

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES**

## **(English Version)**

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



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## LOK SABHA DEBATES

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### LOK SABHA

11.02 hrs.

*Wednesday, May 9, 2007/Vaisakha 19, 1929 (Saka)*

*The Members then stood in silence  
for a short while.*

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

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

*...(Interruptions)*

### OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of one of our former colleagues, Shri Chhatrapati Ambesh.

Shri Chhatrapati Ambesh was a Member of the Fifth Lok Sabha from 1971 to 1977, representing Ferozabad Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh.

Earlier, Shri Ambesh was a Member of the Uttar Pradesh Vidhan Sabha from 1957 to 1967.

Shri Ambesh was a Member of the Joint Committee on Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament during 1971-72, Committee on Petitions from 1973 to 1975 and Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes during 1976-77.

An active social worker, Shri Ambesh served as Special Honorary Magistrate, Agra from 1952 to 1957, Member, Managing Committee, DAV School, Agra from 1957 to 1967 and Trustee, Agra College, Agra.

Shri Ambesh was a Member of the Indian Parliamentary Delegation to erstwhile USSR in 1976.

Shri Chhatrapati Ambesh passed away on 4th April, 2007 at Agra, Uttar Pradesh at the age of 84.

We deeply mourn the loss of this friend and I am sure the House would join me in conveying our condolence to the bereaved family.

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

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to put forth my views on a very important issue. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I shall give you time at 12 O'clock. Every one will be given opportunity.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to speak on a very important issue. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I will give opportunity to all. Let the Question Hours behold first. Every Member will be given an opportunity to Speak at 12 O'clock.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhansi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, my issue is a very important one. *...(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Very important questions on the Ministries on Youth Affairs & Sports and Communications are there.

*...(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM (Jamnagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to speak about Gujarat. Please allow me to speak. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Did I ever disallow you? Please follow the rules.

*...(Interruptions)*

11.04 hrs.

## ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Q. No. 482, Shri Hansraj G. Ahir.

[Translation]

### Communication Satellites

\*482. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether ISRO is contemplating to launch in future any other communications satellites after the successful launch of INSAT-4B;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of transponders providing services through the communication satellites of the country;

(d) the extent of income being generated every year from transponders service through the satellites;

(e) whether any target has been set for commercial use of satellites in future; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) ISRO proposes to launch about 12 communication satellites in the 11th Five Year Plan period to provide replacements and additional capacity.

(c) At present, 199 transponders provide services through communication satellites of the country.

(d) The total income from the lease of INSAT transponders is estimated at Rs. 400 crores for the year 2007-2008.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. It is targeted to achieve annual revenue of about Rs. 1000 crores through commercial

use of Indian satellite transponders by the end of the 11th Five Year Plan.

[Translation]

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have launched INSAT-4B communication satellite from French Guyana while AGILE satellite has been launched successfully from Italy. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister as to extent to which we have been benefitted financially from the launch of this satellite. Has the Government reached any agreement with any other country regarding launching of commercial satellites and earning profit out of it?

[English]

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN: Sir, we have successfully launched the Italian satellite—AGILE, which is the first commercial launch conducted by ISRO. The launch was commercially very successful. We had bid very competitive prices. We have got 29,000 dollars per kg., which is very competitive. We have hopes of launching many more commercial satellites in the future. The success of PSLV launchers, which is a very rugged, reliable and versatile launcher, has now been again proven with the launch of the Italian satellite last month. We expect to launch many more commercial satellites in future.

As far as the first part is concerned, the hon. Member asked about the INSAT Satellite for which I would like to state that we still do not have the capability to launch heavier communication satellite. With the availability of GSLV Mk-III Rocket, which is being readied, we would be able to launch such type of satellites from India. Right now, we are using French Guyana for launching heavier satellite.

[Translation]

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, a business to the tune of approx 200 billion dollars is done in the international space market. The hon'ble Minister in his reply has stated that we have set a target of achieving Rs. 1000 crore revenue during 11th Five Year Plan. It means that a big country like that of ours will achieve only one per cent profit of this total profit of the world. I would like to know whether the Government propose to formulate new plans to earn more profit through this market.

[English]

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN: I would like to clarify that we expect Rs. 1,000 crore revenue, which would be only from the leasing of the transponders on Indian satellite. Currently, it is about Rs. 400 crore per year. We expect to go to Rs. 1,000 crore per year, only from the leasing of the transponders on Indian satellites. At present, the business of commercial satellite manufacturing, making of the satellite, is about 2.3 billion dollars annually. We expect to get about three to four per cent share of this business. We already have two contracts from foreign firms to make satellites for other countries.

The third component is the launch services, like we launched the Italian satellite—AGILE. The market is expected to be 1 to 1.2 billion dollars annually, out of that market also, we expect to get two to three per cent share.

[Translation]

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to ask a question. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister whether ISRO has any programme to send a man in space. If so, by when.

[English]

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN: The question of 'MANNED MISSION' is under preparation for a long time. The Government has not yet sanctioned the mission. The preparatory work is going on. There is a scientific agreement to the effect that in the next eight years, at the cost of about Rs. 9,500 crore, we would be able to send a man in space. It is not 'man on moon', but only 'man in space'. We would be able to send a man in space. The Government has not so far sanctioned the 'MANNED MISSION'.

[Translation]

SHRI AJIT JOGI: First of all Shri Rewati Raman Singh ji will be sent.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I am sure many volunteers would be there.

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: Of late, a lot of communication channels and communication technologies are coming up in our country. Is the existing INSAT-B satellite enough to meet the demands of our country? Has any assessment study been conducted by the Government? What would be status in meeting the demands for the coming 10 years? Has any understanding been arrived at by the Government in this area?

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN: We have no shortage of any capacity. As I said, we have 199 transponders in the satellites that are presently working. We can give transponders to anybody who wants, for TV services or for communication services.

We hope to have a total capacity of about 500 transponders by the end of the 11th Plan. We will launch about 12 new communication satellites in the 12th Plan. Currently we have nine communication satellites orbiting, which are providing services to everybody, and we have seven remote sensing satellites for imaging applications and earth observation applications.

[Translation]

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, ISRO has set up some telemedicine centres in Laddakh and Kashmir. These are being set up but their function is not being monitored properly. Has the hon'ble Minister any arrangement so that these centres could function properly.

[English]

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN: Tele-medicine is an important societal application, which is the work of the ISRO, Department of Space. At present, there are 201 hospitals including 38 super-specialty hospitals which provide tele-consultation services. We want to expand this programme.

The question raised by the hon. Minister is about tele-medicine facilities in Jammu and Kashmir. I will certainly look into it, and if there is any difficulty, we will certainly resolve it.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you.

#### Accountability of the Sports Federations

\*483. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the financial status of various sports federations in the country;

(b) whether these federations pay income tax;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the mechanism by which the Government secures their accountability?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

*Statement*

(a) The National Sports Federations (NSFs)/Sports Associations are autonomous bodies registered under the Societies Registration Act or under Section 25 of the Companies Act. These are responsible for promotion of their respective Sports discipline(s). The Government supplements the efforts of the NSFs by providing assistance for training and participating of Sportspersons/ Indian teams in international events abroad; holding of National/International Tournaments in India; coaching/ training under Indian and Foreign coaches; procurement of sports equipments and providing requisite scientific and technical backup, as per agreed Long Term Development Plans; and meeting a part of the administrative expenses towards re-imbursement of salaries of Assistant/Joint Secretaries. As such, most NSFs are significantly dependent on Government assistance for running their sports activities.

(b) to (d) As per the Income Tax Act, the Sports Organisations having their objects as promotion of sports and which are registered under Section 12AA of the Income Tax Act, can claim exemption under Sections 11 and 12 of the Income Tax Act subject to the fulfillment of various other conditions prescribed under it. Further, the Sports Organisations that are of State or National importance, can also claim exemption under Section 10 (23C) (iv) of the Income Tax Act subject to the fulfillment of various conditions prescribed under it. The income of a Sports Organisation which is neither notified under Section 10(23C) (iv) nor registered under Sections 12AA

of the Income Tax Act is taxable under the usual provisions of the Income Tax Act. All NSFs are supposed to take appropriate action as per the provisions of the Income Tax Act.

(e) To ensure that NSFs/Sports Associations maintain financial accountability, recognition is only granted to those NSFs/Sports Associations that have proper accounting procedures and bring out financial statements on time. Grants-in-aid are released only after the submission of utilization certificates for past releases, if any. Further, as per the provisions of the General Financial Rules, the accounts of the NSFs/Sports Associations receiving financial assistance of more than Rupees one crore in a financial year are audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India. The guidelines under the scheme of "Assistance to National Sports Federations" also provide for temporary suspension of recognition and also de-recognition in the event of irregularities, including financial irregularities.

MR. SPEAKER: Q. No. 483, Shri Anant Kumar Hegde.

Is he absent?

Shri Anant Kumar Hegde, do you want to put the question? Please put the Question.

Shri Anant Kumar Hegde, please go to your seat. Which is your seat? Please go to your seat. Why do you want to become a back-bencher?

Are you not ready with the question? All right. If any other hon. Member wants to put any supplementary, I will allow.

Okay, now I see the interest of the hon. Members in sports. That is very good. I will start with the sports person first—Shrimati Jyotirmoyee Sikdar.

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI JYOTIRMOYEE,SIKDAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon'ble Minister in his reply has clarified that sports federations do not pay income tax. Through you, I would like to ask the hon'ble Minister about the manner in which such federations spend their income. As per my view, a number of such federations are not able to spend their income properly due to which they fail to tap the real

talent. He has stated that Grant-in-aid is suspended to these federations if they fail to submit utilization certificate in case of earning income of more than rupees one crore. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister about the federations, which have not submitted utilization certificate along with the federations who have been suspended till now.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Sir, so far as income tax is concerned, CBDT has informed us that no centralized information is available with them and they have to collect such information from various field information centres. In such a situation, it is not possible to reply the question asked by the hon'ble Member right now but the mention made by her that all sports federations are exempted from paying income tax is not correct. Only the federations which have been registered properly particularly under Section 12AA and Section (23C) 4 of Income Tax can claim exemption, not all.

So far as utilization certificate is concerned, I have the information about the federations, which have not submitted this certificate so far. We are waiting for these certificates. The next installment of grant-in-aid will not be released to them till we receive this certificate from them.

Sir, it will take time if I start reading out the entire information available with me. Therefore, I seek your permission to send the information directly to the hon'ble lady Member. In regard to auditing by C.A.G., I would like to state that we send a matter of CAG if the income is more than rupees one crore, and we try to satisfy CAG in this regard. In the end, I would like to tell the hon'ble lady Member that though the Government provides them some assistance but they are free to arrange the means of their income. Income tax is imposed on their entire income but not on grant-in-aid.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Balasaheb Vikhe Patil, I am glad to know that you are interested in sports also.

*[Translation]*

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to tell the hon'ble Minister that on failing to submit utilization certificate, some federations become defaulters which creates hindrance in promotion of sports. Is any action being taken so that such hindrances may not occur? Secondly, as they mainly

depend on Government funding, a very negligible progress is noticed in this work. Therefore, do the Government propose to encourage donations or any other measures for their self-financing. On the other hand corporate houses will enjoy rebate on income tax by giving donations to these federations. Besides, I would also like to submit that earlier grants were released to these federations directly but since 2005 this grant is given through State Governments. It is affecting the performance of sports in various States. State Governments are not promoting sports. Through you, I would like to know the opinion of the hon'ble Minister in this regard so that it may not recur.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Sir, I am also astonished that I am being made responsible for implementation of National Sports Policy wherein it has been specifically stated that the Government would provide sports facilities upto the grass root level. Further, this task should be entrusted to States and my Ministry, being a part of the Central Government should pay attention to international events and national mega sports only. The responsibility was demarcated in this way when I assumed the office of Sports Minister. Earlier centrally sponsored schemes relating to rural infrastructure for sports were being funded by the Union Government. Before I assumed the office on 1 April, 2005, I was informed that said schemes have been discontinued. And now the States will be responsible for their continuance and the Union Government will bear only committed liabilities, that too, only upto 31 March, 2007. In view of it, I am happy to apprise the House that the Cabinet has asked me to formulate a comprehensive sports policy. Keeping all the existing shortcomings, we are busy in preparing a new policy. I have given priority to it and I am sure the House will extend me full support in this regard. There is a great need to draw attention of the House to one more thing that as per entry 33, sports is a state subject. When we begin to make such interference in sports affairs of the States constitutional provisions act as a bottleneck. We are thinking of changing it. When I get prepared to amend the said provisions I would come to the House and every Member's cooperation will be much needed for it.

*[English]*

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: The State Federation is not effective. What will the Minister do about it? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No further supplementary, please. You can ask supplementary relating to accounts only.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, India has maximum number of young people and sport is our national need. But our sports federations are not in a position to spend the funds released to them judiciously. The hon'ble Minister has also admitted it some time ago. When the House debated upon this issue, all the hon'ble Members were unanimous that allocation for sports should be increased from Rs. 3000 to Rs. 4000 crore, whereas, the States, which act as a delivery vehicle find it difficult to utilize. So far as the issue of rural infrastructure is concerned, we are not able to reach upto that. I, through you, Sir, would like to know from the hon'ble Minister whether the Government propose to bring a white paper on it in the House, whereby it will be made clear that with the advent of new policy the States would be able to utilize maximum funds and we will be able to make the delivery mechanism more effective result oriented.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: It is not concerned with performance.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: As far as providing sports infrastructure to the rural folk is concerned, we are evolving a scheme namely 'Panchayat Yuva Kreedha aur Khel Abhiyan' for it. I hope we will give it a final shape in a few weeks. Under the new scheme, we would target that within 10 years every panchayat in the country should have at least some kind of sports infrastructure. It is on one side. On the other side I have made a mention of comprehensive sports policy. I am the Minister of Panchayati Raj but, I do not belong to urban areas. But I feel that some kind of infrastructure can be provided to municipalities also on the lines of Panchayat Yuva Khel Kreedha Abhiyan. As on today, our country has 77 crore young people, below 35 years of age. Whereas we have sports facilities only for 5 crore people in the country. I feel, the Union Ministry should pay attention to remaining 72 crore children who are now almost neglected. Now, we are entrusting this responsibility to the State

Governments. My Government is taking tough measures to implement it in letter and spirit and I would apprise you all of it in a few days.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: We are going to have a discussion under Rule 193 on sports. I want to inform the hon. Members that I would allow a full discussion on the Sports Policy very soon; in this Session itself and I would like to request all the hon. Members to participate in that discussion effectively. Yesterday we witnessed that we work together on national issues. I have already decided to allow a discussion on this issue. Therefore, today the Question relates only to accounts.

*[Translation]*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: The hon'ble Minister should also pay attention to the fact as to how the panchayats will arrange sports grounds.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not disclose all your cards. The Minister, at the time of the discussion, will be caught napping. Do not give so many notices right now.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as far as the funds of National Sports Federation and Associations are concerned, there are certain federations having funds of millions of rupees, whereas on the other hand some federations survive on Government funding. When I was a Minister in NDA Government the Deptt. of Sports was with me for 2-3 months, Shri Madhavrao Scindia, unfortunately who is not with us anymore, was Deputy Leader of the Congress Party, had discussion with me in this regard, including some other leaders of the opposition parties. They wanted that the Government should bring a Bill putting a ceiling on cash holdings of all the federations and any amount above the said ceiling should be transferred to a common fund, to be created under the proposed Bill. It would relieve the Government of extra financial burden. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: It is a good suggestion for action.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: But I had no time. As I was no more a Minister of that department so the matter was kept in abeyance. I, through you, would like to ask the hon'ble Minister, whether the Government contemplate to bring the said Bill again? If so, we will support that.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: We will definitely consider it. At the same time it is my duty to apprise the hon'ble Member that BCCI is the richest sports body in India. They themselves have decided that they would support other sport disciplines also out of their own funds.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Please reserve your points for the discussion. I can assure you that full opportunity will be given to all of you.

*[Translation]*

#### Extraction of Surplus Coal

\*484. SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV:  
DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the surplus coal extracted by the private/public sector companies beyond their allocation has to be sold to other coal companies situated in that area;

(b) if so, the details of the quantity and value of surplus coal extracted and sold by these companies, year-wise, company-wise;

(c) whether the Government has received any complaint that the surplus coal so extracted by these companies is being black-marketed;

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

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

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) Yes, Sir. During the development phase of a coal block and/or in the event of approved mine capacity exceeding the assessed requirement of coal for the linked end use plant, a captive coal block allocatee is required to dispose of surplus coal to the local subsidiary of Coal India Limited (CIL).

(b) So far, there has been no instance of disposal of coal by captive block allocates to CIL subsidiaries.

(c) to (e) In so far as blocks allotted to private companies for captive use are concerned, one instance of illegal mining of coal in violation of the condition of captive use of coal in their end-use plant was in respect of M/s Central Colliery Company Limited, where they had sold coal mined from the Taki-Jena-Bellora (South) coal block allocated for captive mining of coal for use in their proposed power plant. The lease granted by the Government of Maharashtra in favour of them in respect of the said block has been declared void by the Revisional Authority constituted by the Central Government in exercise of the power of revision under the Mines & Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957. To avoid recurrence of such incidents the Government has taken the following steps:

(i) Regular monitoring by the Coal Controller's Organization;

(ii) Enforcement of terms and conditions of mining lease by the State Governments.

*[Translation]*

SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Minister has admitted in his reply that a coal company had violated terms and conditions for captive mining of coal. If in-depth inquiry is conducted, one will find that many companies are violating these conditions and the proper utilisation of coal is not being made and they are selling it elsewhere. Do the Government propose to conduct in-depth inquiry in this regard so that companies do not violate these conditions?

*[English]*

DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Sir, so far as this question is concerned, the Government has received some complaints against Integrated Coal Mining Limited, Jindal



Steel and Power Limited and TISCO. Actually, they are permitted to sell extra coal products. Generally, surplus coal arises on account of reserves in a block being more than the total requirement of the allowance or the peak rated annual mining capacity of the block being more than the annual requirement. Whenever excess comes up, the coal so produced during the initial stages cannot be used by the allocatee since the end use product is not ready. So, this arrangement has been made. So, the difference between the requirement and the excess coal produced can be sold to the local subsidiary of CIL at a price to be determined by the Government.

*[Translation]*

SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV: Sir, the States are not making proper supply of coal to cottage and small scale industries. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister whether the Government propose to formulate a clear policy so that proper arrangement for coal supply to cottage and small scale industries in various states could be made?

*[English]*

DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Sir, to accommodate the small and tiny consumers, we have allocated three million tonnes to the State Governments and two million tonnes through NCCR. Some State Governments have responded and have lifted the stocks but some State Governments have not yet lifted the stocks. Out of three millions tonnes, we are surprised to say that not even 25 to 30 per cent is lifted. So, Secretary (Coal) is to conduct a meeting with all the Secretaries and representatives of the State Governments to arrange a mechanism to provide coal.

*[Translation]*

SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to ask a specific question. The hon'ble Minister has given a reply to the question, but the main question is, what does the companies, to which work of captive coal mining has been entrusted; do with surplus coal. He has stated in his reply about the policy that the coal is sold to nearby subsidiaries on Government's price. In reply to the question, he has made a mention of some other companies. In oral reply, he has stated the name of 3 companies—Integrated Coal, Tata and Jindal—which are selling surplus coal under

special circumstances. I just want to ask the hon'ble Minister as to why they are so selective and monopolistic? The surplus coal of companies to which permission of captive mining has been given, should be released to market, a policy in this regard should be formulated so that coal subsidiaries may also lose control on monopolistic price and consumers will get coal at cheaper rates. Why selective facility to two-three companies is being given? Why this issue is raised? A policy in this regard should be formulated.

*[English]*

MR. SEPAKER: Do not repeat your questions.

DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Sir, there are 229 total blocks. Out of 229 blocks, we had allocated 130 blocks. Out of these 130 blocks, only 11 blocks came into production. So, these companies were given from these 11 blocks. Now, a policy has been made. Actually, this arrangement is felt necessary because development of a block to peak rated capacity production takes about three to five years. Accordingly, the development of coal block has to begin well ahead. During the initial stages the coal so produced cannot be used by the allocatee since the end use project is not ready. So, this arrangement has to be made.

Now, the hon. Member asks as to why we cannot make it open. I would like to say that coal can be supplied only to the major projects, that is in power, cement, and steel only and not to the open market.

SHRI SUNIL KHAN: You have already mentioned that you have allocated the coal blocks to some of these vibrant companies. In spite of that some of the industries are not getting their blocks. Due to the non-availability of coal they had to close down their industries, especially in ECL areas.

I would like to know whether the Minister is ready to give licence to local cooperative sector for mining of coal, like China did, so that illegal mining is stopped and the Government is able to earn some money.

MR. SPEAKER: This is not connected to the main Question.

DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: The hon. Member's question is not related to the main Question. But for the

convenience of the hon. Member, I would like to reply to it.

Whatever captive blocks are available, captive blocks are allocated. There are some isolated blocks. To explore those isolated blocks we have taken a meeting, to give them to the cooperative sector.

#### **Rise in Diseases due to Climatic Changes**

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\*485. SHRIMATI RUPATAI D. PATIL:  
SHRI SARVEY SATHYANARAYANA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether endemic morbidity and mortality caused due to diarrhoeal diseases are likely to rise due to climatic changes as per the Fourth Assessment Report of the Inter Government Panel on Climate Change;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the climatic change is likely to cause flood and droughts that cause water borne and communicable diseases by which women and children will be affected;

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

(e) the details of assistance provided by private hospitals and NGOs in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (f) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

#### ***Statement***

The findings of the Fourth Assessment of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) are estimations of current scientific understanding of impacts of climate change on natural, managed and human systems, the capacity of these systems to adapt and their vulnerability. It sets out projected climate change related exposures likely to affect the health status of millions of people, particularly those with low adaptive capacity, through:

- increases in malnutrition and consequent disorders, with implications for child growth and development.
- increased deaths, diseases and injury due to heat waves, floods, storms, fires and droughts.
- the increased burden of diarrhoeal diseases, primarily associated with floods and droughts.
- the increased frequency of cardio-respiratory diseases due to higher concentrations of ground level ozone related to climate change, and
- the altered spatial distribution of some infectious disease vectors.

A multiple strategy, which includes mitigation, adaptation, technological development and research needs to be devised to diminish the risks associated with climate change. Sustainable development can definitely reduce the vulnerability to climate change by enhancing adaptation capacity and increasing resilience.

Health is primarily a state subject and provision of medical relief for diseases like diarrhoea and other communicable diseases through primary and community health centres is looked after by the State Governments. For addressing Public health emergencies, National Disaster Management Authority has been established and all stakeholders including the private hospitals/NGOs are called upon to provide medical relief/rehabilitation during medical emergencies. Unsafe drinking water, poor sanitation and hygiene are some of the causes of diarrhoea. The state-wise cases due to water-borne diseases and vaccine preventable diseases during 2005 and 2006 is annexed.

The preventive measures taken by the local health authorities include provision of safe drinking water, improvement of personal and community hygiene, safe disposal of human excreta, undertaking appropriate health education, surveillance and monitoring, distribution of chlorine tablets and ORS packets etc. Under National Rural Health Mission, services of Health, Drinking Water, Nutrition and Sanitation are integrated to provide effective services at grass root level.

The Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments/Union Territories by providing funds under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme, Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme, total

Sanitation Campaign, School Sanitation and Hygiene Education and Low Cost Sanitation Scheme for tackling quality related problems in respect of rural and urban drinking water supply. National Institute of Communicable Diseases, Delhi (NICD) provides technical support to the State Governments and undertake surveillance, early detection and prevention and control of outbreaks of communicable diseases including diarrhoea.

An integrated approach has been initiated with Department of Drinking Water Supply to provide the

technical support to monitor the quality water in different States so as to prevent occurrence of water borne diseases. A contingency plan to combat droughts and floods has been prepared by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and has been circulated to all States.

The Government of India has launched an Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme in November, 2004, to further strengthen identification of outbreaks of various diseases including diarrhoea so that early intervention could be made and occurrence, disability and death due to such diseases could be reduced.

### *Annexure*

#### *State-wise Cases due to Water Borne Diseases in 2005 and 2006*

Sl.No.	State/U.T.	ADD		V. Hepatitis		Enteric Fever	
		2005	2006*	2005	2006*	2005	2006*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1614276	1139456	29282	20639	171931	127983
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	32297	0	433	N.R.	2446	0
3.	Assam	791591	0	16929	N.R.	23659	0
4.	Bihar	N.R.	0	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	N.R.	65379	N.R.	733	N.R.	1348
6.	Goa	2343	0	19	N.R.	33	0
7.	Gujarat	470675	382056	9650	18792	4200	7290
8.	Haryana	294417	225923	3458	6798	8516	4499
9.	Himachal Pradesh	401758	299416	2669	1338	23212	23012
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	528677	519317	7908	7371	36593	42369
11.	Jharkhand	13448	14752	23	51	924	4707
12.	Karnataka	993620	870541	17913	11203	67247	90579
13.	Kerala	540853	438681	8905	12720	7383	5608
14.	Madhya Pradesh	501761	318935	7047	3783	46955	28654

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
15.	Mahharashtra	729917	101348	39167	8384	27740	5267
16.	Manipur	187728	11024	206	394	1655	1551
17.	Meghalaya	159050	151483	269	236	6701	5309
18.	Mizoram	15274	16570	642	974	1056	1339
19.	Nagaland	16081	9176	1117	211	2923	2328
20.	Orissa	350177	325043	2522	2501	11464	12759
21.	Punjab	175651	170897	1815	7184	15370	15630
22.	Rajasthan	385033	281177	2261	7274	6245	12808
23.	Sikkim	50617	51433	250	400	229	428
24.	Tamil Nadu	351818	116062	8263	4523	82423	36973
25.	Tripura	166829	150750	343	4987	26312	18547
26.	Uttar Pradesh	335406	267635	2142	3381	30105	40539
27.	Uttaranchal	48480	94746	884	7048	4515	15020
28.	West Bengal	1604568	1961200	5626	5980	64969	77133
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	22830	16170	267	65	428	107
30.	Chandigarh	N.R.	0	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	0
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	63405	74661	159	224	954	646
32.	Daman and Diu	2513	45	11	2	14	2
33.	Delhi	136756	94398	10602	5654	17625	13774
34.	Lakshadweep	6788	6722	40	140	14	6
35.	Pondicherry	152778	116811	789	1118	1273	1687
Total		10978459	8291807	181621	144109	695114	610012

Source: CBHI, Ministry of Health &amp; Family Welfare

Notes: N.R. implies 'not received'.

\*data for the year 2006 is provisional

*State-wise Cases due to Water Borne Disease  
in 2004 and 2005*

Sl.No.	State/U.T.	Cholera	
		2004	2005
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	35	165
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0
3.	Assam	N.R.	0
4.	Bihar	N.R.	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	0	0
6.	Goa	0	0
7.	Gujarat	79	80
8.	Haryana	10	7
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0	2
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0
11.	Jharkhand	N.R.	0
12.	Karnataka	255	214
13.	Kerala	88	27
14.	Madhya Pradesh	11	2
15.	Mahharashtra	473	724
16.	Manipur	0	1
17.	Meghalaya	0	0

1	2	3	4
18.	Mizoram	0	0
19.	Nagaland	0	0
20.	Orissa	0	0
21.	Punjab	171	15
22.	Rajasthan	6	2
23.	Sikkim	0	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	1501	724
25.	Tripura	0	0
26.	Uttar Pradesh	16	2
27.	Uttaranchal	0	0
28.	West Bengal	274	236
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0
30.	Chandigarh	25	9
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0
32.	Daman and Diu	0	0
33.	Delhi	1784	945
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0
35.	Pondicherry	0	0
Total		4728	3455

Source: CBHI, Ministry of Health &amp; Family Welfare

Notes: N.R. implies 'not received'.

*State-wise Cases due to Vaccine Preventable Diseases in 2005 and 2006*

Sl.No.	State/U.T.	Measles		Diphtheria		Whooping cough		Neonatal tetanus	
		2005	2006	2005	2006*	2005	2006	2005	2006*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0	1902	4305	1009	11095	4077	167	21
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	1264	0	666	0	0	0
3.	Assam	0	0	0	0	4718	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
4.	Bihar	N.R.	0	N.R.	0	N.R.	0	N.R.	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	N.R.	206	N.R.	78	N.R.	417	N.R.	2
6.	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Gujarat	2	187	78	274	161	30	8	35
8.	Haryana	6	322	17	12	30	78	6	25
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0	619	0	0	0	0	0	1
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	2549	0	4	1322	4074	0	0
11.	Jharkhand	18	903	0	0	218	803	0	42
12.	Karnataka	63	2048	43	0	619	430	86	0
13.	Kerala	0	3109	26	1	212	163	0	3
14.	Madhya Pradesh	19	426	111	0	8738	0	247	179
15.	Mahharashtra	0	627	130	24	84	26	12	2
16.	Manipur	0	201	0	0	105	122	1	0
17.	Meghalaya	1	1095	1	0	557	17	3	0
18.	Mizoram	0	180	6	25	44	13	0	0
19.	Nagaland	3	589	229	74	4328	1438	0	20
20.	Orissa	37	221	2	0	405	324	3	2
21.	Punjab	0	252	2	2	4	5	17	12
22.	Rajasthan	0	919	358	233	383	541	67	22
23.	Sikkim	0	542	0	0	0	0	0	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	11	274	35	0	269	10	0	0
25.	Tripura	0	455	1	0	461	241	17	2
26.	Uttar Pradesh	22	361	4	125	7054	3895	46	31
27.	Uttaranchal	5	138	215	0	78	228	0	17
28.	West Bengal	0	16839	545	260	1881	2500	145	71
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	20852	0	0	44	193	1	9
30.	Chandigarh	N.R.	0	N.R.	0	N.R.	0	N.R.	0
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	18	0	0	3	5	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
32.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33.	Delhi	0	505	47	48	480	34	65	37
34.	Lakshadweep.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35.	Pondicherry	20	269	2830	2	0	1	0	0
Total		207	56608	10249	2171	43959	19755	891	533

Source: CBHI, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare

Notes: N.R. implies 'not received'.

\*Data for the year 2006 is provisional

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Sarvey Sathyanarayana—not present.

SHRIMATI RUPATAI D. PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government have stated in reply that increase in malnutrition and consequent disorders include complications in child growth and development. Many such diseases have been mentioned and the Government are aware of these dangers. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister whether any preventive measures have been taken or separate funds have been allocated for this purpose? If so, the details thereof? I would like to know the details of the efforts being made to save people from its ill-effects.

[English]

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: As given elaborately in the answer, the Fourth Assessment of the Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change is about the implications of climate change in the health sector.

There are going to be issues of malnutrition. There is going to be increase of vector-borne and water-borne diseases. There is going to be a lot of problems. Yesterday also in this august House, we had a very passionate discussion on the climate change. I am glad that Members of Parliament are aware of this issue.

The Government has taken a number of steps, focused wholistically towards health sector. The most biggest programme, I could say, is the National Rural Health Mission, empowering the rural areas and the village people themselves. We are forming Village Health and Sanitation Committees in nearly each and every village

or panchayat. We are giving an united amount of Rs. 10,000 for them to spend. Members of the Committee will be Head of the Panchayat, Anganwadi worker, ANM, Self-Help women; and eminent people are also associated in this. This is an united fund they could use for sanitation. We have an Integrated Disease Surveillance Project, which is a World Bank funded project for surveillance of diseases. Today, if there is an outbreak of cholera in any part of our country, it takes a little time for us to get it notified.

But after this programme is implemented, within a few hours we will be notified and we will take rectification steps. To solve the problems arising due to water borne diseases which the report says will happen, in fact most of the States are being equipped and since it is a State matter, we are supplementing the programmes of State Governments. In fact, under the Central Government's scheme of Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission, there are sub-missions on flourosis, arsenic cleaning etc., and a lot of activities are going on. The Ministry of Rural Development is in charge of this.

The National Rural Health Mission is a combination of various subjects like health, nutrition, sanitation and drinking water. It is a wholistic programme and in villages for every household which builds a household latrine under the sanitation project we are giving some money and incentives will be given to ASHAs. We are taking a number of steps in this regard like carrying on Information Education Campaigns etc. This is a wholistic programme of not only the health sector, but also the entire civil society, all Members of Parliament and State Governments have to take cognizance of it and act accordingly.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI RUPATAI D. PATIL: Mr. Speaker Sir, the Minister should state the details of efforts made by the Government at international level to save the country from Global Warming and outcomes thereof?

[*English*]

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir, this is pertaining to the Ministry of Environment and Forests. So, it should be put up as a separate question.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, I agree with you.

DR. BABU RAO MEDIYAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, undoubtedly the change in the climate is leading to the rise in communicable diseases. The hon. Minister has very clearly outlined the various steps that are taken regarding drinking water, sanitation, nutrition and other things. Even then the diseases are on the rise. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what is the opinion of the National Institute of Communicable Diseases whether the vibrio cholerae causing cholera has re-entered or reborn or whether there are any mutational changes in the viruses that are causing cholera or diarrhea.

MR. SPEAKER: The main question is about climate change.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir, even this is a specific matter about NICD. I have to get the information and give it back to the hon. Member. As far as cholera is concerned, in fact, we are trying to get effective vaccines of prevention. There has been a sporadic outbreak of cholera especially in West Bengal. The initial outbreak was in Chennai earlier and, in fact, this strain of cholera was exported to China and there are a lot of issues surrounding it. We have a National Institute of Cholera and Enteric Diseases based in Kolkata which has been doing a lot of research on this and coordinating with NICD. So, I will get the information from the NICD and get back to the hon. Member through you.

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, one of the predictions which has come out spot on is the spread of malaria and mosquito-borne diseases which will move above climatic lines as it gets hotter and hotter. In India, since malathion is worse than useless and DDT

is positively dangerous to any living being, what has the Health Ministry planned to stop the spread and increase of malaria because if no other disease comes, this certainly will?

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir, for controlling malaria and all vector-borne diseases like filaria, Japanese encephalitis, dengue and chickengunya, DDT and malathion are just a part of the solution. In fact, we are taking a whole lot of preventive steps like carrying on Information Education Campaigns, using of bed nets, having gamboozia fish and larvicidal fish which eat all the mosquitoes. This has been very successfully implemented in Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat and we are trying to do it all over the country. In Kerala we have large water bodies. We are doing fogging and spraying insecticides. DDT, as we all know, has been banned earlier for agricultural uses.

But the WHO said that for health purposes limited quantity of DDT can be used especially for Kala azar, which is prevalent in the four States in the country. We have been judiciously using them. But these vectors have become resistant to some of them and it is a constant procedure and very new chemicals come. But we are trying to avoid the usage of more chemicals because they are detrimental to environment.

In the bio-larvae side also, we are trying to use them. There are a lot of steps which the Government is trying to take to prevent the vector borne diseases.

SHRI BRAHMANANDA PANDA: Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister that as a consequence of super-cyclone in 1999, the people of coastal districts are suffering from cancer, heart diseases and white patches, which are now mounting up in the entire coastal district and in my constituency. I would like to know whether the hon. Minister will take any appropriate measures to overcome such alarming situation.

MR. SPEAKER: These are specific subjects and questions.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir, I am not aware whether super-cyclone would have an implication of cancer. But I am sure, it would have an implication of communicable diseases rather than chronic diseases. But then, if that is the case, maybe I could ask my people to look into the issue.



SHRI BRAHMANANDA PANDA: Sir, a team of experts may be sent to that area to assess the situation.

MR. SPEAKER: He has already said that the Ministry will look into it. Please relate to the main question.

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Mr. Speaker Sir, according to the Fourth Assessment Report of Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change, the Sunderbans area of West Bengal would be the most vulnerable area due to the impact of climate change. It is a low lying area and there is a heavy danger of submersion of Sunderbans soil. It may further cause floods and subsequent water borne and communicable diseases there.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Central Government is implementing the Integrated Diseases Surveillance Programme in Sunderbans too. If so, what steps have so far been taken in this regard and the details and facilities being set up there to combat the situation in the event of heavy floods and climate change?

MR. SPEAKER: Forget about the details, Mr. Minister.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir, we are implementing the Integrated Diseases Surveillance Project all over the country, including the Sunderbans area. In fact, under this project is, every district we are having IT personnel and we are upgrading all the testing labs for diseases, we are modernizing them, giving training to the personnel of these labs and a whole lot of programme has been going on all over the country, including West Bengal are also.

Yes, Sir, the hon. Member is right when he said that due to global warming, ozone depletion, gas effects, there has been rise in temperature and then due to the melting of glaciers, there is going to be rise of sea. There may be some occasional floods and in fact, there may be an increase in the level of sea where some part of the land is going to be inundated.

Under the Disaster Management Authority, which was recently formed by the UPA Government to monitor this issue, we are trying to survey that. In fact, Shrimati Maneka Gandhi was also right in saying that there are going to be increase of vector borne diseases because of climate change. The Government is aware of these issues and definitely the Government will take all possible steps to prevent it.

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI RANJEET RANJAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to state that earlier also I have raised this issue that at least 50 lakh people residing in and around Kosi area are drinking arsenic-contaminated water, due to climate change. The arsenic content is increasing day by day. During last three years, I have been told every time. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This supplementary does not arise out of it.

SHRIMATI RANJEET RANJAN: Sir, the arsenic level is rising in potable water due to climate change and consequent of cases of goiter are increasing. Today, there are around one and half lakh patients of Kalazar, but every time it is said that efforts are being made? Will any steps be taken only if the reports of casualties start pouring daily? When our family members start drinking arsenic contaminated water, will the Government take action then?

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: She is angry.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: I understand the anguish of the hon. Member. Pertaining to the second part about kala azar, today kala azar is only in 52 districts in four States. We are, in fact, going all out to eliminate and eradicate kala azar from our country. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please. It is not permitted under any rule.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Let me answer; then you could put up your questions.

Pertaining to kala azar, we have newer drugs today. Earlier we used to have MSG which was a little toxic.

MR. SPEAKER: Look into her area about which she is complaining.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: I am telling what the Government is trying to do to eliminate and eradicate kala azar. That is why I said for kala azar, now we focus only on four States, namely, Bihar, eastern part of Uttar

Pradesh, Jharkhand and West Bengal. We are definitely coordinating. In fact the WHO has agreement with India, Bangladesh and Nepal for cross border transmission of diseases. Today, for kala azar, we have new drugs. We have drugs called miltefocin, paramomycin which are non-toxic. Miltefocin, the oral drug, could be given. Then we have rk39 kits for diagnostics. So, we are having a targeted implementation of this programme. I am very confident that in the next two to three years there is going to be drastic reduction of kala azar.

As far as the arsenic issue about West Bengal is concerned, in fact you are aware of the situation. Under the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission, there is a Sub-Mission for arsenic. The State Government as well as the Central Government have programmes; there are a number of techniques like absorption techniques and co-preservation techniques. In fact, during 1999-2000, there were three ongoing schemes under the Sub-Mission.

MR. SPEAKER: She is interested about Saharsa, her constituency. Please look into it.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am pleading your case.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. I have told to make supply in Saharsa.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is being recorded.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER: Because of its importance, I am allowing the eighth Supplementary, which is the last one. I cannot go on. Shri Shivanna.

\*\*SHRI M. SHIVANNA (Chamarajanagar): Thank you Speaker Sir, in the wake of climatic changes the diseases like Malaria, Phelasma and others spread. I would like to

\*Not recorded.

\*\*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Kannada.

know from the Hon. Minister whether the Government would further strengthen the infrastructure for the primary health facilities in all the coastal villages in the country.

MR. SPEAKER: He knows fluent English but never uses it because his constituency people would understand Kannada better.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: In fact, I have already answered this question about the Vector Borne Disease Control Programme. Definitely, the Government is aware and we are taking all steps under the National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme. I have already said about steps for bed nets, biolarvicides, insecticides spraying, fogging etc.

MR. SPEAKER: You are answering as assumed question because you have not heard it.

[Translation]

#### Talks with Bangladesh and Nepal on Anti-India Activities

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\*486. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:  
SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken up the matter with Bangladesh and Nepal regarding anti-India activities being carried out on their soil;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the outcome thereof?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

Government have been regularly taking up with the Government of Bangladesh, the issue of anti-India activities emanating from Bangladesh. Assurances have been provided by the Government of Bangladesh at the highest level that its territory will not be allowed to be

used for activities inimical to India. Government of India have emphasised to them the need for concrete and sustained action towards fulfilling this assurance.

Besides taking up the matter regularly with the Government of Bangladesh, Government have also taken various measures to curb illegal influx into the country, which, *inter alia*, include strengthening of Border Security Force (BSF), accelerated programme of construction of border roads and border fencing and improved surveillance.

With regard to Nepal, all cross-border security issues, including criminal and anti-social activities are discussed in bilateral institutional mechanisms set up with the Government of Nepal. Government of Nepal have assured us that they will not allow such activities to take place, and will render their full cooperation to address such problems.

[Translation]

SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, anti-India activities are being carried out in Bangladesh and Nepal. I had raised a question in this regard. The hon'ble Minister has stated in the reply that the Government has taken steps like construction of border roads and border fencing and strengthening of security forces. The Government has taken so many steps, even the thousands of people from Bangladesh and Nepal are infiltrating into our country. Is the Government aware of it and if so, the details of steps taken to check it?

[English]

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: The hon. Member is aware of the fact that so far as Nepal is concerned, there is trade and transit treaty with Nepal and people can come freely from Nepal to India or go freely from India to Nepal.

So far as Bangladesh is concerned, it is true that some infiltration, illegal migrations are taking place. We have taken up these issues with the Bangladesh Government.

Apart from taking it up with the Bangladesh Government, we have also taken certain preventive steps, which I have referred to in the Statement, including fencing, strengthening the border, construction of the border roads. All these measures are to prevent illegal migration from Bangladesh.

[Translation]

SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Governments of Nepal and Bangladesh are just giving assurances. The infiltrators from Nepal and Bangladesh support anti-India activities being carried out in Bangladesh and Nepal, is the Government aware that these infiltrators are extending co-operation in anti-India activities being carried in Nepal and Bangladesh. If so, the details of the steps taken by the Government to check these activities?

[English]

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Sir, the hon. Member is confused between Nepal and Bangladesh. Sir, as I have mentioned to you, there is no question of illegal migration from Nepal because people can come here, and there is free movement.

So far as Bangladesh is concerned, yes, illegal migration is taking place, and in order to prevent that, throughout the border of 4,096 kilometres we have taken certain steps to prevent it. In respect of anti-India activities indulged by some insurgent groups, we have taken it up with the Bangladesh Government. During my last visit to Bangladesh on 19th February, I have received an assurance from the highest in the Government that they would not allow the Bangladesh territories to be used by persons inimical to India, and I hope that they will keep their commitment.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the entire country is aware of two facts—infiltration from Bangladesh and terrorist activities being carried out in Nepal. Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister the number of people have infiltrated from Bangladesh till date, number of infiltrators who have been deported back to Bangladesh and the steps taken by the Government to check this?

[English]

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Sir, there is no firm estimate about the illegal migrants. But at one point of time, a figure was assessed, and about 15 to 16 lakh of illegal migrants are still staying in India. As the hon. Member would appreciate, illegal migrants do not stand in the queue and say: "I am an illegal migrant. I am

going to enter into your country." Therefore, these are all estimates.

So far as Nepal is concerned, perhaps the hon. Member is aware of the recent development. It is true that for more than a decade, the Maoists Groups spread their activities in Nepal and they believed in armed revolution. But in the latest development in Nepal, the Maoists have given up violence. The armed cadres are now put in different cantonments; they are quarantined. They have surrendered their arms and those are deposited under the supervision of the UN representatives. The most important part of it is that the Maoists have declared that they would join the mainstream of the Nepalese political activities, and they have joined so. Therefore, we do hope that these kinds of activities will come to an end.

MD. SALIM: Sir, there is no doubt that the Government has taken up this matter with the Nepal and Bangladesh Governments on a very long-term basis so that the land of Nepal and Bangladesh cannot be used for anti-India activities.

But despite that, we also know that such things are happening, and particularly the North Bengal and the North-Eastern States are affected. Now, there are a lot of changes inside Nepal and Bangladesh. So, with this changed domestic and political scenario in their respective countries, whether the Government of India has taken up with renewed vengeance, keeping in mind the changed scenario with the Governments of Bangladesh and Nepal. Only reiterating or renewing the same old assurance would not help much. But some effective steps can be taken to curb the anti-India activities utilizing the soil, particularly of Bangladesh.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Sir, it is a continuing exercise. As I mentioned, even during the last talk between our BSF and the BDR, we had given them a list of 176 Indian insurgent group camps, and a list of about 339 criminals. They had also given us a list of some criminals, who are from Bangladesh committing crimes. Those criminals are not political activities or extremists; they are ordinary criminals; and they have also taken shelter in some parts of India including Kolkata. So far as India is concerned, whenever we get the information, we promptly act on it. We have requested the Government of Bangladesh also to act on it, and I

do hope that it would be possible for the Government of Bangladesh to take appropriate action.

Sir, in the course of discussion, particularly, when their outgoing Prime Minister, the former Prime Minister visited India, I, myself as the then Defence Minister, raised this issue and requested her to take note of the existence of the problem. Sometimes, it happens that they simply deny the existence of the problem. Therefore, I had suggested to their former Prime Minister to recognize the problem, because once you recognize the existence of the problem, then perhaps, ways to solve the problems could be found out. I do hope that the new dispensation in Bangladesh will adhere to their commitment, which they have made to us.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was astonished with the reply of the hon'ble Minister since he stated that only 15-16 lakh Bangladeshis are residing in India. Lakhs of our jawans and our political leaders too sacrificed their lives when Bangladesh was created.

the previous Governments, be it N.D.A. or even the Congress Government, stated there could be one or two crore Bangladeshis residing in India, but he maintains that there are only 15-16 lakh Bangladeshis. Through you, Sir, I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister as to what criteria has been adopted by him to oust those people from the country? One of the measures could be to check their birth certificate which should be Indian. If it is checked their certificates would be of Bangladesh. These should be verified, only then those people could be sorted out of the country.

Secondly, he has agreed it from time to time that some anti-India activities camps are being organized in Bangladesh from where people pour in to our country after receiving training. Is Bangladesh is destroying those camps or not, if not, what steps are likely to be taken by him in this regard?

*[English]*

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Sir, the hon. Member will have to appreciate that when we deal with a sovereign country, we have to depend on them. I cannot enter into their territory and destroy the camps. It is not possible. Therefore, it will have to be understood. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, please, let him reply.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Secondly, the hon. Member should also know that it was a commitment by the independent country starting from Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru to Mrs. Indira Gandhi that those, who came from the then East Bengal, East Pakistan to India up to 24th March, 1971, will be extended the Indian citizenship automatically. But if you start talking that every Bengali-speaking person is an illegal migrant, in that case I would also come in that category! ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: I never said like that. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record anything except the answer of the hon. Minister.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Therefore, let us assume. ...*(Interruptions)* I have already stated about the figure that 'it is estimated'. Nobody can give you the accurate figure. If we could give you the accurate figure, then we would have prevented them. These are the estimates. It may be 10 lakhs; it may be 15 lakhs; it may be 20 lakhs. ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: But, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing would go on record except the reply of the hon. Minister.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Let us not go into that aspect. ...*(Interruptions)* But this also is being denied by the Government of Bangladesh. Therefore, the steps, the physical preventions, which we are taking, I hope, would prove to be very effective, and with the cooperation of their Government, it would be possible for us to prevent them.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*[Translation]*

### Non-issuance of Visas and Passports to Indians living Abroad

\*487. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian embassies and High Commissions are not issuing visas and passports to several Indians living abroad for years to allow them to return to India;

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

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to issue visas and passports to them;

(d) whether the Government has prepared any list of persons to whom these facilities are not to be extended; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Passports facilities are provided to Indian citizens by our Missions abroad expeditiously and according to the prescribed procedures. Indian nationals living abroad do not require a visa to return to India. Persons of Indian Origin with a foreign nationality are granted visas expeditiously in keeping with the relevant norms.

(d) and (e) Separate lists of persons are maintained, keeping in mind the interests of the country, who are to be denied a visa or are to be given a passport or a visa with the prior approval of the Government. Passport facility is denied or restricted only in cases covered by the relevant provisions of the Passports Act, 1967 or in the case of those who seek/obtain asylum abroad.

### Allocation of Funds during the Eleventh Five Year Plan

\*488. SHRI K.C. SINGH "BABA": Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Draft Approach Paper of the Eleventh Five Year Plan has been finalised;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the percentage of GDP by which allocation of funds has been enhanced for health and child welfare under the Eleventh Plan vis-a-vis the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(d) whether the allocation of funds for the purpose is less in comparison to the allocations being made in the developing countries;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government proposes to increase the allocation to these sectors as compared to the other developing countries; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Approach Paper to the Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-08 to 2011-12), as approved by the National Development Council, has set the growth target for the Eleventh Five Year Plan period at 9% per year and aims at putting the economy on a sustainable growth trajectory with a growth of approximately 10% by the end of its period. For the rural economy the Approach Paper to the Eleventh Five Year Plan aims at achieving a growth rate of 4% in agriculture sector. For that there is a focus on improving rural connectivity, scaling up of irrigation potential creation, watershed management, rainwater harvesting and ground water recharge, revitalization of the extension system which links universities and best practices to farmers, etc. The Approach Paper mentions about reducing the disparities across regions and communities by ensuring access to basic physical infrastructure as well as health and education services to all. The Approach Paper has also set monitorable targets for other dimensions of performance such as, in the area of income and poverty, education, health, women and children issues, infrastructure and environment, reflecting the inclusiveness of this growth.

(c) The allocation of funds for Eleventh Plan have not been decided.

(d) to (g) In view of (c) above, do not arise.

[English]

### **Sports Infrastructure Schemes**

\*489. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:  
SHRI GANESH SINGH:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the discontinuation of the assistance for creation of sports facilities through Centrally Sponsored Sports Infrastructure Schemes to States w.e.f. 1 April, 2005 has affected the development of sports activities in the country, particularly in the matter of development of cost intensive infrastructure such as synthetic surface etc.;

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

(c) whether the State Governments are reluctant to invest in the cost intensive sports infrastructure development projects as a result of non-assistance from the Central Government;

(d) if so, whether the Government has formulated or is considering any alternative scheme/proposal for replacing the previous one; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) After the transfer of the sports Infrastructure Schemes to the State sector w.e.f. 1.4.2005, it has been left to the State Governments to make their own plans for the development of sports infrastructure, including cost intensive projects, as per their respective State plans. It is also possible for the States in the North East to secure funding from the North Eastern Council in the Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources (LNCPR) of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DONER). Nevertheless, in view of the very considerable shortage of sports infrastructure in both rural and urban India, it does appear necessary to revisit this requirement. The Ministry is engaged in doing so on the direction of the Cabinet to prepare a "Comprehensive Sports Policy".

(c) In view of the limited spending by most State Governments on the creation of sports infrastructure, including sophisticated cost-intensive infrastructure, there would appear to be constraints in resource availability to

States which needs to be addressed. This will be done in the framework of the preparations of the forthcoming "Comprehensive Sports Policy".

(d) and (e) The Sports Authority of India has sports infrastructure spread all over the country, which is utilized to operate a number of sports coaching and training schemes such as the National Sports Talent Contest Scheme, the SAI Training Centre Scheme, the Special Area Games Scheme, the Army Boys Sports Company and SAI Centres of Excellence. At present Boys Sports Company and SAI Centres of Excellence. At present, approximately 13000 trainees are getting training and other requisite scientific support under these schemes at 230 centres all over the country.

Moreover, in recognition of the shortage of sports infrastructure, particularly in rural areas, the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports is proposing to launch a nation-wide scheme entitled "Panchayat Yuva Krida aur Khel Abhiyan" with the objective of reaching down to the rural grassroots to develop basic sports infrastructure and promote games and sports activities at the Village Panchayat & Block Panchayat level, both as an essential ingredient of youth development and to significantly expand the talent pool available to the country to promote excellence in sports. Consultations are being held in this regard with all stakeholders with a view to finalizing the proposals as soon as possible.

