarat</b>			
1.	Jagrut Grahak Mandal, Patan (DCIC-Patan)	2,50,000/-	Not Due
2.	Gujarat State Rachnatmak Karyakar Sangh, Godhra, (DCIC-Godhra)	2,50,000/-	-Do-
<b>Manipur</b>			
1.	SC/ST Women and Children Development Organisation in Rural Areas, Thoubal (DCIC-Thoubal)	75,000/-	Not Due
2.	Resource Centre for Social Welfare and Community Development, Chandel (DCIC-Chandel)	75,000/-	-Do-
<b>Karnataka</b>			
1.	Shree Basaveshwar Rural Development Trust, Gulbarga, (DCIC-Gulbarga)	2,50,000/-	Not Due
2.	Jayanti Gram Women and Children Association, Bijapur	1,00,000/-	-Do-
<b>Nagaland</b>			
1.	Nagaland Tribal Rural Development Association, Old Dairy Farm Road, Dimapur (DCIC-Dimapur)	2,50,000/-	Not Due
<b>West Bengal</b>			
1.	Women's Interlink Foundation, Lalkothi Pada, PO-Suri, Distt-Birbhum (DCIC-Birbhum)	2,50,000/-	Not Due

1	2	3	4
2.	COSMOS, COSMOS House, 24, Bose Para Road, Mohit Colony, Kolkata DCIC-Jalpai Gudi	2,50,000/-	Not Due
<b>Delhi</b>			
1.	VOICE, 441, Jungpura Extension, Mathura Road, Delhi-14	4,21,860/-	Not Due
2.	VOICE, 441, Jungpura Extension, Mathura Road, Delhi-14 (Consumer Club)	5,00,000/-	-Do-
3.	VOICE Society, 441, Jungpura Extension, Mathura Road, Delhi-14 (Comparative Testing)	62,00,000/-	-Do-
4.	FICCI, Federation House, New Delhi	50,00,000/-	-Do-
<b>Maharashtra</b>			
1.	Lok Kalyan Shiksha Sansthan, Gondia (DCIC-Gondia)	2,50,000/-	Not Due
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>			
1.	Consumer Rights Protection Council, Madurai	25,000/-	Not Due

#### Development of Fishery in Lakshadweep

1757. DR. P.P. KOYA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has prepared any long term perspective plan for the development of fishery sectors in Lakshadweep;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of the projected employment potential in the proposed long term plan for the next five years;

(c) the total fish landing centres functioning in the island during the last three years and the current financial year;

(d) the plans to improve the fish landing centres in the islands;

(e) whether there is any marine development

centre in the islands which is having a vast territorial water area; and

(f) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) Yes, Sir. The UT of Lakshadweep Administration has got prepared an Integrated Perspective Plan for Development of Fisheries in Lakshadweep for next 10 years to be implemented in 3 phases.

(b) The perspective plan envisages overall development in the Fisheries sector by way of enhancing fish production, self employment generation and socio-economic upliftment by introducing more fishing craft, deep sea fishing vessels, Maldivian type of pole and line fishing vessels, supply of engines, out board motors, navigational



aids, Establishment of ice plants/cold storages, processing plants for developing cold chain, human resource development, setting up of fishermen cooperative societies, introduction of mother vessel/collector vessel, mariculture etc. The 11th plan projects a generation of 1643 employment opportunities during the next 5 years.

(c) There are eleven fish landing centers currently functioning in the Union Territory of Lakshadweep.

(d) Improvement to fish landing centers by way of constructing one fish market in each island is envisaged by the UT.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

#### **Fisheries Research Institutes**

1758. SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA :  
DR. K. DHANARAJU :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up Fisheries Research Institutes in the country to educate women in new fishery technology;

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

(c) the number of women who have been trained particularly in coastal States so far;

(d) whether the Government proposes to set up more such Institutes in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) No, Sir. No

separate Research Institute for Fisheries to educate women in new technologies has been set up. However, women are regularly being trained in inland capture fisheries, marine capture fisheries, aquaculture, mariculture, net making and net mending, fish processing, product development and quality control.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) During the last three years (2003-2006) number of women trained in fisheries in coastal states are as follows:-

Kerala - 656; Tamil Nadu - 1150; West Bengal - 187; Maharashtra - 472; Orissa - 1750; Andhra Pradesh - 273; Gujarat - 37; Lakshadweep - 24.

Apart from this, 7570 women were trained in different aspects of coastal aquaculture, mariculture and marine fisheries during the X Plan period in the coastal states of Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Gujarat.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Question does not arise.

[Translation]

#### **Profit/Loss of BSP**

1759. SHRI MITRASEN YADAV : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of production made and profit earned by Bhilai Steel Plant (BSP) during the last three years and so far;

(b) whether the BSP has incurred any loss during the recent years; and

(c) if so, the details thereof/

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS) : (a) Saleable steel

production and profit before tax (PBT) earned by the Bhilai Steel Plant during the last three years and nine months of the current financial year is as under:-

Year	Production (000T) Saleable Steel	Profit before tax (PBT) (Rs./crs)
2003-04	4091	1932
2004-05	3935	4042
2005-06	4286	2781
9M 2006-07	3133	3049

(b) No, Sir.

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

[English]

#### Non-Seed Component

1760. SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the guidelines for diversion of non-seed component money to State level Committee;

(b) whether these committees are empowered to divert unutilized portion of seed component money to any other component;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether requests have been received from some States for change in such guidelines; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (e) Government of India is implementing a Centrally

Sponsored "Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize" (ISOPOM) in major States in the Country. As per provisions of the scheme, the implementing States have been given the flexibility for inter-component diversion of funds upto 20% of allocation for non-seed components. Further, the States can divert funds from seed component to non-seed components with the prior approval of the Central Government. Based on the proposals received from the States on the recommendation of State Level Sanctioning Committee constituted under ISOPOM, Central Government is permitting on a case to case basis diversion of funds from seed component to other components of ISOPOM.

#### Problems Faced by Poultry Farmers

1761. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the poultry farmers have demanded extension of time for interest subvention and moratorium on repayment of loans availed by them; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The demand lacks justification.

#### Procurement of Wheat

1762. SHRI JUAL ORAM :

SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD :

SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE :

SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to increase

the procurement of wheat during the ensuing Rabi Season;

(b) the States where the procurement is currently taking place alongwith the quantum procured so far;

(c) whether in view of shortfall in procurement of wheat during 2005-06 due to the excessive procurement by private companies, Government proposes to ban the private players from procurement of wheat in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) The steps taken by the Government to ensure adequate procurement of wheat during the ensuing Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2007-08 are given in enclosed statement.

(b) Procurement of wheat by Government agencies in RMS 2007-08 is yet to commence in any of the wheat producing states. This will commence on 15th March, 2007 in Madhya Pradesh while in most of the other major wheat producing states it will commence on 1st April, 2007.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal to ban the private players from procurement of wheat in the country. However, a notification titled "Wheat (Stock Declaration by Companies or Firms or Individuals) Order 2007 has been issued under the Essential Commodities Act 1955 on 1.3.2007. The order provides that any Company or Firm or individual who purchases wheat beyond 50,000 tonnes during 2007-08 shall furnish to the Central Government a return indicating the name/address of the company, quantity of wheat purchased and quantity of wheat held in stock.

The Department of Consumer Affairs has also extended the validity of period of the relaxation given to

state upto 31st August, 2007 for imposing Stock limits on wheat and pulses by issuing a notification under the EC Act titled Removal of (Licensing Requirements, Stock Limits and Movement Restrictions) on Specified Foodstuffs (Amendment) Order, 2007 on 27.2.2007.

#### **Statement**

##### **Steps taken by the Government to ensure adequate procurement of wheat in RMS 2007-08**

- (a) The Minimum Support Price of wheat announced for RMS 2007-08 is Rs. 750 per quintal which is Rs. 100 per quintal more than that announced for RMS 2006-07.
- (b) According to the Second Advance Estimates of the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, the estimated production of wheat is likely to be 72.5 million tonnes in crop year 2006-07 compared to 69.35 million tonnes in crop year 2005-06.
- (c) Import of wheat of 55 lakh tonnes was done in 2006-07 which has improved the stock position of wheat in the central pool; and the wheat stocks will be more than the buffer norms of 40 lakh tonnes at the start of RMS 2007-08.
- (d) Wheat exports have been banned upto 31.12.2007.
- (e) Decision was taken to release 4 lakh tonnes of wheat under OMSS to cool the market prices.
- (f) The Government is keeping very close watch on domestic and international prices of wheat.
- (g) During the Meeting held on 12.02.2007 with the Food Secretaries of wheat procuring States and officers of the Food Corporation of

India (FCI), it has been confirmed that all advance arrangements for wheat procurement have been made for RMS 2007-08 both by State agencies as well as by FCI.

- (h) A notification titled "Wheat (Stock Declaration by Companies or Firms or Individuals) Order 2007 has been issued under the Essential Commodities Act 1955 on 1.3.2007. The order provides that any Company or Firms or individual which purchases wheat beyond 50,000 tonnes during 2007-08 shall furnish to the Central Government a return indicating the name/address of the company, quantity of wheat purchased and quantity of wheat held in stock.

- (i) Department of Consumer Affairs has extended upto 31st August 2007 notification under the EC Act enabling State Governments to impose stock limit on wheat and pulses.

#### Assistance to Drought Affected States

1763. SHRIMATI SUSHEELA BANGARU LAXMAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the States affected by drought during the last three years; and

(b) the assistance sought and amount released by the Union Government to each State for the purpose during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) State-wise details of assistance sought by different States from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) and the assistance provided, for droughts of 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06, is indicated in the statement enclosed.

#### Statement

*Details of Assistance provided to States from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) for drought of 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06*

(Rs. in Crores)

State	Demand	Release
1	2	3
<b>Drought of 2003-04</b>		
Andhra Pradesh	859.88	50.58
Karnataka	1881.55	298.16
Kerala	3847.00#	108.00
Maharashtra	1715.00	250.69
Tamil Nadu	2283.73	173.35
Uttaranchal	411.87	—
<b>Drought of 2004-05</b>		
Andhra Pradesh	1199.68	40.01
Bihar	2312.48	162.15
Chhattisgarh	604.96	52.74
Jharkhand	928.12	—
Karnataka	1147.72	49.14
Madhya Pradesh	724.88	1.70
Maharashtra	988.37	103.07●
Rajasthan	2378.64	216.79
Tamil Nadu	1910.58	117.27
Uttar Pradesh	726.10	192.10

1	2	3
<b>Drought of 2005-06</b>		
Himachal Pradesh	377.00	—
Jharkhand	880.70	—
Rajasthan	1544.63	—
Uttaranchal	287.80	7.06

#Requirement projected for revival of agriculture sector.

©For drought/thailstorm.

#### Rural Distribution Centre by RSP

1764. SHRI B. MAHTAB : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rourkela Steel Plant has set up/ proposes to set up Rural Distribution Centre in the country particularly in Orissa; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS) : (a) and (b) At present, there is no proposal for setting up rural distribution canters by Rourkela Steel Plant. However, in order to increase the availability of good quality steel products of common use all over the country, SAIL is in the process of expanding its dealer network with a view to have at least one SAIL Dealer in each district of the country. As a part of this, SAIL has appointed 38 dealers in 27 districts out of 30 districts of Orissa.

#### Breeding of Great Indian Bustard

1765. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh

has any proposal for Captive Breeding of the highly endangered 'Great India Bustard';

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) No, Sir. No such proposal has been received in this Ministry from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

#### Promotion of Marine Culture

1766. DR. K.S. MANOJ : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has sent any proposal to build oceanarium to promote marine culture; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

#### Ban on Export of Milk Products

1767. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has banned the export of agricultural produce and milk powder after the hike in their prices;

(b) if so, the details and quantum of milk products

particularly casein exported during the last three years and the current financial year, companies-wise and the foreign exchange earned therefrom;

(c) the reasons for exporting casein, till-date;

(d) whether the Government proposes to ban its export; and

(e) if so, the time by which it is likely to be banned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) Yes, Sir, Export of some items of agricultural produce and milk powder have been banned after hike in their prices.

(b) Details of the total export of milk products and casein exported in terms of quantity and value during the last three years and the current financial year are given in the enclosed statement. However, company-wise details are not maintained.

(c) As per Foreign Trade policy, casein is a freely exportable item.

(d) and (e) There is no such proposal.

#### Statement

*Export of milk products and Casein during the last three years and current financial year*

(Qty. in Metric Tonnes)

	2003- 04	2004- 05	2005- 06	2006- 07 Apr.-june
Total milk products excluding casein	8918.38	42160.06	59745.73	N.A
Total casein exports	4223.32	9791.78	10903	745.8

(Value Rs. in Crores)

	2003- 04	2004- 05	2005- 06	2006- 07 Apr.-june
Total milk products excluding casein	87.11	358.69	552.28	107.57
Total casein exports	76.83	233.36	281.87	18.48

#### Spurious Pesticides

1768. SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV :

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK :

SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE :

SHRI MOHD. TAHIR :

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR :

SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the farmers are reportedly getting duplicate/sub-standard/adulterated/spurious pesticides resulting in damaging of their crops;

(b) if so, name of States in which such cases have been reported during each of the last three years and thereafter;

(c) whether the Government keeps any check on sale of sub-standard pesticides in the country;

(d) if so, the number of pesticides samples collected and analysed during each of the last three years and current year and number out of them found to have been sub-standard, State-wise;

(e) whether the Government has identified the companies engaged in manufacturing of such sub-standard pesticides;

(f) if so, the details of such manufacturers along-with the action taken against them during the above period, State-wise; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to ensure availability of standard pesticides to farmers well in time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) Government regulates the manufacture and use of pesticides under the provisions of the Insecticides Act, 1968. The Registration Committee, constituted under Section 5 of the Insecticides Act, 1968, registers pesticides only after being satisfied of their efficacy and safety. Approximately 3.5% of the pesticide samples analysed in State Pesticide Testing Laboratories are found to be misbranded. The State Governments regulate the manufacture, quality and sale of registered pesticides.

During the year, 2006-07, wheat crop over an area of 2735 ha. has been reported to have been damaged due to the use of spurious weedicide in the State of Haryana.

(c) Quality assurance of pesticides is ensured by the State Governments through regular drawl and analysis of pesticide samples through a network of Insecticide Inspectors, Insecticide Analysts and pesticides testing laboratories. Under the provisions of the Act penal action

is launched by the States against manufacturers and vendors of spurious and substandard pesticides.

(d) The State-wise number of pesticide samples analysed and found misbranded in State Pesticides Testing Laboratories (SPTLs) and Regional Pesticides Testing Laboratories (RPTLs) is given in the enclosed Statement-I, II.

(e) and (f) Action is taken against the manufacturers of misbranded pesticides in accordance with the provisions of the Insecticides Act, 1968. State-wise details of action taken is given in the enclosed Statement-III.

(g) The Government promotes judicious use of pesticides through its policy of Integrated Pest Management (IPM). The Registration Committee, constituted under Section 5 of the Insecticides Act, registers pesticides only after being satisfied of their efficacy and safety. The Registration Committee has framed simplified guidelines for the registration of pesticides especially in respect of bio-pesticides. Government of India provides assistance to State Governments for establishing and strengthening Pesticides Testing laboratories. Government of India ensures the availability of pesticides in the States from time to time through regular reviews.

#### Statement-I

S. No.	Name of the States/UTs	2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06	
		No. of Samples Analysed	No. of Samples Misbranded (%)	No. of Samples Analysed	No. of Samples Misbranded (%)	No. of Samples Analysed	No. of Samples Misbranded (%)	No. of Samples Analysed	No. of Samples Misbranded (%)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4277	68 (1.59)	5012	90 (1.8)	6425	147 (2.28)	6374	109 (1.71)
2.	Assam	19	0	11	0	8	0	83	0
3.	Gujarat	2271	117 (5.15)	1593	81 (5.08)	2608	67 (2.56)	2695	85 (3.15)
4.	Haryana	1765	157 (8.89)	1699	133 (7.8)	1587	150 (0.94)	1490	142 (9.53)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
5. Himachal Pradesh	26	0	100	0	170	11 (6.47)	158	3 (1.89)	
6. Jammu and Kashmir	380	26 (6.84)	NR	NR (-)	292	11 (3.76)	596	38 (6.38)	
7. Karnataka	4496	95 (2.11)	3056	58 (1.89)	4775	78 (1.64)	4866	86 (1.76)	
8. Kerala	1235	2 (0.16)	1539	10 (0.65)	1449	13 (0.89)	1372	27 (1.96)	
9. Madhya Pradesh	9	93 (12.95)	868	107 (12.30)	799	59 (7.38)	1215	73 (6.0)	
10. Maharashtra	3386	181 (5.35)	4269	161 (3.77)	3081	106 (3.44)	4331	62 (1.43)	
11. Manipur	—	—	21	0	41	0	21	0	
12. Orissa	763	0	774	0	900	1 (0.11)	960	1 (0.10)	
13. Pondicherry	450	4 (0.89)	400	3 (0.75)	350	0	370	0	
14. Punjab	4005	150 (3.75)	3930	202 (5.1)	3993	132 (3.3)	3614	115 (3.15)	
15. Rajasthan	1411	113 (8.00)	1306	85 (6.50)	905	92 (10.16)	1471	195 (13.2)	
16. Tamil Nadu	16260	71 (0.44)	12917	78 (0.60)	10214	59 (0.57)	13963	106 (0.76)	
17. Uttar Pradesh	2578	474 (18.39)	2415	431 (17.80)	2676	489 (18.27)	2999	412 (13.73)	
18. West Bengal	264	7 (2.65)	264	7 (2.65)	344	26 (7.55)	535	22 (4.1)	
Grand Total	43595	1558 (3.57)	40174	1446 (3.59)	40617	1441 (3.54)	47113	1476 (3.13)	

**Statement-II**

S. No.	State/UT	2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06	
		No. of samples		No. of samples		No. of samples		No. of samples	
								(Upto January, 2006)	
		Analysed	Misbranded (%)	Analysed	Misbranded (%)	Analysed	Misbranded (%)	Analysed	Misbranded (%)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1. Andhra Pradesh		70	14 (20.0)	121	18 (14.87)	213	20 (9.38)	384	36
2. Arunachal Pradesh		1	—	—	—	8	3 (37.5)	17	2
3. Assam		3	—	—	—	5	1 (20.0)	4	1
4. Bihar		7	—	20	6 (30.0)	9	1 (11.1)	83	15
5. Chandigarh		—	—	4	2 (50.0)	1	—	—	—



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
6.	Chhattisgarh	104	23 (22.1)	179	24 (13.40)	337	39 (11.57)	640	128
7.	Delhi	131	16 (12.21)	60	11 (18.33)	42	2 (4.76)	55	6
8.	Gujarat	51	13 (25.49)	36	4 (11.11)	43	5 (11.6)	40	8
9.	Goa	24	5 (20.85)	2	—	6	1 (16.66)	2	—
10.	Haryana	153	46 (30.06)	249	23 (9.23)	230	35 (15.21)	278	23
11.	Himachal Pradesh	18	3 (16.66)	19	2 (10.52)	18	2 (11.1)	44	5
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	47	8 (17.02)	91	9 (9.89)	82	10 (12.2)	139	17
13.	Jharkhand	—	—	2	1 (50.0)	65	16 (24.6)	7	—
14.	Madhya Pradesh	464	147 (31.68)	475	102 (21.47)	713	144 (20.1)	940	203
15.	Maharashtra	1	—	2	1 (50.00)	—	—	2	—
16.	Meghalaya	17	1 (5.88)	4	1 (25.0)	—	—	11	1
17.	Mizoram	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
18.	Nagaland	1	—	5	—	8	3 (37.5)	—	—
19.	Orissa	20	2 (10.00)	20	1 (50.0)	7	—	22	2
20.	Punjab	102	10 (9.80)	122	15 (12.29)	119	14 (11.76)	83	13
21.	Pondicherry	11	3 (27.22)	12	4 (33.33)	1	—	6	1
22.	Rajasthan	77	13 (16.88)	46	5 (10.86)	35	10 (28.57)	57	8
23.	Tamil Nadu	2	1 (50.0)	10	—	12	1 (8.33)	7	1
24.	Tripura	39	1 (2.56)	29	5 (17.24)	15	—	5	—
25.	Uttaranchal	114	24 (21.05)	169	33 (19.52)	150	19 (12.66)	204	21
26.	Uttar Pradesh	5	3 (60.0)	9	—	1	—	10	3
27.	West Bengal	77	16 (20.77)	116	22 (18.96)	50	7 (14.0)	92	10
28.	CII*	229	48 (20.96)	112	15 (13.39)	97	21 (21.64)	232	16
29.	Misc.	2	—	8	2 (25.0)	5	—	—	—
Total		1771	397 (22.26)	1922	386 (15.57)	2272	354 (15.51)	3403	533

## Quality Control of Pesticides

**Action Taken Statistics by the States during 2002-03 to 2006-07**

S.No.	State/UT	No. of pesticides Licence												No. of Prosecutions												No. Convicted
		Suspended						Cancelled						Launched						Judgement obtained						
		02-03	04-05	06-07	02-03	04-05	06-07	02-03	04-05	06-07	02-03	04-05	06-07	02-03	04-05	06-07	02-03	04-05	06-07	02-03	04-05	06-07				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
1.	Andhra Pradesh	14	18	22	9	3	167	NR	52	343	—	8	NR	28	5	—	3	NR	3	3	—	3	NR	7	3	3
2.	Assam	64	58	—	NR	NR	—	—	—	NR	NR	7	20	—	NR	NR	7	19	—	NR	NR	6	13	—	NR	NR
3.	Chhattisgarh	—	6	—	NR	NR	—	—	—	NR	NR	—	—	—	NR	NR	—	—	—	NR	NR	—	—	—	NR	NR
4.	Goa	NR	NR	NR	NR	3	NR	NR	NR	NR	—	NR	NR	NR	3	—	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	7	NR	NR
5.	Gujarat	2	—	35	2	—	166	18	43	9	39	40	29	32	90	18	5	—	21	19	3	2	—	6	10	3
6.	Haryana	—	—	10	10	NR	1	—	2	11	—	156	56	105	142	125	—	—	3	11	—	—	—	—	—	—
7.	Himachal Pradesh	NR	NR	—	2	NR	NR	NR	—	—	—	NR	NR	—	NR	—	NR	NR	—	NR	—	—	—	—	—	—
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	—	NR	NR	72	NR	4	NR	5	NR	NR	NR	NR	1	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
9.	Karnataka	—	—	70	76	57	—	—	—	62	6	6	—	8	8	0	NR	NR	—	NR	NR	NR	NR	—	NR	NR
10.	Kerala	—	—	—	NR	2	—	—	—	—	NR	—	—	—	NR	NR	—	—	—	NR	NR	—	—	—	NR	NR
11.	Madhya Pradesh	76	NR	—	73	52	—	NR	—	—	2	—	NR	—	—	—	—	NR	NR	NR	—	NR	NR	—	NR	NR

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
12. Maharashtra		22	14	8	60	6	9	3	326	833	749	28	2	6	48	87	—	0	0	NR	NR	—	0	0	0	NR	
13. Punjab		—	1	—	—	—	150	47	141	115	65	60	47	67	92	36	—	—	—	NR	NR	2	—	—	—	NR	NR
14. Rajasthan		—	1	—	186	16	—	—	—	3	NR	—	60	9	66	14	—	—	—	NR	NR	—	—	—	—	74	NR
15. Tamil Nadu		46	56	59	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	20	3	10	1	8	19	1	5	NR	6	13	—	—	5	NR
16. Uttar Pradesh		—	—	3	27	19	—	—	25	768	257	246	332	455	340	299	182	77	224	468	165	—	—	—	96	232	104
17. Uttaranchal		—	—	—	—	NR	NR	—	—	—	NR	6	10	12	2	NR	—	—	—	—	NR	—	—	—	—	—	NR
18. West Bengal		2	1	26	22	—	—	—	22	—	NR	4	15	3	22	NR	—	—	3	—	NR	—	—	—	—	NR	NR
19. Delhi		—	—	5	NR	NR	2	—	—	NR	NR	78	—	—	NR	NR	—	—	—	NR	NR	—	—	—	—	NR	NR
20. Pondicherry		4	3	2	0	0	2	2	2	0	0	—	—	5	0	0	—	—	—	—	NR	—	—	—	—	0	NR

\*06-07 data is upto January, 07.

NR — Not Reported.

[English]

**FCI Conference on Role of Information Technology**

1769. SHRI MANJUNATH KUNNUR : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India recently organised a five-day conference emphasizing the role of Information Technology in food and farm marketing;

(b) if so, the details of the participants in the conference, organisation-wise and country-wise; and

(c) the details of the resolutions passed therein and action taken for its implementation?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Food Corporation of India alongwith Central Warehousing Corporation and National Coopera-

tive Development Corporation jointly organised the Regional Workshop of Association of Food and Agricultural Marketing Agencies in Asia and the Pacific, an agency of FAO in India from 26th to 30th Sept., 2005. The theme of the Workshop was "Use of Information Technology in Food and Agricultural Marketing in Asia". The details of the participants are attached as Statement-I.

(c) The details of the resolutions passed, conclusions arrived at and recommendation made at the workshop are attached as Statement-II.

FCI has taken several steps for use of Information Technology in its functioning. It has a user-friendly Website which can be accessed at [www.fciweb.nic.in](http://www.fciweb.nic.in). FCI has launched the Integrated Information System for Foodgrains Management (IISFM) Project. The major objective of the Project is to put in place an 'online MIS' to give the stock position in any depot at any given point of time. The scope of the Project has been widened to include 'Computerization of State Agencies' particularly in the States where Decentralized Procurement/Distribution System is adopted. In this Project, hardware has been supplied to all the 891 locations and installation is complete in 877 depots.

**Statement-I**

**List of Participants**

Sl.No.	Name of the participant	Name of the country	Name of the organization
1	2	3	4
	S/Shri		
1.	Sunder Raj Sharma	Nepal	Nepal Food Corporation
2.	Mukul Raj Styal	Nepal	AFMA
3.	Ahadiah Mohd. Khari	Malaysia	Federal Agricultural Marketing Authority
4.	Fankie Dawin	Malaysia	-do-
5.	Mohammad Ismet	Indonesia	Bulog

1	2	3	4
6.	Aguj Dwi Iniarto	Indonesia	Bulog
7.	Nelson C. Buenefflor	Philippines	QUENDANCOR
8.	W.D. Gunetilleke	Sri Lanka	Food Department
9.	Nalin Munasinghe	Sri Lanka	FAO
10.	Ralph Houtman	Thailand	FAO-Bangkok
11.	Tow Anug Muint	Myanmar	MAPT
12.	Park Jae Min	South Korea	NACE
13.	G.H. Dhankar	India	AFMA Consultant
14.	G.K. Motabar Loisan	Bangladesh	Ministry of Food and Dis. Management
15.	P.P. Singh	India	CWC
16.	Sher Jagjit Singh	India	CWC
17.	I.C. Chadda	India	CWC
18.	Asit Singh	India	FCI
19.	Asim Kumar Chakraborty	India	NCDC

#### **Statement-II**

*FAO/AFMA/India Regional Workshop on Use of Information Technology in Food and Agricultural Marketing in Asia 26-30 September 2005, Ashok Hotel, New Delhi, India*

The FAO/AMFA/India Regional Workshop on Use of Information Technology in Food and Agricultural Marketing in Asia was convened at Ashok Hotel, Diplomatic Enclave, 50 B Chankyapuri, New Delhi-110021, India from 26th to 30th September 2005.

Twenty-seven participants representing twelve member agencies from nine countries attended. The Workshop

discussed four technical papers and nine country reports. It also made a field visit to Mathura and Agra to observe the ITC (Private Sector) initiatives in India on Information Technology (IT) application in its agricultural marketing system.

The workshop arrived at the following conclusions and recommendations:-

1. In the liberalized market era, the major role of Public Sector food and agricultural marketing system is to provide a framework of enhancing development as a service provider and not of the controller/regulator. Traders in private sector should have a greater developmental

role by providing professional management of markets.

2. IT has, among others, enhancing a major role in educating farmers in:-

- Standardisation and Grading of food and agricultural commodities to facilitate e-trading/commerce.
- Movement and flow pattern of food and agricultural commodities to enable decision making with regard to marketing at macro/micro level.
- Certification, system/specifications for domestic as well as export markets including imports.
- Food quality and safety issues for domestic and overseas markets for various food and agricultural commodities.
- Organic cultivation/production, documentation and trace-ability of agricultural produce especially for overseas buyers to promote exports.

3. IT should be used in storing information required by farmers, traders, exporters, processors and transporters to facilitate retrieval by any body. R and D Institutions should put their findings on electronics media to facilitate easy accessibility by market participants.

4. The AFMA member agencies involved in food and agricultural commodities should have their own websites and online resource information with facility for generation of electronic reports.

5. Extensive use of IT should be encouraged to educate farmers in Good Agricultural Practices

or Good Marketing Practices (GMP) including post harvest management especially for fresh (fruits and vegetables) produce.

6. Electronic market directory/atlas - commodity-wise, marketing functions/services-wise, weather/rainfall-wise etc. should be made available for macro as well as micro-level to facilitate its use by all stake holders of food and agricultural commodities.

7. IT should be popularised in promoting direct marketing between producers and buyers i.e. traders, processors, exporters, retail agencies, consumers including electronic auction system, for transport and efficient marketing and better net return for the agricultural producers, as is being done in Korea, Philippines, Malaysia etc.

8. Farmers required more than 30 kind of information (portfolios to be delivered) such as weather, irrigation, input availability, input prices, pest and disease control, commodity prices/markets, crop loans, insurance, licensing, registrations, credit, on-line sales/purchases, subsidies, promotional schemes, training, farmers markets etc. etc. IT has a major role in providing all such kinds of information simultaneously to masses to improve decision making. Similarly businessmen and other market participants also require various kinds of reliable information, which can be regularly updated and provided through IT.

9. Electronic Display Boards at village levels with their connectivity to markets, weather departments and telephone connectivity are other IT media to educate and inform the farmers. Considering the enormous task involved this could be considered under Public Private Partnership to make it financially self sustainable.

10. IT has a wide role in Commodity Exchanges, Farmer Advisory Services and toll free access to prices/agricultural queries by farmers from time to time. This also covers future price projections/trends, information on infrastructure availability at micro level and in the markets. All kinds of static and dynamic information related to food and agricultural marketing need to be made available through IT.
11. Content generation to educate farmers to achieve desirable changes in knowledge, attitude, skills and behaviour of farmers is very crucial for its dissemination through IT. The workshop felt that food and agricultural price, which is useful to farmers should be regularly undertaken. This would facilitate forecast of prices based on price cycles and other relevant factors.
12. Grass root level research studies are required on what crops are produced? How much of local production is consumed locally? How much goes outside? How much of different crops comes from outside for local consumption? Such studies would help marketing extensionist to advice on product planning.
13. Micro level studies on monitoring supply/demand of food and agricultural commodities are essential for marketing extensionist to educate farmers with regard to where to send? When to send? And in what form to send, which often confronts the farmers while taking marketing decisions.
14. Village level IT kiosks backed with proper marketing extension contents under both PPP and private sector should be encouraged to provide wider access to farmers for marketing technology and to achieve desirable change in their knowledge, attitude, skills and behaviour.
15. Multimedia CDs should be prepared on each and every aspect of food and agricultural marketing to educate farmers at village level itself.
16. The organizations dealing with individual or multiple aspects of food and agricultural marketing viz transactional methods, storage, credit, standardization and grading, quality and safety of food transportation, import/export requirements, Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary (SPS) measures etc. should take up educating producers through IT to enable them to enhance their income. For this purpose they should develop their own websites/portals, which are freely accessible to farmers through village level IT kiosks. The participants, however, agreed unanimously that unless marketing extension enhances farmers' net income it will have no takers.
17. Many of the existing marketing extension information and knowledge for example, lowest-highest prices, arrivals of produce and markets etc. are not readily usable by farmers for decision making. There is a need for a mechanism to translate such information in a user-friendly form for the benefit of farmers.
18. Apex R&D Institutions in food and agricultural marketing should come together to develop farmer friendly contents for dissemination.
19. Agriculture being the backbone of the economy in developing countries, infrastructure viz power, internet connectivity, tele-density, cheaper IT technologies etc. should be addressed by the governments on priority for upliftment of farmers and rural people.
20. AFMA should consider launching its own website indicating good agricultural practices including post harvest practices based on feedback from all member countries to promote food and agricultural marketing.

### **Creation of Employment Opportunities**

1770. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO :  
SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL:  
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to create additional avenues of employment during the Eleventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) Creation of 70 million new work opportunities is one of the monitorable socio-economic targets of the Eleventh Five Year Plan as per its Approach Paper.

The approach to the Eleventh Five Year Plan provides an opportunity to restructure policies to achieve a new vision based on faster, more broad-based and inclusive growth. It aims at making employment generation an integral part of the growth process and devise strategies to accelerate not only growth of employment but also of wages of the poorly paid. The Approach Paper to the Eleventh Five Year Plan contains following important policy initiatives for generation of employment:-

- (i) In order to make growth more inclusive, it is vital that more people gain access to more productive assets with which they can themselves generate decent incomes and also that GDP growth generates sufficient demand for wage labour so that those who can not be self-employed are employed at decent wages.
- (ii) Targeting faster growth in GDP and doubling of agriculture growth will help in this process. Besides, additional employment opportunities

would be generated in the services and manufacturing sectors. Measures would need be taken to boost labour intensive manufacturing sectors such as food processing, leather products, footwear and textiles and service sectors such as tourism and construction.

- (iii) Village and small scale enterprises (VSE) will provide most of the new employment opportunities during the Eleventh Plan.
- (iv) Since 2004, an effort has been made to identify and implement reforms in administration of ITIs so as to facilitate better interaction with the industry. In order to make ITI graduates better employable, Government has decided to upgrade 500 Government ITIs into Centres of Excellence out of which 200 have already been taken up for 2005-06 and 2006-07.
- (v) The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (NREGA) assures every rural household at least 100 days of manual work at minimum wages.

Besides, Government of India continues to implement various employment generation and poverty alleviation programmes in both rural and urban areas to increase employment opportunities. Some of these are: Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana; Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana; Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana; Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana; Rural Employment Generation Programme and Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana.

### **Integrated Development of Coconut**

1771. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the projects for Integrated Development of Coconut from various State Governments are pending with the Union Government;

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



(c) the time by which the above projects are likely to be cleared; and

(d) the financial assistance provided to the States in this regard, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (d) During 2006-07 one project was received by the Coconut Development Board (CDB) from Government of Karnataka at a total cost of Rs.5.00 crores for considering under the production and productivity improvement programmes.

The project has been approved by the Board for extending financial assistance under the above ongoing programme as well as under Technology Mission on Coconut (TMOC). An amount of Rs. 2.35 crores has been sanctioned under the scheme for integrated farming for productivity improvement and Rs. 37.50 lakhs under TMOC. No other proposal is pending with the Government.

The Government of Karnataka has already issued administrative approval for an amount of Rs. 2.35 crores.

Under TMOC sanction has been accorded for an amount of Rs. 37.50 lakhs towards the share of the Board. The amount will be released after the State Government provides its matching share.

#### **Rusty Spotted Cat**

1772. SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether cubs of Rusty Spotted Cat, which is among the endangered species, have been found in a farm in Karad Tehsil of Satara District of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, whether the forest department is taking proper care of the cubs of these endangered species;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the conservation programme is proposed to be implemented to increase the number of Rusty Spotted Cat in the Western Ghats of India; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. As informed by the State Government of Maharashtra, on 30.12.2006, two cubs of Jungle cat (*Felis chaus*) and not Rusty Spotted Cat, were found in village Korivale, of Karad Tehsil of District Satara. The animals were sent to the Uttara's Animal Rescue and Rehabilitation Centre at Katraj, Pune for up-keep and have been reportedly doing well.

(d) and (e) No special programme is proposed to be implemented for increasing the number of Rusty Spotted Cat in the Western Ghats of India, however, the steps taken to protect the Rusty Spotted Cat include:-

- (i) The species has been included in Schedule-I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 thereby affording it the highest degree of protection.
- (ii) Habitats of endangered species in the Western Ghats have been declared as Protected Areas.
- (iii) Financial assistance is provided to the State Governments for protection of the species and its habitat.
- (iv) The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 has been amended and made more stringent for wildlife offences.
- (v) Wide publicity is given on provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 against poaching.

- (vi) The field staff have been alerted to be on the look for any poaching activity in their jurisdiction.

#### Wheat Allocation for Karnataka

1773. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantum of wheat provided by the Government to Karnataka under Public Distribution System during the last three years;
- (b) whether the wheat so provided was given to flour mills instead of being distributed in the public directly;
- (c) if so, whether the said move diverted the benefits of food subsidies from the actual beneficiaries to the mill owners; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken by the Government to check the same in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) The details of the allocation of wheat made for the State Government of Karnataka during the last three years are as under:-

(In thousand tonnes)	
Year	Allocation made
2003-04	676.970
2004-05	676.977
2005-06	617.175

(b) to (d) Under the Scheme of Implementation of the

Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS), the States/UTs have the operational responsibility of identification of families of APL and BPL (Below Poverty Line), issue of ration cards, undertake review of the lists of BPL and Antodaya families for the purpose of deletion of ineligible families and inclusion of eligible families and, distribution of the foodgrains through the network of the Fair Price Shops (FPSs). The Central Government only makes an allocation of foodgrains @ 35 kg. per family per month under TPDS on the basis of number of ration cards issued by the States/UTs or the number of house-holds on the basis of poverty estimates of the Planning Commission for 1993-94 and the population projection of Registrar General of India as on 1.3.2000 whichever is less.

The Central Government has not given any permission to the Government of Karnataka for conversion of TPDS wheat into Atta under the National Scheme.

Also, the Central Government has directed all the State Government/Union Territories to ensure that the foodgrains (including wheat) allocated under the Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS) are distributed amongst the actual beneficiaries of the TPDS and that there is no diversion/leakage in the distribution.

#### Schemes for Unorganised Sector

1774. SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the present implementation status of Janshree Bima Yojana and Krishi Shramik Samajik Suraksha Yojana and the number of persons covered under the schemes till date;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to extend the schemes to the workers engaged in unorganised sector also;
- (c) If so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor/

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) Janshree Bima Yojana was launched on 10.08.2000 and implemented by Life Insurance Corporation of India. The coverage under Janshree Bima Yojana as on date is around 58.45 lakh. Krishi Shramik Samajik Suraksha Yojana was launched on 01.07.2001 and implemented by Life Insurance Corporation of India. The scheme has since been closed in February, 2004. Hence, no new lives can be insured under the scheme. However, renewal of existing schemes is allowed. The coverage under Krishi Shramik Samajik Suraksha Yojana as on 31.12.2006 is 14,078.

(b) to (d) The entire issue of providing social security to workers in the unorganised sector is being examined separately and the existing Janshree Bima Yojana is also one of the schemes which are being analysed.

#### Diversion of Foodgrains

1775. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 211 dated February 20, 2006 regarding diversion of foodgrains meant for Above Poverty Line families and state:

(a) the steps taken to ascertain the extent of diversion of foodgrains meant for Below Poverty Line/ Targeted Public Distribution System during the last one year; and

(b) the details of Fair Price Shops of Delhi against whom action has been taken for diversion/black-marketing of subsidized foodgrains in the previous year?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) Two studies were awarded to National Council for Applied Economic Research (NCAER) covering 12 States, i.e., Assam,

Mizoram, Bihar, U.P., Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Kerala, Maharashtra, Uttaranchal, Jharkhand, M.P. and Delhi and another study to Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA) covering six States, i.e., Orissa, West Bengal, Nagaland, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur. Another eight States, i.e. Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Chandigarh, Punjab, A.P., Tamil Nadu and Karnataka are also being given to IIPA for conducting the study. The present performance of TPDS can be understood only after the receipt of these Reports. The first Report is expected within a couple of months and the rest of the Reports may be available at the end of the year.

(b) The action taken by the Delhi Government in this regard in the year 2006 is as under:-

Departmental Action	302
Suspension cum Departmental Action	24
FIR	2

#### FDI in FM

1776. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to increase the foreign investment in private FM radio from 20% to 49% now and also allow news and current affairs programmes;

(b) if so, whether this would give a big push to FM radio companies which are planning to tap the capital markets; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the funds involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASGUPTA) : (a) No, Sir. As present private FM policy, total foreign investment, including FDI

by OCBs/NRIs/PIOs etc, portfolio investments by FIs (within limits prescribed by RBI) and borrowings, if these carry conversion options, shall not exceed 20% of the paid up equity in the applicant company and no news and current affairs is allowed in private FM Radio channels.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

#### ADB Loan for Farmers

1777. SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Asian Development Bank (ADB) has announced a loan/financial assistance of one billion dollar for farmers of the country to prevent suicide by farmers of the country to prevent suicide by farmers as reported in "Seema Sandesh", Jaipur dated November 29, 2008;

(b) if so, the facts thereof alongwith the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the manner in which the Government proposes to distribute the said loan to the agriculture sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (c) Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a loan of US \$ 1 billion for Rural Cooperative Credit Restructuring and Development Program (LN 2281) to support policy and institutional reforms in the Cooperative Credit Structure. The first tranche of US \$ 250 million was released by ADB on 26.2.2007. The objective is to develop a sustainable Cooperative Credit Structure and to help the Government carry out its Cooperative Credit Structure reform agenda. Its expected impact is enhanced income and employment growth for the rural poor, while its purpose is to improve rural households' access to affordable financial services

through an efficient Cooperative Credit Structure. Banking Division of Department of Economic Affairs is the Executing Agency for this program and NABARD is the implementing agency. The program closing date is 30th June, 2010. The loan will be given by NABARD to States with whom MOUs are signed. At present five States namely Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Orissa have signed the MOUs.

#### Krishi Vikas Kendras

1778. SHRI FURKAN ANSARI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Krishi Vikas Kendras (KVKs) functioning in the country at present, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government of Jharkhand has sent any proposal to the Union Government to set up KVKs in the State;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of the Union Government thereto; and

(e) the time by which the above proposal is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has sanctioned 544 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVK) in the country. The State-wise details are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) to (d) There are 22 rural districts in Jharkhand including four newly created districts. Based on the proposals received from various organizations, 21 KVKs have been sanctioned including 1 (one) under ICAR institute, 15 under State Agricultural University (15), and 5 under Non-Government organizations. The process of establishment of KVK in the remaining one district (Seraikela) has also been initiated.

**Statement****State-wise details of KVKs**

S.No.	States/UTs	Total
1	2	3
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1
2.	Andhra Pradesh	22
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	10
4.	Assam	20
5.	Bihar	36
6.	Chhattisgarh	11
7.	Delhi	1
8.	Goa	2
9.	Gujarat	23
10.	Haryana	18
11.	Himachal Pradesh	12
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	13
13.	Jharkhand	21
14.	Karnataka	26
15.	Kerala	14
16.	Lakshadweep	1
17.	Madhya Pradesh	44
18.	Maharashtra	33
19.	Manipur	8
20.	Meghalaya	5

1	2	3
21.	Mizoram	8
22.	Nagaland	8
23.	Orissa	29
24.	Pondicherry	2
25.	Punjab	17
26.	Rajasthan	32
27.	Sikkim	4
28.	Tamil Nadu	29
29.	Tripura	4
30.	Uttar Pradesh	61
31.	Uttaranchal	12
32.	West Bengal	17
Total		544

[English]

**Database of Forestry**

1779. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up a national database of forestry for effective monitoring of forestry related programmes; and

(b) if so, the steps initiated and progress made in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Environment and

Forests has initiated a project titled. "Preparation of a Blueprint towards the development of National Forestry Database Management System (NFDMS)."

(b) Ministry has constituted an Expert Group which has prepared the Terms of Reference for Information Need Analysis (INA) and Functional Requirement Study (FRS) etc. A meeting was convened on 27.2.2007 under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests in which the proposal for carrying out INA and FRS were approved for the preparation of Blueprint towards the development of National Forestry Database Management System (NFDMS).

#### Restructure of EPFO

1780. SHRI E.G. SUGAWANAM : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware of the problems being faced by the subscribers of Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) in submitting their claims for withdrawal, settlement and transfer to any EPFO and its long delay;

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

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to restructure the EPFO;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure faster services by EPFO?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) Claims received complete in all respects are required to be settled within 30 days. However, delay in certain cases occur on account of non-submission of returns/non-remittance of dues by the employer, non-attestation of forms by authorized signatory, etc.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. The Employees' Provident Fund

Organisation has launched a modernization project "Re-inventing EPF, India", which seeks to achieve, *inter alia*, the following objectives:-

- (i) Establish a turn around time of 2-3 days between receipt of a claim form and issue of cheque.
- (ii) 'Any Time Any Where' access for a member to service for settlement of claim or for information relating to account balance.
- (iii) Create a compelling environment for compliance and promote voluntary compliance.
- (iv) Create a facilitating environment and capacity for geometric growth in membership.
- (v) Establish a nationally unique Social Security Number.

The trial run of the project has been launched at six pilot locations of EPFO viz. Hyderabad, Indore, Patna, Mangalore, Kota and Karnal.

#### Diversion of Forest Lands

1781. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government departments have been permitted to divert forest lands for developmental projects;

(b) if so, the details of such diversions reported during the last three years and the current financial year. State-wise; and

(c) the impact it is likely to have on forest conservation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARIAN MEENA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

### World Bank Aided Agriculture Projects

1782. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether four agriculture based projects aided by World Bank are being implemented in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith their latest position, State-wise;

(c) whether the World Bank and the Department for International Development Bank have recently decided to provide 1.5 billion dollar assistance for development of agriculture in various States particularly Bihar; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (d) Details of agricultural projects being implemented with World Bank assistance are Annexed as statement.

### Statement

#### World Bank Aided Agriculture Sector Projects

(Amount in US \$ million)

S. No.	Project Name	State	Signing Date	Effective From	Closing Date	Project Cost	Ln/Cr. Amount	Disbursement Upto January, 2007
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	4013-In Assam Agricultural Competitiveness	Assam	14.1.2005	24.2.2005	31.3.2010	214.25	154	14.538
2.	3907-In Uttaranchal Decentralised Watershed Development Project	Uttaranchal	30.7.2004	10.9.2004	31.3.2012	89.35	69.62	8.302
3.	3528-In Karnataka Watershed Development Project	Karnataka	28.7.2001	10.9.2001	31.3.2007	107.6	*80.4	42.84
4.	3152-In Uttar Pradesh Sodic Land Reclamation Project-II	Uttar Pradesh	4.2.1999	29.3.1999	30.9.2007	286.60	194.1	193.11

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
5.	4133-In HP Mid Himalayan Watershed Dev. Project.	Himachal Pradesh	19.1.2006	24.2.2006	31.3.2013	75	60	8.297
6.	National Agricultural Innovation Project	Central Sector	24.7.2006	18.9.2006	31.12.2012	250	200	20

\*After cancellation and reallocation of US \$ 20 million from each Project to Emergency Tsunami Reconstruction Project.

#### Funds for Rehabilitation Programmes for Gas Victims

1783. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the Government of Madhya Pradesh for creation of funds of Rs. four crore approximately to continue the various rehabilitation programmes started by the State Government under First Work Plan; and

(b) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE) : (a) and (b) The Central Government had approved a five year Action Plan for the Medical, Social, Economic and Environmental Rehabilitation of Bhopal Gas Victims with a total outlay of Rs. 163.10 crore which was subsequently increased in stages to an outlay of Rs. 258 crore. This outlay was to be shared between the Government of India and the State Government of Madhya Pradesh in the ratio of 75 : 25. The Central Government has already released its entire share of Rs.193.50 crore and the Action Plan has been completed in the year 1999-2000. The State Government has been informed that if further funds were required by them for continuing the rehabilitation programmes, started under

the Action Plan, such funds should be provided as a part of the State Plan in consultation with the Planning Commission.

[English]

#### New Marine College

1784. SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up more marine colleges in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the House.

[Translation]

#### Ban on certain Private Channels

1785. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR :  
SHRI MOHAN SINGH  
SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE  
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :  
SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV :



SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI :  
 SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN :  
 SHRI ASADUDDIN OWASI :  
 SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH :  
 SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO :  
 SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH :  
 SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL :  
 SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :  
 SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY :  
 SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE :  
 SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH :  
 SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL :

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

(a) whether the Government has banned certain TV channels particularly AXN channel for telecasting obscene and vulgar programmes recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the present law to check obscenity and vulgarity on television and other visual media has been found to be inadequate to achieve its objectives;

(d) if so, the factors attributed thereto;

(e) whether the Government proposes to set up Censor Board for the TV channels on the lines of Film Censor Board; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the steps initiated in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The distribution of AXN channel was prohibited in India with immediate effect vide Ministry's Order dated 17.01.2007 till 15.3.2007. Later the same has been withdrawn w.e.f. 1.3.2007 subsequent to the submission of apology by the channel.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) No, Sir. However, under the proposed Broadcasting Services Regulation Bill, provisions have been made for a Broadcasting Regulatory Authority (BRAI), which will take care of all aspects of broadcasting.

[English]

#### Funds to IIFM

1786. SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY :  
 SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM) is facing resource crunch for the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and

(c) the funds provided to the institute during the three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Apart from generation of its own resources, Ministry of Environment and Forests provides Grants-in-aid to Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM) depending upon overall allocation to Ministry of Environment and Forests and on the proposals received from Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM).

(c) The Grants-in-aid released to Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM) during the last three years, year-wise is as under:-

(Rs. in Crores)

2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
4.81	5.70	5.77

**Growth Rate of Fruits and Vegetables**

1787. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAIISI :

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has projected the fruits and vegetable production growth at 6.8 per cent per annum and likely to contribute significantly to upturn in overall agricultural growth during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the achievements made so far during the said period, State-wise;

(c) whether the assessment made at the time of inception of the said plan not been achieved;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government has taken any steps to increase the growth rate of fruits and vegetables in the country after the mid term appraisal of the said plan;

(f) if so, whether these steps have shown any encouraging results; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the strategy chalked out by the Government for Eleventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The state-wise area and production of fruits and vegetables during the Xth Plan is annexed as Statement-I and II

(c) and (d) It is expected that assessment made for fruits and vegetables production will be achieved by the end of X Plan.

(e) Government has launched National Horticulture Mission, a mega project on horticulture, which envisages to double the production of fruits and vegetables by the end of Eleventh Plan period.

(f) The Mission was launched during the year 2005-06 and it is too early to predict any outcome.

(g) To achieve doubling of fruits and vegetables by the end of Eleventh Plan period, the National Horticulture Mission has adopted the following strategies:-

(i) Ensuring an end-to-end holistic approach covering production, post harvest management, processing and marketing to assure appropriate returns to growers/producers;

(ii) Promote RandD technologies for production, post-harvest management and processing;

(iii) Enhance acreage, coverage, and productivity through:-

(a) Diversification, from traditional crops to plantations, orchards, vineyards, flower and vegetable gardens; and

(b) extension of appropriate technology to the farmers for high-tech horticulture cultivation and precision farming.

(iv) Assist in setting up post harvest facilities such as pack house, ripening chamber, cold storages, CA storages etc., processing units for value addition and marketing infrastructure;

(v) Adopt a coordinated approach and promotion of partnership, convergence and synergy among RandD, processing and marketing agencies in public as well as private sectors, at the National, Regional, State and sub-State levels;

(vi) Where appropriate and feasible, promote National Dairy Development Board (NDDB)

model of cooperatives to ensure support and adequate returns to farmers;

- (vii) Promote capacity-building and Human Resource Development at all levels.

**Statement-I**

**Area and Production of Fruits during X Plan**

(Production 000 MTs)

States/UTs	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	16.7	22.1	23.4	20.2
Andhra Pradesh	7404.8	6871.7	7735.4	7735.4
Arunachal Pradesh	82.1	101.3	103.2	105.2
Assam	1126.5	1181.1	1151.0	1151
Bihar	3038.1	3294.9	2769.5	3068.4
Chandigarh	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
Chhattisgarh	382.0	401.1	343.2	646.8
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1
Daman and Diu	3.4	0.0	0.0	0
Delhi	1.0	1.0	1.0	0
Goa	72.8	78.7	81.6	91.9
Gujarat	2957.5	3586.8	4014.4	4677.6
Haryana	237.3	257.2	232.2	232.2
Himachal Pradesh	480.4	588.1	720.6	695.4

1	2	3	4	5
Jammu and Kashmir	983.9	1180.5	1217.6	1217.6
Jharkhand	321.2	321.2	403.4	388.6
Karnataka	4008.8	3027.3	4078.7	4241.8
Kerala	837.3	1401.8	1518.7	1309.8
Lakshadweep	1.1	1.1	0.8	0.7
Madhya Pradesh	1112.6	1167.8	1033.0	1043.5
Maharashtra	8400.8	9269.7	10586.3	11721.3
Manipur	137.8	353.3	320.9	353.3
Meghalaya	153.3	199.6	199.6	231.6
Mizoram	55.0	42.4	42.5	42.4
Nagaland	65.9	48.8	48.9	48.8
Orissa	1485.5	1352.6	1404.0	1403.4
Pondicherry	26.7	19.1	21.1	21.1
Punjab	578.5	628.2	679.5	746.3
Rajasthan	184.8	220.9	257.0	248.7
Sikkim	8.1	0.0	12.2	13.1
Tamil Nadu	4014.0	3460.2	4467.6	4856
Tripura	459.9	482.0	503.4	525.1
Uttar Pradesh	4313.8	3381.2	2912.8	3009.2
Uttaranchal	458.1	644.6	788.7	692.5
West Bengal	1785.6	2111.5	2128.3	2301.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>45203.2</b>	<b>45705.9</b>	<b>49808.9</b>	<b>52848.8</b>

**Statement-II**

**Area and Production of Vegetables during X Plan**

(Production 000 MTs)

States/UTs	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	16.3	22.1	30.8	8.8
Andhra Pradesh	2357.9	6871.697	3861.9	3861.9
Arunachal Pradesh	81.5	101.26	78.8	78.8
Assam	2464.4	1181.104	2020.4	2020.4
Bihar	8288.5	3294.909	13349.1	12932.4
Chandigarh	1.7	1.1	1.7	1.7
Chhattisgarh	1357.2	401.1	1266.3	2432.3
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	13.5	7.1	13.5	13.5
Daman and Diu	1.1	0.023	0.1	0.1
Delhi	628.1	1	626.8	420.2
Goa	68.5	78.73	74.7	82.6
Gujarat	3517.9	3586.798	4867.9	6308.3
Haryana	2051.8	257.2	2980.4	2980.4
Himachal Pradesh	775.7	588.098	1013.5	1090
Jammu and Kashmir	332.9	1180.507	843.0	843
Jharkhand	1300.1	321.15	3394.9	3401.3
Karnataka	3707.9	3027.256	4382.9	4697.4

1	2	3	4	5
Kerala	2547.4	1401.8	2490.1	2597.1
Lakshadweep	0.2	1.1	0.2	0.3
Madhya Pradesh	1827	1167.797	2659.6	2986.1
Maharashtra	4768.9	9269.713	4044.4	4739.7
Manipur	71.9	353.257	86.0	73.7
Meghalaya	338.9	199.617	270.5	340.3
Mizoram	31.9	42.401	24.0	24.1
Nagaland	78.5	48.822	88.1	83.6
Orissa	7126.2	1352.574	8045.6	8051.7
Pondicherry	63.7	19.1	74.7	74.7
Punjab	2319.4	628.17	2677.4	2434.9
Rajasthan	358.3	220.891	650.2	753.8
Sikkim	59.1	0.011496	76.5	79.1
Tamil Nadu	4223.3	3460.167	6218.3	6800
Tripura	360.3	482.016	373.4	365
Uttar Pradesh	15791.4	3381.19	15792.8	17337.3
Uttaranchal	507.5	644.633	951.8	911.7
West Bengal	17376.5	2111.477	18103.2	19382.3
Total	84815.4	45705.9	101433.5	108208.5

**Food Stamps for Beneficiaries  
of PDS**

1788. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering any proposal to distribute "Food Stamps" to the beneficiaries of Public Distribution System, Targeted Public Distribution System and Antyodaya Anna Yojna for supply of ration;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any Expert Committee has been set up to examine the proposal;

(d) if so, whether the said committee has since submitted its reports;

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

(f) if not the time by which it is likely to be submitted?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) to (f) Does not arise.

#### Farm Water Management

1789. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH :

SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL :

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO :

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on "On Farm Water Management" for increasing Crop Production in Eastern India was launched by the Government during 2002-03;

(b) if so, the main objectives of the said scheme;

(c) whether the Government provides assistance under the scheme to various States;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the assistance provided to each State since its inception, year-wise;

(e) whether some States particularly Maharashtra has requested the Union Government to provide additional financial assistance to increase crop production under the said scheme; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) A Central Sector Scheme "On Farm Water Management for Increasing crop Production in Eastern India" was launched in 10 Eastern States viz. Eastern Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur and Mizoram in March, 2002 to increase the production and productivity of different crops in Eastern India through harnessing of underground and surface water resources.

(c) and (d) Assistance for construction of shallow tubewells with pumpsets, low lift irrigation points, electric/diesel pumping sets and dugwells in the plateau regions was provided to farmers under the scheme. The allocation under the scheme to different States since inception is given in the enclosed statement.

(e) and (f) The scheme was not implemented in Maharashtra. The scheme has been discontinued since 1st April, 2006.

**Statement**

**State-Wise Allocation Under Central Sector Scheme "On Farm Water management for Increasing Crop Production in Eastern India" since inception (GOI Share)**

(Rs. in lakh)

State	ALLOCATION				
	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
Assam	52.20	897.00	300.00	438.00	100.00
Bihar	537.00	4140.00	1118.65	540.30	49.99
Jharkhand	188.40	1225.00	404.40	432.48	199.98
Chhattisgarh	17.10	537.00	329.40	412.20	499.97
Orissa	120.00	1380.00	660.00	304.50	100.00
Eastern UP	334.50	1917.00	4020.75	1794.60	1250.07
West Bengal	106.08	920.00	466.80	441.00	149.99
Arunachal Pradesh	48.00	173.00	300.00	248.10	20.03
Manipur	48.00	173.00	300.00	249.75	99.98
Mizoram	48.00	138.00	300.00	139.13	30.00
Total	1500.00	11500.00	8200.00	5000.04	2500.01

**Micro Irrigation Scheme**

1790. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL :

SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of land proposed to be brought under the Micro Irrigation Scheme during Tenth Plan, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) the total area of land bought under the

said programme during Tenth Plan, State-wise and year-wise;

(c) the amount allocated and utilized under the said programme during Tenth Plan, State-wise and year-wise;

(d) whether any special help is extended to backward areas of Andhra Pradesh under the said programme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) The total area of 6.2 lakh ha. land has been proposed to brought under Micro Irrigation Scheme during the Tenth Plan. The State-wise and Year-wise area is given in Statement-I enclosed.

(b) The total area of land brought under Micro Irrigation Scheme during Tenth Plan (upto February '07), State-wise and Year-wise is give in the enclosed Statement-II.

(c) The amount allocated and utilized under Micro Irrigation Scheme during Tenth Plan (upto February'07), State wise and year wise is given in the enclosed Statement-III.

(d) and (e) The Micro Irrigation Programme is being implemented in all 22 districts for the State of Andhra Pradesh for all categories of farmers.

#### Statement-I

*Area proposed under Micro Irrigation Scheme during Tenth Plan, State-wise and Year-wise*

(Area in ha.)

S. No.	Name of the State	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	45520	193752
2.	Bihar	—	14413
3.	Chhattisgarh	—	28828
4.	Delhi	—	103
5.	Goa	—	133
6.	Gujarat	16720	30613

1	2	3	4
7.	Haryana	—	3879
8.	Jharkhand	—	2572
9.	Karnataka	25703	23861
10.	Kerala	25208	5382
11.	Maharashtra	41856	76575
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3498	6549
13.	Orissa	—	2644
14.	Punjab	4180	4880
15.	Rajasthan	13000	47298
16.	Tamil Nadu	32850	5402
17.	Uttar Pradesh	8910	0
18.	West Bengal	—	1939
Total		217445	448823
Grand Total		666268	

Note: The Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Micro Irrigation has launched in January 2006 during Tenth Plan Period.

#### Statement-II

*Total Area of land brought under Micro Irrigation during Tenth Plan (upto February 07) State-wise and Year-wise*

(Area in ha.)

S. No.	Name of the State	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	45520	85381

1	2	3	4
2. Bihar		0	0
3. Chhattisgarh		0	640
4. Delhi		0	0
5. Goa		0	12
6. Gujarat		5042.12	0
7. Haryana		0	632
8. Jharkhand		0	0
9. Karnataka		8924.66	0
10. Kerala		0	0
11. Maharashtra		41856	26904
12. Madhya Pradesh		1442	0
13. Orissa		0	536.68
14. Punjab		333	0
15. Rajasthan		13060	34755
16. Tamil Nadu		0	0
17. Uttar Pradesh		0	0
18. West Bengal		0	0
Total		116117.78	148860.68
Grand Total		264998.46	

Note: The Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Micro Irrigation has launched in January 2006 during Tenth Plan Period.

## Statement-III

Allocation and Utilization of Fund under Micro Irrigation during Tenth Plan, State-wise and Year-wise

(Rs. in lakh)

Name of the State		2005-06	2006-07 (as on Dec' 07)
1		2	3
Andhra Pradesh	Allocation	6129	19520
	Utilization	6129	6325
Bihar	Allocation	—	2482.10
	Utilization	—	—
Chhattisgarh	Allocation	—	3032.89
	Utilization	—	—
Delhi	Allocation	—	15.71
	Utilization	—	—
Goa	Allocation	—	12.13
	Utilization	—	—
Gujarat	Allocation	2182	3355
	Utilization	701.17	—
Haryana	Allocation	—	293.89
	Utilization	—	16.37
Jharkhand	Allocation	—	229.92
	Utilization	—	—
Karnataka	Allocation	3584.11	2456.75
	Utilization	1800.00	467.46



	1	2	3
Kerala	Allocation	3200.00	636.3
	Utilization	—	—
Madhya Pradesh	Allocation	580.33	—
	Utilization	—	—
Maharashtra	Allocation	4808.06	9974.73
	Utilization	4808.06	3580.96
Orissa	Allocation	—	354.26
	Utilization	—	—
Rajasthan	Allocation	1048	2866.68
	Utilization	1048	1433.34
Tamil Nadu	Allocation	4290.96	1200.64
	Utilization	—	—
Uttar Pradesh	Allocation	1241.74	—
	Utilization	—	—
West Bengal	Allocation	—	195.67
	Utilization	—	—
Total	Allocation	28043.87	46626.67
	Utilization	14575.45	11823.13

Note: The Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Micro Irrigation has launched in January 2006 during Tenth Plan Period.

[Translation]

**Environmental Clearance to Hydro-electric Project in M.P.**

1791.SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE : Will the

Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the site clearance proposal for construction of Gopalpur Hydro-Electric Project at Jabalpur has been pending with the Government for environmental/ forestry clearance; and

(b) if so, the time by which the said proposal is likely to be sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of the reply to part (a) above.

[English]

**Difference in Number of BPL Beneficiaries**

1792.SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the actual number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families in Kerala, identified through Gram Sabhas is much more than the number assessed by the Union Government;

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

(c) whether due to the said difference the State is facing shortage of foodgrains under Public Distribution System (PDS);

(d) if so, whether the Government of Kerala has requested the Government to approve the number of families actually identified by the State; and

(e) if so, the time by which it is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC

**DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) :** (a) and (b) For allocation of foodgrains under the TPDS, the BPL families are estimated on the basis on the poverty estimates of the Planning Commission for 1993-94 and population projection of the Registrar General as on 1.3.2000. The total ceiling of BPL households estimated as per the above formula for the State of Kerala is 15.54 lakh whereas the State Government has identified 20.87 lakh households.

(c) to (e) In this regard two memorandums dated 8.10.2005 and 25.10.2005 addressed to the Hon'ble Prime Minister regarding increase in allocation foodgrains under TPDS were received and a reply to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala was given wherein it was indicated that based on the above formula 54,384 MTs of foodgrains per month for 15.54 lakh BPL including AAY households is allocated to the Kerala State. The above formula is uniformly followed for the entire country.

**Declaration of Protected Areas under  
Project Tiger**

1793.SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has declared Parambikulam Wildlife Sanctuary, Eravikulam National Park and Chinnar Wildlife Sanctuary as projected areas;

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

(c) whether the benefits under project tiger and other schemes are proposed to be made available to these areas;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN

MEENA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. 'In-principle' approval has been accorded on a proposal from the State Government of Kerala for establishing a Tiger Reserve covering Parambikulam Wildlife Sanctuary, Chinnar Wildlife Sanctuary and Eravikulam National Park of Kerala.

(c) Presently, funding support is being provided to above projected areas under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries.

(d) Projected Area-wise details on funds provided during last three years is given in the enclosed statement.

(e) Question does not arise.

**Statement**

*Projected area-wise detail on release of  
fund during last three years*

(Rs. in lakhs)

S. No.	Name of Projected Area	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1.	Parambikulam Wildlife Sanctuary	29.12	25.20	30.29
2.	Chinnar Wildlife Sanctuary	6.982	9.80	16.101
3.	Eravikulam National Park	20.48	1.745	20.75

[Translation]

**List of Essential Commodities**

1794.SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of commodities included in the list of Essential Commodities under Essential Commodities Act, 1955 at present;

(b) whether the Government proposes to review the relevance of this Act in view of the present economic liberalisation era;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the time by which the Government proposes to conduct such a review; and

(e) the stage at which the matter stands as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) At present there are 7 number of essential commodities included in the list under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. These are as under:-

- (1) Drugs;
- (2) Fertilizer, whether inorganic, organic or mixed;
- (3) Foodstuffs, including edible oilseeds and oils;
- (4) Hank yarn made wholly from cotton;
- (5) Petroleum and petroleum products;
- (6) Raw jute and jute textile;
- (7) (i) seeds of food-crops and seeds of fruits and vegetables;
- (ii) seeds of cattle fodder; and
- (iii) jute seeds.

(b) There is no such proposal at present.

(c) to (e) In view of (b) above question does not arise.

[English]

#### Crop Weather Watch Group

1795.SHRI SARVEY SATYANARAYANA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Crop Weather Watch Group has convened any meeting during the current financial year;

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

(c) the issues discussed therein and decisions arrived thereat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) Crop Weather Watch Group Meetings (CWWG) are convened regularly on weekly basis in the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC), Ministry of Agriculture.

(b) and (c) The CWWG, Inter-alia, reviews the position of emerging weather situation and its impact on crops, progress in sown area under different crops, availability of crucial inputs like seeds, fertilizers, water in reservoirs, pest and disease and measures taken to control them, price situation of various essential commodities and procurement position. Based on such reviews, corrective measures are taken as and when required.

#### Farm and Industrial Training Centres

1796.SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :

SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to formulate any plan to attract youth to the farm sector by identifying promising children;

(b) if so, whether the Government is also considering to set up Farm Schools and Farm Industrial Training Centres across the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government proposes to give

Bonus/Incentives to farmers to promote oilseeds and pulses productions;

(e) If so, the details thereof;

(f) whether there is any proposal to set up pulse villages and facilitating Self Help Groups to produce seeds in the country;

(g) If so, the details thereof, location-wise; and

(h) the steps taken by the Government alongwith the funds allocated for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (c) The Government of India is implementing a Central Sector Scheme on "Establishment of Agri-clinics and Agri-business Centres (ACABC)". It aims to provide fee based extension and other services to farmers through self-employment ventures. The agricultural graduates interested in setting-up their self-employment ventures are eligible under the scheme. The selected agricultural graduates are provided training in one of the many nodal training institutions identified for the purpose. The trained agricultural graduates are also eligible for subsidy for setting up their self-employment ventures.

(d) to (h) The Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored scheme titled "Integrated Scheme on Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm, and Maize (ISOPOM)" w.e.f. 1.4.2004 for increasing the production and productivity of oilseeds and pulses in 14 major states viz. Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal in the country.

Under the scheme, financial assistance is provided for purchase of breeder and foundation seed production, distribution of seed mini kits, infrastructure development, block demonstrations on improved technology, Polythene

Mulch technology and Integrated Pest Management Technology, distribution of plant protection chemicals, plant protection equipments, weedicides, supply of rhizobium culture/phosphate solubilising bacteria, distribution of gypsum/pyrite/liming/dolomite, distribution of sprinkler sets, pipes for carrying water from water sources to the field, farmers training, officers training, publicity, etc. on fund sharing pattern of 75:25 between Government of India and State Governments for increasing production and productivity of oilseeds and pulses and to encourage farmers to cultivate these crops on large scale.

In order to augment the availability of quality seeds of pulses, an assistance of Rs.500/- per quintal is provided to farmers through the implementing states in selected villages under the seed village component of the scheme. An allocation of Rs.270.00 crore has been made under ISOPOM during 2006-07 for implementation of various components of the scheme including seed village.

[Translation]

#### BIS Guidelines Regarding Food Products

1797. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA :

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bureau of Indian Standards has issued any guidelines with regard to quality of food products;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the guidelines are being strictly followed in the market; and

(d) If not, the number of cases of violation of the said guidelines reported alongwith the persons prosecuted therefor during the last two years, State-wise and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) and (b) BIS has formulated 587 standards for various food products out of which 11 standards have been brought under mandatory certification by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare under Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Act keeping in view the health and safety of common consumers. The remaining standards are voluntary in nature.

(c) The manufacturer has to take licence from BIS for the standards on food items which have been made mandatory by Ministry of Health. In such cases if the manufacturer does not obtain licence, Ministry of Health takes action against them under PFA Act. In case of voluntary food items, the manufacturer may or may not obtain licence under the relevant Indian standard.

(d) In case of mandatory food items, if the manufacturer does not obtain BIS licence, the action is taken by the Regulatory Body i.e. Ministry of Health under the PFA Act.

#### Problems of Sugar Industry

1798. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE :

SHRI AJIT JOGI :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of sugar mills set-up in the country during 2006-07 and those proposed to be set-up during 2007-08, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government has decided to constitute a commission to consider various problems being faced by sugarcane farmers and sugar industry;

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

(d) the steps taken/being taken for promotion of sugar industry?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) The number of sugar mills set up in the country during 2006-07 (upto 28.02.2007) is 10 (8 in Uttar Pradesh and 2 in Karnataka). As regards sugar mills to be set up in 2007-08 sugar season, it is mentioned that sugar industry has been de-licensed vide notification dated 11.09.1998 and entrepreneurs are now free to set up sugar mill, as per techno-economic viability of their projects. As such, it is not possible to indicate the number of sugar mills proposed to be set up by entrepreneurs in 2007-08.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.

(d) For promotion of sugar industry, Government is giving loans from Sugar Development Fund to sugar factories at concessional rate of interest.

[English]

#### Cattle Population

1799. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of States where cattle population is decreasing during the last three years;

(b) the reaction of the National Commission on Cattle in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to deal with the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) The information regarding names of States where cattle population is decreasing during the last three years is not being maintained.

However, as per the results of Livestock Census, the total cattle population in the country has decreased from 198.9 million in 1997 to 185.2 million in 2003, registering a decrease of 6.9%. The States where the cattle population has decreased during 1997 and 2003 are Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Kerala, Punjab, Haryana, Tripura, Manipur and Goa.

(b) The National Commission on Cattle has pointed out that certain indigenous breeds of cattle in the country are becoming extinct.

(c) Apart from the schemes being implemented by the respective State Governments, the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries has been supplementing the efforts of the State Governments by way of the following schemes for increasing the cattle population and also to improve their breed:-

1. National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding.
2. Central Herd Registration Scheme.
3. Intensive Dairy Development Programme.
4. Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases.
5. Central Cattle Breeding Farms.

#### Open Tenders for Drugs

1800.SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the whether the Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) has introduced first time that the selected tender will have to supply drugs and dressing directly to ESIC;

(b) if so, the reasons behind to supply the drugs directly and not by the Companies Authorized dealer;

(c) the details of the other Government departments who take the drugs by Manufacturers directly and by authorized dealers;

(d) whether ESIC has received any representation from the manufacturers and member of the Corporation to reconsider the dealer clause; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A clause was introduced in the drug tender by the ESI Corporation to maintain transparency and availability of standard drugs.

(c) As per the information available, the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi, A.I.I.M.S., Safdarjang Hospital, Armed Forces Medical Services receive supplies directly/through authorized dealers.

(d) and (e) Representations have been received from manufacturers and members of the Corporation to reconsider the dealer clause which are under consideration.

#### Export of Agriculture Products

1801.SHRI K.S. RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum and value of different agricultural products exported during each of the last three years and the current year alongwith the names of importing countries, producer-wise;

(b) the success achieved under the Agriculture Export Zone (AEZ) scheme in promoting agro export in the country;

(c) whether the Government has undertaken or proposes to undertake review of the AEZ policy; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Assistance for NPCBB**

1802. SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of States which have requested for Central Grant under the National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding (NPCBB);

(b) the details of such proposals pending with the Union Government, State-wise; and

(c) the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared and amount released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) to (c) The 28 States and two Union Territories have so far requested for Central Grants under National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding (NPCBB). All the proposals have been dealt with. The State-wise information which have requested for Central Grant and the year-wise funds released is given in the enclosed statement.

**Statement**

**State-wise funds released under National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding (since inception)**

(Rs. in lakh)

S. No.	State/UT	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	Total funds Released
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	339.00	741.75	934.57	718.18	858.36	388.74	2575.57	6556.17
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	140.00				151.30	50.00		341.30
3.	Assam					129.50	100.00	269.50	499.00
4.	Bihar							499.80	499.80
5.	Chhattisgarh		274.00		98.40	100.00	570.00	250.00	1292.00
6.	Gujarat				40.00	279.70	703.25		1022.95
7.	Goa				58.71	97.29			156.00





1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
30. Chandigarh									
31. Dadar and Nagar Haveli						27.76			27.76
32. Delhi									
33. Lakshadweep									
34. Pondicherry						18.15	87.20		105.35
35. Daman and Diu									
Others						7.52	2.00	0.55	10.07
Total		1570.75	4187.45	4103.97	3594.89	6794.95	9092.71	9271.76	38616.48

### Increase In Foodgrain Allocation

1803.SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the allocation of foodgrains made during 2006-07 for distribution under Public Distribution System (PDS), grain-wise;

(b) whether the Government has received requests from some States for increase in allocation of foodgrains during 2007-08;

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

(d) whether the Government provides transportation and labour charges for movement of foodgrains to Depots and Fair Price Shops; and

(e) If so, the details thereof indicating the method of calculating these charges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) The grain-wise details of the allocation made under the Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS) during 2006-07 (upto January, 2007) are as under:-

(In thousand Tonnes)

Wheat	Rice	Coarse Grains
12,357.96	35,977.88	211.288

(b) and (c) Under the Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS), the Central Government makes an allocation of foodgrains @ 35 kg. per family per month on the basis of number of ration cards issued by the States/ Union Territories (ITs) or the number of House-holds on the basis of poverty estimates of the Planning Commission for 1993-94 and the population projection of Registrar General of India as on 1.3.2000 whichever is less. As and when requests from the States Governments for increase in allocation are received, the same are considered in the light of the aforesaid criteria.

(d) and (e) The Government provides transportation and labour charges from Mandi to depot. Further, the transportation charges for movement of foodgrains from other than designated FCI depots to State Government are re-imbursed by Food Corporation of India (FCI). The State/UTs fix consumer End Price (C.E.P.) for the stocks being sold by Fair Price Shops. The C.E.P. includes the handling cost incurred by the State/UT, which varies from State to State.

#### Rehabilitation of Tsunami affected Forest Tribes

1804. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Tsunami devastation in Andaman and Nicobar Islands has alienated the tribal forest lands thereby upsetting their pattern of livelihood; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the programmes for the development/rehabilitation of the affected tribal areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The devastation caused by Tsunami in the Andaman and Nicobar has alienated areas of tribal forest lands but upsetting of the pattern of livelihood of these areas is not reported.

(b) The details of the forest and mangrove areas which have suffered damages due to Tsunami as per the report of Forest Survey of India are as under:—

Name of Islands	Forest (in Ha.)	Mangrove (in Ha.)	Total (in Ha.)
1	2	3	4
Car Nicobar	376.48	0.92	377.40
Chowra	151.55	—	151.55

1	2	3	4
Tarasa	550.89	—	550.89
Bompoka	43.32	—	43.32
Katchal	2589.20	562.28	3151.48
Camorta	739.24	277.52	1016.76
Trinicat	286.63	176.30	462.93
Little Nicobar	594.43	49.37	643.80
Great Nicobar	6914.65	458.67	7373.32
Trak, Treis and Pulo Milo	48.24	—	48.21
Total	12294.60	1525.06	13819.66

For the development/rehabilitation of the affected Tribal areas the following Programmes have been launched/taken up:-

- (i) A Coastal Belt Plantation Programmes was launched in the year 2005-06 under which 102.09 hectare area was brought under Coastal Belt Plantation/Bioshield. The target for the year 2006-07 for raising Coastal Belt Plantation in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands is 96 Hectare.
- (ii) An Empowered Group of Ministers was constituted on 17th November 2005 to review and approve Tsunami Rehabilitation Programme prepared by planning Commission and the supplementary Note from Ministry of Urban Development. Tsunami Rehabilitation Programmes was approved with an estimated cost of Rs. 9870.25 crores for the year 2005-06 to 2008-09 comprising of the following components:-

1. Rajiv Gandhi Package Rs.1607.01 crore

- |    |   |                   |
|----|---|-------------------|
| 2. | External Assistance                               | Rs. 3344.13 crore |
| 3. | Budgetary Support                                 | Rs. 4641.11 crore |
| 4. | Approved under Annual Plan of ANI and Pondicherry | Rs. 278.00 crore  |

- (iii) Other Ministries have also provided financial and other support under the Programme initiatives taken by the Ministry of Home Affairs in this context.

#### Bamboo Cultivation

1805. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL :

SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of land under bamboo cultivation at present in the country, State-wise;

(b) the total production of bamboo during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether any proposal is under consideration to improve bamboo production/productivity and its sale;

(d) If so, the details thereof;

(e) the benefits likely to accrue to bamboo growers;

(f) whether the Government has taken further steps to improve the environment friendly and economically viable bamboo cultivation in the country; and

(g) if so, the details thereof alongwith the funds allocated for the purpose, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) As per the

Planning Commission's Report titled "National Mission on Bamboo Technology and Trade Development", an area of 89575 Sq. km. is under bamboo cultivation in the country. A statement showing State-wise area under bamboo cultivation is annexed as statement.

(b) The National Bamboo Mission is a new programme of the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, which has been launched during the last quarter of 2006-07. One of the mandates of the Mission is to collect and compile the information on State-wise production of bamboo in the country.

(c) and (d) The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has launched a programme on National Bamboo Mission in the country during 2006-07 to enhance the production and productivity of bamboo. The Mission aims at:-

- To promote the growth of the bamboo sector through as an area based regionally differentiated strategy;
- To increase the coverage of area under bamboo in potential areas, with improved varieties to enhance yields;
- To promote marketing of bamboo and bamboo based handicrafts;
- To establish convergence and synergy among stake-holders for the development of bamboo;
- To promote, develop and disseminate technologies through a seamless blend of traditional wisdom and modern scientific knowledge; and
- To generate employment opportunities for skilled and unskilled persons, especially unemployed youths.

(e) The proposed bamboo plantation activities under the Mission would generate about 50.4 million man days of work. In the nursery sector, total estimated

employment to be generated every year will be around 9.7 lakh man days. Besides this, there will be employment generation in both skilled and unskilled segments in the handicraft sector.

(f) and (g) The proposed scheme of National Bamboo Mission is environment-friendly and economically viable in nature. The project proposals submitted by the State Governments for financial assistance under the Mission during 2006-07 is under consideration of the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation.

### Statement

*Statement showing State-wise area of bamboo cultivation in the country*

(Rs. in lakh)

S. No.	State	Bamboo Area (in Sq. km.)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6598
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	4590
3.	Assam	8213
4.	Bihar	795
5.	Goa, including Daman and Diu	249
6.	Chhattisgarh*	NA
7.	Gujarat	2806
8.	Haryana	42
9.	Himachal Pradesh	60
10.	Jharkhand*	NA
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	15

1	2	3
12.	Karnataka	4925
13.	Kerala	517
14.	Madhya Pradesh	18124
15.	Maharashtra	8893
16.	Manipur	3692
17.	Meghalaya	3102
18.	Mizoram	9210
19.	Nagaland	758
20.	Orissa	7822
21.	Punjab	50
22.	Rajasthan	529
23.	Sikkim	NA
24.	Tamil Nadu	3101
25.	Tripura	939
26.	Uttar Pradesh	2010
27.	Uttaranchal*	NA
28.	West Bengal	1751
Total		88791

\*The area under bamboo in the State of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Uttaranchal is included in the State of Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, respectively.

Q. 1806

Question has been transferred to 16.3.2007.

### Ban on Monsoon Trawling

1807. DR. K.S. MANOJ : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has convened the meeting of Fisheries Ministers of the littoral States to discuss the ban by Supreme Court on monsoon trawling;

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

(c) whether the Government proposes to bring legislation to get over the ban on monsoon trawling; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) and (b) A conference of the State Ministers of Fisheries was held on 24th February, 2007 at New Delhi to discuss various issues concerning fisheries sector including an uniform ban on fishing on the east and west coasts of India. It was decided in the meeting that State Minister of Fisheries of Karnataka may convene a meeting of the States of the west coast and the State Minister of Fisheries of West Bengal will convene a meeting for the east coast States to sort out inter-state issues and arrive at a consensus before commencement of the monsoon (before April 30, 2007).

(c) No, Sir,

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

### Death of Animals

1808. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR :  
SHRI MOHD. TAHIR :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several animals have died in the National Zoological Parks/Sanctuaries;

(b) if so, details thereof of, park-wise and sanctuary-wise;

(c) the steps proposed/taken in this regard so far; and

(d) the amount spent for upkeep of parks/sanctuaries during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) There are reports of death of animals in the National Zoological Park, New Delhi and Sanctuaries.

(b) The details of the animals that died in the National Zoological Park Delhi during the period April 2006 to February, 2007 are as follows:-

Mammals	—	26
Birds	—	11
Reptiles	—	02
Total	—	39

Death of wild animals is attributed to natural as well as human induced factors. Information in respect of death of animals in the sanctuaries are not collated.

(c) The following major steps have been taken to improve the health and upkeep of the animals in the National Zoological Park, New Delhi and provide protection to the animals, in sanctuaries:-

(i) A daily Report register is maintained for each animals by the Zoo Keeper. The regular visits in side the park undertaken by the zoo officers to maintain the health of the animals.

(ii) There are two Veterinarians in the National Zoological Park to provide medical assistance in case of any necessity.

- (iii) Necessary hygienic conditions are maintained in the National Zoological Park to prevent the animals against injuries and disease.
- (iv) Legal protection has been provided to wild animals against hunting and commercial exploitation under the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
- (v) Several rare and endangered species of wild animals have been included in the Schedules of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, thereby giving them the highest degree of protection.
- (vi) The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 has been amended and made more stringent. The punishment in cases of offences have been enhanced.
- (vii) Financial and technical assistance is provided to the States under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz. Project Tiger, Project Elephant and Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure of the States for providing effective protection to wild animals in protected areas.

(d) The amount spent for the upkeep of the National Zoological Park Delhi during the current year is Rs. 586.19 lakhs.

As regard, development of Protected Areas including Sanctuaries the assistance is provided under three major schemes namely (1) Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries (2) Project Tiger (3) Project Elephant. The amount released under these schemes during the current year is Rs. 93.86 crores.

#### **Assistance to Cooperatives**

1809. SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV :  
SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK :

SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE :

SHRI MOHD. TAHIR :

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR :

SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has reviewed the implementation of Assistance to Cooperatives Scheme;

(b) if so, details and outcome thereof;

(c) whether the said scheme has been implemented by all the States to provide assistance to milk producers;

(d) if so, the assistance allocated and released for the purpose during the Tenth Five Year Plan, State-wise;

(e) whether the Union Government and State Governments have released their shares under the scheme; and

(f) if so, the details thereof during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

#### **Bio-diversity Parks**

1810. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to develop Bio-diversity Parks to develop flora and fauna and to promote the inflow of migratory and seasonal visiting birds in various parts of the country;

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

(c) the time by which the Bio-diversity Parks would be developed particularly in the State of Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) There is no such proposal under the consideration of Central Government to develop Bio-diversity park in the country.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

#### Vehicles Emitting Smoke

1811. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to State:

(a) whether the Hon'ble Supreme Court had given any direction on April 29, 1999, about keeping a check on the vehicles emitting smoke;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has taken any steps in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Declaration of Chandoli Wildlife Sanctuary as National Park

1812. SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Chandoli Wildlife Sanctuary has been declared as National Park;

(b) if so, whether developmental and conservation works are being taken up in the Chandoli National Park;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the financial allocations made for the said sanctuary?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Chandoli Sanctuary has been declared as a National Park vide notification dated 14.5.2004.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Various items of works undertaken for habitat improvement and development in the Chandoli National Park include removal of invading species, soil and water conservation, vaccination of cattle, research, fire tracing, providing salt licks, demarcation of boundary, erection of watch towers, maintenance of nature trails, desilting water holes, development of grasslands, and procurement of wireless equipments, etc.

(d) The details of financial assistance provided to the Sanctuary during the last two years and the current financial year, till date, is as given below:-

Sl. No.	Year	Assistance provided (in Rupees lakhs)
1.	2004-05	2.50
2.	2005-06	15.00
3.	2006-07	11.70

#### Fodder Development Programme In Karnataka

1813. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has submitted three proposals regarding Fodder Development

Programme, Grassland Development and Fodder Seed Distribution;

(b) if so, whether the administrative sanction and release of grants is still awaited;

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

(d) the time by which the proposals are likely to be cleared and amount released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Government of Karnataka has submitted a proposal for implementation of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme involving three components, viz., Fodder Block Making Unit, Grassland Development including Grass Reserves and Fodder Seed Distribution. The State Government was provided a grant of Rs.100 lakhs in September, 2005, which was later revalidated for utilization during 2006-07. Utilisation certificate and progress report in respect of funds already released have not been received, which are prerequisite for consideration of any fresh proposal.