*[Translation]*

#### **Setting up of De-Addiction Centres**

\*490. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL:  
SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to implement Centrally Sponsored Schemes for de-addiction Centres at Gram Panchayat level in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the de-addiction centres likely to be set up, State-wise and location-wise;

(c) whether the Union Government has also received proposals from the voluntary organizations working for de-addiction through various State Governments, in particular through the State Government of Madhya Pradesh for setting up the de-addiction centres during 2005-06;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment have been implementing since 1986, a Scheme for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance [Drugs] Abuse since 1985-86 revised in 1999, but the scheme is run through NGOs and various types of Centres without involving the Gram Panchayats. Moreover, some of vast-affected States or areas within such States fall outside the ambit of Part IX of the Constitution.

(b) The information is being collected from the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and will be placed subsequently on the Table of the House.

(c) to (e) A statement respect of Madhya Pradesh. Information about other States is being ascertained from the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is enclosed.

#### **Statement**

Proposals of voluntary organizations received through State Governments during 2005-06 were considered in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and two drug de-addiction centres were setup in Madhya Pradesh during the year 2005-06. The details are given below:-

Sl.No.	Name of Voluntary Organizations	Project Location
1.	New Pratap Shiksha Samiti, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh	Seehore
2.	Nivedita Kalyan Samiti, Reeve, Madhya Pradesh	Reeva

*[English]***Visa Norms Relating to Pakistan**

\*491. SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has effected any changes in the visa norms relating to Pakistan after Samjhauta Express bomb blast event;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which such change are likely to be brought into effect; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d) No changes in the visa norms have been effected by the Government after the blast in the Delhi-Attari express. Government had however, facilitated issuance of visas expeditiously to the relatives of deceased and injured in the above incident. A new bilateral visa agreement has been under discussion with Pakistan since October 2005 to liberalise the existing visa regime.

**SAARC Summit**

\*492. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:  
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 14th SAARC Summit was held recently on April 3-4, 2007 in New Delhi;

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

(c) the bilateral agreements signed on the occasion;

(d) whether some countries were present in the Summit as observers; and

(e) if so, the names of those countries along with their views and suggestions in the Summit?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (e) The 14th SAARC Summit was held in New Delhi on April 3-4, 2007. The salient features of the deliberations of the Fourteenth SAARC Summit were:

- For the first time in its history, SAARC expanded its membership to welcome Afghanistan as its eighth member. Again, for the first time, five Observers from outside the region-China, Japan, Republic of Korea, the United States of America and the European Union-attended the Summit. The Summit also decided to give a similar status to Iran.
- The Summit adopted a comprehensive and a forward-looking Declaration, to promote regional co-operation. It underlined the collective vision of the Heads of State/Government of SAARC countries of an interconnected South Asia where there was a free flow of people, goods, services and ideas.
- In terms of atmosphere, this was the smoothest, least contentious Summit ever. The constructive deliberations at various meetings of the Heads of State/Government, of the Council of Ministers and Senior Officials and the high-level presence of Observers, including the expression of interest of others, are all testimony to the fact that this was recognised not just within the region, but also outside of it.
- There was recognition that in its third decade of existence, there was a need to move SAARC from a declaratory to an implementation phase. The focus of SAARC would be on implementing collaborative projects that would bring concrete benefits to the people of the region. In this context, SAARC countries committed themselves to early operationalisation of the SAARC Development Fund (SDF).
- It was agreed to improve intra-regional connectivity, particularly physical, economic and people-to-people connectivity. The full benefits of an integrated regional multi-modal transport system were recognised. It was agreed that the SAARC Regional Multimodal Transport Study would be extended to Afghanistan. It was also agreed that pilot projects for improving connectivity would be identified and implemented.



- During the Summit, two important Agreements on the establishment of the South Asian University and the SAARC Food Bank were signed. The Food Bank is an exemplary model of regional cooperation to meet collectively the South Asian University will be developed as a centre of excellence in higher education for the entire region.
- There was full agreement that SAFTA was one of the most successful outcomes of SAARC's collective efforts. To realise its full potential, SAFTA should integrate trade in services. The importance of implementing trade facilitation measures was also underlined.
- The SAARC countries agreed to work together on a roadmap, *inter alia*, in the fields of poverty alleviation, food security, energy, water, environment, climate change, trade and transport, information and communication technology, tourism, education, culture and counter-terrorism.
- The importance of people-to-people contact as a key constituent in regional connectivity was stressed.
- The SAARC countries committed themselves to combat terrorism and agreed to consider India's proposal to work towards finalising an Agreement on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters.

#### **Mobile Phone Service in Villages**

\*493. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:  
SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to connect all the villages of the country by mobile phone service by November 2008;

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

(c) whether the Government has set a target to extend mobile phone service to the far-flung rural areas;

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

(e) the time by which all the villages would be provided with this facility especially in Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) and (d) A scheme has been launched by the Government to provide support for setting up and managing 7871 number of infrastructure sites spread over 500 districts across 81 clusters in the country for provision of mobile services including other Wireless Access Services like Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) using Fixed/Mobile terminals in the specified rural and remote areas, where there is no existing fixed wireless or mobile coverage. A statement indicating State-wise details of towers to be set up in specified rural and remote areas of the country are given in the enclosed.

(e) It is expected that with additional towers proposed to be set up in year 2008 & 2009, all villages will be covered by the year 2010.

#### **Statement**

*State-wise details of towers to be set up in specified rural and remote areas of the country*

Sl.No.	State	Number of Districts	Number of Towers	Number of Villages getting covered by the proposed Towers
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	22	581	9081
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	12	62	936

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Assam	20	90	3118
4.	Bihar	37	489	23586
5.	Chhattisgarh	16	580	10929
6.	Gujarat	04	66	822
7.	Haryana	08	14	273
8.	Himachal Pradesh	11	295	5653
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	12	178	2150
10.	Jharkhand	18	305	12529
11.	Karnataka	26	427	9309
12.	Kerala	11	46	140
13.	Madhya Pradesh	45	985	24505
14.	Maharashtra	33	1017	18520
15.	Manipur	09	95	695
16.	Meghalaya	07	102	2803
17.	Mizoram	08	71	361
18.	Nagaland	07	56	474
19.	Orissa	30	432	15930
20.	Punjab	03	13	501
21.	Rajasthan	32	411	10839
22.	Sikkim	03	08	87
23.	Tamil Nadu	27	371	6430
24.	Tripura	04	147	655
25.	Uttar Pradesh	66	666	36767
26.	Uttaranchal	13	217	8086
27.	West Bengal	16	167	9125
Countrywide Totals		500	7871	212304

[Translation]

**Committee on Examine the Quality of Roads**

\*494. SHRI CHANDRABHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formed a team/committee to examine the quality of roads under construction with the funds from the Central Road Fund;

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

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by the Government on the inspection report?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The proposals for improvement of State roads from the Central Road Fund Scheme are only administratively approved by this Ministry and responsibility for their execution including ensuring the quality of works as per the specifications vest with the State Governments and Union Territories concerned. This Ministry has not formed any team or committee to examine the quality of such roads.

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

**Setting up of National Science and Social Science Foundation**

\*495. SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI:  
SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has considered the recommendation of the National Knowledge Commission to set up a National Science and Social Science Foundation;

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

(c) the proposed relationship of the foundation with the present network of research organisations in the field of science and social science; and

(d) the manner in which the Government proposes to avoid any likely overlapping of mandates of different organisations and the foundation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) and (b) Government has received the Report of the National Knowledge Commission (NKC) on "National Science and Social Science Foundation" which has been sent to the Departments of Science & Technology and Higher Education for their comments.

(c) The objectives of the National Science and Social Science Foundation are:

- Suggest policy initiatives to make India a leader in the creation and use of new knowledge in all areas of natural, physical, agricultural, health and social sciences, with an emphasis on those areas which cut across traditional disciplines;
- Ensure that science and technology are maximally used for betterment of the lives of our people;
- Develop a scientific temper.

(d) The decision of the Government of India would take into consideration all relevant aspects.

**Domestic Savings during the Tenth Five Year Plan**

\*496. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:  
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rate of domestic savings in the country has increased manifold during the Tenth Five Year Plan which ended on 31st March, 2007;

(b) if so, the break up of the rate of domestic savings during the Tenth and Ninth Five Year Plans separately; and

(c) the break up of rate of savings in Government and Non-Government sectors during the Tenth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) As per the latest estimates available from the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO), the domestic savings rate increased from 26.4% in 2002-03 (the base year of Tenth Five

Year Plan) to 32.4% in 2005-06 (the penultimate year of the Tenth Plan). The data on savings rate for 2006-07 (the terminal year of the Tenth Plan) is not available.

(b) The break-up of the rate of domestic savings during the Tenth and Ninth Five Year Plans are given in the Table below.

*Sector-wise Rate of Gross Domestic Savings  
(as per cent of GDP)*

Sl.No.	Sectors	Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002)	Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-07)*
1.	Household Sector	20.3	22.6
2.	Private Corporate Sector	4.1	6.3
3.	Public Sector	-1.0	1.4
4.	Gross Domestic Savings	23.3	30.2

\*Average for first four years of the Tenth Plan, that is, 2002-03 to 2005-06

(c) The domestic savings rate of 30.2% during the first four years of the Tenth Five Year Plan, that is, 2002-03 to 2005-06 is composed of 1.4% in the Public sector and 28.8% in the Non-Government sector.

#### **CBI Raids/Investigations**

\*497. SHRI HEMMAL MUMRU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding the raids conducted and investigations carried out by the Central Bureau of Investigation in various parts of the country during the last three months;

(b) whether CBI conducted raids on income-tax officers and other persons in various parts of the country and unearthed substantial movable and immovable assets during the above period;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government proposes to strengthen the hands of CBI and departmental vigilance organisation in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) During the period from 1.1.2007 to 31.3.2007, CBI has conducted searches in 155 cases in various parts of the country.

(b) and (c) Out of these 155 cases, 4 cases relate to possession of Disproportionate Assets by Income Tax officers. Disclosure of details of seizures/recoveries made would not be appropriate at this stage, as it may impede investigation.

(d) and (e) A number of measures have already been taken by the Government to strengthen CBI and departmental vigilance organizations. These measures, inter-alia, include enactment of the CVC Act, modernization and upgradation of infrastructure of the CBI, capacity building of officers and staff of the CBI, and the appointment of the CVOs on the recommendations of the CVC and formulation and implementation of Annual Action Plans for vigilance activities.

[English]

#### **New Guidelines for Issuing Passports**

\*498. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:  
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently revised the guidelines for issuing passports;

(b) If so, the details of the revisions made;

(c) the extent to which it has helped in issuing passports faster; and

(d) the average time taken now for issue of passports?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement on the Revised Passport Issuance Guidelines is enclosed.

(c) and (d) These guidelines have made the issuance of passports simpler and speedier for the passport applicants. The average time taken for issuing a passport is now 30 days subject to completion of requisite formalities.

#### *Statement*

A number of decisions have been taken to simplify further the Passport Issuance Procedures with effect from 23 December 2006.

Salient features of the new scheme are as under:

#### **1. Revised Rules relating to issue/reissue of passports**

Presently fresh passports are issued under Normal and Tatkal categories—(1) Under first category, passports are issued on receipt of clear police verification reports and (2) Under the Tatkal scheme, a passport valid for 10 years is issued on the basis of Verification Certificate (VC) obtained from the authorities indicated in para 2(B) and on payment of additional fee of Rs. 1500/- in case the applicants desire to have the passports in 1-7 days (as opposed to the earlier slab of 1-10 days) and additional fee of Rs. 1000/- in case the applicant desires to have the passport in 8-14 days (as opposed to the earlier time slab of 11-20 days).

Under the Tatkal scheme, passports are issued on post-police verification basis.

**OR**

on submission of (i) three documents from the last of following 14 documents given at 2(A), provided one of the three documents is a photo identity document and at least one of the three is amongst the documents indicated at (a) to (i) below, and (ii) a standard affidavit duly attested by a Notary:

#### **2(A) List of 14 documents:**

- (a) Electors Photo Identity Card (NEPIC)
- (b) Service Identity Cards issued by State/Central Government, Public Sector Undertakings, Local bodies or Public Limited Companies
- (c) SC/ST/OBC Certificates
- (d) Freedom Fighter Identity Cards
- (e) Arms Licences
- (f) Property Documents such as Pattas, Registered Deeds etc.
- (g) Ration Cards
- (h) Pension Documents such as Ex-Servicemen's Pension book/Pension Payment Order, Ex-Servicemen's Widow/Dependent Certificates, Old Age Pension Order, Widow Pension Order
- (i) Railway Identification Cards
- (j) Income Tax Identity (PAN) cards
- (k) Bank/Kisan/Post Office Passbooks
- (l) Student Identity Cards issued by recognised educational institutions
- (m) Driving Licenses
- (n) Birth Certificates issued under the Registration of Births & Deaths (RBD) Act

#### **2(B) List of authorities competent to issue Verification Certificates (VCs)**

- (a) An Under Secretary/Deputy Secretary/Director/Joint Secretary/Special Secretary/Secretary/Cabinet Secretary in the Government of India;
- (b) A Director/Joint Secretary/Additional Secretary/Special Secretary/Chief Secretary in a State Government;

- (c) A Sub-Divisional Magistrate/First Class Judicial Magistrate/Additional DM/District Magistrate of the District of residence of the applicant;
- (d) A District Superintendent of Police, DIG/IG/DGP of District of residence of the applicant;
- (e) A Major and above in the army, Lieutenant Commander and above in the Navy and Squadron Leader and above in the Air Force;
- (f) General Manager of a Public Sector Undertaking;
- (g) A member of an All India Service or Central Service, who is equivalent to or above the rank of an Under Secretary to the Government *i.e.* in the pay scale of Rs. 10,000-15,200 or above;
- (h) Resident Commissioners/Additional Residential Commissioners of all State Governments based in Delhi;
- (i) Concerned Tehsildars or concerned SHO for an applicant staying in the area under his/her jurisdiction; and
- (j) Chairman/Chairperson of Apex Business Organisations such as Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) and Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry (ASSOCHAM) in respect of owners, partners or directors of the companies that are members of the concerned Chamber.

2(C) As is the practice the passports under the Tatkal categories would be issued subject to post-police verification. The Police authorities would be requested to send the Police verification reports within a period of three months. If not report is received within this period or a clear report is received, the passport will be allowed to run its normal course. However, if an adverse report is received at any stage after issuance of a passport, the PIA (Passport Issuing Authority) shall impound the passport and take necessary action under the Passports Act. Tatkal fees as mentioned at Para 1 above would be payable in all Tatkal categories. No proof of urgency is required to be produced by any applicant desiring to apply under Tatkal scheme. Those applicants, who are unable to produce either of the three documents or VC for obtaining passports under Tatkal scheme would be issued passports after police verification.

2(D) There may be instances where an applicant has a verification certificate and/or the three documents as prescribed in para 2(A), but he or she does not want to pay the additional fee as required under Tatkal. In such cases, Passport Officers will issue the passport within a period of 30 days on post-police verification basis. The applicant will also have to furnish a Standard Affidavit.

3. Employees in the Government Service and PSUs and their immediate family members (wife and minor dependent children only) whose identity is certified in prescribed proforma by the Head of Department or the Head of the PSU or a person duly authorised by them for this purpose, may be issued a passport valid for ten years without any pre or post-police verification.

4. The necessary certificate in respect of categories at Para 2(B) and 3 above will be given in duplicate by the certifying authority indicating clearly the full name, designation and address of the certifying authority. One copy of the certificate so given will be returned by the Passport Office by post to the certifying authority after issuance of passport. In case, any indication of a forged certificate is received from the authority so intimated, the passport in question will be impounded and suitable action taken against the holder under the relevant provisions of the Passport Act, 1967. **Passport Issuing Authorities will compulsorily check Passport Information Services on Net (PISON) and Prior Approval Category (PAC) in each and every case before issuing passports on Post-Police Verification basis.**

5. In addition, the following provisions will apply for issuance of fresh passports in the case of the relevant categories of applicants mentioned below:

(a) **Minors:** No pre post-issuance police verification will be required in the case of applicants upto 18 years of age. However, in all cases of minor applicants, concurrence of the parents need to be submitted in each and every case. For identification purposes, such minor applicants may submit the following:

- (a) Valid passports held by the parents/legal guardians along with suitable proof of parentage and prescribed affidavit from a parent.

OR

- (b) Three documents in respect of the parents as per Para 2(A) above to establish the identity of one of the parents together with suitable proof of parentage and standard affidavit from a parent.

In case of minor applicants up to the age of 18 years, passports would be issued for five years at a time due to frequent change in appearance.

**(b) Re-issue cases:** Passports would be renewed/reissued for a period of 10 years within three working days under Tatkal scheme on payment of additional fee of Rs. 1500/-. Alternatively, passports would be renewed/reissued for 10 years on payment of normal fee of Rs. 1000/- within a maximum period of 15 days from the date of application. Further, in the absence of anything adverse against the applicant in the notice of IPA, no police verification will be required for renewal/reissue of a passport. In the case of change of address of an applicant, only a document establishing the latest address would be insisted upon.

**Mere change of address will not warrant police verification.** In the case of major change of physical appearance of an applicant, any one of the procedures listed at paras 1-3 above, as the case may be, for issuance of fresh passports, may be followed to establish the identity of the applicant. An applicant may be allowed to apply for a new passport in lieu of an expired/about to expire passports upto 3 years after and one year before the expiry of the passport. In case a new passport is applied after more than three years after expiry of the old passport, the procedure listed at paras 1-3 above as the case may be, will be followed.

**(c) Duplicate passports:** In this case, if there is no adverse report in the notice of the passport issuing authority, a duplicate passport in lieu of a lost passport would be issued an applicant for a period of 10 years subject to production of a police report regarding loss of passport and subject further to the details of the applicant tallying with those in the file of the lost passport in the PISON/PAC system. No pre/post issuance police verification will be needed in these cases. Lost passport circulars are to be issued immediately and Damaged/Revoked/Impounded/Lost (DRIL) passport entries made in PISON system.

**(d) Chairman/Chairperson of Apex Business Organisations** i.e. Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry (ASSOCHAM) would issue Verification Certificates (VCs) in respect of owners, partners or directors of Companies that are members of the

concerned Chamber. Based on these Verification Certificates (VCs) and the standard affidavit, passports would be issued to such applicants for ten years and would be subject to post-police verification.

### **Cyber Security Measures**

\*499. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to provide cyber security in collaboration with international companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the level of security of the Net traffic in India as compared to the position in the developed countries;

(d) whether the critical sector organisations are foolproof from the attacks of virus;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to safeguard the Government sites and critical sector organisations?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) According to the information complied by International Information Security Management System (ISMS) User Group, India stands third, after Japan and UK, in adopting Cyber security standards prescribed by the International Standards Organisation (ISO). Organizations in the country are becoming increasingly conscious of the cyber security requirements. As such, more & more organizations are adopting security best practices and using state-of-the-art tools/equipment to protect their computer systems and networks while transacting on the net.

(d) to (f) A policy on protection of critical infrastructure is in place. The policy is aimed at enabling Government and critical sectors in improving the security of their IT systems and networks and verification through periodic risk assessments and annual audits by third party auditing organisations.

In support of the above security policy, Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) has created a panel of 55 IT security auditors to help the organisations to get their IT infrastructure and information systems audited from the point of view of Risk assessment, penetration of network and vulnerability assessment.

**Connection through Non-Exchange Lines**

\*500. SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY:  
SHRI ANANTA NAYAK;

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to connect horizontal offices in districts and talukas through Non-Exchange lines which can be extended further to the villages in future;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal;

(c) the target set by BSNL to provide telephone connections through satellites in all villages in the country; and

(d) the progress made so far in this regard, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): (a) and (b) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), the Government telecom operator provides leased lines for connectivity of offices in Districts & Talukas and further to the villages on specific requests of State Governments and as per feasibility.

(c) As per the agreement between Universal Service Obligation Fund Administration and BSNL, the Company is planning to provide 14183 Village Public Telephones (VPTs) using satellite based technology, by November, 2007. Details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) The hub equipment is being installed at Sikandrabad earth station near Bulandshahar, Uttar Pradesh. Equipment testing is under progress. Network shall be rolled out after allotment of transponder by Department of Space and identification of custodians of Digital Satellite Phone Terminals (DSPTs) in the respective villages.

**Statement**

*Satellite based coverage of Villages through DSPTs*

*State-wise plan of Satellite based coverage of villages*

Sl.No.	Name of the State	No. of DSPTs
1.	Andhra Pradesh	115
2.	Assam	279
3.	Jharkhand	1694
4.	Himachal Pradesh	275
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	465
6.	Madhya Pradesh	443
7.	Chhattisgarh	88
8.	Maharashtra	483
9.	Goa	13
10.	Meghalaya	500
11.	Mizoram	20
12.	Tripura	58
13.	Nagaland	16
14.	Manipur	730
15.	Arunachal Pradesh	543
16.	Orissa	4899
17.	Rajasthan	18
18.	Uttaranchal	3544
Total		14183

**Cancer Cases**

\*501. SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU:  
SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) has indicated that the number of diagnosed cancer cases is expected to be more than double between



2000 and 2030 as reported in "The Hindustan Times" dated April 4, 2007;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether the Government has examined the report of the I.A.R.C.; and

(d) the measures taken or likely to be taken by the Government to cure the menace of cancer in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (d) According to Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) has stated that the number of diagnosed cancer cases will be more than double between 2000-2030. In 2000, there were 11 million new cases of cancer diagnosed world wide, 7 million deaths from cancer and 25 million people living with cancer. By 2030, the agency expects that 27 million people will be diagnosed with the disease annually, 17 million will die from the disease and 75 million people will be living with cancer.

As per revised scheme of National Cancer Control Programme (NCCP), special emphasis is now being laid on early detection of cancer by promoting health education, creating awareness. Financial assistance is provided for setting up Radiotherapy unit in Government Medical Colleges/Hospitals for providing cancer treatment facilities. In addition, comprehensive cancer detection testing facilities in respective regions/States are provided by 25 Regional Cancer Centres developed over the years under NCCP. Financial assistance is also provided to persons below poverty line from Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi for treatment of cancer. During 11th plan, special focus is made to expand District Cancer Control Programme for early detection and management of cancer, and to create infrastructure by upgrading existing RCC, creating more RCC, setting up of cancer treatment centres across the country with a view to producing quality manpower and treatment facilities.

*[Translation]*

#### **Knowledge-based Examination**

4605. SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to make it mandatory for all doctors practicing in the country to appear in the knowledge-based examination to update with the latest development taking place in the field under the Continuing Medical Education (CME) Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) At present, there is no proposal to make it mandatory for doctors to appear in a knowledge based examination. However, there has been a scheme in vogue for quite sometime for providing Continuing Medical Education to registered medical practitioners.

*[English]*

#### **Outstanding Amount against Non-core Sector**

4606. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any amount has been kept outstanding against non-core sector on account of coal supply through railways as on December 31, 2006;

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

(c) the time period for which the said amount has been kept outstanding;

(d) whether any amount had been written off as on December 31, 2006; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A sum of Rupees 66.39 lakh has been kept outstanding against non-core sector on account of coal supply through railways as on 31.3.2006. An amount of Rs. 47.34 lakh of Western Coalfields Limited (WCL) is outstanding for a period of more than 15 years and Rs. 19.05 lakh of Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) is outstanding since 1994 and these are pending either on account of closure of the unit of the linked consumer or due to the fact that matter is sub-judice.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise in view of reply given at (d) above.

#### Construction of New CGHS Dispensaries

4607. SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new CGHS Dispensaries are under construction in Delhi;

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

(c) whether the construction of some dispensaries has been suspended; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The location-wise CGHS dispensaries under construction of Delhi are as under:-

1. Shalimar Bagh
2. Yojana Vihar
3. Dilshad Garden
4. Ghaziabad

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Due to resource constraints during 2006-2007, adequate funds could not be released to complete the construction.

#### Mitochondrial DNA

4608. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the diseases caused by Mitochondrial DNA Mutations are incurable;

(b) if so, the number of cases reported in the country, every year;

(c) whether the CCMB, Hyderabad, has set up in an Indian Mitochondrial Society to create awareness on diseases linked to Mitochondrial DNA; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The data is not Centrally maintained.

(c) and (d) According to Indian Council of Medical Research, CCMB, Hyderabad has set up Indian Society for Mitochondrial Research and Medicine with a motto to create awareness of the mitochondrial disorders, find the possible methods to diagnose the mitochondrial disorders and suitable therapy for the patients.

#### Dispatch of Coal

4609. SHRI SUBRATA BOSE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of coal dispatched by rail which were weighted on electronic weight bridge in 2005-2006 and 2006-2007; and

(b) the percentage of coal unweighed and the deduction in Rupees per tonne on account of short receipts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) The percentage of coal weighed on electronic weighbridges and despatched by rail from Coal India limited sources during 2005-2006 and 2006-2007 was 97.67% and 98.37 respectively.

(b) The percentage of coal despatched by Rail unweighed was 2.33% and 1.63% in 2005-06 and 2006-07 respectively. Deduction on account of short receipt was Rs. 0.76 per tonne in 2005-06 and Rs. 0.21 per tonne during 2006-07.

#### International Money Order

4610. SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to launch International Money Order Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it will be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Sir, Department of Posts offers paper based International Money Order Services with various countries for several years. Now, Department of Posts is examining to introduce Electronic International Money Order Service for speedy transmission of remittances.

(b) India Post has International Order Service with 27 countries to receive money orders from these countries. Outward money order service is available for Nepal and Bhutan. Details in case of proposed Electronic International Money Order Service are yet to be finalized.

(c) Decision is yet to be taken.

#### **Economic Reforms for North-East**

4611. SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the pace of economic growth during the Tenth Plan period is satisfactory for all the regions/sectors of the country;

(b) if so, the extent to which the economic reforms have boosted the prospects of economic growth of the North Eastern States;

(c) whether there is any proposal to adopt new strategy for the North Eastern Region during the Eleventh Plan; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) to (d) The average growth for the 10th Plan period is estimated to be around 7.2%. Though, this is below the 10th Plan target of 8%, it is the highest growth rate achieved in any plan period. The estimated growth of industry sector during tenth plan period is 8.3% against the target of 8.86%. The estimated growth of Service sector is 9%

against the target of 9.35%. However, Agriculture lost its growth momentum during the plan period with a growth of around 1.7% against the target of 4%.

Differences exist in the pace of development across the states and imbalances within the states as well. According to the available estimates, performance of Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura had been good. However, performance of remaining five states of the North East had not been as expected.

The Approach to the 11th Five Year Plan has recognized the special problems of North-East, such as its geographical location, inadequacy of physical infrastructure, low level of entrepreneurship, etc. The document has accorded high priority to improving the transport infrastructure, exploration of natural resources and encouragement to tourism, horticulture, agriculture and forestry.

#### **Overseas Citizens of India**

4612. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to extend wide range of benefits to the OCI cardholders;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is also a proposal to allow the Overseas Indian Members to practice in India;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has any proposal to sign bilateral agreements with some countries on labour issues; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) to (d) A proposal to confer all rights to Overseas Citizens of India as available to Non-Resident Indians including the right to practice and excluding those rights specified under Section 7B(2) of the Citizenship Act, 1955 and any other rights based on national security and strategic interests of the country, is under consideration of the Government.

(e) and (f) The Government has recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the state of UAE and with the state of Kuwait in the field of Labour,

Employment and Manpower Development. The Government proposes to sign MOUs on Labour, Employment and Manpower Development with Oman, Bahrain and Malaysia. These MOUs envisage bilateral cooperation for promotion of overseas employment of Indian workers and their protection and welfare in the host country.

#### **Compensation to Employees**

4613. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has dual policy for grant of compensation to the Central Government employees working in various naxal/insurgency affected States in the country;

(b) if not, the details of compensation provided by the Government to the employees of the Department of

Posts as compared to the employees of the Ministries of Home and Defence;

(c) whether the employees of Department of Posts are equally affected by such violence in the States;

(d) if so, the reasons for such dual policy for grant of compensation; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Families of the Central Government Civilian employees, who die in harness in the course of performance of their bonafide official duties under various circumstances, are paid following ex-gratia lump sum compensation:

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(i)	Death Occurring due to accidents in the course of performance of duties	Rs. 5.00 lakhs
(ii)	Death occurring in the course of performance of duties attributable to acts of violence by terrorists, anti-social elements etc.	Rs. 5.00 lakhs
(iii)	Death occurring during (a) enemy action in international war or border skirmishes and (b) action against militants, terrorists, extremists etc.	Rs. 7.50 lakhs
(iv)	To the Gramin Dak Sevaks of Department of Posts.	Rs. 50,000/-

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The ex-gratia compensation @ Rs. 7.50 lakh is restricted to only those cases where Central Government employees are killed in actual field operations, which is applicable only to the personnel of Central Para Military forces deployed along the borders, line of control etc. as well to those engaged in combating terrorism.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The higher rate of compensation has been prescribed in the cases involving higher intensity and magnitude of hardship and also the higher risk involved in the field operations.

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

#### **Security for Indian Cricket Team**

4614. SHRIMATI MANORAMA MADHAVARAJ: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the host countries and the International Cricket Council (ICC) are responsible for providing security for the visiting Indian Cricket Team for their participation in the World Cup event;

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

(c) whether the Government proposes to provide National Security Guard (NSG) cover for the Indian Cricket

Team participating in the ICC World Cup 2007 being held in the Caribbean countries; and

(d) if so, whether the expenses are borne by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The security of all visiting teams is the responsibility of ICC and the Host Country. This was provided.

(c) and (d) BCCI has informed the Ministry that one DCP (Security, Delhi Police) was nominated by the Ministry of External Affairs as Security Officer with the Indian Cricket Team. All expenses incurred during his stay in the Caribbean countries for the ICC World Cup 2007 have been borne by the BCCI.

#### **Maintenance of Roads in Karnataka**

4615. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether nearly fifty per cent of the 3900 kms of the National Highways in the State of Karnataka are not being maintained properly;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Union Government is allotting Rs. 30,000 per km for road maintenance as against the Indian Road Congress (IRC) stipulated norms of Rs. 1 lakh per km;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the funds allocated by the Union Government to the State is not sufficient and the State has asked for substantial increase in the allocation of funds; and

(f) if so, the response of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Overall availability of funds

for the maintenance and repairs of National Highways in the country is below the requirement as per approved Ministry's norms. Efforts are being made to maintain the National Highways in traffic-worthy condition within the available resources.

(c) and (d) During 2006-07, funds to the extent of Rs. 1.39 lakhs per km of National Highways have been allocated for the maintenance and repairs of National Highways in Karnataka as per availability of funds against the requirement of Rs. 3.01 lakhs per km.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Funds are allocated to States as per availability of funds.

#### **Upgradation of Pay Scales**

4616. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA': Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has upgraded the pay scale of the Assistants of the Central Secretariat Service (CSS) from Rs. 5500/- to Rs. 6500/- and excluded the Assistants working in the pay scale of Rs. 5500/- in other attached/subordinate Departments/Offices of the Central Government from the benefit of upgradation of pay scales;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether matter regarding upgradation of pay scales of Assistants of non-CSS cadre has been referred to the Sixth Central Pay Commission; and

(d) if so, the details of the terms of reference and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) The pay scales of Assistants/ Personal Assistants of Central Secretariat Service (CSS)/ Central Secretariat Stenographer's Service (CSSS) have been revised upward with effect from 15.09.2006. The upgradation of pay scale of Assistant of CSS and Personal Assistants of CSSS was done as an exception specific to these two categories of posts.

(c) and (d) The proposal relating to upgradation of pay scales are considered by the administrative Ministry in consultation with the Department of expenditure in the Ministry of Finance. The Department of Expenditure in their OM dated 21.12.06 informed all Ministries that all matters relating to the upgradation of pay scales, cadre review etc. may be brought before the 6th Central Pay Commission which would make its recommendations to the Government. The Pay Commission being an expert body appointed specifically for such matters, would be in a position to take a holistic view of issues pertaining to Government pay structures, benefits etc. The terms of reference of the Pay Commission provide for recommendations in respect of pay, allowances and other facilities of various categories of employees.

#### **Common Service Centres**

4617. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to open Common Service Centres in the rural areas across the country;

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

(c) the services which will be provided by these centres;

(d) the number of jobs likely to be created as a result thereof;

(e) whether it is contemplated to involve private sector in the scheme; and

(f) if so, the number in which the private sector is expected to contribute?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Government of India approved the Common Services Centres (CSC) Scheme on 26th September, 2006 for facilitating the establishment of 100,000 + Broadband internet enabled CSCs across rural India.

(b) The Scheme envisages establishment of a one (1) CSC per six (6) Census Villages covering all the States and UTs of the country.

(c) CSC will provide a mix of Citizen Centric G2C (Government to Citizen) Services and Private domain services.

(d) The scheme is likely to generate more than 300,000 employment opportunities.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The CSC Scheme would be implemented in a Public Private Partnership (PPP) framework. At the first (CSC) level would be the local Village Level Entrepreneur (VLE-loosely analogous to a franchisee). At the second level would be an entity termed the Service Centre Agency (SCA-loosely analogous to a franchiser) who would be selected through a competitive process. The SCA would invest in setting up the CSC infrastructure & operating & managing the VLE network and business. The Govt. would provide the support as determined through a bid, for the SCA to continue managing the CSC's on an ongoing basis for a maximum period of 4 years.

#### **Use of IRS Data by Gujarat**

4618. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Gujarat has started the use of Indian Remote Sensing (IRS) Data in almost all the sectors for the development of the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government proposes to reduce the cost of satellite data to support development planning in the State;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Bhaskaracharya Institute of Space Applications and Geo-informatics (BISAG) at Gandhinagar, the nodal agency for providing the value added and need based services in remote sensing and GIS technologies for the State of Gujarat has been making use of IRS data on regular basis for various applications towards the development of the State. BISAG uses extensively

the IRS data in the sectors of rural development, land and water resources management, agriculture, irrigation, coastal zone management, disaster management support, infrastructure development, urban planning and such other applications for the development of the State. The notable projects include Hydrogeomorphology mapping under the National Drinking Water Mission, geo-referencing of cadastral data to high resolution remote sensing data, Natural Resources Information System at district level, Zoning Atlas for natural resources themes, EIA for Narmada command area, Mineral Information System, Health Information System, Road GIS, maps for Election Commission, to name only a few.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The satellite data products prices have recently been drastically reduced to the extent of around 30%. The archived data beyond 3 years is offered at 50% of the current price. Special concessional prices have also been announced for academic purposes.

(e) Does not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### **Implementation of Projects by NIC**

4619. SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the projects being implemented by the National Informatics Centre (NIC) during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the number of projects completed so far; and

(c) the time by which the pending projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) National Informatics Centre (NIC) is providing e-governance support to the Central Government Departments, State Governments, District Administrations and other Government bodies. It is providing technical support in the formulation, development, implementation and maintenance of projects of above user departments. Training is provided to the Government employees and officers on a regular basis to enable them to use the IT based systems and

e-governance applications. The technical support provided by NIC is regular and continuous in nature under which NIC keeps on augmenting/upgrading the IT based systems keeping in view the user requirements. It is the user department who owns the project with regards to its implementation and day-to-day operationalisation. The Government projects are continuous in nature and are provided NIC technical support on that basis. The major e-Governance applications implemented by NIC are available at website <http://offerings/nic.in>. NIC has set up ICT infrastructure for the above purpose as indicated in enclosed statement.

#### ***Statement***

##### ***Major NIC-ICT Infrastructure***

- The satellite based Wide Area Network with DVB technology Hub and VSATs. It has about 300 nodes.
- Integrated Network Operations Center (I-NOC) for round the clock monitoring of NICNET.
- Internet Data Center at NIC Hq. with storage capacity of 110 Tera Bytes for hosting websites and databases.
- Data Centres at State capitals for their local storage needs having storage capacity from 2-5 Tera Bytes.
- National long distance high speed (4/8/16/34/45 Mbps) leased data circuits connecting all state capitals.
- Connectivity from State to Districts using 2MBPS leased circuits.
- About 30,000 nodes of Local Area Networks in all the Central Government offices and State Government Secretariats.
- Video conferencing facilities in state capitals and districts. Total number of locations is 490.
- Internet Gateway bandwidth enhanced to 418 Mbps for incoming and 384 Mbps outgoing traffic with multiple alternate paths.
- NICNET peering with NIXI with a bandwidth of 68 MBPS.

- Certifying Authority for Digital Signature in G2G domain.
- Training facilities at NIC Hqr. and State Government Secretariats.
- Network Security.
- DR Centre at Hyderabad.

*[English]*

#### **Transfer of Centrally Sponsored Schemes to States**

4620. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the status of implementation and achievements of Centrally Sponsored Schemes being contemplated for transfer to States;

(b) whether the Government proposes to formulate a set of procedures and criteria for providing financial assistance to the States for implementing such transferred schemes and programmes;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the mechanism to ensure achievement of targets within the stipulated time-frame?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) to (d) Schemes are discontinued on the basis of Zero Based Budgeting (ZBB) exercise. The primary purpose of ZBB exercise is to ensure convergence, efficiency and efficacy of schemes according to Plan objectives and priorities and also the use of available resources in the most judicious and economically efficient manner. Such an exercise is done regularly. There is not proposal for transfer of Centrally Sponsored Schemes to States.

*[Translation]*

#### **Indo-China Talks**

4621. DR. RAJESH MISHRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ninth round of the talks between India-China at Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh was held recently; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the progress made therein?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The ninth round of talks between the Special Representatives of India and China was held in New Delhi from 16-18 January 2007. Subsequently, the Tenth round was held in New Delhi and Coonoor from 20-22 April 2007. The two Special Representatives continued their discussions on a framework for the boundary settlement on the basis of the Agreement on Political Parameters and Guiding Principles signed in New Delhi on 11 April 2005. Both sides agreed to hold the next (eleventh) round of talks between the Special Representatives at a mutually convenient time, which will be decided through diplomatic channels.

*[English]*

#### **Jumbling up of Mobile Phone Service**

4622. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has noticed the problem of jumbling up of various frequencies for the mobile phone service providers in Assam and other States in the North-East;

(b) if so, the nature and extent of the problems faced by various mobile phone service providers in these States; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to resolve these problems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir. Radio interference was reported by some Mobile Phone Service Providers on GSM 900 MHz band frequencies in Assam Telecom Service Area due to some wireless links of M/s OIL India Ltd.

(b) and (c) Discussions were held with Oil India officials and concerned Mobile Phone Service Providers. The interference has been resolved.



**Pension Scheme for Employees of NLC**

4623. SHRI A.V. BELLARMIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Apex Court has given any direction to the Neyveli Lignite Corporation (NLC) to introduce a suitable pension scheme for its employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has any plan to cover the employees of the NLC under any pension scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government is contemplating to grant ad-hoc payment to retired employees till pending formulation and implementation of pension scheme;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the steps taken or likely to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) The Apex Court gave direction to NLC to adopt Employees Pension Scheme (EPS), 1995, which was implemented for all eligible members.

(c) and (d) NLC Employees have already been covered under the EPS 1995 scheme.

(e) Does not arise in view of reply to part (c) and (d) above.

(f) and (g) The EPS, 1995 Scheme is under implementation including in respect of employees already retired if they fulfil the criteria laid down under the Scheme.

*[Translation]*

**Computer and Internet Facilities in Rural Areas**

4624. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the computer and the internet facilities have been provided in the rural areas of the country, especially in Gujarat;

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

(c) the names of the schemes launched by the Government to provide computer and the internet facilities in the rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL), under its 'Internet Dhaba' scheme provides Internet Access to franchisees of Internet Dhabha in rural Block Head Quarters in the country. As on March 2007, a total of 3722 Internet Dhabas have been set up through franchisees in various states of the country. In Gujarat 125 Internet Dhabas have been set up.

State-wise details of Internet Dhabas are given in the enclosed Statement.

The Government has issued licenses to Internet Service Providers for providing Internet Services in the country.

In addition a Universal Services Obligation Fund (USOF) has been established under the Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Act with a primary objective to provide broadband connectivity to all villages in a phased manner.

The Department of Information Technology (DIT) has provided Computer and Internet through its various programmes:

National Informatics Centre (NIC) has established 555 Community Information Centres (CICs) at block level in 8 North Eastern States, 38 CICs in Andaman & Nicobar and 30 CICs in Lakshadweep Island. 127 CICs have also been set up in Jammu & Kashmir.

Education Research Network (ERNeT) Society under DIT is providing computer with Intranet and Internet to 140 Government and Government aided schools in 7 districts spread over 6 States.

**Statement****Circle-wise Internet Dhaba connections of BSNL  
as on March 2007**

Sl.No.	Name of Circle	No. of Internet Dhaba
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	1
2.	Andhra Pradesh	964
3.	Assam	14
4.	Bihar	96
5.	Chennai	23
6.	Chhattisgarh	96
7.	Gujarat	125
8.	Haryana	122
9.	Himachal Pradesh	48
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	23
11.	Jharkhand	30
12.	Karnataka	149
13.	Kerala	152
14.	Kolkata	19
15.	Madhya Pradesh	248
16.	Maharashtra+Goa	348
17.	North East-I	8
18.	North East-II	1
19.	Orissa	164
20.	Punjab	117
21.	Rajasthan	194
22.	Tamil Nadu	292
23.	Uttar Pradesh (E)	187
24.	Uttar Pradesh (W)	102
25.	Uttaranchal	76
26.	West Bengal	123
Total		3722

**[English]****Sponsorship to Sports Disciplines by BSNL**

4625. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the BSNL has provided sponsorship to certain sports disciplines;

(b) if so, the details of such sponsorships provided by the BSNL during the last two years;

(c) whether the BSNL has set up any Panel/ Committee for this purpose;

(d) if so, the composition of the Panel alongwith the terms of reference thereof; and

(e) the funds allocated and spent by BSNL head quarter for conducting All India BSNL tournaments of various sports disciplines alongwith the funds allocated to each telecom circle during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of sponsorships provided by BSNL to certain sports disciplines are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. All requests for sponsorship for any event are considered on case to case basis.

(e) Details of funds allocated and spent by BSNL for various All India BSNL tournaments in past two years is given in the enclosed Statement-II. Details of fund allocated to various telecom circles during the past two years are given in the enclosed Statement-III.

**Statement I**

Sl.No.	Details of Sports Events
1	2
<b>Year 2005-06</b>	
1.	Calicut District League Foot Ball
2.	State Basket Ball Championship at Alleppey

1	2
3.	Tennis Ball Cricket Tournament—Palakkad
4.	Sports & Cultural meet of Association of Engineers, TVM
5.	23rd All India RBI Sports meet
6.	National Ranking Tennis at Vellayani Agri. College
7.	23rd Sub Junior National Aquatic Championship
8.	Sr. State Foot Ball Championship at Trichur
9.	Kottayam Boat Race—2005
10.	National Power Lifting Championship at Calicut
11.	Nehru Trophy Boat Race 2005
12.	Kerala State Volley Ball at Kayyur
13.	8th National Aerobic Gymnastics
14.	Kerala State Badminton Championship at Kannur
15.	Kerala State Sr. Women's Cricket Championship 2005
16.	Junior National Badminton at Calicut
17.	Basket Ball Assn. Golden Jubilee Meet Trichur
18.	Kerala Federation of Blind—Chees Championship
19.	49th State Junior Athletic Championship at Kollam
20.	Santosh Trophth Cluster Match at Trivandrum
21.	National Basket Ball of Deaf at Calicut
22.	58th National Aquatic Championship at Trichur
23.	India Pak Veteran Cricket Match Tournament
24.	All India Celestial Trophy Cricket Tournament
25.	All India Inter-University Aquatic Championship
26.	All India Volley Ball Tournament at Pala
27.	Run against Drug Abuse Organized by Health Fitness Trust

1	2
28.	Silent Chess Championship
29.	Whusu
30.	Bhubaneswar District Tennis Association
31.	Display of BSNL Services Banners during 36th Summer National Bridge Championship—2005
32.	5th All India BSNL Cycling Meet—2005-06 at Jaipur
33.	Distt. Tennis Championship at Bhilwara
34.	Adventure Sports Festival-2006 at Bundi
35.	Health Fitness Trust
36.	Silence Sports Promotion
37.	Wushu Association of India
38.	Krishnan Tennis Chennai
39.	T Nagar Sports Club Chennai
40.	Ace Basketball Chennai
41.	BSNL Tamil Nadu Circle Sports and Cultural
42.	Sri Poobesh Anand
43.	Krishnan Tennis Center, Chennai
44.	The Mylapore Club, Chennai
45.	Tamil Nadu Bridge Association
46.	Professional Basketball Ace Club
47.	Tamil Nadu Billiards & Snookers
48.	Spastic Support Society
49.	Inner Wheel District
50.	Tamil Nadu Throw Ball ASS
51.	Indian Red Cross Society
52.	Thiruvalluvar District Body Building ASS
53.	Tamil Nadu Foot Ball ASS
54.	Tamil Nadu Handicapped Federation

1	2
55.	Association for Non Traditional Employment for Women
56.	Lotus Blind Welfare Trust of India
57.	Singaram Pillai Tennis Centre
58.	Anna Nagar Basketball Club
59.	New Gold's Gym & Fitness Centre
60.	KESPA-Chennai
61.	All India BSNL Athletic Meet
62.	Jr. State Badminton Champs
63.	Disabled Sports & Welfare Academy, Patna
64.	Bharat-Pak 2nd Veteran Hockey Test Match
65.	BSNL Marathon for Polio Eradication Awareness
66.	All India Football Tournament, Gorakhpur
67.	BSNL Tamil Nadu Sports and Cultural Board for Bridge and Basket Ball Tournament
68.	California Cricket Club at Chennai
69.	13th World Cu-Youth Volley Ball Championship
70.	Cricket Championship for DEAF
71.	6th All India BSNL Lawn Tennis
72.	Distt. Chess Tournament
73.	National Net Ball Championship at Vijayawada
74.	Senior Noble Klan, Wokha, Nagaland
<b>Year 2006-07</b>	
1.	E.K. Nayanar Memorial Gold Cup Foot Ball, Kanpur
2.	Cricket Match between Kerala Ministers & Film Stars
3.	3rd All Kerala Bhima Bhattar Memorial Cricket
4.	36th Kerala Police Athletic Meet 2006 Trivandrum

1	2
5.	19th Kerala Forest Sports & Games Meet
6.	Thazhathangadi Boat Race-Kottayam
7.	Kumarakaom Boat Race-Kottayam
8.	Calicut District Athletic Championship of Deaf
9.	Kerala State Women's Cricket Championship
10.	14th Viswappan Memorial Basket Ball Tournament ALP
11.	Kalady Volley Ball-36th All Kerala Tournament
12.	Nehru Trophy Boat Race 2006
13.	International Chess Championship at Calicut
14.	Calicut-Beach Foot Ball Tournament
15.	Idukki District Chess Championship
16.	Veteran Hockey Championship at Trichur
17.	India England Cricket Match
18.	Haryana Badminton Association, Panchkula
19.	Orissa State Badminton Association, Cuttack
20.	Bhubaneswar District Tennis Association
21.	Display of BSNL Services Banners during 4th National Badminton Championship of Deaf at Jaipur
22.	All India Wrestling Tournaments at Kota
23.	Publishing of BSNL Service Advertisement in the Souvenir of All India Sports Basket Ball Tournament-2006
24.	6th All India BSNL Kabaddi Tournament-2006 at Jaipur
25.	Display of Banners at Event site and Publishing of Advertisement of BSNL Service in the Souvenir of 6th Pink City International Rating Chess Tournament at Jaipur
26.	Sponsorship of 39th All India Central Revenue Sports Meet-2006 at Alwar

1	2
27.	Display of BSNL Services Banners in All India PSU Badminton Tournaments at Jaipur
28.	Display of BSNL Services Banners in the Wrestling Championship at Jaipur
29.	All India Tennis Association
30.	Rajiv Gandhi Sports Federation
31.	All India Tennis Association
32.	Nehru Yuva Kenra
33.	T Nagar Sports Club Chennai
34.	Tamil Nadu Association for Welfare of Physically Handicapped Chennai
35.	Ace Basketball Club, Chennai
36.	BSNL-TNCSCB
37.	Vollys Club
38.	Sri Ragavendra Basketball Club
39.	Indian Hockey Federation
40.	Krishnan Tennis Centre, Kottivakkam, Chennai
41.	Krishnan Tennis Centre, Kottivakkam, Chennai
42.	Japan Karate do Gojuryu Ohshiki
43.	Tamil Nadu Association for the Welfare of the Physically Handicapped
44.	Young Blood Football Club
45.	Tamil Nadu Tennis Association (Sponsored by Corporate Office)
46.	LAM Sports
47.	Tamil Nadu Inter Engg. Sports
48.	All India Sports Council of the Deaf
49.	Tamil Nadu Weight Lifting Association
50.	National Swimming Competition on River Bhagirathi
51.	Inter Districts Tennis Tournament 2007

1	2
52.	India Pakistan Devis Cup the CCI Mumbai
53.	Cricket & Kabbaddi Tournament, Jai Hind Nehru Club
54.	Disabled Sports & Welfare Academy, Patna
55.	35th Jr. National Carrom
56.	All India Kabaddi Tournament
57.	National Badminton Tournament
58.	National Volley Ball Tournament
59.	National Bridge Championship
60.	Punjab International Folk Music, Dance and Gymnastic Festival 2006 by Malwa Heritage Foundation Bathinda
61.	Sports Event held at Govt. Rajindra College Bathinda
62.	Sports Event held at Giani Zail Singh College of Engineering & Technology Bathinda
63.	National Hand Ball Championship of Woman
64.	West Bengal Table Tennis Association
65.	Dum-Dum Football Utsab
66.	West Bengal Basket Ball Association
67.	Rajpal Trophy Cricket Tournament Gorakhpur
68.	Talent Search Tennis Tournament by LDТА, Lucknow
69.	UP Judicial Officers Sports meet, Lucknow
70.	CRSB Invitation Badminton Tournament, Lucknow
71.	Gymnastics Championship at Salem
72.	BSNL Tamil Nadu Sports and Cultural Broad for Bridge and Basket Ball, Tournament
73.	Rajiv Gandhi 10th Federation Boxing Championship 2006, Secunderabad
74.	Asian Hop Man's cup 2006

1	2
75.	6th All India Badminton Tournament to APCS & SB
76.	State Level Tenniscot Tournament-MBN SSA
77.	National Ranking Table Tennis Championship
78.	AP Inter District and State Championship Tournament for Table Tennis
79.	State Level Roller Scatting Competition at Eluru
80.	33rd National Junior Volley Ball Championship 2007
81.	Sumi Football Association, Nuland, Nagaland

**Statement II**

*Sports Grant sanctioned to the circles for organising the All India BSNL Tournament during the year 2005-06 and 2006-07*

Sl.No.	Events	Fund allocated & Spent 2005-06 (Rs. in lakhs)	Fund allocated & Spent 2006-07 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4
1.	Basketball	4.50	5.70
2.	Table Tennis	7.00	5.88
3.	WL/PL/BP	3.49	4.75
4.	Cricket	—	11.48
5.	Bridge	3.25	3.86
6.	Kabaddi	6.00	5.84
7.	Athletics	4.14	5.14
8.	Carrom	7.50	7.55
9.	Badminton	6.00	7.88
10.	Cycling	2.33	2.35
11.	Lawn Tennis	3.32	3.99
12.	Cultural	4.65	5.44
13.	Hockey	6.00	7.36

1	2	3	4
14.	Volley Ball	6.00	6.21
15.	Chess	4.00	4.19
16.	Football	6.12	9.65
17.	Aquatic	2.30	—
Total		76.60	97.37

**Statement III**

*Sports Grant Sanctioned to the circles for the year 2005-06 and 2006-07*

Sl.No.	Name of Circle	Amount Sanctioned Year 2005-06 (Rs. in lakhs)	Amount Sanctioned Year 2006-07 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4
1.	Himachal Pradesh	5.20	2.30
2.	Haryana	1.00	1.75
3.	Madhya Pradesh	6.00	2.50
4.	U.P. (E) Lucknow	4.85	4.71
5.	Rajasthan	6.25	5.06
6.	Karnataka	4.50	5.13
7.	N.E. I	1.00	1.75
8.	West Bengal	5.94	4.48
9.	A.P.	4.57	3.14
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1.00	1.75
11.	Gujarat	3.57	3.90
12.	Uttaranchal	1.38	1.85
13.	Orissa	5.50	3.87
14.	Assam	3.88	4.97
15.	Tamil Nadu	5.50	6.87
16.	Jharkhand	1.25	1.57
17.	NTR Delhi	6.31	6.57

1	2	3	4
18.	Kerala	0.75	3.20
19.	Maharashtra	5.50	2.37
20.	Bihar	4.00	4.50
21.	Punjab	2.00	2.00
22.	U.P. (W)	—	1.00
Total		79.95	75.24

### Vidarbha Package

4626. SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hon'ble Prime Minister has sanctioned an amount of Rs. 34750 crore as Vidarbha Package for the development of the Vidarbha region of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present status of the fund including the amount of funds released till date; and

(d) the various schemes for which the fund has been released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) Government of India has approved a special rehabilitation package for six districts of Maharashtra namely; Wardha, Yavatmal, Amravati, Akola, Buldhana and Washim involving an amount of Rs. 3673.26 crore.