[Translation]

#### Forest land to tribals in Jharkhand

1814. SHRI FURKAN ANSARI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal regarding hand-over of forest land to tribals in Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which this proposal is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN

MEENA) : (a) No, Sir. No such proposal has been received by this Ministry from the State Government of Jharkhand.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

#### Funds for Construction of Tank and Water Supply Line for Gas Victims

1815. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has demanded Rs. 45 crore for the construction of water tanks and water supply lines for the ward of gas victims; and

(b) if so, the time by which the said amount is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE) : (a) and (b) Providing drinking water to the residents of Bhopal is the responsibility of the State Government. The Department of Chemicals and Petrochemical has not received any proposal from the State Government in this regard. However Government of India have sanctioned funds under the Jawaharlati Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) under the Ministry of Urban Development, out of which, Government of Madhya Pradesh has sanctioned Rs.14.31 crore to Bhopal Municipal Corporation (BMC) for providing safe drinking water through pipelines from the Kolar Reservoir to 14 localities around the former Union Carbide India Limited (UCIL) plant site.

[English]

#### Starvation Among Farmers

1816. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH :

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO :



Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of cases of starvation deaths have been reported from several States particularly in the tribal areas of Orissa;

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

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken for providing foodgrains to the affected families in the country and to check starvation deaths?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) No incidence of starvation death has been reported by any State Government/Union Territory including Orissa so far.

(c) For maintaining food security in the country, the Government is allocating foodgrains at subsidized rates for people living under Below Poverty Line (BPL), Above Poverty Line (APL) and Antodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) under Targeted Public Distribution System and for the following Welfare Schemes:-

- (i) Mid day Meal, (administered by Ministry of Human Resource Development).
- (ii) Wheat Based Nutrition Programme and Nutrition Programme for Adolescent girls (administered by Ministry of Women and Child Development).
- (iii) Sampoorna Gramin Rojgar Yojana (SGRY) and Special Component of SGRY (administered by Ministry of Rural Development).
- (iv) Emergency Feeding Programme for KBK Districts of Orissa.
- (v) Annapurna Scheme.

(vi) Village Grain Banks Scheme.

### Shortage of PDS Foodgrains in Kerala

1817. SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN :  
SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether shortage of foodgrain stock in certain depots of Food Corporation of India (FCI) in Kerala is adversely affecting the proper functioning of the Public Distribution System (PDS) in the State; and

(b) if so, whether the Government has directed the FCI authorities in the State to ensure smooth inter-depot movement and rational placement of stock in all depots of the State for proper working of the PDS in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

No such instance of non-availability of foodgrains stocks in any of the base depot under FCI in Kerala Region has come to notice.

(b) Question does not arise.

### Aqua Park at Kochi

1818. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kerala State Fisheries Resource Management Society has sent a proposal for an Aqua Park at Kochi in the State to the National Fisheries Development Board, Hyderabad; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) and (b) The Government of Kerala has submitted a proposal to the National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) for setting up of an Aqua Technology Park at a total estimated cost of Rs.1,105.00 lakhs to be shared equally between the State Government and NFDB.

The proposal could not be considered during the current financial year as the norms for consideration of such proposals under "Other Activities of NFDB" have not been finalized.

#### **Global Ranking of India in Steel Industry**

1819. SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of India's global ranking in steel market during the last three years; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed to push up India's ranking therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS) : (a) As per International Iron and Steel Institute (IISI), India's Global ranking in terms of steel crude production has progressed steadily in the last three years and has improved on year-to-year basis from 9th rank in 2004 to 8th rank in 2005 to 7th rank in 2006.

(b) Government is not taking any direct steps to push up India's global ranking in steel production. However, keeping in view the importance of steel sector in the country Government has formulated a National Steel Policy in 2005 aiming at a production level of 110 MT per annum by the year 2019-20.

As regards the role of the Government; since steel is a de-regulated sector, government acts only as a facilitator.

However, the government has taken several steps to increase the production of steel such as modernization and expansion of public sector steel plants and adoption of various policy measures such as, removal of procedural and policy bottlenecks in the availability of input raw materials, creation of infrastructure, so as to encourage creation of additional steel production capacity in the country.

#### **Water Resource Management Authority**

1820. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a Water Resources Management Authority in each State;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government has issued any directive to State in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the response of the States thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) There is no proposal in the Ministry of Water Resources to set up a "Water Resources Management Authority" in each State.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

#### **Grants for Training Programme under NHM**

1821. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of State Governments including West Bengal have sent proposals to the Union Government seeking release of grants for conducting the training programmes under the National Horticulture Mission (NHM).

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

(c) the details of proposals cleared, State-wise;

(d) whether the training programmes have not been started by many State Governments due to non-release of grants; and

(e) if so, the time by which remaining proposals are likely to be cleared and grants released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (c) Human Resource Development is one of the components under the National Horticulture Mission (NHM), wherein there is provision for organizing training and exposure visit of the farmers, training of gardeners, supervisors, and entrepreneurs. Annual Action Plans containing proposal for taking developmental programmes in horticulture as well as HRD activities have been received from the participating States including West Bengal for the year 2005-06 and 2006-07. The list of States whose Action Plans have been approved and the details of funds provided for conducting the training programme during 2005-06 and 2006-07 is enclosed as statement.

(d) and (e) Funds have been released to all the participating States of NHM for taking up HRD activities.

#### Statement

*List of States covered under National Horticulture Mission where Annual Action Plan for 2005-06 and 2006-07 have been approved and details of funds provided / released under HRD component under the Scheme*

*Para (b) of Unstarred Question No. 1821*

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of States where Annual Action Plan for 2005-06 and 2006-07 have been approved	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	138.50	227.52

1	2	3	4
2.	Bihar	61.94	37.37
3.	Chhattisgarh	475.12	325.00
4.	Delhi	No HRD component proposed	
5.	Goa		21.75
6.	Gujarat		3.105
7.	Haryana	44.75	60.50
8.	Jharkhand	40.00	50.00
9.	Karnataka	74.52	244.75
10.	Kerala	150.34	165.58
11.	Maharashtra	262.98	308.88
12.	Madhya Pradesh	28.63	179.62
13.	Orissa	158.00	193.73
14.	Punjab	111.70	
15.	Rajasthan	135.62	25.00
16.	Tamil Nadu	188.71	
17.	Uttar Pradesh	357.81	
18.	West Bengal	97.95	32.57
19.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	No HRD component proposed	
20.	Lakshadweep		12.95
21.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	No HRD component proposed	
Total		2326.57	1888.32

**Assistance for Control of Pests and  
Plant Diseases**

1822. SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO :

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has received a number of proposals from State Governments seeking financial assistance for control of pests and various plant/tree diseases;

(b) if so, the details of such proposals received during each of the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Based on the Work Plan proposals of the States, Central Government approves sector-wise outlays to each of the States under macro management. The work plan contains a component for promotion of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) which is an environment friendly ecological approach for managing pests and diseases. This approach encompasses pest control techniques such as cultural, mechanical, biological and scientific and judicious use of pesticides. The approved outlay for IPM, state-wise for the period 2003-04 to 2005-06 is enclosed as statement. National Horticulture Mission also approves state specific proposals for promoting Integrated Pest Management of horticultural crops. Following proposals have been approved under National Horticulture Mission for providing financial assistance for control of pests and diseases:-

(i) Special assistance of Rs. 591 lakh has been approved for control of gummosis of orange in Madhya Pradesh, during 2006-07.

(ii) An amount of Rs. 212.50 lakh has been sanctioned to the Government of Karnataka as a special package for the management of bacterial blight affected pomegranate orchards, during 2006-07.

(iii) An amount of Rs. 1170.83 lakh has been approved for the rehabilitation of Yellow leaf disease affected arecanut gardens in Kerala over a period of 3 years with an outlay of Rs. 125.44 lakh during 2006-07.

(iv) A package of good management practices in bacterial blight affected pomegranate orchards of Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh, in an extent of 9753 hectares, 7426 hectares and 1200 hectares, respectively, has been approved, in March, 2007.

**Statement**

**Outlay for IPM under Macro Management**

(Rs. in lakh)

S. No.	State/UT	Outlay under IPM		
		2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	124.00	174.13	0.00
2.	Bihar	46.00	38.00	58.78
3.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	0.00
4.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Gujarat	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Haryana	45.00	125.00	32.90
7.	Himachal Pradesh	10.08	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	56.00	85.00	0.00
9.	Karnataka	170.00	105.00	0.00
10.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	0.00
11.	Madhya Pradesh	88.89	91.11	151.20
12.	Chhattisgarh	13.14	50.00	0.00
13.	Maharashtra	15.00	100.00	0.00
14.	Orissa	0.00	41.82	58.82
15.	Punjab	80.00	126.00	23.91
16.	Rajasthan	110.00	65.00	96.80
17.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	60.00	0.00
18.	Uttar Pradesh	18.00	30.00	128.70
19.	Uttaranchal	0.00	0.00	12.51
20.	West Bengal	0.00	60.00	31.50
21.	Arunachal Pradesh	36.50	0.00	67.53
22.	Assam	70.30	50.00	269.14
23.	Manipur	26.50	65.00	619.29
24.	Mizoram	28.00	23.00	57.50
25.	Meghalaya	20.00	15.00	0.00
26.	Nagaland	20.00	0.00	28.24
27.	Sikkim	1036.00	10.30	10.15
28.	Tripura	0.00	112.00	0.00
29.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00
30.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.40	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5
31.	Delhi	2.00	1.00	0.00
32.	Lakshadweep	10.00	0.00	0.00
33.	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00
34.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		2026.01	1427.36	1636.97

### National Policy for Agri-Biotechnology

1823. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH :

MS. INGRID MCLEOD :

SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL :

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Inter-Ministerial consultations on the recommendations on Swaminathan Committee on National Policy for Agri-Biotechnology has been completed;

(b) If so, the details of recommendations accepted and the action so far taken thereon;

(c) whether the Commission has submitted its recommendation on the new National Agriculture Policy;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b)

The Inter-Ministerial consultations on the recommendations of the Task Force headed by Prof. M.S. Swaminathan on Applications of Agricultural Biotechnology have been completed. The Task Force has made various long and short term recommendations. One of the main recommendations relates to establishment of national Biotechnology Regulatory Authority (NBRA) for streamlining and improving regulatory procedures in development and release of Genetically Modified crops, which is being handled by the Government in Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology.

(c) to (e) The Commission on Farmers under the Chairmanship of Prof. M.S. Swaminathan has recommended a revised draft National Policy for Farmers. Government has taken all possible steps for expeditious examination of the recommendations.

#### Policy on Water for Industries

1824. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has set up a sub-committee to work out a policy on water for industries;

(b) if so, whether guidelines have been issued to the State Governments in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the policy highlights the need of private participation in Planning, Developing and Management of Water Resources Projects for diverse uses;

(e) if so, the views expressed by States in this regard; and

(f) the extent to which the State Governments and industrial bodies have accepted the policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (f) Do not arise.

#### Arrival of Migratory Birds

1825. SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the places in India where migrant birds generally visit;

(b) whether there is a decline in their arrival; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed/taken to promote/facilitate their arrival?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARIAN MEENA) : (a) Important wetlands in India are the main wintering habitats of migratory birds arriving in India. Bharatpur in Rajasthan, Chilka in Orissa, Etawah and Mainpuri in Uttar Pradesh, Sultanpur in Haryana and Nalsarovar and Kutch in Gujarat are a few important wetland areas visited by migratory birds.

(b) There are few reports of decline in the number of migratory birds arriving in India at some places.

(c) The steps taken to facilitate their arrival include:-

(i) Important wetlands/wintering habitats of migratory birds, like Keoladeo, Chilka etc., have been declared as Protected Areas.

(ii) Important migratory species of birds have been included in the Schedules of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 thereby giving them legal protection.

(iii) India is a signatory to the United Nations Convention on Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS) and is bound to protect the migratory species and its habitat under the conventions.

- (iv) India has also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with CMS for protection of Siberian Cranes and its habitat.
- (v) Financial and technical assistance are provided to the State Governments under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes for development of habitat of Migratory birds.

#### Shooting of Foreign Films in India

1826. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has reduced the 'waiting period' for clearing applications for shooting of foreign feature films in India;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry has also taken a decision to permit shooting in certain specified areas could take much more time;

(c) whether India also welcomed Pakistan's decision to lift ban on Indian films; and

(d) if so, the extent to which it has been helpful in promoting Indian films in Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) Government of India has simplified the procedure for shooting of films by foreigners in India. Processing of the application for granting permission, in consultation with Ministry of Home Affairs, will normally not take more than three weeks.

(b) If the film requires shooting in sensitive areas of Jammu and Kashmir, North-Eastern India or border areas of the country, etc., the application will be considered for specific approval in consultation with the Ministry of Home Affairs. In such cases clearing of applications would require more time to process.

Further, if the issue(s) dealt in the feature film is (are) regarding communal subject, human rights, tribal nuclear and defence related issues or any other issue dealt in the script considered provocative or sensitive from economic/social/political angle, permission would require prior consultation with Ministry of Home Affairs.

(c) Government of Pakistan has not lifted ban on Indian films.

(d) In view of the facts indicated at (c) above, (d) does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Subsidy of Pesticides

1827. SHRI CHANDRABHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large part of subsidy being provided by the Government goes to pesticides;

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

(c) whether the use of pesticides per hectare of land is much lower than other developing and developed countries;

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

(e) whether the pesticides manufacturers and formulators association of India have requested the Government for cut in duty to control prices of pesticides; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b)

Government of India gives assistance to states under the schemes of Macro Management and National Horticulture Mission for the promotion of Integrated Pest Management (IPM). IPM is an environment friendly and ecological approach for managing pest problems, encompassing pest control techniques such as cultural, mechanical, biological and scientific and judicious use of chemical pesticides. There is no separate scheme for providing subsidy for pesticides alone.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The use of pesticides per hectare in India is lower than many developing and developed countries. The use of pesticides in a country depends on various factors like agro-climatic conditions and pest status etc. Government of India has adapted Integrated Pest Management as the cardinal principle and main plank of its plant protection strategy and recommends only need based and judicious use of pesticides. In view of the above approach and due to introduction of pest resistant varieties, the pesticide consumption (Technical) has come down from 47020 MT during 2001-02 to 39773 MT during 2005-06.

(e) and (f) Pesticides Manufacturers and Formulators Association of India have made a representation requesting the Government for a reduction in Excise duty on pesticides. Though their request was taken up for consideration, the same was not agreed in the budget of 2007-08.

[English]

#### Production of Foodgrains

1828. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the high yielding foodgrains particularly wheat developed during the green revolution for a specific temperature and climatic profile are no longer effective for increasing the production in country under changed conditions; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/being taken to develop

new strains of foodgrains for increasing foodgrain production under the new conditions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) The High yielding varieties developed during green revolution period since the beginning of mid 60s have greatly helped in enhancing the foodgrain production. India's success in achieving self-reliance for food emanates from Green Revolution which began with the identification and introgression of dwarfing genes into traditional wheat and rice cultivars and development of hybrids of maize, sorghum and pearl millet. The adoption of these varieties and hybrids on a large scale enhanced the production of food-grains and made the country self sufficient in food production. However, continuous growing of these hybrids and varieties make them vulnerable to emerging pests and diseases. Therefore, these were phased out, and replaced with superior varieties and hybrids with greater inbuilt resistances to major biotic and abiotic stresses and with better grain qualities as well as consumer acceptance.

In case of wheat, the earlier varieties developed during green revolution such as Sonalika and Kalyan Sona etc. were replaced by improved varieties such as HD 2329, HD 2285 etc. These varieties were further phased out with still better varieties such as PWB 343 which presently occupies large area in North Western and North Eastern Plain Zone. Presently, this variety has been found susceptible to a new yellow rust race 78S84. To replace this variety, already a new wheat variety DBW-17 has been developed.

Thus, the development of new varieties to suit the changing environments and emerging new pathotypes is continuously taken up for sustaining the production of food crops including wheat for food security of the country.



[Translation]

### Obscene Depiction of National Figure

1829. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware of a website depicting Mahatma Gandhi in a vulgar and obscene manner;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

### Environment Clearance to Power Projects

1830. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of power projects are pending with the Government for environmental clearance;

(b) if so, the details of such pending projects as on January 31, 2007;

(c) whether any steps is being taken to expedite the clearance of these projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARIAN

MEENA) : (a) and (b) As on 31.01.2007, 36 projects relating to thermal power and 8 projects relating to hydropower were pending for environmental clearance.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Ministry of Environment and Forests have adopted 'Good Practice Guidelines' which inter-alia include holding of regular and more frequent meetings of Expert Appraisal Committee as per predetermined schedule, not to insist on clearance from other Regulators for considerations for environmental clearance and seeking additional information comprehensively rather than in piecemeal for expeditious clearance of projects.

### Changes In Employees Pension Scheme, 1995

1831. DR. K.S. MANOJ : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has made any changes in the terms and conditions of Employees Pension Scheme launched in 1995;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to pay the interim relief arrears for the period 2001 to 2006?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) The provisions of the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 have been amended from time-to-time to make it more efficient and beneficial to the members and their families. The changes include widening the scope of family and pensionable service, option to join the scheme, option for commutation and return of capital and inclusion of clause relating to guarantee of pensionary benefits etc.

(c) The annual valuation of the Employees' Pension Fund is made on a regular basis in accordance with para 32 of the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995.

The annual valuations made by the valuer/actuary for the period from 2000 to 2004 have not revealed any surplus. Hence, presently there is no proposal to pay interim relief or arrears thereof.

#### Changes in the Seeds Bill, 2004

1832. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the farmers have urged the Government to effect necessary changes in the Seeds Bill, 2004 for ensuring farmer's rights;

(b) if so, whether any changes have been incorporated in the proposed Bill;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the stage at which the matter stands as on date; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (e) A number of farmer organizations, Seed Associations and Non-Governmental Organisations have made representation to the Government and to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture on various aspects of the Seeds Bill, 2004. The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture, to which the Bill was referred by the Hon'ble Speaker for examination and report, has submitted its report on 12th October, 2006. In pursuance of the report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture, a Cabinet Note has been prepared and circulated to concerned Ministries and Departments for their views and will be submitted to the Cabinet after views of all concerned are received. The Bill will be implemented after it is enacted into law.

12.00 hrs.

[English]

(Interruptions)

PROF. M. RAMADASS : Sir, I want to raise a very important matter. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What are you doing? I cannot follow anything. There is no notice. I do not understand what is happening in the House. Please go to your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I do not know anything. I cannot even follow what you all are saying. What is happening here? I do not know anything about the issue. If you do not cooperate, I will go away.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please send something in writing. I am sorry. You are not serving the cause of the people. You are not serving their cause. No, I would not allow.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What are you doing? I do not know anything. I cannot even follow what you are saying. Please go to your respective seats. I have not denied the opportunity, but I must know what is happening. Are you serving the cause of the people by this attitude? You are from a responsible Party.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have not denied it. I have told you that you raise this issue tomorrow and you had also accepted that. I have to be told something about it.

(Interruptions)

12.01 hrs.

#### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : I beg to lay on the Table-

1. (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Water Development Agency, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Water Development Agency, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.

2. Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5895/07]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND  
MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING  
(SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : I beg to lay on the  
Table-

1. A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Press Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts.
2. Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5896/07]

3. (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Film and Television Institute of India, Pune, for the year 2005-2006.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Film and Television Institute of India, Pune, for the year 2005-2006, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Film and Television Institute of India, Pune, for the year 2005-2006.

4. Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5897/07]

5. (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute, Kolkata, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute, Kolkata, for the year 2005-2006.

6. Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5898/07]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF  
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR  
FERNANDES) : I beg to lay on the Table-

1. A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Employee's State Insurance Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006, together with Audit Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5899/07]

2. (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central

Board for Workers Education, Nagpur, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Board for Workers Education, Nagpur, for the year 2005-2006.

- 3. Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5900/07]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : On behalf of Shri Kantilal Bhuria, I beg to lay on the Table-

- 1. (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Labour Cooperatives Federation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Labour Cooperatives Federation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.
- 2. Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5901/07]

- 3. (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Federation of Urban Cooperative Banks and

Credit Societies Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Federation of Urban Cooperative Banks and Credit Societies Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Federation of Urban Cooperative Banks and Credit Societies Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.

- 4. Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5902/07]

- 5. (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council for Cooperatives Training, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council for Cooperatives Training, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Council for Cooperatives Training, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.

- 6. Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5903/07]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : On behalf of Shri Taslimuddin, 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 of the Government of the working of the Lakshadweep Development Corporation Limited, Lakshadweep, for the year 2005-2006.

(ii) Annual Report of the Lakshadweep Development Corporation Limited, Lakshadweep, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5904/07]

2. A copy of the Bureau of Indian Standards (Amendment) Rules, 2006 (Hindi and English versions) published in the Notification No. G.S.R. 666 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 26th October, 2006, under section 39 of the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5905/07]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE) : On behalf of Shri Namo Narain Meena, I beg to lay on the Table-

1. (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History, Coimbatore, for the year 2005-2006; alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History, Coimbatore, for the year 2005-2006.

2. Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5906/07]

3. A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 1949(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th November, 2006, containing corrigendum to the Notification No. S.O.1533(E) dated the 14th September, 2006, issued under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5907/07]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : I beg to lay on the Table-

1. (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Hydrology, Roorkee, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Hydrology, Roorkee, for the year 2005-2006.

2. Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5908/07]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : On behalf of Shri Taslimuddin, I beg to lay on the Table-

1. A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (6) of section (3) of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955:-

- (i) G.S.R. 766(E)/Ess.com./Sugarcane published in Gazette in India dated the 22nd December, 2006, regarding fixation of minimum price of sugarcane, for the sugar season 2006-2007, in respect of the States/Union Territories mentioned therein.
- (ii) The Sugar (Price Determination for 2006-2007 Production) Order, 2006 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 770(E)/Ess.com./Sugar in Gazette of India dated the 26th December, 2006.
- (iii) The Wheat (Stock Declaration by Companies or Firms or Individuals) Order, 2007 published in Notification No. S.O. 305(E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 2007.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5909/07]

2. A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Development Council for Sugar Industry for the year 1997-1998.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5910/07]

3. A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Development Council for Sugar Industry for the year 1998-1999.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5911/07]

4. A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Development Council for Sugar Industry for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5912/07]

5. A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Development Council for Sugar Industry for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5913/07]

6. A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Development Council for Sugar Industry for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5914/07]

7. A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Development Council for Sugar Industry for the year 2002-2003.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5915/07]

8. A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Development Council for Sugar Industry for the year 2003-2004.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5918/07]

9. A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Development Council for Sugar Industry for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5917/07]

10. Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2 to 9) above.

11. (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Food Corporation of India, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts under sub-section (2) of section

35 of the Food Corporation of India Act, 1964

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Food Corporation of India, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005.

12. Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (11) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5918/07]

13. A copy of the Madhya Pradesh State Warehousing Corporation (Apportionment of assets, rights and liabilities) Order, 2006 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 28(E) in Gazette of India dated the 16th January, 2007 under sub-section (2) of section 86 of the Madhya Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2000.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5919/07]

14. A copy of the Central Warehousing Corporation (Amendment) Rules, 2006 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 732(E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st December, 2006 under sub-section (3) of section 41 of the Warehousing Corporation Act, 1962.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5920/07]

12.04 hrs.

[English]

#### MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:-

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 9th March, 2007 agreed without any amendment to the Sports Broadcasting Signals (Mandatory Sharing with Prasar Bharati) Bill, 2007 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 8th March, 2007."

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Item No. 11 Dr. Akhilesh Prasad Singh.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Ministers may be attentive.

12.05 hrs.

#### STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

- (i) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the Fourteenth Report (2005-06) and Nineteenth Report (2006-07) of Standing Committee on Agriculture

\*THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : Sir, on behalf of my senior colleague Shri Sharad Pawar, I am making this statement on the status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Fourteenth and Nineteenth Reports of Standing Committee on Agriculture in pursuance of direction 73A of the hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha issued vide Lok Sabha Bulletin-Part-II, dated September, 01, 2004.

The Standing Committee on Agriculture examined the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Agriculture,

\*Placed in Library. See No. LT 5921/07.

Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) for the year 2005-06 and presented their Fourteenth Report based on the Action Taken by the Government: on the Recommendations/Observation contained in the Tenth Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2005-06)....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please allow me a little time to consider it. I have not said 'no' to it. By disturbing the proceedings of the House, what will you gain?

DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH : The Report was presented to Lok Sabha on 21st February, 2006 and the same was laid in Rajya Sabha same day....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Rest of it can be laid on the Table of the House.

DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH : I just lay it on the Table of the House.

"The Committee have accepted the Replies of the Government to their Recommendations Nos. 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15 and 16 (Total-11). The Committee did not accept the Replies of the Government to their Committee did not accept the Replies of the Government to their Recommendations 2, 6 and 13. Further, the Committee awaited the Replies of the Government to their Recommendation No. 1 and 9. Hence, the Department has furnished the Further Replies of the Government to all these Recommendations in the Action Taken Report.

All these recommendations of the Committee have been considered and accepted in the Department of the Ministry of Agriculture. The Action as proposed by the Committee has already been taken/initiated on all Recommendations. The details of Recommendations/Comments of the Committee and Action/Further Action taken by the Government alongwith present status which have already been communicated to Parliament Committee are enclosed in Annexure-I.

Further, the Standing Committee on Agriculture also examined the Demands of Grants of the Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) for the year 2006-07, and presented their Nineteenth Report to the Lok Sabha on 19.05.2006 and same was laid in Rajya Sabha on the same day. The Department in the Ministry of Agriculture has prepared the Replies of the Government and furnished to the Committee. The Committee have considered the Replies of the Government to their Recommendations.

All the Nine Recommendations of the Committee have been considered and accepted in this Department of the Ministry of Agriculture. The Action as proposed by the Committee has already been taken/initiated on all Recommendations.

The details of the Recommendations of the Committee and the replies of the Government which have already been communicated to Parliamentary Committee are given in Annexure-II."

12.06 hrs.

*[English]*

**(II) Successful launch of the INSAT - 4B Satellite  
on 12th March, 2007 from Kourou,  
French Guyana**

MR. SPEAKER : Item 11A.- Shri Prithviraj Chavan. It is a very happy occasion. It is a very important statement. Please listen to him.

"THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am happy to inform this august House that India's newest satellite, INSAT-4B, was successfully launched early this morning (March 12, 2007) by the European Ariane-5 launch vehicle from Kourou, French Guyana. ....*(Interruptions)*"

"....." This part of the speech was laid on the Table.

\*Placed in Library. See No. LJ 5922/07.



[Shri Prithviraj Chavan]

The 3,025 kg. INSAT-4B, carrying 12 high-power Ku-band transponders and 12 C-band transponders, will augment INSAT capacity for Direct-to-Home television and other communications and TV services.

The Master Control Facility at Hassan in Karnataka acquired the signals from INSAT-4B soon after it entered into orbit and initial checks have indicated normal health of the satellite. The ISRO Telemetry, Tracking and Command (ISTRAC) Network Station at Biak in Indonesia and INMARSAT Ground Stations are also supporting the initial phase operations of the satellite. INSAT-4B is being manoeuvred into its final geostationary orbit, about 36,000 km. above the equator. INSAT-4B will be commissioned into service in about a month's time after in-orbit tests.

I request hon. Members to join me in congratulating Chairman, ISRO and all members of the ISRO team and wishing them success

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12.08 hrs.

[English]

#### REFERENCE BY THE SPEAKER

##### **Successful launch of the INSAT - 4B Satellite Kourou, French Guyana**

MR. SPEAKER : I hope the hon. Members will also join me, not only you, in congratulating our great scientists for their wonderful service to the nation. We are proud of them. Please convey the appreciation of the House, good wishes and greetings. Thank you very much.

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[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Kuppusami, please wait.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will come to you.

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR (Bareilly) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, thousands, of bank employees of the country are staging a dharana and demonstrating to get accepted their demands. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : All right. Please sit down.

12.08½ hrs.

#### ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

##### **National Tiger Conservation Authority**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS  
(SHRI A. RAJA) : I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of clause (c) of sub-section (2) of section 38L of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, the Members of this House do proceed to elect in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two Members from amongst themselves to serve as Members of the National Tiger Conservation Authority, subject to other provisions of the said Act."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is:

"That in pursuance of clause (c) of sub-section (2) of section 38L of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, the Members of this House do proceed to elect in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two Members from amongst themselves to serve as Members of the National Tiger Conservation Authority, subject to other provisions of the said Act."

*The motion was adopted.*

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[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, I would just make one observation.

I have always been repeating and requesting that there is no question of any denial of an important issue to be raised. But there are certain procedures which have to be followed on certain occasions. We have decided in the Committee with the leader of Parties. I have announced it that there would be no Luncheon Hour and no other matter because of the important matter – General debate on the General Budget. But in spite of that, I have agreed to allow Yogi Adityanathji because of some issue which he feels strongly to be raised.

The hon. Member Shri Kuppasami met me this morning. I said that I would allow it tomorrow. He accepted it. But I did not even know that that is the matter that is being raised. He accepted that position. Therefore, I will call you tomorrow – if you are agreeable to it – as the first thing after the Question Hour, after the Papers are laid. Please cooperate. Your issue can be properly raised.

Then you will have the satisfaction of doing duty to the people.

Now, Yogi Adityanath will make his submission. Today, no other matter will be allowed to be raised except the matter relating to Yogi Adityanath, because it is a matter of privilege.

12.11 hrs.

## RE: NOTICE OF QUESTION OF BREACH OF PRIVILEGE

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYANATH (Gorakhpur) : Mr. Speaker, sir, I would like to express my gratitude you. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Adityanath ji, I know you feel about

it. You are an hon. Member of this House. Whatever is within my powers, I can assure you that I shall certainly do my best. I respect you. You tell us what happened. I will look into it.

Yogiji, we all respect you. We shall certainly look into it.

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYANATH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have been elected to Lok Sabha for the third time. First time I had won the Gorakhpur seat with a margin of 25 thousand votes, second time with 50 thousand votes and third time with a margin of approx. 1.50 lakh votes. However, I have been the victim of political rivalry and prejudice for the past sometime. I am here to ask whether I am a Member of this House or not? Will this House give me protection or not?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You are a very hon. Member of the House.

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYANATH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, If this House is unable to protect me, then I would prefer to quit this House immediately. All these material possessions do not have any importance for me. I have renounced everything including my life and my parents for the sake of society. However, I am being portrayed as a criminal in the wake of political prejudice because I had brought to light the corruption prevailing there. I had raised my voice against the ISI and anti-national activities taking place along Indo-Nepal border. I have been regularly drawing the attention of the House towards this. I have been raising my voice against the administrative corruption responsible for the starvation deaths taking place there. That is why I am being implicated in the false cases.

Sir, I was detained on 28th and I would like to read out the language in which the Gorakhpur district

[Yogi Adityanath]

administration had informed the House about it. They had written, Shri Yogi Adityanath, Member of Parliament, has been arrested on 28th January, 2007 in Sadar area, Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh on the apprehension of disturbing peace".

Sir, I was arrested at 20 kms. away from Gorakhpur on the apprehension of disturbing peace. Under Section 107, 116 an administration cannot detain a person as an accused for more than 24 hours for apprehension of disturbing place but I was kept in Gorakhpur jail for 11 days.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Yogiji, I respect you. But kindly restrict to matters which we can see. We cannot go to State Government matters.

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYANATH : Not only this, when my advocate tried to enquire about the case in which I was imprisoned, at first it was stated that it was on the apprehension of disturbing peace. On 1st of February when my advocate filed a monitoring appeal in the court of Gorakhpur District Judge in this regard, they registered all the false cases against me from back date and thereafter again...(Interuptions) Sir, a copy of the FIR is usually sent to the Court within 24 hours of lodging it. However, in my case the copy of the FIR was not sent to the Court for 7 days. It proves the cases have been registered against me from backdate and thereafter...(Interuptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Member, may I take one second, not even a minute? As soon as your letter came to me, we have asked for a report from the Home Ministry on this matter. We are waiting for the report. You are fully aware that I have the fullest regard for you. I want to share your feeling but we cannot deal with the State Government matters.

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYANATH : Sir, that is want I want to submit. All these things do not matter for me. A victim of political animosity...(Interuptions)

[English]

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Panskura) : Sir, there is another issue involved here. The issue is that he is a Member of Parliament. Should a Member of Parliament be treated in the way as has been done by the State Government?...(Interuptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Let us see. [Translation] Please sit down.

[English]

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : Sir, it is a privilege matter. ...(Interuptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Gurudas Dasgupta, you know very well that we have to get a report. Please sit down.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : It is a part of infringement of the privilege of an elected Member of Parliament. ...(Interuptions)

MR. SPEAKER : We shall see. I have allowed him.

(Interuptions)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : Sir, I would like to put on record my strongest protest...(Interuptions)

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi) : Is it appropriate to meet out such a treatment to a member of Parliament.

MR. SPEAKER : Let me see. [English] I have followed, which is the minimum. [Translation] Please listen.

(Interuptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please consider my position. I have given him an opportunity to speak. I respect him. Whatever is possible within my power, I will do it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil) : Sir, it is a question of integrity of a Member of Parliament ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Everybody is advising me without giving me an opportunity. You are all advisors. I have given him an opportunity to speak. I am only making a request that this is a matter, as you know, on which we have certain inadequacy of power here. We do not do that.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will not like to advise you. I would like to submit that you are the protector of the members... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I welcome your advices but not in all matters.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : ...\*...

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I have not said so.

[English]

Shri Prabhunath Singh, do not be unfair to me. I did not say that. I said that there are some restrictions here. How much I can do, I will consider. I said that I will do my best. Why do you say that I have denied? Please do not put words into my mouth.

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYANATH : Sir, I would like to put forth before you a list of FIRs quashed so far and the number of cases

\*Not recorded.

in which the Court has held the FIRs as false. I would also like to mention the manner in which my supporters have been implicated and some of my party activists have been booked as gangsters and how action is being taken against them. 14 activists have been detained in Gorakhpur district alone under National Security Act but no F.I.R. has been registered...\*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : On these matters we cannot comment. You bring it to me and I will look into it.

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYANATH : I would like to place these facts before you. In district Kushinagar... (Interruptions) I want to say the same thing. Two workers in Balrampur, four in district Mau and 23 party workers in Gorakhpur have been booked as gangsters... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please speak about yourself.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : This is very unfortunate. He is a very competent Member of Parliament to make a statement.

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYANATH : I want to speak about myself only. Sir, it is an act of perpetual harassment and the Government of Uttar Pradesh has gone to the extent of reopening a case in which CID of Uttar Pradesh had given its final report after seven years though the final report was attached seven years ago... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have asked for a report.

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYANATH : The Government of Uttar Pradesh is hatching a conspiracy to make me an accused under

\*Not recorded.

[Yogi Adityanath]

Section 302 and 307 by issuing the orders of reinvestigating the matter. I would like to quote the statements given by the officers against me and I also want mention the manner in which they have misled the House. After the public outrage, the district Magistrate of Gorakhpur who had arrested me was suspended. After that, that persons issues a statement that now Muslim people will not vote for Samajwadi Party it means that would be decided by officer. Now, the officers have started to decide that who should vote for whom. He has given this statement in 'Outlook' magazine. Besides that, I would like to look into statements issued by other officers. Then IG of Gorakhpur zone asked as to why Yogiji had been sent to jail. The day I was arrested, I was in Gorakhpur Circuit House alongwith public representatives of Gorakhpur, leaders of trade organisations and other officers in a meeting to discuss problems of Gorakhpur with ADGP, Law and Order, Uttar Pradesh... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You may dispatch all documents to me.

YOGI ADITYANATH : ...\*...

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : This cannot be permitted.

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYANATH : After that the officer who was posted there in the capacity of IG of that zone ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You may send papers to me. This matter cannot be decided at this moment.

(Interruptions)

YOGI ADITYANATH : ...\*...

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\*Not recorded.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please conclude now.

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYANATH : ...\*...

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : He is not present here. You just cannot refer to his statement here.

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYANATH : Sir, I would like to know only this whether this House will be able to provide protection to the Members... (Interruptions) Before, we may also fall prey to some kind of mishap, political conspiracy like Shri Sunil Mahato... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Let us not go into that.

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYANATH : I have come to you to ask whether this House can provide us protection. Till when, we will continue to become victims of political conspiracies? ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please give me sometime, I will look into this.

(Interruptions)

YOGI ADITYANATH : Till when, we will continue victims of vote bank politics and till when a few corrupt officers will continue to make us scapegoat to cover their corrupt deeds? I have come here to ask this and I seek your protection in this regard. ... (Interruptions) I have given notices in regard to breach of privileges from jail and also after getting released from jail on 6 February, 12 February,

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\*Not recorded.

27 February. I seek your protection in this regard and would like to request that if I am guilty, the House should prove me guilty. It will not take a minute, politics is not a profession for me...(Interruptions) I have come here to serve the people. If I am guilty, I should not have a right to attend the sittings of the House...(Interruptions). The House should take a decision...(Interruptions) If I am not a culprit, action should be taken against those officers who had made me accused in false cases, and even today action is being taken against me under political conspiracies and political prejudices.\*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : That will not go on record.

(Interruptions)\*

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYANATH : There is a one rule for those persons and another for us. What kind of justice is this. Therefore, I want your protection in this regard ...(Interruptions) you shall provide protection to us.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : There is no question of any such thing. Please do not impute anything to the Chair. He had made a reference, and I have said that the procedure is being followed about that.

So far as your matter is concerned, I am again repeating that you are an hon. Member of this august House. I respect you for your commitments. There is no question about your commitments. But as you know, some procedure has to be followed. I can assure you that in any way, your privileges have been interfered with, whatever power is there in this House and in the Chair, will be used irrespective of anything else. Please rest assured, I will try to do my best, but I have to proceed according to procedures and norms.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Sir, the Union Government also should take notice of it.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : All right, we will see.

[English]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : The Central Government also has some responsibility. Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi is present here.

[Translation]

SHRI SAIYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN (Bhagalpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs should give statement on behalf of Government...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I will look into it myself.

Hon. Member, please send all the relevant materials you have, for my consideration.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will bring you to the Chair.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : The response to every hon. Member is that the matter is seized by the hon. Speaker. I do not want to express anything on this.

MR. SPEAKER : It is under my consideration. The Government has nothing to do with it. They cannot say either yes or no to the exercise of my authority. I do not depend on them.

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly) : Sir, the public sector employees in the country are on the road today.

MR. SPEAKER : You raise it tomorrow.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I too have given a notice, what happened to that...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It will not be taken up today. [English]  
You had decided that there would be no matter. No, I would not allow this

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, when would my notice be taken?

MR. SPEAKER : We will see. If time permits, it will be taken tomorrow, otherwise a day after tomorrow.

(Interruptions)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this matter is of urgent importance...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : All issues are important.

12.26 hrs.

### MATTERS UNDER RULE 377\*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Matters under rule 377 listed for the day are treated as laid on the Table.

(I) Need to open a branch of Nationalised Bank in Natham Town, Dindigul district, Tamil Nadu

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN (Palani) : In my Palani Parliamentary Constituency "NATHAM" is an important town Natham Taluk is famous for mango fruits, tamarind,

\*Treated as laid on the Table.

guava and coconuts. Large quantities of fruits are exported from here to all parts of the country and abroad. Number of traders come very often to Natham for purchasing all the agricultural produces in bulk and small quantities. They pay money only through bank and they find it very difficult without having adequate number of bank branches. It is unfortunate that Natham is having only one Canara Bank Branch.

In Natham all kinds of Government offices like Taluk Office, Highway Office, PWD Office, Horticulture Office, Agricultural Department, Sub-Treasury, Panchayat Union Office, Government Hospital, Judicial Magistrate-cum-District Munsif Court and Fire Service Department are located. There is no State Bank Branch in Natham to maintain and operate Government accounts. Even Sub-Treasury Accounts are maintained in Canara Bank only.

Arts and Science College, Teacher Training Institute, B.Ed. College and other educational institutions are also functioning in Natham. Large number of outstation students are staying in the Hostels and studying here. Almost all of them remit fees through Bank only.

Government of India, Ministry of Rural Development has implemented "National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme" in Dindigul District. All the Panchayats in Natham Taluk are included in this programme. Thousands of people are attending this work and they are getting their wages by way of cheques only. For encashing the cheques, they are spending a day.

Hence, there is an urgent need of another Nationalised Bank Branch in Natham. In this regard, Natham Chamber of Commerce and myself have written number of letters to the Hon'ble Minister but till date, there is no positive action in this regard.

Hence, I request the Hon'ble Finance Minister to sanction one Nationalised Bank Branch in Natham Town, Dindigul District and do needful.

**(ii) Need to authorise co-operative societies for purchase of mustard on Minimum Support Price from the farmers of Banaskantha, Gujarat**

*[Translation]*

SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA (Banaskantha) : Sir, most of the families living in my parliamentary constituency are of farmers and their livelihood depends on the cultivation of mustard. This year, the bumper production of mustard has been made. The Government had authorised NAFED for procurement of mustard on Minimum Price. Gujako Masol and other agencies who are agents of NAFED were entrusted the job of procurement, but they committed irregularities on large scale, the inquiry is being conducted in this regard.

Through the House, I would like to request the Government that either the Government should directly procure mustard on Minimum Support Price or to authorise village cooperative societies for the same so that farmers may be saved from the difficulties of transporting mustard from village to the markets.

**(iii) Need to protect the interest of employees of Sterlite Company rendered jobless**

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR DUBEY (Dhanbad) : Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the report of the V.V. Giri Labour Institute under the Ministry of Labour in which it is stated that after the privatization of Bharat Aluminium Company Balco, 3500 employees were forced to adopt the V.R.S. by the new management thereby putting employees' families into hot waters. The management of the Private Company Sterlite has completely brushed aside the interests of the employees by violating their share holder agreement with the Government and have left them in a helpless and miserable condition by expelling them from the company. Anguished and pained by their pitiable condition, the former Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee had set up a high level enquiry committee to look into the inhuman

treatment meted out to the employees of privatized establishments like Balco, Modern Food etc., its report was never made public instead it was dumped into the cold storage.

Out of the agreement entered into with Sterlite Company, neither the local youth got any employment nor the development of the area took place and also no payment has been made to the people employed there for the works carried out by them instead there has been a complete violation of the agreement with regard to the labour related cases which viewed from any angle is not in the interest of the country.

Therefore, I urge the Government to conduct a review and cancel the agreement as per the prescribed provisions contained in the agreement entered into between the Government and Sterlite Company.

**(iv) Need to open the modern Floriculture market cum auction centre at New Delhi**

*[English]*

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH (Mandi) : The Government of Himachal Pradesh in association with the Uttaranchal and Jammu and Kashmir Governments is trying to set up flower market in Delhi. It will enable floriculturists from these States to sell their products at remunerative rates. Our Chief Minister has addressed to the Chief Minister of Delhi about the necessity to open modern floriculture market in Delhi, having facilities of auction cum transit storage centres with cool chain back up of pre-cooling units, cold storages and refer vans etc. Because of the attractive schemes launched by the Union Minister, Himachal Pradesh have taken up the floriculture in a big way.

It is my humble request to the Central Government to make impress upon the Delhi Government to open the modern floriculture market-cum-auction centre in New Delhi at the earliest.



**(v) Need to make Kalimpong, as a transit point for promoting trade with Tibet**

SHRI D. NARBULA (Darjeeling) : It is about opening Jelep-la Trade Route to Tibet-Autonomous Region of China. Jelep-la is an important landmark connecting Sikkim with Tibet and is equally important as the other part of Nathula located close by.

Jelep-la was the main pass through which most of the inland trade between Tibet flourished through Kalimpong (India) particularly after 1904 Colonel Young Husband's expedition to Tibet via Jelep-la.

A British agent was stationed Yatung or Shigatse for purpose of trade and transit. Kalimpong became the Chief trading outpost both in import and export of goods and commodities.

Prior to 1962 Jelep-la was more important and useable pass for export/import from India via Kalimpong. Earlier to 1962 Kalimpong was the main station for dumping commodities brought from Tibet and also for packaging and re-shipment of export commodities from India to Tibet.

The Kalimpong-Jelep-la route was the shortest possible route to Lhasa and like wise from Lhasa to India. As a result both Kalimpong and Jelep-la played leading roles in carrying the business activities of export and import.

In order to provide development assistance to the people of Kalimpong it is imperative that Kalimpong be converted into a transit point or an intermediary point for dumping all commercial goods entering into India from Tibet via Jelep-la like that is in the earlier days before 1962.

**(vi) Need to ensure transparency in the recruitment to the post of Principal/ITI in Andaman and Nicobar Islands**

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman and Nicobar

Islands) : In Andaman and Nicobar Islands most of the Group 'A' and 'B' Gazetted posts are filled up through UPSC. Recently, a vacancy notice for filling up of Principal/ITI's post has been notified by the Andaman and Nicobar Administration calling for one time mode by eligible officers possessing the required qualifications willing to serve under the Andaman and Nicobar Administration from amongst the officers of Central/State Government on deputation basis by transfer. There are many applicants who are possessing the required qualifications and willing to shoulder the responsibilities as principal/ITI. However, UPSC may probably change/modify, the recruitment rules. Many of the applicants have objected to it and are agitated on this move. They demand for an impartial selection procedure should be adopted while filling up the post of Principal/ITI.

In view of the foregoing, I urge upon the Union Government to consider the best candidate from among the applicants.

**(vii) Need to give a comprehensive package to Arunachal Pradesh for promotion of tourism in the region**

SHRI KIREN RIJU (Arunachal West) : Tourism is an increasingly employment oriented industry and earns foreign currency in large amount in North Eastern States, especially Arunachal Pradesh having a large number of tourist spots, Pilgrimage Centres, Attractive landscapes, Adventure tourism Centres. It has Himalayan Valley, Brahmaputra Valley, Vast tea estates, Rain forests etc. which are beautiful tourist attractions. But the Tourism Ministry is not taking serious steps to improve infrastructural facilities to bring in more and more tourists. Therefore, I would like to urge upon the Central Government, especially Civil Aviation, Railways and Tourism Ministries to announce a comprehensive package to Arunachal Pradesh for improvement of Tourism facilities.

**(viii) Need for speedy implementation of pending power projects in Rajasthan under 'Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Vidhyutikaran Yojana'**

*[Translation]*

SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA (Salumber) : Sir, Government of India, in February, 2005 had declared a national policy with the main objective of effectively supplying reliable and of proper quality electricity at rational rates to provide electricity to all homes within the next five years and to fulfil the complete requirement of electricity by the 2012. Since independence electricity has been made available to only 44% of homes in rural areas and as on date more than one lakh houses are remaining for carrying out electrification.

Government of India, in April, 2005, has made a declaration about launching of Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Vidhyutikaran Yojana in which a target of five years has been fixed for electrification at all the un-electrified villages and hamlets and it includes the extension of the electrification facilities to all residential accommodations in rural areas including the families living below the poverty line. It also includes the provision of free electricity connection to the families living below the poverty line. The Union Government propose to provide 90% grants and 10% loan for this scheme. The Rural Electrification Corporation has to undertake the implementation of the said scheme.

41 schemes of the 32 villages of Rajasthan have been referred to the Corporation for approval. In these schemes 17,55,435 BPL families and 52,790 general families are to be provided with domestic connection and 4,489 un-electrified villages and 6,600 hamlets are to be electrified entailing an estimated cost of Rs.1091.49 crore.

The corporation has approved 27 schemes out of which the implementation of the schemes of Bhilwara and Jhalawar districts are proposed to be undertaken by P.G.C.I.L. and the remaining 25 schemes are to be

implemented by respective corporations on turn-key basis. In principle, the approval to 12 schemes has been accorded with this condition that till authorized approval is not granted by the corporation, the contract for the implementation work could not be awarded.

Therefore, by drawing the attention of Union Power Minister and Prime Minister towards this matter of urgent public importance, speedy approval be granted to the pending schemes of backward States like Rajasthan.

**(ix) Need to restore the allotted quota of power supply to Chhattisgarh from the Central Pool**

SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE (Bilaspur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Union Government supplies electricity to various States including Chhattisgarh from central port, of which a cut of 300 megawatt electricity has been made in the quota of Chhattisgarh and the quota of many other states has also been cut down. In the States also there is no electricity supply. Darkness always prevails there. Farmers face difficulty in operating the tubewells and the consumers are in great trouble. There is resentment among the people against the Union Government and my request to the Union Government is that the quota of electricity from the central pool to all the states whose quota has been curtailed should be restored.

**(x) Need to ensure availability of medical facilities to people in rural areas of the country**

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR (Chandrapur) : Sir, lack of quality health facilities provided by the Government is evident in the urban and rural areas of the country. The dispensaries and hospitals of the private sector in the cities are beyond the reach of the common man owing to their costliness. Sometime back, in the reply to one of my questions the Union Health Minister had informed that there were vacancies of about 9000 doctors and specialists' posts in primary and secondary health centres. Status quo in that regard is still prevailing. The people of

[Shri Hansraj G. Ahir]

the rural areas are left with no other option but to succumb to major diseases like heart ailments and cancer in the absence of proper treatment for them. For the treatment of those major diseases they are forced to cover hundreds of miles after disposing off their houses and ornaments.

In order to attract foreign tourists Government has allotted funds for constructing state of the art hospitals and to promote health tourism. But no funds are being allotted to provide basic health services to the poor in rural and urban areas and also to provide medical treatment within their purchasing capacity. By when the health services will be provided to the people belonging to the tribal areas where thousands are falling prey to the growing cases of malnutrition as a result of the lack of health services, to fluorosis cases in areas affected by fluorides and due to spread of other water-borne diseases.

We are eulogizing latest inventions and technology in health sector, but what efforts are being undertaken by the Government to provide them in rural areas? It should be contemplated upon whether we are doing injustice towards the rural people by merely stating the increasing rate of development and getting enamoured of our own achievements. Today there is a need to provide health services to the people of all sectors within their purchasing power. Only a healthy India can be the cornerstone of progress of the country.

Therefore, my request is that by making large-scale allocation of funds to health services, all efforts should be made for more effective health services.

**(xi) Need to enhance the quota of Kerosene and ensure adequate supply of LPG in Jaipur, Rajasthan**

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) : Sir, in Jaipur the ration department was supplying five litres of kerosene to every cardholder which has now been

reduced to four litres due to which people are facing difficulty. Besides this, the gas cylinders that were easily available are not being supplied to the people even after two months of advance booking.

I demand from the Central Government to increase the quota of kerosene in Jaipur and improve the supply of gas cylinders.

**(xii) Need to set up more Engineering Colleges and IIT's in the country**

[English]

SHRI SUDHANGSHU SEAL (Calcutta-North West) : Our country is facing an acute shortage of civil, mechanical and electrical engineers, supervisors and technicians due to launching of major infrastructure, industrial and building projects. It has become extremely difficult to recruit technical manpower and important organization like DMRC, NHAI, Indian Railways, BHEL and NTPC are losing their experienced engineers and other technical personnel to private sector companies which are offering very attractive salaries to them. Some of the private construction companies have recruited foreign engineers to meet their urgent requirement at a high price, after exhausting all the possible avenues of recruiting them locally. The situation will become even more acute as many more new highways, railways and airport projects, steel plants, mega power projects, new collieries and SEZ etc. are likely to come up. In this situation, all our development plans may get crippled unless urgent action is taken to meet the situation.

Hence, I urge upon the Government to set up more engineering colleges, IIT and double their intake for these courses starting from the next session. For this purpose a steep hike in budgetary provision is necessary.

**(xiii) Need to expedite completion of Tellicherry-Mahe bye-pass at National Highway-17 in Tellicherry, Kerala**

SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI (Badagara) : The proposed Tellicherry-Mahe bye pass is one of the most vital stretch

in N.H. 17. The traffic along the existing road between Kannur and Mahe is very congested. Tellichery, the one of the trade centre in the Malabar area requires access from the various part of the state as well as from Karnataka and Pondicherry. The traffic along the road between Km. 177/00. Tellichery to 184/600 Mahe is too congested. The reach from Km. 177/00 to Km. 179/00 Saitarpalli is perhaps the only reach along the National Highway, which could not accommodate two lane traffic. The traffic allowed through this route is one way. It takes more than half an hour to negotiate a distance of 2 Km. in the peak hours. Though the proposal for the bye pass has been active for several years it is not yet sanctioned. The land acquisition for 12 Km. is over. Hence the reach should be attended in full or in part immediately. Two bridges are required to be constructed for the completion of the bye pass. Hence the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways should take immediate steps for the completion of this bye pass.

**(xiv) Need to declare special economic package for the farmers of Bundelkhand, Uttar Pradesh ravaged by drought and hail-storm**

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA (Hamirpur, U.P.) : Sir, the condition of farmers in backward areas is going bad to worse continuously. The same sort of announcements are needed for the most backward Bundelkhand area of Uttar Pradesh as have been made by the honourable Prime Minister for the Vidharva area and Asam State. The farmers are on the verge of starvation due to continuous four year of drought, floods, hailstorm, frost etc. Despite limited resources, the State Government has provided all possible assistance but considering the damages due to continous four year of drought, floods, hailstorm and frost, the assistance is not sufficient. Uttar Pradesh Government has sought special package from the Central Government several times but that has not been provided so far. It is necessary to stop discrimination with Uttar Pradesh

immediately keeping in view the need for development in the State. A delegation of MPs' called on the honourable Prime Minister on 25.8.2006 and 11.12.2006 and requested him to provide economic package for sortk out the problems of the area. Moreover, the matter has also been raised even in the House several times. Now, the State Government has declared this area drought-affected.

Hence, through this House, I would like to request the honourable Prime Minister to announce a special package for Bundelkhand which was sought by the State Government from the Central Government, so that the farmers may get sufficient relief and suicides being committed by the farmers in different parts of the country due to financial scarcity and loan burden, may not have an impact on the farmers of the Uttar Pradesh and they may be able to maintain their family property.

**(xv) Need to review the criteria of admission in nursery Class recommended by Ganguli Committee**

SHRI PARAS NATH YADAV (Jaunpur) : Sir, the Ganguly Committee was constituted for easy and discrimination free admission of children in nursery class. The Committee has made several reasonable and children friendly recommendations for the admission of children. But among the recommendations one recommendation reads as – In the weightage system of 100 marks, twenty marks will be given to those children whose guardians are graduate or post-graduate. It means the children of illiterate parents will be deprived of these marks. It clearly shows that children of illiterate parents will get less weightage. It means that their children will have to face discrimination in getting admission in reputed schools. This decision is self-condemnation and painful for their parents. The decision will shake those children who need good education the most. Though the children of illiterate parents need good education, they are being

[Shri Paras Nath Yadav]

deprived of that facility. It is also true that it is like a drama for those parents to give their children good education. If the government wants to implement these recommendations, it would amount to create discrimination among the poor and the rich of the society.

Hence, I, through the House, request in Public interest that weightage system of Ganguly committee which will create discrimination between the literate and illiterate class, should not be implemented.

**(xvi) Need for construction of ROB's under NHAI in Bihar**

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Bettiah) : Sir, through you, I want to draw the attention of the Union Minister of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways, under rule 377 towards the following sanctioned roads, flyovers, ROB of Bihar State which are being constructed by National Highways Authority.

11 (4 Sonepur-Parmanandpur), 11A (Sitalpur-Naya Goan, 16 (Dighwara-Badagopal), 54A (Hajipur-Vidupur), 33 (Adapur-Raksaul), 34 (Raksaul - Bhehwa), 32 (Kakarghati-Tarsasay), 175 (Semra-Sugauli), 47 (Hajipur-Sarai), 10A (Sasamusa-Jalalpur) and 47n (Chapra-Kachhari).

All the above 11 rail bridges are to be constructed not by the Railway itself but by National Highways Authority under NAEDP Programme. The plan and estimate of all these bridges will be prepared by the authority itself. This work has been entrusted to the authority but no work in this direction has been started so far.

It is to be mentioned that the honourable Minister of Railways himself laid the foundation stones of 33 (Adalpur-Raksaul), 34 (Raksaul-Bhehwa), 175 (Semra-Sugauli) two years ago.

So, I request the honourable Minister to take

necessary steps to get the above mentioned bridges constructed soon.

**(xvii) Need for doubling of railway track between Manmad and Mudkhed in Maharashtra**

SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENG PATIL (Parbhani) : Sir, under the rule 377, I would like to draw the attention of the government to the fact that the doubling of railway track between Manmad and Mudkhed has not been done so far. While for this rail division, it has been linked with different railway divisions like Secunderabad, in the South, Karnataka, northern and western sides, but rail traffic is facing problems due to unavailability of double tracks because one train has to stop for passing another train, thus train service delays in this railway division. As also, this single track has to bear the whole burden while the double tracks in this railway division are very necessary technically also. Marathavadi has its own history and it has sufficient raw material for the industrial development but due to unavailability of rail facility the industries have not been developed in this area and people of this area are forced to migrate to other places for employment.

I request the Government through the House, that the work of doubling the railway track between Manmad and Mudkhed be sanctioned and started soon.

**(xviii) Need to give compensation to the tribal women, who suffered from police excesses in Jharkhand**

SHRI HEMMAL MURMU (Rajmahal) : Sir, there were incidents of atrocities committed by police with three tribal women after arresting them in a murder case at Sundar Pahari Police Station of Jharkhand State. Guilty Inspector and policemen were sent to jail when the matter came into light through protest by people, electronic and print media. But said victim poor tribal women could not get compensation due to not sending recommendation and not taking necessary action by the concerned Superintendent of Police under Tribal Atrocities Prevention Law. The

condition of the said victims is pitiable and they are living in abject poverty.

So, I urge the Union Government to provide compensation and financial assistance to these victims and do justice with them by taking necessary action immediately.

**(xix) Need to waive off the interest levied on  
overdue loans of farmers during 2 years  
moratorium period under comprehensive  
Debt-Relief Package Implemented in  
the year 2004-05**

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam) : Government of India had in the year 2004, announced and implemented comprehensive debt relief package for farmers who suffered due to successive natural calamities in the debt relief package implemented in the year 2004-05, the overdue loans together with interest as on 31.3.2004 were rescheduled and were ordered to be repaid in 3 equal installments with an initial moratorium period of 2 years. The interest during the initial moratorium period of 2 years was also ordered to be repaid alongwith the three installments of the rescheduled amounts. During the 2 years moratorium period there was no repayment of loan. But interest was leviable @ 11% per annum. Thus, the 22% (11% X 2 years) of interest during the 2 years moratorium period will be an additional burden on the farmers.

The present special package is purported to be further liberalization of the debt relief package of the year 2004, in order to provide relief to the farmers in the 16 identified districts. However, a view appears to have been taken that the overdue loans and overdue interest which were rescheduled in the year 2004 are not yet due for repayment in view of the initial moratorium of 2 years and, therefore, the same cannot be treated as overdue as on 30th June, 2006 and consequently such amounts be treated as ineligible for inclusion under the present special package. This is purely a technical reason.

**(xx) Need to open a Buddhist Central University  
and develop the Memorial of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar  
in Delhi**

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur) : Sir, 2550th birth anniversary of Lord Gautam Buddha is being celebrated in the whole world with fan fare. But, we are not organizing any special programmes in our country where Lord Gautam Buddha was born. Keeping in view the sentiments of the citizens of the nation, it is necessary for Union Government to open a Central University in the name of Lord Buddha in the Capital Delhi on the occasion of 2550th birth anniversary of Lord Gautam Buddha alongwith celebrating the birth anniversary of Lord Gautam Buddha in the entire country.

Baba Saheb Bheem Rao Ambedkar Memorial situated at 26 Alipur Road in the Capital Delhi has not yet been developed as a museum. It is being demanded for a long period to develop the said memorial of Baba Saheb as a museum.

I request the Union Government through this House to take effective steps to open a Buddhist University as Central University in the Capital Delhi and to develop 26-Alipur Road as Museum after Baba Saheb Bheem Rao Ambedkar besides celebrating 2550th birth anniversary of Lord Gautam Buddha with fan fare in the entire country.

12.27 hrs.

**GENERAL BUDGET, 2007-08—GENERAL  
DISCUSSION**

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Now, the House will take up Item No.14, General Discussion on the Budget (General) for 2007-08.

Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra to speak. It is a very important matter.

[Translation]

Discussion on general budget is being started.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri Chidambaram has presented general budget for the year 2007-08. Headlines and editorials published in all newspapers the next day present the clear picture of this budget. Headlines published in all English and Hindu newspapers are as under:—

[English]

"Middle-class cases FM rape". "Listless Budget in for all round denunciation." "Lots of noise but pittance for farm sector." The news published in all newspapers under the caption "Aam Aadmi feels betrayed." "Budget dampens morale of battle-bound Congress Party." "Common man disappointed." The Hindu Published the story "Unemployment and inflation not addressed." "PC gives with right hand brooks with left." "Big blow for small houses." "Sorry, still not at your service." "PC disappoints NRIs in U.K." "Housing estates get less real." "RWAs not happy to be in service net." "Farmers cause cannot be offset." "Nothing at all for desperate farmers." "Common man gains nothing." "Budget betrays aam aadmi." "Women groups complain."

[Translation]

The editorials of 7-8 newspapers of the country are

[English]

"The effort does not match with rhetoric." "No respite for agriculture renewal." "Budget 2007 fails to address growth, inflation and rural uplift."

[Translation]

The reaction of the people all over the country was known through the newspapers of next day. Hon'ble Minister made some announcement. Mr. Speaker, Sir, you may recall that when some people were agitating before

queen Meri Antaenet at the time of French Revolution, she humbly asked why those people were agitating, they said that they are not getting bread to eat.

[English]

"Why do not they eat cakes?"

[Translation]

If they do not get bread, why do not they eat cakes?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was surprised when Mr. Chidambaram mentioned about a good news while presenting budget. He said that [English] there is a good news for cat and dog lovers." Customs duty on pet foods reduced from 30 per cent to 20 per cent. [Translation] Mr. speaker, Sir, is this a good news for thousands of farmers committing suicide for the people of poor and middle class reeling under the price rise, for unemployed labourers and women crushing stones on roads. Crores of children who are victims of malnutrition, helpless elderly persons walking with sticks, women and young girls compelled to go into prostitution to feed themselves, that food for foreign cats and dogs imported from abroad has been made cheaper as has been announced by our Finance Minister? Imported food being eaten by cats and dogs of rich men has been made cheaper. My colleague Shri Jai Ram Ramesh is not present here, who reacted after hearing hon'ble Member of communist party that the people who are criticizing this budget, they can eat food of dogs and cats, it is cheaper and very tasty. This statement also has been published in the newspapers. This statement shows his sensitivity, sobriety and opinion about budget.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, when budget was being presented, 100 crore people of the country were eager to know about the budget even some of them do not have TV or Radio. There were several things in the budget but nothing for common men like a marriage party without bridegroom. What happened about common men? It is very shameful, objectionable and condemnable that common

people have been betrayed because nothing has been announced for them in this budget. So when talked about common men, I would like to mention some points before you.

The first thing is inflation. The thing making people puzzled is high rate of inflation. Mr. Chidambaram made a statement and said that if growth rate increased then inflation is also bound to increase. And then he said that he has no magic wand to control the inflation rate at once. If you have no magic wand then why did you say in election rally of Sonia Gandhi that there is high rate of inflation in election of 2004, while inflation at that time was about 2-3 percent and why you said at that time, "elect us, we will decrease inflation rate"? The price of essential commodities has gone very high today. 6 percent, 6.50 percent or 7 percent has no meaning. The price of essential commodities in wholesale price index and consumer price index should be taken into account. It should be taken into account as to how the prices of commodities increased upto 200-300 percent. Price of Flour has increased from Rs.7 to Rs.16. Similarly, price of other commodities like rice, sugar, salt, onion, vegetable have also increased. These are food of common men. You are allotting 60 rupees per day for rural areas under Employment Guarantee Scheme. If per day expenditure on essential commodities increases by 20, 25 or 30 rupee, out of that 60 rupees, what his life will be, think about it. This 6 or 7 percent has no meaning. Your 8 or 9 percent growth rate hardly makes any difference. If China can hold its inflation at 2 percent for 15 years with 10 percent growth rate then is it appropriate that inflation rate should be increased to 9 percent with 9 percent growth rate. I think you are wrong. So there is no need to read all. Data about inflation have been presented here while I can prove the high increase in prices of different things, but I would like to mention here about somethings. Besides fruit and vegetables, you can see the price of flour, pulses and rice, etc. What a difference has come up. Flour, which was available at Rs.7 per kg. sells now at Rs.16 per kg. Same is the case with

rice. The increased price of rice is not below Rs.45 per kg. Price of pulses has gone upto Rs.65 per kg. from Rs.15 per kg. Similarly, price of spices have increased by 200 percent.

I will mention other data given in budget. I would like to ask hon'ble Finance Minister the reason of price rise. Is it due to tsunami or earthquake? I would like to say that inflation is rising due to wrong policies of UPA Government. They have continued forward trading while the government repeats it again and again that they will discontinue it, but it is running. Commodity exchange and speculation are going on. If all these things continue, then prices rise.

12.37 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Whole produce of farmers which should be procured by you, could not be procured in time, because FCI did not venture into the market at right time. So traders and commodity exchanger procured whole production of farmers paying some extra money and now selling it to consumers at high rate. That's why inflation has gone so high.

It is not rational when you say that price is rising in other countries also. You say that we will import essential commodities. When it is known in foreign countries they increase prices. You say that we will import on zero percent duty which leads to price rise there. So prices of essential commodities increase here due to your wrong policies. So, your failure about price rise is well known.

I am surprised when I hear what is being considered about it in Congress party. Shrimati Sonia Gandhi arranges meeting of Congress parliamentary group and expresses her concern that inflation has gone very high and it should be controlled. Then she writes to Prime Minister expressing her concern about price rise. Then another letter about special economic zone is written to the Prime Minister



[Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra]

expressing concern over suicides being committed by farmers. I think this is illusion only, an attempt of gimmickry. To whom she is telling about price rise? What is the meaning of writing to Prime Minister?...

*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)\**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Mistry, you have spoken without my permission. Nothing will go on record except the speech of Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra. Please sit down.

*(Interruptions)\**

*[Translation]*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Everyone and the House also knows that Prime Minister or Finance Minister cannot do anything without her consent. Nothing is possible without her permission. She is centre of power and accountable for this. Responsibility of Congress is responsibility of UPA chaired by her. I wonder; she is putting responsibility on whom? Writing to hon'ble Prime Minister once, twice calling meeting of congress parliamentary party and saying that this price rise is becoming uncontrolled is a fun. I do not want to use these words but these are wrong policies of the government. Writing too many letters makes one cheap. It is being talked about importance, but I do not want to give all examples. Recently national games had been organized in Guwahati. 23-24 national games have been organized till date, which have been inaugurated by the President or the Prime Minister, but it happened first time that chairperson of a political party inaugurated these games. We would like to

know why Prime Minister has been appointed while he is to be humiliated. Prime Ministerji, you have to go inaugurate, you should see other things happening in these days. Now Congress is governing in four-five states. They have lost in Punjab, now; they are in Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Assam. Their governments are in four states; they are in coalition in two states.

You may see the campaigning advertisement of these six governments in which you see the congress president's photo at the top and below that sometime you may see Prime Minister's photo or sometime not and as far as inauguration ceremony is concerned the credit does not go to the Prime Minister.

*[English]*

It is degrading the office of the hon. Prime Minister.

*[Translation]*

Expressing concern about price rise and saying that it is not your responsibility is wrong. She writes to Petroleum Minister to decrease the price of petrol. He says that it cannot be done. I cannot do this. And then writes, hon. Prime Minister has announced that special economic zone will continue and if there are some abrasions in it, we will correct these, otherwise, they will continue. SEZ, FPF will be continued but concern will be expressed through letters. This is not the right way. It is merely passing the buck on others.

Secondly there is an issue of price rise followed by the issue related to farmers. The issue of suicides by farmers had been raised in the last elections. The honourable Prime Minister had visited Vidarbha six months ago and announced a package there and informed the House that the problem of suicides by farmers will be stopped. Sir, four farmers have committed suicides in Vidarbha during one and half hours of speech delivered by the hon. Finance Minister. Since the announcement of

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\*Not recorded.

the package made by the honourable Prime Minister, at least 3500-4000 farmers have taken their lives. What is there in the budget for them?

[English]

What is there in the budget for that? [Translation] The increase in the credit limit of farmers alone will not check suicides. The Swaminathan Committee recommended the loan at the rate of 4 percent. The subsidy meant for the farmers should be given to them directly but the minister told otherwise and said that he was not in favour of giving them the subsidy directly. This is also one of the recommendations of Swaminathan Committee. Its recommendations have been set aside and in turn a new R. Radhakrishnan commission has been constituted. This government is running on commissions and about 100-125 Committees of Group of Ministers and about 150-200 commissions have been constituted so far.

[English]

What happen to the Report of the Swaminathan Committee?

[Translation]

What happened to the recommendations of Swaminathan Committee? Interest has not been reduced by even a rupee and the banks' rates of interest in the market have also gone up. The farmers have to pay more as interest on money taken from the money-lenders and hence the cases of suicide by farmers are increasing.

Sir, I would like to mention about the situation arising out of reduced budgetary allocation for agriculture. The farmers have been taken for a ride. I can explain it extensively but I would explicitly like to say that the only reason for increase in farmers' suicides is the high rate of interest. Though the timely unavailability of irrigation facilities and proper pricing of their produce have also increased the suicide rate. Today the entire world namely

MNCs, Reliance and Tata are buying goods directly from the farmers and if it is so then from where the Government will get goods for its public distribution system? Those companies will sell those articles on high prices. Why do the agencies like FCI and others not purchase foodgrains in time? The farmers do not get remunerative prices for their produce and suffer immensely. Considering the whole budget I found nothing but lip sympathy.

Now, I want to talk about unemployment. The issue of unemployment has figured in the Budget as well as in the President's Address. Even Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh mentions it several times. The Rural Guarantee Scheme was implemented in 130 districts in first phase and a provision of Rs.11300 crore was made in this scheme. Only 39 percent of this fund was utilized and remaining 61 percent fund was not spent. They have advertised the Rural Guarantee Scheme in the whole world, they have sanctioned fund but the fund is not being utilized. Why is the money not being utilized? They blame the state Governments for not spending it. The reason for this scheme being not so popular is that wherever the Congress party is in power, the fund could not be utilized fully but I can say with certainty that wherever the BJP is in power, the whole fund has been utilized. Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat are at the top in utilizing this fund. The scheme failed in those states where the Congress party is in power. You just judge why such a situation arose and fund could not be utilized.

Secondly the hon. Finance Minister has made an provision for Rs.11300 crore for 130 districts whereas he has included 200 more districts this year in this scheme taking it to 330 districts in all. But he has made a provision of only Rs.700 crore for this purpose. Can the objectives of this scheme be achieved on mere Rs.700 crore in 200 districts? Will this money run this Employment Guarantee Scheme, which became our fundamental right? This is nothing but cheating. It is a matter of mere mentioning in the paper that the Government has now targeted 330 districts in place of 130 districts in this scheme. Who are

[Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra]

being fooled by propagating this thing? You just consider the situation of unemployment. This scheme has not been implemented in the cities. The Government has completed three years. You go through the Common Minimum Programme of UPA. National Employment Guarantee Scheme had been included in it. The Government had mentioned earlier that the scheme would be implemented only in villages and there will be separate scheme for the cities. There are about four crore unemployed graduates who dwell in cities and towns. According to the names registered in the employment exchanges, there are ten crore of unemployed youth as a whole, look at this number. What scheme has been devised for them? There is no such scheme as well as provision in the budget for the unemployed youth, the poor, who live in slums of big cities including Delhi. No Bill has been brought forward in this regard even after three years as per the promises made in the CMP of UPA, nor any fund has been provided for them. You may well imagine the situation of unemployment today. Crores of people have become unemployed due to setting up of multinational companies, special economic zones and shifting of industries.

The worst sufferers are those people who are engaged in cottage and small-scale industries. It is claimed that thirty out of one hundred most rich people of the world belong to this country. It is also claimed thatensex has touched a new height and becomes headline in the newspapers. You also mention that our people are taking over big companies in foreign countries after paying huge amounts. But it is also true that about six crores children are malnourished here. Not only that almost thirty crore people who are living below the poverty line have to face the brunt of inflation and unemployment which not only force them to commit suicide but a lot of women are forced to compromise with their chastity. What has been the situation of unemployment during these three years and what is the provision in your budget for that? Whether there is any provision in your Budget that these

initiatives will be taken to eliminate the unemployment? It had been mentioned last year or even in previous years that the Government would create one crore additional jobs which will eliminate the unemployment. It has not been mentioned in the Budget how many years it will take to eliminate the whole unemployment through their plans.

After that I want to mention about Government employees. The Finance Minister said that income tax exemption limit has been raised by Rs. ten thousand. It is no use mentioning the names but the billionaires; millionaires have also been exempted by Rs.10,000 in income tax. You said that there would be benefit of one thousand rupees. What kind of socialism is this where employees and billionaires of India will have benefit of Rs.1000? This is the provision for the rich and the poor. Why have you made such provision? What does it mean if you provide the rebate of Rs.10,000 for the rich whose income is beyond Rs.1 crore? Why have you exempted them? Government or other employees have facility of standard deduction worth Rs.30,000, it was provided because businessmen or other people have to pay tax on the income only which is deducted from their expenditure. But the Government servants have to pay tax on their original salary. Their income is not counted after deducting conveyance and other expenditure. The standard deduction was meant for them.

But you have done away with standard deduction. Earlier they enjoyed rebate of Rs.12,000 on income from interest. Earlier there was standard deduction of Rs.30,000/- and general deduction of Rs.12,000/- on income from interest but the same has been discontinued. You believe in equality. That is why you have provided the same facility to the billionaire and the people earning Rs.100 to Rs.200. There are total two crore thirty lakh Government and semi Government employees and they have been betrayed. The limit of exemption has been increased from 1,00,000 to 1,10,000 limit for senior citizen, 1,85,000 and for women it is increased from 1,35,000 to

1,45,000. Earlier employees were provided rebate of Rs.50,000 and there was standard deduction of Rs.30,000/- and deduction of Rs.12,000/- on income from interest but it was not beneficial for them. To whom are you extending these benefits. There are 3 crore tax payers. You are providing the same relief to the people having income of more than ten crores and the rest. It shows your intention as to what you think about the common men.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for the past three years Government has been talking about the workers working in mill or unorganized sector I want to know what welfare measures have been taken for the workers of unorganized sector in this budget. You said that you would initiate insurance scheme where 50% amount will be contributed by them and rest 50% will be managed. It is not practical at all. Even on court neither you brought any such bill nor there is any such proposal. We know better how they have been treated. .

Sir, small traders, poor people, shopkeepers, all those running small shops are already disturbed with the fact that when FDI in retail is allowed it will swallow up all the small shops. Then street hawkers, will no longer be seen. People working in Mandi will disappear as retail products will directly reach to big malls. They are disturbed over it. I fail to grasp whether it is an innovative idea put forth by you. There are about five crore small shopkeepers in India out of which many shopkeepers have rented shops. They have brought them under service tax ambit and now say that they have to pay 12 percent service tax. I want to know whether he himself will give 12 percent service tax or will take the same from the rented shopkeeper. Where does the service come in it. [English] Where is the service provided?

[Translation]

A person takes a grocery shop of the rent of Rs. 1,000/- or 2,000/- where you are going to levy the 12 percent service charge. I would like to know what kind of service you are providing?

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, if he wishes to discuss the Finance Bill, I am willing to reply. But I think he should read the Finance Bill before he discusses it. Please stand up and tell me after reading the Finance Bill that you are satisfied that service tax applies if a shopkeeper pays Rs.1000 rent a month.

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : I have read the finance bill. Kindly tell me if anybody purchases an outlet for commercial purposes. You have said that 12 percent tax will be charged from him. If it is incorrect and you will withdraw the same, it will be a good move. But the same is not being withdrawn instead the limit is being increased...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, he has made a statement now that if a man pays Rs.1000 rent, he is liable to pay service tax. I will answer that.

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : I have said that if you include the persons having income of more than 50,000, then persons who are giving rent of Rs.5,000/- or 6,000/- are liable to pay tax. I have said that they will be liable to pay tax and there is no doubt. [English] It will be here if it is beyond Rs.50,000. [Translation] As you have said that persons having income of Rs.50,000/- may not be liable to pay tax. But the people paying rent of Rs. 2000/- or Rs.3,000/- or Rs. 4,000/- ...(Interruptions) His conception to bring India at par with America and Paris and other countries...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : He has made his point, I will reply.

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : I was just mentioning the fact that Government employees, unorganized sector, workers, small trader, common man, all have been betrayed in this way.

After going through the entire budget I have not found any mention of black money and what can be done in this regard. I had tried to raise the matter of Hasan Ali that day. An unknown person whose whereabouts are not known is having a property of Rs.35,000 crore and ten foreign accounts. This is a case of a single person. There may be thousand of such cases. There are information that he has property of Rs.35,000 crore. He is having Rs.35,000 crore with him and ten foreign accounts. All the ten foreign accounts are of a single person. There may be thousands of such cases...(Interruptions)

13.00 hrs.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)\*

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi) : How many politicians are included in it?

[English]

Why do you not come out openly?

[Translation]

Who are the persons involved in it? How many politicians involved in it? Why are the names being not revealed? Why the same is being suppressed? If Government know the names their names should be made public. I have read somewhere that Supreme Court has said that the person involved in such corruption should be

\*Not recorded.

hanged on lamppost. If Supreme Court reiterate that such persons should be hanged on lamppost and corrupt persons should be meted out such treatment and that law does not allow them to do such act, I would like to know who are the people involved in it? They have said that it included politicians, bureaucrats, ministers and terrorists?

[English]

Can there be something more serious?

[Translation]

Security Advisors have said that our exchange is being manipulated by terrorists. There are news everyday that this is being manipulated by terrorists. Terrorists are getting money through 'Hawala'. Why are not couple of terrorists being caught for exemplary punishment? They could be arrested under TADA as there is a provision in TADA that if anybody transfer money as 'Hawala' could be arrested under 'POTA'. You have withdrawn the same. You have also repealed the 'POTA'. Under which Act will you arrest them? How will you punish them.

What happened to Telgi? Who were the persons associated with him. Telgi escaped in the matter. The matter may be evaded as well. Everybody is well aware of the matter of Quattrocchi as to how people are earning black money with the help of terrorists and the people engaged in 'Hawala' are being saved? How are they being protected? How are they being protected? Why is there no mention of black money in the budget speech as to how it can be unearthed? They are running parallel economy. Black money being generated is higher than the total revenue and it is being done through black money.

But not a single word was said about it.

[English]

Not a word about it.

[Translation]

What about the non-performing assets which are lying in the entire budget?...*(Interruptions)*

It is none other than India, the unfortunate country, where the assets which are not taxable are also called assets...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Panskura) : Now, you are turning left...*(Interruptions)* Non-Performing Assets did not pile up in one year...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)\**

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : I know. Every time, non-performing assets were discussed in the budget as to how to explore the ways by which these may be reduced. It is stupidity to call them assets, so how will they be non-performing assets? But during last three years, 17 percent increase in non-performing assets is recorded. Recovery is merely five to seven per cent ...*(Interruptions)* Why did you not mention the non-performing assets in your own speech? We are repeatedly saying that advertisement should be given openly in all newspapers. There are so many high profile people, to whom Government are giving loan of millions of rupees and they are listed among the great rich people of the world. They owe Rs.54,000 crore to banks. Why public notices are not issued against those people? It should be declared that these are the people, who are not returning the money. If they do not have capacity and if someone among them dies or something else happens to them, then we can understand, but if someone is a millionaire and running big industries not only in India but also in other countries. Then, what is the reason of withholding the repayment of loans of banks?

But not a single word has been uttered about it in the budget.

[English]

Not a word about it.

[Translation]

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Government have mentioned about the income tax arrears in the budget. What is the total amount involved in it? It is Rs.1 lakh 40 thousand crore whereas total plan outlay is also more or less the same. I would like to know from the Government as to what mechanism has been developed to recover income tax arrears? What is being done by the Government to recover non performing assets? You just forget about the people having dues of rupees 200-400 but cases of rich people are subjudiced in the court.

[English]

Why do not you bring a new law?

[Translation]

This amount may be released but there is no mention to recover the income tax arrears in the budget speech.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government have mentioned a unique thing in the budget. First thing is that they have increased the plan outlay to 30-40 percent for the next year but the total plan outlay of Rs.2 lakh 54 thousand 41 crore for the previous year has not been spent fully as rupees 10 thousand crore have not been spent out of it. What sort of approach is this? If the plan outlay would have increased at the stage of revised Budget and spent accordingly, then your point proves to be correct but the amount is not spent after getting funds and recommended to increase. This is merely jugglery of data. What are the heads where the amount is spent? Total amount earmarked for social services was Rs.63 thousand 313 crore whereas only Rs.59 thousand crore have been spent and the amount remained unspent out of it was Rs.4

\*Not recorded.

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thousand crore. The amount being provided to Ministry and department has been reduced a lot. This system is not proper that budget is allocated but not spent and then directing that deficit may not increase. This sort of monopoly is not proper.

[English]

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID (Periyakulam) : Why part of the Budget document are you referring to?  
...(Interruptions)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : I am referring to page 8 of the Central Plan Outlay. [Translation] where it is stated that only Rs.59 thousand 43 crore have been spent from the total amount of Rs.63,313 crore earmarked for social services during 2006-07. Rs. 10 thousand crore remained unspent out of Rs.2 lakh 54 thousand 41 crore earmarked in the central plan outlay. I am mentioning these facts here as earlier they made a commitment and it was publicized a lot. Thereafter it was informed that 180 billion dollar is the foreign exchange reserve, how is it being utilized? You would be surprised to know that Rs.4 lakh 21 thousands 219 crore have been earmarked for debt service for next year whereas out total revenue is Rs.4 lakh 86 thousand crore. [English] Am I wrong? [Translation] What is the difference between these two amounts. The maximum amount is being withdrawn from the debt service. There will be no amount in the plan. If you have spent more amount, then it is being tried to put it back in the fund. The entire amount is of debt services only, you should try to safeguard the country from the debt trap. I think, the matter may be considered.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to conclude my speech by saying two things. One is about the education. Government promised to spend 6 percent of the GDP on education but what is the position in this regard? In totality nothing is being spent on education. In education, particularly, for the children in the age group of upto 14

years, about 34.4 percent amount has been reduced under the head of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is the scheme with which we want to educate the society, but fund has been reduced in that scheme too. Now-a-days no child wants to go to Government schools because the conditions of these schools is very bad. No floor mats are there, rooms are not available, and in fact, even the basic facilities are not there in these schools. Everyone wants to get his child admitted in public schools. Some one gets his child educated in Doon school, some one else get his child educated in some other school. But children who are, in fact, poor in real sense, should have been educated through Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and more funds should have been spent on them...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Aaron Rashid, please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing is going on record.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : It was decided to set up six AIIMS during the year 2003-04. Foundation stones were laid at all the proposed locations accordingly and funds were earmarked for the purpose. Now three years have passed since this Government came to power but still neither of the AIIMS has been constructed nor is under construction. Patients are dying outside the hospitals. Poor people cannot afford the expenses of private hospitals. Now-a-days thousands of private hospitals are being constructed. There is neither any mention in the budget about the AIIMS which were proposed to be set up in Bihar and at other places and nor any provision has been made for them. The negligence, which has been committed in the field of education and health, is highly objectionable. I would like to mention two more things.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)\**

Everyday there is a debate on internal security. From the Prime Minister to Home Minister everyone is stating that *[English]* Everything all under the Sun in India is the target of these terrorists. *[Translation]* Only yesterday I was reading somewhere that an alert has been sounded about possible attacks on all of our shores. It is also being said repeatedly that they will station at one of our islands and attack from there. In the headlines of yesterday and day before yesterday it was reported that Metro Rail in Delhi and Taj Mahal are under threat. You are also making statements regarding our nuclear and power installations. If the situation is much precarious what provisions have been made in the budget to tackle it and whether you have made any provisions to increase allocation of the Home Ministry or set up any central agency to deal with such security threat. I went through the figures pertaining to allocation of the Home Ministry. I was very surprised. As per the ministry-wise details only Rs.366 crore have been provided in the Central Plan outlay of Ministry of Home Affairs. Out of it Rs.317 crore were spent and it was increased to Rs.459 crore for the next year. This budget nowhere indicates the seriousness of the Government to fight terrorism and also there is no mention of funds to be provided for formulating schemes to curb this menace.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, youth are being discussed here. It is being said that youth are the backbone of the country. But I want to know what the Government are doing for them? Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, during the last year Rs.600 crore were allocated for youth programmes and sports in the country, out of which only 500 crore were spent Rs.100 crore were left unused. For the next year Rs.700 crore were allocated, out of what? In the plan of Rs.3,19,992 crore only Rs.700 crore were kept for youth programmes and sports. What percentage is it? Only 0.25

\*Not recorded.

percent or one-fourth of 1 percent. You will spend this much less amount on youth, national integrity of country and on sports? Many a time Mr. Chidambaram has stated that Mr. Rajiv Gandhi had organized games in 1982 and that and his govt. will organize better games than that I want to correct him that during that time it was Mrs. Indira Gandhi not Mr. Rajiv Gandhi. I also want to tell him that before I was the President of the committee for organizing games in 1982, this government has been spending Rs.500 crore on sports whereas China spends Rs.20 thousand crore on sports. Here people are spending allotted money on infrastructure and supervision etc. instead of spending the same on sportspersons. It has been said time and again that more amount should be spent on the training etc. of the sportspersons. How will they win medals? What you did instead were extending rebate in full to those constructing Hotels in Delhi. You are giving tax rebate of crores of rupees to them. They will construct hotels, which would be of no use to sports. I have attended every commonwealth game...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It was there in your speech and also in the speech of Mr. Minister but I want to state that at the time of 1982 games Mrs. Indira Gandhi was the PM not Mr. Rajiv Gandhi.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : This is what I am saying.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : They have said that.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Whenever he comes he repeats the same thing. Firstly I want to tell him that *[English]* these are not Congress Games or UPA Games...*(Interruptions)* *[Translation]* These are the games of the country and when the announcement regarding games was made NDA Government was in power. NDA Government brought these games to India. It is not right to repeat it every time. You have extended tax rebate of hundred crore rupees to those constructing Star Hotels in Delhi which will not attract any tax on the builders but at the same time you will not increase the limit of the food



[Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra]

of the sportsperson from Rs.100 to Rs.150. You have decreased the amount given to gold medalists in Asian Games and Commonwealth Games from Rs.20 lakh to Rs.6 lakh. Will the hotel win the medals or infrastructure will bring the medals? If you spend on the sportspersons and give them foreign exposure and best coaches, they will bring medal...*(Interruptions)* You will be surprised to know that Rs.500 crore were spend on youth programmes and sports in total out of Rs.600 crore and for the next year Rs.700 crore were allocated. What has been done for the benefit of the youth with this? What has been done for women? There was great discussion on women empowerment Day, Women were made to believe that a separate budget will be made for them but no announcement was made for them. Every fourth child is a victim of sex abuse. Yesterday I was going through the report of Unesco according to which 6 crore children are the victims of malnutrition. There is no mention of it in the budget. It has been mentioned in the budget as to what they are doing for the Muslims, Earlier there was a cover for minorities that they are doing something for the minorities. For the first time in the history of India, minorities have been made synonymous with Muslims and even after this the Prime Minister says that the Muslims have the first right on the exchequer of our country. What kind of statement is this? This is also communalisation and shows the brazenly communal mindset. Though the amount is not so huge but there are scholarship etc. for the Muslims. If the person is from Schedule Caste he won't get the scholarship but a Muslim will be given the same. For the first time in the history of India you have communalised the budget. It doesn't happen in Pakistan, not a single country in the world does so but it is being done here. It is like if you have the authority you will make it the Islamic Republic. What is being done in this way? You have ruled this country for 40 years. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down. Speak when your turn comes.