(b) Details of the Vidharbha Package announced by Hon'ble Prime Minister is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) and (d) The scheme-wise progress of funds released under the Vidharbha Package is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

### Statement I

- *Details of the Rehabilitation Package announced by the Prime Minister for Vidarbha region of Maharashtra*

(i) **Ex-gratia assistance from PMNRF:** To alleviate the sufferings of debt stressed farmers, a sum

of Rs. 50 lakhs/district would be placed at the disposal of respective District Collectors.

(ii) **Debt relief to farmers:** Debt relief package announced by the Government of India on 18th June, 2004 will be further liberalized to provide relief to the farmers in the identified districts. It is estimated that Rs. 1296 crore of overdue loan amount as on 30th June, 2006 in the identified districts of Vidarbha in Maharashtra will be restructured/rescheduled under the debt relief package for farmers in distress or farmers in arrears. Debt relief will be provided to the farmers and they will become eligible for fresh loan under the package. Detailed guidelines to operationalise the special debt relief package will be issued by RBI/NABARD.

(iii) **Credit Flow:** An additional credit flow of Rs. 1275.00 crore will be ensured in these six districts in 2006-07. Special teams comprising NABARD and the Lead Banks will be deputed to ensure that the distressed farmers' accounts are restructured/rescheduled in a time bound manner and fresh credit starts flowing.

(iv) **Interest Waiver:** The entire interest on overdue agricultural loans as on 1st July 2006 will be waived in the six affected districts so that all the farmers will have not past interest burden as on that date. This measure will make them immediately eligible for fresh loan from the banking system. The amount of interest on overdue loans in these six districts as on 1st July 2006 is estimated to Rs. 712 crore. The burden of interest waiver will be shared equally between the Central and the State Government. While apportioning the burden of overdue interest waiver equally between the Government of India and the states, due care would be taken to offset releases, if any, already made by the State Governments on this count.

(v) **Assured Irrigation Programme:** 1.59 lakh ha. area will be brought under assured irrigation facilities at a cost of Rs. 2177.00 crore over a period of three years through completion of all major, medium, minor irrigation projects.

(vi) **Seed Replacement Programme:** A massive Seed Replacement Programme will be undertaken with 50% subsidy in the identified districts. The entitlement for quality seed is being increased from half acre per farmer to one hectare per farmer. This Programme is expected to cost Rs. 180 crore over a period of three years.

(vii) **Watershed Development:** Watershed Development programme will be undertaken covering following components:

- Construction of 500 check dams per year per district over the next three years. The programme will cost Rs. 60.00 crore per year.
- Treatment of 15,000 ha. per year per district under watershed development programme for which grant support of Rs. 60 lakhs per watershed of 1000 hectare area each, entailing an outlay of Rs. 54.00 crore per year will be provided.
- Rain water harvesting structures covering 1000 beneficiaries per district per year for accelerated growth of irrigation potential to benefit SC/ST beneficiaries including small and marginal farmers. Financial assistance for the scheme will be provided in the form of 50% back ended capital subsidy alongwith 50% bank loan. The scheme will involve subsidy assistance of Rs. 1.00 crore per district per year.

(viii) **Horticulture Development:** All the identified districts will be covered under the National Horticulture Mission. A Technology Mission on Citrus for addressing the problems of citrus production, protection, post harvest technology and processing in Vidarbha will be launched under the supervision of National Research Center on Citrus-Nagpur.

(ix) **Micro Irrigation:** All the six districts are covered under the scheme of micro irrigation. The programme will be intensified to cover 53400 hectare under drip and sprinkler irrigation involving an investment of Rs. 78.00 crore @ Rs. 26.00 crore per year.

(x) **Extension Services:** Effective and efficient extension service mechanism will be put in place in the identified districts for empowering the farmers. Agriculture Technology Management agencies (ATMA) will be operationalised in all the districts to ensure extension support and convergence at district level.

(xi) **Subsidiary Income:** The components relating to livestock and fisheries will involve:

- Induction of 100 High Yielding Milch Animals per district per year with 50% subsidy (balance bank credit).
- Induction of 500 female calves per district per year providing 50% of rearing cost.
- Supply of fodder blocks for feeding inducted animals with 25% subsidy.
- Establishment of four-fodder block making units with 50% subsidy (balance bank credit).
- Provision of adequate health care to all animals.
- Taking up massive AI programme and estrus synchronization of 70% breedable animals.
- Establishment of 10 milk chilling plants.
- Fisheries in 100 hectares per district providing 40% of capital and input cost as subsidy and rest to be sourced through bank credit.
- The package for livestock/fisheries/fodder bank will involve support of Rs. 135 crores.

(xii) **Implementation Mechanism**

- State Level Coordination & Supervision Committee including representatives of the Government of India and the State Government, and
- Implementation through District Level Committee, Panchayati Raj Institutions.
- Creation of appropriate Institutional Structures and Special Purpose Cooperatives/Community Based Organizations at local level for delivery of the package and optimum utilization of resources in a time bound manner.



**Statement II****Implementation of Rehabilitation Package**

(Rs. in Crores)

Particulars of item		Revised Rehabilitation Package	Fund Releases (till 30th March, 2007)
<b>Ex-gratia assistance from PMNRF</b>		3.00	3.00
<b>Institutional Credit</b>			
(I)	Credit Flow (Year 2006-07)	1,275.00	
(ii)	Reschedulement of loan-debt relief	1,296.00	
(iii)	Waiver of overdue interest as on 30.6.2006	712.00	808.44
<b>Scheme Assistance</b>			
(i)	Assured irrigation	2,177.26	794.15
(ii)	Micro irrigation	78.00	12.18
(iii)	Watershed Development, Water harvesting scheme and check dams	360.00	14.07
(iv)	Extension services	3.00	3.83
(v)	Seed Replacement Ratio	180.00	25.46
(vi)	National Horticulture Mission	225.00	21.20
(vii)	Subsidiary Income through Livestock, Cattle, Fodder	135.00	17.49
<b>Sub-Total (Scheme Assistance)</b>		<b>3,158.26</b>	<b>888.38</b>
<b>Grand Total (Rs. 712.00+3158.26)</b>		<b>3,873.26</b>	<b>1699.82</b>

**Permission for Religious Pilgrimage**

4627. SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO:  
SHRI JAOCHIM BAXLA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons who were granted permission to go abroad for religious pilgrimages during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the names of the countries for which permission were granted for undertaking such pilgrimage; and

(c) the details of the grant provided and taxes collected annually during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) and (b) Government's permission is not required for Indian citizens to go abroad for religious pilgrimage. The Government are assisting/facilitating pilgrimages for Haj to Saudi Arabia, Kailash Mansarovar Yatra in China and pilgrimages to Sikh Gurudwaras and Hindu Temples in Pakistan.

In case of Haj pilgrimage, Saudi Arabia fixes an annual quota for pilgrims from different countries to

perform Haj. The persons going for Haj to Saudi Arabia through the Central Haj Committee (CHC) are provided a special document called the Pilgrim Pass (in lieu of Passport) which is valid for travel to Saudi Arabia only for Haj; those who go to Saudi Arabia for Haj through private tour operators travel on the basis of regular passports. The number of pilgrims who performed Haj through the Central Haj Committee, State-wise, during the last three years are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

The Kailash Mansarovar Yatra in China is conducted on the basis of regular passports. The number of pilgrims who performed this Yatra in the last three years is as follows:

Year	No. of Pilgrims
2004	537
2005	529
2006	592

(State-wise break-up is not collected)

The pilgrimages to Sikh Gurudwaras and Hindu Temples in Pakistan are also performed on the basis of regular passports. The number of pilgrims, who undertook this pilgrimage under Bilateral Protocol on visits to Religious Shrines in the last three years, state-wise are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

The Government have been providing subsidy towards airfare for Haj pilgrims going through the Central Haj Committee to Mecca. The amount of subsidy in the last three years is as follows:

Year	Subsidy (in Rupees crores)*
2004	160.70
2005	179.66
2006	280.00

\*Figures are provisional

(c) The Government of India have not imposed any tax on such pilgrimages. The Governments of Saudi Arabia, China and Pakistan do not charge any taxes from the pilgrims going for the above pilgrimages.

*Statement I*

States	2004	2005	2006-I	2006-II
1	2	3	4	5
Andaman Nicobar	37	23	38	39
Andhra Pradesh	4584	5299	6172	6980
Assam	1240	1481	2020	2157
Bihar	1436	1517	2100	2324
Chandigarh	37	36	33	28
Chhattisgarh	310	395	579	641
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	5	14	4	15
Daman and Diu	9	24	14	10
Delhi	2623	3000	2617	2419

1	2	3	4	5
Goa	20	25	36	74
Gujarat	5168	5901	6351	4760
Haryana	515	926	947	1489
Himachal Pradesh	51	70	94	110
Jammu and Kashmir	8923	8593	9197	10616
Jharkhand	832	921	1043	1310
Karnataka	3653	4057	5488	6735
Kerala	7503	9121	10714	7870
Lakshadweep	123	159	226	247
Madhya Pradesh	2588	3306	5270	3775
Maharashtra	9180	9625	11300	11639
Manipur	172	206	191	195
Orissa	284	306	423	525
Pondicherry	53	59	85	145
Punjab	237	230	255	351
Rajasthan	3348	3862	5498	4923
Tamil Nadu	2621	2578	3799	3608
Tripura	25	18	23	39
Uttar Pradesh	12923	14401	18339	20725
Uttarakhand	596	897	1372	1966
West Bengal	2336	2231	3308	4561
Govt. Quota	279	1476	2154	2240
Next kin of the stampede victims of Haj 2004				
Total	71711	80772	99660	108816

Period of Haj 2006-I : From 06.01.2006 to 11.01.2006

Period of Haj 2006-II : From 27.12.2006 to 31.12.2006

*Statement II*

Sl.No.	States	2006	2005	2004
1.	Andhra Pradesh	58	50	
2.	Bihar	35	30	
3.	Chhattisgarh	47	40	
4.	Gujarat	37	30	
5.	Haryana	575	545	
6.	Himachal Pradesh	38	30	
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	90	80	
8.	Jharkhand	40	30	
9.	Karnataka	27	20	
10.	Madhya Pradesh	28	20	State-wise break-up not collected
11.	Maharashtra	225	200	
12.	Orissa	27	20	
13.	Punjab	5105	5000	
14.	Rajasthan	124	100	
15.	Uttar Pradesh	86	80	
16.	West Bengal	17	10	
17.	Chandigarh	212	150	
18.	Uttarakhand	64	44	
19.	Delhi	1802	1700	
Total		8637	8179	7636

**Grievances Redressal Mechanism by the  
Access Providers**

4628. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the Government's directives all Access Providers have to set up a Consumer Grievances Redressal Mechanism at the call centre level and also an Appellate Authority within the company;

(b) if so, whether the said condition has been complied to by all the Access Providers;

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

(d) whether with the growing complaints of telecom services and absence of direct complaint and redressal mechanism for consumers, TRAI proposes to review the TRAI Act and sent a proposal to the Government in this regard; and

(e) if so, the response of the Government thereto and the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure that grievances of the consumers are adhered to promptly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Access Providers have already set up a Consumer Grievance Redressal Mechanism at the Call Centre Level and an Appellate Authority within the company.

(d) and (e) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India has submitted a consolidated revised proposal to Department of Telecommunication in February, 2007, to consider various amendments in the TRAI Act, 1997.

*[Translation]*

#### **Upgradation of Post Offices**

4629. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:  
SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Post Offices proposed to be upgraded in the country particularly in Uttar Pradesh and Karnataka during the current financial year, State-wise; and

(b) the number of Post Offices upgraded so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) At the time of periodical review of Post Offices, an assessment for their upgradation is made. Upgradation of Post Offices is governed by prescribed criteria. During the current financial year as many 16 Branch Post Offices/Sub Post Offices have been proposed for upgradation. Of these nil and 9 are located in Uttar Pradesh and Karnataka respectively. Names of the Post Offices likely to be upgraded during the current financial year are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) During the 10th Five Year Plan, 198 Post Offices have been upgraded in the country.

#### ***Statement***

##### ***Circle-wise number and name of Post Offices proposed to be upgraded***

Sl.No.	Circles	No. of Post Offices proposed to be upgraded	Name of the Post Offices proposed to be upgraded
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2	Poppalguda BO Ganganpahad EDSO
2.	Assam	Nil	
3.	Bihar	Nil	
4.	Chhattisgarh	Nil	
5.	Delhi	Nil	
6.	Gujarat	Nil	
7.	Haryana	Nil	
8.	Himachal Pradesh	Nil	
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	Nil	

1	2	3	4
10.	Jharkhand	Nil	
11.	Karnataka	9	Bellandur BO Rajajinagar SO Carmelram EDSO Jigani BO Hoskote SO Thandavapura BO Southern Extn. SO Devraja Urs Layout SO Vidyanagar BO
12.	Kerala	Nil	
13.	Madhya Pradesh	Nil	
14.	Maharashtra	4	Kasarvadavali BO Kalher BO Lonere BO Vadvani BO
15.	North East	Nil	
16.	Orissa	1	Chitalo BO
17.	Punjab	Nil	
18.	Rajasthan	Nil	
19.	Tamil Nadu	Nil	
20.	Uttarakhand	Nil	
21.	Uttar Pradesh	Nil	
22.	West Bengal	Nil	
Total		16	

SO-Sub Post Office

EDSO-Extra Departmental Sub Office

BO-Branch Post Office

*[English]***Allocation of Funds for Telecom Services**

4630. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the funds allocated for providing telecom services in the country especially in Karnataka during the last three years and the current financial year, State-wise and location-wise;

(b) whether the telecom circles have achieved their targets;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the expenditure incurred thereon;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the time by which it is likely to be achieved;

(f) the number of telephone exchanges with their capacity in the State of Karnataka which are earmarked for upgradation during the current financial year;

(g) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is contemplating to cover the whole State of Karnataka with WLL during the current financial year; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Sir, details of funds allocated State-wise for expansion of telecom services during the last three years are given in the enclosed Statement-I. Allocation of funds for the year 2007-08 is being examined.

(b) The targets and achievement in respect of DELs for last 3 years and Broadband for last 2 years are given in the enclosed Statement-II and IIA.

(c) The State-wise expenditure incurred for the last 3 years is given in the enclosed Statement-III.

(d) There is some shortfall in broadband connections due to non supply of equipment.

(e) The shortfall in broadband connections is likely to be achieved by September, 2007.

(f) All the telephone exchanges in the state of Karnataka are State of the art electronic exchanges and no upgradation is needed.

(g) Yes, Sir.

(h) BSNL plans to cover State of Karnataka fully by providing adequate number of Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) in the circle except for few pockets which may remains uncovered due to technical reasons. The details of Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) equipment in Karnataka Circle are as below:

Item	No. of BTS	Equipped capacity (in lines)
Installed capacity	330	2,76,950
Under installation	53	39,750
Ordered for 2007-08	281	2,00,000

#### *Statement I*

##### *Year-wise, State-wise Funds allocated for providing Telecom Services*

Sl.No.	Name of State	Funds allocated		
		2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	11.10	10.02	17.61
2.	Andhra Pradesh	637.03	603.96	505.00
3.	Assam	117.92	227.36	137.22
4.	Bihar	254.68	246.82	219.66
5.	Chhattisgarh	58.16	108.18	220.24
6.	Gujarat	296.66	374.16	481.67
7.	Haryana	289.17	329.10	200.87

1	2	3	4	5
8.	Himachal Pradesh	158.64	169.61	101.27
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	117.64	162.69	155.95
10.	Jharkhand	140.26	208.10	152.51
11.	Karnataka	610.42	528.76	444.25
12.	Kerala	770.04	920.11	419.17
13.	Madhya Pradesh	211.38	318.13	350.01
14.	Maharashtra	531.67	759.48	1081.44
15.	North East	123.31	158.95	179.86
16.	Orissa	141.25	234.09	223.03
17.	Punjab	288.63	667.02	343.11
18.	Rajasthan	448.94	473.77	404.30
19.	Tamil Nadu	820.46	632.78	744.96
20.	Uttar Pradesh	847.61	1053.35	775.19
21.	Uttaranchal	98.50	159.03	112.67
22.	West Bengal	703.14	777.27	469.39
23.	Others	926.32	1349.74	1271.76
Total		8584.93	10472.48	9011.14

**Note:**

1. North Eastern States include Telecom Circle NE-I & NE-II, Tamil Nadu includes Chennai Telephones, Uttar Pradesh includes Telecom Circle UP (E) & UP (W), West Bengal includes Kolkata Telephones.
2. Others include Telecom Project Circles, Maintenance Regions & Training Centres etc.

**Statement II***Circle-wise DELs Target & Achievement for the last three years*

Sl.No.	Telecom Circles/Metro Distt.	During the year					
		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
		Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	4,950	4,047	6,262	22,209	1,400	4,797
2.	Andhra Pradesh	319,850	295,671	477,548	333,141	560,600	366,282
3.	Assam	106,800	153,502	141,119	251,531	41,200	222,807



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
4.	Bihar	219,150	179,835	449,167	448,605	160,000	162,593
5.	Chhattisgarh	51,450	47,969	101,857	73,885	408,100	264,085
6.	Gujarat	331,500	127,918	429,571	169,303	937,000	44,372
7.	Haryana	187,500	113,344	215,738	218,280	334,300	392,997
8.	Himachal Pradesh	73,850	45,838	104,762	142,503	166,100	273,792
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	51,050	136,652	141,643	377,914	112,600	315,245
10.	Jharkhand	75,500	87,053	157,524	211,863	51,300	146,875
11.	Karnataka	217,200	412,887	545,145	563,583	284,500	394,109
12.	Kerala	509,000	710,685	708,071	1,101,915	310,600	533,719
13.	Madhya Pradesh	166,100	202,668	212,571	198,456	739,100	541,559
14.	Maharashtra	482,750	384,831	580,952	357,558	1,494,300	1,121,513
15.	North East-I	58,400	49,317	48,881	51,696	63,300	102,706
16.	North East-II	11,500	47,858	48,952	93,467	54,200	114,137
17.	Orissa	159,600	181,940	241,857	311,313	216,200	224,532
18.	Punjab	274,000	97,884	266,310	-133,346	256,100	531,190
19.	Rajasthan	320,850	234,226	484,714	805,493	676,100	865,401
20.	Tamil Nadu	274,300	581,741	433,595	663,209	833,700	620,093
21.	Uttaranchal	69,950	65,509	84,476	166,350	103,900	202,623
22.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	293,300	388,035	622,714	877,515	951,900	1,201,225
23.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	181,250	122,576	272,143	167,423	312,300	129,892
24.	West Bengal	266,000	195,046	304,714	440,238	385,900	364,269
25.	Kolkata	175,850	222,111	216,190	183,272	300,700	210,008
26.	Chennai	118,350	197,101	203,524	126,849	253,600	213,529
Total		5,000,000	5,286,404	7,500,000	8,224,225	10,000,000	9,564,350

**Statement II A****Circle-wise Broadband Target & Achievement for the last two years**

Sl.No.	Telecom Circles/ Metro Distts.	2005-06		2006-07	
		Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	200	204	100	600
2.	Andhra Pradesh	53000	45772	46400	19893
3.	Assam	5000	3915	5800	3696
4.	Bihar	16000	12948	20400	1421
5.	Chhattisgarh	8000	5764	8000	4608
6.	Gujarat	42000	41304	44900	28290
7.	Haryana	12000	12487	9000	6119
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1700	2179	1200	1843
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	4000	4035	2400	1682
10.	Jharkhand	6000	5404	8700	4733
11.	Karnataka	110000	80086	83200	47052
12.	Kerala	29000	24975	27000	25050
13.	Madhya Pradesh	28000	26017	25500	6061
14.	Maharashtra	55000	47709	59600	41682
15.	North East-I	1500	1022	2100	1197
16.	North East-II	750	360	2100	704
17.	Orissa	7000	3787	7500	7481
18.	Punjab	35000	24535	35000	26089
19.	Rajasthan	24000	20082	18500	15340
20.	Tamil Nadu	18500	20323	17700	42524
21.	Uttaranchal	2500	2700	1400	3359
22.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	29000	19355	29600	20148
23.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	11000	11084	7200	5790
24.	West Bengal	3000	2647	3900	5930
25.	Kolkata	82000	71231	67000	34276
26.	Chennai	85000	62542	65800	35006
Total		669150	552467	600000	390574

**Statement III*****Yearwise, State-wise Actual expenditure for providing Telecom services*****(Rs. in Crores)**

Sl.No.	Name of State	Actual expenditure		2006-07 (Provisional)
		2004-05	2005-06	
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	7.70	7.24	19.25
2.	Andhra Pradesh	429.33	353.22	246.88
3.	Assam	131.45	167.62	124.62
4.	Bihar	233.84	143.45	168.48
5.	Chhattisgarh	58.86	61.55	128.42
6.	Gujarat	211.20	233.82	210.28
7.	Haryana	279.61	190.82	130.69
8.	Himachal Pradesh	46.43	148.71	97.19
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	102.45	171.09	74.47
10.	Jharkhand	103.12	115.58	106.04
11.	Karnataka	379.07	328.75	186.42
12.	Kerala	756.48	721.92	398.28
13.	Madhya Pradesh	195.84	211.23	265.28
14.	Maharashtra	579.76	296.99	531.73
15.	North East	125.86	119.46	102.60
16.	Orissa	156.88	192.05	135.04
17.	Punjab	432.77	398.61	201.87
18.	Rajasthan	385.28	220.54	224.32
19.	Tamil Nadu	495.33	680.11	391.88
20.	Uttar Pradesh	879.74	369.36	446.61
21.	Uttaranchal	50.88	86.01	80.23
22.	West Bengal	443.59	626.35	368.25
23.	Others	1092.53	993.61	1691.58
<b>Total</b>		<b>7578.00</b>	<b>6838.09</b>	<b>6330.41</b>

**Note:-**

1. North Eastern States include Telecom circle NE-I & NE-II, Tamil Nadu includes Chennai Telephones Uttar Pradesh includes Telecom circle UP (E) & UP (West) West Bengal includes Kolkata Telephones.
2. Others include Telecom Project circles, Maintenance Regions & Training centers etc.

**Conditions of NH 121**

4631. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the condition of National Highway 121 between Ramnagar to Beironkhal has deteriorated;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the funds allocated by the Union Government for maintenance, widening and upgradation of NH 121 between Ramnagar-Beironkhal section during 2005-06 and 2006-07;

(c) the funds utilized during the said period; and

(d) the time by which the condition of NH 121 is likely to be improved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) Condition of NH-121 between Ramnagar to Beironkhal has not deteriorated. Two years to improve this stretch of National Highway 121. Expenditure on this stretch of NH 121 under NH(O) and Maintenance & Repair Works during the last two years is Rs. 11.05 crores.

(d) Development and maintenance of National Highways is a continuous process. Development works on the National Highways are taken up depending upon traffic intensity, availability of fund and inter-se priority of works.

**Kailash Mansarovar Yatra**

4632. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people who undertook the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether the Nepal Tourism Board has offered special packages to the Indian Tourists visiting Kailash Mansarovar;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there is a long pending demand to restart flights between Mumbai-Kathmandu; and

(e) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Pilgrims who performed the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra organised by Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam during the last three years is as follows:

Year	No. of Pilgrims
2004	537
2005	529
2006	592

(b) and (c) Nepal Tourism Board seeks to promote Nepal as a route to visit Kailash Mansarovar. Private travel agencies in Nepal offer packages for visit by Indian pilgrims to Kailash Mansarovar.

(d) and (e) Mumbai-Kathmandu sector is among the approved routes in terms of bilateral arrangements between the two countries. It is for the designated air carriers of the two countries to select routes to operate.

[Translation]

**Indo-Pak Peace Dialogue**

4633. SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI:  
SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan has proposed to resume peace dialogue with India on the Kashmir issue;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) The issue of Jammu and Kashmir is being discussed between India and Pakistan within the framework of the Composite Dialogue. Foreign Secretaries of both countries have so far completed four rounds of talks on Jammu and Kashmir. The fourth round of talks was held in March 2007 in Islamabad.

### Widening of Jhansi-Mirzapur NH

4634. SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to widen and strengthen the National Highway between Jhansi and Mirzapur;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) National Highway No. 76 connects Jhansi and Mirzapur. Development and maintenance of National Highways is a continuous process. During last three years, 13 numbers of works amounting to Rs. 55.13 crore were sanctioned for widening, strengthening and improvement of riding quality of NH 76. These works are at different stages of progress and are targeted to be completed by March 2008.

### Mobile Health Units

4635. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to operate Mobile Health Units in the rural areas to check the spread of Chikungunya disease;

(b) the number of Mobile Dispensaries operating in the country and the scheme under which these are being operated, State-wise; and

(c) the expenditure being incurred on the said mobile units, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) The National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) launched on 12.4.2005 by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, is being operationalised throughout the country, with special focus on 18 States which

includes 8 Empowered Action Group States (Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Orissa and Rajasthan), 8 NE States, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir.

The main aim of NRHM is to provide accessible, affordable, accountable, effective and reliable primary health care facilities, especially, to the poor and vulnerable sections of the population. The NRHM further aims to provide overarching umbrella to the existing programmes of Health & Family Welfare including RCH-II, Malaria, Blindness, Iodine deficiency, Filaria, Kala-azar, T.B., Leprosy and Integrated Disease Surveillance. Since the Mission aims to cover all existing programmes, control of chikungunya will also be covered under this. NRHM seeks to improve the outreach services to remote, rural areas by the provision of a Mobile Medical Unit (MMU) per district. MMUs are proposed to be provided to 595 districts in the country, in a phased manner.

States have already operationalised more than 224 Mobile Medical Units from their own sources/NRHM. NRHM has approved MMUs for 318 districts and most of these units are expected to be operationalised in the current financial year. Some of these States have set up effective systems for mobile units to improve outreach of services in remote areas. The total capital expenditure is estimated to be Rs. 175 crores with total recurring expenditure of Rs. 122.21 crores for the whole country.

*[English]*

### Indian Students In Canada

4636. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the university where a group of Indian students got admitted to pursue their MBA degree, has been closed down by the Local Government in Canada as reported in "The Times of India" dated April 12, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Indian Government has approached the Government of Canada in this regard; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Canadian Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The provisional Government of British Columbia, Canada ordered in February 2007 closure of the Lansbridge University with effect from 1st May 2007, after the authorities found serious violation of provincial laws by the University.

(c) and (d) The Consul General of India in Toronto, has taken up the matter with the provincial Government of British Columbia, Canada. He also had a meeting with the Minister of Advanced Education of the Govt. of Canada. The British Columbian Government has appointed a Liaison Officer to help the concerned students by making alternative arrangements to transfer the students to other Universities. Of the total 60 Indian students affected, about 50 students have already been transferred to other Universities.

*[Translation]*

#### **Indo-China Agreement for Coal Mining**

4637. SHRI RAKESH SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement has been signed between India and China for co-operation in the field of coal mining;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether India is self-reliant in matters pertaining to coal mining; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the fields where it lags behind?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) During the bilateral discussions held in China in January 1994, it was decided to set up a Joint Working Group for providing formal framework to identify new areas of cooperation. This Working Group meets once in a year alternatively in China and India. According to a decision taken during the second meeting of the Working Group during December, 1994 a Task Force was set up in 1995 in order to monitor the progress of projects under bilateral cooperation in the coal sector between India and

China. Eleven meetings of the Working Group and nine meetings of the Task Force have been held so far. The last meeting of the Working Group was held on 3rd April, 2007 in New Delhi. The last Task Force meeting of the Indo China Joint Working Group was held on 2nd April 2007 in New Delhi.

In September 1995, three bilateral agreements were signed between the South Eastern Coalfields Limited and the CME, China for installation and commissioning of three Longwall projects *i.e.*, in Rajendra, New Kunda and Balrampur Areas of South Eastern Coalfields Ltd. These have already been implemented. Another project for induction of short longwall technology in Balrampur area was also taken up. The equipment has arrived at the mine site and is under installation. Apart from the above, discussions are held on sharing of information/experience relating to issues such as hard roof management techniques, resin capsule manufacturing, technology for deep shaft sinking, coal mining safety etc.

(c) and (d) India is by and large self reliant pertaining to coal mining. However, new technologies and allied developments are constantly taking place. In order to benefit from such developments regular exchange knowhow and materials is undertaken regularly with the foreign countries.

*[English]*

#### **Setting up of National Road Freight Exchange**

4638. SHRI NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up National Road Freight Exchange Portal to facilitate cashless transactions in the transport sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

*[Translation]***Misuse of Government Funds by NGOs**

4639. SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL:  
SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Non- Governmental Organisations which are getting grants under the AIDS Control Programme are not functioning properly and are missing the Government funds;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Under the National AIDS Control Programme, 1151 NGOs are implementing 1231 Targeted Intervention projects among High Risk Groups and 107 NGOs are running 122 Community Care Centres (CCCs) across the country. As per NACO guidelines the NGOs have to submit, monthly activity reports, audited statement of expenditure and Utilization Certificate on half yearly and annual basis. No reports of misutilization of funds have been received from the State AIDS Control Societies to whom the above reports are submitted.

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

**PM's Relief Fund for Kargil Martyrs**

4640. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employees of Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries had collected money and deposited it in the Prime Minister National Relief Fund to help the families of Kargil martyrs;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the funds collected from the subsidiary companies including SECL, company-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

*[English]***Cracks on National Highways**

4641. SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any information regarding cracks on the National Highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has set up any Committee to investigate the cracks on National Highways;

(d) if so, the details of the report submitted by the Committee;

(e) whether the Government has made any alternative routes of transportation in this regard;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the time by which the said routes are likely to be restored?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) The assessment of cracks and other damages to the National Highways is a continuous process. Based upon such assessments, the repairs/remedial measures, both immediate and long-term are taken up within available resources and inter-se priority.

(c) and (d) The Government has not set up any committee for investigation of cracks on National Highways.

(e) to (g) The National Highways are maintained in traffic worthy condition within the available resources. However, in case of disruption of traffic movement due to severe damages and breaches on any section of National Highway, traffic is diverted through alternative routes. Necessary actions are taken for immediate repair

and permanent remedial measures on such damaged sections of the National Highways within the available funds.

#### **Expansion of Health Facilities in Delhi**

4642. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has a proposal to expand health care facilities in Delhi before the commencement of the Commonwealth Games 2010;

(b) if so, the number of dispensaries, hospitals and trauma centres etc. proposed to be set up and upgraded; and

(c) the total additional health care facilities proposed to be provided before that period?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (c) Health being a state subject, it is the Government of NCT of Delhi who are taking action for provision of additional health care facilities that may be required for the Commonwealth Games, 2010.

Upgradation is a continuous dynamic process as per the need and the availability of resources in the Central Government hospitals.

#### **Health Hazards**

4643. SHRI AMITAVA NANDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the people engaged in the production of salt are highly exposed to adversities of environmental conditions and are suffering from various kinds of occupational health problems; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The studies conducted by the

Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) amongst the workers engaged in salt manufacturing revealed higher prevalence of headache, giddiness, joint pains, muscular pains and heat cramps in salt workers. The skin symptoms/signs like scaling, dryness of skin soreness, burning sensation, fissures, warts and plantar keratoderma was also significantly higher.

(b) Evaluation of use of gumboots and goggles by salt workers as remedial measures was conducted by ICMR. The results suggests that these measures are comfortable for working in salt pans and regular use of them has resulted in decreased absorption of sodium and potassium.

[*Translation*]

#### **Hacking of Websites**

4644. SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA: SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Government website including the NIC website has been hacked;

(b) if so, the number of cases of hacking of Government website have come to the notice of the Government along with the names of Ministries/Department whose websites have been hacked during the last three years;

(c) the action taken by the Government against the hacker groups; and

(d) the steps taken to make the Government websites more secure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) The list of Government websites that are hosted on NICNET and have been hacked during the last three years are:



Website	Website Details/Site Owners
1. <a href="http://govtenders.nic.in">http://govtenders.nic.in</a>	Indian Government Tenders Information Systems
2. <a href="http://isidev.delhi.nic.in">http://isidev.delhi.nic.in</a>	Institute of Studies in Industrial Development
3. <a href="http://punjab.gov.in">http://punjab.gov.in</a>	Executive Information System of Punjab State Government
4. <a href="http://delhipolice.nic.in">http://delhipolice.nic.in</a>	Delhi Police
5. <a href="http://akshaya.kerala.nic.in">http://akshaya.kerala.nic.in</a>	Kerala State IT Mission, Government of Kerala
6. <a href="http://forest.and.nic.in">http://forest.and.nic.in</a>	Government of Andaman
7. <a href="http://labour.and.nic.in">http://labour.and.nic.in</a>	Government of Andaman
8. <a href="http://alhw.and.nic.in">http://alhw.and.nic.in</a>	Government of Andaman
9. <a href="http://darpg.nic.in">http://darpg.nic.in</a>	Dept. of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievance, Min. of Personnel
10. <a href="http://oss.kerala.nic.in">http://oss.kerala.nic.in</a>	Government of Kerala
11. <a href="http://treasury.kerala.nic.in">http://treasury.kerala.nic.in</a>	Government of Kerala
12. <a href="http://cee.kerala.nic.in">http://cee.kerala.nic.in</a>	Government of Kerala
13. <a href="http://gist.ap.nic.in">http://gist.ap.nic.in</a>	eISTNIC, National Informatics Centre
14. <a href="http://aphmhidc.ap.nic.in">http://aphmhidc.ap.nic.in</a>	—
15. <a href="http://www.sanwad.nic.in">http://www.sanwad.nic.in</a>	Govt. of Assam, Sivanagar
16. <a href="http://webjk.nic.in">http://webjk.nic.in</a>	—
17. <a href="http://tdil.mit.gov.in">http://tdil.mit.gov.in</a>	Department of Information Technology
18. <a href="http://www.mit.gov.in">http://www.mit.gov.in</a>	Department of Information Technology
19. <a href="http://knowledgecommission.gov.in">http://knowledgecommission.gov.in</a>	National Knowledge Comm.

(c) The matter for taking action against hacker group is generally initiated through concerned network service providers. However, the attacks on computer servers of the country are largely being launched from computer servers outside the country, which are not under our control. Due to lack of information about the actual identity of hacker, it is difficult to take action against the hackers.

(d) All NICNET computer systems that host website are located in a physically protected zone and access to them is controlled using access control, intrusion prevention systems, antivirus software and application level

firewall policies. All website are audited from the point of view of vulnerabilities before hosting on computers.

#### Compensation for Land Losers

4645. SHRI TEK LAL MAHTO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to commission Damodar River Diversion Area (DRDA) unit of C.C.L. under the Bokaro district of Jharkhand State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has paid compensation and employment to the land losers;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether coal production from this unit has not started so far;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the time by which coal production is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Damodar River Diversion (DRD), Phusro-Jarangdih Rail Diversion (PJRD) and Coal Mining Projects are three integrated projects proposed in this area. The Advance Action Proposal (AAP) for Damodar River Diversion was approved by Government in 1983 with a capital outlay of Rs. 2.00 crores. Revised Cost Estimate (RCE) of Rs. 5.59 crores was approved in 1993. The Project Report (PR) for Phusro-Jarangdih Rail Diversion Project was sanctioned in 1982 for a cost of Rs. 15.93 crores. The RCE of the project was approved in 1991 for a capital of Rs. 48.78 crores. Exploration is going on in order to decipher the geological structure as well as coal reserve in the Damodar River Diversion Area.

(c) and (d) Central Coalfields Limited has provided employment to 631 Project Affected Persons (PAPs) against land acquired for Damodar River & Rail Diversion Project. An amount of Rs. 3,60,22,152.00 has been paid as compensation till date.

(e) to (g) Coal Production has not yet started. The project has been delayed due to demand of employment by project affected persons beyond the norms/provisions of rehabilitation & Resettlement (R&R) Policy of the

Company. Coal production is likely to start in 2010-11 from this area.

*(English)*

#### **Passenger Traffic in Andaman and Nicobar**

4646. DR. P.P. KOYA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the passenger traffic between the island territory of Andaman and Nicobar and the mainland Indian Ports during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the number of the local natives, tourists and employment related passengers among the outgoing passengers;

(c) whether there are sufficient Port facilities and passenger ships to meet the existing demands of passenger movements and cargo movements of the territory;

(d) the number of ships which are operating between the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and mainland Ports and the number of ships which are operating between Port Blair and other islands;

(e) the number of ships of Andaman and Nicobar Islands which are under repair; and

(f) the time by which this repair work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The passenger traffic between the island territory of Andaman & Nicobar and mainland Indian Ports in the last three years is as under:-

2003-2004	Port Blair — Chennai — Port Blair	—	102826
	Port Blair — Kolkata — Port Blair	—	59272
	Port Blair — Visakhapatnam — Port Blair	—	17940
2004-2005	Port Blair — Chennai — Port Blair	—	95547
	Port Blair — Kolkata — Port Blair	—	60191
	Port Blair — Visakhapatnam — Port Blair	—	22507
2005-2006	Port Blair — Chennai — Port Blair	—	94272
	Port Blair — Kolkata — Port Blair	—	59471
	Port Blair — Visakhapatnam — Port Blair	—	16640

(b) The details of passengers as local native, tourists and employment related passengers are not ascertained while issuing tickets.

(c) and (d) Port facilities to meet the existing demand of passenger movement and cargo movement were available through 56 berthing structure namely 8 mainland-island wharves/jetties, 14 inter-island jetties, 7 vehicle ferry jetties and 27 local ferry jetties prior to the Tsunami that occurred on 26.12.2004. Tsunami caused severe damage to the port infrastructural facilities. Thereafter restoration activities were geared up in a time bound manner to ensure that minimum port facilities to meet the demand are available.

At present five Ships are operating between A&N Islands to Mainland ports and 78 vessels are operating between Port Blair and other Islands, which includes passenger, cargo, touring vessels and other utility vessels which are adequate to meet the demand.

(e) At present 28 vessels are under repair/Annual Passenger Ship Survey.

(f) It is a continuing process however average period taken for repair/Annual maintenance of vessels is 5-6 months.

#### **Benefits of Grants**

4647. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the population living below the poverty line have not received any benefit from eight per cent growth rate of the country during the last four years and about 10 per cent of the all-India rural population is living at just Rs. 9 per day;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken uplift their conditions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) The annual average growth rate of economy measured in terms of Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) at 1999-2000 prices during the year 1999-2000 to 2004-05 was 6.0 per cent. The percentage of poor in 2004-05 is 21.8 comparable with the poverty estimate of 1999-2000,

which was 26.1 percent. It shows that poverty has reduced and the poor have received the benefit of the growth rate of the country.

Based on the percentage of rural population below specified levels of monthly per capita consumption expenditure (MPCE) given in the Report No. 508(61/1.0/1), "Level and Pattern of Consumer Expenditure, 2004-2005", of NSS 61st Round (July 2004-June 2005) brought out by the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Government of India, the per capita consumption expenditure of 9.9% of the rural population in the country is less than Rs. 9.00 per day or Rs. 270 per month in 2004-05.

(b) The benefit of the growth of the economy of the country to the people living below the poverty line depends on a complex set of factors. In addition to the income growth (measured by the rate of growth of Gross Domestic Product), its distribution across sectors and regions, and between occupation and social class, as well as the rate of growth of population also need to be taken into account to explain the change in the incidence of poverty in the country.

(c) The Government has adopted a three pronged strategy to uplift the living conditions of the poor people in rural areas: (i) acceleration of economic growth with a focus on sectors which are employment intensive; (ii) human and social development through provision of basic minimum services; and (iii) targeted anti-poverty programmes.

In rural areas, the programmes which are being implemented by the Ministry of Rural Development for upliftment of BPL families are (i) Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), (ii) Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), (iii) Indira Awas Yojana (IAY), and (iv) National Rural Employment Guarantee Act.

#### **NH Accident Relief Service**

4648. CH. MUNAWAR HASSAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of National Highways and their length in each State in the country including Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand, State-wise;

(b) the number of ambulances provided in respect of each of the National Highways in Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand to carry victims of accidents during the last three years; and

(c) the details of the victims of accidents carried by ambulances under National Highways Accident Relief Service (NHARSS) in Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand during the last three years, year-wise and NH-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) The details of National Highways and their length in each state in the country including Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand state-wise is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) Providing medical facility to the accident victims is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, this Ministry provides ambulances to States/UTs/NGOs to evacuate victims of accidents to the nearest medical centre under National Highways Accident Relief Service Scheme (NHARSS). During the last three years, for Uttar Pradesh 12 ambulances and for Uttarakhand 2 ambulances had been provided under NHARSS. Besides, National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has also provided 6 ambulances in Uttar Pradesh for National Highways No. 2, 3, 24 and 27. NHAI has not provided any ambulance in Uttarakhand.

(c) Complete details regarding the accident victims carried by the ambulances provided under NHRASS is not maintained in the Ministry. Ambulances provided by NHAI in the state of Uttar Pradesh had carried 395 accident victims during the last three years.

***Statement***

***List of State-wise National Highways in the Country***

Sl.No.	Name of State	National Highway No.	Total Length (in km)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4, 5, 7, 9, 16, 18, 43, 63, 202, 205, 214, 214A, 219, 221 & 222	4472
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	52, 52A & 153	392
3.	Assam	31, 31B, 31C, 36, 37, 37A, 38, 39, 44, 51, 52, 52A, 52B, 53, 54, 61, 62, 151, 152, 153 & 154	2836
4.	Bihar	2, 2C, 19, 28, 28A, 28B, 30, 30A, 31, 57, 57A, 77, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 98, 99, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107 & 110	3642
5.	Chandigarh	21	24
6.	Chhattisgarh	6, 12A, 16, 43, 78, 200, 202, 216, 217, 111 & 221	2184
7.	Delhi	1, 2, 8, 10 & 24	72
8.	Goa	4A, 17, 17A & 17B	269
9.	Gujarat	NE-I, 6, 8, 8A, 8B, 8C, 8D, 8E, 14, 15, 59, 113 & 228	3245
10.	Haryana	1, 2, 8, 10, 21A, 22, 64, 65, 71, 71A, 72, 73, 73A, 71B & NE-II	1512
11.	Himachal Pradesh	1A, 20, 21, 21A, 22, 70, 72, 88 & 73A	1208

1	2	3	4
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	1A, 1B, 1C & 1D	1245
13.	Jharkhand	2, 6, 23, 31, 32, 33, 75, 78, 80, 98, 99 & 100	1805
14.	Karnataka	4, 4A, 7, 9, 13, 17, 48, 63, 67, 206, 207, 209, 212 & 218	3843
15.	Kerala	17, 47, 47A, 49, 208, 213 & 220	1440
16.	Madhya Pradesh	3, 7, 12, 12A, 25, 26, 26A, 27, 59, 59A, 69, 75, 76, 78, 86 & 92	4670
17.	Maharashtra	3, 4, 4B, 4C, 6, 7, 8, 9, 13, 16, 17, 50, 69, 204, 211 & 222	4176
18.	Manipur	39, 53, 150 & 155	959
19.	Meghalaya	40, 44, 51 & 62	810
20.	Mizoram	44A, 54, 54A, 54B, 150 & 154	927
21.	Nagaland	36, 39, 61, 150 & 155	494
22.	Orissa	5, 5A, 6, 23, 42, 43, 60, 75, 200, 201, 203, 230A, 215, 217 & 224	3704
23.	Pondicherry	45A & 66	53
24.	Punjab	1, 1A, 10, 15, 20, 21, 22, 64, 70, 71, 72 & 95	1557
25.	Rajasthan	3, 8, 11, 11A, 11B, 12, 14, 15, 65, 71B, 76, 79, 79A, 89, 90, 113, 112, 114 & 116	5585
26.	Sikkim	31A	62
27.	Tamil Nadu	4, 5, 7, 7A, 45, 45A, 45B, 46C, 46, 47, 47B, 49, 66, 67, 68, 205, 207, 208, 209, 210, 219, 220, 226 & 227	4462
28.	Tripura	44 & 44A	400
29.	Uttarakhand	58, 72, 72A, 73, 74, 87, 94, 108, 109, 123, 119, 121, 87 Ext. & 125	1991
30.	Uttar Pradesh	2, 2A, 3, 7, 11, 12A, 19, 24, 24A, 24B, 25, 25A, 26, 27, 28, 28B, 28C, 29, 56, 56A, 56B, 58, 72A, 73, 74, 75, 76, 86, 87, 91, 91A, 92, 93, 96, 97, 119 & NE-II	5874
31.	West Bengal	2, 2B 6, 31, 31A, 31C, 32, 34, 35, 41, 55, 60, 60A, 80, 81 & 117	2377
32.	Andaman and Nicobar	223	300
Total			66590

**Concept of Land Bank**

4649. SHRI HITEN BARMAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the concept of 'Land Bank' per se to simplify the process of compensatory afforestation for lands acquired for coalfields;

(b) whether this concept has actually been implemented;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) if not, the time by which such concept is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) Compensatory afforestation is allowed to be raised on equivalent non-forest land or degraded forest land twice in extent of forest area being diverted. The user agency has to deposit the amount for compensatory afforestation with the concerned State Government on receiving the demand and the actual transfer/use of forest land is effected only after the receipt of the demanded amount.

(b) Yes, Sir. The State Government of Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan have identified degraded forest land in their States for compensatory afforestation of central projects in their respective States. The pool of degraded forest land in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan is also available for the Central Government projects of other States if the concerned State Governments fail to identify the requisite land. The Nodal Officer (Forest Conservation), State Forest Department identifies the pool of such degraded forest lands in consultation with the concerned Chief Conservator of Forests (C), Regional Officers of the Ministry of Environment and Forests. Compensatory afforestation scheme is prepared by the Forest Department of the concerned State Government and non receipt of demand the coal companies deposit the amount in favour of Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA).

(c) Delay in identifying and transferring suitable equivalent non-forest land to the concerned Forest Department has reduced to some extent.

(d) Does not arise.

**Investment Proposed by NCAER**

4650. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) has estimated an investment of Rs. 1,58,310 crore in the areas of Telecommunication, Power, Roads and Transport, Water and Sanitation in the next Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the status of the above proposal; and

(c) the likely achievements projected as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) to (c) The India Rural infrastructure Report prepared by the National Council for Applied Economic Research (NCAER) has estimated a total investment of Rs. 1,58,313 crores (at 2002-03 price level) on telecommunication, power, roads and transport and water and sanitation. The report was sponsored by the Shri Ratan Tata Trust and released on the occasion of the NCAER's golden jubilee celebrations, December 2006.

The likely achievements with the projected investments are:

- (i) Telecommunication—A teledensity of 4.2 DEI per 100 population
- (ii) Power—All the villages not yet covered would be covered
- (iii) Rural Roads—All habitations not yet connected would be connected
- (iv) Drinking Water—All the uncovered and partially covered habitations would be provided with drinking water.

**Exploitation of Coal Reserves**

4651. SHRI RANEN BARMAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether only easy open cast mines are being operated in many of the coal fields leaving the deep seated reserves of coal unexploited;

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

(c) whether the State Governments loose royalty due to unexploitation of such reserves;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the coal producing companies do not pay royalty to the State Governments on the coal stocks which are found to be short; and

(f) if so, the provision of law under which such royalty is not being paid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) More number of opencast mines are being planned/opened at present because the nature of the deposit allows large volume of coal production from these mines with low gestation period and better economics of operation. However, Coal India Limited also operates a number of underground mines in various coalfields, some of which in Eastern Coalfields Limited and Bharat Coking Coalfields Limited are more than 400 M deep. Decision of selecting opencast and underground mining method depends on assessment of overall economy of the project and not on depth of coal reserves only.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply at (c) above.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. Coal companies are not paying royalty to the State Governments on the coal stock found short, if any.

#### **Computer Hardware Technology Parks**

4652. SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is lagging behind in the setting up of Computer Hardware Technology Parks;

(b) the number of Hardware manufacturing units functioning in the country;

(c) whether the Government proposes to give special tax exemption for setting up Technology Parks so that they can compete with Taiwan and China; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) The Electronics Hardware Technology Park (EHTP) scheme of the Government of India is governed by the Foreign Trade Policy of the Department of Commerce. Upto December, 2006, 108 units were operational under the EHTP Scheme.

(c) and (d) Income Tax benefit is available to the developers under the "Special Economic Zones (SEZ) Scheme", promoted by the Department of Commerce and also under the "Industrial Park Scheme", promoted by the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion under Section 80-1A of the Income Tax Act. Technology Parks can be set up under either of the above Schemes.

#### **DDT Content in Meat**

4653. MS. INGRID MCLEOD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government permits a higher level poisonous pesticide DDT content in meat and poultry as compared to Maximum Residual Level (MRL) permitted by the International Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) controlled by the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO);

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

(c) whether there is a proposal on the part of Codex, India to bring it down to the lower level as recommended by the CAC;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) and (b) There is a ban on the use of DDT in agriculture. DDT is however, allowed to be use for vector control (malaria Programme) in the country.

The maximum residue limit (MRL) for DDT in various foods commodities has been prescribed under Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955 for the reason that even though, DDT is not permitted to be used in agriculture,

being one of the pesticides, which persists in the environment, it is generally detected in food commodities, feed and fodder.

The maximum tolerance limits (MRL) for DDT on Meat, Poultry and fish (on whole product basis) has been prescribed as 7.0 ppm. in consultation with the Central Committee for Food Standards, the statutory committee under the PFA Act, 1954 to advise the Central Government on implementation of the Act.

The current Codex level (as in 2006) for DDT in meat (from mammals other than marine mammals) is 5.0 mg/kg (on fat basis) and in the poultry meat, it is 0.3 mg/kg.

(c) to (e) There is no such proposal at present.

#### **Ratio of the Population vis-a-vis Length of NH**

4654. DR. K.S. MANOJ: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the length of the National Highway in Kerala is less in comparison to the ratio of its population vis-a-vis the other States;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the status in other States; and

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government to reduce the said disparity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) The length of National Highway per lakh of population in Kerala is 4.79 km., which is higher compared to some States and lower to some other States in the country. At present the All India Average is 6.5 km.

(c) The declaration of new National Highways is not based on the region, State, its area and population, but on the basis of laid down guidelines.

*[Translation]*

#### **Public Grievances Redressal Machinery**

4655. SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL: SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the average number of public grievances received by Prime Minister's Office on monthly basis;

(b) the number of grievances redressed as well as number of grievances pending for the last three years in PMO and other Ministries;

(c) the nature of such grievances;

(d) whether the Government has any proposal to set up any public grievances redressal machinery at the block level;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the number of such cases relating to the State of West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) Every month, over a 3-year period (2004-06), the Public wing of the Prime Minister's Office has received an average of about 6000 petitions relating to public grievances.

(b) All the actionable petitions received were scrutinized in the Prime Minister's Office and forwarded for appropriate action to the authorities concerned.

(c) These petitions mainly related to complaints against public servants, service related grievances, unemployment, law & order, financial assistance, property/land disputes, civic facilities, etc.

(d) to (f) The State Governments has adopted an Action Plan for Effective and Responsive Administration in the Chief Ministers Conference held on May 24, 1997, organized by the Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances, Government of India. This plan enjoined that all State Governments would publicize widely, the facilities at various levels for prompt and effective redress of public grievances from the Secretariat downwards to the village level. The State Governments are required to decide the measures for streamlining them with a built-in system for effective redress of grievances. The Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances issues instructions to State Governments for



prompt redress of public grievances in a time bound manner from time to time.

(g) the number of such petitions received from West Bengal during the period 2004-06 is 11,087.