*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Hon'ble Member, please sit down.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing should be recorded.

*(Interruptions)\**

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : That is what I am saying. You have said it rightly. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am saying the same thing...*(Interruptions)* Here in this country the party ruled for 40 years, communist party ruled in Bengal, Mulayam Singhji ruled in Uttar Pradesh and even after this the condition of the Muslims is not good then who is responsible for it? ...*(Interruptions)*

An Hon'ble Member : You...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : We were not in Government there at that time. We were not in Jammu-Kashmir, we were never in Government in West Bengal and the condition is worst there. Who is responsible for that? Of what avail would an assistance of rupees two or four hundred crore prove? Would it improve their condition? Why are you dividing them communally? It would have been better had these funds been allocated for an equality commission instead of setting up a Muslim Commission which would have been geared to bring equality at all levels, be it rich or poor, Hindu or Muslim, Men or Women. This discussion is not regarding the below poverty line of Rs.26 crore involved in it, it is more appeasement of Muslims. They are not trying to help them, they are rather creating a divide, building a reaction across

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\*Not recorded.

the country..It isn't favouring Muslims, it is anti-Hindu and they are out to prove that...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down. Speak on your turn.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, that is why I am saying that this budget is completely anti poor and anti people. This is anti poor employees and anti public. This budget belies the expectations of one and all, it is an act of treachery with all categories of people including children and women. Chidambaram Sahab will be remembered in history only for this quoting the statement of Marry Antewet.

[English]

It is a good news for the entire country.

[Translation]

Made in the context of dog food, only this will remain in history. Only that part of the budget reflects their mindset. I oppose, the way this budget has been prepared.

[English]

SHRI K.S. RAO (Eluru) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have heard with rapt attention what my friend Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra, coming from the BJP, spoke about the Budget. He mentioned many a time about the poor, about the rural sector and the farmers. At least, I am happy that he is speaking now from the Opposition Benches. They never spoke anything about such people when they were sitting in the Ruling Benches. But even by sitting in the Opposition Benches also, I would say - though I belong to the Congress Party, the UPA alliance - I did not find any effective criticism supporting the poorer sections of the society in his speech. I will mention how it is not.

To begin with, my friend Prof. Malhotra was speaking about the impressions of the industry, trade and the expressions made in the newspapers stating that this

Budget is a lackluster Budget and it is not motivating people, this and that.

Sir, I do not have anything against newspapers. Have we come across one instance in this country where the industrial sector or industrialists or traders have spoken anything about their responsibility towards poorer sections of the society? If they were to make criticism against any Budget or a Government, invariably they speak about reduction in tax rates, but statistics reveal that in this country rich people are paying the lowest tax. Though it is mentioned on the headlines that 30 percent tax on the corporate sector plus surcharge etc., because of the several exemptions given, ultimately it does come to even 19.2 per cent. So, if the industrial sector, the traders or the business community in this country were to say that tax rates have not come down, it means they do not have any responsibility or any sympathy for the poor people who are living in large numbers in this country. If they were to say, 'All right, we make money, we are only acting as trustees of corporate houses and we will spend much of our wealth only for the betterment of poorer sections and to improve their lot', I would have been very happy.

Sir, I quote an instance of how newspaper reporting goes on in this country. In 1977, I was campaigning for the Congress Party in Machilipatnam Parliamentary Constituency of Andhra Pradesh. At that time, I was not a Member of Parliament. When I was going for campaigning in the morning, I saw a slogan written on the wall which said: 'If you want freedom of the Press, you must vote for the Janata Party'. The other slogan I saw was: 'If you want democracy and not dictatorship, you vote for the Janata Party'. Immediately I went back to my house and asked my people to write the following below that slogan stating it is that 'If one were to have power and position, then it is democracy and if one were to lose that power, it is dictatorship'. The same leader who was in the Congress Party earlier was telling, time and again that it is a democracy which he is representing as a Congress Party member. But when he went out of the Congress Party, he said that it was dictatorship.

[Shri K.S. Rao]

When they wrote about freedom of the Press, the next moment I got it written there as follows: 'Do you require freedom for the Press or Press owners?' Tell me, today in which newspaper the editor or the journalist has got the freedom to write about an issue where it contradicts the opinion of the newspaper owner? How much value have these comments of the Press got? Did they ever comment about the rich people of about the corporate sector? If an industrialist makes hundreds of crores and whose share value has gone up from Rs.10 to Rs.3,000, did he ever say as to how he made that money? Is it not because he is charging more than what he deserves? Is it not because he is charging more than what he deserves? Is it not because he has increased the cost of the services that he is providing or increased the cost of the commodity that he is manufacturing? Did newspapers question that any time? No, and my friend wants to depend on comments made by such newspapers and not on statistics. I would have been very happy had he mentioned something about statistics and gave suggestions in detail as to how the lot of the poor man has to be increased. If he had spoken that unless the purchasing power of 65 per cent of the people living in rural areas increases no industry can flourish in this country, I would have been very happy, but he did not do that. He only said that this Government has not done anything to agriculture, this Government has not done anything to the common man, the poor people below the poverty line, employees etc.

Sir, I will now come to all his points one by one. He said that this Government has not done anything to the farm sector. When they were in the Government, did they ever think in terms of increasing the credit to the farm sector? I am very happy that the day the UPA Government came into power, they realized the importance of the farm sector and the rural sector.

Unless the income of 65 per cent of the people living in the villages goes up and unless their living standards

go up, this country cannot grow, and no country can develop. If the manufacturers produce millions of goods, who will purchase? Are they purchased by the same 35 per cent people? That is why, I say that I am happy that this Government has realized at least now that we have to take care of the farm sector and unless the people below the poverty line are taken care of, there is no future for us.

Simply because he is sitting in the Opposition, he is criticizing, and I do not find fault in that. I will support if he has criticized much more with points but he has criticized without any points. He said that China has got a growth rate of 10 to 11 per cent but their inflation is only two per cent. I am happy that at least today he is praising China, a communist country, which they never did, and they had opposed all the time.

Sir, what was the growth rate during the NDA regime? Did they ever see that? It was four per cent or 4.5 per cent, and sometimes it was even less than that. Now, today we can say proudly that the growth rate is 9.2 per cent, and we aim at more than 10 per cent. We have got confidence in that. The entire globe has realized that this country is prospering very well particularly the growth is very visible in the last three years. How can we find fault in that?

All right, there is inflation. There is a little increase. How much? It is 5.2 per cent to 5.4 per cent now. It was around four per cent earlier. Why? What is the reason? Have they ever gone into the details? Much of the inflation is only because of the increase in the prices of essential commodities, which are being consumed by the common man, where the control has been lessened by the Government, and be it pulses, tamarind, chilly, vegetables and fruits, which are being consumed by the common man. Yes, they did go up many a time. Why did they lose the Delhi Government those days? It was only because the price of onion had increased. Did they realize at that time? Even now, will they accept that this was because of the mistake in their policy, which had happened in those days?

Now, because they are sitting in the Opposition, they say that it is a policy failure and, it is because of the policies of the UPA Government are not in favour of the poor man, the prices are going up, as if it is a great calamity. I do not say that the prices have to go up but we must find a mechanism whereby the poor man is not affected by this. I would suggest some ways as to how it can be done.  
...(Interruptions)

The points on which all the time they harp are very funny. They do not speak really about BPL families. Let me see how funny they are. In a discussion on the Budget, which affects the entire nation, he said that it is Madam Sonia Gandhi inaugurated the National Games and not the Prime Minister; and thereby it is belittling the Prime Minister. Is it an issue which helps the poor man? They are unable to consume the fact that they are sitting in the Opposition benches? He said that the photograph of Madam Sonia Gandhi is more visible in the newspaper and not the Prime Minister. Have they got so much love, affection or really on principle that the Prime Minister's photograph must be in a bigger size and Madam Sonia Gandhi's photograph must be a smaller size? No. It is just to make some comments, some criticisms to make a divide. They will make all out efforts to bring about some division between the Chairperson of the UPA and the Prime Minister but I am sure that they will not succeed in this.

They will never succeed. They would mention all these trivial matters.

Regarding suicide by farmers, has it started yesterday? Is it a phenomenon only in the UPA Government? Was it not there during the time of the NDA Government? Have they ever made any point on that? Have they given any suggestions or taken steps to prevent that? Even in Andhra Pradesh it is visible. During the previous TDP Government, the number of cases of suicide by farmers was very many. The pathetic condition is that the former Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Mr. Naidu says that 'because the Government declared Rs.1.5 lakh to be paid to the farmers

as compensation for suicide, they are committing suicide.' Sir, would anybody commit suicide because he would be getting Rs. 1,50,000? This Government never made a comment on him. They did not find fault with him at all. And, now he speaks of suicide by farmers!

Sir, while speaking about the farmers, he said that the increased credit is no solution to their problems. I do agree that it is not everything. He also mentioned that the interest rates to the farmers must be reduced. I fully support it. The reason being, while arriving at the prices of the industrial goods, the mechanism takes care of the interest having been paid on the loan taken from the bank, which constitutes 75 per cent; the services reduced by the owner including his wife, his facilities, privileges etc., plus some profit/dividend on his investment; and then the input costs. All those things added only set the prices being fixed for the industrial goods, but not to the farm products. If on the same principle, the prices of the agricultural commodities were to be fixed, then we would be doing justice.

Now as an industrialist has an investment in his industry; and he takes loan from the bank, the farmer also has also got the investment in his land; and he also takes loan. An acre of land costs him Rs.4 lakh and the interest component on Rs.4 lakh at six per cent, comes to Rs.24,000 per year. But he is not getting even Rs.5,000 per acre. I would have supported him, but he did not say so. He did not mention about it.

Similarly, he did not make any mention about Crop Insurance. It is we, who were fighting. In spite of our being in the UPA Government, we find fault sometimes, with the Finance Minister. Actually, I feel proud – last time also I mentioned – to say that it was during the Rajiv Gandhi's time that it was thought about and then the Crop Insurance Scheme introduced. But with the experience in the State of Gujarat, where false claims running into hundreds of crores are made, the Government is scared to continue the Scheme. But still it is continued. But Sir, I would have been happy had he said that this Crop Insurance Scheme

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must be implemented on the basis of individual farmers and not on the village basis.

If somebody makes a false claim, let there be a provision of penalty on him. Let it be left to the private corporate sector. Unless the corporate sector looks after it, if some false claims were to be made, we may make a provision in the law to take action on him. So, if a wrong claim were to be made, give him the punishment. But here is a farmer who has suffered a loss by virtue of not his fault but by natural calamities. Should he not be helped? Supposing, a godown of an industrialist or a trader is on fire, or some accident takes place, he is being paid compensation by the insurance companies. When they can be compensated, what crime the farmer has committed? Why should he not be compensated?

Coming to the Public Distribution System, my friend. Dr. Malhotra, did not give any valid comment. He only touched it. We are spending Rs.25,000 crore as subsidy on food through the FCI. But it is we, who actually suggested to the hon. Finance Minister and the hon. Agriculture Minister that in its place if the Self Help Groups formed by women could be given the responsibility, and if they could be given the ample credit at lesser rate of interest asking them to procure the farm produce, and then supply them to the Fair Price Shop in the locality giving responsibility of an area, definitely the farmers would get better price, with the result the consumer will also get it at a lesser price.

And, if the process, many of the poor people who are the members of the Self-Help Groups can also get a living. That way, we can help the farmers. We can help the poorest BPL families. We can help women in getting employment in large numbers. But no suggestion has been made. We can increase the items that are required to the poor people. He can say add some more items to the PDS, not only kerosene, not only rice, not only wheat, not only pulses but also so many other things can be added. Nothing has been mentioned.

He mentioned about the rural employment. He mentioned that no extra allocation has been made and even the allocations are not spent. I agree but when we give rural employment, giving merely credit to the people is not sufficient. We must provide skills to them. We must train them for a job, for manufacturing certain things even at their level and then we can link upto the financial institution. Then, whatever amount of credit that is given will be perfectly utilized. Just saying Rs.1000 crore is the allotment, and you spend it in a manner that you want to spend does not help.

But he never concentrated on giving skills to the people. It do not understand this. Many a time I told this in the House, whatever the Government is. How will the wealth be generated in a country unless the people of the country are skilled people? Where are the skills for the people here? What concentration is made on imparting skills to the people? A boy who comes out of the institute does not have self-confidence that he can live on his own or he can manufacture something or he can be a party to manufacturing some goods skilfully. He only says he wants white-collared employment. He says he wants a job where his shirt should not become dirt. How much employment can be provided in white-collared jobs? I want the hon. Minister to think in terms of providing skills to all the students. By the time they come out of the institute, they must have self-confidence.

Today, why did China come up so well? How did Malaysia come up? How is South Korea? It is because of the skills. Because of the skills that they acquired, their ability to produce also is more at a lesser cost. This is more important.

He was telling about education. He says the allocation is not made to SSA. Clear figures are there. One of the good things this Government has done is concentrating on education to decrease the drop-outs. We all know that. If 100 children were to be admitted in the nurseries, only seven are reaching the college. So, most of the people are from the poorer sections. There is reason for it. I have

seen it with my own eyes in my constituency when I go to the area where the poor people are living. They are living with the hopes that their son must also be educated and should become a great man. The poor man is starving himself and working overtime. They try to educate their children. The children are educated. They become degree holders, post-graduate degree holders but there is no employment. They do not want their children to soil their clothes like them. They want them to have better employment but employment is not available. So, most of the children from the poorer sections of the society who are graduates are living idle in their villages. The net result is this.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Education is a State subject and the State cannot provide teachers. What would you suggest?

SHRI K.S. RAO : Let them motivate. How did we provide today funds from the SSA? Education is a State Subject but we have provided thousands of crores because we have realized that in this situation where education is the only instrument for the poorer sections to come up in life. The Government of India has taken a step that all right, we will assist you; we will provide large funds. That is the reason why Rs.10,000 crore was made available. Not only lower primary, but upper primary is also included today, and tomorrow, even school education is also being included in it.

Why the drop-outs? The drop-outs are because in spite of starving, overworking and educating his child, he could not get employment. He thought mukesh why he should give education to his child. If I send my child to work, even at the age of eight or 10, he will get extra wage of Rs.40 which will help his family.

My humble request today is that though we are providing thousands of crores of rupees realizing our mistake made earlier, this is not sufficient. The system of education that we are having today does not help these boys, particularly from poorer sections to get employed tomorrow.

Then, the dropouts will become multiple in great numbers. So, let us vocationalise the education, let us impart skills to them, let us make them self-confident that by the time they come out of the institute, automatically the employment will be provided. There will be enough amount of generation of wealth. The hon. Minister of Finance will give the figures. He is competent and he can get more revenue which he can use for the expenditure tomorrow.

But, Sir, how will the revenue come? It will come when there is generation of wealth. How will the generation of wealth come? It will come when the citizens are skilled. If the skills of the 400 million people who are in the working age were to be doubled and trebled, the generation of wealth can be lakhs of crores of rupees more. Taking the revenue as 10 per cent or 11 per cent out of the GDP we will get more than a lakh of crores of rupees revenue increased overnight. Then, he does not need to bother, break his head to increase the GDP by another one per cent or 1.5 per cent. Automatically it will be increased by more than three per cent. But, they never made that suggestion. They only say that no allocation is being made. Where it is visible that the allocations are increased by 35 per cent in one year they did not speak of it.

The hon. Member was talking about the Common Minimum Programme, When there is a coalition Government there will always be some difference of opinion and some of the things might not be totally implemented to 100 per cent. But let them say in one incident where it has gone wrong. They are generally finding fault.

The hon. Member was talking about the increase in benefit to the employees. He wanted to provoke the employees saying that the benefit that is given is only Rs.1,000. Instead, if you were to concentrate on unorganized sector, who are not getting even one-tenth of what these employees are getting, I would have been happier. He did not touch the unorganized sector. Have they ever thought

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in terms of giving social security to the landless people? This Government has made a provision today of social security and bringing insurance.

My humble request to the hon. Minister is this. You made a provision for bringing insurance to all those people. But you limited it only to LIC.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : It is a vehicle.

SHRI K.S. RAO : I want this to be extended to all the corporate sector also and the insurance companies so that they can come forward and help everybody.  
...(Interruptions)

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPA (Trichur) : Do you want to kill the LIC?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, while he is having a glass of water, I want to mention one thing. The scheme is to provide death-cum-disability social security insurance to approximately one crore landless rural households.

SHRI K.S. RAO : I know.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : The vehicle to implement the scheme is the LIC. That is a conscious decision we have taken. I can only instruct the LIC to do it because it is our organization. I cannot possibly instruct the private sector company to do it.

SHRI K.S. RAO : It is not instruction. I do not say instruction. But, instead of limiting it only to LIC, if it is made open, some of the corporate sector might come forward. We will provide Rs.200 crore to the corporate sector and the State Government may share or even the client may share.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : We will see that later.  
...(Interruptions) Sir, LIC is the most appropriate vehicle to begin to implement the scheme.

SHRI K.S. RAO : Sir, they are speaking about the black money. It is always a matter of pleasure for BJP to speak about the black money, corporate sector, shares, dividends, going up and coming down and all these things and once again not on the poor people.

The hon. Member mentions about the NPAs. Shri Ananth Kumar, the NPAs have not increased. As Members of several Committees, financial Committees we have visited many banks. Everywhere we have seen that the NPA percentage has come down. I do not know from where Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra has got that figure to say that it has gone to 17 per cent. It is very surprising!

Coming to the foreign exchange reserves, it is a matter of pride for us that today the country has got foreign exchange reserves of about 180 billion dollars. For two and a half years, in may of the meetings which we held with several banks, I was asking them as to why keep these reserves in unremunerative deposits and why we could not utilize part of it at least in lending to Indian corporate houses which work outside. I believed that if we do that, the revenues earned will be in foreign exchange and rate of return would also be more for banks, for the corporate sector and for the country as a whole. I am happy that the hon. Finance Minister has made a provision in this Budget to utilize part of these reserves for lending to infrastructure sector. It is a happy thing. The hon. Member from the Opposition did not refer to this.

I now come to health. The basic requirements of the poor people are foodgrains, shelter, education and healthcare. Providing healthcare to poor people is our duty. As the hon. Member has stated, when the poor people go to Government hospitals for treatment, they find that there are not enough Doctors to take care of them. When it comes to put up a Government dispensary in a village, Doctors do not come forward to work in rural areas. What is to become of these poor people in the rural areas then? Either we have to bring a legislation to make it compulsory

for all Doctors to work at least three years in rural areas before they get the degree, or we must provide health insurance to people in the rural areas. It does not cost much. It may cost about Rs.200 to Rs.300 a year. If you begin a scheme of health insurance with annual coverage of Rs.25,000 for them, those people can get treatment in any hospital when they need it. Let it be a corporate sector hospital. If this provision is made, even Doctors will come forward to set up nursing homes in the rural areas because now they would be assured of getting money. I wish the hon. Minister to think in terms of providing this kind of health insurance to all the BPL families in the country.

I felt extremely happy when reverse mortgage is provided for in the Budget. We have got the ambitious programme of providing shelter to the poor people on a large scale. We want to provide more than 50 lakh houses to poor people. But then, the amount that we provide, Rs.25,000 to Rs.35,000 is not sufficient in the present system for construction of a proper house. More than that, when we ask them to construct the houses themselves, the quality of construction is so poor that the houses do not stay for more than ten years. As a result of that, there is no asset with them after ten years but the money is gone.

This reverse mortgage facility is a solution to that problem. The Government can take the initiative of constructing houses, standard houses which can live at least sixty years for the people living below poverty line. Such houses may cost anywhere between a lakh of rupees to one and a half lakh rupees but that does not matter. People may say that a poor man cannot pay his installment. He does not need to pay the installment. Government is giving the land of substantial value to the poor people free of charge. Let us say a poor man gets say 100 sq. yards of land free of cost in a certain urban area and the house was costing Rs.50,000. Instead of Rs.50,000 if you give Rs.1,50,000 to the same poor man, he cannot pay that money back immediately but the bankers would be ready to reverse mortgage the house and pay the

installment on his behalf. Those people who are dedicated and determined to pay the money back can retain their houses. If they do not pay the installments, the bankers will take away the house after say 10 to 20 years. This is the best provision made now. Let it not be taken lightly. Let there be sincerity in implementing this reverse mortgage provision and let houses be constructed for the benefit of poorer sections of the society.

Similarly, the hon. Minister has made a provision for the repair of water bodies in the country, which is essential. There were about one to four water tanks in every village in those days which used to provide for cultivating lakhs of acres land.

Over a period of 50 years, they have all silted down. Whenever rain comes in, it does not stay in the tank and it goes away. He took the lead by allocating thousands of crores of rupees to make water bodies to store water. I am happy about it. Crores of acres can be cultivated by using these water bodies.

I would like to mention another point to the hon. Minister. Linking of rivers is very essential. It is a good project by which we can avoid floods, drought and we can bring inter-river water travel and it may cost Rs.10 lakh crores. It is all right. Shri Prabhu has said that Rs. 5,70,000 crore is required for inter-linking of rivers in the country. Let it cost Rs.10 lakh crore.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR (Bangalore South) : We can also avoid disputes.

SHRI K.S. RAO : We can avoid inter-water and inter-State disputes. Rs.10 lakh crore is not required to be provided in the Budget by the Finance Minister. Biggest corporate sector is ready to linking of rivers with their own investment. All that the Government has to do is to make way for it. Maybe initially for undertaking surveys or assessments or making estimates and avoiding obstacles. the Government may have to spend some money. Unless this is done, agricultural sector will not prosper, rural sector



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will not prosper and farmers problems will not be solved unless we provide assured water to them. Why are they committing suicide? They sweat round the year and when the crop was ready and when they feel proud, tell their constituencies that this time in one acre of their land, they would get 40 quintals of wheat, and if suddenly there is a cyclone or a flood, the entire thing goes. Who has to compensate for the loss? How will the Government stop the suicide in such circumstances? If all the rivers are linked, all these things can be avoided and we do not have to spend Rs.10,000 crore for natural calamities.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please conclude now. I have 18 more Members from your side.

SHRI K.S. RAO : That is why, I would request the hon. Minister to think in terms of inter-linking of rivers and motivate the State Governments to initiate that project during his tenure.

Similarly, take the Self-Help Groups (SHGs). He was talking about empowerment of women. It is a pleasure to see how these SHGs by women are working in large number. In my district, there are 45,000 SHGs and they have lent a sum of Rs.300 crore at the rate of only three per cent interest. Though the Finance Minister has reduced the rate of interest, they are providing loans at the rate of eight to nine per cent. In Andhra Pradesh, its Chief Minister has brought a scheme where he compensate that six per cent and provides loan at the rate of only three per cent. What an enlightenment; what a courage; what kind of self-confidence. In all these years, when a woman wants Rs.10, she had to depend on his husband or son or father. Today, she is earning. You must see the glow in her face. But there are paying back also. Ninety-seven per cent recovery is there in all the loans given to SHGs. I would like to inform the hon. Minister that that itself would be an empowerment of women. He must provide more credit to SHGs at lesser rate of interest. They would take care of fair price shops and provide all those things.

In Andhra Pradesh, they made an experiment where SHGs were asked to procure maize at a time when the traders are not giving reasonable Minimum Support Price to the farmers. These people have procured at a Minimum Support Price and even more and they supplied at the lesser rate to the consumers – poultry and other items. In the process, they made money and a living. I want the hon. Minister to increase the credit to the SHGs and encourage them with lesser rate of interest.

Infrastructure is very essential in this country. There also we do not require lakhs and lakhs of rupees. We have good budgets. What we need is that some right thinking people must be taken into confidence. We need to take their advice and suggestions. Through BOT, BOO, many things like, railway lines, roads, airports, seaports can be built by the corporate sector, without much investment from the Government. If it is not remunerative, then, a part of it can be shared by the Government by going to the annuities.

Why do we call America as the richest country? We call so because their buildings are enormous; roads are very good. Same thing can be done in our country also.

14.00 hrs.

We do not need to import anything. It is only converting hills into aggregates; it is only bringing sand from *nallah*; it is only converting limestone into cement. In the process, you will be providing employment. So, what are required are right thinking, dedication, commitment and determination, and nothing else. We do not require money for this.

The last point is on population control. Neither the Finance Minister mentioned this nor did the hon. Member who spoke earlier mention this. It is the biggest problem. I suggested in 1985 to the then Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi that all those privileges or the incentives that are given, should be linked to population. If, in 1985, as a citizen, I were to restrict my children to one, I suggested that there should be a scheme whereby the Government

would deposit Rs. 2,000 in a bank and at the time of the child's marriage, he would be paid Rs. 1 lakh, that means, after a period of 25 years. So, the amount actually that the Government had to invest in those days was only Rs.2,000, in a bank, under that incentive scheme. That will become Rs.1 lakh by the time the child is 25 years old. In this way, the Government would be motivating the people to reduce population.

Similarly, if one wants to be a Member of Parliament or a legislator or a member of a corporation, he should have only two children. In case an employee wants promotion, he must restrict his children to only one. The Government is giving house-sites to bureaucrats. If one were to get, then he must not have more than one child; then only, he will be given house-sites. In this manner, we must control the population in this country. Otherwise, no amount of growth will help bring the required amount of development, as we envisage or as we dream of.

My humble request to the hon. Finance Minister is this. There are actions in many aspects like increasing the credit to agriculture, reducing the interest rates, more water bodies, etc. But at the same time, we have got a lot of things to do.

We have proved that we are more intelligent than the citizens of the developed nations, including America. Its development is only because of the NRI population there. This is because of the research that is going on. So, I want the same facilities to be provided in doing R and D here in this country. By this way, our own citizens will make a lot of inventions; more innovative developments will come up, and there will be prosperity.

With these words, I support the Budget and I congratulate the hon. Minister for making a lot of provisions, recognizing the rural sector and the farm sector.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (Kasargod) : Our Finance Minister has placed the Budget for the year 2007-08. His

speech comes to about 30 pages and covers 186 main items. He covered almost all the points.

But the main issue is that the allotment made for various Departments is not adequate and it is insufficient. That is the main criticism that I would like to make at the very outside in this House.

It is true that three districts in Kerala have been included for the special package under some scheme and also two districts have been included under the Employment Guarantee Scheme. I express my gratitude to the Government for this.

In the Budget, it is stated that there is a growth rate of 9.2 per cent. When we speak about it in economic terms, 9.2 per cent is a better figure, no doubt; but at the same time, the rate of inflation is 6.7 per cent. The Finance Minister and many other colleagues say that the price rise is part and parcel of economic growth. We cannot agree with the conventional economic theory of demand-push inflation, wage-push inflation and also general inflationary trend. We have to analyze it as to why there is demand-push inflation or wage-push inflation. Even if this theory is correct, you will find that the growth rate in China is higher compared to India but the price rise is below two per cent or three per cent. So, both the price rise and the low agricultural production show the sad face of the Indian economy and that is not rightly addressed in the Budget speech.

I think, now the Government is convinced to some extent – The Prime Minister has written letters to the Chief Ministers and Shrimati Sonia Gandhi has also made it a major point – that speculative trading is one of the reasons for the rise in price. We had raised this issue of speculative trading in the last opportunity also but the Government was not in a position to admit that. Now, the speculative trade or the future trade is back, not only in the field of wheat and rice, it is allowed in other fields also.

The Congress party in its Hyderabad Party Conference had made it clear that the multinationals should not enter

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the retail sector. There are about five crore retail shops. But not, due to advent of multinationals and big merchants in the retail market and also the failure of procurement of food and rice, there has been an increase in the speculative trade. Absence of an effective Public Distribution System is one of the main reasons of the price rise. We cannot co-relate the price rise in India merely with the growth rate. The overall growth rate in the manufacturing industry is 11 per cent. It is better in the construction sector and service sector. In the primary food sector, vegetables, pulses, wheat and sugar are the items which a common man wants to get. In these sectors the prices are high and at the same time the production is low.

The other point is about the sad position of the agricultural sector. In the Economic Survey, it has been mentioned that there is only 2.7 per cent growth in the agricultural sector. We have to analyse the reason for this. The Finance Minister has made it clear that there is a bank credit worth Rs.2,20,000 crore. Of course, it is a welcome step but what is the interest rate. The interest rate is only 7 per cent. Is it possible for the poor farmers to manage the loan at high interest rates? There has been a reference to it in the Swaminathan Commission's Report but it is still under consideration and not yet fully implemented. As far as farmers are concerned, they want to get loan at low interest rate. They can repay their loans in time only if they get the remunerative price for their produce. Only if there are low interest rates, availability of loan and better price of the agricultural produce, we can save this agricultural sector. But the interest rate is still 7 per cent. So, that is the main reason of the farmers committing suicides in such a large number. The Finance Minister says that there is no magic stick in his hand. About 60-70 per cent of India's population is dependent on agriculture. However much growth in IT industry or other industry we may make, if agriculture sector goes back it reflects the sad face of Indian economy.

So, I welcome some of the measures that the Government has taken but at the same time I may say that they are inadequate. The availability of loan, low interest rate and better price for the agricultural produce are the main three factors that we have to take care for the betterment of the agricultural sector.

Another important issue is the unemployment rate. No concrete measures are being put forward in this Budget to solve this burning issue. The Economic Survey says that the rate of unemployment, be it in the public sector, private sector, rural sector or the urban sector, is increasing in all the sectors. So that also has become a major issue which we have to address. I do not want to go into the general issues but the main issue is how this Budget affects the defence sector.

With regard to the duty structure and the excise duty, I think when I speak about the *bidi*, it is not the question of Kerala alone but it is a question of most of the States in India. The Finance Minister talked about the health consideration. Of course, it is true but what is the alternative suggestion that you have put forward? Lakhs and lakhs of people are engaged in it. About 50 lakh people are engaged in the *bidi* industry and most of them are women. They are getting very low wages. The proposed excise duty is 7 to 11 and also 17 to 24 for the thousand *bidis*. So, it is really very dangerous. Earlier, our request was to reduce it. But instead of that, the Government has increased it. I think it should be a measure for the killing of the *bidi* industry not only in Kerala but in almost all the States. So, I would request the Government to withdraw the new proposal.

As far as Kerala is concerned, the Kerala Mineral and Metal and Travancore Titanium Products are full public undertakings. The total production comes to about 66 MT. Now the import duty has reduced from 12.5 per cent to 10 per cent. The demand of the Government of Kerala was that it should be increased from 12 per cent to 15.5 per cent. The Government has reduced it. It is a public undertaking and it would really adversely affect

this industry. So, I would request the Government to consider this issue, especially it being a public sector undertaking.

As far as Kerala is concerned, the Centrally-sponsored investment is decreasing year by year, especially in the public sector. Earlier it was 2.9 per cent, then it became 2.5, then 2.1 and now it is 1.9, I think. You know there is a better Panchayati Raj system in Kerala and also better education, health and housing schemes. So, we should not be punished just because we have come forward in all these social sectors. With regard to the higher education, I welcome the suggestion of the Government to increase the fund for the higher education. But we are not able to avail of this fund as there is no such institution in Kerala. In health sector, we have made progress. There is a trend of spreading many diseases like cancer, AIDs, chikungunia and many other disease. So, we want more funds and we also want that the Trivandrum Medical College should be raised to the status of AIIMS.

It is true that literacy in Kerala is high. It comes to about 100 per cent or 99 per cent but at the same time, there is no higher educational institution in Kerala. It is our long standing demand to have an IIT in Kerala because in the field of technical and higher education Kerala has contributed much to the nation and even to the world. A large number of people go outside and generate foreign exchange. So, it is a just demand of Kerala to have such an institution. The Government of India has given various Centrally-sponsored schemes for the States. It is good for the infrastructure development, social development and for the primary education. But we have to think about the norms. The need of each State, the geographical condition of each State, the practical convenience of each State differ from State to State. The educational situation in Kerala may differ from some other States. So, there should be some changes in the norms for the utilization of this Fund. Not only that, the State Government can utilize this fund fully well. When the Government has allotted this fund to the State Governments, they have full right to decide how it should be utilized.

Sir, the Public Distribution System was working very well in the State of Kerala. We feel proud about the fact that we have been able to control the prices of commodities by entering the market and stabilising the prices to a great extent. But I am constrained to say that the allocation of foodgrains to our State is being reduced every year. The APL/BPL quota of rice in the last three years has been on the decline. Even the quota of the State in respect of Kerosene and LPG gas connections also has been on the decline. It is true that through the Public Distribution System we are able to control prices but our State is not producing much rice and wheat. We are producing only cash crops. Therefore, it is the responsibility of the Central Government to provide us with sufficient allocation of these items in order that the Public Distribution System in the State functions efficiently. The Government of Kerala had requested and had rather demanded for an allocation of 25,755 MTs of Kerosene. But that allocation has been drastically reduced. There are about 15.77 lakhs of eligible card holders and the State is being provided with an allocation that can meet the demands of only 9.4 lakh card holders. Such an allocation has made it difficult for the State to make things manageable in the Public Distribution System.

Sir, I had raised the issue about the EPF pensioners earlier also. The Government had agreed to consider this issue. The EPF pensioners are now getting only Rs.500 as pension. Almost every Member of this House had demanded rise in the amount of the pension under this head. I hope, the hon. Finance Minister, during his reply to the Budget speech, would announce an enhanced amount of pension for the EPF pensioners because, as you would appreciate, Rs.500 is a very meager amount and I believe, this amount could be raised without any difficulty.

Sir, the Panchayati Raj institutions in our State are functioning very effectively. They are considered as model institutions for the country. Last time, continuously for two to three days there was a discussion on the working of the Panchayati Raj institutions and the hon. Minister for

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Panchayati Raj institutions mentioned categorically that the Panchayati Raj institutions, as functioning in the State of Kerala, could be considered as the model one for the entire country. The success of the system owes its genesis to the wholehearted participation by the local people. The District Panchayats, the Block Panchayats and the Gram Panchayats, all the tiers involved in the Panchayats participate in the implementation of the Centrally-sponsored and the State-sponsored programmes. The involvement and participation of all the tiers of the Panchayats are very essential for the effective and successful functioning of the Panchayati Raj institutions as a whole. Human resources and financial resources are key to the success of these institutions. Therefore, the Government of Kerala has requested that KILA, a training centre for the elected representatives should be upgraded for proper implementation of the schemes under the Panchayati Raj institutions. It is also a centre for the training of officers. A request has been made by the Government of Kerala to upgrade its status to that of a national institute. Last time, during his reply to the debate on Panchayati Raj, the hon. Minister had agreed that this institute was a model for the training of elected representatives and officers engaged in the implementation of the schemes under the Panchayats. No such institution of this kind existed in any other part of the country. So, I would like to request the Government that in keeping with what had been said by the hon. Minister of Panchayati Raj, KILA should be accorded the status of a national institute.

Sir, it is true that special package schemes are being implemented in 33 districts in four States of the country and more districts are going to be provided with such special package schemes. The Government of Kerala had made certain suggestions. The Government is allocating a lot of money for these schemes. But the spending in certain cases is not prudent. The money is being spent without considering the actual need of the area; whether the fund should be allocated for

construction of roads or for some other matter is not being considered. Our suggestion is that we should think about the agricultural sector, the difficulties of the small and marginal farmers should be considered as a norm for allocating the funds. We can have a ceiling for the farmers who are not able to give wages to the agricultural labourers. The norms can be extended or modified in such a way that even funds could be allocated under this scheme for providing employment to the unemployed people and also the farmers may be given assistance in order that their productivity could be enhanced. I think it is a good suggestion. Small farmers can really be given assistance through this scheme.

Sir, the other point that I would like to mention here is about the pathetic condition of the plantation area in the State of Kerala. There are 22 estates in Idukki district alone which are closed. In Iruamed area, 25,000 people are unemployed for the last three to four years. I am glad to say that, in the Budget speech, there is a proposal for a special package for the plantation areas. It has really become a social issue. You may find that many students are not going to school because the farmers there are unemployed for a long time. So, replantation is a main issue. It is not only in the case of tea estates but it is the same with cardamom, coffee and other crops also. In the tea estates alone, there are about 21,000 hectares of tea plantation but 10,000 acres come under these 22 estates. It means half of the plantations in Idukki district are not functioning and many of the estate owners have left. At the same time, the workers are not getting wages for a long time. Crores of rupees are to be given to them in the form of bonus, wages, ESI benefits and other things. As a result, Idukki and other areas are facing a very serious situation. The Government has allotted Rs.100 crore every year for this but there is a time limit of seven years. This is a very long period and Rs.100 crore is very meagre. I welcome it but, at the same time, we need Rs.500 crore every year for replantation. Without replantation, we cannot make any change in the estates because these estates

were established during the British days and they are very old now. I request you to allot more funds for the replantation of these estates. There should be some more measures taken up like banning of import of tea for the time being. There should not be import of tea and there should be subsidies for export of coffee and tea and other measures for promotion of these crops. Otherwise, these industries cannot be saved.

The UPA Government has come into power. We know that the people of India have made a struggle against anti-people and anti-communal measures taken by the former NDA Government. I am sorry to say that many of the steps followed by the UPA Government are still the same. There has been an election verdict meaning the verdict of the people in Punjab and Uttaranchal. The Congress had admitted that price rise and other areas are the main reasons. We support the Government because we want the Government in a secular colour. I fully support the Government but, at the same time, corrections and rethinking are essential. There should be a change in the path of the pro-people progressive lines and only then, the Government can get the support that they have been enjoying earlier.

With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I express my gratitude to you for providing me an opportunity to speak during discussion on General Budget. Budget mirrors the economic policies of the Government. It also reflects the economic condition of the country and its economic approach alongwith presenting the annual account of earning and expenditure. The current budget for the year 2007-2008 being presented and discussed before this August House is the result of hard labour of our hon. Finance Minister who is a learned advocate and economist. He has taken some measures for the rural sector particularly in the field of education, health, naturopathy and rural development.

National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme has been proposed for 330 districts alongwith discussing the increase of growth rate. He has also given assurance of checking inflation. These measures should be welcomed and we should support them.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to express my views on certain moot questions during the discussion on Budget. I think today we need to contemplate upon economic condition of the poorest of the poor referred to by Gandhiji and what provisions we have made for him in the Budget and what test we are going to apply to him in the budget. Mahatmaji had stated soon after independence that the country had obtained political freedom, however, it would take sometime gain to social and financial freedom. I feel if Mahatmaji had been alive we would have achieved social and economic liberty as well, however, I would like to refer to the current situation. Today, hunger is the biggest problem being faced by the poorest of the poor. He is starving and is being beaten down by the rising prices. For us inflation, rising sensex, GDP may be the important issues to be discussed but for a poor man hunger is the only issue because he is starving.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am quoting Mahatmaji what he once said in an edition of young India dated 26.5.1926:-

"A bundgry man has no other desire except gratification of hunger, his stomach is his God. Whoever gives him bread, becomes his God and Master, he can see God in him."

I can fully empathies while quoting it and perhaps it must have been felt by the hon. Minister of Finance. Mahatmaji said in 'Mahatma's talisman'.

"Any Government or the ones holding senior posts or the ones sitting in Government should first contemplate upon the fact that their decision on a budget or any other important matter would affect millions of people of the country."

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If attention has not been paid towards it or they are not aware of it then I may tell you that I am referring to 90 per cent of the lot who are compelled to live such a life, those who are poor, the weakest, there are 37 crore unorganised labourers even among them who are landless. Antyodaya Yojana is being implemented for them. This weakest man was at the centrestage of Mahatmaji's philosophy. He gave a talisman "whenever you are in a doubt or when the self becomes too much with you, apply the following test; Recall the face of the poorest and weakest man whom you may have seen and ask yourself if the step you contemplate is going to be of any use to him. Will he gain anything by it? Will it restore him to a control over his own life and destiny? In other words, will it lead to Swaraj for the hungry and spiritually starving millions? Then you will find your doubts and your self melting away." It was stated by Mahatmaji.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have gone through the budget report. There is no reference to Gandhiji, however, there is one thing to be appreciated that funds have been allocated to such four institutions. It has been said with reference to those institutions that funds have been allocated in the name of promoting culture and history. We are commemorating the 150th anniversary of the first freedom struggle and the centenary of the Satyagraha movement. Our attention is riveted towards such institutions which intend to complete the unfulfilled tasks of Gandhiji. This is good. A provision of Rs.30 crore has been made in the budget for the four institutions viz. Sabarmati Ashram, Ahmedabad, Sevegram, Wardha, Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Pune; Rajendra Prasad Smriti Sangrahalaya, Patna. We have made a separate provision of Rs.20 crore for the shelving and acquisition capacity of Nehru Memorial Museum Library, Delhi for research and studies. I would like to ask whether the Government is not aware that the world famous Champaran Movement completed its centenary before the 150th Anniversary of

the First Freedom struggle and the centenary of the Satyagraha Movement since it has not been referred to by the hon. Minister of Finance in his budget speech. I regret it and I would like to request the hon. Finance Minister that the Bhithavva Ashram of Champaran district is our historical and cultural heritage.

The hon'ble Minister of Finance in his budget speech has mentioned about more institutions. I congratulate the Finance Minister for making a provision of Rs.30 crore. Bhitharva Ashram in Champaran is situated in the adjoining constituency of hon'ble Raghunath Jha who is the Chief Whip of our Parliamentary Party. No mention has been made about the Bhitharva Ashram in Champaran which is a world famous place associated with Sathyagraha and other activities of father of our nation Mahatma Gandhi. Therefore, I would like that for the cultural development of the said Ashram, while replying the hon'ble Minister of finance should include it in his supplementary budget or in the Appropriation Bill. After South Africa, Champaran itself has been the land of Sathyagraha and his domain of activities. The history of Gandhiji's Sathyagraha movement will remain incomplete without mentioning Chamaparan. Therefore, provision should be made for increasing the funds to the said institution for its resurrection.

It is due to this reason I have talked about the man belonging to the lowest strata of the society. It can be seen that all departments treat men of more than 60 years as senior citizens but it is only the Finance Ministry which fails to acknowledge the age limit of 60 years and it treats a person of 65 years as Senior Citizen. I fervently raise the point whether a man will wait for the completion of 65 years after retirement at the age of 60 to avail the benefit available for senior citizens, particularly when he is helpless due to mal-nutrition or some other circumstances. A person of 60 is treated a senior citizen in all spheres be it in the Railways or Aviation or Housing Tax. The parameter of 60 years is accepted in the Rail budget also. Why is that the parameter of 60 years is not applicable

in the Finance Ministry? What kind of flawed logic is it that only after attaining the age of 65 a person will be recognized as a senior citizen? That's why I had initially raised the point as to how the budget is being perceived by the man belonging to the lowest strata of the society or the helpless one who finds mention in Gandhiji's philosophy. In addition to ascertaining the accountability, I would like to raise certain points. I expect the Finance Minister to consider this issue and provide the benefits of senior citizen to the persons completing 60 years. The entire Ministries are on one side and the Finance Ministry is on the other side. That's why I raised this matter.