*[English]*

#### **Ban on Tobacco or Nicotine In Food Products**

4656. PROF. M. RAMADASS: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to issue instructions to change the proves of packing the products by food companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has proposed to ban the use Tobacco or Nicotine in food products;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken against the persons/companies violating the ban?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) and (b) A notification, amending the labelling requirements for pre-packaged foods under Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955 has been published in the Gazette of India vide G.S.R. 491(E) dated 21st Aug., 2006, which will come into force from 20th August, 2007. The amended provisions among other requirements, broadly cover the following aspects:

- Quantitative ingredients declaration on the label;
- Giving complete nutritional information per 100 grams of the product and the manner in which these are to be declared;
- Declaring presence of pork fat, lard and beef fat or extract, by specific names thereof on the label;
- Mentioning the Country of Origin on label in case of imported food;
- Pictures of fruits not to be used on the label of food product where fruit has not been used as ingredient;

- Added water to be declared, except where it forms the part of the ingredient, such as brine, syrup or both;

(c) to (e) As per above amendment in PFA Rules, tobacco and nicotine shall not be used as ingredients in proprietary food products. Any violations of the provisions of Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 and rules made there under attract legal action prescribed under the Act.

#### **Health Cities**

4657. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:  
SHRI AJIT JOGI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to make Health Cities in Delhi and some other States;

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

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred for this purpose; and

(d) the time by which the proposal is likely to become functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) there is no proposal to set up 'Health Cities' in Delhi or any other State.

*[Translation]*

#### **Theft of Coal by Transporters**

4658. SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR DUBEY:  
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:  
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:  
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some vehicles belonging to private contractors were seized in February, 2007 carrying huge quantity of clean coal stolen from SECL under the cover of transportation of rejected coal;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the quantum and value of coal stolen as a result thereof; and

(c) the remedial steps being taken by the Government to check the recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) Since there is no washery unit owned/operated by SECL, the question of production/transportation of clean coal and rejected coal by SECL does not arise. However, two vehicles carrying 04 tonnes and 16.650 tonnes of stolen coal respectively were seized in Hasdeo Area and Raigarh Area of SECL respectively in February 2007. FIRs were lodged in the matter.

(c) Law and order is a State subject, hence the coal companies maintain close liaison with the State authorities. In addition, the following steps are being taken by the subsidiary companies to CIL to prevent theft/pilgerage of coal:

- (i) Collection of intelligence reports about illegal coal depots and illegal movement of coal and informing district authorities of the same for taking preventive action.
- (ii) Installation of check-posts at vulnerable points to check transport documents.
- (iii) Construction of watch-towers and providing lighting arrangements around the coal stacking area.
- (iv) Erection of barbed-wire/wall fencing around pithead depots, static security manning including deployment of armed guards during the night hours.
- (v) Escorting of loaded rakes upto railway weighbridges by armed guards and joint patrolling with Railway Protection Force (RPF) in the long railway tracks which are prone to wagon looting.
- (vi) Stringent action against transport vehicles caught in the act of theft or pilferage.
- (vii) Engagement of lady security guards for preventing women and children indulging in theft/pilferage of coal, strengthening of the security discipline by reassessing the requirement of security personnel, horizontal movement of

executives with aptitude for security work and inducting qualified security personnel at junior, middle and senior levels.

- (viii) Training of existing security personnel, refresher training of Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) personnel and basic training to new recruits in security discipline for strengthening the security set up.

*[English]*

#### **Performance of Indian Hockey Team**

4659. SHRI M. SHIVANNA:

SHRI JAI PRAKASH (MOHANLAL GANJ):

SHRI MILIND DEORA:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several former Hockey players organized a demonstration in Delhi against the negative attitude of Indian Hockey Federation as a result of which the standard of Hockey in the country is constantly declining;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government had spent huge amounts on the training of the players and on the participation of men's Indian Hockey team in the last World Cup and the Asian Games;

(d) if so, the total expenditure incurred thereon;

(e) whether the Government has sought any explanation from the IHF for poor performance of the Indian Hockey Team in the International tournaments;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) the details of the guidelines prescribed for the Sports Federations to be eligible to receive grants/monetary assistance from the Government and the basis on which the funds are disbursed to them;

(h) whether there is any proposal to constitute a Steering Committee for future guidance;

(i) if so, the time by which such Committee is likely to be constituted; and

(j) the corrective steps taken or proposed to be taken to improve the performance of the Indian Hockey Team?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Some former Olympians took out a procession in Delhi on the dismal performance of the Indian Hockey Team in the Doha Asian Games and submitted a Memorandum to the Minister for Youth Affairs & Sports and the President Indian Olympic Association requesting an inquiry into the financial dealings of the Indian Hockey Federation; dissolution of the present IHF set-up and the formation of an Ad-hoc Committee of Experts to take immediate measures to enable the team to qualify for the 2008 Olympics.

(c) and (d) Government spent a amount of Rs. 35,11,935 on National coaching camps for men's hockey team in 2006. Apart from this, an advance of Rs. 23,80,950 was given to the Indian Hockey Federation for meeting the board & lodging expenses of the Indian Hockey team for participation in the World Cup, 2006 and Rs. 26,61,436 towards passage costs of the team. For participation in the Doha Asian Games, a total amount of Rs. 18,63,015 was incurred on passage cost; board & lodging, and kit of the Indian hockey team. In addition to this, an amount of Rs. 41,66,181 was spent for holding the National championships and participation of the Indian Hockey Team in international events held in India and abroad.

(e) and (f) Government are concerned over India's performance in hockey, which has been much below expectations in recent years and has sought the intervention of the Indian Olympic Association in this regard. The Indian Hockey Federation which is primarily responsible for the development of the sport in the country and the performance of Indian Teams in international events, has stated that they are making sustained efforts to restore the country to its rightful place in the world of hockey, and despite excellent preparations for the last World Cup and Asian Games, with the cooperation of the Sports Authority of India (SAI), in terms of well-structured coaching camps, scientific support, involvement of trained professionals and adequate match exposure, and through assistance from this Ministry, the performance of the teams was not upto expectations because of

unfortunate accidents, injuries involving some key players, and unexpected poor showing in some matches.

(g) Under the Guidelines for assistance to National Sports Federations, the sporting organizations must meet the following criteria:

- (i) The National Sports Federations will become eligible for assistance immediately after recognition by the Ministry;
- (ii) They will follow proper democratic and healthy management practices which provide for greater accountability and transparency at all levels;
- (iii) They will have proper accounting procedure at all levels and produce annual financial statements;
- (iv) They will produce an annual report within 6 months of completion of the year;
- (v) They will have impartial and transparent selection procedures;
- (vi) They will provide a positive exposure to the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports as a major sponsor of sports in India; and
- (vii) They will ensure that dope tests of all players are conducted regularly as per norms/standards laid down by the International Federation of the discipline concerned.

Government have categorized the recognized NSFs in three categories, based on their performance in the Olympics/Asian/Commonwealth/SAF Games and World Championships. Under 'Priority' and 'General' category, financial assistance is given for participation in international competitions and training abroad; purchase of equipment; coaching camps organized by SAI; and holding national/international tournaments in India; while for the 'Others' category, financial assistance is given only for holding the annual National Championships. Men's Hockey has been demoted from the 'Priority' category to the 'General' category owing to the continuous poor performance of the Indian Hockey Team in all major tournaments in the recent past.

(h) to (j) the Indian Hockey Federation have informed the Ministry that they propose to nominate a small team of experts, led by a fully dedicated Coaching Director, to

meticulously plan the Coaching Camps and arrange suitable facilities and scientific support in collaboration with the SAI and the Sports Ministry, with the immediate aim being to build the team and qualify for the Olympics. The Federation has also launched the Youth Development Programme for the next four years for which discussions have been held with former captains of winning teams of Olympics, World Cup and Asia Games, including S/Shri Balbir Singh, Ajit Pal Singh, V. Bhaskaran and Dhanraj Pillai.

#### **Nexus between Cellular Operators-Bank-TRAI**

4660. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cellular Operators, the Banks/ Financial Institutions and the TRAI have been termed as an 'Unholy Trinity' by the Consumers State Commission of Delhi in its order dated December 26, 2006;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the corrective steps proposed to be taken by the Government to remedy this situation in the larger public interest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) The State Commission, Delhi in its order dated 26.12.2006 has made following remarks on "Unholy Trinity":

"31. It is not that regulatory authority, *i.e.* TRAI is not aware of this problem, which has spread like epidemic but TRAI has not been able to arrest this. It has not taken any effective steps or measures in this regard and, therefore, we do not find any escape from arriving at the conclusion that Cellular service providers, banks, financial institutions and other companies who market their products through telemarketing and the TRAI, who always turn a blind eye to these problems, are jointly, severely and vicariously liable. There is an 'Unholy trinity'..."

(c) To address the issue of unsolicited telemarketing calls, Government has instructed all the Telecom Service Providers to take strict measures to stop any possible unauthorized sale of their customer information by their employees.

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has released a draft regulation on 23rd April, 2007 for putting in place a mechanism called "National Do Not Call Registry (NDNC)" for curbing the unwanted telemarketing calls.

Keeping in mind the concerns of their consumers, mobile service providers have already introduced "Do Not Disturb" facility, for the subscribers who do not wish to receive information on product and services of their mobile service provider. Also, TRAI has advised the mobile subscribers through advertisement in leading newspapers to use this facility.

*[Translation]*

#### **Utilization of Budgetary Allocation**

4661. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH:  
SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the break-up of the amounts spent on each of the sports disciplines out of the allocations made by the Government during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the reasons for the amounts lying unutilised, if any;

(c) whether the Government proposes to set up a National Level Cricket Stadium in Bihar;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) The Ministry provides financial assistance to recognized National Sports Federations (NSFs) for training, holding coaching camps, participation of Indian teams in international tournaments, holding tournaments within the country, equipment support, etc. Year-wise details of funds provided to the NSFs relating to various disciplines are indicate in the statement enclosed.

(b) No funds are lying unutilized under the aforementioned Scheme.

(c) There is no proposal to set up a National Level Cricket Stadium in Bihar.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) 'Sports' being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of State Governments to create sports infrastructure, including National-level Cricket Stadia. There are also free to approach BCCI in this regard.

**Statement**

Sl.No.	Name of the Federation	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007 31.3.2007
1	2	3	4	5
1.	All India Carrom Federation	14.25	13.98	12.68
2.	All India Chess Federation	111.90	78.94	112.46
3.	All India Karate-Do-Federation	0.00	0.00	3.45
4.	All India Sports Council of the Deaf	30.02	13.43	19.14
5.	Amateur Baseball Federation of India	12.50	07.00	15.49
6.	Amateur Handball Federation of India	14.00	34.57	38.64
7.	Atya Patya Federation of India	7.50	12.00	15.50
8.	Ball Badminton Federation of India	5.50	0.00	0.00
9.	Basketball Federation of India	49.61	41.21	36.31
10.	Cycle Polo Federation of India	6.75	0.00	30.00
11.	Fencing Association of India	17.07	43.78	45.70
12.	Gymnastics Federation of India	18.88	14.88	66.47
13.	Indian Body Building Fedn.	0.00	0.00	0.00
14.	Indian Kayaking & Canoeing Association	16.06	36.50	21.23
15.	Indian Polo Association	1.62	01.10	1.55
16.	Indian Power Lifting Federation	13.00	15.00	8.50
17.	Judo Federation of India	56.37	64.66	48.62
18.	Kho-kho Federation of India	18.92	12.00	2.00
19.	Korfball Federation of India	12.50	09.00	12.50
20.	All India Tennis Association	136.87	77.45	90.07
21.	National Rifle Association of India	218.37	433.43	373.19

1	2	3	4	5
22.	Netball Federation of India	7.50	11.50	8.50
23.	Roller Skatting Federation of India	15.00	9.00	0.00
24.	Rowing Federation of India	118.43	51.65	9.75
25.	Sepak Takraw Federation of India	7.50	10.50	13.50
26.	Shooting Ball Federation of India	12.00	0.00	0.00
27.	Softball Federation of India	14.00	9.80	10.00
28.	Squash Racket Federation of India	119.37	15.42	21.94
29.	Swimming Federation of India	11.76	53.33	13.59
30.	Table Tennis Federation of India	116.78	165.10	178.75
31.	Taekwondo Federation of India	6.00	0.00	0.00
32.	Tenni-Koit Federation of India	10.50	11.00	13.00
33.	Tennis Ball Cricket Federation of India	7.00	17.00	11.50
34.	Tug of War Federation of India	12.50	11.50	20.75
35.	Volleyball Federation of India	32.17	94.97	58.17
36.	Yachting Association of India	159.88	141.30	78.40
37.	Wushu Association of India	10.50	7.10	10.50
38.	Throwball Fedn. of India	0.00	9.00	1.50
39.	Para Olympic	0.00	13.50	48.71
40.	Archery Association of India	58.95	51.75	96.48
41.	Billiards & Snooker Federation of India	23.52	28.57	16.13
42.	Indian Amateur Boxing Federation	81.28	142.74	97.81
43.	Indian Hockey Fedn.	194.21	96.46	92.09
44.	Indian Women Hockey Federation	110.35	78.81	111.64
45.	Indian Amateur Kabaddi Federation	25.00	24.69	13.95
46.	Indian Weightlifting Federation	79.88	51.41	3.28
47.	Athletics Federation of India	215.06	227.95	86.83
48.	Badminton Association of India	160.16	271.94	117.65
49.	Equestrian Federation of India	32.76	31.20	29.06

1	2	3	4	5
50.	Football	119.36	70.37	30.55
51.	Indian Golf Union	32.48	37.84	33.65
52.	Wrestling Federation of India	225.35	209.82	32.58
53.	Winter Games Federation of India	9.64	12.51	1.65
54.	Women's Cricket Federation of India	0.00	0.00	1.00
55.	Cycling Federation of India	16.38	11.73	1.00
56.	Special Olympic Bharat	0.00	0.00	4.50
Total		2806.98	2888.39	2221.92

*[English]*

(d) the action taken in this regard?

**Sports Training Centres**

4662. SHRI MANJUNATH KUNNUR: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Sports Training Centres established in the country, State-wise and location-wise;

(b) whether the Sports Authority of India (SAI) has any proposal to start Sports Training Centre (STC) in Haveri District of Karnataka;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) At present there are 230 Training Centres being run by Sports Authority of India (SAI). A list of these training centres, and their location State-wise, is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) There is no proposal with SAI to start an Training Centre (STC) in Haveri District, Karantaka.

(c) and (d) Questions do not arise.

**Statement**

Sl.No.	State(s)	National Sports Talent Contest/location	Special Area Games/location	SAI Training Centres/location	Army Boys Sports Company/location	Centre of Excellence/location
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andaman Nicobar	01 Rangath	01 Port Blair	—	—	—
2.	Andhra Pradesh	05 Vijaywada, Hyderabad, Visakhapatnam, Distt. Ranga Reddy, Distt. Srikakulam	—	05 Secunderabad, Eluru, Medak, Visakhapatnam Kumool	02 Hyderabad, Secunderabad	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	01 Distt. Lohir	01 Naharlagum	—	—	—
4.	Assam	04 Guwahati, Distt. Dharang, Distt. Sonitpur, Distt. Kamrup	02 Tinsukia	02 Guwahati, Gangtok	—	—
5.	Bihar	04 Nalanda, Begusarai, Bhojpur, Katihar	03 Muzzaffarpur, Kishanganj, Didhaur	01 Patna	01 Danapur	—
6.	Chandigarh	03 Chandigarh	—	01 Chandigarh	—	—
7.	Chhattisgarh	04 Surguja, Distt. Dantewada, Bilaspur, Bastar	—	01 Rajnandgaon	—	—
8.	Daman Diu	—	—	—	—	—
9.	Delhi	07 Qutabgarh, Najafgarh, Civil lines, Gurmandi, Azadpur New Sabzi Mandi	—	01 Delhi	01 Delhi Cantt.	01 Delhi
10.	Goa	01 Canacona Distt. South Goa	—	01 Ponda	—	—
11.	Gujarat	02 Distt. Kheda, Distt. Porbandar	—	01 Gandhinagar	—	01 Gandhinagar
12.	Haryana	09 Rai, Sonapat, Gurgaon, Ambala, Kaithal, Hisar, Jind, Jhajjar	—	03 Bhiwani, Hisar, Kurukshetra	—	01 Sonapat
13.	Himachal Pradesh	02 Una	—	02 Bilaspur Dharamshala	—	—
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	03 Doha, Baramula, Kathua	—	01 Udhampur	01 Leh	—
15.	Jharkhand	06 Gumla, Ranchi, Dhanbad, Khunti Bokaro	01 Ranchi	—	01 Ramgarh Cantt.	—



1	2	3	4	5	6	7
16.	Karnataka	03 Bangalore, Distt. Kodagu	—	03 Bangalore, Dharwad, Medikeri	02 ASC Bangalore, MEG, Bangalore	01 Bangalore
17.	Kerala	03 Palakkad Distt., Distt. Kasargod, Emakulam	02 Alleppey, Tellichery	04 Trivandrum, Kollam, Calicut, Trichur	—	01 Trivandrum
18.	Lakshadweep	—	—	—	—	—
19.	Madhya Pradesh	09 Indore, Jabalpur, Bhopal, Beetu, Gwalior, Distt. Jhabua, Mahu, Ujjain	—	05 Dhar, Ext. Khandwa, Bhopal, Tikamgarh, Jabalpur, Indore	02 Bhopal, Jabalpur	01 Bhopal
20.	Maharashtra	17 Pune, Nasik, Distt. Amaravathi, Distt. Solapur, Aurangabad, Sangli, Kolhapur, Ahmednagar	—	02 Kandivali, Aurangabad	02 Kirkee, Ahmadnagar	—
21.	Manipur	04 Imphal, Bishnupur	02 Imphal, Utirov.	01 Imphal	—	01 Imphal
22.	Meghalaya	—	—	01 Shillong	01 Shillong	—
23.	Mizoram	—	01 Aizwal	—	—	—
24.	Nagaland	01 Distt. Phok	—	01 Dimapur	—	—
25.	Orissa	08 Sundergarh, Bhubaneswar, Tatcher Angul, Mayurbhanj, Nuapada	02 Jagatpur, Sundergarh	02 Cuttak, Dhankanal	—	—
26.	Pondicherry	01 Pondicherry	—	01 Pondicherry	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
27.	Punjab	06 Jalandhar, Kuraili, Kapurthala Gurdaspur, Amritsar	—	03 Patiala, Badal, Mastana Sahib	—	01 Patiala
28.	Rajasthan	07 Sriganganagar, Udaipur Distt. Dhosa Sirohi, Distt. Jodhpur, Distt. Dousa, Bhilwara	—	02 Ahwar, Jodhpur	01	—
29.	Sikkim	01 Gangtok	01 Namchi	—	—	—
30.	Tamil Nadu	01 Ambur	02 Nagercoil, Mayiladuturai	02 Chennai, Salem	—	—
31.	Tripura	02 Agartala	01 Agartala	—	—	—
32.	Uttar Pradesh	07 Varanasi, Sultanpur, Mathura, Ballia, Sitapur, Gorakhpur	—	06 Raibariety, Safai Etawah, Allahabad, Jhansi, Bareilly, Lucknow	03 Meerut, Faizabad, Lucknow,	01 Lucknow
33.	Uttaranchal	02 Distt. Udham Singh Nagar, Haridwar	—	01 Kashipur	01 Roorkee	—
34.	West Bengal	02 Saltlake City., Distt. Dinajpur	—	04 Burdwan, Kolkata, Lebong, Siliguri	—	01 Kolkata
Total		126	19	57	18	10

**Tariff Structure in the Ports**

4663. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the business of ports in India has shifted to the neighbouring International Ports due to present tariff structure in the ports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken by the Union Government to revise the tariff structure to attract International Shipping Companies?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) No

such information has been received which may indicate that the business meant for the major ports in India has shifted to the neighbouring international ports due to the present tariff structure in the Major Ports.

(c) The Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport & Highways, Department of Shipping has approved the revised set up tariff guidelines for fixing tariff in Major Port Trusts in March 2005 after extensive consultation, both at the level of Tariff Authority for Major Ports (TAMP) and the Government, with all the relevant stakeholders. The salient points of the revised guidelines of 2005 are as follows:

- (i) A cap of 15% prescribed on return on capital employed by major port trusts/private operators.
- (ii) Royalty/revenue share payable by private operator to land lord port is not allowed as pass through in tariff so that users will not bear the burden.
- (iii) Rates fixed by TAMP act as ceiling. Ports/operators have flexibility to reduce the tariff or allow discounts based on the commercial requirements.
- (iv) Users not responsible for delays caused by the port/operator.
- (v) Composite pilotage fees are unbundled so that users will pay only for those services availed by them.
- (vi) Three tier sliding pilotage fee prescribed with lower rates for bigger vessels.
- (vii) Concessional tariff is prescribed for handling transshipment containers in order to promote transshipment at Indian Ports.

#### **New Alignment for By-Passes of NH-49**

4664. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has ordered for new alignment for by-passes of NH-49 in Kerala;

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

(c) the present status of these by-passes; and

(d) the proposed date of commencement of construction of these by-passes alongwith the time set for their completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) There are these bypassed proposed by NH-49 in Kerala namely Tripunithura, Muvattupuzha and Kothamangalam. The alignment of all the bypasses has been approved by the Ministry.

(c) Land acquisition is in progress in part length of Tripunithura bypass. The land acquisition estimates for Muvattupuzha and Kothamangalam bypasses and the balance length of Tripunithura bypass have not been received from the Govt. of Kerala.

(d) The construction of these bypasses will depend upon availability of funds, inter-se priority of works and completion of land acquisition. Therefore, it is too early to indicate the date of commencement/completion of these bypasses at this stage.

*[Translation]*

#### **Age Relaxation for Departmental Candidates**

4665. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:  
SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to make relaxation in the upper age limit for the departmental candidates while making direct recruitment in various Ministries/Departments;

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) Under the existing policy, Central Government (Civilian) employees having rendered minimum three years' regular service, are eligible for relaxation in the upper age-limit for direct recruitment to the following extent:

- (i) For recruitment to Groups 'C' and 'D' posts/ services under the Central Government, age relaxation upto 40 years (45 years for SC/ST person).
- (ii) For recruitment to Group 'A' and 'B' posts filled by the advertisement through the UPSC or other agencies, age-relaxation of a maximum of 5 years. Such age relaxation is not admissible for Group 'A' and 'B' posts filled on the basis of Competitive Examinations held by UPSC etc, unless specifically provided for in the Scheme of the Examination.

[English]

#### **New Guidelines for Maternity Leave**

4666. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the post-graduate Medical Education Committee of the Medical Council of India in its meeting held on April 24, 2002 has finalized new guidelines for maternity leave;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether recommendations of the post-graduate Medical Education Committee have been implemented;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Dredging at Ambedkar Port**

4667. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Dredging Corporation of India was awarded a contract for cleaning the channel and deepening of Dr. Ambedkar Dock Basin of Chennai Port Trust in August, 2003;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the corporation had conducted a survey of the Dock Basin before signing the contract;

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

(e) whether the corporation has suffered any loss in the said contract; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (f) Chennai Port Trust had awarded the work for 'Deepening of Dr. Ambedkar Dock Basin and Maintenance Dredging in the Outer Harbour, Entrance Channel and Sand Trap' to Dredging Corporation of India Limited (DCI) in June, 2003. It involved dredging of about 8.67 lakh cubic metres in the specified area at Dr. Ambedkar Dock Basin and 7.15 lakh cubic metres in Bharathi Dock and Approach Channel. The completion time for the project was six months. DCI had engaged National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) to conduct a survey of the Dr. Ambedkar Dock Basin before signing the contract in accordance with the generally accepted guidelines of the International Association of Dredging Companies. DCI incurred a loss of Rs. 3.76 crores and has taken up with Chennai Port Trust for resolving the matter.

#### **Bio-Medical Research**

4668. SHRIMATI JHANSI LAKSHMI BOTCHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has requested the State Government of Andhra Pradesh to allot land for the establishment of National Animal Resources Facility for bio-medical Research at Genome Valley, Hyderabad;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the response of the State Government thereto; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) Government of Andhra Pradesh has allotted 103 acres land on the request of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) for establishment of National Animal Resource Facility for bio medical research at the Genome Valley, Hyderabad.

The proposal to establish National Animal Resource Facility during Xlth Plan is subject to availability of funds.

#### **Under-Developed Districts of North Bengal**

4669. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the districts of North Bengal are suffering from the problem of under development;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to treat the North Bengal districts at par with the other Backward Hill Districts in the country;

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

(e) whether the Government has any plans to give special assistance for the development of those regions at par with Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) to (d) Under Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana, launched in the Tenth Five Year Plan, 3 Districts of North Bengal, namely, Jalpaiguri, Uttar Dinajpur and Dakshin Dinajpur, are covered. These Districts were selected on the basis of criteria of population of SC/ST, agricultural productivity and agricultural wage rate of giving equal weightage to all three. The Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana was replaced by the Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) in the year 2006-07. Four Districts of North Bengal, namely, Jalpaiguri, Uttar Dinajpur, Dakshin Dinajpur and Malda, are covered

under BRGF. These Districts would be allocated Central assistance as per BRGF norms during the Eleventh Five Year Plan period. Major part of Darjeeling District of West Bengal is also covered under Hill Area Development Programme and border Blocks of Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri, Coochbehar, Uttar Dinajpur, Dakshin Dinajpur and Malda are also covered under Border Area Development Programme (BADP).

(e) and (f) The proposal to give special assistance for the development of those regions at par with Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand was not agreed to as the concessions and incentives for promoting industries in the States of the North-Eastern Region and other special category States like Sikkim, J&K, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand were granted because of geographical isolation, inaccessible terrain, poor 'resource base' and remoteness to larger market and poor infrastructure in these States.

#### **NSSO Report**

4670. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) has released their survey report for 2004-05;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Orissa was the lowest among the States in terms of attendance rate of children in the Education Centres; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to improve the situation in the States which figure lowest in terms of literacy rate in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) and (b) Out of 14 reports expected from the 2004-05 survey, 10 reports (as given in the statement) have been published.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

**Statement***List of Reports released*

Report No.	Title
515	Employment & Unemployment Situation in India 2004-05
516	Employment & Unemployment Situation among Social Group in India
517	Status of Education & Vocation Training in India 2004-05
508	Level & Pattern of Consumer Expenditure-2004-05
518	Participation of Women Specified Activities along with Domestic duties
512	Perceived adequacy of food consumption in Indian households 2004-05
520	Employment & Unemployment Situation in City & Towns in India
521	Employment & Unemployment Situation among various religious groups in India
509	Household consumption of various goods and services in India, 2004-05
511	Energy Sources of Indian Households for Cooking & lighting 2004-05

**Revision of Small Family Norms**

4671. SHRI M. APPADURAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has proposed to increase the amount given to a Central Government Employee for adopting small family norms;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to revise the small family norms and make it one child for a couple in view of an alarming increase in the country's population; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) No Sir. There is no proposal at present to change the provision in respect of

Central Government employee adopting small family norms.

(c) and (d) As per National Population Policy, 2000, the Government is committed towards voluntary and informed choice and consent of citizen while availing of reproductive healthcare services and continuation of the target-free approach in administering family planning services. As such, there is no proposal to present to revise the small family norms.

**Sale of Postal Stamp**

4672. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to sell postal stamp through private sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it will be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) As per existing policy of the Department of Posts, postage stamps and stationery are being sold through Licensed Stamp Vendors, Licensed Postal Agents, Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras and Postal Franchisees. The Divisional Superintendents of Post Offices are vested with powers to grant licences only to Stamp Vendors and Postal Franchisees subject to the fulfillment of prescribed conditions. However, fresh licences to Postal Agents are no longer being issued. In a Gram Panchayat where a post office does not exist though justified, the Gram Panchayat concerned nominates a candidate to run the Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendra. The Licensed Stamp Vendors, Licensed Postal Agents, Postal Franchisees and the candidates who run the Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras are from amongst the general public.

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

*[Translation]***Blast in Samjhauta Express**

4673. SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDALIKRAO GAWALI:  
SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE:  
SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether intelligence inputs gathered during the investigations into the Samjhauta Express bomb blast case are likely to be made available during the meeting of the Joint-Anti Terrorist Mechanism to be held in Islamabad as reported in the *Rashtriya Sahara* on February 22, 2007; and

(b) if so, the details of the facts reported therein alongwith the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The first meeting of India-Pakistan Joint Anti-terrorism Mechanism took place on 6-7 March 2007 in Islamabad. At this meeting, both sides agreed that specific information would be exchanged through the mechanism. It was also agreed that while the Anti-terrorism Mechanism would meet on a quarterly basis, any information, which is required to be conveyed on priority basis, would be immediately conveyed through the respective heads of the mechanism.

#### **Financial Assistance to Polio Affected Children**

4674. SHRI AJIT JOGI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated or proposes to formulate scheme for providing Rs. 10,000 (Rs. Ten thousand) to every Polio affected child for the treatment of the disease as well as for providing artificial limbs to them;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the criteria laid down for providing the financial assistance to the Polio affected children;

(d) whether this scheme has been implemented;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Yes Sir, Under the scheme of corrective surgery and rehabilitation existing Polio affected children in the age group of 3-18 years in the country will be covered.

The scheme is functional through the States Health and Family Welfare Societies which will use State/District level hospitals for corrective surgeries. The States Health and Family Welfare Societies may entrust the work relating to identification, assessment of polio patients requiring corrective surgery, arrangements for their transportation, food, stay etc. during pre, post and the time of actual surgery to the NGOs who are already engaged in this field and having a good reputation and proven record of at least five years of work.

The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare will release funds to the Health Family Welfare Societies of the States/UTs included in the Scheme. The State Society reimburses up-to a maximum of Rs. 6000/- per case to the concerned Hospital for undertaking corrective surgery which can be used for capacity building of the Operation Theatres/Indoor Wards of the Hospital as well as for meeting the cost of medical and surgical consumables required during the corrective surgery. The NGO may be paid up-to a maximum of Rs. 2000/- per case for aids and appliances only once and up-to a maximum of additional Rs. 2000/- per case for food, stay, transportation, physiotherapy etc. of the patient.

(d) and (e) Yes Sir, The funds for corrective surgery and rehabilitation have already been disbursed to the State Government of Bihar, Uttaranchal, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra.

(f) The States has been requested to send their proposal for implementation of the scheme.

#### **E-Governance Projects**

4675. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT:  
SHRI JUAL ORAM:  
SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received proposals from various State Governments on e-governance projects;

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

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon;

(d) whether the Government has allocated funds for the implementation of e-governance projects;

(e) if so, the total amount allocated to the States under various e-governance projects during each of the last three years, State-wise; and

(f) the success achieved/progress made by the various States in the implementation of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (e) The Government of India has received proposals from time to time from State Governments for sanctioning e-Governance Projects. Based on appraisal and the suitability of the said proposals, sanctions have also been accorded by the Government for implementation of these e-governance projects. The details of the e-governance projects sanctioned by the Government for implementation in various States during the last three years is available at <http://www.mit.gov.in>.

(f) These Projects have been sanctioned at different points in time and hence are at different stages of implementation. These projects are also monitored and reviewed on an ongoing basis till their final implementation.

*[English]*

#### **Cultivation of Medicinal Plants**

4676. SHRI ANWAR HUSSAIN:  
SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any scheme to provide financial help for medicinal plants in Assam;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the programmes being implemented by the Government for the cultivation of medicinal plants in Tamil Nadu;

(d) the areas identified for the purpose; and

(e) the progress made so far under the programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Medicinal Plants Board has been setup to coordinate matters, related to development of medicinal plants sector. The Board has formulated and implemented schemes for cultivation & development of medicinal plants throughout the country including State of Assam. So far the Board has sanctioned 26 projects involving financial implication of amount Rs. 294.65 lacs to various organizations in Government and Non-Government sector for development and cultivation of medicinal plants in the State of Assam.

(c) to (e) Schemes of Medicinal Plants Board have been implemented in the State of Tamil Nadu also. The schemes of the Board are demand driven, therefore, no areas have been identified specifically. However, 64 projects involving financial outlay of Rs. 171.85 lacs have been sanctioned under Contractual Farming Schemes for cultivation of medicinal plants covering 22 districts.

Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation has launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on National Horticulture Mission (NHM) in the country during Tenth Five Year Plan w.e.f. 2005-06 for holistic development of Horticulture sector. Promotion of cultivation of Medicinal Plants has been included as one of the components under NHM during 2006-07.

*[Translation]*

#### **Border Dispute with China**

4677. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR:  
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:  
SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether China has shown Kashmir and Arunachal Pradesh as the integral part of its territory;

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

(c) whether the Government has held the ninth and tenth round of talks with China on the issue of border dispute;



(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the progress made so far; and

(e) the details of the area in which the dispute is not being resolved alongwith the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (e) China is in illegal occupation of approximately 38,000 square kilometres in the Indian State of Jammu & Kashmir. In addition, under the so-called Sino-Pakistan Boundary Agreement of 1963, Pakistan illegally ceded 5,180 square kilometres of Indian territory in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir to China. China also illegally claims approximately 90,000 square kilometres of Indian territory in the State of Arunachal Pradesh, and about 2000 square kilometres in the Middle Sector. Government have conveyed to the Chinese side that Jammu and Kashmir and Arunachal Pradesh are integral parts of India.

India and China are engaged in discussions to arrive at a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable solution to the boundary question. The ninth and tenth rounds of talks between the Special Representatives of India and China were held in India from 16-18 January 2007 and from April 20-22, 2007 respectively. The two Special Representatives continued their discussions on a framework for the boundary settlement on the basis of the Agreement on Political Parameters and Guiding Principles signed on 11 April 2005. Both sides agreed to hold the next (eleventh) round of talks at a mutually convenient time, which will be decided through diplomatic channels.

#### **Quality Inspection of Damoh-Kundalpur Road**

4678. SHRI CHANDRABHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quality of road from Damoh to Kundalpur in Damoh district of Madhya Pradesh has been examined;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether the quality of the above road is proposed to be examined?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI

K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) The construction work of Damoh-Kundalpur road was sanctioned under Central Road Fund Scheme (CRF) in 2001 and has since been completed. The work has been inspected by State PWD Officers of the rank of Sub-Engineer, Assistant Engineer, Executive Engineer and Superintending Engineer. Necessary quality control tests have been carried out periodically. Remedial measures have been taken as and when required.

*[English]*

#### **Iran's Nuclear Programme**

4679. SHRI SWADESH CHAKRABORTTY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has found any evidence of the nuclear programme being run by Iran for military purposes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons for punitive action taken against Iran;

(d) whether the member countries of NAM has defended the right of countries like Iran to develop nuclear energy for peaceful purposes;

(e) if not, the details thereof;

(f) whether US is reluctant to discuss Israel's nuclear programme in the United Nations Security Council;

(g) if so, the reaction of the Indian Government thereto; and

(h) the role played or being played by India to assert the rights of majority countries to develop nuclear energy for peaceful purposes?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has stated that while it is able to verify the non-diversion of declared nuclear material in Iran, it is unable to verify the absence of undeclared nuclear material and activities in Iran unless Iran addresses outstanding verification issues.

(d) and (e) In a Statement on the Islamic Republic of Iran's Nuclear Issue, issued in Havana on 16th September 2006, the Heads of State or Government of NAM, *inter alia*, reaffirmed the basic and inalienable right of all States, to develop research, production and use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes, without any discrimination and in conformity with their respective legal obligations.

(f) and (g) Do not arise.

(h) Government have always maintained that countries should pursue their right to peaceful uses of nuclear energy in accordance with their international obligations and commitments.

#### **Review of Funding Pattern for States**

4680. SHRI MITRASEN YADAV:  
SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering review of funding pattern ratio of 75:25 between Centre and State for release of grant-in-aid Centrally Sponsored Schemes in various States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any State Government has requested the Centre in this regard;

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

(e) whether the Centre has agreed to enhance the funding pattern from 75:25 to 90:10 in the final approach paper of the Eleventh Plan;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) to (d) The percentage share of State and Central contribution in the Centrally Sponsored Schemes varies from scheme to scheme depending upon the nature and the objectives to be achieved. Requests of the State Governments for enhancement in the Central share are considered accordingly.

(e) to (g) There is no proposal for enhancing the funding pattern from 75:25 to 90:10 in the final Approach Paper to the Eleventh Plan.

[*Translation*]

#### **Upgradation of NH between Bagodar and Bhavnagar**

4681. SHRI V.K. THUMMAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to upgrade the National Highways between Bagodar and Bhavnagar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) Bagodar and Bhavnagar are connected through the National Highways No. 8A, 8B, 8D and 8E. The status of the National Highways between Bagodar and Bhavnagar is given as under:

NH No.	Section	Present status of upgradation
8A	Bagodar-Bamanbore	4 laned.
8B	Bamanbore-Jetpur	Four laning in progress in 36 km. Balance length 4 laned.
8D	Jetpur-Somnath	Included for Upgradation in NHDP Phase-IIIB.
8E	Somnath-Bhavnagar	Improvement and maintenance works are being taken up in phases based on the inter-se priority, condition of road and availability of funds to keep the road in traffic worthy condition. There is no plan of four laning of the stretch at present.

**FDI in Telecom Sector**

4682. SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:  
 SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:  
 SHRI P.C. THOMAS:  
 SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:  
 SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:  
 SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:  
 SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY:  
 SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE:  
 SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has enhanced the FDI in telecom sector to seventy-four per cent recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the DoT has spelt out stringent security measures for compliance by the Telecom Companies if they wish to enhance their Foreign Direct Investment from forty-nine per cent to seventy-four per cent w.e.f. July 2007;

(d) if so, the details thereof and guidelines set for this purpose;

(e) whether the Government has amended Press Note No. 5 to this effect;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the Government proposes to set up any monitoring machinery during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(h) if so, the details thereof;

(i) whether other issues such as Remote Access from abroad etc. have been resolved;

(j) if so, the details thereof; and

(k) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to ensure that telecom companies do not take undue advantage of Government's liberalization policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (d) To enable a

sustainable growth in Telecom Sector and also in IT sector which is dependent on telecom, Government has reviewed the FDI guidelines and issued revised guidelines vide Press Note No. 3 (2007 series) dated 19.04.2007. This contains set of security conditions at Para 2B, which is to be complied by all the operators irrespective of FDI limit. A copy of Press Note No. 3 (2007 Series) is given in the enclosed statement.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. It has been superseded vide Press Note 3 (2007) dated 19.04.2007.

(g) and (h) Yes, Sir. 'Centre for Communication Security, Research and Monitoring' is proposed to be set up during the 11th Five Year Plan.

(i) and (j) Yes, Sir. Remote Access has been addressed vide Paras 2B (xi) to (xv) of Press Note 3 (2007).

(k) The conditions listed in Press Note 3 (2007 Series) will form part of the licensing conditions to be strictly enforced by the licensor.

***Statement***

*Government of India  
 Ministry of Commerce & Industry  
 Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion  
 SIA (FC Division)*

**PRESS NOTE NO. 3 (2007 SERIES)**

**Subject: Enhancement of the Foreign Direct Investment ceiling from 49 per cent to 74 per cent in the Telecom sector—revised guidelines**

The Government, vide Press Note 5 (2005 Series) dated 03.11.2005, had notified the enhancement of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) limits from 49 per cent to 74 per cent in certain telecom services subject to specified conditions.

2. The Government has on a review of the policy in this regard, decided to enhance the Foreign Direct Investment limit from 49 per cent to 74 per cent in telecom services subject to the following conditions:

**A. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI):**

(i) The enhancement of the FDI ceiling will be applicable in case of Basic, Cellular, Unified

Access Services, National/International Long Distance, V-Sat, Public Mobile Radio Trunked Services (PMRTS), Global Mobile Personal Communications Services (GMPCS) and other value adder Services.

- (ii) Both direct and indirect foreign investment in the licensee company shall be counted for the purpose of FDI ceiling. Foreign Investment shall include investment by Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs), Non-Resident Indians (NRIs), Foreign Currency Convertible Bonds (FCCBs), American Depository Receipts (ADRs), Global Depository (GDRs) and convertible preference shares held by foreign entity. Indirect foreign investment shall mean foreign investment in the company/companies holding shares of the licensee company and their holding company/companies or legal entity (such as mutual funds, trusts) on proportionate basis. Shares of the licensee as mutual funds, trusts) on proportionate basis. Shares of the licensee company held by Indian public sector banks and Indian public sector financial institutions will be treated as 'Indian holding'. In any case, the 'Indian' shareholding will not be less than 26 percent.
- (iii) FDI up to 49 percent will continue to be on the automatic route. FDI in the licensee company/ Indian promoters/investment companies including their holding companies, shall require approval of the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) if it has a bearing on the overall ceiling of 74 percent. While approving the investment proposals, FIPB shall take note that investment is not coming from countries of concern and/or unfriendly entities.
- (iv) The investment approval by FIPB shall envisage the conditionality that Company would adhere to licence Agreement.
- (v) FDI shall be subject to laws of India and not the laws of the foreign country/countries.

#### **B. Security Conditions:**

- (i) The Chief Officer Incharge of technical network operations and the Chief Security Officer should be a resident Indian citizen.
- (ii) Details of infrastructure/network diagram (technical details of the network) could be

provided on a need basis only to telecom equipment suppliers/manufacturers and the affiliate/parents of the licensee company. Clearance from the licensor (Department of Telecommunications, Government of India) would be required if such information is to be provided to anybody else.

- (iii) For security reasons, domestic traffic of such entities as may be identified/specified by the licensor shall not be hauled/routed to any place outside India.
- (iv) The licensee company shall take adequate and timely measures to ensure that the information transacted through a network by the subscribers is secure and protected.
- (v) The officers/officials of the licensee companies dealing with the lawful interception of messages will be resident Indian citizens.
- (vi) The majority Directors on the Board of the company shall be Indian citizens.
- (vii) The positions of the Chairman, Managing Director, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and/or Chief Financial Officer (CFO), if held by foreign nationals, would require to be security vetted by Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA). Security vetting shall be required periodically on yearly basis. In case something adverse is found during the security vetting, the direction of MHA shall be binding on the licensee.
- (viii) The Company shall not transfer the following to any person/place outside India:
  - (a) Any accounting information relating to subscriber (except for international roaming/billing) (Note: it does not restrict a statutorily required disclosure of financial nature); and
  - (b) User information (except pertaining to foreign subscribers using Indian Operator's network while roaming).
- (ix) The Company must provide traceable identity of their subscribers. However, in case of providing service to roaming subscriber of foreign Companies, the Indian Company shall endeavour to obtain traceable identity of roaming subscribers from the foreign company as a part of its roaming agreement.

- (x) On request of the licensor or any other agency authorized by the licensor, the telecom service provider should be able to provide the geographical location of any subscriber (BTS location) at a given point of time.
- (xi) The Remote Access (RA) to Network would be provided only to approved location(s) abroad through approved location(s) in India. the approval for location(s) would be given by the Licensor (DOT) in consultation with the Security Agencies (IB).
- (xii) Under no circumstances, should any RA to the suppliers/manufacturers and affiliate(s) be enabled to access Lawful Interception System (LIS), Lawful Interception Monitoring (LIM), Call contents of the traffic and any such sensitive sector/data, which the licensor may notify from time to time.
- (xiii) The licensee company is not allowed to use remote access facility for monitoring of content.
- (xiv) Suitable technical device should be made available at Indian end to the designated security agency/licensor in which a mirror image of the remote access information is available on line for monitoring purposes.
- (xv) Complete audit trail of the remote access activities pertaining to the network operated in India should be maintained for a period of six months and provided on request to the licensor or any other agency authorized by the licensor.
- (xvi) The telecom service providers should ensure that necessary provision (hardware/software) is available in their equipment for doing the Lawful interception and monitoring from a centralized location.
- (xvii) The telecom service providers should familiarize/train Vigilance Technical Monitoring (VTM)/ Security agency officers/officials in respect of relevant operations/features of their systems.
- (xviii) It shall be open to the licensor to restrict the Licensee Company from operating in any sensitive area from the National Security angle.
- (xix) In order to maintain the privacy of voice and data, monitoring shall only be upon authorization

by the Union Home Secretary or Home Secretaries of the States/Union Territories.

- (xx) For monitoring traffic, the licensee company shall provide access of their network and other facilities as well as to books of accounts to the security agencies.
  - (xxi) The aforesaid Security Conditions shall be applicable to all the licensee companies operating telecom services covered under this Press Note irrespective of the level of FDI.
  - (xxii) Other Service Providers (OSPs), providing services like Call Centres, Business Process Outsourcing (BPO), tele-marketing, tele-education, etc. and are registered with DoT as OSP. Such OSPs operate the service using the telecom infrastructure provided by licensed telecom service providers and 100% FDI is permitted for OSPs. As the security conditions are applicable to all licensed telecom service providers, the security conditions mentioned above shall not be separately enforced on OSPs.
3. The conditions at para 2 above shall also be applicable to the existing companies operating telecom service(s) with the FDI cap of 49%.
  4. The relevant provisions of FDI policy for 'investment companies', as given in Press Note 2 (2000 series) dated 11.02.2000 issued by Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion will no longer be applicable to telecom sector.
  5. Press Note 15 (1998 series) and Press Note 2 (2000 series) issued by Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion stand modified to the above extent.
  6. An unconditional compliance to the aforesaid conditions shall be submitted by the existing telecom service providers to the licensor within 3 months from date of the Press Note and, thereafter, compliance report shall be submitted on 1st day of July and January on six monthly basis.
  7. Press Note 5 (2005 Series) dated 03.11.2005 stands superseded by this Press Note.

Sd/-

(Gopal Krishna)

Joint Secretary to the Government of India

*[English]***Amendment of IT Act, 2000**

4683. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:  
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to amend the IT Act, 2000 for the appointment of Chief Information Security Officers (CISOs) in most critical sector organisations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the necessary guidelines likely to be issued to the Private Sector companies in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) A bill was introduced in Lok Sabha on 15.12.2006 to amend the Information Technology Act 2000. The proposed amendments include provision for protection of critical sector organizations in the country.

The policy on protection of critical infrastructure is in place. This policy requires designation of a Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) by each critical sector organization.

(d) The proposed amendments to the Indian IT Act, 2000 have been referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee for IT.

**Violence against Indians in Uganda**

4684. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR:  
DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA:  
SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH:  
SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether many people of Indian origin (PIO) have lost their lives and property during the recent outbreak of riots in Uganda;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the total number of casualties involving PIOs;

(c) whether the Indian Government has taken up the matter with Uganda Authorities for the safety and security of the Indians living there;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) and (b) One Indian national was killed and two persons of Indian origin suffered injuries during the disturbances in Kampala on 12th April, 2007. As per report received from the Indian Embassy in Kampala, damages to window glasses of Bank of Baroda (Uganda) Ltd.'s building; damages to pillars and lighting posts on boundary fence and window panes of Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, Kampala; damage to one-sign-board glass of Gurdwara Singh Sabha, Kampala and damages to a couple of vehicles were reported.

(c) to (e) The matter was taken up by the Government with the Government of Uganda forcefully. An immediate request was lodged with the Ugandan Government for providing protection to Ugandans of Indian origin and Indian nationals in Uganda. This subject was also taken up with the Ugandan Foreign Minister and Security Minister to convey concern for the safety of the Indians/PIOs and requested that their lives and properties should be protected. It was assured by the Government of Uganda that all possible measures were being taken to ensure the safety of Indians/PIOs and their properties. The Government is in constant touch with the Government of Uganda and continues to monitor the situation.

*[Translation]***Prospects of Indian Investment in Kazakhstan**

4685. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE:  
SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:  
SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDALIKRAO GAWALI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Asian country Kazakhstan has invited the Indian companies to set up their units in sectors such as Textiles, Medicine and Information Technology in their country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Kazakhstan has also expressed its willingness for cooperation with India in the power sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) and (b) Kazakhstan is open to foreign investments in various sectors under its foreign direct investment (FDI) policies. There is no specific invitation for investments from India.

During the Sixth India-Kazakhstan Inter-Governmental Commission meeting on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological, Industrial and Cultural Cooperation held in October 2006 in New Delhi, the two sides expressed interest in joint ventures including in the areas of textiles, petrochemicals and pharmaceuticals.

(c) and (d) In the energy sector, India and Kazakhstan are cooperating in the areas of oil and gas. M/s ONGC Videsh Ltd. (OVL) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Kazakhstan state-owned oil and gas company Kazmunaigaz and discussions are in progress.

[English]

#### Implementation of NRHM

4686. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any scheme to identify the existing health providers, under the various systems of medicines and to bring them within an accredited network with a view to accelerate the implementation of National Rural Health Mission;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to organize training programme for existing health providers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) The Government has launched National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) all over the country to provide accessible, affordable, accountable, effective and reliable primary health care facilities, especially, to the poor and vulnerable sections of the population.

The NRHM envisages augmentation of manpower at all levels. In this regard, resource mapping of critical manpower including the health providers under various systems of medicines is undertaken as part of the Integrated District Health Action Plan (IDHAP).

A task group has also been constituted under NRHM for preparing the framework for identification, training and accreditation of rural health providers for accelerating the implementation of NRHM. The training of existing health providers including traditional birth attendants is part of the overall training calendar prepared by the District as part of the IDHAP.

#### Soft Loan from Japan

4687. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:  
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:  
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Japan has offered soft loan for the urban transport and port sectors as reported in the *Times of India* dated March 31, 2007;

(b) the details of the projects identified for the purpose, State-wise; and

(c) the time by which these projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir as informed by the Ministry of Urban Development and Department of Shipping.

(b) Urban Transport: Japan has offered soft loan of Japanese Yen (JPY) 13,583 million (equal to Rs. 503

crore approx.) for Delhi Mass Rapid Transport System Project, Phase II (Tranche II). Govt. of Japan had earlier sanctioned JPY 14,900 million (equal to Rs. 590 crore)

for Tranche I of this project in March, 2006. Details in respect of other projects availing JBIC assistance and those propose to avail (in the Rolling Plan) are as under:

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Name of the State/Central PIA	Estimated cost (Rs. in crores)	Period of implementation	JBIC assistance	Whether Central or State Sector
1.	Kolkata East-West Metro Project	Not yet decided	4195	5 years	Not known*	Not yet decided
2.	Bangalore Metro Rail Project	BMRC	6396	5 years	1796	Agreement signed on 30.3.2006

\*Into-Japan consultations took place on 26.4.2007. Minutes yet to be received.

**Port Sector:** The Visakhapatnam Port Expansion Project has been selected for financial year 2006 Overseas Development Assistance (ODA) loan package from Japan. This project will be implemented at Visakhapatnam Port, a Major Port under the Central Government located in the State of Andhra Pradesh for

upgradation of iron ore handling facilities at outer harbour of Visakhapatnam Port.

(c) The time by which the various corridors of Phase II of Delhi Mass Rapid Transport System Project are planned for completion are given below:

	Corridor	Length (Km)	Target date
1.	Vishva Vidyalaya-Jahangir Puri	6.36	Oct., 2009
2.	Central Secretariat-Qutab Minar	12.525	June, 2010
3.	Shahdara-Dilshad Garden	3.09	Dec., 2008
4.	Indraprastha-New Ashok Nagar	8.07	June, 2009
5.	Yamuna Bank-Anand Vihar ISBT	6.16	Dec., 2009
6.	Kirti Nagar-Mundka (along with operation link to Inderlok)	18.47	Mar., 2010

As regards the other projects for Kolkata & Bangalore the period of implementation is 5 years as stated above.

Project of Port Sector is to be completed by January, 2011.

#### **Gas Pipeline from Myanmar to India**

4688. DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to lay a gas pipeline from Myanmar to India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said proposal is likely to be finalised or signed?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) Gas Authority of India



Limited (GAIL) has finalised a Detailed Project Report (DPR) of the proposed gas pipeline from Myanmar to India. As per this, the proposed gas pipeline will pass from Myanmar to India through our North Eastern States and then on to West Bengal and Bihar. The Myanmar Government are yet to take a decision to sell gas to India. The question of finalising the proposed gas pipeline will arise only after that.

#### **Website for Indian Languages**

4689. SHRI HARILAL MADHAVJI BHAI PATEL:  
SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any website has been created for the technological development of Indian languages;

(b) the languages which have been included in the programme;

(c) whether any request has been received from the State Government of Gujarat for inclusion of the Gujarati language in the programme; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir. The website is <http://tdil.mit.gov.in>.

(b) All 22 Constitutionally recognized Indian languages have been included in the programme.

(c) No, Sir. Gujarati language is included.

(d) Does not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### **Fissile Material Cut Off Treaty**

4690. DR. CHINTA MOHAN:  
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the USA had presented a draft on the Fissile Material Cut Off Treaty during the Disaster Management Conference held in Geneva;

(b) if so, the details of the said draft;

(c) whether India has also given its opinion thereto;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the present status of the said treaty?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Yes. The United States of America tabled a draft of Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty (FMCT) at the Conference on Disarmament (CD) in Geneva on 18th May 2006. The US draft proposes that no Party shall, after the entry into force of the Treaty for that Party, produce fissile material for nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices, or use of any fissile material produced thereafter in nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices. It envisages a treaty of 15 years duration after its entry into force upon ratification by China, France, Russia, UK and USA.

(c) to (e) The draft proposed by USA is one of many proposals submitted to the CD by Member States on the FMCT. Negotiations on FMCT have not yet started. Government continue to attach importance to a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty, prohibiting the future production of fissile material for nuclear weapons and other explosive devices.

*[English]*

#### **Population Control**

4691. SHRI UDAY SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the United Nations has recently lauded India's effort towards Population Control;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the United Nations Population Fund has spent several million dollars in India to control population in the past few years;

(d) if so, whether the results of population control are not convincing inspite of huge spendings; and

(e) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has taken note of the achievements made by the Country on fertility reduction, as stated in the India Country Report, Population and Development: 10 years since International Conference of Population and Develop (ICPD) and other statistics brought out by the Government. UNFPA also agrees that these achievements are as per the Plan of Action agreed to the ICPD, to which India is a signatory. UNFPA has been assisting the Government of India in their national efforts on Population since 1974 through its five year Country Programmes. Under the current 8th Country programme for 2003-2007, UNFPA has been technically and financially supporting the efforts of the Government in stabilizing populating through implementation of reproductive and child health programme which focus primarily on addressing unmet need for contraceptives through provisions of quality services along with other reproductive health needs.

(e) Recognizing the importance of health for social and economic development and for improving the quality of life and outreach of quality contraceptive services, the Government of India has launched National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) in 2005. Provision of accessible, affordable, accountable, effective and reliable primary health care facilities especially to the poor and vulnerable sections of the population, bridging the gap in rural health care services through creation of a cadre of Accredited Social Health Activities (ASHA), improved hospital care, decentralized planning, intersectoral convergence, maintaining gender balance and ensuring population stabilization constitute the basic features of the NRHM.

The NRHM also includes the second phase of Reproductive and Child Health Programme which intends to improve the performance of family welfare for reducing maternal and infant morbidity and mortality and unwanted pregnancies. The Programme aims at providing need based, client centred, demand driven, high quality services to the beneficiaries with a view to enhancing the quality of reproductive life of the population enabling the country

to achieve the goal and objective envisaged in National Population Policy, 2000.

*[Translation]*

#### **Export of Nuke Technology to Iran**

4692. SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA:  
SHRIMATI RUPATAI D. PATIL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has put a ban on the export of nuclear technology to Iran;

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

(c) whether India has discussed the issue with Iran in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The Director General of Foreign Trade issued a notification on 20 February 2007 (Notification No. 47 (RE-2006)/2004-2009) under the Foreign Trade (Development & Regulation) Act, 1992 to prohibit direct or indirect export and import of all items, materials, equipment, goods and technology which could contribute to Iran's enrichment related, reprocessing or heavy water related activities, or to the development of nuclear weapon delivery systems. This is in pursuance of India's obligations under UN Security Council Resolution 1737 of 23 December 2006 adopted unanimously by the UN Security Council under Article 41 Chapter VII of the UN Charter.

(c) and (d) The issue of Iran's nuclear programme has been discussed during interactions with Iran at which Government has conveyed its consistent stand that all possible efforts should be made to resolve the issue through peaceful means, by dialogue and negotiations and IAEA should play a central role in resolving outstanding issues. The UNSCR 1737 underscores the need for more active and transparent cooperation with IAEA for resolution of outstanding issues.

#### **Private Telecom Operators**

4693. SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the private basic telecom operators have failed in fulfilling their obligation of providing telephone facilities in the rural areas;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government proposes to make the provisions of IT and Telecom agreements more stringent;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) All the Basic Private Service Operators (BPSOs), who had roll-out obligation for providing Village Public Telephones (VPTs) on the basis of old licenses, have migrated to Unified Access Service License (UASL) in November, 2003. According to the guidelines of UASL, there is no requirement of mandatory coverage of rural areas by the licenses. The requirement of access in rural areas is now met from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF). All telecom service providers except value added service providers like Internet Service Providers (ISPs), Voice Mail and E-Mail etc. are contributing Universal Service Levy (USL) @ 5% of Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR) for meeting Universal Service Obligation.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above

(e) Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

#### **Damage to Ports by Tsunami**

4694. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether heavy damage has been caused to the ports of Country struck by Tsunami in the Indian Ocean on December 26, 2004;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has formulated a scheme for reconstruction of these ports; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the Andaman and Nicobar group of Islands, 56 berthing structures suffered damages during Tsunami which occurred on 26th December, 2004. Till now, 49 berthing structures have been made functional. Balance works in these structures as also works on restoring the remaining berthing structures are in progress. The Major Ports of Chennai, Visakhapatnam and Tuticorin and the Office of National Institute of Port Management (renamed National Maritime Academy at Chennai) also reported certain damages to their structures. Damages to Ports/Jetties in the States of Kerala, Pondicherry and Tamil Nadu under the jurisdiction of respective State Governments were also reported.

(c) and (d) A Tsunami Rehabilitation Programme (TRP) has been formulated for inter-alia reconstruction of ports and jetties. In so far as works in Andaman and Nicobar group of Islands are concerned, under TRP in December, 2005, an amount of Rs. 897.31 crores had been approved by the Government of India for rehabilitation/reconstruction and upgradation of port structures as well as creation of additional facilities. Besides, an amount of Rs. 31.02 crores had been approved for repair/reconstruction in other organizations under the Department of Shipping namely major ports at Chennai, Tuticorin, Visakhapatnam, Minor Ports Survey Organisation (MPSO) and National Institute of Port Management (renamed National Maritime Academy). In so far as ports and jetties under the jurisdiction of State Governments are concerned, amounts of Rs. 74.70 crores for Tamil Nadu, Rs. 44.02 crores for Kerala and Rs. 75.00 crores for Puducherry had been approved under the TRP.

#### **Coal Production**

4695. SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI:  
SHRIMATI KALPNA RAMESH NARHIRE:  
DR. K. DHANARAJU:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to increase the coal production and also to fix norms essential for it;

(b) if so, whether any target for production of coal during the Eleventh Five Year Plan and also for the year 2007-08 has been set;

(c) if so, the details thereof separately; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The production in 2006-07 and the target of coal production for 2007-08 (1st year of XIth Plan) and during terminal year of XI Plan *i.e.* 2011-12 are as under:

(figure in Mt.)

	2006-07 (Provisional production)	2007-08	2011-12
Coal India Limited	361.04	384.51	520.50
Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd. (SCCL)	37.71	38.04	40.80
Others	26.36	37.95	118.70
Total	425.11	460.50	680.00

Following steps have been taken to increase coal production:

1. 130 coal blocks have been allotted to different consumers to be operated by private/public sector captive end uses/commercial mining.
2. To reduce the gap between demand and supply of coal, 119 mining projects of Coal India Limited and 25 mining projects of Singareni Collieries Company Limited are envisaged to be undertaken in XI Plan.
3. Improvement in equipment utilization and mechanization/modernization of existing mines.
4. Coal India Limited under "Emergency Coal Production Plan" has identified 16 opencast projects/mines where production from the existing mines/projects will be enhanced to a higher level yielding additional 71.3 Mt.

[English]

#### Indo-Iran Gas Pipeline Project

4696. SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPA:  
SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:  
SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN:  
PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Power Secretary of USA visited India recently;

(b) if so, whether he advised India to backout from the Indo-Iran Gas Pipeline Project;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the present status of the Indo-Iran Gas Pipeline Project; and

(e) the time by which the agreement is likely to be signed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) U.S. Secretary of Energy, Mr. Samuel W. Bodman visited India on March 20-22, 2007.

(b) and (c) During the recent meeting of Secretary Samuel Bodman with Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas on 20th March 2007, when the issue of Iran-Pakistan-India pipeline project came up for discussion, he was informed that India was free to pursue its energy option with any country and would act independently to pursue its interest.

(d) and (e) In January 2005, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas was authorised to conduct negotiations for an overland pipeline from Iran through Pakistan taking

into account cost effectiveness, security concerns and assured supplies. So far, three Special Joint Working Group meetings between India and Iran, and four JWG meetings between India and Pakistan have been held. Secretary-level tripartite talks were held in Tehran on March 14-15, 2006, in Islamabad on May 22-24, 2006, in Delhi on August 3-5, 2006, and in Tehran on January 24-25, 2007. Various issues are under discussion amongst the participating countries. The signing of the agreement can take place after the issue under discussion are resolved.

#### **Sub-Standard Data by CSO/NSSO**

4697. SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the data collected by the Central Statistical Organisation and the National Sample Survey Organisation, especially on Agriculture, Health and Education is grossly sub-standard, as reported in the Hindustan Times dated April 11, 2007;

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

(c) the corrective measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The National Sample Survey Organization is one of the foremost sample survey organizations in the world and its quality is widely acknowledged. The Central Statistical Organization on the other hand, does not itself collect any primary data. Its main task is to collate data from diverse sources, such as State Governments, Central Ministries/Departments, PSUs etc. in order to generate national level statistics. All primary data collection involves a certain degree of error and continuous efforts are made to further improve the quality of the data.

(c) In order to strengthen the statistical system including the quality of official statistics and the following steps have been taken:

- (1) To facilitate better collection of primary statistics, the Collection of Statistics Act, 1953 is being amended.

(2) The National Statistical Commission is mandated to evolve national strategies for the collection, tabulation and dissemination of core statistics.

(3) The Ministry has initiated a project aimed at strengthening the State Statistical Systems as part of India Statistical Strengthening Project (ISSP).

(4) As the primary data mostly flow from the States in order to ensure greater coordination between Central and State agencies, the Conference of Centre and State Statistical Organization has been institutionalized and senior level Indian Statistical Service (ISS) Officers have been posted in the States.

#### **Double Shifts in CGHS Dispensaries**

4698. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of CGHS dispensaries in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government proposes to operate CGHS dispensaries in the double shifts in the major cities;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the decision is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) A statement showing the details of CGHS dispensaries under systems is enclosed.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Question does not arise in view of the reply to part (b) of the Question.

*Statement**The details of CGHS dispensaries under all Systems*

City	Allopathy	Ayurvedic	Homoeopathy	Unani	Siddha	Yoga
Ahmedabad	5	1	1	0	0	0
Allahabad	7	1	1	0	0	0
Bengalore	10	2	1	1	0	0
Bhopal	1	0	0	0	0	0
Bhubaneshwar	2	1	0	0	0	0
Chandigarh	1	0	0	0	0	0
Chennai	14	1	1	0	1	0
Dehradun	1	0	0	0	0	0
Guwahati	3	0	1	0	0	0
Hyderabad	13	2	2	2	0	0
Jabalpur	3	0	0	0	0	0
Jaipur	5	1	1	0	0	0
Kanpur	9	1	2	0	0	0
Kolkata	17	1	2	1	0	0
Lucknow	6	1	1	1	0	0
Meerut	6	1	1	0	0	0
Mumbai	26	2	3	0	0	0
Nagpur	10	2	1	0	0	0
Patna	5	1	1	0	0	0
Pune	7	1	2	0	0	0
Ranchi	2	0	0	0	0	0
Shillong	1	0	0	0	0	0
Trivandrum	3	1	1	0	0	0
Delhi	87	13	13	5	2	4

**International Long Distance Telecom Operators**

4699. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:  
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:  
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJRAO:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the TRAI has proposed for imposing an entry fee and bank guarantee of the same amount for the operators to be allowed for buying Bulk Bandwidth for International Long Distance Telecom Companies as reported in the *Times of India* dated March 24, 2007;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether TRAI has recommended not to fix any ceiling on the number of players in the segment to encourage new companies to get into this business and help reducing prices for retail consumers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (e) Sir, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has issued recommendations on terms and conditions for Resale in International Private Leased Circuits (IPLC) segment on 23rd March 2007. TRAI has recommended entry fee and financial bank guarantee of Rs. 1 Crore each without any ceiling on the number of entrants for the proposed category. The recommendations are under consideration by the Department at present.

**Carbonated Water in Soft Drinks**

4700. DR. ARVIND SHARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any case conforming to the standards of carbonated water in soft drinks has come to the notice of the Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the effect of such soft drinks on health due to their consumption?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The Standards of carbonated water have been prescribed under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955.

The implementation of the PFA Act, 1954 & Rules, 1955 is carried out by the State/UT Governments, who take action in case of any violation of the PFA Rules.

The details of cases of soft drinks conforming to the standards of carbonated water are not maintained by this Ministry.

**Growth of New Mangalore Port**

4701. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new Mangalore Port has witnessed growth in the container cargo and the rail-bound traffic during the first nine months of the financial year 2006-07 as against the previous year 2005-06;

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

(c) whether commissioning of Hassan-Mangalore railway line for freight traffic in May, 2006 has also helped in the growth of rail-bound traffic to the port;

(d) if so, whether the old railway lines have been strengthened at the railway marshalling yard at Panambur; and

(e) if so, the efforts being made by the Union Government to improve the situation in the New Mangalore Port?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (e) During the first nine months of 2006-07, New Mangalore Port handled 13,320 TEUs container cargo and 21,45,218 tonnes of rail bound cargo, including 8,27,882 tonnes moved through the Hassan-Mangalore railway line. As against this, the Port handled 9,646 TEUs container cargo and 8,99,500 tonnes rail bound cargo during the corresponding period in 2005-06. The existing Railway lines in the marshalling yard have been strengthened.

Improvement of infrastructure, equipment and operational procedures to meet the traffic requirements is an ongoing process. In respect of New Mangalore Port, these include widening of National Highways (NH-17 and NH-48) providing road connectivity to the Port and development of a mechanised Iron-ore handling facility and a Coal jetty.

**Referring Maternity Patient to CGHS Recognised Private Hospitals**

4702. SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the procedure prescribed under the CGHS for referring a maternity patient to the Private Hospitals recognized/empanelled by CGHS;

(b) whether there is any policy in existence in the CGHS not to refer an expectant mother and CGHS beneficiary to a CGHS recognised private hospital of her choice;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any complaints have been received by the Government in this regard;

(e) whether the Government has assessed the performance of the doctors of CGHS dispensaries in view of the problems being faced by the maternity patients while undergoing treatment at the CGHS dispensaries;

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefore; and

(g) the action taken against the negligence of doctors in the CGHS dispensaries attending to the expectant mothers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) On the basis of diagnosis/conformation of pregnancy by the Government/CGHS doctors including the medical officer working at the dispensary level, the beneficiary can obtain permission from his/her Department/Ministry for confinement in private hospitals recognized under CGHS as per the choice of the beneficiary.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) In view of (a) above, questions do not arise.

(e) to (g) Review and assessment of performance of staff at dispensaries is a continuous process and periodically inspections by Senior Officers and meetings are held. Meetings of dispensary level Advisory Committees are being held regularly for this purpose.

**Setting up of Internet Exchanges**

4703. SHRI HARIN PATHAK:  
SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR:  
SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the various State Governments have requested the Union Government for setting up of Internet Exchanges;

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

(c) the present status of the projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Request from Orissa Government for setting up Internet Exchange at Bhuvneshwar; Punjab Government for setting up Internet Exchange at Mohali and Gujarat Government for setting up Internet Exchange at Ahmedabad have been received.

(c) Grant-in-aid of Rs. 2.50 crores has been released to Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) as a first installment towards setting up of Internet Exchanges at Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Lucknow and Mohali.

**Attacks on Indian Fishermen**

4704. SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY:  
SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI:  
SHRI A.V. BELLARMIN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:



(a) whether there has been increasing incidents of attack on Indian fishermen by the Sri Lankan Navy;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of fishermen killed in such incidents;

(c) whether India has taken up the issue with the Government of Sri Lanka during the SAARC Summit;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the outcome therefrom;

(e) whether the State Government of Tamil Nadu has granted solatium to the next kin of the killed fishermen who were killed;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the Union Government also proposes to grant compensation to the next of the kins killed or injured in the incident; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) There have been incidents of firing on Indian fishermen by the Sri Lankan Navy in the recent past. During January-April 2007, there have been seven such incident in which three fishermen have been killed.

(c) and (d) Yes. Government have strongly taken up the matter of incidents of firing on Indian fishermen by the Sri Lankan Navy with the Government of Sri Lanka. The need for the Sri Lankan Navy to act with restraint and for our fishermen to be treated in a humane manner has been repeatedly emphasised to them. In response, the Government of Sri Lanka have denied that their Navy ever enters Indian territorial waters and claimed that their Naval Ships were not deployed in areas where the incidents occurred.

(e) to (h) An immediate cash relief of Rs. 1 Lakh is being paid to the legal heir of the deceased by the Government of Tamil Nadu from the Chief Minister's Public Relief Fund. Apart from this, the family of the deceased fisherman is being paid a sum of Rs. 50,000 under the Fishermen Accident Group Insurance Scheme, if the deceased is a member of any Fishermen Cooperative Society.

### **Inflation and Farmers' Suicide**

4705. DR. M. JAGANNATH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of the Planning Commission was convened recently to discuss, issues pertaining to price rise and farmers suicides etc.;

(b) if so, the outcome of the meeting; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to control inflation and mitigate the conditions of the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) Last Full Planning Commission Meeting was held on 18th October, 2006 to consider draft Approach Paper to the 11th Five Year Plan. No Full Planning Commission has been convened recently to discuss the specific issues mentioned.

(b) and (c) Questions do not arise.

*[Translation]*

### **Strike by Doctors In Hospitals**

4706. SHRI PARAS NATH YADAV:  
SHRI CHANDRA DEV PRASAD RAJBHAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of occasions when the doctors went on strike at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) and other Government Hospitals in the NCT of Delhi during the last three years;

(b) the reasons for the strikes by the doctors in the said hospitals;

(c) the reaction of the Government with regard to the difficulties faced by the common people on account of strike by the doctors;

(d) the action taken by the Government against the doctors who go on strike; and

(e) the plan of the Government to check such strikes in future and streamline the process treatment of the patients in such contingencies?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (e) The doctors of hospitals in NCT Delhi including AIIMS were on strike during the period from 14.5.06 to 31.05.06 in protest against the implementation of reservation in Central Educational Institutions. In order to minimize the difficulties faced by common people, on account of strike, faculty members on leave/vacation were recalled on duty. The salary of doctors who participated in the strike was deducted on the basis of the principle of 'no work no pay'. However, the same was released in view of the Supreme Court's order dt. 30.05.2006 that no punitive action would be taken against the doctors, who were on strike during May, 2006.

The doctors in AIIMS were however, again on strike during the period from 5.7.06 to 7.7.06 to protest against the resolution of Institute Body to terminate the term of Director, AIIMS. The services were restored only on the orders at 7.7.06 of High Court of Delhi saying the resolution of Institute Body. The Institute Body at its meeting held on 18.10.2006 sought the response from Director, AIIMS on the action taken to ensure that patient care services were not affected during the Period of strike. His response is yet to be considered by Institute Body.

#### **Irregularities In Procurement of Machines**

4707. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any irregularities have come to light regarding the issue of tender for the procurement of machines in the AIIMS;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Stores and Purchase Committee of the AIIMS has recommended for referring the case of purchase of Auto Analyser to the Vigilance Committee; and

(d) if so, the details of the action taken so far by the said Vigilance Committee in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) It has been reported by AIIMS that no such irregularities have come to light in issuing tender for procurement of machines in AIIMS and that Stores Purchase Committee of AIIMS has not recommended the purchase of Auto Analyser to the Vigilance Committee.

*[English]*

#### **Expansion of Postal Network**

4708. SHRI B. MAHTAB: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the steps taken by the Government for the expansion of postal network during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) the amount spent and the result achieved in various States under that programme during the plan period, year-wise; and

(c) the target set in this regard for Eleventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) In the Tenth Plan provision was made under the Plan Scheme "Expansion of Postal Network" for opening of Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras (PSSKs), Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices in rural and tribal areas and Departmental Sub Post Offices.

(b) Year-wise expenditure under the scheme and the postal outlets opened under the scheme are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) Since Planning Commission has not finalized the Eleventh Five Year Plan targets for the Department, the same have not been fixed.

**Statement**

*Physical Achievement and Expenditure Booked for opening of Post Offices and Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras (PSSK) during 10th Five Year Plan*

Year	Physical Achievement (Opening of Post Offices)	Expenditure Booked	Physical Achievement (Opening of Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendra)	Expenditure Booked
2002-2003	266	649737.85	1482	9353940.39
2003-2004	219	3140327.55	889	18062213.70
2004-2005	Nil	2802354.00	Nil	17732772.74*
2005-2006	Nil	Nil	Nil	16312642.30*
2006-2007	10	1449092.00	Nil	14564468.42*
<b>Total</b>	<b>495</b>	<b>8041511.40</b>	<b>2371</b>	<b>76026037.55</b>

\*This includes recurring expenditure incurred on PSSKs for fixed monthly allowance and commission for sale of stamps and stationery, booking of Registered letters etc.

*[Translation]***Trade Imbalance between India and Bangladesh**

4709. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:  
SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR:  
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a dialogue regarding trade imbalance had taken place between India and Bangladesh during the SAARC Summit;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Bangladesh has sought permission for direct trading with the North-Eastern States;

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

(e) whether the Government has also raised the issue regarding anti-India activities from the soil of Bangladesh?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Yes. On the sidelines of the 14th SAARC Summit, the Chief Advisor and Foreign Advisor to the Caretaker Government of Bangladesh met Prime Minister and EAM respectively. The discussions with the Bangladeshi leadership centered on bilateral relations and the SAARC Summit, including addressing concerns of Bangladesh over its trade deficit with India.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Yes. Government have raised the issue of anti-India activities from the soil of Bangladesh with the Government of Bangladesh. Government of Bangladesh have assured us at the highest level that its territory will not be allowed to be used for activities inimical to India. Government of India have emphasised to them the need for concrete and sustained action towards fulfilling this assurance.

*[English]***Using of Forest Land by CIL**

4710. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiaries are using forest land in violation of the existing policies/guidelines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the South Eastern Coalfields Limited has been asked to pay Rs. 300 crore as compensation for using forest land in Chhattisgarh;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any responsibility has been fixed in the matter;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the action taken against the erring officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) had filed a writ petition in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India for exemption from payment of Net Present Value (NPV) for underground mining in Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh on the ground that surface forest is not disturbed due to underground mining. Supreme Court permitted operation of the mine subject to the applicant—SECL depositing an amount of Rs. 50 Crores towards NPV and an undertaking to deposit the remaining amount with Central Empowered Committee (CEC). Accordingly, SECL complied with the order.

SECL had also filed another petition in Hon'ble Supreme Court of India for deletion of the condition of penal compensatory afforestation, as imposed by Ministry of Environmental Forests, Government of India while granting approvals towards renewal of forest land leases of SECL mines in Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh states, on the ground that there has been no violation of FC Act, 1980 by SECL in the matter as application for renewal of forest land leases have been submitted by SECL to State Forest Departments of Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh states well before the expiry of forest land leases.

Upon Hon'ble Supreme Court's order, SECL has deposited Rs. 300 crores within the stipulated time towards NPV and Penal Compensatory Afforestation against renewal of forest land leases.

(e) to (g) Do not arise as the final verdict of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in this case is yet to come.

#### **Opening up of PHCs in Tamil Nadu**

4711. DR. K. DHANARAJU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received representations from various ends to open Primary Health Centres at various places in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the decision taken by the Union Government to open the said Public Health Centres; and

(d) the other places where Public Health Centres are likely to be opened during the year 2007-08?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Programme Implementation Plan (PIP) 2006-07 under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) had proposed opening up of 178 new Primary Health Centres (PHCs).

(c) As against the requirement of 1173 PHCs as per 2001 census in the State of Tamil Nadu, there were, 1380 PHCs functioning in the State as on September, 2005 which means as surplus of 207 PHCs already. However, the State was requested to modify the proposal to construct 40 PHCs buildings functioning in rented premises, subject to 25% ceiling on civil works under NRHM.

(d) Needs to opening up of Public Health Centres are incorporated in the PIP submitted under NRHM by the State.

#### **Functional Status of NEIGRIMS**

4712. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to provide full Functional Status to the North-Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Medical Sciences (NEIGRIMS);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to give additional incentives to attract qualified and experienced Faculty;

(d) whether the proposal for declaring NEIGRIMS as a National Institute is under consideration of the Government;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The Government of India has approved the NEIGRIHMS project at Shillong at an estimated cost of Rs. 422.60 crore which provides for teaching at Post-graduate level in 35 specialties/super-specialties with a 500 bedded referral hospital and a Nursing College. The Civil Works of the Institute is substantially completed and it is in the process of procuring equipment. As of now, the hospital of the Institute has started functioning with 315 beds with functional departments in 5 clinical departments of Paediatrics, Cardiology, Urology, General Medicine, Gastroenterology and Radiation Oncology, 5 surgical departments of Orthopaedics, CTVS, Obstetrics & Gynaecology, GI Surgery and 4 supporting departments of Radio diagnostics, Pathology, Microbiology and Anaesthesiology. The School of Nursing has already started functioning from the academic year 2006-07. The process of recruitment for faculty and other posts is underway. With the appointment of faculty and other staff and commissioning of equipment, the Institute will start functioning to its full strength.

(c) The Institute had submitted a proposal for grant of additional incentives to its faculty. After consideration of the proposal, the Institute has been advised to recast the proposal for each incentive proposed, keeping in view orders of Government of India on the subject.

(d) to (f) A proposal for declaring NEIGRIHMS as a National Institute was received from the Institute. After examination, the Institute was advised to initiate the proposal after operationalising the hospital and Institute fully.

### **Moratorium on Haj Subsidy**

4713. SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY:

SHRIMATI MANORAMA MADHAVRAJ:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the moratorium imposed by the courts on the contribution of Central subsidies for Haj Pilgrims from the next year, the Government has devised any guidelines for assistance for the Haj Pilgrims;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Sachar Committee has also called for continuation of subsidies/assistance to the Haj Pilgrims;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government proposes to provide fund assistance after assessing the requirements of the Haj Pilgrims; and

(f) if so, reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) and (b) The High Court of Judicature at Allahabad, Lucknow Bench through its interim order of 25.08.2006 had restrained the Government from providing financial subsidy to Haj Yatra or other pilgrimage of any community. The Hon'ble Supreme Court, in its judgment of 18.09.2006 stayed for 2006, the orders of the Lucknow Bench of the Allahabad High Court to the extent that they restrained the Government of India from providing funds or giving financial subsidies to Haj. It requested the High Court to hear and expeditiously decide the Writ Petition. The case is continuing in the Lucknow Bench and the next date of hearing is scheduled on 09.05.2007. The Government has meanwhile filed an SLP on 25th April 2007 in the Supreme Court of India requesting that the benefits of Supreme Court's order dated 18.09.2006 may be extended to Haj 2007, as well. This has been heard by the apex court on 7th May 2007. An interim order has been passed in favour of the Government plea.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) The matter is subjudice. Appropriate action can be taken in the matter only once the decisions of the courts are known.

#### **Special Facilities to North-Eastern Students**

4714. SHRI NAKUL DAS RAI: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to provide special facilities to the students of the North-Eastern States and Sikkim for making them capable of competing in the Government sector jobs; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) The Central Government is giving priority to the development of academic and technical education in the NE Region for making the youth of the Region capable of competing for both government and private sector jobs. The major initiatives taken in this regard are as under:

- (i) The Directorate General of Employment & Training is implementing the Prime Minister's package on the establishment of 22 new ITIs and upgradation of 35 existing ITIs at a cost of Rs. 100 crore in the North-East States. The Planning Commission have also approved the establishment of three new ITIs—two in the State of Sikkim and one in Assam, with an additional allocation of 13.7 crore. Five ITIs from the NE Region are also being upgraded into Centres of Excellence (CoE).
- (ii) Legislation for the conversion into Central Universities of the Rajiv Gandhi State University in Arunachal Pradesh and Tripura University, as also for the establishment of new Sikkim University has been enacted.
- (iii) The Northern Eastern Regional Institute of Science & Technology (NERIST), Itanagar; the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT); Guwahati and National Institutes of Technology (NITs) in Silchar and Agartala are looking after the needs of technical and professional education in the North-East.

(iv) The Government have approved a proposal for the setting up an Indian Institute of Management in Shillong.

(v) The University Grants Commission (UGC) is providing financial assistance for the welfare of SC/ST/Ministry students for making them capable of competing in Government sector jobs through their schemes viz., (a) Scheme of Coaching Classes to prepare for National Eligibility Test (NET); and (b) Coaching Classes for Entry in Services.

(vi) The North East Project (NEP) undertaken by the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) and funded by Prime Minister's non-lapsable funds has been conducting several training programmes stressing on vocationalisation aimed at the upgradation of relevant skills.

(vii) The Ministry of DoNER under its Scheme of Capacity Building, and the North Eastern Council have also taken up a number of programmes for skill upgradation of the youth of the Region through National Level Institutes of Organizations.

#### *[Translation]*

#### **Fake Absence and Termination of Labourers**

4715. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received complaints from the Workers' Organizations and Public Representatives regarding cases of shocking fake absence of labourers and their termination from the jobs in several coal mine projects of Vekoli, a subsidiary company of Coal India Limited (CIL);

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

(c) whether the Government is contemplating to give any opportunity to such labourers; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) to (d) No

instance where services of workers have been terminated on account of false absenteeism has been brought to the notice of management of Western Coalfields Limited. In the case of habitual and long absenteeism, action is initiated against the employees after due compliance of the procedures contained in Certified Standing Orders of Western Coalfields Limited.

### **Eradication of Blindness**

4716. SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments has been given rights to provide grants to the Non-Governmental Organisations working for eradication of blindness;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the proposals received under the programme for eradication of blindness;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the funds allocated for the said purpose during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The schemes for release of grant to Non-Government Organisations has been decentralized to States since 2005-06 under the National Programme for Control of Blindness (NPCB). The details of the decentralized schemes are as under:—

(i) Non-recurring grant-in-aid for expansion/up-gradation of eye care units for underserved population.

(ii) Non-recurring grant-in-aid for setting-up/strengthening of Eye Banks and Eye donation Centres.

(iii) Non-recurring grant-in-aid for setting up/strengthening Vision Centres.

(iv) Recurring grant-in-aid for performing free cataract operations in hospitals.

(v) Recurring grant-in-aid to Eye Banks and Eye Donation Centres.

(c) to (e) Funds are released to States/UTs as per the requirement for implementation of various Eye Care activities under the National Programme for Control of Blindness. A statement showing allocation of funds to State/UTs for eradication of blindness during the last three years is enclosed.

### **Statement**

#### *National Programme for Control of Blindness*

#### *State-wise allocation of funds during 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07*

(Rupees in lakh)

States/UTs	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07* (Provisional)
1	2	3	4
<b>MAJOR STATES</b>			
Andhra Pradesh	325.86	278.10	642.60
Bihar	72.00	101.28	422.42
Chhattisgarh	277.52	317.84	152.14
Goa	21.29	29.69	43.60
Gujarat	464.23	487.98	489.20

1	2	3	4
Haryana	180.12	137.22	230.75
Himachal Pradesh	103.00	97.21	122.84
Jammu and Kashmir	188.21	112.48	15.00
Jharkhand	169.78	111.20	269.80
Karnataka	499.47	598.38	740.50
Kerala	194.09	260.47	114.80
Madhya Pradesh	879.49	524.91	762.57
Maharashtra	351.53	646.92	637.00
Orissa	344.05	280.01	250.00
Punjab	23.06	97.29	140.60
Rajasthan	602.58	755.20	688.10
Tamil Nadu	1310.18	1310.90	1393.60
Uttar Pradesh	1003.74	949.17	1134.40
Uttaranchal	110.24	194.66	108.00
West Bengal	122.60	475.31	423.80
Sub-total	7223.04	7766.22	8781.72
<b>NORTH-EASTERN STATES</b>			
Arunachal Pradesh	45.87	90.22	141.00
Assam	48.02	298.15	330.00
Manipur	12.54	31.00	124.41
Meghalaya	39.49	76.00	159.73
Mizoram	11.16	45.37	107.00
Nagaland	13.25	35.95	62.67
Sikkim	6.19	22.75	17.00
Tripura	24.34	101.34	219.00
Sub-Total	200.86	700.78	1160.81
<b>UTs</b>			
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	6.22	11.16	3.00
Chandigarh	11.96	28.57	16.00



1	2	3	4
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1.05	3.00	0.00
Daman and Diu	6.24	10.61	11.00
Delhi	48.07	147.42	166.60
Lakshadweep	4.47	4.47	0.00
Pondicherry	8.03	9.98	62.00
Total	86.04	215.21	258.60
Grand Total	7509.94	8682.21	10201.13

### Retrieval of Historical Bridge

4717. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a bridge has been found under the sea near Rameshwaram believed to be of the Ramayana period;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to take steps to retrieve the historical bridge; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) There is no scientific evidence regarding the existence of any ancient man-made structure in the proposed Sethusamudram Ship Channel alignment.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

*[English]*

### Programme outcome and Response Monitoring Division

4718. SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had set up a "Programme Outcome and Response Monitoring Division" in the year 2005;

(b) if so, the work done by the Division so far vis-a-vis the total expenditure incurred thereon; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to improve the quality of implementation of development programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Programme Outcome and Response Monitoring Division compiled the responses received from different ministries and departments of Government of India for Outcome Budget 2005-06. However, the mandate given to that Division for preparation of Outcome Budget for flagship programmes has been revised and the same is now being attended by Department of Expenditure since November 9, 2005. The expenditure incurred on this Division is as follows:

(i) Fees paid to consultants from 30.03.2005 to 30.09.2005—Rs. 185,010/-

(ii) Salary to officials/staff of the Division—Rs. 8,85,825/-.

(c) With a view to improve the quality of implementation of Development Programmes, the Planning Commission is considering making it a firm condition that all proposals submitted to it must require sufficient benchmarking before approval. It also plans to strengthen its evaluation capacity by involving research institutes and civil society organizations which have the capability of undertaking rigorous evidence based evaluation. State Governments would also be well advised to take similar steps to improve the quality of Plan programmes.

*[Translation]***Recruitment of Employees**

4719. SHRI GANESH SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of labourers and other employees working in various coal companies of the country, company-wise, category-wise;

(b) the number of years since when recruitment of employees has been stopped;

(c) whether it has adverse effect on the functioning of coal companies; and

(d) if so, whether the Government proposes to consider the recruitment of employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) The category-wise and company-wise composition of manpower in various coal companies in the country as on 1.4.2007 is as per the enclosed statement.

(b) No outside recruitment has been made by Coal India Limited (CIL) during May 1999 to 2005 in the executive cadre.

(c) and (d) At present CIL and its subsidiaries are having surplus manpower, though there is some shortage in statutory and skilled categories. During last two years CIL has made recruitment of Management trainees, Medical Officers, Accounts officers etc. and subsidiaries of CIL have made recruitment of statutory and other essential personnel (non-executive) under special recruitment drive for filling up the backlog vacancies. General recruitment in executive cadre is in progress in CIL. Action has also been initiated to fill up vacant posts in statutory and essential categories in non executive cadres in the subsidiaries of CIL.

**Statement**

Category	Eastern Coalfields Limited	Bharat Coking Coal Limited	Central Coalfields Limited	Western Coalfields Limited	South Eastern Coalfields Limited	Mahanadi Coalfields Limited	Northern Coalfields Limited	North Eastern Coalfields Limited	Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Limited	Coal India Limited (HQ) including Dankuni coal complex	Total Coal India Limited
Executive	2334	2318	2486	2303	2718	1215	1371	101	774	366	15986
Monthly Rated	19866	17238	13510	13899	14729	4582	3778	875	1390	1207	91074
Daily Rated	54160	44992	34741	43492	62854	14484	11577	2069	963	181	269513
Piece Rated	21064	18033	10478	5429	3645	291	0	165	0	0	59105
Casual	1	120	172	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	296
Badli	10	151	0	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	182
Company Trainee	1345	726	223	452	422	19	0	0	0	0	3187
<b>Total</b>	<b>98780</b>	<b>83578</b>	<b>61610</b>	<b>65599</b>	<b>84368</b>	<b>20591</b>	<b>16726</b>	<b>3210</b>	<b>3127</b>	<b>1754</b>	<b>439343</b>

**Dispute Over McMohan Line**

4720. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the McMohan Line demarcate the border between India and China;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any dispute over the McMohan Line at some places; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d) The India-China boundary in the Eastern Sector has been established by the Indo-Tibetan Agreement of March 1914. This Agreement was signed by Sir Henry McMahon, Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign and Political Department and Lonchen Shatra, Tibetan Plenipotentiary. China illegally claims 90,000 square kilometres of Indian territory in the Indian state of Arunachal Pradesh in the Eastern Sector.

[English]

#### Micro Credit to Farmers by NEDFC

4721. SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the North Eastern Development Financial Corporation (NEDFC) is helping the farmers through Micro-Credit;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds allocated to the farmers by NEDFC during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Under the Micro Finance scheme, the North Eastern Development Finance Corporation (NEDFi) does not lend directly to the farmers but finances the Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) who on-lend to the farmers for various agricultural activities viz. agriculture, piggery, dairy, vermi-compost, cultivation of medicinal and aromatic plants, fishery, etc.

The cumulative status of micro credit to farmers by NEDFi as on 31.3.2007 is given below:

Number of NGOs assisted	Total number of farmers assisted	Total amount disbursed (in Rs. lakh)
120	5713	475.00

(c) There is no specific funds allocation under micro-credit for the current financial year. However, on the basis of historical trends, NEDFi expects sanctions, through the NGO route, of upto Rs. 1.00 crore to farmers through this Scheme during the year 2007-08.

[Translation]

#### Betting In Cricket Matches

4722. SHRIMATI RUPATAI D. PATIL:  
SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI:  
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of betting have come to light in some of the matches in the recently concluded one-day series between India and the West Indies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has conducted an inquiry into the matter;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof and the details of the action taken against the guilty persons;

(e) whether the nexus between the bookies and the underworld have also been exposed;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (g) The Ministry has not received any report of betting in the one-day cricket series concluded recently between India and the West Indies. BCCI have also stated that except for some media reports about a West Indies player at Nagpur, nothing has come to their notice. It has further been reported by BCCI that the Maharashtra State Police have submitted a report to the ICC Anti-Corruption Unit on the matter and ICC is dealing with this case.

[English]

#### Attempts for Civil Services Examination

4723. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of attempts allowed to the candidates belonging to the General, the OBC and the Physically Handicapped categories in the Civil Services Examination (CSE);

(b) whether the Physically Handicapped (PH) candidates are allowed less number of attempts to appear in the CSE as compared to their counterparts in the OBC category;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government proposes to allow equal number of attempts for all the candidates belonging to the OBC and the PH categories in the CSE;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether any discrimination in the allotment of the cadre of Physically Handicapped candidates has come to the notice of the Government;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) to (e) At present, four chances are allowed to the candidates belonging to the general categories, seven attempts are allowed to OBC candidates, unlimited attempts to SC/ST candidates. A Physically Handicapped candidate gets as many attempts as are available to other non-physically handicapped candidate of his or her community. However, recently a policy decision has been taken that physically handicapped candidates belonging to general category will get 7 attempts. This is being implemented with prospective effect.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Question does not arise.

(h) Question does not arise.

### **Dismantling of Mumbai Docks**

4724. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether two of the Mumbai's oldest docks, the Victoria and the Princes will soon be buried to make way for a parking lot of an off-shore terminal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantity of cargo handled by these docks during the last three years;

(d) the proposal of Mumbai Port Trusts (MPT) to make use of the area after dismantling them;

(e) whether there was an improvement in cargo handling by the Port during 2005-06;

(f) if so, the extent to which it is feasible to dismantle these two Docks; and

(g) the way in which the cargo will be handled during the period of its dismantling?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) the Prince's and Victoria Docks being very old, built in 1880s, small and shallow, have almost become obsolete as the present vessels are bigger in size and deeper in draught. Mumbai Port proposes to fill up the Prince's and Victoria Dock Basins and develop into Container Yard for stacking of containers to be handled at the proposed Offshore Container Terminal and not for a parking lot.

(c) The quantity of cargo handled in Prince's & Victoria Docks from the year 2004-05 is as under:-

Year	Cargo Handled at Prince's & Victoria Docks	
	(in tonnes)	% of total Cargo Handled in MbPT
2004-05	9,04,667	2.57
2005-06	10,57,013	2.39
2006-07	10,91,216	2.08

(d) The Mumbai Port proposes to use the area as a Container Yard for stacking of nearly 1.00 Million Containers per Annum, to be handled at the Offshore Container Terminal.

(e) to (g) About 98% of the total cargo handled during the year 2006-07 at Mumbai Port was handled outside Prince's and Victoria Docks. Since a very small quantity of cargo is being handled in Prince's and Victoria Docks, this would be handled at Indira Dock and Bunder Areas. Hence, the cargo operations in Mumbai Port will not be affected during the period when the dismantling work will be in progress.

#### **Task Force for Skilled Manpower**

4725. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Task Force for skilled manpower has submitted its report to the Government;

(b) if so, the recommendations given by the Task Force; and

(c) the action taken or likely to be taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) to (c) The Task Force on Skill Development has prepared its draft report. The final report of the Task Force is expected to be submitted to the Planning Commission by May, 2007.

#### **Eleventh Plan Outlays for North-Eastern States**

4726. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Plan outlays for the Eleventh Five Year Plan for the State of Assam and other States in the North-East have been determined;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the salient features of the outlays and targets for different sectors of economy and social development in the region;

(c) the comparative outlays and targets for the Tenth and Ninth Five Years Plans *vis-a-vis* Eleventh Plan; and

(d) the steps so far taken for implementation of the plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) to (d) Plan outlays for the 11th Five Year Plan for the State of Assam and other states in the North East have not been determined. However outlays for Annual plan 2007-08 have been approved and state-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

The Approach paper to the Eleventh Plan has recognized the special problems of North-East, such as its geographical location, inadequacy of physical infrastructure, low level of entrepreneurship, etc. It has accorded high priority to improving the transport infrastructure, exploration of natural resources and encouragement to tourism, horticulture, agriculture and forestry. The outlays and priorities during the Eleventh Plan, both Central and State, would be determined accordingly and considering the resource availability.

The comparative outlays for the Ninth & Tenth Five Year Plan and for Annual Plan 2007-08 are given in the enclosed statement-II. There were no state-wise growth targets for 9th Plan. The state-wise growth targets fixed for 10th Plan are given in the enclosed Statement-III. The State-wise growth targets for 11th Plan have not been finalized.

#### **Statement I**

#### **Plan Outlays for North Eastern States including Sikkim for Annual Plan 2007-08**

(Rs. in crore)

Sl.No.	States	Annual Plan 2007-08 Proposed Outlay	Annual Plan 2007-08 Agreed Outlay
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	1320.00	1320.00
2.	Assam	7523.70	3799.99
3.	Manipur	1374.30	1374.30
4.	Meghalaya	1360.00	1120.00
5.	Mizoram	895.00	850.00
6.	Nagaland	958.94	900.00
7.	Sikkim	864.32	691.14
8.	Tripura	1275.08	1219.76

**Statement II***Approved Outlays during 9th and 10th Plan and Agreed Outlays during Annual Plan 2007-08*

(Rs. in crore)

Sl.No.	States	Ninth Plan (1997-2002) Approved Outlay	Tenth Plan (2002-07) Approved Outlay	Annual Plan 2007-08 Agreed Outlay
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	3,191.00	4150.35	1320.00
2.	Assam	8,140.28	12212.00	3799.99
3.	Manipur	2,281.00	4073.09	1374.31
4.	Meghalaya	2,214.00	3516.34	1120.00
5.	Mizoram	1,794.26	2969.52	850.00
6.	Nagaland	1,637.00	2842.79	900.00
7.	Sikkim	1,257.22	2296.07	691.14
8.	Tripura	2,399.91	3729.27	1219.76
Total		22,914.67	35,789.43	11,275.20

**Statement III***State-wise and sector-wise Growth Target—Tenth Five Year Plan*

(In % age)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Agriculture	Industry	Services	GSDP Growth
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	4.00	8.90	10.50	8.05
2.	Assam	3.82	5.00	9.00	6.17
3.	Manipur	3.59	8.33	7.39	6.46
4.	Meghalaya	4.00	6.87	7.05	6.30
5.	Mizoram	2.00	4.16	6.84	5.29
6.	Nagaland	4.00	7.29	5.78	5.56
7.	Sikkim	5.00	5.21	10.36	7.87
8.	Tripura	3.90	9.37	8.43	7.31
All India		4.00	8.86	9.35	8.00

### Financial Support to ITI

4727. SHRI A.V. BELLARMIN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide adequate financial support to enable the Indian Telephone Industries Ltd. to produce equipment worth about Rs. 4000 crores during the current year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) As per the Memorandum of Understanding of the Company of the year 2007-08, the targeted production is Rs. 4,770 crore. Government is supporting ITI in their endeavour to increase production. Financial Support is also being provided to M/s ITI Limited by way of 75% advance from BSNL/MTNL for the orders placed on ITI by BSNL/MTNL which will enable ITI to achieve the turnover target for the current year.

### Primary/Community Health Centres

4728. SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the Primary and the Community Health Centres (PHCs and CHCs) located in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the PHCs and CHCs are not having adequate number of doctors particularly in Tamil Nadu; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) State-wise numbers of Primary Health Centres and Community Health Centres (PHCs & CHCs) in the country functioning as on March, 2006 is enclosed as Statement.

(b) and (c) In the State of Tamil Nadu, there were 2537 doctors in position in the PHCs as against the sanctioned number of 3089 posts and requirement of 1252

doctors, as on March, 2006. In the CHCs, there are 48 Specialists *i.e.* Surgeons, Obstetrics/Gynecologists, Physicians and Pediatricians in position as against the sanctioned number of 48 posts and requirement of 140 Specialists, as on September, 2005.

### Statement

#### Number of PHCs & CHCs Functioning

(As on March, 2006)

Sl.No.	State/UT	PHCs	CHCs
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1570	167
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	85	31
3.	Assam	610	100
4.	Bihar	1641	70
5.	Chhattisgarh	518	118
6.	Goa	19	5
7.	Gujarat	1072	273
8.	Haryana	408	82
9.	Himachal Pradesh	439	66
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	374	80
11.	Jharkhand	330	194
12.	Karnataka	1679	254
13.	Kerala	909	107
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1192	229
15.	Maharashtra	1800	407
16.	Manipur	72	16
17.	Meghalaya	101	25
18.	Mizoram	57	9
19.	Nagaland	84	21
20.	Orissa	1279	231
21.	Punjab	484	126

1	2	3	4
22.	Rajasthan	1713	325
23.	Sikkim	24	4
24.	Tamil Nadu	1252	165
25.	Tripura	73	10
26.	Uttaranchal	222	49
27.	Uttar Pradesh	3660	386
28.	West Bengal	922	346
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	20	4
30.	Chandigarh	0	1
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	6	1
32.	Daman and Diu	3	1
33.	Delhi	8	0
34.	Lakshadweep	4	3
35.	Pondicherry	39	4
All India		22669	3910

#### **Exploitation of Coal and Coal Bed Methane**

4729. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any meeting was held between the Ministry of Coal and the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas on exploitation of Coal and Coal Bed Methane (CBM);

(b) if so, the details thereof and the decision taken therein;

(c) whether any action has been initiated to develop a road map for harmonious exploitation of Coal and CBM in areas where the respective blocks overlap; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) to (d) The issue related to simultaneous exploitation of coal and coal

bed methane (CBM) in the same area has been discussed by Ministry of Coal and Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas along with other concerned agencies.

In order to address the issues of simultaneous coal mining and CBM operations an Expert Committee has been constituted in March' 07 under the Chairmanship of Adviser (Projects), Ministry of Coal with representatives of Directorate General Hydrocarbons (DSH), Oil Industry Safety Directorate (OISD), Central Mine Planning and Design Institute (CMPDI), Directorate General of Mine Safety (DGMS) and Coal Controller and an invitee with a Deputy Secretary of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas as Member Secretary. The issues for consideration/ Terms of reference by the Expert Committee are as under:-

- The techno-feasibility of producing CBM along with coal mining without any compromise to safety and technological problems.
- Coordination arrangements, sharing arrangements and consultation and information exchange mechanism between the CBM and coal mining operator.
- Pattern of inter-face between these two different activities with regard to legal, fiscal and technological aspects.
- Regulatory framework for environmental issues for simultaneous production of coal and CBM.
- Clearly demarcate rights and obligations of coal and mining operators and CBM operators to avoid/minimize any dispute during simultaneous operations.
- Any other matter deemed fit for examination by the committee.

The Committee deliberated on the issues in three meetings held so far and the Committee is to submit its report within sixty days.

#### **Population Control Programmes**

4730. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government provides assistance/ incentives to the State Governments to implement Population Control Programmes;

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



(c) whether some States have implemented the policy of two-child norm;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the States which recorded the least and the highest population growth rate in the country considering the ratio of population as per the last census?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government is providing Central assistance to the States/UTs under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) and second phase of Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) programme for implementation of various family welfare schemes to achieve population stabilisation in the country. The statement indicating State/UT-wise funds released under these schemes is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir, in spite of non-coercive approach and spirit of voluntarism envisaged in National Population Policy, 2000, some States have gone ahead with adoption of two child norm for elected members of local self bodies viz. Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Orissa and Delhi. The States of Haryana and Himachal Pradesh have withdrawn the legislation on two-child norm in their respective States.

(e) According to 2001 census findings, highest decadal growth rate was recorded in Nagaland (64.53%), Dadra and Nagar Haveli (59.22%) and Daman and Diu (55.73%). The lowest decadal growth rate was recorded in Kerala (9.43%), Tamil Nadu (11.72%) and Andhra Pradesh (14.59%).

#### *Statement*

*Funds Released under NRHM and RCH Programmes for the year 2006-07*

(Rs. In Crores)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Funds Released under NRHM	Funds Released under RCH
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	119.19	134.39
2.	Bihar	125.79	113.14

1	2	3	4
3.	Goa	1.12	0.46
4.	Gujarat	93.63	49.35
5.	Haryana	34.32	30.13
6.	Himachal Pradesh	30.29	6.18
7.	Karnataka	84.38	73.20
8.	Kerala	44.60	31.20
9.	Madhya Pradesh	136.62	114.35
10.	Maharashtra	113.94	119.25
11.	Orissa	66.91	60.01
12.	Punjab	42.41	23.72
13.	Rajasthan	138.06	105.22
14.	Tamil Nadu	97.93	74.80
15.	Uttar Pradesh	241.77	156.00
16.	West Bengal	115.71	65.82
17.	Jammu and Kashmir	31.39	10.53
18.	Chhattisgarh	61.75	43.96
19.	Jharkhand	46.53	21.41
20.	Uttaranchal	15.92	12.91
21.	Arunachal Pradesh	31.07	6.74
22.	Assam	245.41	55.76
23.	Manipur	20.48	4.32
24.	Meghalaya	19.51	6.12
25.	Mizoram	32.43	1.44
26.	Nagaland	22.62	3.73
27.	Tripura	12.97	7.69
28.	Sikkim	18.22	2.18
29.	Delhi	4.54	13.38
30.	Pondicherry	1.64	1.38

1	2	3	4
31.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands—UTs	0.63	0.48
32.	Chandigarh	0.47	0.82
33.	Daman and Diu	0.67	0.59
34.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.54	0.48
35.	Lakshadweep	0.28	0.58
Total		2053.74	1351.72

[*Translation*]

#### Development of IT Sector

4731. SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the production targets fixed and the achievements made in regard to the development of Information Technology (IT) sector during the last three years;

(b) the details of the amount spent for this purpose during the last three years;

(c) whether the country is lagging behind in the field of Information Technology as compared to the other countries;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) As per NASSCOM (National Association of Software and Service Companies) total revenue in last three years from IT Sector are as follows:

Financial Year 2004-2005 : US\$ 22.6 billion

Financial Year 2005-2006 : US\$ 30.3 billion

Financial Year 2006-2007\* : US\$ 39.7 billion.

\*Estimated.

As per the NASSCOM it is expected that IT and related service revenue (including domestic market) will be US\$ 75 billion by the year 2010.

(b) as per NASSCOM, no such feedback or information is available.

(c) No, Sir. As per the NASSCOM, the Indian IT-ITES sector has recorded 31% growth rate during 2006-07.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Steps taken by the Government to promote the IT Sector are enclosed as Statement.