Sir, what was the philosophy of Mahatmaji? He used to say that 'Sahi Azadi ka Sabooth, Gaon Hamari ho Majbooth' (the freedom in real sense can be achieved only when our villages become stronger). How can the villages become stronger? Until the infrastructure of the villages expands and we provide amenities and create employment opportunities in the villages, unemployment will remain there and so long as there is unemployment, poverty will also exist. The root cause of poverty is unemployment. Innumerable people are unemployed in villages. I would like to say that today lakhs of people from villages of Assam, Bihar, Eastern UP and West Bengal are migrating to cities. Large scale migration is taking place. Farm labourers, unorganized labourers are migrating to Mumbai and everybody can see the manner in which they are being treated in Mumbai. Some people do not even bother to respect the Constitution. There are certain people with parochial mindset in the country who do not even bother to respect the Constitution. Anyone from any territory of India can go to any region and can try to earn his livings from there, he can lead a respectable life there. Today a person in Mumbai said that I would not like to take his name as his stature is not that big. But that person has made some unconstitutional remarks and talked about disrupting the national unity of our country. By making such controversial statements he has tried to harm the unity and

integrity of India. There have been direct attacks on the people belonging to Bihar who were leading a very respectable life there. This situation is highly regrettable. Similar incidents are going on in other States also. In Assam, one can see that some Bihari labourers have fallen prey to the terrorists. Why the migration is taking place? It is for earning a livelihood because villages are not job-oriented. Even after the passage of 60 years since our independence, our villages are not job-oriented. We have failed to make our villages job-oriented. There is no employment opportunities in the villages, therefore the people go out of the villages looking for employment. I would like to quote the statement made by Gandhiji at Myor College in Allahabad in the year 1916 and the hon'ble Minister of Finance is also present here. I assume that he will pay attention to it. He had said that earning a livelihood should be the easiest thing in a civilized society and it is true in some countries. So, infact, the yardstick of a country's development is not as to how many millionaires it has. Our country is in 6th or 10th position among the industrialists which now boast of 83000 millionaires, but it should be ensured a that there is no starvation. It should be deliberated upon that we are creating such a system in which 60 crore people have no means of livelihood. Our population is near about 120 crore and certainly over 110 crore, of which over 60 crore people have no jobs, no means of livelihood. There will be around 20 crore millionaires and multi millionaires and the rest will die of starvation. Will the said India become just, prosperous and affluent? Mahatma Gandhi in the year 1916 had said about it, that's why I have made a little mention of it.

Sir, now I would like to raise some points. People have already commented on the news provided by the Minister of Finance in his budget, I would not like to comment on it. How many people are affected by mal-nutrition today? Those people are simply unable to lead even half of their lives. Average age of a person is 65 years but in their cases due to mal-nutrition their lives get terminated at



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40-45 years. I am talking of the labourers who do not live their full lives and these are the same people who create wealth. If a person who toils in the land and who through hardwork creates wealth in the country, is unable to live even his average life, it will lead to loss of national production. The agriculture production in the country is showing a declining trend which is continuing from last year. I feel that agriculture production is declining. The national trend of agriculture production is negative, as such the poor is unable to live his average life. Owing to malnutrition he dies even before attaining his average age of life. It had been analysed in the past that a man needs at least 2700 calories of food to survive. We can go for a survey to find out as to how many persons really are there in this country who get this much of food? Is it not necessary to pay attention to it? I am talking about hunger pangs and I am saying so because they are not getting two square meals. Today there is a threat to livelihood, specially for the BPL, the people living below the poverty line, I would like to have a discussion on them. They are not getting enough food to fill their stomachs. They are not getting two square meals. Today this is the biggest crisis before the nation, the big question is how to ensure that they get food, we have to seriously contemplate on this issue. I would like to talk about the farmers. Before that I would like to talk about the plight of the labourers. For the labourers in some States the minimum wage is Rs.65 and in some other States it is Rs. 72. Be it unorganized labourers or marginal farmers, their minimum wage is low.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in this era of price-rise Rs.62 or Rs.65 is very meagre. In some States they are not even provided with minimum wages. In present age of skyrocketing prices, one cannot even get meals for Rs.62 or Rs.65. Therefore, the Union Government can issue an instruction in this regard and this amount can be atleast doubled. Prices of everything are going up. Who works in the field of infrastructure? It is the construction labourer working there to build the infrastructure. It is they who construct and it is only they who are devoid of minimum

wages. Tall claims are being made here and it is being repeatedly said that infrastructure is growing and the rate of growth is increasing, but we are unable to give the minimum wages to people who carry out the construction work, the construction labourers. The price of steel is increasing. The prices of everything are on the rise, but the minimum wage is not rising. The price of the properties is increasing by leaps and bounds. Inflation is increasing daily. It should have some kind of link with the labourers.

Sir, the hon'ble Minister of Finance has made some efforts regarding the matter of un-organised labourers, but they are only cosmetic. I would like to point out the efforts made by him. He has tried to do some good work, but here the saying "much cry and little wool" is proving correct. I am also aware of the way in which the Planning Commission carries out the survey of the BPL through N.S.S. As per the report No: 491 of the National Sample Survey, the number of such people in the country is about 1.5 crore.

The hon'ble Minister in his Budget speech has stated that approximately 70 lakh families would be covered under the Social Security Scheme of some of the State Governments and that of LIC by March, 2007. I would like to add that the concept of social security for the unorganized labourers has been rendered useless as in its Common Minimum Programme the Government had committed that it would launch the said scheme for the labourers of the unorganized sector.

With regard to the issue being deliberated upon by the Committee headed by Dr. Arjun Sen Gupta, I would apprise the hon'ble Finance Minister, who is a learned person and an economist as well, that if we calculate the number of total persons in the said 1.5 crore families, it works out to 5-7 crore persons. The scheme in question is AABY that is Aam Aadmi Bima Yojana. When 37 crore poor people in the country come under this, then covering just 5-7 crore people under the said social security scheme is going to serve no purpose. And what about the

remaining 30-32 crore people. 22 crore out of this 37 crore people are landless farm labourers belonging to weaker sections or are dalits and are at the lowest level in society. The Government propose to cover only 5 crore people out of this 37 crore under this Social Security Scheme and it is just a proposal which is yet to be implemented. It is as good as a drop in the ocean.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Minister in his Budget speech has stated that the Central Government would share 50 per cent expenditure on the said scheme and the State Governments would be requested to meet the remaining 50 per cent expenditure. For example, if Rs.200 are required for it, Rs.100 will be provided by the Central Government and the concerned State Government will be asked to provide the remaining Rs.100. The hon'ble Minister is aware that the State Government are not financially sound to provide funds. The hon'ble Minister said that a provision of Rs.1000 crore is proposed to be made. I want to know whether this amount will be adequate to fund the said scheme. There are 37 crore labourers in the unorganised sector in the country. The figures have been provided by none other than Dr. Sen Gupta, Chairman of Labour Commission. The Commission has identified them. Dr. Sen Gupta submitted his report to the hon'ble Prime Minister on 16 May, 2006. It has not been placed in the House so far. The Government says that they are considering it. My submission is that a lump sum relief package should be provided for the unorganized labourers through a Central Legislation. The issue will remain pending if it is done in a piece-meal manner. This issue has been under consideration since 2002. A Labour Commission was constituted in 2002, which also submitted the report. Again a Labour Commission has been constituted, but the report of none of the Commissions has been implemented and no benefit is being provided to the unorganized sector labourers. I want to ask, why during a long span of 60 years since our independence, no legislation has been enacted for the labourers in the unorganized sector. It is a serious issue. All the hon'ble

Members speak on other issues, but I would like to concentrate on it. What is the hindrance in it? What has been blocking it? Nothing is being ensured for the labourers of the unorganized sector, be it health, welfare, minimum wages or the welfare of their children. In the beginning itself, I had asked—who is Gandhiji's Aam Aadmi? The same labourer is the last man in the society—whose upliftment was dreamt of by Gandhiji. His dream is not being fulfilled today. Excuse me, out of this anguish I had led a gherao of Parliament on 11 December. I would like to thank the hon'ble Minister of Labour who assured me that a legislation for labourers in the unorganised sector would be brought during the Budget Session. But, so far it has not appeared in the list. Let us see, when it is proposed to be brought?

I would take 2 minutes each on 2 or 3 minutes each on 2 or 3 points concerning the condition of farmers. Suicide by farmers has been much debated upon, so, I would not repeat the same. It is beyond doubt that since the year 2000 till today as many as 1 lakh 20 thousand farmers have committed suicide. The cases of suicide are prevalent more where the farmers go for cash crops. They get debt trapped and then failing to repay it, they commit suicide. In last year's Budget, the interest rate was lowered to 7 percent, but, this year it has not been touched. The Swaminathan Committee had recommended to provide loan to farmers at the interest rate of 4 percent but their report has not been implemented.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, so far as the support price is concerned, in the Rabi season of 2006-07 procurement of 92-93 lakh metric tonnes was made against the total annual wheat requirement of 140 lakh metric tonnes for TPDS and other welfare schemes. I did not find it proper to interrupt Malhotraji, but I would like to say that they are responsible for the large scale black marketing and hoarding. In 2002 they allowed private companies to procure for unlimited time. Consequently, the said private companies procured 20 lakh metric tonnes in Punjab

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Haryana and U.P. Resultantly, the target of buffer stock of 40 lakh metric tonnes could not be met. It would surely lead to price rise. To check the price rise, we will have to analyse its reasons. The reasons are that MNCs like the Australian Wheat Board Cargill, Adani and ITC procured 20 lakh metric tonnes of wheat. A circular of 2002 allowing the said private companies to procure for unlimited period resulted in it. No cognizance has been taken of it so far. I would like the hon'ble Finance Minister to think over it. At least, the private companies should not be allowed to procure for unlimited period, a time-limit should be imposed. This may be said that it would harm the farmers. Even otherwise, the farmers do not get remunerative prices. 85-90 per cent farmers are small or marginal ones. They are like daily wagers, they have to sell their produce daily to meet their daily needs. They do not get remunerative price. Private companies procure the whole lot by paying slightly higher price and then they sell it out in the market after 3-4 months at Rs. 300-400 per quintal higher than the procurement price. The Government should exclude gram, pulses, wheat and rice from forward trading. Recently, the Government have excluded wheat and rice from forward trading and the price of these grains have started coming down. Therefore, I would like to talk about forward trading. Big traders and middle-men earn huge profits out of the produce of farmers. The real farmers who produce are in majority and we can say that 85-90 percent of them are small farmers. Who have land holding not more than 2½-3 acres and they do not get the profit of even a penny, then what is the meaning of forward trading. To what kind of farmer the Government want to extend profit of forward trading, the farmer who has large farms or the farmer who has never been to the fields, who has not even seen the plough? Only 10 percent farmers who avail the facility of computer network can judge as to what price may prevail after four months. He can hoard for some months and sell later. But a small farmer has to sell his produce as he has to buy the items of his daily needs

such as oil, clothes, salt, meet expenses for marriage of his children, their education etc. So, he can't wait and he has to sell his produce immediately. The small farmers, who constitute 85-90 per cent of our total farming community is not going to be benefited at all by forward trading. Therefore, I would like to say that all essential commodities should be kept out of the purview of forward trading. This kind of trading is based on speculation only. The prices of these commodities can never be checked in this way. I would like to speak about prices because I want to explain as to what is meant by the prices. The hon'ble Minister of Finance is a very learned man. He must have deliberated upon the fact that the purchasing capacity or purchasing power of the common man is hit the day the prices are hiked. This is a sort of taxation. I would like to say one thing. Everyone has its own way of expressing things. If prices are hiked, it is a kind of indirect taxation on the entire population of the country. Since indirect taxes are imposed, the poor are unable to make both ends meet which may lead to malnutrition. If he is able to purchase 'Roti', he is not left with the money to purchase 'Dal' because the price rise is a kind of imposition of indirect tax on the entire population. It is bound to hit the purchasing capacity. I am saying it because indirect taxes have not been declared, but there is a need to give momentum to the efforts made by the hon'ble Minister of Finance to curb prices, because the efforts made so far are inadequate. Today, the common man is a distressed lot. The hon'ble Minister is a learned man. He should let all the people to save some money and put a ceiling on expenses. Why some kind of policy or legislation to put a ceiling on expenses is not being formulated or enacted. If a person has money earned through unfair means, let it be, but if he tries to spend that money, he can immediately be arrested, because he has to deposit the slip of expenditures incurred by him, not of his savings. Therefore if a limit on expenses is fixed, the prices will also automatically get curbed. Therefore, I would like to say

that a price check policy should be followed and a guideline should also be issued in this regard.

Now, the hon'ble Prime Minister has taken the initiative and written a letter to the States to launch a de-hoarding campaign so that hoarding may be checked. The issue is linked with States and it is true that States' participation is required for de-hoarding, but the de-hoarding campaign in States cannot be checked by merely writing a letter by the Prime Minister to the States. I understand that the Centre should also participate in it and IB should be entrusted with the job of secretly preparing the list of hoarders and the Government should conduct raids on hoarders, then only hoarding would be checked. If it goes unchecked, hoarding would continue and prices can also not be curbed.

In the end, I would like to speak on black money. These people were saying a lot on non-performing assets. The hon'ble Minister of Finance will not agree with my views on black money. I want that the hon'ble Minister should give relaxation of not filing any kind of case against those who voluntarily declare their black money, and after that the person shall not lose ownership of that money, but that money would be spent on the directions of the Government. If that money is spent on various welfare schemes, hospitals upliftment of people of the country, then living standard of people of the country will improve. I want that rebate should be given on black money. I want that the Government should make an announcement that no action would be taken against the people possessing black money and nobody would be arrested. The ownership of the person possessing black money would remain intact, but he should not be allowed to spend even a single penny of the black money without the permission of the Government. That money should be spent on agricultural works, hospitals, education, roads, electricity, basic facilities and infrastructure and small scale industries of the country. I can say it with assertion that if the hon'ble Minister of Finance implements it even for a year, we will be able to compete with America, then in the next ten years as

there is so much black money in the country. A discussion on Swiss Bank has been held here. Is there only Rs.35 thousand crore in that bank? I do not want to name the classes of people whose money is lying deposited over there? If that money is brought into circulation, then India would be able to compete with America in the next ten years.

In the end, I would like to speak about SEZs. The hon'ble Minister of Finance may please forgive me, but he has not made any mention of it in the budget speech. What is the aim of Special Economic Zones? Is it appropriate to give incentives to corporate sector at public cost as it does not involve any revenue? It may be that the hon'ble Minister of Finance does not agree with it. SEZs have given rise to many kinds of dispute. Sir, the Special Economic Zone extends from this place to Amritsar, which also includes your State. At all the places, irrigated land is being acquired. The process of acquisition is in full swing. The process of opening of Malls is going on at probably, 236 places. It is all right, if Malls are being opened but it is not good if land is taken on cheaper rates from farmers for this purpose. I would like to say that it will affect national production. Not only national production would be reduced, but no Indian legislation would be applicable in SEZs. The special legislations of imperialist countries would be applicable over there. Setting up of SEZs, is going to be an indirect attack on our country's sovereignty. Who will go into SEZs? No poor man will enter a SEZ. According to the Planning Commission, 26 crore people are living below the poverty line, but according to me this figure is 40 crore, they will not be able to enter that place.

Sir, the Haryana Government has done a good job. I would like to tell that Hooda's Cabinet, the Haryana Government has passed a proposal in regard to increasing the minimum wages of poor people from Rs.2425 per month to Rs.3500 per month. It is being opposed today. Corporate Houses, big industrialists are strongly opposing it. Corporate Houses are ready to keep full hold on SEZ

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for their vested interests, but whenever the issue of increase in minimum wages is raised the Corporate Houses take recourse to soliciting various kind of legal opinions.

In the end, a mention of increase in irrigation facilities has been made in the budget. We want to increase the irrigation capacity. But how can this capacity be increased? In this context, I would like to cite an example. He said that in the year 2006, State Governments were allocated Rs.19437.88 crore for major medium irrigation projects under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme. Joint Project Offices for constructing high-level dam at Kosi were opened at 7 places under Indo-Nepal agreement, but its DPR has not been prepared. I would like to say that 35 thousand megawatt hydro-electricity by hydro-electric process can be generated after construction of the said dam. Apart from it, the flow of water can also be controlled which will save the crops of northern Bihar and West Bengal. Therefore, I would like to say that emphasis on construction of high level dam and preparation of DPR has not been laid on priority basis in this budget.

While concluding my speech, I would like to thank you.

14.59 hrs.

#### DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS – (GENERAL) 2006-07

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Sir, I beg to present a statement (Hindi and English versions) showing the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget (General) for 2006-07.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5923/07]

15.00 hrs.

#### GENERAL BUDGET, 2007-08 – GENERAL DISCUSSION (Contd.)

[English]

SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU (Rajapur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, since the time this Budget has been presented to Parliament, there have been innumerable reactions to it. Unfortunately, each section of the society is disappointed with the Budget as presented by the Finance Minister. In that backdrop, we are discussing the Budget today.

If you ask me how I would describe it, I would say that this Budget lacks vision. I would say so because there is no effort made in the Budget to stimulate growth. I must point out that even the civil society, which was supporting various initiatives of this Government, had come out with an interesting document called "Vaada No Todo Abhiyan" in which they have mentioned that the Common Minimum Programme of the Government, which is supposed to be the cornerstone of the policy of this Government, is not being implemented. I was saying that this Budget lacks vision. This Budget is also sans imagination to deal with our present challenges. I will give one or two examples of that.

The country is facing such a huge energy crisis. We have been thinking that renewable energy sector, which needs support, will probably get some budgetary support for research and development. There is no mention of it in the Budget. There is no mention of dealing with fiscal challenges to which I will come a little later. The Budget is timid and tentative because there is no bold measures to bring reform. Hon. Finance Minister has talked about supply side constraints. That means, we have to release supplies by bringing in more reform. There is no attempt to do that. There is complete confusion in the policy framework of this Government in various aspects including power, in dealing with inflation, in dealing with agriculture.

One of the points is the way the Minister has dealt with the State of Bank of India's holding in which shares have been transferred from the Reserve Bank of India to the Government. In fact, Mr. Tarapore, whose name was mentioned last time when I asked the hon. Minister a question, also has criticized it, incidentally. That is also a big confusion. This Budget is a real patchwork in many areas and lacks holistic action.

The Farmers' Commission was appointed under the Chairmanship of eminent scientist Dr. M.S. Swaminathan. The report has been submitted but no action has been taken so far. That is true with the Knowledge Commission also. Another very brilliant person Mr. Sam Pitroda has given his first report. There is no mention of it in the Budget. There is no action taken on that. Integrated energy policy is another challenge. For the first time, there is an effort to bring about a holistic view on energy policies pursued by different Ministries. Dr. Kirit Parekh submitted a report but there is no action, no mention and no initiative on that count.

There are ten Ministries and different arms of the State dealing with water. Therefore, we see a patchwork of various initiatives on water but there is no holistic action on that either. This Budget is full of platitudes, symbolism and talks about cosmetic action.

One example is climate change. The hon. Minister has rightly mentioned that climate change is a challenge. When the Finance Minister speaks about that in his Budget speech, does he make any financial provision for that in the Budget? There is a big challenge before us. Adaptation of climate change is a challenge. Some amount should have been provided for that. There is no mention of that. There is just a mention of the subject but there is no financial provision made.

This Budget is insensitive because the farmers are committing suicide. The figure is increasing day by day. Even the Indian cricket team is not scoring at the fast rate at which farmers are committing suicide. Yet, there is no

mention of it. There is no mention of our rural economy which is in distress.

Internal security is another challenge of the common man. Unfortunately, this Budget does not talk about it. So, this is the broad description of the Budget in my opinion. One of the cornerstones of the Budget, as has been pointed out by the Finance Ministry, is a thrust on equity. Let us analyze equity from the budgetary provisions that Finance Minister has made. Agriculture, as is mentioned by the Finance Minister, has the first charge on the Budget. There is no better lawyer than Mr. Chidambaram in the country.

15.05 hrs.

[SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV *in the Chair*]

Therefore, when he says the first charge, that means, the second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth charge holders cannot get anything unless the first charge is satisfied.

So, farmers are 63 per cent of the population of India. Do you mean to say that the Budget has allocated 63 per cent of the resources for farmers? This year, the GDP of agriculture has fallen to 18.5 per cent and the public investment is 2.2 per cent of the GDP in Nineties, it used to be 1.9 per cent of the GDP. So, there is a correlation. The share of population dependent on agriculture has remained almost the same. GDP share has fallen and the public investment has not increased but it has fallen. Therefore, in this backdrop, when the Finance Minister is targeting four per cent growth rate in agriculture, I am really wondering how it will happen. I am not the only one who is skeptical about it, Mr. Abhijet Sen, Member of the Planning Commission and one of the good authorities on agriculture has only today mentioned in one of the interviews that four per cent target in agriculture is virtually impossible. Therefore, the thrust in agriculture should have been how to increase the income of the farmers, how to provide them better market access and how to provide better insurance cover to make sure that the risk that the

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farmers take is avoided so that he is not forced to commit suicide. I find that unfortunately no such bold initiative and there is confusion in the mind of the government to deal with agriculture and therefore we are seeing a crisis here. I would request the Finance Minister that if he really wants to talk about first charge, he shall start the initiative of genre budgeting. I think, he should start genre budgeting so that we really know how much of the money is going into which sector and what are the different sectors – rural sector, agriculture sector and others. That is what is really required.

This Budget to deal with agriculture should have come out with a very comprehensive policy on soil, land and water. In fact, soil erosion is a serious challenge, which is also causing adverse productivity in agriculture. Water in fact is incidentally the major challenge but this Budget unfortunately does not deal with it.

The other challenge that we are facing today is – we can compare it with the equity angle – employment. How many new jobs have been created? I think, this is again required that the Budget must specify during the year of budget as to how many new jobs have been created. If the Finance Minister can keep giving us so much of information, the one is mandated by the Fiscal Responsibility Budget Management Act, he should also give us new figures about as to how many new jobs have been created. This Budget hardly addresses the employment problem. In fact, the labour intensive jobs, which is really the prime need of the hour, there is no incentive to actually create such manufacturing to create such jobs.

Services sector is growing so fast. It means if we want to enter the services job market, you must possess requisite skills. There is hardly any other efforts besides dealing with ITIs or some other cosmetic issues, to deal with upgrading skills of the multitude of the population of India. Therefore, employment which is again another parameter besides agriculture to judge equity, actually, unfortunately this Budget fails to address it.

Food and nutritional sector is another important aspect of the National Common Minimum Programme of this Government. Sir, in the Sampoorana Grameen Rozgar Programme, which guarantees job to the rural people, there was an element of providing some amount by way of food as a compensation for the job. This year, as it is mentioned in the Budget, the year of 2006-07, the allocation for food has been dropped from five kgs. to three kgs. One can imagine if there is a drop of 40 per cent in the food intake, how food and nutritional security of this multitude of people will be affected?

The other challenge of equity is the backward region. In fact, we must bridge the gap between the region which are developing very fast and the region like the one I represent in Parliament – Konkan. How can it really catching? In fact, there is no attempt to bridge this gap. In fact, there is a very interesting statistics, which he has mentioned that the FDI has gone upto 12.5 billion dollars. The RBI says that 46.52 per cent of the FDI have gone into only two centres of RBI – New Delhi and Mumbai Sir, I work at the issue of finding out equity from other point. Corporates are taxed at different rates. In fact, he has said that the corporates are taxed at about 19.2 per cent on an average. Corporates making a profit of zero to Rs.1 crore are taxed at 24.29 per cent and corporates making profit of Rs.500 crore and more are taxed at 19.10 per cent. What is the extent of equity one can very easily make out?

The only benefit that the common man has got out of these various provisions of the Budget is a saving of Rs. 83 per month from the income tax liabilities, that he has got. So, you can imagine how equity issue has really been addressed.

When we talk about gender budgeting, it is important to know and to make sure that equity is actually in favour of weaker sections of the society; we have to keep the gender balance. Is 50 per cent of the allocation in this Budget made for women? Sadly no. Therefore, this budget fails to the Government is allocated for social sector. That



really means that equity, unfortunately, is not addressed at all in this Budget.

The other thrust area of the Budget of the Finance Minister is fiscal issues. It is true that the revenue deficit is falling and the fiscal deficit is also falling as a percentage of the GDP. So, he has said that they are aiming and have accomplished fiscal consolidation. I will not call it fiscal consolidation and I will tell you why. I will at best call it as fiscal improvement. Why is it not fiscal consolidation?

The debt servicing liability of the country is now Rs.4,21,219 crore, against the revenue of Rs.4,86,422 crore. I am worried that we are probably entering a debt trap. 32.7 per cent of the current revenue of the Government is used to pay only interest liability of the country. You can imagine the serious challenge with regard to fiscal situation. That is also getting reflected in the debt of the country.

As per the *Economic Survey*, 59.2 per cent of the GDP is in public debt. Very interestingly, there is a survey which was published by the Economist (a magazine), only a few days ago. It says that India's public debt is 80 per cent of its GDP. In fact, it is one of the highest amongst the countries who are now emerging as the new economies of the world. Therefore, this is a very serious problem which unfortunately the Budget does not solve.

So, I will not call it fiscal consolidation; I will only, at best, call it fiscal improvement. We have to look at the issue very carefully. In fact, this will also have repercussions because interest rates are rising. I would like to find out from the hon. Finance Minister, what rate he has taken for the interest liabilities of this country, in his new Budget for 2007-08. If the interest rates are rising, the way they are rising, probably the interest liability in the expenditure budget also will have to rise significantly. Therefore, the fiscal consolidation cannot be said to be like that.

The other very interesting issue under the FRBM Act is that the Government is obliged also to restrict the guarantees, under rule 6 of the Act, to half a per cent of

GDP. This year, the guarantees given by the Government are 0.7 per cent, which is 0.2 per cent more than what is mandated under the Act. That means, it does not really meet with any of the test of fiscal consolidation. Therefore, I consider it as a very serious challenge. In fact, 45 per cent of the huge debt that I talked about is used in the past so many years – I am not blaming only this Finance Minister for this, but over a long period of time – to meet the revenue expenditure of the country. That means, to the extent of 45 per cent of the debt of our country, we are paying interest every year and there are no assets that are available in the country against this debt. In fact, this is also getting reflected in other ways. A very interesting statistics is that excess liabilities of the Central Government over assets is to the tune of Rs.12,46,737 crore. So, if you take all these issues in totality, can you ever say that it is fiscal consolidation? I will not say so.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I hope you will also say that FRBM was notified by this Government. The previous Government did not have either the courage or the wisdom to notify the Act. We notified the Act.

SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU (Rajapur) : You will also concede that the Act was passed by the previous Government.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : The Act was passed by the Parliament. Power was given to the Executive to notify the Act. Your Government did not notify the Act.

SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU : But that Bill was introduced by that Government in the Parliament so that it could pass it. And, Shri Chidambaram, if you recall the day you notified, you extended the applicability of the Act by one year.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Let me explain it. We extended it because you lost one year in not notifying it, we wanted five years. The law contemplated five years to reach the target. You lost one year in not notifying it. When we came to power, I had four years left. Therefore, we added one more year so that we will have full five years.



SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore) : Shri Bansal, you did not tell him what happened in the Finance Committee...(Interruptions) If you tell him, he will come to know it...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Swain, please sit down.

SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU : I concede the point. What Shri Chidambaram is saying is that the previous Government took one year to notify, so he increased it by one more year. So, it is neutral. Now, it is on a level playing field.

The other issue is about the promise vs performance. If you look at the system that was started in the past about giving compliance to the promises made. That again was started by the previous Finance Minister, Shri Yashwant Sinha. One of the promises that the Finance Minister made in his last Budget was that a port was going to be developed in West Bengal. I am sure my friends from West Bengal must have been very happy. What is the progress of that in the last one year? Final selection of a consultant is going to be done very soon. This is the progress in the last one year about development of a port in West Bengal.

The second promise was that Mumbai was sought to be developed as a financial centre of the world. What is the development so far? The only development is, a report has been submitted and action has to be taken. This is what is going on for the last three years.

The other issue on which we can judge the Budget is growth. The Finance Minister concluded his speech by saying: "I could not have given thrust to all these different things of putting in so much money, one lakh scholarships, one lakh jobs for physically challenged, if there was no growth". Growth is a *mantra* which I agree. I support it and really feel that the economy has to grow. But this Budget unfortunately not only does not target to increase the growth rate but also fails to maintain – I hope that the growth rate of 9.2 per cent that we have witnessed

recently is maintained in this budget year. Growth is not three.

Efficiency is another big structural challenge. The efficiency of expenditure, the effectiveness of money that is spent has to be measured. This has been highlighted time and again. In fact, the Prime Minister made a statement that our vehicle of change has to be the administrative reform because the cost of money that we are incurring on implementing any Government programme is too high. So, the only instrument that the Finance Ministry has got – as his Advisor has also mentioned in one of his interviews today – is the Outcome Budget. Sir, I must say that it was a very well intended programme of the Finance Minister and I congratulate him. But, if you look at the outcome of the Outcome Budget, it is disastrous. It has not been prepared by you. It is prepared by various Ministries. You must really look at it. I do not simply want to criticize it by saying that since I am a Chartered Accountant. We have appointed a Committee and we will submit to you very soon as to how the Outcome Budget should really be prepared. This is just to help you. I am sure it will help you. The quality of public expenditure is a big challenge and we really need to deal with this collectively as a National challenge.

The other challenge that we have is inflation. Again, there is a confusion and I will explain you why. As per the admission of the Government, inflation is caused by two factors. One factor is the supply side constraint and the other is the money supply. What is the best way to address the supply side constraint? The same article that I have referred to earlier also talks about overheating of the Indian Economy. It says that we really need the reforms on the supply side so that more and more capacity can be unleashed. In fact, Shri Chidambaram will also definitely give credit where it is due, namely, that the previous Government's initiative of reforming various sectors allowed this Government to grow at 9 per cent in the last three years time.

If you do not reform now and unleash these productive

forces that are really waiting for such release how can our economy grow at nine per cent? Therefore, I really want that supply side constrain which is a challenge to which I agree and therefore we really need to act on it and address this.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude. Your time is limited.

SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU : Okay, Sir. On the supply side constraint, how to get over it in a short time? We are trying to import certain things. By importing, we are already constraining our current account situation. Our current account deficit is really rising. It could be five per cent if we exclude the remittances.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Is the current account deficit five per cent?

SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU : I am talking about something which the Economist magazine has said. Their estimation is that if you exclude 21 billion dollars of remittances that we are getting, it would be so.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Why should it be excluded?

SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU : That is what they are excluding. I am not excluding.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : You do not say what the Economist says.

SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU : Sometimes, you quote the economist. If I quote Economists, what is the problem?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Why should the remittances be excluded? Which country excludes remittances? Our workers abroad and Indians abroad remit money to their families. The whole world is envious about our remittances. Just because one magazine says - I am not sure it said it in those words - that exclude it, why should it be excluded? Do you share that view? Do you share

the logic that it should be excluded? The money is being sent to our country. Why should it be excluded? There is no logic.

SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU : The logic given by the Economist is that those remittances are not creating demand here. This is something which is external to entire economy. Why I am saying is that in the World Economic Forum you tried to take umbrage under some of these benefits that Economists talk about. So, why should we not talk about that? Therefore, the imports are rising. I will give one example. As regards fertilizer, this year we have imported 46 lakh tonnes of urea. What does it mean? As a result of this, subsidy Bill has gone up only on account of imported urea to Rs.2703 crore which, in fact, is almost 25 per cent of the total subsidy on urea in the country. That means when you are importing something, it has cost also. Therefore, the supply side constraint needs to be addressed by import in the short-term, there is no problem but to deal with only on that count will also create problems. That is what I want to say

The second issue is money supply. There is 21.3 per cent growth in money supply on a year to year basis. The foreign exchange reserves are 180 billion dollars. In the last few months, RBI has increased the CRR. Now it is six per cent and also repo and the reverse repo rate, as a result of which the cost of financing has gone up. In fact, we are always wanting that India should be a low cost economy. One of the ways to do that is to reduce the financial cost. If the interest rates keeps rising to suppress the demand, it is also going to have a serious challenge. Therefore who is bearing this high cost of interest is the common man when he is buying household goods, maybe like fridge or TV or a house. It is small scale industry which actually has to bear the brunt of it. Therefore, I would request the Finance Minister, maybe as a course of holistic way to address this problem of inflation as well as dealing with foreign exchange reserves, that he should come out with a complete blue print about how to deal with these issues in a holistic way including managing our foreign

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exchange reserves which are now growing and in fact they are growing at a cost to us because the Reserve Bank of India constantly buys dollars in the market and that is why the piling of foreign exchange reserves is taking place.

The other issue relates to infrastructure, 320 billion dollars as per *Economic Survey* is needed for infrastructure in the next five year Plan which is going to begin next month. Power needs huge investment. In fact, the power sector in this Budget has not got any proposal for investment. Of course, the extra budgetary support for companies like NTPC and others is there. But the real problem of power sector lies in the fact that this sector is not commercially viable. If the power sector is commercial viable like telecommunication, automatically investments can start flowing into the power sector. But it is not commercially viable because the transmission, sub-transmission and distribution sector is really bleeding, losing money and we need to fix that problem. We have started a programme called Accelerated Power and Reform Development Programme (APRDP) but the increase for this programme in this Budget is virtually cosmetic.

Again, this Budget talks about increasing universal coverage of electrification. The Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Vidyutikaran Yojana. But in the rural areas, probably 45 per cent of the households are not electrified even today. So, we need to electrify them. But if we tend to electrify those villages without increasing and augmenting the capacity of generating more electricity that is required to feed this programme, then those houses may have bulb, but not electricity. We would probably have to use candles in those villages to find out where the bulb is burning. Therefore, we need a comprehensive strategy to deal with that. Also, more capacity increase is required. I as the Power Minister made a blueprint for the power sector development and, my request is if the Government could implement that with a holistic approach, then it will help to address this

problem. This is a challenge before the country. So, we need to address that.

The other issue in infrastructure, with reference to private and public sector participation. For a long time we have heard about PPP. Some people are under the impression that PPP itself is an project that is going to solve the problem. But it is really not taken off because the issues relating to the regulatory framework that was required for that, for example, Budget subsidy viability gap funding and other related things, have not been addressed so far.

We have a challenge in the sphere of education. It is because two per cent two per cent of our students only undergo vocational training, unlike 55 per cent in Germany, or 75 per cent to 80 per cent in China. Therefore, imparting quality education is a challenge before us. *The Economic Survey* makes a very interesting comment. A child who is studying in the VIIIth standard is learning what he should have learnt in the IIInd standard. So, we need to increase the coverage by bringing more schools and appointing some two lakh more teachers. In a study conducted it has been mentioned that 50 per cent of the teachers do not attend schools but still obtain salary. So, we really need to be careful and make sure that we make more allocation in order to ensure better results and better quality output.

In the health sector we are still far away from our cherished dream. About 2,00,000 health sub-centres 4,000 primary health centres, about 3,000 community centres are still to be opened. Today we are spending about 1.39 per cent of the GDP on health, whereas the target was always three per cent.

Sir, I will wind up by making certain suggestions. The fisheries industry in this country generates around 14 million jobs. But this Budget has not provided for any incentive for the development of this industry. In fact, the fishermen are losing their income because of climatic changes and because of the vulnerability of the weather

conditions. Therefore, the Government should not only attempt to create more jobs in this sector but also should aim at protecting the people involved in this sector. But unfortunately this has not happened.

My second point is about the plantation programmes. I am happy to note that the hon. Minister, in his Budget speech, has announced certain incentives to cover cashew and coconut plantations, but there has not been any mention about mango. Mango fruit is something that can be treated on par with coconut and cashew. Therefore, mango also needs the same kind of support from the plantation programmes.

Sir, thirdly, as a long-term measure the Government must set up a group to look into the various aspect of how the Government accounting at the local level, at the State levels and at the Central level in a way it can actually bring about some convergence so that the money that is being sent from the Centre to the local and State level can have proper assessment of output out of that. That is the need of the hour. With Information Technology available to us, this can be done. It would always be better to do that. So Finance Minister should set up a group to prepare a roadmap for this.

Sir, from 1857 to 2007, we have completed 150 years. This is the 150th anniversary of that great event. In this year we should try to spend more money on programmes that would help infuse a spirit of patriotism amongst the people of the country. Patriotism is one software that is required for the country. Japan has grown to be the second largest economy of the world, because they had inculcated in them a spirit of patriotism. Therefore, we really need to work on that.

The co-operative sector also needs a thrust. In any market economy the State has to work and the private sector also has to work and there is a possibility of the growth of a third sector which can work as an intermediary between the two. We really need to look at the co-operative sector. This Budget does not unfortunately address this aspect.

Environment, forest and wildlife should be given a thrust in any country. What we are seeing in our neighbouring country is that though they are growing very fast, their quality of environment is degrading very fast. In fact, they would have to spend huge sums of money to repair their loss of natural resources.

So, I think, we really need to focus on this aspect. Like how we have one Financial Advisor in each Ministry, we should have one Environment Advisor in all the Ministries. In fact, Prof. Soz, who is sitting next to you will agree with me.

Internal security which I was saying about earlier is again a challenge. In fact, our Prime Minister said that, after some of the mishaps which happened in the country, our intelligence network needs to be completely revamped. I was going though the Non-Plan expenditure of the Intelligence Bureau. Last year, the provision was Rs.416.75 crore and this year, the budgetary provision is Rs.409.43 crore. That means, the budgetary provision of the IB which is supposed to collect intelligence has come down and as regards police forces, last year, the figure was Rs.13,910 crore which is now marginally increased by Rs.29 crore this year. This is the position when we are talking of modernization of police forces and better intelligence gathering. So, internal security is something which needs to be looked into seriously.

My last point pertains to savings. Savings rate of economy is now 32.4 per cent. This is a very healthy thing but China is probably close to 50 per cent. So, the entire effort of the Government should be on how to improve our savings rate. If you want to do that, one way to look at it is this to incentive savings out of the total household savings is only 11.7 per cent in the financial savings. Most of it is getting into physical things like acquiring houses, property and others. I think there should be a great effort made by the Finance Minister to mobilize more savings and with our efficiency of using our investment for a better productivity is better than China. I think more savings rate would mean more investment which would really result

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into tangible benefits. Therefore, I think the Finance Minister would make an effort on these lines.

While concluding I would say that we were all happy that with the economy growing very well and with the fiscal situation improving, if not consolidating, the Finance Minister would take certain bold measures to make India a really good place to live. But unfortunately, his Budget has failed to do that.

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY (Dhenkanal) Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the General Budget, 2007-08.

At the outset, let me admit that I am no whiz-kid on financial matters unlike our learned Finance Minister or those transferable mandarins in his Ministry or even those leading this country who are great proponents of liberalization, globalization and what not. I even fail to understand simple things. Since childhood, I know that grant is like a dole and loan is to be repaid back but when I read something like a "negative grant" to the National Highways Authority of India, I am unable to understand what it implies. So, right at the outset, I am willing to admit that I speak as a fool. But I understand certain things as I read the speech of the Finance Minister in English as a language. The feeling throughout the country is that, in the last ten Five Year Plans, the country has been so managed that it has become a Centre centric financial institution. All the powers which are supposed to be with the States like in the social sector, health, education and the finances of those which are devolved to the States, have all come to the Centre. For this reason, for the last 60 years, most of the States have become beggars while the Centre has become the largest money lender. This Budget is unique to be the first Budget of the Eleventh Five Year plan and everybody is accepting that the nation has a brilliant Finance Minister like Shri P. Chidambaram. He is such a logical person that everybody expected that he will give something new in his Budget. We expected a new directive so that the country has something different to look

forward to in the 21st century where the issues primarily raised in his own home State, namely, the Centre-State relations, will be addressed in coming years.

But unfortunately this Budget does not show any such indication of reversing this trend. As far as we understand, the Planning Commission has a mandate. The planning for this country is supposed to be done on the poverty index. This kind of planning would lead to equitable and sustainable development of the social infrastructure, like health, education etc. We all are aware that the prime mechanism available with the Central Government to implement these projects is to depend on the States. We all realize that all the States are in the red as far as finances are concerned. They are struggling to pay the salaries of their employees. Every year, in every plan, we see that the Centre expects more and more involvement of the States' finances in the Centrally-Sponsored Projects. So, a question comes to mind whether this Budget really addresses the problems of the equity of 25 per cent or 50 per cent, that is expected from the State.

In my State we have a lot of mining activities going on. This Budget has levied a tax of Rs.300 on iron ore exports Rs.2000 on chrome. When you dig up 100 metric tonnes of iron ore, you get 40 per cent lumps and 60 per cent fines. In my State of Orissa, this huge quantity of 60 per cent has been one of the major exports. Let me make it very clear right at the beginning that I am a strong opponent of export of raw materials from this nation in general and from my State in particular. But on the other hand, I am seeing the reality in part of my constituency. From 1st of March many mining companies have virtually come to a grinding halt because fines take up so much storage space that is impossible to continue further mining. So, when you levy such a tax, you must also know that fines are different from lumps. What do you do with the fines? Have you invested in R and D so that local industries within India are capable of using these fines to produce inverts? You have not done that. You take any big company, whether it is TATA, Birla or Jindal, they all export

these fines, but they are not capable of using the fines in any of their own steel plants. So, what this country really needs to do is to create R and D and make the new plants able to use these fines so that we stop exporting these fines. But till such time, some sort of balance has to be found out. We should not simply and blindly go by the recommendations of the Hooda Committee. We can have this on the export of lumps. But as far as fines go, we have to re-think on what is the domestic demand and whether we should levy this tax or not. It is because you are creating a lot of unemployment due to this tax. The total iron ore mining between 2000-05 in India has been 524 million tonnes. It is very interesting to note that during the same time the reserves discovered went up by 3,100 million tonnes.

What happens is that when there is a mine, they tell you it has say, ten million tonnes of ore. But then as you do the mining, you realise that it has much more than 10 million tonnes and it can go up to 20 or 30 million tonnes also. So our reserves have been found on record and the Government has these records that our reserves have gone up. So to help this industry, not help the mining companies but to help all these thousands of people, those truck operators, those truck drivers, those cleaners, those loading people, those loading on to trains, on to ships, in Government ports, all those people have to be taken into account because they are sitting with folded hands not knowing what to do.

Sir, the hon. Minister of Finance announced that in the mid-point of his Government which was November, 2006, the GDP went up from 7.5 per cent in 2004-05 to hopefully 9 per cent which the Prime Minister in his speech also mentioned. In the same breadth you admit that in the Tenth Plan the estimated average agricultural growth has been 2.3 per cent whereas you would have appreciated it if it would have been four per cent. It is very surprising to note that the Minister has so much concern for agriculture, but this concern for agriculture was not reflected in his Budget speech. On the one hand the

investment in AIBP has gone up from Rs.7,121 crore to Rs.11,000 crore, we have to realize what this accelerated irrigation programme implies to the common farmer. It means more water to more farmers. But the figure of Rs.7,000 and odd crore going up to Rs.11,000 crore means, the Minister has taken care only of the inflationary trend. That means in reality, you are not concentrating on more investment, and on the other hand, a very dangerous statement was given in this House in which the Prime Minister said that because largely Indians have very small land holdings – he did not say it, but it seems clear to all of us – therefore he said that rapid industrialization is the only way for this country. We have to see who we are going to serve, who is the *aam admi*, is it the big industrialist or is it the common farmer? We do not make any funding available to the common farmer and on the other hand, the head of the country says that small land holdings are no more economical. You think about industrialization. Are we going to be a country only for services or can we envision ourselves as a country which can be the food basket for the world in the years to come? This is a very serious issue which all of us and somebody like you who represents a rural constituency, have to think about this.