#### *Statement*

#### *Steps taken by the Government to promote the IT Sector*

1. Approvals for all foreign direct investment proposals relating to the Information Technology Sector, with the exception of Business-to-consumer (B2C) e-commerce are under the automatic route.
2. Peak rate of customs duty has been reduced to 10%. Customs duty on ITA-1 items (217 items) has been abolished from 1.3.2005. All goods required in the manufacture of ITA-1 items have been exempted from customs duty subject to Actual user condition. Information Technology (IT) Software is exempted from Customs duty.
3. Excise duty on computers is 12%. Microprocessors, Hard Disc Drives, Floppy Disc Drives, CD ROM Drives, DVD Drives/DVD writers, Flash Memory and Combo-Drives have been exempted from excise duty.
4. Supplies of Information Technology Agreement (ITA-1) items and notified zero duty telecom/electronic items in the Domestic Tariff Area (DTA) by Electronics Hardware Technology Park (EHTP)/Export Oriented Unit (EOU)/Special Economic Zone (SEZ) units are counted for the purpose of fulfillment of positive Net Foreign Exchange Earnings (NFE).
5. Special Economic Zones (SEZs) are being set up to enable hassle free manufacturing and trading for export purposes. Sales from Domestic

Tariff Area (DTA) to SEZs are being treated as physical export. This entitles domestic suppliers to Drawback/DEPB benefits, CST exemption and Service Tax exemption. 100% Income Tax exemption on export profits is available to SEZ units for 5 years, 50% for next 5 years and 50% of ploughed back profits for 5 years thereafter.

6. Export Promotion Capital Goods scheme (EPCG) allows import of capital goods on payment of 5% customs duty. The export obligation under EPCG Scheme can also be fulfilled by the supply of Information Technology Agreement (ITA-1) items to the DTA provided the realization is in free foreign exchange.
7. 100% depreciation is available to computers and computer peripherals over a period of 5 years for units under EOU/STP/SEZ schemes.
8. Second hand capital goods are freely importable.
9. Weighted deduction of 150% of expenditure incurred on in house R&D in case of a company engaged in the business of electronic equipment, computers and telecommunication equipment is available under clause (1) of sub-section (2AB) of Section 35 of the Income Tax Act.
10. Income by way of dividends or long-term capital gains of a Venture Capital Fund (VCF) or Venture Capital company from investment made by way of equity shares in a Venture Capital Undertaking, which has been expanded to include the Software and IT sectors, will henceforth not be included in computing the total income. To give thrust to Venture Capital finance, SEBI has been made the single point nodal agency for registration and regulation of both domestic and overseas venture capital funds.
11. Information Technology Act 2000 dealing with Cyber Security, Cyber Crime and other information security related legal aspects is in place to encourage expansion of e-commerce through Internet.

[English]

#### **National Highways in Tamil Nadu**

4732. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of National Highways in Tamil Nadu where widening, extension and repair works have been undertaken during the last three years;

(b) the details of the amount allocated and the names of works completed;

(c) the details of the pending projects alongwith their present status; and

(d) the time by which all pending works are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Development, maintenance and repair of National Highways is a continuous process and these works have been carried out on all the National Highways, namely the National Highways No. 4, 5, 7, 7A, 45, 45A, 45B, 45C, 46, 47, 47B, 49, 66, 67, 68, 205, 207, 208, 209, 210, 219, 220, 226 and 227 in the State of Tamil Nadu during last three years.

(b) Total amount allocated during the last three years for National Highways entrusted to Government of Tamil Nadu is Rs. 369.15 crore. As regards the projects implemented by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) under National Highways Development Project (NHDP), State-wise allocation of funds is not made. The names of works completed during last three years include widening to two lanes/four lanes, strengthening, improvement of riding quality, construction of bridges/culverts, land acquisition, Survey & Investigation, various types of Road Safety works, Feasibility Study and Inventorisation, Periodic Renewal, Special Repairs, Ordinary Repairs, Flood Damage Repairs, Tsunami damage Repairs, etc.

(c) and (d) Since Development and Maintenance of National Highways is a continuous process, the projects are taken up as per availability of funds and *Inter-se* priority of works. No time frame can, therefore, be given for completion of pending works.

#### **Pending Cases in Board of Arbitration**

4733. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases referred to the Board of Arbitration (BOA) upto the year 2006;

(b) whether the cases referred have been disposed of;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the number of cases which are pending for disposal; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for the disposal of all the pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) to (e) A total of 259 cases have been referred to the Board of Arbitration upto the year 2006. Out of this, 257 cases have been disposed of by the Board of Arbitration. Only 2 cases are pending for disposal. The process of appointment of Chairman, Board of Arbitration is in an advanced stage.

[*Translation*]

#### **NSSO Data on Poor People**

4734. SHRI CHANDRAMANI TRIPATHI:  
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has got nationwide survey conducted through the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) to find out the total number of poor people in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the number of poor in the country is increasing very fast as per the survey;

(d) if so, the details of other indicators pointed out in the survey; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government for alleviating poverty and starvation in the country and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

(SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) No, Sir. National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) has not carried out any survey to find out the total number of poor people in the country.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

(e) Various poverty alleviation schemes like National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS), Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna, Indira Awas Yojna, Sampooma Grameen Rajgor Yojna, Swarnajanti Gram Swarajgar Yojna etc. being implemented by various central ministries for alleviating poverty.

#### **Four Laning of NH between Muraina and Gwalior**

4735. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the extension work of the proposed four-laning of the National Highway between Muraina and Gwalior has not been carried out so far;

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

(c) whether a by-pass has been sanctioned on the said National Highway in Gwalior;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for delay in the construction of the by-pass;

(e) whether the work is likely to be extended; and

(f) the time by which both these projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Muraina-Gwalior section of NH-3 is already four laned. Extension work of six laning of Muraina-Gwalior section has been identified under NHDP Phase-V as a part of Agra-Gwalior section of NH-3. The preparation of detailed project report for six laning is yet to be taken up. For four laning of Gwalior-Dewas section of NH-3, on BOT (Toll) basis and invitation of bids, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with State Government is under consideration.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The work of construction of Gwalior bypass has commenced in April, 2007 on BOT (Annuity) basis. There is no delay at present in the construction schedule.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) The construction of Gwalior Bypass is likely to be completed by October, 2009. It is premature to indicate time frame for completion of six laning of Muraina-Gwalior section and four laning of Gwalior-Dewas section of NH-3.

[English]

#### Central Council for Overseas Employment

4736. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up a Central Council for promoting overseas employment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Council will be responsible for the safety of Indian employees working overseas;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the Council is likely to be constituted?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. The proposal to set up Council for Promotion of Overseas Employment (CPOE) is under consideration of the Government.

#### Second Phase of RCH Programme

4737. SHRIMATI MANORAMA MADHAVRAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched the Second phase of the Reproductivity and Child Health Programme (RCH-II) to reduce the incidence of maternal and infant morbidity and mortality and also unwanted pregnancies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds allocated to various States under the RCH-II during each of the last three years including the current year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of India has launched the Second Phase of the Reproductive and Child Health (RCH-II) programme with effect from 01.04.2005 for a period of five years.

The programme aims to reduce Total Fertility Rate (TFR), Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) and Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) in the country. Under the programme, flexibility is provided to the States to devise need based Programme Implementation Plans (PIP) to amongst others (i) address the unmet need for contraception; (ii) promote Skilled Care at Birth; (iii) increase coverage of immunization; (iv) introduce Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illnesses; (v) enhance availability of facilities for institutional deliveries and emergency obstetric care; (vi) provide skilled care to pregnant women at the community level; (vii) improve coverage ante-natal and post-natal care; and (viii) address other related reproductive, maternal and child health care needs of their respective populace.

(c) The funds allocated to the various States under the RCH-II programme since its inception in 2005-06 as well as those proposed for the current year are detailed in the enclosed Statement.

#### Statement

*Approved Allocation for the Year 2005-06, 2006-07 & 2007-08*

(Rs. in Crores)

Sl.No.	Name of States/UTs	2005-06 PIP approved by the Ministry	2006-07 PIP approved by the Ministry	2007-08 Funds Allocation indicated to State to FY 2007-08
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	90.50	135.48	101.43
2.	Goa	1.50	1.92	1.80

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Gujarat	60.50	81.41	67.77
4.	Haryana	25.00	33.44	28.24
5.	Himachal Pradesh	7.50	10.62	8.14
6.	Jammu and Kashmir	12.00	15.34	13.49
7.	Karnataka	63.00	88.37	70.64
8.	Kerala	38.00	49.61	42.65
9.	Maharashtra	115.50	154.40	129.60
10.	Punjab	29.00	36.12	32.53
11.	Tamil Nadu	74.00	106.56	83.20
12.	West Bengal	95.50	117.33	107.45
13.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.50	0.80	0.48
14.	Chandigarh	1.00	1.23	1.21
15.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.50	0.70	0.30
16.	Daman and Diu	0.50	0.72	0.21
17.	Delhi	16.50	19.34	0.08
18.	Lakshadweep	0.50	0.62	18.46
19.	Pondicherry	1.00	1.93	1.30
	Sub Total	632.50	855.94	708.98
	<b>EAG States</b>			
20.	Bihar	128.50	140.99	144.32
21.	Jharkhand	42.00	49.09	46.86
22.	Madhya Pradesh	93.50	121.86	105.15
23.	Chhattisgarh	32.50	42.53	36.21
24.	Orissa	57.00	71.4	63.92
25.	Rajasthan	87.50	107.99	98.34
26.	Uttar Pradesh	257.50	299.73	289.15
27.	Uttaranchal	13.00	16.39	14.77
	Sub Total	711.50	849.98	798.720

1	2	3	4	5
<b>NE States</b>				
28.	Arunachal Pradesh	7.35	5.25	4.68
29.	Assam	116.05	110.7	114.18
30.	Manipur	11.93	10.46	9.88
31.	Meghalaya	9.00	9.98	10.24
32.	Mizoram	13.57	4.66	3.82
33.	Nagaland	10.36	8.68	8.52
34.	Sikkim	1.82	2.46	2.32
35.	Tripura	9.67	13.56	13.68
Sub Total		179.75	165.75	167.32
Others		—	0.86	0.00
Grant Total		1523.75	1872.53	1675.02

#### **Schemes to Enlarge Surface Transport Network**

4738. SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has drawn any specific schemes to enlarge the surface transport network and to achieve 9% economic growth in the Eleventh Plan Period;

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

(c) the details of the funds proposed to be allocated for the construction of Golden Quadrilateral Roads across the country during the current financial year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) The Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-08 to 2011-12) and schemes to achieve 9% economic growth have not been formulated.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Funds are provided to National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) for implementation of all the projects

including Golden Quadrilateral being implemented by them. No separate allocation has been made for the Golden Quadrilateral roads. The fund earmarked for the NHAI during 2007-08 from different heads for implementation of all projects including Golden Quadrilateral are as follows:

Cess	Rs. 6541.06 Crore
External Assistance	Rs. 2236.00 Crore
Internal & Extra Budgetary Resources	Rs. 2090.00 Crore
Total	Rs. 10,867.06 Crore

#### **Central Statistical Organisation's Report**

4739. SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) has released his report on agricultural employment, land holding pattern, indebtedness, productivity, willingness of farmers to continue with farming, etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or likely to be taken by the Government on the basis of the findings of the report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) The National Sample Survey Organisation has released the Reports on "Some Aspects of Land Holdings in India.", "Indebtedness of Farmers Households" and "Some Aspects of Farming 2003", on the basis of its 59th round survey results. Agricultural productivity was not covered under this survey.

(b) The highlights of the Reports mentioned above are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) The Government of India has accorded the highest priority to revitalization of rural economy including agriculture sector and bringing improvement in the conditions of farmers. For this purpose a number of schemes are undertaken in various states and farmers are given assistance under different components. Most of the schemes are being implemented through the State Governments. The policy decisions are (i) doubling of agricultural credit flow in next three years and provision of debt relief to the farmers affected by natural calamities, (ii) restructure the rate of interest in favour of farmers, (iii) revamping of cooperative credit structure, (iv) National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) & (v) special package of rehabilitation to mitigate the distress of farmers in the districts registering high incidence of farmers suicide in the identified States, namely, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala and effective implementation of poverty alleviation programmes in rural areas.

#### *Statement*

##### *Land Holdings in India*

#### **Highlights:**

- There were 101.3 million holdings operated during the kharif season of 2002-03 and 95.7 million holdings operated during the rabi season of the same agricultural year.
- Average area operated per holding in 2002-03 was 1.06 hectares compared to 1.34 hectares during 1991-92 and 1.67 hectares in 1981-82.

- Marginal holdings (of size 1 hectare or less) in 2002-03 constituted 70% of all operational holdings, small holdings (size 1 to 2 hectares) constituted 16%, semimedium holdings (2 to 4 hectares), 9% medium holdings (4 to 10 hectares), 4% and large holdings (over 10 hectares), less than 1%.
- The share of marginal holdings in total operated area climbed by 6-7 percentage points since 1991-92 to reach 22-23%, drawing level with the shares of the semi-medium and medium holdings, which had the largest shares in 1991-92.
- Tenant holdings, that is, holdings with partly or wholly leased-in land, formed about 10% of operational holdings during 2002-03 compared to 11% in 1991-92. On an average, a tenant holding operated 0.7 hectares of tenanted land in 2002-03.
- The share of leased-in land in total operated area, which has been declining more or less steadily from 10.7% in 1960-61, was 6.5% for the kharif season of 2002-03.
- At the all-India level, the size distribution of operational land holdings exhibited more or less the same degree of concentration (as measured by Gini's coefficient of concentration) as in 1991-92.
- In West Bengal, Bihar (including Jharkhand), and Orissa, the degree of concentration of the size distribution of operational land holdings was appreciably lower in 2002-03 than it was in 1991-92. In Kerala, the degree of concentration registered a fall in each of the three decades prior to 2002-03.
- Sharecropping remained the most widely prevalent form of lease contract, covering 41% of all tenanted land. However, the shares of "fixed money" and "fixed produce" appeared to be on the increase, together accounting for over 50% of leased-in land in 2002-03.
- Net sown area constituted 87% of operated land during the kharif season and 57% during the rabi season.
- Irrigated land formed 42% of net sown area during the kharif season and 67% during the rabi season.



- About 64% of net sown area was under cereal cultivation in both the seasons of the agricultural year.

NSS Report No. 492: Operational Land Holdings, 2002-03.

*Some Aspects of Farming, 2003*

**Highlights:**

- An estimated 27% of farmers did not like farming because it was not profitable. In all, 40% felt that, given a choice, they would take up some other career.
- The break-up of members of farmer households by educational level was very similar to that of the entire rural population.
- Nearly 5% of farmer households had a member who belonged to a self-help group. Only 2% had a member who belonged to a registered farmers' organisation.
- About 18% of farmer households knew what bio-fertilisers were and 29% understood what minimum support price meant. Only 8% had heard of the World Trade Organisation.
- Only 4% of farmer households had ever insured their crops and 57% did not know that crops could be insured.
- About 29% of farmer households included a member of a cooperative society. Only 19% had availed themselves of services from a cooperative. Most of these households availed themselves of either credit facilities, or services related to seeds or fertilisers.
- Almost 48% of farmer households purchased their seeds and 47% used farmsaved seeds. Whereas 30% farmers replaced seed varieties every year, another 32% replaced them every alternate year.
- Fertilisers were used by 76% farmer households during the kharif and 54% during the rabi season. For 27% households, fertilisers were available within the village.
- Organic manure was used by 56% farmer households during the kharif and 38% during

the rabi season. It was available within the village for 68% households during the kharif and 75% households during the rabi season.

- Improved seeds were used by 46% farmer households during the kharif and 34% during the rabi season. They were available within the village for 18% farmer households.
- Pesticides were used by 46% farmer households during kharif and 31% during rabi. Veterinary services were used by 30% during kharif and 22% during rabi. Only 1.5-2% of farmer households said facilities for test in of fertilisers or pesticides were available to them.
- Among the various agricultural activities covered in the survey, 96.2% of all land used for farming during the kharif and 95.1% during the rabi season was devoted to cultivation, including horticulture, sericulture and vermiculture. In case of leased-in land, 98.2% during the kharif and 97% during the rabi season was cultivated.
- The share of orchards and plantations in total farmed land was 3% during the kharif and 4% during the rabi season. In land farmed by Scheduled Caste households, the share of orchards and plantations was 1-2%.
- Farmer households possessing less than 0.01 hectares of land—who devoted only 14% of farmed land to cultivation—reported 69% of farmed land as used for dairying, compared to 0.35% for all farmer households taken together.
- Almost 50% of all land irrigated during the kharif season and 60% during the rabi season was irrigated by tube-wells. Wells were used to irrigate 19% of land during kharif and 16% during rabi. Canals accounted for irrigation of 18% land during kharif and 14% during rabi.
- An estimated 62% of net irrigated area during kharif and 69% during rabi was devoted to cultivation of cereal crops.
- Gross irrigated area accounted for 42% of cropped area during the kharif and 56% during the rabi season.
- About 79% of gross irrigated area during the kharif and 83% during the rabi season was irrigated without the use of any device. Around

5% was irrigated with the help of diesel pumps and 4% with electric pumps.

- Of the farmer households using non-human energy for ploughing, about 47% used diesel tractors while 52% relied on animal power. Among those using non-human energy for harvesting, 59% used diesel-powered machines. Of those reporting non-human energy use for irrigation, 66% used diesel pumps and 33% used electric pumps.

[NSS Report No. 496: Some Aspects of Farming, 2003]

#### *Indebtedness of Farmer Households*

#### **Highlights:**

- At all-India level, estimated number of rural households was 147.90 million, of whom 60.4% were farmer households.
- Out of 89.35 million farmer households, 43.42 million (48.6%) were reported to be indebted *i.e.* having a liability in cash or kind with value Rs. 300 or more at the time of transaction.
- Estimated prevalence of indebtedness among farmer households was highest in Andhra Pradesh (82.0%), followed by Tamil Nadu (74.5%) and Punjab (65.4%).
- Estimated number of indebted farmer households was highest in Uttar Pradesh (6.9 million), followed by Andhra Pradesh (4.9 million) and Maharashtra (3.6 million).
- Going by principal source of income, 57% farmer households were cultivators. Among them 48% were indebted.
- Households with 1 hectare or less land accounted for 66% of all farmer households. About 45% of them were indebted.
- More than 50% of indebted farmer households had taken loan for the purpose of capital or current expenditure in farm business. Such loans accounted for 584 rupees out of every 1000 rupees of outstanding loan.
- Marriages and ceremonies accounted for 111 rupees per 1000 rupees of outstanding loans of

farmer households. Among the states the proportion was highest in Bihar (229 rupees per 1000 rupees), followed by Rajasthan (176 rupees per 1000 rupees).

- The most important source of loan in terms of percentage of outstanding loan amount was banks (36%), followed by moneylenders (26%).
- Average outstanding loan per farmer household was highest in the state of Punjab, followed by Kerala, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

[NSS Report No. 498: Indebtedness of Farmer Households, 2003]

#### *[Translation]*

#### **Outstanding Amount against MTNL and BSNL**

4740. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA:  
SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any complaint regarding payment related dispute between the two telecommunication companies—the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and the Mahangar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL);

(b) if so, the amount outstanding against the MTNL and the BSNL, year-wise;

(c) the time by which the payments are due;

(d) whether payments are due against both these companies in respect of network usage charges during the last three years;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to recover the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**National Sample Survey Organisation's Report**

4741. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":  
DR. CHINTA MOHAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Sample Survey Organisation has given any report titled 'Level and Pattern of Consumers' Expenditure, 2004-05;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the report mentions about the fact that the substance level of every third person in the rural areas in the country is rupees twelve per day;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard;

(e) whether according to the said report the subsistence level of Ten percent people in rural areas is only rupees thirteen per month; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Government of India, has brought out the Report No. 508(61/1.01/1) titled, "Level and Pattern of Consumer Expenditure, 2004-2005; NSS 61st Round (July 2004-June 2005)" based on the 61st Round of NSS Large Sample survey data on household consumer expenditure.

(c) Table P3 on page no. 13 of the above said Report mentions that about 30% of the rural population has monthly per capita consumption expenditure (MPCE) below Rs. 365 (= Rs. 12 per day).

(d) The Government has adopted a three pronged strategy to improve the living standard of the poor in rural areas: (i) acceleration of economic growth with a focus on sectors which are employment intensive; (ii) human and social development through provisions of basic minimum services; and (iii) targeted anti-poverty programmes.

(e) Table P3 on page no. 13 of the above said Report mentions that about 10% of the urban (not rural)

population has monthly per capita consumption expenditure (MPCE) below Rs. 395 (= Rs. 13 per day).

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

**Medical Education**

4742. DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:  
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the medical education is not being imparted in Hindi and other Regional Languages;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government proposes to impart the medical education in Hindi and other Regional Languages;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (e) Maintaining the standard of medical education is the prime responsibility of Medical Council of India (MCI). The issue of introduction of Hindi medium in medical education was taken up with MCI for comments. The Council was of the view that in a country with a variety of languages, it is essential that medical education should be conducted in a common language throughout the country for mobility of students, teachers, doctors and examiners, etc. MCI is also of the opinion that since medical books in Hindi medium are not available at present, it is, therefore, not possible to conduct the medical education in Hindi medium for the time being.

*[English]*

**Synergising the Operations of BSNL and MTNL**

4743. SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has appointed any advisor for synergizing the operations of the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL);

(b) if so, whether any advice has been given by the advisor in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action initiated by the Government on the recommendations;

(d) if not, the reasons for delay in submitting the report by the advisor; and

(e) the time by which the report is likely to be submitted to the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The consultants appointed by the Government have given some options for restructuring MTNL and BSNL. Several complex issues relating to HR, differential wage structure in the two PSUs, stamp duty implications etc. are involved in restructuring process. The Government will finalize its view only after making careful analysis of the costs involved *vis-a-vis* benefits of different alternatives.

(d) and (e) Do not arise in view of (b) above.

#### **Infrastructure Status of Coal Mining Industry**

4744. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:  
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to grant infrastructure status to coal mining industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken in this regard; and

(d) the time by which such status will be granted to mining sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) to (d) The matter is under consideration. It requires inter-Ministerial consultations, and therefore, it is not possible to suggest a definite time at this stage.

[*Translation*]

#### **Retrenchment of Adivasis and Dalit persons**

4745. SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA:  
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether adivasis, dalits and backward class people of Jharkhand are the most exploited people in Coal Industry and they are being retrenched for remaining absent and being offered V.R.S.;

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

(c) whether the manpower in Coal India Limited (CIL) has come down to four lakhs from seven lakhs five years ago while the profit of CIL and its ancillaries has increased over the years;

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

(e) whether coal companies have different resettlement policies even though coal is a nationalised industry;

(f) If so, the reasons therefor;

(g) whether the Government has received any memorandum in this regard;

(h) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(i) the steps taken by Government to stop exploitation of adivasis and backward classes in the coal industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) As reported by CIL no retrenchment of workers has been done in its subsidiaries. However, cases of unauthorised absenteeism are dealt with as per the provisions of the Standing Orders and adequate opportunity is given to such workmen for improvement. Only in case of failure to improve and on remaining unauthorised absent for a

long duration, the services of such workmen are terminated after observing due process of law. Adivasis or Backward classes are not discriminated against. All workmen irrespective of caste, community, creed or religion are treated in the same manner without

differentiation. Voluntary Retirement Scheme of CIL is optional. Under this scheme, employees with less than the stipulated attendance are not granted retirement.

(c) and (d) Details of manpower for the last five years and profit before Tax & dividend is given below:

Year	Executives	Non-executives	Total	Profit (Rs. in crore)
2002-03	18,013	4,83,406	5,01,419	2865.50
2003-04	17,461	4,67,242	4,84,703	4889.16
2004-05	16,862	4,51,588	4,68,450	4801.52
2005-06	16,343	4,35,944	4,52,287	8676.72
2006-07	15,986	4,23,357	4,39,343	8212.69 (prov.)

(e) and (f) Resettlement and Rehabilitation (R&R) Policy of Coal India Limited (CIL) is uniformly followed by all coal companies. However, with regard to the provision of employment to land losers, CIL's R & R policy stipulates that the subsidiary companies shall offer employment to land losers as per the norms announced by the concerned State Government. In case there is no norm of the State Government for offer of employment, the same shall be regulated as per the guidelines laid down in the R & R Policy of CIL.

(g) and (h) No Sir, Government has not received any memorandum regarding coal companies following different resettlement policies.

(i) As explained in (a & b) all the employees are governed by the Standing Orders. Adivasis and backward class people are not exploited in CIL and its subsidiaries.

#### **Employment to Coal Dump Labourers**

4746. SHRI TEK LAL MAHTO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Baltharva Coal dump of Rohini Project meant for providing employment to the displaced people has not been able to provide employment to the labourers;

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

(c) whether coal dumps of the various subsidiaries of the CIL namely BCCL, CCL, MCL, WCL, NCL are

providing employment to the labourers for less than 15 days on a month which is not adequate to sustain their families;

(d) whether adequate medical facilities have been provided to the coal dump labourers in the above institutions;

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

(f) the measures taken by the Government to provide adequate medical facilities and enhancement of the wages of the labourers; and

(g) the time by which medical facilities and wages are likely to be provided/enhanced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) to (g) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

*[English]*

#### **Misuse of Letrozole**

4747. CH. MUNAWAR HASSAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Medicine Letrozole is particularly for the treatment of breast-cancer and is being misused;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some drug companies are promoting through non-cancer specialists; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against such companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Letrozole was initially approved on 12.03.98 for treatment of Breast Cancer. Based on the recommendation of experts and safety and efficacy data generated in Indian population. Letrozole has also been approved on 10.04.2007 for induction of ovulation in anovulatory infertility, subject to the condition that it is to be sold in retail only on prescription of a Gynaecologist.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to parts (a) to (c) above.

[Translation]

#### Incidents of Dharma and Demonstration in SECL

4748. SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR DUBEY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidents of dharna and demonstration took place in Gevara, Deepka and Bilaspur offices of the SECL;

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

(c) the number of days for which these dharna/demonstrations were continued;

(d) whether the SECL has suffered huge losses as a result thereof;

(e) if so, the details of the losses suffered by the SECL; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The demonstration/dharna took place to at Chief General Manager's Office, Gevara area from

12.2.007 to 15.2.2007 and at SECL Head quarters on 14th and 15th February, 2007 and it had disrupted the work of SECL Hqrs. and GCM Office, Gevara. During the course of agitation, the agitators were pressing on a 19-point charter of demands.

(d) No loss of production is suffered due the said dharna.

(e) Does not arise in view of reply given to part (d) above.

(f) Chief Minister, Chhattisgarh was requested to intervene to avoid recurrence of such incidents in future by the Minister of State for Coal. A letter was also addressed to Chief Secretary, Govt. of Chhattisgarh by Secretary, Ministry of Coal with the request to instruct the concerned District Officials to ensure that functioning of the company is not disrupted on account of such agitation.

#### Discretionary Quota for Allotment of Coal

4749. SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV:

SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minister of Coal has any discretionary quota to release coal from the various mines under the various mines under the Coal India Ltd. to various firms/persons/VIP/MPs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether huge quantity of coal has been released under such quota during the last three years;

(d) if so, the names of firms/persons/VIPs allocated coal and the quantity of coal allocated to each thereunder during the last three years; and

(e) the purpose for which the quantum of coal was released to each of them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise in view of reply given at (a) above.

*[English]***Statement****International Mobile Equipment Identities**

4751. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to provide International Mobile Equipment Identities (IMEI) to the subscribers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) International Mobile Equipment Identity (IMEI) is not provided by the Government to the subscribers. IMEI is allocated to GSMA (Global System for Mobile Association) appointed agents to mobile handset manufacturer. The subscriber can retrieve the IMEI from the handset. It is also usually found printed on the phone underneath the battery.

**NRI Investment in India**

4752. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indians abroad are willing to invest in India;

(b) if so, the steps taken to co-ordinate such ventures;

(c) the countries having maximum NRIs;

(d) whether the Government has any plans to attract such Indians to invest in India; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b), (d) and (e) A list of facilities to the NRIs, other initiatives taken to coordinate such ventures and plans to attract the investment are placed in the enclosed statement.

(c) The largest number of NRIs are in Gulf countries, USA, Canada, UK and Malaysia.

Government has put in place a liberal and transparent policy for FDI, including investment from NRIs, wherein most of the sectors are open to FDI under the automatic route. Under the FDI policy the following additional facilities are available to NRIs only:

(i) NRIs can invest upto 100% under the automatic route in the Housing and Real Estate Development for the following activities:

a. Development of services plots and construction of built up residential premises;

b. Investment in real estate covering construction of residential and commercial premises including business centers and offices;

c. Development of township;

d. City and regional level urban infrastructure facilities, including roads and bridges;

e. Investment in participatory ventures in the above activities;

f. Investment in housing finance institutions;

g. Press note 2 (2005) not applicable to NRIs.

(ii) NRIs can invest upto 100% in Indian companies engaged in Air Transport Service subject to no direct or indirect participation of a foreign airline. (For foreign companies FDI is permitted only up to 49%.)

**Other facilities for NRIs**

In addition to the investments under the FDI policy, NRIs can also invest under other schemes under various FEMA Regulation in the following activities/sectors:

a. Mutual Funds.

b. Investment in PSU Bonds

c. Investment up to 100% equity in proprietary/partnership concerns, except in agricultural plantation activity or real estate business. (Foreign companies are not allowed to invest in partnership firms/proprietary concerns.)

- d. Portfolio investment schemes: NRIs/OCBs are permitted to invest in shares and debentures through secondary market purchases from the stock exchanges under the portfolio scheme. Investment limits are 5% and 10% respectively. These limits are over and above the FII portfolio investment limits so as to ensure that NRI investment are not crowded out by FIIs. As per information given by RBI, NRI investment under the portfolio schemes since 2000 to July 2005 are Rs. 614.71 crores.
- e. NRIs can acquire immovable property, other than agricultural land/plantation property/farm house and transfer such property to a resident, another NRI/PIO.
- (iii) In addition to the above, following initiatives have also been taken:
- a. The Government has approved establishing a Centre as a not-for-profit trust, in partnership with the Confederation of Indian Industry and register it under the Indian Trust Act, 1882 under the title 'Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre'.
- The "Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre" will serve as a "one stop shop" for the Indian Diaspora. The office of the trust will be at Delhi. the trust will function as a non-profit body with the objective of Promoting Overseas Indian Investment Business and overseas Indians and extend a host of advisory services to PIO's and NRI's.
- b. An electronic financial advisory portal called 'Pravasi Bhartiya Seva' to extend online advisory services on investment, taxation and real estate to potential Overseas Indians has been launched.
- c. A "Compendium on Policies, incentives and investment opportunities for Overseas Indians" has been published for utilizing the same as a ready reckoner.
- d. During Pravasi Bhartiya Divas (PBD) an exclusive session for discussing investment related matters is invariably organized every year.
- e. In Interactive sessions with State Government on such opportunities are discussed during PBD.

### Global Technical Regulations

4753. SHRI SARVEY SATYANARAYANA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is establishing and enforcing the Global Technical Regulations for Wheeled Vehicles, Equipment and Parts; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present status thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) India has joined 1998 agreement of WP-29 (Working Party 29), a body of UN-ECE for global harmonization of vehicles regulations. Under 1998 agreement of WP-29, Global Technical Regulations (GTRs) for Wheeled Vehicles, Equipments and parts are established by consensus of members present and voting. Till now, five GTRs have been established. These are as under:

1. GTR on Latches & Hinges for Automotive Vehicles.
2. GTR on emission measurement of two wheelers.
3. GTR on Motor Cycle Braking System.
4. GTR on commercial vehicles on-board diagnostic.
5. GTR on emission measurement for heavy vehicles.

Enforcement of these GTRs would arise after incorporation of the same in national regulations *i.e.*, Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989.

### Supply of Coal to Cement Industries

4754. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the modified guidelines' Coal Companies will agree to supply coal to the Cement Industries upto 80 per cent of sanctioned long-term linkage quantity w.e.f. 1st April 2006;

(b) if so, the details thereof;



(c) whether shortage of coal by 20 per cent will be met by the Cement Industries primarily through e-auctioning or through imports;

(d) if so, whether Andhra Pradesh has requested the Union Government to allow SCL 100 per cent on long term linkage quantity to the cement units of Andhra Pradesh;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. At present, Fuel Supply Agreements for Coal supply to Cement Industries are entered into by Coal Companies for 80% of their long term coal linkage.

(c) The Cement Companies are free to procure the shortfall quantity of coal either through e-booking or import based on their preference, cost consideration/logistics, etc.

(d) to (f) Yes, Sir. The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh had written to the then Union Minister of Coal for, *inter alia*, permitting SCCL to supply 100% of the long term coal linkage quantity. However, the Government of Andhra Pradesh was informed that, based on the decision arrived at in consultation with Cement Manufacture Association, coal supply to Cement Plants has been restricted to 80% of the long term coal linkage irrespective of the source of supply. Further, SCCL has reported that the balance 20% coal was supplied to cement industries at e-booking price to meet their demand during February/March, 2007. The Ministry, however, informed SCCL that the present cap of 80% has been provided on supply of coal to Cement Consumers at a lesser level of the linkage so as to provide coal linkage to consumers awaiting long term coal linkage.

[Translation]

#### Public Call Offices

4755. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of Public Call Offices (PCOs) has decreased in the country during the last three years;

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

(c) whether the number of PCOs of the private sector telecom companies is more in comparison to the PCOs of public sector companies like BSNL and MTNL;

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

(e) the steps taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

#### Enquiries against CIL Officials

4756. SHRI RANEN BARMAN:  
SHRI SUBRATA BOSE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of criminal cases and departmental enquiries are pending against the officials working in Coal India Limited (CIL) as on March 31, 2007;

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

(c) the total number of the officers suspended, company-wise; and

(d) the total number of charge sheeted officers to whom promotions have been given during the last three years and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) Number of criminal cases arising out of CBI investigations in the subsidiary companies of Coal India Limited (CIL) is given below. This includes regular cases under investigation and under prosecution in the Trial Court after obtaining sanction for prosecution from the competent authority.

Company	No. of cases	Executives	Non-executives	Total No. of officials
ECL	19	09	24	33
BCCL	92	82	65	147
CCL	52	108	65	173
WCL	18	09	09	18
NCL	00	00	00	00
SECL	09	14	04	18
MCL	07	01	07	08
CMPDIL	08	07	07	14
CIL	00	00	00	00
<b>Total</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>411</b>

Number of departmental inquiries arising out of vigilance cases as well as CBI cases in CIL and its subsidiary companies is as under:

Company	No. of cases	Executives	Non-executives	Total No. of officials
ECL	18	22	17	39
BCCL	30	46	12	58
CCL	57	38	66	104
WCL	12	09	03	12
NCL	20	20	00	20
SECL	12	29	07	36
MCL	15	17	19	36
CMPDIL	00	00	00	00
CIL	07	07	00	07
<b>Total</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>312</b>

(c) Company-wise number of officers suspended out of CBI investigation/criminal cases/vigilance related cases are as under:

Company	No. of officers suspended
ECL	11
BCCL	19
CCL	17
WCL	01
NCL	00
SECL	03
MCL	03
CMPDIL	00
CIL	00
<b>Total</b>	<b>54</b>

In number of cases, suspension of officers have been revoked. However, inquiries against them are continuing. The above figures do not take into account suspensions by Management of CIL and its subsidiary companies on grounds other than those mentioned above.

(d) A charge-sheeted officer is not promoted during pendency of enquiry against him.

*[Translation]*

#### **Acknowledgement of Letters from M.P.s**

4757. SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL:  
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether receipt of letters from the Members of Parliament are not being acknowledged even in fifteen days time and a reply is not being provided even at the expiry of three months' time;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has proposed to take any action against the officers who are responsible for

not acknowledging the receipts of letters and also not sending final reply to the Members of Parliament;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) The guidelines for handling references from Members of Parliament (MPs) are contained in the Central Secretariat Manual of Office Procedure (CSMOP). These guidelines are applicable to the Ministries/Departments of Government of India only. The procedures contained in CSMOP provide for monitoring and disposal of communications from MPs in a timely manner and at senior level. In most cases, the replies to the communications received from MPs are furnished within the prescribed time. However, in certain cases where information has to be collected from multiple sources and authorities, the reply is sometimes delayed beyond the prescribed time. In such cases, an interim reply is sent to the Member of Parliament. Where the matter is unduly delayed, the issue is taken up with Secretaries/Chief Secretaries of State Governments, Secretaries to the Government of India, Chief Ministers of the concerned State Government or Central Ministers for ensuring a prompt reply. The Government of India issues instructions from time to time to ensure strict compliance of the guidelines. The provisions of the CSMOP have also been circulated to the State Governments for formulation of their own guidelines.

(c) to (e) Government is concerned about any delay on the part of the Ministries/Departments/Officers in responding to letters from MPs and instructions are issued from time to time at senior levels for strict compliance of the guidelines. Any specific instance of violation of these guidelines coming to the notice of the Government is viewed seriously.

#### **Emphasis on Social Sector Projects**

4758. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU:  
SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has advised all the State Governments to pay more emphasis on Social Sector projects especially bringing down the number of school dropouts and women development specific schemes before giving sanction to their plan outlay for the year 2007-08;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken any steps to slash the plan outlay of the States which have not been able to execute Centrally Sponsored Schemes successfully during the year 2007-08;

(d) if so, the amount sanctioned and released to each State during the financial year 2006-07 and 2007-08, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) and (b) The size of the Annual Plan of States which basically consist of States own resources of Central assistance is decided by the Planning Commission after detailed discussions with the State Governments and assessment of resource availability. Sectoral distribution of the Annual Plan outlay is made by the State Governments after Working Group discussions with the various Subject matter Divisions of Planning Commission. During Working Group discussions, States are advised to take up suitable schemes for Social Sectors.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) A statement indicating State-wise outlay sanctioned for Social Sectors during 2006-07 is enclosed. The sector-wise outlay sanctioned to States for 2007-08 have not been finalised.

**Statement**

(Rs. crores)

Sl.No.	States	Outlay for Social Sectors during Annual Plan 2006-07
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5,710.25
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	221.31

1	2	3
3.	Assam	963.13
4.	Bihar	2510.59
5.	Chhattisgarh	2,216.00
6.	Goa	530.18
7.	Gujarat	4,530.34
8.	Haryana	1573.82
9.	Himachal Pradesh	890.14
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	964.14
11.	Jharkhand	1894.61
12.	Karnataka	5236.66
13.	Kerala	1644.91
14.	Madhya Pradesh	2681.96
15.	Maharashtra	5850.65
16.	Manipur	432.66
17.	Meghalaya	276.59
18.	Mizoram	287.24
19.	Nagaland	252.15
20.	Orissa	920.32
21.	Punjab	609.80
22.	Rajasthan	3160.98
23.	Sikkim	197.60
24.	Tamil Nadu	5446.72
25.	Tripura	374.10
26.	Uttar Pradesh	7549.59
27.	Uttaranchal	1691.19
28.	West Bengal	2930.38
Total (States)		61,548.01

*[English]***Supply of Coal**

4759. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to exclude some sectors such as Steel and Cement, etc. from the Core Sectors for the purpose of supply of coal;

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

(c) the likely impact as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) to (c) In compliance of the orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court a Committee has been constituted by the Government to formulate Coal Distribution Policy. The Committee is yet to submit its report. Therefore, the status of the consumers belonging to Steel, Cement, etc. would be known only after the approval of the said policy.

**Quality of Indian Medicines**

4760. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:  
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Australia has expressed apprehensions on the quality of Indian medicines made out of herbs etc. as reported in the 'Business Standard' dated April 1, 2007;

(b) If so, the details of the facts reported therein;

(c) the reaction of the Government in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to control the production of these medicines and safeguard their quality?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) No formal communication has been received from Therapeutic Goods Administration of Australia regarding the alert issued by

them as mentioned in the Business Standard report on 1st April, 2007. However, on the publication of a Research Article in the Journal of American Medical Association (JAMA) some time ago indicating presence of heavy metals above the permissible limits in some of the Ayurveda and Unani formulation collected by the Researchers from grocery stores from Boston area, some health alerts have been issued by some of the regulatory authorities regarding the presence of heavy metals above the permissible limit in some of the Ayurveda and Unani formulations.

(c) and (d) The Government have taken following steps:-

- I. Government has introduced mandatory testing for heavy metals in all purely herbal Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani medicines to be exported with effect from 01.01.2006 onwards. This has been done to meet the regulatory requirements of importing countries.
- II. State Drug Licensing Authorities have been directed to ensure full compliance by all ASU drug manufacturer of the provisions of Rule 161(1) and (2) relating to displaying on the label of container or in a leaflet to be inserted in the package of an ASU drug, the true list of all the ingredients used in the manufacture of the preparation together with the quantity of each of the ingredients incorporated therein.
- III. Under Centrally Sponsored Scheme 29 State Drug Testing Laboratories have been strengthened and 26 Pvt. Drug Testing Laboratories and other NABL accredited laboratories have been approved for testing of ASU drugs in the country.
- IV. A research project has been sanctioned to various laboratories of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) under the Golden Triangle Partnership Project to study the physiochemical characteristics of 8 most widely used Bhasmas and to carry out their toxicity studies.
- V. Good Manufacturing Practices have been made mandatory for all Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani drug manufacturing units in the country.

**Village Development Mapping in the Country**

4761. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal for village development mapping in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether the Government has consulted the experts on the subject about the utilities of such village mapping; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (d) The Planning Commission in its guidelines for the preparation of District Plans in the 11th Five Year Plan, issued on 25 August 2006, defines District Planning as "the process of preparing an integrated Plan for the local Government sector in a district taking into account the resources (natural, human and financial) available and covering the sectoral activities and schemes assigned to the district level and below and those implemented through local governments in a state". This district plan should emerge through a district vision which is the collective vision emanating from the Gram Sabhas and Ward Sabhas, Panchayats and Municipalities. The stock-taking exercise, comprising an assessment of the human condition in the district as also the availability of natural, social and financial resources and infrastructure, requires data pertaining to aspects of development.

The Census 2001 database already includes data on various socio-economic parameters relevant for development planning. However, this data is not easily identifiable with the assets that each Panchayat has. The Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Government of India has therefore, commenced an exercise to identify and relate the census villages with their respective Gram Panchayats. This is being done in collaboration with the National Informatics Centre (NIC) and State Governments. The resultant map, available on the Geographic Information System (GIS) platform, gives information on the boundaries of the village, the boundaries of the Gram Panchayat and the details available in the Census data

as applicable to the specific villages and the Gram Panchayat. The exercise has already been undertaken in 250 districts.

Besides facilitating planning by Panchayati Raj Institutions, the development maps would also be available in the public domain and may be used by any of the Central and State Government Departments both to plan and measure the impact of planning.

**National Measles Immunization Programme**

4762. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether fifty per cent children in Uttar Pradesh and one third children in Bihar have not been immunized under the National Measles Immunization Programme; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to control the virus by immunizing, surveillance and other methods?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes Sir. As per the National Family Health Survey (NFHS)-III data, the coverage of Measles vaccine in Uttar Pradesh is 37.5% and in Bihar it is 40.4%.

(b) Measles vaccine is given to children between the age group of 9-12 months under the Universal Immunization Programme. The Government of India has taken following steps under the Universal Immunization Programme to improve the measles coverage:

1. To increase the window of opportunity for high measles coverage, the age for giving 1st dose of measles vaccine has been extended to 60 months of age for all children missed during 9-12 months of age.
2. The Government has initiated setting up surveillance systems in the country to assess to magnitude of measles problem and ensure that quality data are available for action. Measles surveillance is currently being conducted in the States of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal. The plan is to expand surveillance in a phased manner to the rest of the country.

**Upgradation and Construction of  
NH in West Bengal and Sikkim**

4763. SHRI HITEN BARMAN:  
SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the construction undertaken on National Highways in West Bengal and Sikkim under the National Highways Development Programme;

(b) the amount allocated and spent annually on widening, new construction works and improvement under National Highways Development Programme in the States during the last three years, year-wise and the details of the achievement made;

(c) the details of the works and funds sanctioned for these National Highways for 2007-08; and

(d) the details of the allocation, expenditure and payments made to the contractors and the works undertaken by them for the construction of NH-78?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) In the State of West Bengal construction works under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) have been undertaken for 4 lanning of National Highways No. 2, 6, 60, 41 and 31 in a length of 498 km. under NHDP Phase-I and 83 km of National Highways No. 31 and 31C under NHDP Phase-II. Under NHDP Phase-III, construction of Dalkhola Bypass on NH-34 having a length of 5.5 km has been undertaken. There is no project in the State of Sikkim under NHDP.

(b) These works are being implemented by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI). No State-wise funds are allocated by NHAI for the implementation of projects. However, the expenditure incurred by NHAI on these projects in the State of West Bengal during 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 is Rs. 990.77 crore, Rs. 576.01 crore, Rs. 201.57 crore respectively. The achievements made in West Bengal during the years 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 is 254.71 km, 43.45 km and 1.34 km respectively.

(c) The estimated expenditure proposed to be incurred in the State of West Bengal for the year 2007-08 on NHDP is Rs. 245.00 crore.

(d) The NH-78 passes through the State of Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand. Allocation is made State-wise and not NH-wise or contract-wise. During last three years Rs. 63.08 crore were spent on various improvement works of NH-78.

**Test-Firing of Hatf-VII Babur Missile**

4764. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan has test-fired the Hatf-VII Babur Missile with a range of 700 K.M.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said missile is likely to pose threat to the Indian cities; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Yes. Pakistan test fired Hatf-VII named as Babur missile on 22nd March 2007. It has been claimed that this cruise missile has a range of 700 km.

(c) and (d) Government carefully monitor both long-term trends and short-term developments in the security scenario in India's neighbourhood and are committed to taking all necessary steps to protect national security based on a realistic assessment of the security situation.

**Allocation of Funds under NRHM**

4765. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:  
SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:  
SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has achieved the targets fixed under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) for selection of Associated Social Health Activists (ASHA) during 2006-07;

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

(c) whether the block level Community Health Centres have been established to provide round-the-clock services against the target fixed under the Mission during the said period;

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

(e) the details of allocated funds utilised under the Mission during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(f) whether some States have not utilised their allocated funds fully under the Mission; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has proposed to select an ASHA for every

1000 population/large isolated habitations in 18 high focus states and tribal and underserved areas of other states. It was estimated that over 4 lakh ASHAs would be selected over the Mission period. As on March 2007, states have already selected 4.58 lakh ASHAs. The state-wise details are give in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) and (d) Block level Community Health Centres (CHCs) are set up to provide round the clock services. Under NRHM, Indian Public Health Standards (IPHS) have also been formulated for CHCs. All CHCs are envisaged to be upgraded to IPHS over the Mission period. As on date there are 3332 CHCs and states have selected 2914 CHCs for upgradation.

(e) to (g) The state-wise funds released under Mission Flexible pool during the years 2005-06 and 2006 and the utilization thereof (till Dec. 2006) are given in the enclosed Statement-II. States are reporting utilisation of the funds through quarterly Financial Management Reports (FMRs). Some of the states have reported slower utilisation of funds in view of lower capacity for absorption.

#### *Statement I*

##### *Status of Selection of ASHAs*

Sl.No.	State	No. of ASHAs selected during		Total No. of ASHA selected Till date	No. of ASHA trained till date
		2005-06	2006-07		
1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>High Focus Non-NE</b>					
1.	Bihar	36488	20868	57356	41910
2.	Chhattisgarh	5030	24407	29437	29437
3.	Jharkhand	2096	12327	14423	3446
4.	Jammu and Kashmir	2773	6565	9338	5093
5.	Madhya Pradesh	16090	14214	31690	14019
6.	Orissa	12730	18090	30820	12729
7.	Rajasthan	20785	12417	33202	30437
8.	Uttar Pradesh	19887	99231	119118	95371
9.	Uttaranchal	4104	3783	7887	7591
10.	Himachal Pradesh				
Total Non-NE		119983	211902	333271	240033



1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>High Focus NE</b>					
1.	Assam	9058	16342	25400	14030
2.	Arunachal Pradesh		2027	2027	
3.	Manipur		2840	2840	
4.	Meghalaya				
5.	Mizoram		674	674	
6.	Nagaland		1309	1309	1135
7.	Tripura		1229	1229	
8.	Sikkim		450	450	
	Total NE	9058	24871	33929	15165
	Grand Total	129041	236773	367200	255198

*Statement II*

Sl.No.	Name of the State/UT	Funds Released in 2005-06	Fund Utilized in 2005-06	Funds Released in 2006-07	Funds Utilized in 2006-07
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	148.70		63.00	0.00
2.	Andhra Pradesh	4620.20	483.45	11918.78	2746.18
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1005.30	168.12	3106.98	345.82
4.	Assam	3602	11.05	24540.70	829.80
5.	Bihar	6837	58.51	12578.70	1026.00
6.	Chandigarh	44	0.67	46.66	9.81
7.	Chhattisgarh	2910	489.17	6175.19	4443.19
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	46.80		54.00	0.09
9.	Daman and Diu	59.10		67.00	0.94
10.	Delhi	137.20		454.21	16.70
11.	Goa	186.20		111.57	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
12.	Gujarat	4638.40	35.06	9362.80	2417.06
13.	Haryana	2350.30	112.18	3431.87	208.36
14.	Himachal Pradesh	1614.70	39.36	3029.21	379.91
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	1867.79	11.12	3138.50	158.21
16.	Jharkhand	3247.54	95.22	4652.97	377.20
17.	Karnataka	4884.30		8437.97	47.68
18.	Kerala	2625.40		4460.22	85.42
19.	Lakshadweep	94.40		28.00	0.04
20.	Madhya Pradesh	8223.35	68.09	13661.60	1056.38
21.	Maharashtra	6532.70		11394.00	299.83
22.	Manipur	752.00		2048.39	14.31
23.	Meghalaya	722.10	1.58	1951.20	53.61
24.	Mizoram	600.60	17.30	3242.84	73.94
25.	Nagaland	782.50	86.60	2261.56	532.61
26.	Orissa	5931.78	698.26	6690.57	406.78
27.	Pondicherry	175.50	3.16	164.02	36.37
28.	Punjab	2437.80	195.41	4241.00	209.34
29.	Rajasthan	7055.64	104.72	13806.23	2904.80
30.	Sikkim	308.70		1821.51	66.42
31.	Tamil Nadu	3163.20		9793.25	0.00
32.	Tripura	391.90	29.78	1296.69	11.71
33.	Uttar Pradesh	12952.34	109.61	24176.84	3054.42
34.	Uttaranchal	1754.00	32.61	1592.11	49.01
35.	West Bengal	3609.60	416.94	11570.87	157.26
Total		96214.18	3267.98	205371.01	22019.18

*[Translation]***Expenditure for Commonwealth Games**

4766. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:  
DR. CHINTA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated expenditure to be incurred on 2010 Commonwealth Games;

(b) the details thereof;

(c) the amount likely to be incurred on the development of individual skills of the sports persons, sport-wise; and

(d) the manner in which the funds allocated for the purpose will be spent?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Present estimates indicate that the expenditure on the Commonwealth Games, 2010 would be around Rs. 3566±Rs. 300 crores. The details are as under:-

(Rs. in crores)

(i)	SAI for Sports Infrastructure	Rs. 1000.00	±10%
(ii)	DDA for International Zone, etc. Games Village and Sports Infrastructure	Rs. 325.00	±25%
(iii)	Venue for Tennis (AITA)	Rs. 30.00	±15%
(iv)	Sports Infrastructure for Commonwealth Youth Games, 2008	Rs. 110.00	
(v)	OC for Conduct of the Games	Rs. 767.00	±15%
(vi)	Preparation of Teams	Rs. 300.00	
(vii)	GNCT of Delhi for civic Infrastructure	Rs. 770.00	
(viii)	Security through MHA	Rs. 264.00	
Total		Rs. 3566.00 crores ± Rs. 300 crores	

Besides the above, Government Planning Commission will also be providing for projects related to city infrastructure and Delhi Metro.

(c) Current estimates indicate an expenditure of about Rs. 300.00 crores for developing the skills and performance level of individual sportspersons. Funds have not been projected sports-wise but they would be spent on the 17 sports disciplines included in the Commonwealth Games.

(d) These funds will be spent on specialized training, international exposure, sports equipment, scientific backup & support and dietary supplements.

*[English]***Coal Production during the Tenth Plan**

4767. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the target set for production of coal during the Tenth Plan and the achievements made thereon, Company-wise;

(b) the actual domestic demand of coal during the period;

(c) whether the Government had to import coal during that period; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) The targets for production of coal and actual production of coal during the Tenth Plan Company-wise is as under:

(In million tonnes)

Company	2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
ECL	28.00	27.18	28.00	28.00	27.30	27.25	32.44	31.11	33.00	30.47
BCCL	25.50	24.15	24.00	22.68	22.40	22.31	24.22	23.31	24.20	24.25
CCL	34.25	36.98	38.50	37.33	37.40	37.39	40.40	40.51	42.00	41.40
NCL	45.00	45.10	46.50	47.03	49.68	49.95	50.80	51.52	52.00	52.16
WCL	37.20	37.82	37.85	39.53	41.00	41.41	41.90	43.20	42.00	43.21
SECL	66.50	66.60	69.00	71.01	78.40	78.55	83.00	83.02	88.50	88.50
MCL	49.20	52.23	55.00	60.05	66.40	66.08	72.00	69.60	80.50	80.00
NEC	0.65	0.63	0.65	0.73	0.60	0.63	1.05	1.10	1.60	1.05
CIL-Total	286.30	290.69	299.50	306.36	323.18	323.58	345.81	343.39	363.80	361.04
SCCL	32.50	33.16	33.50	33.85	35.00	35.30	36.00	36.14	37.50	37.71
Others*	17.00	17.38	19.30	20.83	22.91	23.74	26.36	27.48	31.20	26.36
All India	335.80	341.23	352.30	361.04	381.09	382.62	408.17	407.01	432.50	425.11

\*includes ISSCO, DVC, JSMDCL, JMKL, TISCO, Captive mining and Meghalaya.

(b) The actual domestic demand of coal during the Tenth Plan is as under:

(In million tonnes)

Year	All India Demand
2002-03	363.35
2003-04	380.91
2004-05	408.79
2005-06	433.51
2006-07 (Prov.)	464.00

(c) and (d) Government does not import coal. As per Import Policy of the Government coal can be freely imported in the country under open general license. However, the total quantity of coal imported during the last five years is as under:

(In Million tonnes)

Year	Coal imported
1	2
2001-02	20.548
2002-03	23.260

1	2
2003-04	21.683
2004-05	28.950
2005-06	38.586

**Places of Pilgrimage in Pakistan, Iran  
and Afghanistan**

4768. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:  
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has identified the places of pilgrimage and temple, etc. situated in Pakistan, Afghanistan and Iran;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the status of these temples and places of pilgrimage in these countries;

(d) whether all the places including Hingalji in Pakistan have been being opened for pilgrimage purposes; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure visits of the pilgrims to these places?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) There are 15 shrines at present in Pakistan covered under Bilateral Protocol on Visit to Religious Shrines list enclosed as statement. No such shrines or places of pilgrimages are identified in Afghanistan and Iran.

(d) and (e) Government have proposed to the Government of Pakistan that the existing Bilateral Protocol on visit to Religious Shrines be expanded to increase number of pilgrims and shrines.

**Statement**

1. Gurudwara Shri Nankana Sahib (Rawalpindi)
2. Gurudwara Shri Panja Sahib (Rawalpindi)
3. Samadhi of Maharaj Ranjit Singh (Lahore)
4. Gurudwara Shri Dera Sahib (Lahore)

5. Gurudwara Janam Asthan (Lahore)
6. Gurudwara Deewan Khana (Lahore)
7. Gurudwara Shaheed Ganj, Singhanian (Lahore)
8. Gurudwara Bhai Tara Singh (Lahore)
9. Gurudwara of Sixth Guru, Mozang, (Lahore)
10. Birthplace of Shri Guru Ram Das (Lahore)
11. Gurudwara Cheveen Padshahi, Mozang (Lahore)
12. Shrine at Sree Kataraj
13. Shadani Darbar, Hyat Pitafi
14. Sadhu Bela, Khanpur and Mirpur Mathelo
15. Shrine of Hazrat Data Ganj Bakhsh (Lahore).

*[Translation]*

**National Games**

4769. SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL:  
SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the games and sporting events which have been termed as National Games;

(b) the criteria adopted for designating a game or an event as National Games;

(c) whether Judo and Karate are treated as the National Games of India; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (d) The Ministry gives recognition to the National Sports Federations/Associations, which fulfill the eligibility criteria, as prescribed under the scheme of "Assistance to the National Sports Federations" for various sports disciplines. Admissible financial assistance is provided only to the recognized National Sports Federations. For Judo and Karate, National Sports Federations have been recognized by the Government

and financial assistance as admissible under the scheme is provided to them. All National Sports Federations are assisted for organizing annual National Level Championships for Seniors, Juniors and Sub-juniors in their respective sports disciplines.

[English]

#### **Change in the Visa Policy**

4770. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to change the existing visa policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which new policy is likely to be implemented; and

(d) the benefits likely to accrue as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (d) Change in visa policy is a continuous process and undertaken as and when situations/circumstances so warrant after due deliberation with the concerned agencies/departments of the Government.

#### **Rural Telephony**

4771. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRAKUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is anticipating lower revenue growth due to withdrawal of the Government's support for providing Rural Telephony;

(b) if so, the reasons for withdrawal of Government's support for Rural Telephony;

(c) whether the private service providers have fulfilled their obligations in respect of Rural Telephony;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Government was providing reimbursement of License Fee and Spectrum Charges to Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) from its inception to ensure that the viability of BSNL is not impaired on account of services provided by BSNL, which are uneconomic but socially desirable, at the behest of the Government.

However w.e.f. 01.04.2002, a levy of 5% Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR) was imposed on all telecom service providers except value added service providers like Internet Service Providers (ISPs), Voice Mail and E-Mail etc. These Telecom Service Providers are accordingly contributing Universal Service Levy (USL) for meeting Universal Service Obligations. Proceeds of receipts on account of this levy are transferred to Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) through Budgetary allocation. Office of Administrator USOF was created to meet the requirement of connectivity in rural, remote and commercially unviable areas from proceeds of USOF. In view of this, it was decided to gradually phase out the reimbursement of License Fee and Spectrum Charges to BSNL. Accordingly this support was gradually phased out and was totally stopped in the year 2006-07.

(c) As per the present License agreement, there is no obligation on the part of Private Service Providers for provision of Telecom Services in rural areas. However, all telecom service providers except value added service providers like Internet Service Providers (ISPs), Voice Mail and E-Mail etc. are contributing Universal Service Levy (USL) @ 5% of Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR) for meeting Universal Service Obligation.

(d) and (e) Do not arise in view of (c) above.

#### **Wireless Broadband Connections**

4772. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has finalized its policy for Wireless broadband connections;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (d) The Broadband Policy 2004 covers introduction of future technologies such as Wireless Broadband. The spectrum allocation plan for this purpose is under the consideration of Government.

#### **Remote Access in Telecom Sector**

4773. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:  
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:  
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has relaxed the norms for remote access in telecom sector as reported in the 'Times of India' dated March 3, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to boost Rural Telephony?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) To enable a sustainable growth in Telecom Sector and also in IT sector which is dependent on telecom, Government has reviewed the FDI policy and issued revised guidelines vide Press Note No. 3 (2007 series) dated 19.4.2007. Remote Access has been addressed in Paras 2B (xi) to (xv) of Press Note No. 3 (2007). A copy of the Press Note is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) Government has taken the following steps to boost rural telephony:

- Provision of Village Public Telephones (VPTs) in all the remaining uncovered eligible villages, excluding villages having less than 100 population, lying in thick forest areas/naxalite infested areas, etc.
- Provision of Rural Community Phones (RCPs) with population more than 2000 and where there are no Public Call Offices (PCOs).
- Replacement of Multi-Access Radio Relay (MARR) VPTs.

- Provision of Rural Individual Phone Connections (RDELS) on demand in 1685 commercially unviable Short Distance Charging Areas (SDCAs), through subsidy from Universal Service Obligation (USO) Fund.
- Large scale deployment of Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) network in rural areas by BSNL.
- Creation of general infrastructure in rural and remote areas for development of telecommunication facilities.
- Relaxation of outdoor cable norms to 5 kms. as against earlier norms of 2.5 kms. for landline exchanges by BSNL.
- A scheme has been launched to provide support from USOF for setting up 7871 shared infrastructure sites for mobile services in rural and remote areas, presently not covered by mobile services. The sites shall be set up progressively by 2008.

#### **Statement**

*Government of India*  
*Ministry of Commerce & Industry*  
*Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion*  
*SIA (FC Division)*

#### **Press Note No. 3 (2007 Series)**

**Subject: Enhancement of the Foreign Direct Investment ceiling from 49 per cent to 74 per cent in the Telecom Sector—revised guidelines**

The Government, *vide* Press Note 5 (2005 Series) dated 3.11.2005, had notified the enhancement of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) limits from 49 per cent to 74 per cent in certain telecom services subject to specified conditions.

2. The Government has on a review of the policy in this regard, decided to enhance the Foreign Direct Investment limit from 49 per cent to 74 per cent in telecom services subject to the following conditions:

#### **A. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)**

- (i) The enhancement of the FDI ceiling will be applicable in case of basic, Cellular, Unified

Access Services, National/International Long Distance, V-Sat, Public Mobile Radio Trunked Services (PMRTS), Global Mobile Personal Communications Services (GMPCs) and other value adder Services.

- (ii) Both direct and indirect foreign investment in the licensee company shall be counted for the purposes of FDI ceiling. Foreign Investment shall include investment by Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs), Non-Resident Indians (NRIs), Foreign Currency Convertible Bonds (FCCBs), American Depository Receipts (ADRs), Global Depository Receipts (GDRs) and convertible preference shares held by foreign entity. Indirect foreign investment shall mean foreign investment in the company/companies holding shares of the licensee company and their holding company/companies or legal entity (such as mutual funds, trusts) on proportionate basis. Shares of the licensee company held by Indian public sector banks and Indian public sector financial institutions will be treated as 'Indian holding'. In my case, the 'Indian' shareholding will not be less than 26 per cent.
- (iii) FDI up to 49 per cent will continue to be on the automatic route. FDI in the licensee company/Indian promoters/investment companies including their holding companies, shall require approval of the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) if it has a bearing on the overall ceiling of 74 percent. While approving the investment proposals, FIPB shall take note that investment is not coming from countries of concern and/or unfriendly entities.
- (iv) The investment approval by FIPB shall envisage the conditionality that Company would adhere to licence Agreement.
- (v) FDI shall be subject to laws of India and not the laws of the foreign country/countries.

#### **B. Security Conditions**

- (i) The Chief Officer Incharge of technical network operations and the Chief Security Officer should be a resident Indian citizen.
- (ii) Details of infrastructure/network diagram (technical details of the network) could be provided on a need basis only to telecom

equipment suppliers/manufacturers and the affiliate/parents of the licensee company. Clearance from the licensor (Department of Telecommunications, Government of India) would be required if such information is to be provided to anybody else.

- (iii) For security reasons, domestic traffic of such entities as may be identified/specified by the licensor shall not be hauled/routed to any place outside India.
- (iv) The licensee company shall take adequate and timely measures to ensure that the information transacted through a network by the subscribers is secure and protected.
- (v) The officers/officials of the licensee companies dealing with the lawful interception of messages will be resident Indian citizens.
- (vi) The majority Directors on the Board of the company shall be Indian citizens.
- (vii) the positions of the Chairman, Managing Director, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and/or Chief Financial Officer (CFO), if held by foreign nationals, would require to be security vetted by Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA). Security vetting shall be required periodically on yearly basis. In case something adverse is found during the security vetting, the direction of MHA shall be binding on the licensee.
- (viii) The Company shall not transfer the following to any person/place outside India:
  - (a) Any accounting information relating to subscriber (except for international roaming/billing) (Note: it does not restrict a statutorily required disclosure of financial nature); and
  - (b) User information (except pertaining to foreign subscribers using Indian Operator's network while roaming).
- (ix) The Company must provide traceable identity of their subscribers. however, in case of providing service to roaming subscriber of foreign Companies, the Indian Company shall endeavour to obtain traceable identity of roaming subscribers from the foreign company as a part of its roaming agreement.



- (x) On request of the licensor or any other agency authorized by the licensor, the telecom service provider should be able to provide the geographical location of any subscriber (BTS location) at a given point of time.
  - (xi) The Remote Access (RA) to Network would be provided only to approved location(s) abroad through approved location(s) in India. The approval for location(s) would be given by the Licensor (DOT) in consultation with the Security Agencies (IB).
  - (xii) Under no circumstances, should any RA to the suppliers/manufacturers and affiliate(s) be enabled to access Lawful Interception system (LIS), Lawful Interception Monitoring (LIM), Call contents of the traffic and any such sensitive sector/data, which the licensor may notify from time to time.
  - (xiii) The licensee company is not allowed to use remote access facility for monitoring of content.
  - (xiv) Suitable technical device should be made available at Indian end to the designated security agency/licensor in which a mirror image of the remote access information is available on line for monitoring purposes.
  - (xv) Complete audit trail of the remote access activities pertaining to the network operated in India should be maintained for a period of six months and provided on request to the licensor or any other agency authorized by the licensor.
  - (xvi) The Telecom service providers should ensure that necessary provision (hardware/software) is available in their equipment for doing the Lawful interception and monitoring from a centralized location.
  - (xvii) The telecom service providers should familiarize/train Vigilance Technical Monitoring (VTM)/ security agency officers/officials in respect of relevant operations/features of their systems.
  - (xviii) It shall be open to the licensor to restrict the Licensee Company from operating in any sensitive area from the National Security angle.
  - (xix) In order to maintain the privacy of voice and data, monitoring shall only be upon authorization by the Union Home Secretary or Home Secretaries of the States/Union Territories.
  - (xx) For monitoring traffic, the licensee company shall provide access of their network and other facilities as well as to books of accounts to the security agencies.
  - (xxi) The aforesaid Security Conditions shall be applicable to all the licensee companies operating telecom services covered under this Press Note irrespective of the level of FDI.
  - (xxii) Other Service Providers (OSPs), providing service like call Centres, Business Process Outsourcing (BPO), tele-marketing, tele-education, etc. and are registered with DoT as OSP. Such OSPs operate the service using the telecom infrastructure provided by licensed telecom service providers and 100% FDI is permitted for OSPs. As the security conditions are applicable to all licensed telecom service providers, the security conditions mentioned above shall not be separately enforced on OSPs.
3. The conditions at para 2 above shall also be applicable to the existing companies operating telecom service(s) with the FDI cap of 49%.
4. The relevant provisions of FDI policy for 'investment companies', as given in Press Note 2 (2000 series) dated 11.2.2000 issued by department of Industrial Policy and Promotion will no longer be applicable to telecom sector.
5. Press Note 15 (1998 series) and Press Note 2 (2000 series) issued by Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion stand modified to the above extent.
6. An unconditional compliance to the aforesaid conditions shall be submitted by the existing telecom service providers to the licensor within 3 months from date of the Press Note and, thereafter, compliance report shall be submitted on 1st day of July and January on six monthly basis.
7. Press Note 5 (2005 series) dated 3.11.2005 stands superceded by this Press Note.

Sd/-

(Gopal Krishna)

Joint Secretary to the Government of India.

*[Translation]***National Family Health Survey-3**

4774. SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA:  
SHRIMATI RUPATAI D. PATIL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had conducted the National Family Health Survey-3;

(b) if so, the main findings of the survey;

(c) the names of the States where the survey was conducted and the main themes thereof;

(d) whether the Survey indicated any need for the development in the Health Sector; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The National Family Health Survey-3 (NFHS-3) has been conducted in all the 29 States in the country in the year 2005-06. The survey has collected information on Mortality, Marriage & Fertility, Family Planning, Maternal and Child Health, Immunization of children, Treatment infection, child feeding practices, Nutritional status of children and adult, prevalence of anaemia among children and adults, obesity among men & women, Knowledge, attitude and behaviour with regard to HIV/AIDS and its prevalence and treatment seeking behaviour for TB & Malaria. The survey has covered samples from all ever married, unmarried and

widowed women in the age group of 15-49 and men in the age group of 15-54.

Some of the keys findings of the survey paint a mixed picture of India's health. On the one hand, institutional delivery and maternity care has improved, unmet need for the family planning has reduced, women are having fewer children, infant mortality has dropped; overall immunization coverage of children has improved and knowledge about HIV/AIDS has improved in the seven-year period since the last NFHS survey (1998-99). On the other hand, anaemia and malnutrition are still widespread among children and adults. And, in an odd juxtaposition, more adults, especially urban women, are overweight or obese. A Statement showing information on key findings is enclosed.

(d) and (e) With a view to promote maternal and child health, the Government implemented the Reproductive and Child Health Programme, Phase-I (RCH-I) for a period of five years, since 1997-98. The programme has been extended further for another period of five years, beginning in 2004-05. Later, RCH programme has been integrated under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), launched in April 2005. The National Rural Health Mission seeks to provide accessible, affordable and quality health care to the rural population, especially the vulnerable section. It also seeks to reduce Maternal Mortality Ratio from the current level of 301 (as per Registrar General of India's SRS Report 2001-03) to 100 per 100,000 live birth and Infant Mortality Rate from current level of 58 (as per Registrar General of India's SRS Report 2005) to 30 per 1000 live births and the Total Fertility level from 2.9 (as per Registrar General of India's SRS Report (2005) to 2.1 within the seven year period of the Mission, ending in 2012. NRHM has pro-poor focus and it integrates all the stand-alone programmes into a single composite programme.

**Statement*****Provisional Results of National Family Health Survey-3***

Key Indicators for India from NFHS-3		NFHS-3 (2005-2006)	NFHS-2 (1998-99)
1		2	3
<b>Marriage and Fertility</b>			
1.	Women age 20-24 married by age 18 (%)	44.5	50.0
2.	Men age 25-29 married by age 21 (%)	29.3	NA

	1	2	3
3. Total fertility rate (children per woman)		2.68	2.85
4. Women age 15-19 who were already mothers or pregnant at the time of the survey (%)		16.0	NA
5. Median age at first birth for women age 25-49		19.8	19.3
6. Married women with 2 living children wanting no more children (%)		83.2	72.4
6a. Two sons		89.9	82.7
6b. One son, one daughter		88.1	76.4
6c. Two daughters		62.1	47.0
<b>Family Planning (currently married women, age 15-49)</b>			
<i>Current Use</i>			
7. Any method (%)		56.3	48.2
8. Any modern method (%)		48.5	42.8
8a. Female sterilization (%)		37.3	34.1
8b. Male sterilization (%)		1.0	1.9
8c. IUD (%)		1.8	1.6
8d. Pill (%)		3.1	2.1
8e. Condom (%)		5.3	3.1
<i>Unmet need for family planning</i>			
9. Total unmet need (%)		13.2	15.8
9a. For spacing (%)		6.3	8.3
9b. For limiting (%)		6.8	7.5
<b>Maternal and Child Health</b>			
<i>Maternity care (for births in the last 3 years)</i>			
10. Mothers who had at least 3 antenatal care visits for their last birth (%)		50.7	44.2
11. Mothers who consumed IFA for 90 days or more when they were pregnant with their last child (%)		22.3	NA
12. Births assisted by a doctor/nurse/LHV/ANM/other health personnel (%)*		48.3	42.4

	1	2	3
13.	Institutional births (%)*	40.7	33.6
14.	Mothers who received postnatal care from a doctor/nurse/LHV/ANM/other health personnel with 2 days of delivery for their last birth (%)*	36.4	NA
<b>Child Immunization and vitamin-A supplementation*</b>			
15a.	Children 12-23 months fully immunized (BCG, measles, and 3 doses each of polio/DPT) (%)	43.5	42.0
15b.	Children 12-23 months who have received BCG (%)	78.2	71.6
15c.	Children 12-23 months who have received 3 doses of polio vaccine (%)	78.2	62.8
15d.	Children 12-23 months who have received 3 doses of DPT vaccine (%)	55.3	55.1
15e.	Children 12-23 months who have received measles vaccine (%)	58.8	50.7
16.	Children age 12-35 months who received a vitamin-A dose in last 6 months (%)	21.0	NA
<b>Treatment of childhood diseases (children under 3 years)*</b>			
17.	Children with diarrhoea in the last 2 weeks who received ORS (%)	26.2	26.9
18.	Children with diarrhoea in the last 2 weeks taken to a health facility (%)	58.0	65.3
19.	Children with acute respiratory infection or fever in the last 2 weeks taken to a health facility (%)	64.2	NA
<b>Child Feeding Practices and Nutritional Status of Children*</b>			
20.	Children under 3 years breastfed within one hour of birth (%)	23.4	16.0
21.	Children age 0-5 months exclusively breastfed (%)	46.3	NA
22.	Children age 6-9 months receiving solid or semi-solid food and breastmilk (%)	55.8	NA
23.	Children under 3 years who are stunted (%)	38.4	45.5
24.	Children under 3 years who are wasted (%)	19.1	15.5
25.	Children under 3 years who are underweight (%)	45.9	47.0

	1	2	3
<b>Nutritional Status of Ever-Married Adults (age 15-49)</b>			
26. Women whose Body Mass Index is below normal (%)		33.0	36.2
27. Men whose Body Mass Index is below normal (%)		28.1	NA
28. Women who are overweight or obese (%)		14.8	10.6
29. Men who are overweight or obese (%)		12.1	NA
<b>Anaemia among Children and Adults</b>			
30. Children age 6-35 months who are anaemic (%)		79.2	74.2
31. Ever-married women age 15-49 who are anaemic (%)		56.2	51.8
32. Pregnant women age 15-49 who are anaemic (%)		57.9	49.7
33. Ever-married men age 15-49 who are anaemic (%)		24.3	NA
<b>Knowledge of HIV/AIDS among Ever-Married Adults (age 15-49)</b>			
34. Women who have heard of AIDS (%)		57.0	40.3
35. Men who have heard of AIDS (%)		80.0	na
36. Women who know that consistent condom use can reduce the chances of getting HIV/AIDS (%)		34.7	NA
37. Men who know that consistent condom use can reduce the chances of getting HIV/AIDS (%)		68.1	NA
<b>Women's Empowerment</b>			
38. Currently married women who usually participate in household decisions (%)		52.5	NA
39. Ever-married women who have ever experienced spousal violence (%)		37.2	NA

NA: not available.

\*Based on the last 2 births in the 3 years before the survey; 2. for children, the education refers to the mother's education. Children with missing information on the mother's education are not included in the education columns.

#### **Regional Imbalances**

4775. SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA DESHMUKH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted or proposes to conduct a study survey to identify regional imbalance in each of the States of the country including Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the regional imbalances that exist in various districts of the States especially in Maharashtra has not been removed despite implementation of various Centrally sponsored Schemes;

(d) if so, whether the Government proposes to increase the allocation of funds under Centrally Sponsored Schemes for the backward district of the country;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government has made an assessment of the revised long term action plan in Maharashtra; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) to (c) The Mid-Term Appraisal of Tenth Five Year Plan highlighted the perception that regional imbalance had actually got accentuated particularly over the past 15 years and even the problem of intra-State inequalities had not been adequately addressed, with regional disparities persisting within all States, including the relatively prosperous ones, to a greater or lesser degree.

(d) and (e) The Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) was designed and approved in 2006-07 to address the issue relating to regional imbalance. The BRGF has two components, namely, Districts Component covering 250 districts including 147 districts covered by the erstwhile Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana and the Special Plans for Bihar and the KBK districts of Orissa. An allocation of Rs. 5000 crore was made for BRGF for 2006-07. This allocation has been enhanced to Rs. 5800 crore during 2007-08.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Does not arise.

#### **Medical Reimbursement**

4776. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for medical reimbursement pending in the medical record department of the Safdarjung Hospital for authentication as on date;

(b) whether such applications are returned to the patient within a fixed time limit after getting them certified.

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons for the delay in this regard; and

(e) the steps taken to expedite the disposal of the pending applications?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. AMBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (e) 41 cases of medical reimbursement are under process for authentication in the Medical Record, Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi. 22 cases of Medical reimbursement claims were returned to the applicants for rectifying the objections. The medical reimbursement claims are settled within 10 working days if the same are complete and are found in order.

*[English]*

#### **Sanitation Campaign under Panchayati Raj**

4777. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has undertaken sanitation campaign under the Panchayati Raj.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of districts in which the above campaign is being conducted, State-wise;

(d) the names of the districts for which the respective State Governments have requested the Union Government to release the next instalment of Centre's share under the campaign; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) is under implementation in 572 rural districts of the country. In rural areas, it is being implemented with the district as the unit of implementation. Funds under the Campaign are meant for the construction of individual household toilets; schools toilets; community complexes for women; toilets or Anganwadis and Balwadis, Production Centres and Rural Sanitary Mats, as well as taking up awareness generation among the people. The main goal of Government is to eradicate the practice of open defecation by the year 2012.

(c) A list indicating State-wise the number of districts covered under TSC is enclosed as statement.

(d) and (e) Release of funds under the TSC is a continuous process in accordance with the utilization made by the districts. The proposals received from various districts for the release of subsequent instalments are received and processed regularly to release grants to them.

**Statement**

Sl.No.	State	No. of Project
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	22
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	14
3.	Assam	22
4.	Bihar	38
5.	Chhattisgarh	16
6.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1
7.	Goa	1
8.	Gujarat	25
9.	Haryana	20
10.	Himachal Pradesh	12
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	14
12.	Jharkhand	22
13.	Karnataka	27
14.	Kerala	14
15.	Madhya Pradesh	45
16.	Maharashtra	33
17.	Manipur	5
18.	Meghalaya	6
19.	Mizoram	8
20.	Nagaland	9
21.	Orissa	30

1	2	3
22.	Pondicherry	1
23.	Punjab	16
24.	Rajasthan	32
25.	Sikkim	4
26.	Tamil Nadu	29
27.	Tripura	4
28.	Uttar Pradesh	70
29.	Uttarakhand	13
30.	West Bengal	19
State Total		572

**Traffic In Major Ports**

4778. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:  
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:  
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the traffic in the major ports of the country have slowed down during the year 2006-07;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of the traffic handled by these ports as against the targets fixed during the year; and

(d) the measures taken by the Government to achieve the projected target?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) No, Sir. In fact traffic in 12 Major Ports has registered a growth of 9.51% during the year 2006-07 as compared to the traffic handled in the year 2005-06.

(c) The port-wise cargo traffic handled as against the target fixed during the year is given below:

Name of the Port	In '000 Tonnes	
	Target for year 2006-07	Actual Traffic handled during the year 2006-07
Kolkata (Kolkata Dock System/ Haldia Dock complex)	51.800	55.050
Paradip	40.800	38.517
Visakhapatnam	61.590	56.386
Ennore	9.860	10.714
Chennai	52.200	53.414
Tuticorin	18.200	18.001
Cochin	15.690	15.314
New Mangalore	37.250	32.042
Mormugao	35.300	34.241
Jawaharlal Nehru	43.220	44.818
Mumbai	49.000	52.364
Kandla	50.790	52.982
All Ports	465.700	463.843

(d) Improvement of the working of Major Ports in terms of handling of traffic in the country is an ongoing process. Several steps have been taken under National Maritime Development Programme (NMDP) like (i) development/construction of berth (ii) deepening of channels (iii) equipments upgradation, and (iv) improvement in rail and road connectivity etc. with a view to enabling the ports to achieve the projected targets.

#### Aid to Terrorists in India

4779. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:  
SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an expert group of the American Security has found that the terrorists in India get aid from the Madrasas in Karachi as reported in '*Dainik Jagaran*' dated March 31, 2007;

(b) if so, whether the Government has taken up the issue with American and Pakistani authorities;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of these authorities in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The Government are aware of a report entitled "Pakistan: Karachi's Madrasas and Violent extremism" by an organisation called "International Crisis Group" that mentions jihadi fighters being trained and dispatched by Karachi's Madrasas to India and other countries.

(b) to (d) Government of India are committed to combating terrorism. The Government have an ongoing dialogue at various levels with both US and Pakistan in this regard. With the US, a Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism has been established to address issues of concern and to discuss the ways to counter the menace of terrorism. With Pakistan, a Joint-anti-terrorism Mechanism has been established to identify and implement counter-terrorism initiatives and investigations. The Government have been consistently taking up the issue of cross-border terrorism with Pakistan in bilateral meetings at various levels and Pakistan has been reminded consistently of the commitment made by President Musharraf in the joint press statement of 06.01.04 not to allow any territory under its control to be used to support terrorism in any manner.

#### National Data Centre

4780. DR. M. JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently decided to set up a "National Data Centre" which would connect about 1300 major post offices in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total estimated funds required for the proposed project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.



(b) The National Data Centre for Department of Posts has been set up by the National Informatics Centre (NIC) at NIC Headquarters, New Delhi in the year 2006-07. A Disaster Recovery facility will also be set-up at NIC's Disaster Recovery Centre, Hyderabad soon. All computerized Post Offices, major administrative & accounts offices, Mail Offices, Speed Post Centres, etc. of the Department of Posts will be connected to the Data Centre in a phased manner. About 1300 computerized offices including 819 Head Post Offices, 366 Mail Offices and Speed Post Centres, 72 major administrative & accounts offices are expected to be connected in the current year.

(c) Total estimated funds required for setting up of the National Data Centre and for networking of 1300 major computerized offices is Rs. 58.53 crores.

*[Translation]*

#### Extraction of Additional Quantity of Coal

4781. SHRI AJIT JOGI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to allow the extraction of additional quantity of coal from the coal mines in various States annually;

(b) if so, the details of the said coal mines;

(c) the value of total quantity of additional coal extracted or proposed to be extracted;

(d) the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred thereon;

(e) whether any assessment has been made in regard to the income likely to be received from the additional quantity of coal; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The company and State-wise details of additional production of coal in the terminal year of XI Plan (2011-12) as compared to terminal year of X Plan (2006-07) for Coal companies under Coal India Limited (CIL) and Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) are given below:

State	Coal company	Provisional Coal Production 2006-07 (Terminal year of X Plan)	Projected Coal Production 2011-12 (Terminal year of XI Plan)	Additional Production in 2011-12 over 2006-07
1	2	3	4	5
West Bengal	ECL	17.15	22.44	5.29
	BCCL	0.17	1.18	1.01
	Sub Total	17.32	23.62	6.30
Jharkhand	ECL	13.30	23.56	10.26
	BCCL	24.03	28.82	4.79
	CCL	41.34	78.00	36.66
	Sub Total	78.67	130.38	51.71
Orissa	NCL	80.00	137.00	57.00
	Sub Total	80.00	137.00	57.00

1	2	3	4	5
Uttar Pradesh	NCL	12.23	17.00	4.77
	Sub Total	12.23	17.00	4.77
Madhya Pradesh	NCL	39.93	53.00	13.07
	WCL	7.00	6.51	-0.49
	SECL	12.58	11.71	-0.87
	Sub Total	59.51	71.22	11.71
Chhattisgarh	SECL	75.92	99.29	23.37
	Sub Total	75.92	99.29	23.37
Maharashtra	WCL	36.22	38.49	2.27
	Sub Total	36.22	38.49	2.27
Assam	NEC	1.05	3.450	2.45
	Sub Total	1.05	3.50	2.45
	Total (CIL)	360.92	520.50	159.58
Andhra Pradesh	SCCL	37.71	40.8	3.09
	Sub Total	37.71	40.8	3.09
Grand Total (CIL+SCCL)		398.63	561.30	162.67

(c) The value of additional quantity of coal proposed to be extracted in the year 2011-12 for CIL is Rs. 12248 crore (at the projected sale value of Rs. 767.50 per tonne of coal in BE 2007-08) and for SCCL is Rs. 319.80 crore (at the projected sale value of Rs. 1035.06 per tonne of coal in BE 2007-08).

(d) The projected capital investment to achieve the additional coal production in the XI Plan as a whole over the X Plan for CIL is Rs. 9821.53 crore and for SCCL is Rs. 1761.25 crore.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. The assessed income/revenue from additional quantity of coal proposed to be extracted in the year 2011-12 for CIL is Rs. 12248 crore and for SCCL is Rs. 319.80 crore.

[English]

#### Setting up of Model Hospitals

4782. SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any FDI or foreign assistance to set up Model Hospitals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has received any suggestions from the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Central Government does not have any proposal to set up Model hospitals funded through FDI or foreign assistance.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

### **Outlays for States in the Eleventh Five Year Plan**

4783. MS. INGRID MCLEOD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the outlays for the States for the Eleventh Five Year Plan has been finalised;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount of final allocation made to the States for the duration of the Eleventh Plan, State-wise;

(d) whether the funds allocated marked an increase *vis-a-vis* the allocations made during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

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

(f) the targets for different sectors of economy and social development during the Eleventh Plan; and

(g) the steps proposed to be taken to achieve the set target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) The Eleventh Five Year Plan is under formulation.

(b) to (e) In view of (a) above, Question does not arise.

(f) and (g) The Approach Paper to the Eleventh Five Year Plan, as approved by the National Development Council, has set the growth target for the Eleventh Five Year Plan period (2007-08 to 2011-12) at 9% per year. Consistent with this overall growth, the target for growth rate of Agriculture sector is 4.1%, Industry is 10.5% and Services is 9.9%. The Approach Paper targets faster growth in all productive sectors, agriculture, industry and services, with suitable interventions in policy, infrastructure and technology during the Plan period as given in the enclosed statement.

The Approach Paper has also set the following targets for various aspects of social development in the economy during the Eleventh Five Year Plan:

### **Income and Poverty**

- Accelerate growth rate of GDP from 8% to 10% and then maintain at 10% in the 12th Plan in order to double per capita income by 2016-17;
- Increase agricultural GDP growth rate to 4% per year to ensure a broader spread of benefits;
- Create 70 million new work opportunities;
- Reduce educated unemployment to below 5%;
- Raise real wage rate of unskilled workers by 20 per cent;
- Reduce the headcount ratio of consumption poverty by 10 percentage points.

### **Education**

- Reduce drop out rates of children from elementary school from 52.2% in 2003-04 to 20% by 2011-12;
- Develop minimum standards of educational attainment in elementary school, and by regular testing monitor effectiveness of education to ensure quality;
- Increase literacy rate for persons of age 7 years or more to 85%;
- Lower gender gap in literacy to 10 percentage points;
- Increase the percentage of each cohort going to higher education from the present 10% to 15% by the end of the 11th Plan.

### **Health**

- Reduce infant mortality rate (IMR) to 28 and maternal mortality ratio (MMR) to 1 per 1000 live births;
- Reduce Total Fertility Rate to 2.1;
- Provide clean drinking water for all by 2009 and ensure that there are no slip-backs by the end of the 11th Plan;
- Reduce malnutrition among children of age group 0-3 to half its present level;

- Reduce anemia among women and girls by 50% by the end of the 11th Plan.

#### Women and Children

- Raise the sex ratio for age group 0-6 to 935 by 2011-12 and to 950 by 2016-17;
- Ensure that at least 33 per cent of the direct and indirect beneficiaries of all government schemes are women and girl children;
- Ensure that all children enjoy a safe childhood, without any compulsion to work.

The broad approach to achieving these targets for different sectors of economy and social development are given in the Approach Paper to the Eleventh Five Year Plan, a copy of which is placed in the Parliament Library.

*[Translation]*

#### EU Report on Kashmir

4784. DR. RAJESH MISHRA:  
SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID  
SHRI RAKESH SINGH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS to be pleased to state:

(a) whether the European Union has criticized Pakistan in its draft Report titled "Kashmir: Present situation and Future Prospects";

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has studied this report; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d) The Committee of Foreign Affairs of the European Parliament has completed consideration of an 'Own Initiative Report' on Kashmir: the present situation and future prospects. The report has not yet been adopted by the European Parliament where it can undergo further change and hence there is no clarity regarding the final report.

#### Blocking of Unsolicited Calls

4785. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR:  
SHRIMATI MANORAMA MADHAVRAJ:  
SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has issued norms making it mandatory for the Telecom Operators to block unsolicited calls and SMSs on the mobile phones of the subscribers who opt for the Do Not Call registrations;

(b) if so, the time by which these are likely to be notified; and

(c) the name of the agency which has been selected by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) Based on the stakeholders responses to a consultation process for finding a solution to restrict Unsolicited Commercial Communication to subscribers who do not want such calls, internal discussions and international practices, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has released a draft regulation on 23rd April, 2007 for putting in place a mechanism called "National Do not Call Registry (NDNC)" for curbing the unwanted telemarketing calls.

Keeping in mind the concerns of their consumers, mobile service providers have already introduced "Do not Disturb" facility, for the subscribers who do not wish to receive information on product and services of their mobile service provider. Also, TRAI has advised the mobile subscribers through advertisement in leading newspapers to use this facility.

TRAI has proposed to implement NDNC through National Informatics Centre (NIC), Department of Information Technology, Government of India.

*[English]*

#### Setting up of Super-Speciality Hospital for CGHS Beneficiaries

4786. SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government for setting up a super-speciality hospital for CGHS beneficiaries;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the location and fund allocation therefor; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise in view of reply to part (a) of the question.

(c) CGHS has already empanelled large number of private hospitals/diagnostic centers for providing speciality and super-speciality services to CGHS beneficiaries near their residences. Empanelment of private hospitals is now a continuous process and the list will increase with passage of time when more and more hospitals apply for empanelment under CGHS.

### Medical Colleges

4787. DR. K. DHANARAJU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Medical Colleges being run by public sector as well as private sector in the country, State-wise; and

(b) the details of pass out students from these colleges during each of the last three years, public as well as private sector Medical Colleges separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) There are total number of 262 medical colleges in the country. Out of this, 135 are Government Medical Colleges and 127 are Private Medical Colleges. The State-wise details is given in the enclosed statement.

Central Government does not maintain data relating to pass out students. However, the admission capacity of 262 (both the Government and Private Medical Colleges in India) is about 29,872 students per year.

### Statement

*Number of Medical Colleges in the country State-wise as on 30.9.2006*

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Number of Medical Colleges		Total	Total number of seats
		Govt.	Private		
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11	21	32	4175
2.	Assam	3	—	3	391
3.	Bihar	6	2	8	510
4.	Chandigarh	1	—	1	50
5.	Chhattisgarh	3	—	3	250
6.	Delhi	5	—	5	560
7.	Goa	1	—	1	100
8.	Gujarat	8	5	13	1755
9.	Haryana	1	2	3	350

1	2	3	4	5	6
10.	Himachal Pradesh	2	—	2	115
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	3	1	3	350
12.	Jharkhand	3	—	3	190
13.	Karnataka	7	29	36	4455
14.	Kerala	6	12	18	2050
15.	Madhya Pradesh	5	3	8	970
16.	Maharashtra	19	20	39	4460
17.	Manipur	1	—	1	100
18.	Orissa	3	1	4	464
19.	Pondicherry	1	6	7	775
20.	Punjab	3	4	7	670
21.	Rajasthan	6	2	8	850
22.	Sikkim	1	—	1	100
23.	Tamil Nadu	15	10	25	2865
24.	Tripura	1	1	2	200
25.	Uttar Pradesh	10	6	16	1712
26.	Uttaranchal	1	2	3	300
27.	West Bengal	9	—	9	1105
Total		135	127	262	29872
Govt. Colleges		—	135		
Private Colleges		—	127		
Total			262		

#### Bus Service between Bhuj and Karachi

4788. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was any demand from the people of Gujarat for introducing bus service between Bhuj and Karachi *via* Khavada-Mithi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether at present the people of Gujarat go to Karachi *via* Delhi-Punjab route which is a long route;

(d) whether the matter has been taken up with the Government of Pakistan; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Government have received requests to enhance connectivity between Gujarat and the Sindh province of Pakistan.

(c) The Munabao-Khokrapar rail route up to Mirpurkhas and Karachi in Pakistan is available to travellers from Gujarat.

(d) No.

(e) Does not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### **Right of Indian Embassies to Renew Passports**

4789. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Embassies and the High Commission have the right to renew the passports of Indians;

(b) if so, the time taken for the renewal of passports;

(c) whether the Indian nationals have been facing difficulties as their passports are not being renewed after their lapse; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) Yes.

(b) Usually one to three days are taken for renewing the passports subject to the applicant having landing right (resident permit in that country) and completion of requisite formalities.

(c) and (d) No. However, there may be few cases of delay where clearance of the Government is required, which takes time.

*[English]*

#### **Two Laning of Roads in Assam**

4790. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Assam had submitted any proposal regarding providing two-lane roads connectivity to the district headquarters under the Special Accelerated Road Development Programme during the Union Minister's recent visit to Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the cost involved therein;

(c) the number and the details of district headquarters not yet connected through the two lane roads in Assam and in the other States in the North-East; and

(d) the plans for providing such connectivity under the Eleventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Improvement of roads connecting 9 District Headquarters in Assam to 2-lane under Phase 'A' of Special Accelerated Road Development Programme in North East has been included in the memorandum submitted by the Chief Minister, Assam.

(c) As per the information available in the Ministry, 13 District Headquarters in Assam and 48 District Headquarters in the other States in the North Eastern region are yet to be connected by 2-lane roads.

(d) Improvement of road connectivity to all the remaining 61 District Headquarters in the North Eastern Region to at least 2-lane width has been planned under various programmes of the Central Government to be implemented during 11th Five Year Plan and beyond.

#### **Misuse of Disposable Syringes**

4791. SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the disposable syringes are still being re-used in certain Government hospitals across the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to switch to auto-disposable syringes in order to reduce the risk of injection related infections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) In Central Government Hospitals only disposable syringes are used. After single use these syringes are disposed off as per provisions of

the Bio-Medical Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 1998 and are not being re-used.

#### **Emigration Welfare Fund**

4792. SHRI K.C. PALANISAMY:  
SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government has any proposal to set up an Emigrant Welfare Fund;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the mode of utilization of the fund;

(d) the time by which it would be set up;

(e) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Union Government for setting up of Overseas Felicitation Centres/Pravasi Bhartiya Kendra;

(f) if so, the details thereof along with the locations identified and functions outlined; and

(g) the time by which such centres would be set up?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) to (d) The proposal is under consideration of the Government.

(e) to (g) Government has taken a decision to establish Pravasi Bhartiya Kendra with an aim to provide a suitable place to commemorate the trials and tribulations, as well as, the subsequent evolution and achievements of the diverse Indian Diaspora. It is expected that the Centre would be ready in three years' time.

The Ministry also proposes to establish an 'Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre' as a not-for-profit trust, in partnership with the Confederation of Indian Industry and register it under the Indian Trust Act, 1882. It will serve as a "one stop shop" for the Indian Diaspora. The Facilitation Centre is expected to be set up during the current financial year.

#### **Supply of Drugs to Ayush Dispensaries**

4793. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karnataka has submitted a proposal to the Union Government for supply to essential drugs to AYUSH dispensaries in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Government of Karnataka has requested the Union Government for providing grant-in-aid of Rs. 207.25 lakhs;

(d) if so, whether the Union Government has not released any amount so far;

(e) if so, the main reasons for the delay; and

(f) the time by which the amount is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes, please.

(b) and (c) A proposal for the grant of financial assistance of Rs. 207.25 lakhs for the supply of essential drugs to 632 AYUSH dispensaries and 197 Primary Health Centres (PHCs) was received from the State Government of Karnataka in September, 2006.

(d) to (f) Financial assistance of Rs. 158.00 lakhs was released to the Karnataka Government on 29th December, 2006 by the Department of AYUSH for the supply of Essential Drugs to 632 AYUSH Dispensaries @Rs. 25,000 per dispensary as admissible in the Scheme. No financial assistance was given for the supply of Essential Drugs for PHCs since this is not covered under the scheme.

*[Translation]*

#### **Functioning of Space Telescopes**

4794. SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether intensive information about the Space are being collected through space telescopes installed in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the specific achievements made through the use of data collected by these telescopes, centre-wise;



(d) whether India is a partner in any of the International Telescope Projects; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir. There are a number of ground-based optical, near IR and radio telescopes installed by various institutes and laboratories in the country for studying the sun and stellar objects. As part of space borne observation, three experiments, namely the Gamma Ray Bursts (GRB) on SROSS-C2, Indian X-ray Astronomy Experiment—IXAE on IRS-P3 and solar X-ray Spectrometer-SOXS on G-SAT-2 have been launched by scientists from ISAC, TIFR and PRL respectively.

(b) The ground-based Optical near-Infrared telescopes are located at Vainu Bappu Observatory, Kavalur and the Indian Astronomical Observatory, Hanle-Ladakh under Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), Girawali Optical Observatory under IUCAA (Inter University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics), Mt. Abu Infrared Observatory under Physical Research Laboratory (PRL), Sampurnanand telescopes at Nainital under Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational Sciences (ARIES). A few Solar Observations are also operated at Udaipur under PRL, at Kodaikanal under IIA, at Nainital under ARIES. Similarly, large scale Radio Telescopes like Giant Meterwave Radio Telescope (GMRT) near Narayangaon (Pune), Ooty Radio Telescope, under National Centre for Radio Astrophysics (NCRA), TIFR have been operational.

(c) The highlights of specific achievements for the respective centers are given below:

Rings around Neptune, new northern hemisphere rapidly oscillating Ap (roAp) star, 3 delta-scuti stars and Quasi Periodic Oscillations in the High Mass X-ray Binary Pulsar have been discovered from the ARIES observatory.

Several pulsars, including a binary millisecond pulsar in a globular cluster, most extended gaseous disk of neutral atomic hydrogen in a dwarf galaxy, active galaxies with evidence of recurrent nuclear activity have been discovered using NCRA Ooty Radio Telescope and GMRT.

A few metal-poor stars and number of new T tauri stars have been identified in the star forming regions of blue compact galaxies using IIA telescope facilities.

The role of magnetic energy of active regions in launching CMEs and related phenomena has been investigated using USO.

SOXS has detected Fe-Ni complex lines for estimation of temperature in the solar coronal region.

The IXAE discovered quasi-periodic X-ray bursts with unique rise and fall time from the Black Hole source GRS 1915+105 that supports black hole nature of the X-ray source.

(d) International partnerships exist between individual scientists and centers/institutes with their international counterparts in some of the above activities.

(e) IUCAA is a member of an international consortium of observatories from nine countries in the Southern African Large Telescope (SALT) project.

PRL participated in the international Global Oscillation Network Group (GONG) project.

The NCRA is participating in the multi-nation "International Square-Kilometer Array" (SKA) radio telescope project that targets to build a next generation radio telescope about 10 times more powerful than any existing radio telescope in the world.

Further, Indian scientists have also used the data and made joint discoveries using NASA/ESA space telescopes like Hubble space telescope, Chandra X-ray telescope, Newton XMM telescope.

#### **Projects under CDAC**

4795. SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects being implemented under the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (CDAC);

(b) the number of centrally sponsored projects completed during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the time by which the pending projects are targeted to be completed;

(d) whether any separate provision has been made for the Scheduled Castes/Tribes and the Blind persons under these projects;

(e) if so, the details of the persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and the Blind persons benefited under these projects during the last three years, State-wise; and

(f) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) At present, there are 133 projects with CDAC. No project completed by or pending with CDAC is under Centrally Sponsored Scheme.

(d) to (f) Do not arise.

*[English]*

#### **Upgradation of Community Health Centres**

4796. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Community Health Centres (CHCs) presently functioning in Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether there is a demand to increase the number of CHCs in the State and to upgrade them to meet the desired standards;

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

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) There were 165 Community Health Centres (CHCs) functioning in the State of Tamil Nadu as on March, 2006.

(b) to (d) Requirement of CHCs as per 2001 census in the State of Tamil Nadu is 293. Thus, there was a shortfall of 128 CHCs as on March, 2006. Under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), it is proposed to set up CHCs as per 2001 population. For upgradation of CHCs, the State has been released an amount of Rs. 12.00 crores during 2005-06 and Rs. 21.00 crores during 2006-07.

*[Translation]*

#### **Closure of Coal Mines**

4797. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether several coal mines are on the verge of closure owing to environment-related issues;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of such coal-mines;

(c) the total number of workers rendered jobless and total assets lying unused as a result of closure of such mines or the mines which are on the verge of closure;

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

(e) whether the Government has conducted any inquiry into the delay in granting mandatory environmental clearance by the concerned authority or non-fulfillment of certain conditions by the Coal Companies;

(f) if so, the outcome thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of reply at (a) above.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) and (g) Do not arise in view of reply at (e) above.

*[English]*

#### **Shooting Range Facilities**

4798. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of shooting ranges in the country at present along with their locations;

(b) whether the Government proposes to set up more shooting ranges in the country and improve the existing facilities in connection with the shooting ranges;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) There are about 32 Shooting Ranges in the country. However, only 8 Ranges are full fledged ranges close to International standards. Details of shooting ranges available in the country are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. At present there are proposals for the construction of a Shooting Range at Ranchi for the National Games and another at Pune for the Commonwealth Youth Games, 2008. In addition, the shooting ranges in Delhi are also being upgraded for the Commonwealth Games, 2010.

#### ***Statement***

##### ***Ranges with facilities close to International standard***

1. Delhi—Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Ranges (SAI)
2. Hyderabad—Sports Authority of Andhra Pradesh
3. Mhow—Army Range
4. Bangalore—SAI
5. Chennai—State Government
6. Guwahati—State Government
7. Mohali—State Government
8. Indore—BSF Range.

##### **Other Ranges**

1. Ahmedabad
2. Asansol, West Bengal
3. Badal, Punjab
4. Phillaur, Punjab
5. Imphal
6. Kanpur
7. Mumbai

8. Jaipur

9. Agra

10. Ghaziabad

11. Coimbatore

12. Idukki, Kerala

13. Palghat, Kerala

14. Meerut

15. Noida

16. Dehradun

17. Siri Fort, Delhi

18. I.G. Stadium, Delhi, SAI

19. Jalandhar

20. Patiala

21. Raigarh

22. Shimla

23. Chandigarh

24. Talchar, Orissa.

#### **Biometric Passports**

4799. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any steps to convert even the ordinary passports into bio-metric ones;

(b) if so, the details alongwith the features thereof;

(c) the amount likely to be spent for converting the same; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to bring more transparency in the Regional Passport Offices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Yes. The Government have decided to introduce e-passports, also

known as bio-metric passports, initially for diplomats and officials as a pilot project by the end of 2007. Based on the experience gained from this pilot project, it is proposed to start issuance of e-passports in the ordinary category by the end of 2008. A Technical Committee has been constituted to finalise the technical specifications of the e-passports and this matter is under examination.

(c) The cost of converting ordinary into bio-metric passports will be worked out on the basis of the technical specifications that are finalised.

(d) The Government have been continually taking a number of steps to bring about more transparency in Passport Offices. These include computerisation of all Passport Offices, introduction of on-line registration, tele-enquiry, passport adalats, strengthening of grievance redressal mechanism, etc. The National Institute of Smart Government (NISG), Hyderabad has prepared a comprehensive study on passport issuance system. The implementation of this report will, *inter alia*, enhance further transparency in the functioning of Passport Offices.

[*Translation*]

#### **Increasing AIDS Patients**

4800. SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether WHO has reported that India will have the maximum AIDS patients by 2010;

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

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to meet this challenge;

(d) whether the Government proposes to involve the services of more NGOs in this task; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) As per the information available from WHO, there are no reports to indicate that there will be maximum AIDS patients in the country by 2010.

(c) The Government of India is implementing National AIDS Control Programme (NACP) to control the spread of HIV/AIDS by up-scaling targeted interventions among the high risk groups, behaviour change communication for improved awareness specifically among women and children, expanding the preventive care, blood safety, support and treatment of HIV infected persons including treatment of opportunistic infections and provision of free antiretroviral drugs and mainstreaming HIV intervention strategies.

(d) and (e) NGOs are involved in implementing various activities under NACP including targeted interventions for high risk groups and setting up community care centres.

[*English*]

#### **New Spectrum Policy**

4801. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new Spectrum Policy is likely to be introduced shortly;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which it is likely to be introduced;

(d) whether the Government proposes to bring a project regarding Wireless Internet Network in the country especially in the district of Pune;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the time by which it is likely to be commissioned; and

(g) the benefits likely to be accrue as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) Formulation of a comprehensive 'Spectrum Policy' taking into account all relevant factors, including the TRAI's Recommendations is under consideration.

(d) to (g) Yes, Sir. BSNL has started a project regarding Wireless Internet Access in the country including

district of Pune. Wireless Internet Access is being deployed through technologies like WiFi (for short range) and WiMax (for long range). In Pune, 18 WiFi Hotspots have been set up at places like Hotels, Malls and educational institutes. WiMax is being deployed through a pilot project covering ten cities including Pune, during the current year.