Sir, like I said about the States and the Centre, the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan was only catering to a certain part of the school education. It was not touching the high schools or above that. It was touching only the secondary schools or below that. Earlier, you had earmarked Rs.8,000 crore for that and today you have increased it to Rs.10,671 crore. This is again just handling the inflationary trend. In the same breath you are saying that the States have to give 50 per cent of this share. Then, you know that you will be giving a few hundred or few thousand crores of rupees to the States and none of these States will be able to meet their 50 per cent. Therefore, you will not get the UC and that will imply that no project will get completed and your money will be kept with you. My question is this. What will the Minister do with so many crores lying in his coffers when development at the ground level actually does not take place?

[Shri Tathagata Satpathy]

On the topic of health, the Minister has mentioned two particular illnesses—one is HIV AIDS and the other is Pulse Polio Programme. AIDS, as we know, has been holding the fascination of many an NGO, of all these UN-based organizations and crores of rupees are coming into this country.

I am surprised about one thing. What really excites all these foreign-funded organizations to go so heavily for AIDS? In the same light, I would say that this House must commend all those ladies and gentlemen who have been involved in the Pulse Polio Programme in this country. I think, in recent times, it has been one of those unique programmes which has been a great success where men and women involved in that programme have actually gone from house to house looking for babies which have been missed out in the formal programme. I think this has been a more detailed programme than even your census. So, we must commend that. But, at the same time, I would be very much obliged if the Minister bothers to answer why such diseases like brain malaria, leprosy, diabetes which are taking huge toll in India including tuberculosis, water-borne diseases like jaundice, gastroenteritis, hepatitis-B, Why have we not addressed these diseases? Why are we not focusing our attention on them?

In other proposals, the hon. Minister has spoken about the employment facilities for the physically-challenged...(Interruptions)

I will make two or three points and then conclude my speech. Now I come to employment for the physically-challenged. When you expect the physically-challenged to go out of the security of their homes and start working, you expect that they will get a monthly income of Rs.25,000. out should also have one thing Whatever it is — monthly or annual income...(Interruptions)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : It is upto Rs.25,000.

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY : You said it is upto

Rs.25,000. All right. I am sorry. When you say that it is up to Rs.25,000, it is your prime responsibility to see that they get it. How do you expect these people to go out and actually do a service? Our railway stations, airports — our roads do not even have sidewalks — do not have a toilet for the physically-handicapped. Our stations are such that even an able-bodied man gets tired carrying his luggage from one platform to the other. Our schools and colleges, none of these institutions, address the plight of the differently-able people. Let us put it this way. That is what is PC — Here, it is not P. Chidambaram Saheb. But it is "politically correct." So, in the current Budget, you have earmarked Rs.1008 crore to enable one lakh physically-challenged people. How will they be able to do that? That has not been dealt with.

In other proposals, you also have institutions of excellence. We are very happy that both the Agriculture Universities of Coimbatore in Tamil Nadu and Pant Nagar in Uttar Pradesh have been beneficiaries of your largesse. But I would like to draw the Minister's attention that the Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology has been doing yeomen's service in dry-land farming. But, unfortunately, it seems that Orissa does not exist in the map of this Government! Therefore, we have been completely left out.

In tax proposals, in clause 157 lies one of your worst decisions. Do you really want to make India a "preferred destination for drug testing? I want your attention on this issue. You have exempted. Clinical trials of new drugs from service tax. In the US or in Western Europe or even in countries like Thailand and Indonesia, they have banned drug testing. They are saying that if you want to test a drug, you have to tell the patient, you have to tell the family members and you have to get a form signed by the patient or any able family member saying "Yes, I agree if certain drugs are tried on this patient."

But in India, by exempting them from service tax, you are enabling them to carry out clandestine tests. It is a matter of great concern for every right thinking person in

this country. So, I would request the Finance Minister to withdraw this proposal immediately and show that this does not tally with another proposal which talks about exempting dredgers and tax concessions in infrastructure building which have been given in Section 165 and Section 133 because that smells like something where Sethu Samudram Project has crept into this Budget.

Coming to gender-sensitive budgeting, women assesses will now get a tax threshold of Rs.1,45,000 giving them an annual benefit of about Rs.1,000 only. Is this an encouragement? Is this genuinely gender-sensitive? Are you honestly bothered about women going out of their homes and working? If that be so, I would suggest that in today's world Rs. Five lakh per annum is a normal salary and so you should think of women paying taxes at a threshold of Rs. Five lakh and above. Below that, it is simply a matter of hoodwinking the people.

Finally, I am very happy that the Finance Minister has named the Drinking Water Project after one of our illustrious late former Prime Minister. My point is, just below that paragraph there is a smaller paragraph that deals with the Sanitation Project. I would just like to ask the hon. Minister one thing. Is not there anybody whom you can name this project after? If there is, then let the Finance Minister also take this step – it is in the interest of this country that healthy habits have to be taught to the people living in rural areas – and name this project after one of the illustrious figures who have led the Congress Party to power over and over again for the last 45 to 50 years.

[Translation]

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA (Ujjain) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Budget is concerned with the common-man and decides the direction of progress and development of the country. But it is to be seen as to how far we march in

all sections of society have been taken care of. Our model system provides that:

"No rajyam na cha rajaseet, na dando na cha  
dandica.

Dharmanyev praja sarvey, rakehati sma parasparam."

It means our model system of governance provides that there would be no ruler or the ruled, there would be none to punish and nobody would be punished, everybody would protect each other. It is our Indian concept of governance and we want to establish it. Our failure to do so is due to some inherent shortcomings. We have to keep in mind social, economic, political and cultural perspective while preparing the budget as the self-reliance and pride of the country is linked with it.

It has been stated that everybody should be provided employment. Everybody engaged in the agriculture sector should get work and water for irrigation should reach every field and there should be uniform education for everybody. But, even in the field of education, there is a wide gap between the education imparted in the urban areas and in the rural areas. The said difference has created a divide between 'India' and 'Bharat'. But Bharat is a common-man's country. So, every individual should feel that he is an indispensable person and he is being taken care of. It has been enshrined in the preamble of our Constitution that:

[English]

"We, the people of India, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a Sovereign Socialist Secular Democratic republic and to secure to all its citizens:

Justice, social, economic and political...."

[Translation]

But what is happening here, why the Government are not



[Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya]

all? Why the gap is further widening? Why the benefits of schemes implemented by the Government are not reaching to all the people? It is good that each year allocation for the schemes is hiked and keeping in view the inflation, standard of living etc., there is a need to hike allocation. Yesterday, I had been to a village in Ratlam district where I had a meeting with a small group of people. One person out of them told me that flour (Atta) is available at Rs.16 a kg. there. The village has a population of 2500, whereas, it has not been connected with any road. Though, it should have been covered under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna, but it has not been done so far. The same person said that since he is jobless so how can he manage buying atta at the rate of Rs.16 a kg. Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme too has not been extended to this village. I had not reply to his question. He can ask such a question from any politician, because he feels that being public representatives we should reply to his question. But what kind of reply I would give to him? There are many such questions. We say that every child should be provided education and that teacher-students ratio should be, say in the range of 25-50-100 etc. Either we have not been able to build schools or if schools have been built there is no arrangement for drinking water in those schools. There is a provision for mid-day meals, but we will have to see that it is properly prepared, served and proper hygiene is maintained. We will have to put everything in a systematic way. We will have to maintain an average standard so that we can say that yes we are doing this. If an individual is from a well-to-do family, he can afford to spend Rs.2-5 or 10 thousand per month on education of his children. Children of educated persons get good jobs after receiving education. but our major concern is how the son of a poor person can study and progress? However, efforts should be made to bring him also upto a certain level of education. The standard of education and health services should be improved. We find that in the absence of a tablet of paracetamol or crocin, a person keeps lying in fever and there is no one to provide him

treatment. When Shri Rajnarayan was the Minister of Health, he had launched a scheme 'Jiwan Rakshak' and some positive action was taken thereunder. People do not have houses to live in; they stay in slums, where there is no security. Their thatched roofs hardly protect them from rain. When i was passing through such as area a person wanted me to listen to him, as he wanted to say something. Our Government is responsible for creating such a situation. He is also an Indian. We find one kind of India on Rajpath in Delhi and other in rural streets, where, there are people who get up with empty stomach and sleep in the night without eating anything. See their plight. We will bother for him? Therefore, my submission is that something has to be done in this regard, we will have to provide them food and pure drinking water. Let people drink bisleri water in urban areas, but the rural poor too should be provided clean drinking water from say, a well or pond of the village. But it is not possible to accomplish this task with the funds allocated in the Budget. A number of villages face shortage of water for drinking. 60 years have gone by since we gained freedom and many more years will go by. The Government should make arrangements for drinking water. These are extremely essential basic amenities.

16.00 hrs.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, these ore quite essential. Now, the Government propose to provide dwelling units to all. An amount of Rs.20 thousand is allocated under the Indira Aawas Yojna. This amount is meager. How will it be possible to construct a room measuring 10x6', 10x8' or say 10x12' at the most, including a toilet with this meagre amount? In the same village I enquired as to how many families in that village have got gas connections. I was told that out of 500 families in the village only 15 families have gas connections. Rest, 485 families still use fire wood for cooking their meals. They do so in an un-hygienic way and it is none other than the ladies of such families who have to do this all under such a difficult condition. Therefore, my submission is that the Government should care for the poorest and the most needy. If we cannot do so, we cannot be proud to have a democracy.

Sir, the Government should start with the last man, who is in dire need of housing, medical facilities, drinking water, the essential things for a man to survive. Sant Ravidas has said:

"Aiso chahoon raj main mile saban ko anna  
Chote baden sam base Ravidas rahe prasanna"

Even today we aspire for what Sant Ravidas has desired. He said that he desired for such a governance under which no one goes without food; everyone should be equal and there should be no caste discrimination. But today, the society is divided on caste lines. We may talk of culture or civilization, but we find ourselves divided today. Who would check it? Sant Ravidas has shown a way out, he said:

"Jaatpat ke pher main ulajh rahe sab log, manusta ko  
khat ka, kahe bhai Ravidas jat kahen sab log"

Today, the crisis has deepened and if it gets political colour, then there is none to direct or guide it. In such circumstances, the Budget should be able to reform the social and economic perspective of India. It should set a direction for the nation. Such budget will be a welcome step for the country. Today, the situation is such that there is a sense of insecurity in the houses, there is a huge disparity between the level of education being provided to upper classes and lower strata of society. Very good health facilities are available to one person, and the other is totally deprived of them. One is walking on foot, the other is riding a bicycle. Somebody is having a motorcycle, another is having a car and yet another is having a plane. Now, the difference between pedestrians and air travellers is widening. In an ideal society, the disparity between a privileged and underprivileged should not be more than 1:20. But we notice that the disparity is much more and it is increasing day by day.

16.03 hrs.

[SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN *in the Chair*]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the era of globalisation, we cannot bring progressive people down, but can uplift the downtrodden people. It is a time of free flow of capitalisation. Our vast country is having a potential of skilled people. We can provide an opportunity to skilled professionals of our country to progress and show their calibre outside. Our country is having 1896 ITIs the Government had promised to upgrade the standard of 500 ITIs in the budget of 2005-06. The Government said that it would provide interest free loans to them. I would like to ask as to how many ITIs have been provided this loan? The Government has upgraded only 200 ITIs, out of 500 ITIs. The Government would be able to upgrade the rest of ITIs by the year 2009 only. I would like to say that in case we wish to uplift the underprivileged, we should raise the standard of ITIs. modern subjects should be included in its curriculum. At present, only old vernaculars and calipus are included in the curriculum. All these things are of no utility. If by mistake, a computer is seen in ITI, it is of very low quality, which can be of no use. These kind of things should be upgraded. A rich man is pursuing his education in engineering, medical, technical and astronomical fields, but an average person of village is hardly able to study upto matric level. The hon'ble Minister has made a mention of dropouts. The Government is going to provide scholarship to contain the rate of dropouts, but how many people are going to be benefited by it? In a village, where a class consists of 100 students, there is definitely a need to open new ITIs. There are 1896 ITIs; there is a need to upgrade them. If 4000 ITIs are opened, then there would be definitely an ITI in every development block. This way, we can do the welfare of an average person and can bring him in the mainstream.

Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards the provident fund. The provident fund board meeting was held on 8th of last month, in which issue relating to interest rate given to more than four crore members was put off till the next meeting. I do not understand as to what was the need of putting it off? Besides, the suggestion in regard

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to interest rate of 8% for year 2006-07 and 8.25% for year 2007-08 given by workers unions has also been rejected. Today, banks are giving 9 to 9.5% interest on deposited money, but we are talking of giving them interest of only 8 or 8.25 per cent. Since interest rates given by banks have increased, therefore, I would like to request the hon'ble Minister of Finance to take quick decision in this regard and provide interest on provident funds at par with the interest given by banks.

Sir, while raising a question about Sixth Pay Commission I had asked him about interim relief. Since, in the past also, employees had been given interim relief, but he said that the matter has been put under terms of reference of Pay Commission. Six meetings of Pay Commission have been held, but till now, no decision about interim relief has been taken. Therefore, I would like to request you to deliberate on it and provide interim relief to the employees.

Sir, today, United Forum of Bank Unions held a demonstration at Parliament Street. They were demanding that other option of pension should also be kept open, because at the time this was being done, the banks were on strike, due to which they were not able to exercise this option. Besides, the recruitment of dependents of deceased employees should be made on compassionate grounds outsourcing should be put to end. The outsourcing of small jobs means lowering of banks efficiency, and bringing down the spirits of employees. A cruel joke is played with sanitation workers by paying them Rs. 500-1000, and outsourcing the sanitation work. In the meeting of Parliamentary Committee, I asked what welfare are they going to do by paying them Rs. 500-1000 as it is not going to benefit anybody. The Government must employ them as full-time employees, the cleaning job can be a full time job. Besides that the Government can ensure that they get respectable minimum wages.

Sir, many big malls have been opened, where items

of daily use are sold. The big malls are eating into the livelihood of street vendors who are poor people. The condition of street vendors has become pathetic with the opening of big malls. As the hon'ble Minister is the well wisher of the poor, therefore, he will definitely listen to my views, as I am speaking about the welfare of the poor. I am talking about common man, everybody talks about common man, but to what extent is it achieved? These are only efforts. Therefore, I am saying that relief should be provided to labourers, skilled people as it has become difficult for them to earn their livelihood. I would like to quote a couplet, which says all:

"Kaha to tha, khushhali layenge, desh bhar ke liye,  
Afsos ab roti bhi mysaar nahin hai, mahenatkash ke liye".

Therefore, there is a need to pay attention towards labourers; all should be taken care of. As has been said that 65 per cent people are engaged in agriculture, but their share in GDP has fallen down to 18.5%. Similarly, 15 per cent people work in industrial manufacturing sector, but their share in GDP is 25 per cent. We have helped them in every way. Similarly, service sector contributes 57% to the GDP, while it employs only 20 per cent people.

If we increase our spending in the agricultural sector and provide it proper assistance in proportion to the people working therein and like he said that they have increased allocation a bit in the irrigation sector, however, it is not even one and a half per cent. There is no fixed policy for chemical fertilizers as of now. Last time, the demand for the chemical-fertilizer could not be fulfilled during the Rabi season which caused a lot of inconvenience to the people. All the factories manufacturing chemical fertilizers are closing down and as such we import these which may result in uncertainties over here. Now it would be better if we make an estimate of our requirement for the forthcoming Kharif crop beforehand in order to fulfill it. An analysis has been made recently which refers to the social sector on page 38 of the Business World, dated 12th March

wherein Lata Vishnu writes that *[English]* The social sector spending sinks to a pathetic six per cent with education managing to get just 2.87 per cent, and health even less at 1.39 per cent, way below the global average. *[Translation]* This is the position. *[English]* Has anything changed since 2004 when Prime Minister Manmohan Singh took charge with the promise of a change in the manner in which this country is run? Not really. *[Translation]* This assurance was given that we shall bring about changes in the prevailing condition. This happens, whenever a new Government assumes power. I promises changes in prevailing scenario, however, there is no change, it seems there is no change in the lives of the people. There is a status quo. Had any efforts been made to change their condition, the results would have been visible. If further says that *[English]* On key parameters such as primary school enrolments, dropout rates, child malnutrition, maternal healthcare, the report card continues to be shocking and disgraceful. Take the case of malnourished children. A recent UNICEF survey showed that 46 per cent of Indian children under the age of three are malnourished. This is worse than that of Sub-Saharan Africa where the figure is 35 per cent. *[Translation]* If we look at comparative figures of the world we would realize where we stand and definitely we have to be concerned and we know that money makes the mare go.

Yasyasit Vittam Sa Nar Kulin, Sa Budhiman Na Gunagya.

Sa Aev Vakta, Sa Cha Darshaniya, Sarveguna Kanchanam Ashryanti.

That means one who has money, is regarded as a wise man. He also becomes talented, an orator and is handsome because money creates qualities that never fade away. So here we have our hon. Minister of Finance whom every one has praised, but if he pays attention to my request then we shall definitely work out something good for the country. There should be equal opportunities of development for one and all.

I definitely spoke of social sector and social justice. He has said that they are launching a scheme of providing some financial assistance to one lakh handicapped persons in the form of provident fund. The handicapped persons form three per cent of the country's total population and which factory owner would generate one lakh employment opportunities for handicapped persons and would also provide them provident fund? No one has done this so far. His initiative is welcome but by merely contemplating upon it does not ensure anything. He should think of measures so that they could be helped effectively. There is a Christian Hospital in my constituency which is proposed to be closed down. I would like to draw his attention towards it. There is no All India Radio Service in my constituency which should have been set up. All the components of the Jawahar Lal Urban Renewal Scheme which includes drinking water and developmental projects should be completed. There is no monitoring mechanism for the Pradhan Mantri Sadak Yojana which is a very effective scheme. Rs. Twenty to twenty five lakh are provided for the construction of one kilometer road under this scheme, even then the roads are not constructed. Whereas one good kilometre road can be easily constructed in Rs.7 to 8 lakh. The proper monitoring of construction of road can ensure high quality road. There is a need to pay attention to all these aspects.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for providing me an opportunity to speak, I hope the hon. Minister of Finance would definitely take some measures in this regard since he has been hearing my plea. Fortune favours a circumspect, diligent person. "Rahin Jagravansho Anugamnam" Fame follows a circumspect person. With these words I wish "Sarve Bhavantu sukhina, sarve santu niramaya, sarve bhadraṇi pashyantu, ma kashchid dughagbhvet". Such an administration is envisaged where everyone is happy, healthy and there is no misery. So if the Government would use its full potential, abilities and skill, it would definitely be beneficial for all.

[English]

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN (Palani) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, hon. Shri Chidambaram, our senior leader and Finance Minister of this country has submitted his fourth Budget on 28th February, 2007. It is his sixth Budget. It is an agriculture-oriented budget. He announced number of valuable measures for the renewal of Indian Agriculture. Within 30 months of UPA Government under the able leadership of Madam Soniaji, and the hon. Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singhji, the GDP growth rate has improved from 7.5 per cent in 2004-2005 to 9 percent in 2005-2006 and to 9.2 per cent in 2006-2007. There is an average growth rate in three years of the 11th PA Government at the rate of 8.6 per cent. The growth rate target for the Tenth Five Year Plan of 8 per cent will be nearly achieved. There is acceleration in growth rate in manufacturing sector from 8.7 per cent to 9.1 per cent, and further to 11.3 per cent. In Service sector from 9.6 per cent to 9.8 per cent, and further to 11.2 per cent. Average growth in agriculture during Tenth Five Year Plan is estimated at 2.3 per cent.

In real terms, per capita income in 2005-2006 was increased by 7.4 per cent. The savings rate estimated at 32.4 per cent, and the investment rate at 33.8 per cent. The present Budget mainly focused on rural drinking water facilities, rural housing, total sanitation and primary education. Through the Bharat Nirman Programme, the UPA Government has provided drinking water facilities to 55,512 villages; 7,83,000 rural houses were constructed; and 12,198 km. length of rural roads were formed. UPA Government planned to provide rural telephone to 20,000 villages and out of which 15,054 villages were provided telephone facilities, and the remaining will be completed before the end of the year. For the Rajiv Gandhi Drinking Water Mission, it is planned to increase from Rs.4,680 crore to Rs. 5,850 crore.

Through this present Budget, our Government has planned to spend more money for Sarva Shiksha Abiyan (SSA) and Mid-Day Meal Scheme. For school education,

allocation is Rs.23,142 crore. Through Mid-Day Meal Scheme, it is proposed to extend this scheme to the Children studying in upper primary classes in 3,427 educationally backward blocks. It is proposed to allocate Rs.7,324 crore for Mid-Day Meal Scheme. For secondary education, it is more than doubled, that is, from Rs.1,837 crore to Rs.3,794 crore.

Another welcoming step is the introduction of 'National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship'. It is proposed to curtail the drop out ratio in this country. According to this novel and innovative scheme, it is planned to conduct national level test among the students who have passed class-VIII and each successful and eligible student will be given Rs.6,000 per year.

Further more, I want to mention some important features of this Budget. On excise duty, the hon. Finance Minister has brought down *ad valorem* component from eight per cent to six per cent on petrol and diesel. Customs duty on non-agricultural products has been slashed from 12 per cent to 10 per cent. Duty on *pan masala*, not containing tobacco has been reduced from 66 per cent to 45 per cent. Duty on drip irrigation system, agricultural sprinklers and food processing items has been reduced by 2.5 per cent. Through *aam admi Bhima Yojana*, hon. Finance Minister proposed to bring the unorganized household under a safety net by providing insurance. Through this scheme, the Government of India will bear 50 per cent premium of Rs.200 per year per person. It is a very important and a very good scheme that is provided for in this Budget. Allocation for SCs/STs was Rs.6,600 crore last year; now it is raised to Rs.17,691 crore this year. It is a gift from the UPA Government and from our hon. Finance Minister, to the SC/ST population of this country.

I want to mention something about AIDS control. It is proposed to allocate Rs.969 crore for AIDS control. I feel that this allocation is not sufficient to eradicate, and prevent this killer disease. By December 2005, it was estimated that there were about 5,206 million persons affected with

HIV-Positive in this country, with no State is free from this virus. India presently ranks as the second country in the world next to South Africa. A large number of women are affected with HIV in six States, namely, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Manipur, Andhra Pradesh and Nagaland. For AIDS Awareness Programme, the Government of India is allocating huge funds through NGOs, but the money is not properly utilized; and the NGOs are not working properly, according to the norms. They are getting foreign aid also, but that also is not used properly by them. It has to be monitored. In India, the majority of the population is still uninfected. More money is to be allocated for Information Technology, Education and Communications fields. It can only help prevent this disease. Now, Anti-Retroviral Therapy Service is rendered in 64 centres in selected hospitals throughout the country. At least, it must be extended to 150 institutions and selected hospitals. For that, more money is to be allocated and more ART centres should be opened. Then only, it can be prevented.

I also want to mention certain facts about the Integrated Child Development Services. This is the only major national programme for children under the age of six years. The universalization of this programme is our commitment. Hon. Supreme Court of India has given a landmark judgment on 13.12.2006 about this issue.

According to this judgment, all ICDS Services must be extended to all children under the age of six years and as well as extended to only one-third children, and here, the services are not adequate. National Advisory Council formulated certain recommendations to achieve universalization with quality. Our Government formed a separate Ministry for Women and Child Development for the first time in this country. Budgetary allocation is not sufficient for this programme. Last year, it was Rs.4,761 crore and this year, the allocation is only Rs.4,087 crore. Allocation of Rs.4,087 crore for 160 million children under six years is not sufficient.

Our hon. Finance Minister is well aware of the

problems of the Indian farming community. He hails from a small village of mostly farmers. The most important fact is the Northern part of our country is very badly affected by floods resulting in loss of human lives and damage to property worth thousands of crores of rupees every year. On the other hand, people from the Southern part are migrating from one place to another for want of drinking water not only for themselves but also for their cattle. With the increase in population, this position will grow from bad to worse. India has 17 per cent of the world's population but has only 2.45 per cent of the world's land. Our population is increasing by 2 per cent per year. We all know that Ganga, Brahmaputra, Mahanadhi, Godavari, Krishna, Narmada, Cauvery, Ravi, Sutlej are the main rivers but a large quantity of water goes into the sea when floods come. In order to provide necessary food to all, we have to take steps for linking waters at the national level. It is predicted that the Indian population by 2050 will be 164 crore and our food requirements would be 450 million tonnes.

In our country, works relating to construction of dam are unnecessarily delayed for a number of years. Because of this delay in implementation of projects, costs got escalated. For example, Nagarjuna Sagar Dam was originally estimated at Rs.91.12 crores. While submitting the proposals to the Planning Commission, it was estimated Rs.163.54 crores. Till 2005, we have spent Rs.1,300 crores for this project.

Narmada Valley project is estimated at around Rs.200 crores. So far, we have spent Rs. 21,000 crores but till date the work is not completed. In my constituency, in the year 1989 Nanganjlyar Dam was estimated at Rs.25 crores. We have already spent nearly 80 crores but the work is not yet completed. We have to concentrate on these things. Fortunately, we are having a huge quantity of water in our country. We have to plan for the linkage of rivers in our country. The expected expenditure will be Rs.5,60,000 crore. If we implement this project, our agriculture will improve, drinking water problems will be solved, power generation would be augmented and the Inter-State water

[Shri S.K. Kharventhan]

dispute will also be solved permanently. But there is no mention about this issue in this Budget. I would request the hon. Prime Minister, the hon. Finance Minister and the hon. Water Resource Minister to concentrate on this issue to safeguard the future needs of our country.

With these words, I welcome this Budget and I conclude my speech.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I express my gratitude to you for providing me an opportunity to speak on General Budget for the year 2007-08. We have had a comprehensive discussion and exchange of views from both the sides. As far as the budget is concerned, we are undertaking the 12th Five Year Plan this year itself.

This budget includes growth and developmental works much more than they were discussed in the Fourth Five Year Plan and Eleventh Five Year Plan during the last financial years. I hope the U.P.A. Government will make efforts to ensure its full participation in the 12th Five Year Plan being launched. A provision of Rs.2,05,100 crore has been made for this budget plan. However, the figures tell a different story that our pace of development has not been upto the desired level. In view of the burgeoning population of the country, even today there are so many facilities which required stepping up of finances by the Government under the various heads of these Plans.

All kinds of reactions have poured in, be it expert opinion or views of great leads of all parties. The essence of this budget is that it is lack luster and a total failure in controlling the inflation. Inflation has acquired an ominous proportion and its onus lies in our misuse of the available resources due to which we are not able to check it. The hon. Minister of Finance has made efforts for this which are quite visible in this budget. It will be a great

achievement for the country if we are able to check the rising prices. It is normally seen in the budget report and the reaction coming from the people that there is no relief for the common man, there is neither an effort to make a particular section happy nor any provision has been made to launch a new scheme.

Sir, India is predominately an agricultural country, 75 per cent of the population of the country is living in the rural areas and are dependent on agriculture. We were coming from our constituency to Delhi to participate in this Session of the House. I belong to Uttar Pradesh and there has been hailstorm and rains at several places in Uttar Pradesh in the last few months and this month. Even unseasonal rains cause damage to the crop. On our way to Delhi, we found that the crops were ripening in several parts of entire Western Uttar Pradesh, however, one comes across such spectacles of nature at times in the form of incidence of dust storms, storms, cyclones owing to which our developmental works get hampered and our farmers in particular have to bear its brunt. It affects the development of the country. Actually a survey should be conducted in respect of the areas which often face unforeseen natural calamities and the farmers of these areas should be provided with special facilities. The issue is being discussed in the House today and it has been discussed earlier also for several times. Today also members have submitted that farmers especially of South India are reeling under a debt burden. A large number of farmers have committed suicide and the rest are being compelled to do so for which the House has always remained concerned. A detailed discussion has taken place in this regard. If we really wanted to do something, we should have paid special attention towards the farmers. However, nothing significant was done in this regard. In respect of the UPA Government's concept of "Bharat Nirman", the budgetary provision has been increased by 39.6% in comparison to last year but it has been observed that the various components of this concept have not shown any significant progress. There is a proposal to build

15 lakhs houses under rural development and the Government propose to increase this target. Rs. 25,000 are allocated to construct a one room house in rural area while in present situation of price rise costs Rs. 50,000 to construct the same even while the poor villager keeps working hard for this alongwith entire family members. A house should have some space to keep household goods and a Verandah to sit in. People talk about the facilities for the farmers who are the backbone of the country's development at the rural level. But the Government has failed to provide them with any special scheme which can help them to get a house to live in. Some of them are living in one room with their family members including parents, children, daughter-in-law, daughter etc. Some times lack of space compel them to sleep outside the house. There was a need to enhance the amount for such people. The Government has made a provision of Rs.800 crores under Sampoorana Gram Rojgar Yojna. This amount should have been more because every scheme involves large expenditure in the initial stages. The same had happened with the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. This scheme was initiated to provide employment to the agricultural labourers who do not have enough money to do farming. However, it has been observed that these labourers are migrating to cities in large numbers as they do not find employment in villages. They are migrating to metropolitan cities like Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata, Ahmedabad etc. in search of jobs. They do petty jobs there but even then fail to make adequate arrangements for the basic needs of their families living in villages.

The Government propose to provide employment to these people under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme but the people are demanding that employment opportunities should be generated for all. Such a provision has been made in the Constitution also that the Government shall make arrangements to provide education and employment to all. It is Government's responsibility to ensure that no poor person remains hungry and a farmer or a poor person is not forced to commit suicide. Initially 200 districts were covered under

this scheme. Now it has been extended to 330 districts. I request that it should be further extended to cover all villages. It is a new scheme and it has been observed that development has taken place in many villages in the initial phases of this scheme. Funds reached some places in the name of development but some other places failed to receive it. Whenever this issue is raised in the House, the reply given is that the issue pertains to the State Government and it will look into the matter. But we have to monitor that the State Governments should properly implement the centrally sponsored scheme. A monitoring committee should be constituted which should ensure that the funds released for this purpose is benefiting the people in real terms. Many shortcomings of this scheme have also come to notice. Many Pradhans and block heads who visit me want their joint account with the B.D.O. Therefore, such shortcomings should be removed. The scheme can be implemented properly if there is coordination among the people's representatives be they of the Gram Panchayats or officers and staff in the Government departments. Only then the people can progress.

The allocation made in the budget to provide insurance cover to the landless people needs to be increased. A provision has been made that half of the amount allocated for this purpose will be contributed by the Central Government and the remaining will be borne by the State Government. Some more provisions particularly in this regard should have been made because State Governments are already facing resource crunch. Therefore, additional financial resources should be made available to them. Only then the real benefit of this scheme would reach the landless people.

No special provision has been made for the individual tax payers. A large number of people in the country are tax evaders. They should be brought under the ambit of income tax to increase the revenue which would be helpful in the development of the country.

In comparison to last year, education sector has



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received an increase of 35% in the budgetary allocation this year. Alongwith it, the Government propose to double the funds for secondary education. During discussions on this issue in the House, we have regularly emphasized that the poor children of the country should be treated as the wealth of the nation. The Government should adopt them and impart education to them till they get employment. Education should be made employment oriented. Only then we would be successful in our objective. The Government should take the responsibility of all the poor children and ensure that they should be provided with health, education and employment. The Government is spending crores of rupees in the name of secondary education, Sarv-Shiksha, adult education and other educational programmes but the situation is very bad in the rural areas. In villages, though the school buildings have been constructed but only one or two teachers are available for 250-300 students and in some schools 4-5 teachers are available for 50 students. The student-teacher ratio is inappropriate. They say that this matter pertains to the State Governments. All right, but Central Government cannot escape from its responsibility. In budget, we allocate funds for the overall development of the country but we need monitoring for the effective implementation of the schemes.

The Government have made a provision for the recruitment of 2 lakh teachers for deputing them in the schools where their number is inadequate. We have to consider the literacy rate also while appointing teachers. More teachers should be appointed where the literacy rate is low. It is good that a provision has been made to built 5 lakh more class-rooms to impart education to the children. However, we should keep in mind that school buildings should be constructed in proportion to the number of students. Many school buildings are lying unutilized and influential people of the villages misuse these buildings. We have to pay attention towards this also. Approximately Rs. 23,142 crores have been allocated for the mid-day-meal scheme. From time to time, the hon'ble

Members of this House have discussed that the mid-day-meal should be given to the students as per the menu but the same is not being done. Therefore, all the schemes for which we are spending funds should be implemented effectively. I have seen in Uttar Pradesh that even books and clothes have been arranged for primary students. This has been done only because children of the country in a large number are still deprived of education. Such schemes should be implemented to encourage them so that children could get attracted and pay attention on their study. If their primary education is strong, they will never go down in future. We should also make arrangement for this. I am grateful to the hon. Minister of Finance for this that the procedure which you have formed to provide scholarship to the post-middle students at national level in which the arrangement has been made to provide scholarship to about one lakh students by spending Rs. 7.50 crores. System has been to provide scholarship of Rs. 6000/- annually under this programme. You will provide scholarship to them upto 12th class.

The life and career of a student starts after 12th. This is the point where he opts for his field, they are interested. Government should take responsibility according to their interest, either through technical education or competition; government should make arrangement for that. This is a very good scheme.

You have provided Rs. 327 crores for different schemes for SCs and STs and you have made arrangement of scholarship of Rs.171 crores in the budget for this. In our Uttar Pradesh there is a system to provide scholarship to the students whether they are SC or ST or OBC or even poor boys of Upper castes. Therefore, the student of any class, if he is poor, arrangement must be made for his study by giving him scholarship. You have provided Rs. 63 crores to Minority Development Corporation for the entire country. This amount is very meagre. You see either in villages or towns, the condition of minorities, especially poor people, is very miserable. There is no arrangement of family planning for them. There are 10 to

15 members in one family. As the child grows, they send them for labour, therefore, child labour is in the offing. It does not relate to any caste. When representative of other country or Common Wealth visits India and sees that child labour is in practice here, he will not see to which caste the child belongs to. He will see the poverty. Provisions must be made for this in the Budget.

You have enhanced 29.9 percent allocation for Health and Family welfare. It has also been mentioned in the constitution that all should get medical facility. In the name of health, you can see that PHC and CHC are being opened at village level, equipments of good quality are also there but Doctors are not willing to work at village level. Doctors of State Medical Services are not willing to work at village level. They visit in the villages after a gap of a week and return back to the city. They say what they shall do living in villages. Here there is neither the arrangement of water, electricity nor any arrangement for our security. If the facilities are being provided in towns, then these facilities must be provided in villages. Today, the situation is that, whoever has money, they go to bigger Hospitals like Appolo or AIIMS for treatment or Medical Colleges where experts are available. But the people, who have no money, live in villages and fight till death. They can't reach even towns for their treatment. We will have to ensure some sort of medical facilities. Whatever be their caste and situation they should get medical benefit. In this way, Uttar Pradesh government have done a very good job.

You have not made any special provisions for handicapped people. You have announced to give job only to one lakh people. We will have to see that in which part of state there is large or less number of handicapped people. According to that calculation you would have to make arrangements for providing jobs. There is a need to provide them more facilities. Efforts are being made to eradicate disability by giving Polio drops, so that the people, victims of disability get more facilities, the government should pay more attention in this direction.

There is provision of Rs. 500 crores for Common Wealth Games 2010 for which you have provided Rs. 150 crores to the Ministry of Sports and Rs. 350 corers to the Delhi Government. This is a fact that there should be proper lodging facility for the people coming from Abroad. This is a good in countries to allow tax exemptions to Hotels five years. More hotels would be constructed and proper lodging for facility will be available for Common Wealth Games as a result of this in centre.

You have made provision of Rs.96,000 crores for defence. The security of country is most important. We need to enhance allocation in the Budget for this. Whenever there is discussion on new pay scales, a little bit dissatisfaction prevails amongst the Army Personnel because they get very less salary. They tell of their earnings and the meagre amount they send homes. This had also been discussed in this august House that the armed forces personnel of our country are fighting to protect the unity and integrity of our country, they should be encouraged at least by providing them good salary, so that youth of our country come forward to protect the nation by joining the defence forces.

You have enhanced excise duty on. Who smokes Bidi? Mostly poor people use Bidi and tobacco powder. You have raised excise duty on these items. Wherever labourers works, whether he is a farmer or labourer working in towns, smokes Bidi to relax. Diseases spreading by consumption of tabacco and Bidi cannot be prevented from this system. This problem will not be solved. You should with draw excise duty because mostly poor people use these items.

Similarly, there are so many industries with annual production of Rs. 1.5 crores which have been give excise duty exemption and this is a very good step. Especially we have to promote and facilitate small-scale industries so that cottage and small-scale industries get promotion and people are able to get jobs.

You have made an arrangement to compensate the loss of oil companies by reducing excise duty by reducing

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excise duty by 2 percent on Petrol and Diesel. But we have seen that there are so many petrol pumps which do not get proper commission even today and that is why they indulge in adulteration and black marketing, and they do fraud in quantity and quality. On the one hand we talk about quantity and quality but if we have to consider the loss of companies from downwards to upward, then we have to consider the management of petrol pumps. Alongwith it, it has to be seen also that the dealers are getting commissions in real sense or not?

You have enhanced the allocation for National Highways Development Programme from Rs.9,955 crores to Rs. 12,600 crores. I suggest that there should be road construction for cities or Metro cities connecting Capital of the country, under National Highways Development Programme. On the one hand you have made a provision to construct 13,000 km. of new roads and on the other hand to facilitate telephone connection in 20,000 villages, we congratulate you for this. BSNL mobile phone network remains out of order upto 4-5 hours at village level, therefore, telecommunication system should be strengthened. There should not be any lacuna in this and then all will be benefited in real sense.

With these words, I conclude. I thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak.

16.52 hrs.

[SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH *in the Chair*]

[English]

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO (Kalahandi) : Madam Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose the Budget. Though the hon. Minister of Finance has tried his best to get things in order, but I do think that he will be able to deliver it. Deliverance system is very poor and it has been proved. Let us talk about your flagship programme. The flagship programme is the NREGA Programme – a minimum of 100 days assured work for the rural poor for one household. Let us

take the State of Andhra Pradesh which is ruled by the UPA coalition. In Andhra Pradesh, in 100 days out of 365 days, it only came to 28.15 days per BPL family. This shows how seriously the programme is being implemented in the UPA-ruled State. Take the example of BJP-ruled States like Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. In Rajasthan we have achieved 73.68 mandays out of the 100 days. In Madhya Pradesh, another BJP-ruled State, we have achieved 61.61 days. So we have crossed the 50 per cent barrier but in a UPA-ruled State like in Andhra Pradesh and other State, your programme is abysmally poor. So this clearly shows that your delivery system has completely failed. And also in States ruled by regional parties like in UP, it is only 26.55 days work. But in Bihar, there is a new Government now. The system had been completely upset by the previous RJD Government...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL) : Have you may checked up that they were not working elsewhere during that period?...(Interruptions)

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO : You may check up that. They were not working because they did not have enough work there...(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Shri Deo, please address the Chair.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO : For example, in Bihar, a new Government has taken over power. The new Government is there headed by Shri Nitish Kumar. He is trying to improve things...(Interruptions) But in Bihar, the previous Government had upset the system...(Interruptions) The Government has achieved about 33 per cent.

[Translation]

SHRI SITA RAM YADAV (Sitamarhi) : When NDA was in power, you did not provide funds...(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Please do not disturb, please make your points in your own speech.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna) : What are you talking about Bihar...(Interruptions)

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO : When your government was in power in Bihar at that time you did not conduct Panchayat elections...(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Mr. Deo, you please address the chair.

(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Please do not interfere, please speak in your speech when your turn will come.

(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Please speak in your speech, don't disturb him.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Let him speak. Nothing should be recorded.

(Interruptions)\*

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Shri Deo, kindly address the Chair.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO : Secondly, I would like to come to the price rise. The common man has been affected. Inflation has gone upto 6.5 per cent. Mr. Minister, your reflection in the Economic Survey is this. We have read the latest one. You have failed in the mining sector, gas sector and the energy sector. You have not been able to achieve results. Of course, you have put in money. In the Budget, you have given enough money. There is no doubt about it. How does it get implemented? So, the delivery system should be corrected somehow or the other. You must think of the anomalies which are existing

\*Not recorded.

there. You must get a new legislation in place if you require to solve these anomalies. Then only, you could deliver things.

Well, we always talk about agriculture. As a Member of this august House, from 1998 onwards I have been observing that in most of the debates on agriculture demands, all the hon. Members are talking about agriculture, crop failure and distress sale. So many things are related to agriculture. We are contemplating to achieve a growth rate of 4 per cent. This is just a dream or this is a whitewash saying that we will achieve 4 per cent in the agriculture sector. This year, you have only achieved 2.7 per cent. How can you achieve it? There has been climate change. There has been variation in the weather system. The quality of seeds that the farmers get is of poor quality. The farmer is discouraged because of distress sale. The irrigation projects that have been promised have not been completed.

I would like to give an example about the irrigation sector. In the irrigation sector, you have 477 irrigation projects – large, medium and minor projects. Out of that, most of them are incomplete projects. They have gone into the Eleventh Plan.

About the Tenth Plan, you had kept a target of 102.7 million hectares of irrigation. But you could achieve only 60 per cent of the target. You have estimated an area of 1.44 million hectares during the Tenth Plan. In the Ninth Plan, you could achieve the same thing only. You could achieve only 50 per cent. So, with this type of achievement, how do you expect the agricultural sector would improve? Today, the agricultural sector is in total disarray. The farmers are committing suicide. It has been admitted by so many Committees. The Insurance Sector has to play a very important role in this sector. But in the Insurance Sector, you have got 26 per cent FDI. You have allowed 26 per cent FDI. These people are not going to the rural sector. The list pertaining to the people living below the poverty line does not tally with the Planning Commission's

[Shri Bikram Keshari Deo]

list. The list of people living below the poverty line prepared by the State Government does not tally with the poverty-line marked by the Planning Commission. Today, you say that it is 26 per cent. I am giving you the example of Kerala.

17.00 hrs.

A particular company wanted to invest in health insurance. They could not do it because the figures of people living below the poverty line did not tally. In Kerala, about 45 per cent of the people live below the poverty line, but the all India average is much less. So, this programme could not be implemented for the rural poor, for the people living below the poverty line. We make tall promises in this august House. We should also see that they are implemented properly for the poor people. We are all here because of them. We are sitting here in this House and enjoying all the privileges and so we have to do something for them.

I would like to say something about ground water which is fast depleting in the country. To recharge ground water, the Finance Minister has provided money in the Budget. But the Central Ground Water Board is not at all active. It has to be made proactive to achieve this. More and more water harvesting structures should be constructed. The hon. Finance Minister has done it in Tamil Nadu for renovating small tanks and water bodies. It is good, but I hope he extends this to other States like Orissa.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Orissa is mentioned in the same paragraph. Your State Government has to submit a proposal.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO : Our State Government has submitted.

When the hon. Finance Minister speak about, I am reminded of another favourite programme of Indian Institute of Technology, Chennai, which is PURA scheme.

You have implemented it in Tamil Nadu and made it a success. Why do you not implement it in other States? In this Budget, there is no mention of Provision of Urban Amenities in Rural Areas...(Interruptions) There is no money sanctioned for it. You have mentioned about Jawaharlal Nehru Urban Renewal Programme, but there is no mention about PURA. It is a very good programme, but we are not enjoying the benefits of the programme in our State.

As far as Backward Regions Fund is concerned, I am very happy that the Finance Minister mentioned about the KBK region, but at the same time, I would like to say that I am very sorry that he has not enhanced the regular grants for Special Category Areas like the KBK area. The Government of Orissa requested the Central Government to give Rs.500 crore per year, but he has kept it at Rs. 250 crore. So, our plans and programmes which we had drawn up for the KBK region, in the eight districts, will remain unachieved. Though the Backward Regions fund comes, the works will remain unfinished. So, if you want to see a remarkable change in the KBK region, you have to give us Rs. 500 crore. There is no special allocation for us in this Budget. You have to give us Rs. 500 crore. Then only, we can achieve literacy and attend to other human-related problems and we can improve the economic indicators which are so low in those areas.

Madam, I would like to say something about globalisation which is going on now. A record FDI has come to our country. We have got some billions of dollars which is very good, but at the same time, you are taking out agricultural lands from poor farmers and giving it to the industrialists like in Singur for which Kumari Mamta Banerjee had to go through the ordeal of a fast. Good agricultural land is being given to industrialists. The Government should give good compensation to the farmers and have a proper rehabilitation policy implemented. Till now you have been clamouring about rehabilitation policy, but you have not initiated any new rehabilitation policy for the evacuees. You have not yet done that.

We have been hearing this for the last three years...(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Please conclude now.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO : Madam, I am talking about women and children. The fund that has been provided is inadequate. The infant mortality rate in Orissa is one of the highest in the country.

The Finance Minister has talked about the National Rural Health Mission. He talked about ASHA. What is ASHA? ASHA is just a semi-trained nurse who cannot give the health services but at the same time the doctors are going to different countries. So, there is outsourcing.

We have read in the newspapers that the Medical Council of India would be reformed to that extent. But has any steps been taken in that direction? Tall promises have been made by the Health Minister but no action in that regard has been taken. Today, most of the hospitals and most of the Primary Health Centres are without doctors. Madam Chairman, I would like to know from the Finance Minister as to how does he aim to achieve his objective in the Rural Health Mission.

Madam, in each district of Orissa, you will find that about 70 to 80 posts of doctors are vacant. I would like to know from the Finance Minister as to how does he expect that the infant mortality rate would come down. ... (Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN : You give your concluding points.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO : My last point concerns everybody, that is, environment, climate change, global warming, and we have Tsunamis and all these things. For this, enough budgetary provision has not been made.

Madam, tiger is our national animal and plays a very important role in our bio-diversity and in our eco-system. Today, tiger population is depleting. While you go to China, you will find that China is breeding tigers in captivity. Why

do you not take some clue from them and breed tigers in captivity and release them into the national parks and sanctuaries so that the tiger population in our country can be rejuvenated.

Regarding art and culture, history and culture, I am very happy that the Finance Minister has given some money but it is too less. It is just Rs.30 crore, which is not sufficient.

There were great leaders like Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. Nothing has been given against his name. I think, at least Rs.10 crore or Rs. 20 crore should be given for his Smriti, for his deeds which he had done and also for the contribution which he had given to the Independence of this country.

Madam, you just rushed me through my speech. Please give me some more time.

MADAM CHAIRMAN : You just give your points. Your time is over because you have already taken 14 minutes.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO : Madam, you are a little hard on the Opposition.

MADAM CHAIRMAN : You kindly give rest of your points in writing.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO : Thank you.

[Translation]

\*SHRI V.K. THUMMAR (Amreli) : The budget presented by the hon. Finance Minister this year is balanced and it will have far reaching effects, which will speed up the development of India. Steps have been taken to solve the problems of farmers and efforts have been made to provide maximum facilities to villagers in this budget.

Two-third population of our country depends on agriculture, but they are not getting a procurement price at par with the cost of their production. The Government

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\*The speech was laid on the Table.

[Shri V.K. Thummar]

has taken various steps for this and has set minimum support price for various crops but farmers cannot recover even their cost price. It is very necessary to make changes in the procedure of procuring foodgrains at this price, so that the farmers can get profit for their crop. There has been an increase in the prices of fertilizers, seeds and equipments of irrigation and cultivation. Though the prices of foodgrains and vegetables have increased a lot, it has led to no direct benefit to farmers. Middlemen have taken benefit from this. The Government has made a provision of Rs.2 lakh and 25 thousand crores to provide loans to the farmers through the banks but the banks have failed to meet the target of providing loans to the farmers. Besides, they do not take interest in providing loan to farmers. Such bank officers should be dismissed so that the officers tendencies of interrupting the procedure of welfare of farmers and agriculture development procedure can be checked.

Last year Government took a good decision of providing loan to farmers at the 7 percent rate of interest but not much development has taken place in this regard. It will be in the interest of farmers to review their working. Few State Governments have not yet provided credit cards to farmers. I would like to request the Government that the procedure adopted to provide loan to farmers should be reviewed through a Government Agency, not through private agencies because these private agencies work in a biased manner.

This budget has given importance to the development of rural areas. The first Prime Minister Late Jawahar Lal Nehru and also Late Indira Gandhi used to take care of farmers interests in their every action. India is a country of villages. Until development of villages take place, India cannot develop. For schemes like "Bharat Nirman" Rs.24603 crore have been provided in comparison to Rs. 18606 provided last year while additional provision of Rs.12 thousand crore has been made for Rashtriya Gramin Yojna which was announced last year. In addition to that

Rs. 2800 crores have been provided under rural employment scheme. This scheme has been implemented in 130 districts and 330 districts have been covered under this scheme. Under the Swarn Jayanti Rozgar Yojna the allocation has been enhanced from Rs. 1200 crore to Rs. 1800 crore. Apart from this, there is provision to provide irrigation facilities to farmers for 24 lakh hectare of land to obtain maximum crop. When farmers will get water then undoubtedly it will help in improving financial condition of farmers. Two third people of the country live in villages, where there is no proper arrangement of medical treatment, medicines are not available there because of which people have to go to cities and lot of money get wasted in this. Arrangement should be made at village level and every village should be connected to hospitals with a distance of five-kilometer area, where modern equipments are available. To promote the rural health, Government has increased the funds for National Rural Health Mission to Rs. 8207 crore which is 22% more than the amount allocated earlier.

Madam, the Government has made an increase of 34% in this budget under education head to bring an improvement in the level of education in the country. It is a matter of encouragement for education for the whole country. Promise has been made in this regard to give more importance to secondary education. Education cess has also been increased to one percent. Promoting education in rural areas is doing justice with the villages of India. Increase in allocation for mid-day meal and Sarva Shiksha will promote literacy in the country, which is very essential for the basic development of the country.

Madam, the country has progressed by leaps and bounds in the field of telecommunications and the number of mobile phones has increased as largest in the world and call rates are also very low. Some private mobile companies are exploiting people. They make fake promises and advertisements about their services and when consumer opts for private mobile services then they do not redress the grievances of customers. BSNL's

mobile service is not as good as of private companies though its towers and basic equipments are under the Government of India, but I do not know why BSNL and MTNL are not providing satisfactory mobile services to the people? According to some people, the high ranking officers of MTNL and BSNL instead of improving the BSNL and MTNL's telephone and Mobile services, benefit private telephone and mobile companies, in lieu of getting jobs after retirement in these private mobile service companies. It is the need of the hour to identify such people and such people should be compulsorily relieved from their duties in the interest of nation, because we should not tarnish the image of telecom services of the country by providing protection to these corrupt officers.

Madam, the demand of electricity in the country is not being met. The country is facing 13% shortage of power and these are official figures, but in reality, the farmers of my State, Gujarat are not getting electricity for 12 hours a day, due to which farmers face difficulties in irrigating their fields. Only 58% of targets set for power in economic survey are achieved. The main reason behind this is that we are not able to increase power generation capacity as per the demand. As per hon'ble Minister of Power, the power crisis are being aggravated due to rising demand of power in the country. The Government should see as to how this demand should be met. The power crisis of the country cannot be solved by mere saying that the demand of electricity is rising. The private power companies have slapped bills of thousands of rupees on the farmers of my Parliamentary constituency. I would like to ask how much power is consumed by the farmers in their house? The Union Government evade the shortcomings of power distribution and policies of exploitation by saying that it is a matter of states, but it has assigned the job of power distribution to these companies under Power Act, 2003 under which the Union Government have empowered these private companies with all rights, due to which these companies are acting arbitrarily and harassing the people. People say that it will affect elections of Delhi. Technical experts in power sector say that these

private distribution companies are doing the job of power distribution in such a way that the loss of crores of rupees is being suffered by Union Government and State Governments, but these companies are earning crores of rupees. Untill, the people, industries, fields of this country are provided electricity, it would be unwise to think about the development of this country. The attention should be paid in the budget towards increasing power generation. The task of providing electricity to 19947 villages of the country is commendable, but there is a need to keep vigilance over it, otherwise electrification of even five thousand villages will not take place.

Madam, India is holding fifth position in the world in regard to consumption of gold in the country. India is having 10% gold reserves of the world. Diamond ornaments and Gold ornaments of our country are world famous and the deftness with which the goldsmiths of our country make these ornaments is unparallel. But 5% tax is imposed on export of indigenously produced gold and other ornaments and 2% tax is imposed on raw material of gold, due to which people show more interest in export of raw material instead of finished goods. Due to this, lakhs of workers of our country have become unemployed. More tax should be imposed on export of raw material and less tax should be imposed on ornamental items, so that export of diamond jewelry, gold jewellery and other jewellery items could be promoted and workers may also get employment.

Madam, farmers of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and other states of the country produce a lot of oilseeds, but face a lot of problems in taking benefit of Crop Insurance Scheme. They have to fulfill many formalities. These difficulties should be removed. Edible oils are being imported from Sri Lanka and other countries at low import duty due to which oilseeds producing farmers are not getting remunerative prices of their yield. Today, the need of the hour is that the Government should increase import duty on edible oil to discourage import of oil.



[Shri V.K. Thummur]

Sir, the ~~hon'ble~~ Minister of Finance is requested to increase the income tax limit upto 1.5. lac, to provide respite to the people from price rise, and to benefit the middle class because as per people, the middle class has not got any benefit from this budget.

Madam, in the end, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards corruption. The Government of the country may be very industrious, a lot of funds may have been allocated, many speeches may have been delivered, but till the corruption is checked, attention towards development of country cannot be paid, but every policy of development is hampered by corruption. This country is not able to earn revenue, as desired, because the country is not earning revenue as per the development of corporate and private sector. The corruption is not only prevailing in Revenue Department, but every department is married by it. The rates of bribery are fixed at all places.

Today, the need of the hour is to penalise officers involved in corrupt practices. There are lots of shortcomings in the system of exposing corruption; it should be improved. Due to this system, accused often escape from the punishment, this system should be improved.

Madam, I am sure that this budget would prove beneficial in development of the country and I support this budget.

DR. KARAN SINGH YADAV (Alwar) : Madam Chairman, while speaking on the year 2007-08 Budget, first of all I would like to congratulate the hon'ble Minister of Finance for his able leadership and for putting the country on the road to development through financial management and by achieving the historical growth rate of 9.2 percent. The UPA Government is committed to faster and more inclusive growths in 11th Five Year Plan and this budget is in the direction of building India. Undoubtedly it is a matter of concern that in 10th Five Year Plan growth rate should have been 4 percent, but it was only 23. percent.

But this is an easy budget in which emphasis has been laid on agriculture. In this budget also priority has been given to agriculture and rural areas. Around 80 percent population of the country lives in villages. We must provide all the facilities to people earning livelihood from agriculture sector.

Madam Chairman, The farmers are not getting remunerative prices. Poverty of farmers and non-development of villages in the country are the main reasons of suicides by farmers. So the Government must pay adequate attention towards this as to how farmers can get remunerative prices, how they can earn bread for their family. In Alwar, bumper crop of mustard is often seen. Whenever the mustard crop reaches the market the traders purchase it at Rs. 1200-1300 even when the support price announced is Rs. 1715. The Government agencies and the State Governments have a casual approach and that is why the farmers do not get remunerative prices, though there has been little relaxation in taxes in this budget on crude oil and palm oil which we import. Further the farmers do not get remunerative prices for mustard because as per the agreement with Sri Lanka and Nepal, duty free import is to be allowed on approximately 2.5-3 lakh tonnes of Vanaspati oil. Last time also I discussed it a lot and it was assured here that the amount of vanaspati oil imported from Sri Lanka will be decreased. For this NAFED was made canalising agency. Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture and Minister of Industry spoke in this House that the import of vanaspati oil will be regulated. But Sri Lankan vanaspati producers' lobby is so big that it pressurized Government to remove canalising agency and again gave it in the hands of the Government. Mustard, Groundnut and soyabean remains stored in the godowns but oil and ghee are imported. This matter is concerned with the policies of Government. The farmers of Alwar, Bharatpur and North India, where bumper crop of mustard and groundnut is grown, do not get remunerative prices because of these reasons. I would like to attract the attention of Hon'ble Finance Minister towards this.

I would like to submit that in the Budget there is a need to make agriculture insurance scheme practical. Yesterday I was in my constituency, Alwar. There was a very good crop of mustard, but I am informing it with great distress that yesterday's untimely rain ruined the crops. Today farmers of Alwar, Bharatpur and North India are hopeless. The insurance policies of Government should be made more practical and reasonable so that the farmers get risk cover. Such provision should be made in the budget. Though there is an provision of 500 crore rupees, but in my views, it is very less.

Madam Chairman, social justice has been the main objective of UPA Government. Common Man Insurance Scheme will provide security shield to rural landless families, but its success depends on the cooperation of State Governments. State Governments will give 50 percent amount and I doubt as to which State Governments and specially those State Governments which are from opposite parties, how much they will cooperate in this. This is a question mark. So I would like to request the Hon'ble Finance Minister to provide budget allocation for this, then only people of rural areas can take benefit out of this. Good budget provisions has been made for other flagship programmes of UPA in India building. These are welcome steps. There is a need to make adequate allocation for rural roads. Few villages have been connected from Prime Minister Gramin Sadak Yojna but there are lakhs of such villages where there are no road facilities and because of this villages are not developing. There is a need to give more attention on this.

By giving more amount in Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, the provision made in the Budget for appointment of two lakh new teachers, construction of new rooms and building new schools is welcome. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan has reached secondary level stage. I would like to submit that in the villages in secondary and senior secondary schools only Arts subjects are taught and there is a need to teach Hindi, English and social sciences. Today you are talking about vocational education, technical education, which a student of rural area can never study.

So, I want to submit that special budget should be given for this purpose only, for teaching of science subjects besides starting of laboratories in schools. When children of rural areas will get opportunity to study science till tenth and 12th, then only they will be able to show their presence in town and can participate in vocational programmes.

Madam Chairman, in the Budget one percent cess has been levied for secondary and higher education and for increasing seats by 54 percent in central institutes like IIM, IIT, AIIMS etc. Last year, a Motion was unanimously passed that in the Central Institutes reservation will be provided to the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and OBCs. I would like to draw your attention at this aspect that few sick minded people of these institutes, who hates the very word reservation, who are anti reservation, this category of people are there. They are asking for these big demands. There are perhaps 50 students in All India Institute. It is prepared to increase seats by 54 percent. The seats are to be increased to 80 and for this purpose, budget of two-three thousand crore has been sent. When asked from the department as to how much amount do they require, then this astronomical figure was shown. In my view it will be very difficult for the Government. That is why it is necessary to provide necessary funds like a few lecture theatres are required, I think first of all we need few hostels. The room in which 50 students can sit, 100 students can sit, a big faculty is there, where these students can study. There is no need to make much provisions for this. Those who are willing to do, if with your blessings I would have been in a position in All India Institute. I would have done this to 27 percent at very first stage. It is doubtful whether people sitting there will be bale to complete it even in the period of three years. So, at least they cannot complain that because they are not provided budget that's why they could not proceed. That is why it is necessary to provide necessary funds, special provisions should be made for this, otherwise taking a decision to provide funds to promote these backward classes in the House will remains only a dream.

[Dr. Karan Singh Yadav]

Madam Chairman, I would like to congratulate that Rajiv Gandhi scholarship being provided to the SCs and STs for Ph.D. and M. Phil, has been increased. Post matric scholarship for SC, ST, which was Rs. 440 crore. Last year has been increased to Rs. 611 crore. I think even this is insufficient. I hail from that region of Rajasthan which is predominantly inhabited by SCs and STs. After widespread demonstration by students belonging to SCs and STs the State Government sought more budgetary support, yet I think the entire amount has not reached there. Therefore, on the one hand whenever reservation is referred to, it is said that give them education, provide them with facilities for education. Give them scholarships; but when the time for giving them scholarships comes the budgetary provisions are so meagre the we cannot implement our dictums of social justice. At regards OBC reservation being discussed here, [English] an amount of Rs. 91 crore has only been provided for scholarships of OBC students in this country. In regard to OBC community which is 54% of the population, for whom the reservations have come, for whom legislations have been made and then we say that they should be educated properly, when the question of giving them the scholarship comes, only an amount of Rs. 91 crores is given. That is very very meagre a sum.

[Translation]

Madam Chairman, it is like a drop in the ocean. I would like to request the hon. Minister of Finance that he should conduct a survey regarding the number of students of the OBC community. Ask the States to send their demands and make the budgetary provisions accordingly. In the starting year, you had said scholarships will be given only to the students residing in Hostels. Those studying in State colleges, private schools and colleges or those staying in caste-based hostels e.g. Maratha hostel, Jat hostel, Mahavar hostel, Gujar hostel or Mali hostel will not be given scholarships. People study in Government colleges are substantially high. If you wish them to study and make

them progressive and bring social equality, then you need to make higher budgetary provisions for them.

Madam Chairman, with that I want to talk about minorities. Special efforts will have to be made to bring minorities to an equal status. Some efforts have been made in this budget. I hail from Mewat region of Alwar which is educationally so backward that no other Scheduled Tribe or Scheduled Caste area may be backward as that. In that region even after 60 years of Independence schools and educational institutions are not adequate. I want to submit that special provisions should be made in the Budget for developing Alwar, Bharatpur and the Mewat region of Haryana. Schools and colleges should be opened there to give scholarships. It is absolutely necessary to give them equal status in society.

Madam Chairman, I want to say something about health also. I am related to this occupation and have done Government service all life from villages to cities. There has been good work in the education sector through National Health Mission. But we have only allocated 1.3% of the budget though we have been talking about allocating 3.1% funds. How can we improve the condition of rural hospitals and community health centres. I want to submit that in the rural areas there is shortage of Anesthetists and due to it Gynecologist Surgeons and other doctors are useless because for surgical operations, the services of an expert anesthetist are required. So in his absence, the entire medical facilities go waste. So, through you, I demand from the Government to provide Anesthetists in rural Hospitals.

Madam Chairman, in the budget provision has been made for prevention of Malaria and Tuberculosis. But I wish to submit that the patients of diabetes are increasing and the cases of heart attack are also increasing because of cholesterol and high blood pressure, Brain haemorrhage cases are also increasing due to clotting of blood in brain. These diseases are assuming the proportion of epidemic and endemic in our country. It has been said in the report of WHO also that in India the number of diabetes and heart

attack patients is increasing fast year by year. I request that immediate steps are needed to be taken to check the spread of these diseases. In nutshell, I want to say that this is a balanced Budget. In this Budget due care has been taken for the poor and the agricultural people. People would have been more interested in listening me had I used idiomatic language. In view of the wishes of the UPA Government and hon. Mrs. Sonia Gandhi. Madam Chairman, I just want to say that this Budget will be beneficial to the common man.

Madam Chairman, Dr. Karan Singhji you have said it rightly that the country needs hospitals. I want to say that considering the increasing population of the country, we need more hospitals and doctors.

SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA (Sikar) : Madam Chairman, about the budget of 2007-08, the first thing I would like to say is that they have tried to control the fast rising prices but have not succeeded. The targets of last year's budget have not been achieved due to laxity in implementation and monitoring. Last year the rate of inflation was unprecedented.

Madam, around 75% of the population of the country lives in rural areas where around 74% people are still poor. The poor need infrastructure. The allocation made for infrastructure like education; health, roads and drinking water have been related to Bharat Nirman. Of course it is appreciable. Under the Project of Bharat Nirman during the last two years even half of the desired progress has not been achieved. At present due to lack of infrastructure talented students are unable to make progress. Their futures remain dark because of lack of facilities.

Madam, one hundred and thirty more districts are going to be covered under National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. Rajasthan is the biggest state of the country spread over 3 lac 46 thousand square kilometers. The people of Rajasthan live in rural tribal ambience. Rajasthan has been reeling under drought for many years. On the basis of the that 600 districts of the country, and after adding 130 more districts, around one third districts

of Rajasthan should have been covered, but only twelve districts of the State have been covered. Keeping in view the work done by the Rajasthan Government, the Government of India and Minister of Finance should have covered 8 more districts.

Madam, the farmers are committing suicide all over the country. I myself have been to Kerala and have seen the suicide cases of farmers. We are well aware of the treatment private money lenders give to the farmers in the name of recovery and the situations they create with the help of police when the crops are not good. The Government should lay emphasis on increasing agricultural production and for providing remunerative prices to farmers. Sometimes it so happens that the farmers do not even recover the cost of sowing and as a result they are unable to repay the money of banks and moneylenders. In this scenario the farmers are compelled to commit suicide due strict measures of recovery. We should take effective steps through this House to save the food provider of our country. Such treatment should not be meted out to the farmers. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Please speak whatever you want to speak to the Finance Minister.

SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA : Madam, the loan provided to the farmer by mortgaging his land is very less in comparison to the price of that land. Therefore, the credit worthiness of the farmer should be enhanced in proportion to the price of his land. He mortgaged his land for a loan of Rs. Ten—twenty thousand. But, whenever he needs more loan, he does not get the same. As a result of it he has to bear the brunt. He cannot get loan from the nationalized and cooperative banks.

Madam, our achievement in the small scale industry sector is only 26.4 per cent today. Multi National Companies are entering in the country. Whatever facilities are being provided to the multi national companies, the same should also be provided to small scale industries. Today, Special Economic Zones are being set up in the entire country. There are few facilities for small scale

[Shri Subhash Maharia]

industries in the special economic zones. Special Small Scale Industry areas should be set up for the small scale industry. Even in Rajasthan concessions have not been given to the small scale industries. But, in Himachal Pradesh concessions have been given to the small scale industries. My submission is that Rajasthan should definitely be included in the list of States providing concessions to small scale industries.

A mention has been made about promoting the sportspersons. In this regard, I would like to submit that keeping in view the training and encouragement to sportspersons and their practice throughout the year, they should get direct facilities. In the absence of direct facilities they are not performing well in the Asian Games, Common wealth games and Olympic games. Direct facilities should be given to those sportspersons who can perform well in the games. Even less than 10 per cent of the total allocation for games, youth affairs is spent on sportspersons. Therefore, sportspersons should get money directly so that our country performs well in the Olympic games.

Under SGSY Project 2.32 lakh Gram Panchayats are covered in the country. There are 34 lakh public representatives, that is why our country is the largest democracy of the world. Approximately 8 lakh villages have 2.32 lakh gram panchayats. Under SGSY all the gram panchayats are given Rs. 1-1.25 lakh every year. This amount is quite inadequate for building infrastructure and needs to be increased four times. Therefore, I request the Minister of Finance that so far as the implementation of SGSY is concerned, all the 28 States of the country have different circumstances. Separate pilot projects could be prepared there. It is essential to fix any limit for separate pilot projects. Today, there are many States having 20 projects under SGSY special project. On the other hand, there are States like Rajasthan having only 1.2 projects. Therefore, through you, I request the Minister of Finance that the projects should be given to the States keeping in

view their area and population. There should not be double standard in giving the projects to the States and even step motherly treatment should not be meted out to the States having government of those parties which are in opposition at the Centre.

During discussion on General Budget today, my submission is that monitoring is necessary for improving infrastructure in rural areas. Gram Panchayat is the largest N.G.O. of the country. The Public monitor it in the Gram Sabha. The people have power to remove the office bearers of the Gram Panchayat. The Government have checks on them. But, we see that N.G.O.'s get money from every department for water harvesting and water-shed projects. Whereas the said money should be spent by our gram panchayat, block panchayats, panchayat samitis and Zila Parishads. Therefore, there should be a ban on the N.G.O.'s to spend on such projects. My submission is that the amount earmarked for various projects should be spent through the gram panchayats. The Minister of Finance should pay attention towards the infrastructure needed in our country. He should take all these things into account while replying to the discussion. He should keep in mind that until and unless the villager is economically sound, the country cannot prosper. This race of 21st century is not meant for a few people only. This race is not only for the 25 crore people out of 108 crore people. 108 crore people should get a chance in it...(Interruptions)

75 percent amount of the budget is being spent on the urban areas. Around only 25 per cent money is being spent on 75 per cent people living in the rural areas. Therefore, there is a need to pay special attention towards the people living in villages and small towns. There is no need to build infrastructure in the mega cities but there is a need to build infrastructure in small villages, towns and hamlets. There is a need to develop small cities.

Madam, my another submission is that habitation and hamlets should also be connected through Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana. The number of habitation and

hamlets is more than the revenue villages. Therefore, habitations should be brought under the purview of revenue village. The habitations having a population of more than five hundred people should be covered under this yojana.

With these words, I conclude.

[English]

SHRI FRANCIS FANTHOM (Nominated) : Thank you, Madam Chairperson. May I take this opportunity to thank the Finance Minister for the Budget he has presented to Parliament?

The Budget in its context and in its holistic appreciation is unparalleled in the history of budgeting in this country. The Budget exhibits a nine per cent growth, the manufacturing sector exhibiting about 11.2 per cent growth. The savings have a growth of nearly 32 per cent. Investment has should a growth of 34 per cent and the foreign exchange reserves are now nearly 95 billion dollars.

In this context, the tax collection has also seen unprecedented growth. The growth in Corporate Tax is 49 per cent and the growth in income tax is 24 per cent. Customs have given an added revenue of nearly 32.7 per cent and the Foreign Direct Investment is at 12 billion dollars. In this scenario, Madam Chairperson, the country is witnessing the best platform with which we can now begin to set the agenda for the growth that we would like to see in this nation.

Quite rightly, the Finance Minister has leveraged this growth, that has taken place in the economy, to now support the growth of the agricultural sector. We have seen and heard as to how the allocations in the agricultural sector is envisaged to show a nearly four per cent possibility of growth. There is going to be, and I will not go into the details, an added impetus on the development of infrastructure, irrigation, improved water resources, agricultural research and training for farmers and fertilizers

subsidies. I would at this stage like to refer to a section of the Finance Minister's speech in which he eluded. The farmer with folded hands cannot accrue the possibilities of what the nation has for him in terms of opportunities and possibilities of development. I go back to the entire history of the agrarian economy, nearly 1500 years that the farmer has served this nation un-hesitatingly. I could perhaps find that while I accept a farmer with folded hands does not necessarily accrue the benefits of a growing economy but I would also like to mention that the farmer in this nation has never ever remained without the constraints that could enable him to be a productive person. It is only now that the nation in terms of its opportunities and in terms of its growth is enabling the holistic development of the agricultural economy with the industrial economy.

This is a commendable development and I think that the ploughman will bring his plough to strengthen the economy of this nation. In his Budget provisions, the Finance Minister also mentioned that he would like to see winds that will put up the progress in terms of guiding the sails to an onward movement of the ships on the high seas. I do think that the provisions that have been put in place with the integration that is now being planned with the inclusion of all sections of the people of the nation to a possibility of participating in nation building. I would like to think that the stage has now been set for what the people want for themselves which was being mentioned in terms of the aspirations that we, as people, want for our nation. I do not for the least hesitate to accept that the course that has been set by the Budget 2007-08 will bring the movement of the national economy to its projected growth of about 10 per cent. I would like to commend the entire Ministry of Finance for what they have done in order to achieve this possibility. I would also like to commend the Finance Minister for giving us a vision of the kind of nation that we would like to have his emphasis when seen in the context of what His Excellency, the President of India has said to the two Houses of Parliament in terms of inclusion that we would like to see happen in this country and the Budget in the context of the vision set that His

[Shri Francis Fanthome]

Excellency has stated, is most needed and most appropriate. It is after many decades that we are witnessing the integration and inclusion of people from all sectors as I mentioned to making it possible for everybody to participate and for this matter alone the Finance Minister has our commendation.

I would like to give to the Finance Minister an observation that there are excellent stresses on outcomes consequent to the outlays that have been mentioned in his Budget. But what I find from an analysis of the progress that outcomes in terms of the outlays provide that there is very little emphasis on the delivery systems that are prevailing today and the delivery systems do cause considerable anxiety. It was once mentioned that barely 18 paise of the rupee that is allocated for a resource reaches the least common denominator in the system. This is a said commentary and we, as a Government and as representatives of the people, continue to accept this inefficiency of the productivity that we would like to see happen, there is a lot of concern that several sections of this Parliament have expressed. I would like to think that presently the people involved in determining outlays are not monitoring the outcomes and those involved with outcomes have a little accountability.

17.43 hrs.

[SHRI VARAKALA RADHAKRISHNAN *in the Chair*]

Consequently, the delivery of the provisions suffer. So, if we would like to see that with outcomes, there is a certain degree of accountability, only then we can find that what we aspire for as a people would see happen at the grass root's level. The Finance Minister may consider the setting up of a Budget Impact Assessment Audit that would monitor the efficiency and the effectiveness of the finance outlays, particularly so in the context that new delivery systems for the enhanced outlay for the common farmer is now envisaged in the new Budget proposals. Let it not be that the credit system becomes an anxiety rather than

a facilitator and the farmer assured of irrigated land is devoid of the fruition of his dreams consequent to what is now being stated.

Sir, this year's Budget is unique in one very special way because it is for the first time that the nation through its Budget is going to reach out to those people who were never reached out to as being a component of the national development process. With this kind of a framework that has been set, the responsibility on the Ministry as well as on the Government is that much more enhanced to see that the aspirations that are now being built up consequent to the dreams that have been put forth in the Budget proposals are not hindered consequent to subsequent developments.

Sir, I think as we progress towards an inclusive Budget, let it not be seen that the Budget is an illusion or a promise of reality that perhaps cannot be attained. I would like to see that as the Budget is transacted the provisions that have been put forth are reached out to the people for whom it is meant and not just kindle the aspirations that remain unfulfilled. The responsibility of the Finance Minister and that of the Ministry of Finance is, therefore, much more enhanced consequent to the issues that have been mentioned in the Budget.

Sir, I would like to draw the attention the hon. Finance Minister to three areas in terms of suggestions for centralized dispositions towards transactions.

The first is, I find from the Budgetary allocations, the allocations to Minorities despite the sensitivities that have been raised through the Sacchar Committee is not an adequate understanding of the support mechanism that the Minorities need in terms of enhancing themselves for reaching to an equality platform that the nation would like to see for all its citizens. I think that the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation should be so structured that it becomes a hub from where all Minorities, not only Muslims, Sikhs or Christians, can access revenue or access loans or access some kind of development support that can enable them to set up small scale

industries or self-financed projects that will enable them to be productive participants in keeping with the new economy.

Sir, I think that as we are progressing towards a knowledge economy, the strengths of the knowledge platform needs to reach all sections of the people. It is in this context that I would like to mention that the support system that have been put for education are extremely important because it is through education that human capital is enriched which can then contribute to the new economy in terms of globalisation and the elements of progress that we envisage. In this context, while an increase of 34 per cent commendable, what is more important is that the quality of delivery systems in terms of classrooms, in terms of equipment, in terms of the facilities and as my colleague was mentioning, in terms of laboratory that we need, for boys and girls, in the villages or in the urban areas needs to be strengthened. It is not merely setting up of schools, but it is the transaction that is important in these schools. For this purpose I think that the Finance Ministry and the Finance Minister in particular, having himself been a person of great scholarship, would ensure training of teachers and make provision for Information Technology and integrate them into the education framework so that quality and transaction in terms of output is structured in a manner that delivers quality and excellence rather than mere opportunities that are left a begging to the possibilities that may subsequently prevail.

I would also like to mention briefly that, in the Budget, there has not been an adequate stress on both youth and employment. The youth of the nation which is the future of the country requires adequate attention so that they can be contributing to the new nation that we are building for ourselves. We need to think that counselling units need to be provided both in the rural and in the semi-rural areas so that the children who are in our institutions, whether they are in professional institutions or in higher education, are properly addressed and they understand the kind of economy we are building and the opportunities that are emerging, the challenges that the nation has and that they

are consequently structured to the opportunities that prevail. There is a mismatch between the kind of education that the children receive and the kind of opportunities that we build through our financial outlays.

I would also like to mention that the state of games and sports in this country require a lot of attention. Every time, when there is Olympics or Commonwealth Games or the World Cricket Cup, the aspirations of the people are linked to the standard of sportspersons we prepare. Since there is so much of a mismatch between the enabling provisions in terms of the support that we give to them, we find that they are unable to meet the aspirations that the nation has for its sportspersons, be it in athletics or games. ...*(Interruptions)*

May I mention that there needs to be a scientific approach to building of standards in a systematic manner? When the Sports Authority of India was established, there was a lot of expectancy created that the Authority would bring to this country a standard of commitment and the cultivation of a climate that will create world level athletes and sportspersons. Somehow, this aspiration consequent to the mechanisms that were to be in place was not addressed.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude now. There are other Members to speak.

SHRI FRANCIS FANTHOME : I would also like to mention that creation of a sports culture needs to be sustained and the Finance Minister needs to have a systematic planning to the possibility that the youth of this nation who would like to have. Specially the rural indigenous sports remain neglected when there is high emphasis on some of the sports that have a western lineage. I would like to say that this new emphasis is required on order to build a sports culture that will sustain the kind of economy that we would like to have.

With these words, I would congratulate the Minister for Finance and I would like to mention that it is a pleasure for me to support this Budget and its provisions.



[Translation]

SHRI NIHAL CHAND (Shriganganagar) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak. What to speak of any sops, the common man has got nothing except disappointment in the budget presented by the hon'ble Finance Minister for the year 2007-2008. During Lok Sabha elections before formation of the UPA Government, Shri Manmohan Singhji had promised to control price rise within 100 days of their Government had they come to power. It seems he has forgotten his promise. The budget presented by the hon'ble Minister of Finance has not given anything to the common man while others have got their share.

Whenever the Congress party has come to power in the centre since 1972 till date, it has come in the name of 'garibi hatao', uplifting the Harijans and sometimes in the name of removing unemployment. Prices have always soared whenever the Congress party came to power in the centre. The common man is unable to get even two square meals.

People are distressed due to price rise for the last three years since the end of NDA rule in the centre. Wheat, which was Rs. 5 per kilograms during NDA's regime has increased to Rs. 10 per kg. Similarly, prices of rice have risen to Rs. 12 per kg. and oil from Rs. 35/kg. to Rs. 50/- kg. The prices of pulses are sky-rocketing. A particular variety of pulse, which was Rs. 25 per kg. during the NDA Government, is now selling at Rs. 60 per kg. or even more. Members who have spoken before me have described in detail about petrol and diesel. Price rise will adversely affect the people, therefore the hon'ble Finance Minister should pay attention to it.

During NDA's regime, the rate of inflation was 4.5% which has increased to 6.72% now. At that time LPG was easily available but now a days there is short supply of it. Many hon'ble Members have expressed their concern from time to time in this regard. There years ago, the rate of interest on loans was 7% but it has risen to 10.50% today. I request the hon'ble Finance Minister to bring down

the interest rates. It is unfortunate that the common man is in distress due to price rise.

Cement and iron was cheaper during NDA's regime but now their prices have more than doubled, and I have no qualms about saying so.

I would like to request the hon'ble Finance Minister regarding agriculture. The district I come from is known as an agriculture land. Farmers of this district are not getting remunerative prices for their crops. The growth rate of agriculture should have been fixed at 4% instead of 3.4% as has been done in this budget.

18.00 hrs.

I would like to say that arrangements should be made so that farmers could get remunerative prices for their crops.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Since you are a young Member, you can continue your speech after 6 O'Clock also. But please be brief. Thereafter, the House will take up Zero Hour submissions.

[Translation]

SHRI NIHAL CHAND : Mr. Chairman, Sir, mustard and cotton growers are not getting remunerative prices for their produce. They must get that. In 1990, cotton growers were getting Rs. 2500 per quintal but today after 17 years they are getting Rs. 1500-1700 per quintal only. Mustard was Rs. 3000 per quintal but at present it is only Rs. 1700 per quintal. I would like to submit that the hon'ble Minister of Agriculture has failed to make requisite provisions in this regard. Hon'ble Shri Karan Singhji who has spoken prior to me has mentioned that the imported oil has been exempted from duty. If 100% tax is levied on it, the farmer's produce can fetch some better price.

The Chief Minister of Rajasthan has made a provision in the budget to provide unemployment allowance to the

youth. I would like to submit to the hon'ble Finance Minister that the centre should share 75% of the expenditure towards unemployment allowance. The Central Government is selecting one district each from every state to provide fertilizer subsidy to farmers. Ganganagar district of Rajasthan is completely agrarian and should be selected as a model district by the Central Government. I would like to submit that in the budget the Government has identified 31 districts as crises ridden area but the number of such districts are much more. More than 100 districts can be identified as crisis ridden. The Central Government should conduct a survey again to include all the crisis-ridden districts in the plan. NDA Government had started crop insurance scheme. Under this scheme, the Government had made tehsil as headquarter. But the calamities like hail storms or crop failures strikes not only the tehsil but every village. I request the hon'ble Finance Minister to make Gram Panchayat or village as a unit in this scheme so that farmers could be benefited. With these words, I conclude.

[English]

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to raise an important issue concerning my State of Orissa and it refers to diversion of water of river Mahendra Tanaya by Andhra Pradesh Government affecting six Gram Panchayats of Orissa which will face acute drinking water shortage.

Even as the dispute over the Katraguda project on river Bansadhara and Pollavaram over river Godavari is yet to be resolved between Orissa and Andhra Pradesh Governments, recently Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister, Shri Y. Rajashekhar Reddy has declared to take up another project — Mahendra Tanaya off shore irrigation project, which has caused tremendous resentment in and around the district headquarters of Gojapati named Parlakhemundi. This project will affect our agriculture adversely. As per preliminary design the proposed project estimated to cost over Rs. 127 crore. We are not concerned with the amount

that is to be invested in that project. But we are concerned that the two reservoirs at Melliaputi village which is 8 km. upstream of Parlakhemundi and Poluru, that is 20 kms. from Parlakhemundi which are being created in Srikakulam district will be diverting water from Mahendra Tanaya river thereby six gram panchayats of Gosani Block would face shortage of water. My request here is this. The possibility of drinking water shortage will be there in Parlakhemundi district headquarters. So. I would urge upon the Government to intervene in the matter and restrain Andhra Pradesh Government in proceeding with the project unilaterally.

The second thing is the Government should impress upon the Andhra Government to take the Orissa Government into confidence as Mahendra Tanaya is a riparian river. I would request the Government to act immediately and do not allow the situation to go out of its hand.

[Translation]

DR. KARAN SINGH YADAV (Alwar) : Sir, this untimely rainfall has severely damaged the mustard crops in Alwar, Bharatpur, Dausa and Swai Madhopur districts of Rajasthan. Yesterday and the day before yesterday, I was in my Parliamentary Constituency. The entire mustard crops were standing, however, the rain occurred last night so torrential that the entire crops were destroyed. So, I would like to request that the Department of Agriculture should conduct survey and provide compensation to the farmers so that they may get relief. I would also like to request the Central Government that it should provide relief to the farmers after conducting survey by the State Government.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore) : Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards a very important matter. I do not understand why whenever the Congress Government come to power there is scarcity of every commodity and their prices also increased. Presently cooking gas is not available in the entire area and its price has also increased and one has to wait for it for 21-21

[Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan]

days after booking. Apart from this in order to reduce losses companies are pressurising gas dealers to keep different commodities other than gas cylinder and force customers to purchase them. So dealers are selling Duncan tea, some of them have safety pipe, utensils, Basmati rice. For this dealers force customers to purchase these commodities. They say that if you want to get gas cylinder you will have to purchase Duncan tea. The gas cylinder distribution outlets have become general stores. In general store we purchase only those things that we need. However, here the dealers force customers to purchase these things if they want to get cylinders. When we protest, that we do not need these things, dealer says that they are forced by the companies to sell these things. The companies supply these commodities to the dealers and take advance cheque from them after deducting their commission. Thus common consumers are being victimized. I would like to draw the attention of the Government to this fact that the companies are pestering customers through their dealers. The customers are already suffering on account of shortage of gas cylinders and on the other hand forcing them to purchase things that they do not need is doubly disturbing for them. The Government should pay attention in this directing and should protect customers from all such exploitations.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I also endorse the view that there is shortage of gas everywhere.

[Translation]

SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE (Bilaspur) : Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Central Government towards the problems of the people living below poverty line. Earlier the Central Government provided 35 kg. rice to the BPL persons. Now only 22 kg. rice is being provided to them in place of 35 kg. It is on account of this reduction

disappointed. There is resentment among them against the Government. Similarly, the quota for sugar and wheat has also been reduced. Thus total of 1600 tonnes of rice and 100 tonnes wheat are required. It is not proper for the Central Government to provide only 22 kg. of rice in place of 35 kg. thus reducing 13 kg. I would like to urge the Central Government that 35 kg. quota for BPL people should be provided to them so that they may get sufficient food for themselves. They are on the verge of starvation as they are not able to earn sufficient money for their livelihood. Instead of increasing the quota of rice given to each family, the Central Government are reducing the said quota. I would like to request the Central Government that the reduction that has been done in the quota of rice should be restored and as earlier 35 kg. of rice should be given to them.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, nearly 8 years have elapsed since the closure of Jaipur Metal Industry in Jaipur city. The workers who were employed in this industry are in miserable condition. Out of them nearly 435 employees have died and some of them are working at petrol pumps. I feel that they are in a pathetic condition. Last time too I had raised this issue. Then the Minister of Industry had said that he would go there and would get the Jaipur Metal Industry restarted. However, that industry has not yet been started. The land of the Jaipur Metal Industry is with the Railway Department. I would like to request the Government that if the Government do not have sufficient money then it should sell the land of the metal industry and the money earned on account of this should be paid to the employees so that they may survive. The employees are dying. Jaipur Metal Industry is a very big industry of Jaipur. These days employees in ball-bearing company are being retrenched. If Jaipur Industry is closed the trade and industries in Jaipur city will be closed. Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon'ble Minister is a very kind hearted person so I am requesting him that he should get the industry revived. The Government of India should do whatever is necessary like

make payment the Government should sell that land to the Railway Department and the proceeds earned so should be paid to the employees. It is a great humanitarian problem and there cannot be any thing more miserable than this. Now, I cannot lament before you, however, I can humbly request you. I would like to request you that Jaipur Industry should be restarted. The hon'ble Minister had given assurance here that Jaipur industry will be started.

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will bring it to the attention of the Minister.

*[Translation]*

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I could not understand what did he say in English. I know Hindi so you please say it in Hindi. You please convey it to the Minister of Industry.

SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE : I will bring it to the notice of the hon'ble Minister.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : You are also supporting my point. For this I would like to extend my thanks to you.

*[English]*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, just like we give the award to best parliamentarians, Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava should be given an award for raising the most number of matters of urgent public importance during 'Zero Hour' and you should take an initiative for this.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House now stands adjourned to meet tomorrow.

18.13 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, March 13, 2007/  
Phalguna 22, 1928 (Saka).*

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