#### **Reports of Administrative Reforms Commission**

4802. SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU:  
SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP:  
SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL:  
SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:  
SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR:  
SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:  
SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY:  
SHRI MITRASEN YADAV:  
SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of reports submitted by the Administrative Reforms Commission (ARC) to the Government alongwith the dates of submission of each of these reports;

(b) the main recommendations contained in each of these reports;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether as per ARC, there are officers and offices that can be termed as corrupt;

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the list of such officers/offices;

(f) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the government for implementation of the recommendations of the ARC; and

(g) the time by which these recommendations are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) The second Administrative

Reforms Commission (ARC) has so far submitted the following four reports:-

(1) Right to Information master Key to Good Governance (submitted on 9th June, 2006). The main recommendations in this report relate to (i) Repeal of the Official Secrets Act, 1923 in the current form and including necessary provisions in the National Security Act, and (ii) Steps for effective implementation of the Right to Information Act.

(2) *Unlocking human Capital*. Entitlements and Governance a case study (submitted on 31st July, 2006). This Report deals with the implementation of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act.

(3) *Crisis management*. From Despair to Hope (submitted on 31st October, 2006). This Report makes recommendations about effectively meeting crisis situations through systematic preparedness, early warning, quick response and recovery to protect people and structures from natural and manmade disasters and to increase the effectiveness of crisis response and recovery.

(4) *Ethics in Governance* (submitted on 12th February, 2007). In this Report the Commission has made recommendations relating to various legal, institutional and procedural measures covering the legislature, judiciary and the executive with the focus on tackling corruption.

(c) All the four Reports have been sent to the concerned Ministries/Departments in accordance with the subjects allotted to them in the Allocation of the Business Rules, for taking necessary action.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) and (g) It has been decided that the progress of implementation of the recommendations would be reviewed at the level of Cabinet Secretary on a monthly interval. Government has also constituted a Group of Ministers under the chairmanship of Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Minister of External Affairs to review the pace of implementation as well as to provide guidance to the concerned Ministries/Departments in implementing these decisions.

*[Translation]***Manufacturing of Mobile Hand Sets**

4803. SHRI GANESH SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to promote the manufacturing of mobile hand sets at local level by giving more concessions keeping in view their increasing demand in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to provide benefit of the above scheme at the village level; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Government is making sincere endeavors to promote indigenous telecom equipment manufacturing. This has resulted in setting up manufacturing units by renowned companies such as Nokia, LG, Samsung, Sony Ericsson and Motorola.

(c) and (d) The manufacturers are in continuous development of handsets to be available to rural customers at affordable price.

*[English]***Funds for Renewal Works on NH**

4804. SHRI HEMMAL MUMRU: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sanction ratio for original works 2006-07 on National Highways and the sanction ratio for periodic renewal works 2006-07 on NH have been increased in each State of the country particularly in Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Draft Annual Plan for 2006-07 has been received by each State Government for approval; and

(d) if so, the details of the amount sanctioned for the project and release of the amount to the each State of the country for the year 2006-07 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) The sanction ratio (Bank of Sanction Ratio) is the Department's internal arrangement for the utilization of the available funds. During the financial year 2006-07, the Bank of Sanction Ratio for the National Highways (Original) works was increased in each State/Union Territory for a short period. The Bank of Sanction Ratio for the Periodic Renewal works was not increased in the financial year 2006-07. The details are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The details of the amounts sanctioned for the projects for the development of National Highways and the funds allocated in each State/Union Territory during the year 2006-07 are given in the enclosed statement.

***Statement***

*The Bank of Sanction (BOS) Ratio, Amounts sanctioned for the Projects and the Funds allocated under National Highways (Original) [NH(O)] in the year 2006-07*

Sl.No.	Name of State	BOS Ratio Original	BOS Ratio Increased	Amount (Rs. in Crore) of Sanctioned Projects	NH (O) Allocation (Rs. in Crore)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2.50	4.0	127.71	58.41
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.50	5.0	0.00	8.30

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Assam	3.50	4.0	151.99	77.25
4.	Bihar	4.50	5.5	112.29	97.20
5.	Chandigarh	2.50	3.5	0.00	1.00
6.	Chhattisgarh	3.00	4.0	91.40	37.00
7.	Delhi	2.50	3.0	13.29	3.00
8.	Goa	4.00	4.0	15.04	2.95
9.	Gujarat	2.50	4.0	96.52	60.00
10.	Haryana	2.50	4.0	130.24	64.00
11.	Himachal Pradesh	3.50	5.0	126.53	39.50
12.	Jharkhand	3.50	5.0	91.44	34.86
13.	Karnataka	3.50	4.0	145.67	85.00
14.	Kerala	2.50	4.0	60.28	55.00
15.	Madhya Pradesh	3.00	3.5	128.99	84.09
16.	Maharashtra	3.50	4.5	206.02	148.75
17.	Manipur	3.50	5.0	18.17	14.65
18.	Meghalaya	3.50	5.0	43.20	24.50
19.	Mizoram	3.50	4.0	9.61	15.53
20.	Nagaland	3.50	3.5	0.00	11.82
21.	Orissa	3.50	4.5	234.08	72.00
22.	Pondicherry	2.50	3.5	4.61	5.00
23.	Punjab	2.50	4.0	80.06	72.00
24.	Rajasthan	2.50	4.0	124.67	75.00
25.	Tamil Nadu	2.50	3.5	94.08	82.00
26.	Uttar Pradesh	2.50	3.0	66.60	91.40
27.	Uttarakhand	3.50	3.5	46.92	52.75
28.	West Bengal	2.50	3.5	104.12	47.00

**Tax on Interconnect Usage Charges**

4805. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:  
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to impose tax on the interconnect usage charges;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which mobile charges are likely to be increased thereafter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In the Finance Bill, 2007, a new definition of 'telecommunication service' has been incorporated *vide* clause (104) of section 65 of the Finance Act, 1994 and Inter Connect Usage Charges has been specifically incorporated in the definition of 'telecommunication service' to make it a taxable service. Further, any service provided or to be provided, to any person, by a telegraph authority in relation to 'telecommunication service' has been made taxable. This amendment will come into effect from a date to be notified by the Government after enactment of Finance Bill, 2007. Therefore, after this amendment come into effect, service tax would be applicable to IUC charges.

(c) Levy of the proposed service tax on IUC would result in an increase in the overall cost of provision of inter-operator calls.

**Study Regarding Impact of use of Coconut Oil**

4806. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any study regarding the impact of Coconut Oil on human body;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there are reports of certain studies the Coconut Oil is helpful for reducing Cholesterol in the human body; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) According to the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), the results of a few studies including the study conducted by Coconut Development Board (Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India) suggest that coconut oil does not have either beneficial or adverse effects on human body.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

**Conference of the Education Ministers of States**

4807. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Conference of the Education Ministers of the States was held recently in New Delhi to discuss the recommendations of the National Knowledge Commission;

(b) if so, the details of the discussions held in regard to share of additional expenditure on education;

(c) whether the Conference has also discussed and suggested ways to implement the recommendations of the National Monitoring Committee for minority education; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the Strategy chalked out for the implementation of different aspects of the educational needs of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The details in this regard are given in the enclosed Statement.

**Statement****Record of the Consensus Points****1. General**

- (i) The HRD Ministry and State Education Departments will work intensively with other concerned authorities and Departments at the Central and State levels so as to increase public



expenditure on Education to the level of 6% of GDP, by the end of the XI Plan period. Also the National Development Council is urged to evolve a consensus in this regard to the manner of achieving this goal at the earliest.

- (ii) The implementation of the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Act, which was enacted and notified in January, 2007 has, by an interim order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, been kept in abeyance. The Conference noted that the Central Government is examining all legal options to resolve this issue at the earliest.
- (iii) States agreed to speed up enactment of State-specific legislations to give effect to the 93rd Constitutional Amendment which enables reservations for SCs, STs and Socially and Educationally Backward Classes in educational institutions. State Governments urged the Central Government to ensure that the reservations for the OBCs in the Central Educational Institutions was implemented from the forthcoming academic session, this year itself.
- (iv) Education Ministers of the State Governments were of the opinion that the recommendations of the National Knowledge Commission (NKC) were unrealistic or undesirable from the point of view of the enhancing access and equity in Higher and Technical Education. It was resolved that the recommendations of the NKC may be considered by the States only after a view in regard to these recommendations have been taken by the Central Government.
- (v) Central Regulatory bodies like UGC, AICTE and NCTE should give due weightage to the views and concerns of State Governments. Policies and statutory provisions relating to these bodies should also be reviewed for this purpose, where necessary.
- (vi) Education Ministers of States where there is a ban on recruitment of teachers/regular teachers, agreed to make assiduous efforts to get this ban lifted at the earliest to enable filling up of vacant posts on a regular basis.
- (vii) Every effort will be made to make buildings of all existing educational institutions—schools, colleges and universities—barrier free, so as to

provide full access to disabled students, latest by the end of the XI Plan. Also, all new buildings will be constructed so as to be barrier-free, differentially-abled friendly, eco-friendly and energy efficient.

- (viii) States noted that work of authentication of education certificates would cease to be done at the level of HRD Ministry with effect from 30.6.2007. States which have not yet established necessary mechanisms for undertaking this work, agreed to do so latest by that date.

## 2. Elementary Education

- (i) The conference endorsed the view that issue of the Centre-State funding pattern in the SSA to be continued on a 90:10 ratio for the NE States and on a 75:25 ratio for other States be examined appropriately by the Government of India.
- (ii) A consensus emerged in the meeting to continue the implementation of the SSA programme with vigour and commitment, and with the fullest attention to equity issues; improvement of learning outcomes of students; implementing focused programmes for improving language and mathematics basic levels in early primary grades and tracking student as well as teacher attendance rates at elementary levels.
- (iii) State Ministers agreed on the need to consolidate the initiatives taken over the past 2½ years on the Mid Day Meal Programme and to streamline delivery systems to ensure better management and distribution of foodgrains and other commodities required for serving a hot cooked meal. States are required to put in place mechanisms that would ensure that schools are not deprived of timely financial assistance to meet the daily requirements of running the programme.
- (iv) State Ministers expressed apprehension that, in the expansion of Mid Day Meal Programme to the upper primary stage in educationally backward blocks, the current parameters for identifying such blocks could exclude some of the poorer and backward blocks in the country. The Government of India will re-formulate the parameters such that the entire upper primary stage is covered by the end of the XI Plan.

**3. Adult Education**

- (i) It was agreed to work towards the target of achieving 85% literacy by the end of the 11th Plan, and to restore the importance which the National Literacy Mission had enjoyed in the 1990s. State Governments were urged to complete their literacy programmes in a time bound manner so that the districts can move into the continuing education phase as soon as possible. They were also requested to bring about convergence between Continuing Education and other major programmes like National Rural Health Mission and National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme.
- (ii) Some States raised the issue of suitable remuneration for volunteers. The Central Government is examining this issue.

**4. Secondary Education**

With the universalisation of elementary education nearing completion, the imperative of a Scheme of Universalisation of Secondary Education to be implemented in a mission mode was appreciated by all. It was, however, recognized that the contours of the Scheme would only be finalized once the 11th Plan exercise was completed. Pending this, all State Governments and Union Territories were requested to set up a Task Force so as to identify gaps in the secondary education sector, particularly in terms of access and infrastructure.

**5. Higher Education**

- (i) The Conference endorsed the target of increasing Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) for Higher Education from the present about 10% to at least 15% by the end of the XI Plan, with the minimization of gender and social category gaps. States which are significantly below the national average at present in regard to GER, agreed to make special efforts to come upto the national average, with suitable assistance from the Central Government to correct regional imbalances in tertiary education.
- (ii) At least one State University in each State which does not at present have any Central University may be funded to the level of a Central University, through the UGC.

(iii) State Governments will take urgent steps to avail of various schemes of UGC assistance, incl. for women's hotels, so as to take maximum possible advantage of the enhanced allocation available for State Universities with the UGC. These steps would include, *inter alia*, the following:

- Pro-actively encouraging State Universities, which are yet to apply for recognition under section 12B of UGC Act, 1956, to do so now so as to make them eligible for funding by the UGC. UGC would prepare a fast-track mechanism to ensure that all applications from such universities are processed on priority.
- As temporary affiliation by university renders colleges ineligible for UGC assistance, all State Governments will make efforts to facilitate early grant of permanent affiliation to maximum possible number of colleges—especially those located in rural, scheduled, and minority concentration areas—so that they can avail of development assistance from UGC.

- (iv) In the XI Plan UGC should revamp its scheme to promote job oriented courses, so as to widen its scope and coverage, and to make it more effective.
- (v) State Governments will also encourage all their universities and colleges to go in for accreditation by NAAC, and in regard to technical education courses by NBA.

It was agreed that technical education institutions applying for accreditation to the National Board of Accreditation (NBA) should not be expected to bear any costs in this regard, except for the prescribed accreditation fees, and that all expenses connected with the inspection visit of the NBA team should be borne by the NBA/AICTE.

- (vi) Efforts will be made to network all institutions of higher and technical education so that collaborative research and shared experiences strengthen our tertiary education.
- (vii) State Governments will also advise their universities to adopt/adapt UGC-approved curricula and to switch over to semester and credit systems, within two years.

- (viii) States agreed to encourage their universities/colleges and technical education institutions to become members of INFLIBNET (Information for Library Network) and INDEST (Indian National Digital Library for Engineering Sciences and Technology) consortia, respectively, so that they gain access to e-journals and other online academic resources through the centralized subscription process of these consortia.
- (ix) It was agreed that UGC should give development aid on preferential basis to institutions which are located in backward rural areas or cater to minorities, women or other disadvantaged sections. It was also agreed that UGC should work out suitable parameters for calculating the Diversity Index of the various institutions and provide rewards by way of enhanced developmental and other grants to institutions which score high on the Diversity index, taking into account both recruitment and enrolment.

#### 6. Technical Education

- (i) States whose intake capacity in technical education courses per lakh population is significantly less than the national average, agreed to initiate necessary policies and programmes in the XI Plan so as to come up to the level of the national average.
- (ii) State agreed to make efforts to set up, by the end of the XI Plan, a polytechnic in each of those Districts which do not have a polytechnic at present, but are large enough to sustain one. They also agreed to consider setting up Women's Polytechnics in such specially identified districts as have no separate women's polytechnic at present. The Ministry will work towards providing financial assistance of non-recurring nature for this purpose.
- (iii) State Governments will advise their Universities to update/revise their curricula in technical education in consultation with AICTE, and also to switch over to semester and credit based grading system.
- (iv) AICTE should be asked to review the norms fixed for polytechnics as also for introduction of new subjects so as to encourage private public participation.
- (v) AICTE should also be asked to develop suitable mechanisms for meaningful and effective consultations with the State Governments.
- (vi) The issue of having a minimum percentage of marks in the qualifying examination for admissions in the technical institutions was raised by the State Governments. It was noted that the AICTE Regulations in this regard do not specify such a percentage and all those who pass the qualifying examination are eligible to appear in the entrance examinations conducted for admissions to various technical institutions. It was agreed that the AICTE would examine the feasibility of imposing a condition of obtaining a minimum percentage of marks in the qualifying examinations for entry in the technical institutions.

#### 7. Vocational Education

Creation/upgradation of facilities which have bearing on skills/training across all sectors of education need to be vigorously pursued. This would include, *inter-alia*, participation of trade/industry/employer organisations in curriculum design and certification. A national framework of qualification for skills training would be devised.

#### 8. Distance Education

- (i) States agreed to liberally make available premises and other infrastructure of their institutions to serve as study-centres/regional centres of IGNOU, and to permit teachers in their institutions of higher learning to take up the assigned work in IGNOU Study Centres subject to the condition that their normal work should not be affected and IGNOU compensates the institutions at least to the extent of variable costs, giving some remuneration for the extra work done by the teachers.
- (ii) States notes the need to quickly enter into tripartite MoU with ISRO and MHRD for proper utilization of EDUSAT. All States which are yet to execute these MoUs, agreed to do so in the next two months. States which have already executed the MoUs agreed to intensify efforts for providing infrastructural and administrative facilities for installation and maintenance of Satellite Interactive Terminals (SITs) and Receive Only Terminals (ROTs).

- (iii) States welcomed the establishment of the "SAKSHAT" Education Portal by the Ministry, and agreed to host it on State level servers as well, and also to develop and post on this portal, learning modules in their respective languages, and suited to the State specific context.

## 9. Minority Education

The Scheme of introduction of modern subjects in Madrasa institutions, being a demand-driven scheme, needs to be widely publicized with the active involvement of the State Governments. Special campaign would be launched by the MHRD, in association with State Governments, for willing Madrasa Institutions to volunteer for assistance under the Scheme. The National Institution of Open Schooling (NIOS) would launch a programme of linking with willing Madrasa Institutions for imparting education in modern subjects and vocational education through open and distance learning mode, leading to appropriate certification of eligible and successful Madrasa students by the NIOS.

*[Translation]*

### Role and Functions of Panchayati Raj Institutions

4808. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a clear cut demarcation of duties for the workers at every level of the Panchayati Raj System;

(b) if so, the details of the duties assigned to them; and

(c) the role and the functions of Panchayati Raj Institutions in the villages?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) Article 243G of the Constitution provides that the legislature of a State may, by law, endow the Panchayats with such powers and

authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as institutions of self government and such law may contain provisions for devolution of powers and responsibility upon Panchayats at the appropriate level, subject to such conditions as may be specified therein, with respect to—

- (i) the preparation of Plans for economic development and social justice;
- (ii) the implementation of schemes for economic development and social justice as may be entrusted to them including those in relation to the matters listed in the Eleventh Schedule.

Accordingly, Panchayats can be assigned the responsibilities for any of the functions listed in the 11th Schedule and any other matter developed by the State Legislature. The role and functions of Panchayati Raj Institutions in each State depends upon the scope of devolution of powers and responsibilities to Panchayats at each level as provided in the State Panchayati Raj Legislations concerned. In order to evolve a national consensus on the transfer of powers to Panchayats in accordance with State Legislation, it was decided at the First Round Table of State Ministers of Panchayati Raj held in Kolkata in July 2004 that the States must first identify activities related to the functions transferred to Panchayats which could be assigned to each level of the Panchayat. This exercise is termed "Activity Mapping" and is to be guided by the principle of subsidiarity *i.e.* that any activity which can be undertaken at a lower level must be undertaken at that level alone and at no higher level.

The transfer of functionaries to Panchayati Raj Institutions is required to be patterned on the activities assigned to different levels of Panchayats. At present States have devolved functions and functionaries to Panchayats to different extents in varying degrees. Details obtained from States are given in the enclosed Statement. It is the constant endeavour of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj to persuade the States to complete the exercise of Activity Mapping and make it real by the transfer of finances and functionaries to Panchayats in conformity with the Activity Mapping undertaken.

**Statement*****Status of Devolution of Funds, functions and functionaries to the Panchayati Raj Institutions***

Functional devolution			Fiscal Devolution	Devolution of functionaries
Transfer of Subjects through Legislation	Subjects Covered under Activity Mapping	Comments		
1	2	3	4	5
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>				
17	9	Activity Mapping is under finalisation	No Panchayat sector window in the budget. Panchayats get only SFC grants, some revenue assignments, CFC grants and SGRY/NREGA	Only General staff given, departmental staff answer to departments
<b>Assam</b>				
29	29	Activity Mapping issued in 2002 only on paper. Only 6 departments have issued further orders		
<b>Arunachal Pradesh</b>				
	3	Activity Mapping not done	No revenue assignments. Only source of funds are CFC grants, NREGA, SGRY	Only skeleton staff given
<b>Bihar</b>				
25	25	Committee looking at activity mapping	CFC grants, NREGA, SGRY	Only General staff given, departmental staff answer to departments
<b>Chhattisgarh</b>				
29	27	Activity Mapping under preparation, yet to be notified	Panchayat sector budget window exists. In 2006-07, Rs. 803 crore, pertaining	Sahayak Gram Panchayat Adhikari, Gram Panchayat Adhikari, Clerical

1	2	3	4	5
			to 12 departments have been allocated to Panchayats	and Class-IV cadres of Education Tribal Health and 7-8 other departments declared as dying cadres and new recruitment to these cadres is undertaken directly by the Panchayats. Chhattisgarh has been particularly successful in recruitment of new Shiksha Karmis at the level of the Janpad ' Panchayats. More than 30,000 teachers have been so recruited into local level cadres
<b>Goa</b>				
21	18	The Act itself extensively lists out the powers given to the Panchayats. In a sense, this itself constitutes activity mapping, though a separate exercise is also under way.	Tax revenues and non-tax revenues from devolved taxation powers,	Village Panchayats can appoint employees other than Secretary or Gram Sevak using Panchayat funds. In ZPs, CEO and Adhyaksha of ZP have full control over ZP staff.
<b>Gujarat</b>				
15	14	Activity mapping being worked out, but not completed and notified	About Rs. 3600 crore of development expenditure developed to Panchayats (data for 2004-05)	2.2 lakh employees developed to Panchayats, mainly on deputation from State Government to Panchayat level post, covering 11 departments.
<b>Haryana</b>				
29	10	In 1995 detailed executive orders were issued for devolution,	Activity Mapping of Feb 2006 gives funds for certain	Activity mapping of Feb 2006 devolves staff through deemed

1	2	3	4	5
		in respect of 16 departments, but remained largely on paper. In Feb 2006, Activity mapping was freshly issued for 10 departments	departments, such as health, public health, Irrigation, agriculture, forest, social justice, women and child development and animal husbandry Average Total funds devolved to each GPs (incl. 12th FC) is Rs. 4.38 lakhs.	deputation in respect of 3 departments
<b>Himachal Pradesh</b>				
26	15	General notification on devolution of functions issued for 15 departments in July, 1996. However, only 8 of these have further issued notifications		Staff is with State Govt. Panchayat is appointing authority for 6 types of employees of group C&D category. In addition, Panchayats can report on physical attendance in respect of 2 categories of people.
<b>Jharkhand</b>				
No elections held to Panchayats				
<b>Karnataka</b>				
29	29	Activity Mapping completed in accordance with the recommendations of the GOI task force, in August 2003.	Devolution of funds revisited and corrected in October 2004, to match functional devolution. 3561 crore of plan funds (mostly tied to schemes) and about Rs. 4000 crore of non-plan funds devolved to Panchayats per annum and placed in their accounts in treasuries and banks.	Staff of all departments for which functional devolution undertaken, devolved to Panchayats on deputation. GPs can appoint Panchayat staff, except Panchayat secretary. All transfers within the district done by committee headed by CEO of ZP.

1	2	3	4	5
<b>Kerala</b>				
26	26	Responsibility mapping undertaken is now being revisited, 18 departments are covered	Three categories of funds transferred to Panchayats, namely, (a) united plan allocation, (b) allocation for different subjects transferred to LSGIs, including plan and non-plan funds tied to specific schemes (c) maintenance grant and general purpose grant. In 2005-06, Rs. 1375 crore was transferred to Panchayats	Staff of 14 departments transferred to Panchayats, with disciplinary control and career review (through CRs) transferred to them.
<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>				
23	23	Fresh activity mapping completed by an NGO is under the consideration of the government	20 departments indicate their funds that are to go to Panchayats. Each GP gets about Rs. 1 lakh as united fund grant.	All Class III village level functionaries converted into dying cadres and fresh recruitments undertaken by Panchayats. These include Panchayat secretaries, primary school teachers, anganwadi workers, etc.
<b>Maharashtra</b>				
18	18	Activities devolved to Panchayats are listed in the list itself	Separate budget window for transfer of state plan grants to Panchayats.	All Group-III and IV Panchayat Level functionaries to be appointed by Zilla Panchayats. New amendment in 2003 brings all village level officials under the Village Panchayats.



1	2	3	4	5
<b>Manipur</b>				
22	22	So far only departments of RD & PR, C&I, Fisheries and Art and culture have issued departmental notifications for devolving funds and functionaries to Panchayats	In 2005-06, Rs. 2.85 crore for non-plan and Rs. 63.07 lakhs for plan have been devolved to Panchayats	Staff of Government are posted to Panchayats and continue under the control and superintendence of the government.
<b>Orissa</b>				
25	9	In October 2005, orders were issued on activity mapping in 9 departments. It is now reported that 10 individual government departments have issued orders in furtherance of the same	Panchayats get plan and non-plan funds in respect of a few departments, mainly RD, PR	Officials of departments are to report to Panchayats in respect of transferred schemes. Panchayats do not make any appointment of their own.
<b>Punjab</b>				
7	6	Devolution orders were issued in respect of 6 departments in October 2003. Now activity mapping has been completed for 29 matters and awaits government approval.	Funds are not devolved to Panchayats, except CSS funds in respect of a few schemes, such as SGRY.	Seven departments propose to delegate powers of supervision to Panchayats. In health department, the powers of outsourcing the running of PHCs has been devolved to Panchayats. Recently, in education department, powers of recruitment of teachers has been given to Panchayats

1	2	3	4	5
<b>Rajasthan</b>				
29	12	Activity mapping, based on the powers sanctioned to the Panchayats under the law is ready, pending approval of the Government	About Rs. 135 crores given to Panchayats under the Finance Commission grants.	Officials of 8 departments placed with each Panchayat through deputation from government.
<b>Sikkim</b>				
28	28	Activity mapping completed and notified by the Government in November 2006	United block grants of Rs. 10 lakhs given annually to GPs and Rs. 50 lakhs to ZPs. departments give their funds to Panchayats through cheques for schemes.	Staff on deputation from the Government. Panchayat secretary elected by the members. Draft Panchayati Raj service rules prepared by the State and is under examination by line departments.
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>				
29	—	Activity Mapping to be undertaken. A high level committee under Chairpersonship of the Minister for Rural Development and local administration set up	Only SFC grants given to Panchayats. During 2005-06, about Rs. 195 crore was given to Gram Panchayats.	At GP level, part-time clerks can be appointed by the Panchayat president. ZPs and Block Panchayats have no control over line department staff.
<b>Tripura</b>				
29	21	Government orders devolving functions to Panchayats ready for 12 departments	Funds are given to Panchayats under the gramodaya scheme. According to the recommendations of the SFC, the GPs are to get Rs. 100 per capita, the PSIs Rs. 60 and ZPs, Rs. 40. However, the full amounts are not released and they get only about 25 percent of this allocation	Staff in respect of 21 departments deputed to Panchayats from the government, with Panchayats exercising powers of payment of salaries, grant of leave, writing of CRs and disciplinary action.

1	2	3	4	5
<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>				
12	—	Functions relating to 12 departments have been transferred to Panchayats. Activity mapping is still under the consideration of the Government	Funds in respect of certain schemes transferred to Panchayats such as poverty alleviation schemes, mid-day meals, rural markets SGRY and other CSSs. In addition about Rs. 1174 crores have been given to Panchayats under the SFC recommendations.	GPs have power of verification of attendance of all village level workers. Village level functionaries of some departments were transferred to Gram Panchayats in 1999, but they were subsequently withdrawn.
<b>Uttaranchal</b>				
14	9	Activity mapping was issued in September 2006, but departments, have not issued their notifications yet.	Funds pertaining to a few CSSs alone are transferred to Panchayats	In January 005, executive orders were issued transferring powers of seeking information and supervision over employees of 14 departments to Panchayats.
<b>West Bengal</b>				
29	15	Activity mapping completed in November 2005	Rs. 278 crore of State funds devolved to Panchayats in 2005-06 as budget grants. Reported that total transfer of funds to Panchayats in 2005-06 was Rs. 1066 crore.	EO of the ZP made appointing authority for all posts except group D posts at GP level, for which EO of Panchayat samiti is the appointing authority. This has been done by the WB Panchayat amendment Act 2006. Each GP has 6 sanctioned posts.

**Applications under R.T.I.***(English)*

4809. DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:  
SHRI TUKARAM GANPATRAO RENGE  
PATIL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has been receiving applications under the Right to Information Act;

(b) if so, the number of applications so received from January 1, 2006 to December 31, 2006;

(c) the number out of the said applications on which information has been furnished till now;

(d) whether any complaints have been received regarding discrepancies in the information provided; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of officials against whom action has been initiated for the last one year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 5626 applications have been received under the RTI Act in the Ministry of Communications & Information Technology for the period 1st January, 2006 to 31st December, 2006.

(c) Out of above applications, information has been supplied on 5321 applications.

(d) Complaints regarding incomplete information are received by the Appellate Authority in the Department concerned and the second appeal to the Central Information Commission. The appeals are disposed off by the respective Appellate Authorities as per their jurisdiction and in accordance with letter and spirit of the RTI Act.

(e) No Action has been taken against any officer as the available information has been given to the applicants as envisaged under the RTI Act.

**RTI Act**

4810. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:  
SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Right to Information Act has been proved to be ineffective as no effective arrangement has been made in the States under this Act;

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

(c) the details of the procedure being followed to provide information under Right to Information Act, State-wise;

(d) whether substantive information is made available to the applicants under the said Act;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the Semi-Government, the Non-Governmental Organisations and the Government recognised institutions also come under the ambit of the said Act;

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

(h) whether 'file noting' comes under the purview of Right to Information (RTI) Act;

(i) if so, whether the DoPT has put up in their website information showing that 'file noting' do not come under RTI Act; and

(j) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. All the States, except the State of J&K, are under statutory obligation to implement the Right to Information Act, 2005. All these states have constituted State Information Commissions.

(c) to (e) All public authorities under the Central Government and the State Governments are required to provide information as per provisions contained in the Act. The information is provided through the Central/State Public Information Officers.

(f) and (g) All organizations including the semi-government organizations and Government recognized institutions established or constituted or owned or controlled or substantially financed by the Government and non-government organizations substantially financed by the Government come under the ambit of the Right to Information Act, 2005.

(h) to (j) The DOPT on its website has stated that the term information as defined in Section 2(f) of the RTI Act does not include "file noting".

#### **Visit of External Affairs Minister to Afghanistan**

4811. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether during his recent visit to Afghanistan, the Minister of External Affairs while offering US\$ 100 million additional Indian assistance to Afghanistan had indicated that India has sought transit route for such aid to Kabul through Pakistan;

(b) if so, whether Pakistan has cleared the Indian proposal for transit of such aid to Afghanistan through Pak territory;

(c) if so, the details of the terms and conditions made by Pakistan therefor;

(d) the manner in which India aid is sought to be given to Afghanistan;

(e) the steps taken by the Government in that direction;

(f) whether Afghanistan has guaranteed any security to the Indians working in Afghanistan; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) The issue of transit facility through Pakistani territory to facilitate implementation of development projects in Afghanistan has been regularly taken up with the Government of Pakistan. Pakistan permits transit to Afghanistan through Karachi port but not through the land route from India. In 2006, as an exception Pakistan permitted the transit of mini-buses

through its territory via Wagah border. Pakistan cites extraneous political reasons for not giving land transit facility to India.

(d) and (e) The increased assistance of US\$ 100 million will be utilised for various development projects in Afghanistan for different sectors including Small Development Projects which have a short gestation period and a direct impact on the community life. 45 such projects in areas relating to health, education and community development have already been identified after due consultation with the Government of Afghanistan.

(f) and (g) Government of India are in constant touch with the Government of Afghanistan, which has assured that it will take all the steps necessary to provide security to Indians in Afghanistan.

#### **Employment Opportunities in the Rural Areas**

4812. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to create adequate employment opportunities in the rural areas and small towns during the Eleventh Plan to stop the huge influx of rural migrants to the metros;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the Central schemes proposed to be sponsored in this regard; and

(d) the funds earmarked for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) and (b) The Approach Paper to the Eleventh Five Year Plan envisages creation of 70 million work opportunities, both in rural and urban areas. Additional employment opportunities in the future will be generated mainly in the services and manufacturing sector, in particular, labour intensive sectors, such as food processing, leather products, footwear, textiles, tourism and construction, etc.

(c) and (d) To supplement employment opportunities, various schemes such as National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS), Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), Sampooma Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP), Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) and Swarna Jayanti Shahri Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) are being implemented.

The funds earmarked for the Annual Plan 2007-08 for each of the scheme are given below:

(Rs. in Crores)

	Schemes	Outlay	Area of Implementation
1.	National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS)	12000.00	Rural Areas
2.	Swaranjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY)	1800.00	Rural Areas
3.	Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY)	2800.00	Rural Areas
4.	Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP)	445.00	Rural Areas
5.	Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY)	320.00	Both Rural & Urban Areas
6.	Swarna Jayanti Shahri Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY)	344.00	Urban Areas

[*Translation*]

#### Decline in the Profit Margin of CIL

4813. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has assessed the decline in the profit margin of Coal India Limited (CIL) during the year 2006-07;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the total profit of the company and percentage of the profit which constitutes of the capital investment therein;

(c) whether there is any proposal to increase the profit margin of the company;

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

(e) the measures taken by the Government to increase the profit margin of the company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) Against the budgeted profit of Rs. 7,014 crore, Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiaries have made profit (Provisional) of Rs. 8,213 crore in 2006-07.

However, the provisional profit figure of 2006-07 has declined by Rs. 464 crore compared to profit of Rs. 8,677 crore during the preceding year (2005-06).

The main reasons for decline in profit against last year (2005-06) are:

(i) Increase in the cost of production due to factors such as inflation, wage award, etc. by 2.28% and no upward revision in the sale price.

(ii) Discontinuance of E-marketing of coal from December, 2006.

(b) Figures of profit before tax and capital employed in CIL and subsidiary companies are given below:

Year	(Rupees in crore)		Profit as a % age of Capital employed
	Profit	Capital employed	
2005-06	8677	13667	63.49%
2006-07 (Prov.)	8213	16673	49.26%

(c) Profit of CIL has been projected at Rs. 8.482 crore for the year 2007-08 with a production target of 384.51 million tonnes. Percentage growth in production and profit have been envisaged as 6.49% and 3.04% respectively.

(d) Profit target for 2007-08 for each company is given below:

(Rs. in Crore)	
Company	Profit Target for 2007-08
ECL	184.07
BCCL	48.24
CCL	1191.61
NCL	2131.69
WCL	676.22
SECL	2001.27
MCL	1901.36
NEC/CIL/CPDIL	2367.01
Total	10501.47
Less Dividend	2039.16
Overall Profit	8462.31

(e) The steps taken by Coal India Limited for increasing the profit margin of the company are as follows:

- (i) Increasing production of underground mines by using more number of Side Discharge Loaders/ Load Haul Dumpers (SDLs/LHDs) and introduction of Mass Production Technology wherever feasible.
- (ii) Increasing productivity of men and machines.
- (iii) Regulating controllable costs.
- (iv) Improvement in quality of coal.
- (v) Rationalization of manpower by closing down mines which are technically and economically unviable.
- (vi) Agreement with equipment supplies on gain/loss sharing basis.

*[English]*

### **India's Role In Rebuilding Iraq**

4814. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is playing any active role in rebuilding Iraq;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the benefits likely to be accrued to India as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) to (c) India have initiated various steps to contribute to the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Iraq. An assistance of US \$ 20 million was committed by India to the Iraqi people in response to UN Secretary General's appeal of April 2003. Government of India have also contributed an amount of US \$ 10 million to the two Iraqi Trust Funds that are being coordinated by the UN and the World Bank for reconstruction of Iraq. India have offered assistance to Iraq in capacity building and development of its human resources by providing training in India to Iraqi officials and students in wide ranging areas. As part of its humanitarian assistance, Government of India have supplied milk powder to Iraqi children and there is also an ongoing assistance programme of providing fortified biscuits to Iraqi school children in cooperation with the UN World Food Programme.

### **Development of Mumbai Port Trust's Land**

4815. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:  
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:  
SHRI SURESH KALMADI:  
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received a proposal from State Government of Maharashtra regarding preparation of Land Development Plan of Eastern Coastal Part of Mumbai City (Mumbai Port Trust's Land);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Government of Maharashtra has requested the authorities of Mumbai Port Trust to jointly work with the State Government in the preparation of the Development Plan;

(d) if so, the response of the Mumbai Port Trust thereon; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Government of Maharashtra has urged Department of Shipping to advise Mumbai Port Trust to jointly work with the Government for land development plan of Eastern Coastal Part of Mumbai City. Department of Shipping has apprised the State Government of the position relating to availability of land with Mumbai Port Trust and its usage.

(c) to (e) Mumbai Port Trust has received a draft report prepared by the Urban Design Research Institute (UDRI), the agency appointed by Government of Maharashtra in respect of development of Eastern Water Front from the Government of Maharashtra in June, 2005. The draft report prepared by UDRI was based on old data and incorrect assumptions which needed to be updated and revised. The comments on the draft report were forwarded to the Government of Maharashtra on 9.9.2005. Subsequently, the draft report was discussed in the Mumbai Port Trust in a series of meetings in consultation with the concerned organisations including representatives of Government of Maharashtra to take into account the port's business. The updated/revised report is yet to be received from UDRI/Government of Maharashtra.

#### **Upgradation of Paradip Port**

4816. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Paradip Port has constructed new berths and terminals on Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis;

(b) if so, the number of such berths and terminals constructed;

(c) the purpose for which these new berths and terminals would be used;

(d) whether there is any other upgradation works undertaken in Paradip Port during the Tenth Plan and also proposed during the Eleventh Plan; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) and (e) Development/Upgradation in Major Ports is an ongoing process. Out of 11 projects at an estimated cost of Rs. 22.70 crores included in the 10th Five Year Plan for Paradip Port Trust, 2 projects, namely 'Extension of Iron Ore Berth' and 'Installation of 2 Twenty Ton Mobile Cranes' have been completed. A total of 23 projects at an estimated cost of Rs. 2601.07 crores have been identified in Paradip Port Trust for implementation in the 11th Plan Five Year Plan. These include construction of berths, deepening of channel, modernization/upgradation of cargo handling equipments, rail/road connectivity and other associated projects.

#### **Improving Local Governance**

4817. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any plan to improve the local governance through re-engineering of Government processes, modernization and effective use of technologies like IT;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the efforts made by the Government for better local governance during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) In the resolutions passed in the Seventh Round Table of Ministers in charge of Panchayati Raj held in Jaipur in December, 2004, it



was recognized that IT (Information Technology and Communication) is a vital input for capacity and capability building of Panchayati Raj Institutions. It was also envisaged that IT ought to be primarily positioned as:

- a decision-making support system for the Panchayats themselves;
- a tool for transparency, disclosure of information to citizens, social audit;
- a means for better and convergent delivery of services to citizens;
- a means for improving internal management and efficiency of Panchayats;
- a means for Capacity-Building of representatives and officials of the Panchayats;
- an e-Procurement medium.

To implement the resolutions of the Seventh Round Table, Government have formulated a Mission Mode Project on e-PRIs under the National e-Governance plan for IT-enabled e-Governance at the Gram Panchayat level.

(c) The first task before the Ministry was to evolve a national consensus in respect of the Roadmap for Panchayati Raj through mutual consultation between the Centre and the State. The Ministry of Panchayati Raj convened Seven Round Tables of State Panchayati Raj Ministers with the Union Minister of Panchayati Raj between July and December 2004. The deliberations centered on the 18 identified dimensions of Panchayati Raj ranging from the effective Devolution of the Functions, Finances and Functionaries to District Planning, Training and Capacity Building and IT-enabled e-governance. At the conclusion of each Round Table, nearly 150 action points, comprised in the Compendium, were unanimously adopted by all Panchayati Raj Ministers. This has become a National Roadmap for effective adopted by all Panchayati Raj Ministers. This has become a National Roadmap for effective Panchayati Raj. The National Road Map is being reinforced by State-specific Roadmaps based on Joint Statements of Conclusions or Memoranda of Understanding entered into between Chief Ministers of States and authorities concerned in Union Territories at the conclusion of Panchayati Raj tours by the Union Minister of Panchayati Raj to States/UTs. So far, 21 such jointly signed statements have been issued. The texts of joint statements concluded before November, 2006 are

included in the Report on 'The State of the Panchayats: A Mid-Term Review and Appraisal' tabled in both Houses of Parliament on 23 November, 2006.

A Committee of Panchayati Raj Secretaries headed by the Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj has been constituted to monitor the progress and implementation of these 150 Action Points. This Committee also services the Council of Panchayati Raj Ministers. The Committee of Secretaries has held eight meetings. The Council of Ministers has been convened twice, at Kochi, Kerala in August 2005 and at Bhubaneswar, Orissa in June 2006, respectively. The third meeting of the Council is being scheduled shortly.

The Empowered Sub-Committee of the National Development Council is now Chaired by the Union Minister of Panchayati Raj. Its recommendations are binding on State Governments. The Sub-Committee had dealt with various aspects of devolution and closely monitors developments in this regard.

#### **National Highways Security Force**

4818. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:  
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to set up National Highways Security Force (NHSF) as reported in the 'Economic Times' dated March 08, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the role of National Highways Security Force will be different from that of the Regional Transport Offices (RTOs);

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure efficient functioning of NHSF?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

### **Reduction In Landline Tariff**

4819. SHRI A.V. BELLARMIN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a deep fall in the Revenue Income on account of the increasing cases of surrender of landline connections;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to reduce the monthly rent of landline connections at par with private providers to avoid surrendering of landline connections by the subscribers; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to sustain the subscriber base for landline phones?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) There is a fall in the revenue income on account of surrender of landline connections and other reasons, namely, stiff reduction of telephone tariffs and introduction of customer friendly plans.

(b) At present, there is no proposal to further reduce the monthly rentals as it is already quite competitive.

(c) The following steps have been taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to sustain the subscriber base of landline phones:

- A number of tariff schemes have been introduced to retain the customers including One India Plan.
- Broadband connections are being provided on fixed lines at competitive tariff to retain the landline customers.
- All exchanges have been made digital to improve service quality.
- Rehabilitation of outdoor network is being done on continuous basis to reduce fault rate and Mean Time Repair (MTR) of landline.
- New Remote Station Units (RSUs)/Digital Loop Carrier System (DLCs) are being provided to reduce faults of landline.

- New Value Added Services like broadband, Intelligence Network (IN) based services, Internet Protocol Television (IPTV) etc. are being provided to landline customers at affordable rates.
- pre-paid Public Call Offices (PCOs) are being installed.
- Opening of Sanchar Haat, Quick Customer Service Centre (QCSC), appointment of dealers and agents and by various methods to make bill payment, etc. for landline customers.
- Reviewing of tariff for various products and services to landline customers so as to make them customer friendly, competitive and to suit all segments of the society.

### **Promotion of Rural Health Mission**

4820. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:  
SHRI JUAL ORAM:  
SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has drawn up an elaborate plan to promote Rural Health Mission focusing on better interaction among the stakeholders to make the scheme more effective as reported in 'The Hindu' dated March 19, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any shortcomings have been witnessed in this regard; and

(d) the corrective steps taken by the Government to rectify the shortcomings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) Yes Sir, the Government has implemented National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) throughout the country with special focus on 18 high focus states namely the 8 EAG states, the 8 north eastern states and states of Jammu and Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh. The NRHM envisages overall improvement in the range and quality of hospital care, decentralization of planning and implementation of health programmes, and

better intra and inter-sectoral convergence for effective utilization of resources. The NRHM provides overarching umbrella to existing National programmes of Health and Family Welfare. It addresses health in a sector-wide manner addressing the issues of sanitation and hygiene, nutrition and safe drinking water which are basic determinants of good health.

Over the past two years, states have operationalised various strategies and launched many new initiatives to strengthen health care facilities at grass roots level. Detailed guidelines have been issued to states for various strategies and progress is reviewed regularly through meetings and field visits. Operational clarifications are issued periodically and technical assistance is provided as and when required so that the shortcomings, if any are removed and progress of the NRHM remains on course.

#### **Development Work on NH-208**

4821. SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal regarding the developmental works of NH-208 is pending with the Union Government for clearance;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount provided in the Budget for 2007-08 for the said work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Eleven works amounting to Rs. 22.68 crore have been sanctioned during 2006-07 as per the availability of funds for the development of National Highway-208 passing through the states of Kerala and Tamil Nadu. There is no proposal pending with the Ministry.

(c) An amount of Rs. 60.00 crore and Rs. 90.00 crore has been allocated for the development of National Highways in the States of Kerala and Tamil Nadu respectively during 2007-08 including the works on NH-208.

*[Translation]*

#### **By-Pass Road at Sivani Nagar**

4822. SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction of a by-pass road for Sivani Nagar on the National Highway No. 7 has been proposed;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government on the said proposal; and

(c) the time by which the said by-pass road is likely to be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) The bypass to Seoni Town (Sivani Nagar) is a part of four laning on BOT (Annuity) basis of Seoni to Madhya Pradesh/Maharashtra section of NH-7, Letter of Acceptance (LOA) has already been issued on 8.1.2007, but the agreement has not yet been signed. The project is targeted to be completed within 30 months from date of commencement.

#### **Sino-Sri Lankan Agreement on Sea Harbour**

4823. SHRI CHANDRAMANI TRIPATHI:  
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether China has signed an agreement with Sri Lanka for developing a sea harbour at Humbantota;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the above step of China will increase its interference in the Indian territorial water;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Government have seen press reports to this effect. The Sri Lanka Ports Authority of the Consortium of China Harbour Engineering Company Limited/Sino Hydro Corporation Limited reportedly signed a contract for development of the Hambantota Harbour on March 12, 2007 in Colombo.

(c) to (e) No. India exercises absolute sovereignty over its territorial waters.

#### **Pending Inter-State Road Proposals**

4824. SHRI NIHAL CHAND:  
SHRIMATI SUSHEELA BANGARU LAXMAN:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposals amounting to Rs. 28.85 crore of Rajasthan under the Inter-State Roads are pending with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and their present status;

(c) whether the Union Government is yet to release the funds to the State Government as per their demand;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which these proposals are likely to be approved and funds released for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) No, Sir. A list of 12 proposals amounting to Rs. 28.85 crore have been received in the Ministry for 'in principle' approval under Inter State Connectivity (ISC) Scheme for the year 2006-07. Out of these, only six proposals amounting to Rs. 15.08 crore could be agreed 'in principle' for the year 2006-07, keeping in view *inter-se* priority of works and availability of funds.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir. During the year 2006-07, Rs. 6.67 crore has been released depending upon the progress of the sanctioned works.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) At present no release/sanction of proposals are pending in the Ministry.

[English]

#### **Setting up of AIDS Counselling Centres**

4825. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL:  
SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of running AIDS Centres offering free testing, counselling and treatment for AIDS patients, State-wise;

(b) whether the NACO has proposed for setting up of 4900 integrated Counselling and Testing Centres in the country;

(c) if so, the number of AIDS Counselling Centres proposed to be set up in the country, State-wise including that of Andhra Pradesh;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any special attention is paid by ICTCS on the high-prevalence States; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) 4132 counselling and testing centres and 126 ART centres are offering free testing, counselling and treatment. The state-wise number of centres is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) to (d) 4955 counselling and testing centres will be established by providing additional contractual staff during the next five year period under NACP-III. The state-wise number of centres proposed to be established as per the annual action plan 2007-08 is given in the enclosed statement. In addition, existing infrastructure and manpower in the public health facilities will be utilised wherever feasible by training in counselling and laboratory techniques.

(e) and (f) Priority has been accorded for establishing integrated counselling and testing centres in the high

prevalence states which have 2715 such centres out of a total of 4132 centres. Additional funding has been

mobilised through the Global Fund for AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria for this purpose.

**Statement**

*ICTC and ART Centres in the Country as on April and targets for 2007-08*

Sl.No.	States	No. of ICTCs		No. of ART Centres	
		Existing	Proposed for 2007-08	Existing	Proposed for 2007-08
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Ahmedabad MACS	8	4	0	0
2.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	9	4	0	0
3.	Andhra Pradesh	600	0	18	8
4.	Arunachal Pradesh	25	5	1	0
5.	Assam	51	12	2	0
6.	Bihar	207	0	2	2
7.	Chandigarh	9	1	1	0
8.	Chennai MACS	42	0	0	0
9.	Chhattisgarh	52	48	1	2
10.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1	1	0	0
11.	Daman and Diu	2	1	0	0
12.	Delhi	62	34	9	0
13.	Goa	11	5	1	0
14.	Gujarat	221	0	2	3
15.	Haryana	60	0	1	0
16.	Himachal Pradesh	15	17	1	1
17.	Jammu and Kashmir	11	19	2	0
18.	Jharkhand	17	29	2	0
19.	Karnataka	561	0	15	12
20.	Kerala	58	48	5	0
21.	Lakshadweep	0	1	0	0
22.	Madhya Pradesh	55	48	2	2

1	2	3	4	5	6
23.	Maharashtra	604	0	18	14
24.	Manipur	54	0	5	2
25.	Meghalaya	12	4	1	0
26.	Mizoram	21	12	1	0
27.	Mumbai MACS	76	0	0	0
28.	Nagaland	60	0	4	2
29.	Orissa	93	47	1	2
30.	Pondicherry	10	4	1	0
31.	Punjab	33	24	2	0
32.	Rajasthan	72	84	2	2
33.	Sikkim	13	4	1	0
34.	Tamil Nadu	718	0	18	8
35.	Tripura	6	9	1	0
36.	Uttar Pradesh	182	0	3	3
37.	Uttaranchal	29	10	1	1
38.	West Bengal	72	84	2	2
Total		4132	559	126	66

#### **Dredging Projects in India**

4826. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated size of the dredging market with the participation of foreign and Indian companies in India;

(b) the details of the projects currently finalised by the Union Government in shipping sector;

(c) whether the Government has taken any decision to include Andaman and Nicobar Islands in the dredging project; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The Working Group Report on Ports for the Eleventh Five Year Plan, has projected total capital dredging requirement of 665.46 million cubic metres and maintenance dredging requirement of 413.95 million cubic metres for India including all Ports, Sethusamudram Shipping Corporation, Indian Navy and Fishing Harbours. Both Indian and foreign dredging companies can participate in the tenders floated by Project Authorities for respective dredging works.

(b) Maintenance dredging is undertaken regularly by the Ports depending on their requirements. Government have recently approved following Capital Dredging projects:

Project Name	Estimated Cost (in crores of Rupees)
Sethusamudram Ship Channel Project	2427.40
Deepening and widening of main harbour Channel and Jawahar Lal Nehru Port Channel Project	800.00
Deepening of Channel project for Paradip Port	154.84
Second Stage Deepening of Inner Harbour Entrance Channel and Turning Circle for Vishakhapatnam Port	45.08
Capital Dredging at Ennore Port Limited for the new Marine Liquid, Iron-ore and Coal terminals being developed on BOT basis.	91.00

(c) and (d) Andaman and Nicobar Islands require only about 1,00,000 Cubic metres of dredging per annum, mostly for maintenance.

**Budgetary Allocation under Model Concession Agreement**

4827. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the State-wise budgetary allocations made for maintenance of highways under the Model Concession Agreement during 2007-08 as compared to 2006-2007.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): A Model Concession Agreement does not provide for budgetary allocation for maintenance of highways. Currently, national highways are being maintained through normal contracts for repairs, etc. A total allocation of Rs. 814.38 crore (including an amount of Rs. 22.28 crore for the works under Border Road Development Board) for the year 2006-07 and a provision of Rs. 814.38 crore (including an amount of Rs. 20.06 crore for the works under Border Development Board) for the year 2007-08 for the maintenance and repair of National Highways has been made. State-wise allocation for the year 2006-07 are given in the enclosed statement. State-wise allocations for the year 2007-08 have not been made.

**Statement**

*State-wise Allocation for Maintenance & Repairs (M&R) works during the year 2006-07*

(Rs. in crores)		
Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	Allocation
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	70.01
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.30
3.	Assam	24.99
4.	Bihar	34.34
5.	Chandigarh	0.66
6.	Chhattisgarh	25.65
7.	Delhi	0.43
8.	Goa	3.71
9.	Gujarat	35.29
10.	Haryana	24.27
11.	Himachal Pradesh	17.29
12.	Jharkhand	21.66
13.	Karnataka	37.78
14.	Kerala	29.39

1	2	3
15.	Madhya Pradesh	58.70
16.	Maharashtra	61.55
17.	Manipur	7.07
18.	Meghalaya	11.21
19.	Mizoram	4.30
20.	Nagaland	4.36
21.	Orissa	44.25
22.	Pondicherry	0.89
23.	Punjab	19.44
24.	Rajasthan	61.58
25.	Tamil Nadu	30.85
26.	Uttar Pradesh	49.78
27.	Uttaranchal	18.66
28.	West Bengal	20.16
29.	NHAI	60.44
30.	Traffic studies	10.00
31.	NITHE	2.96
32.	MBIU (TN)	0.13
33.	BRDB	22.28
Total		814.38

[Translation]

#### Assessment Regarding Cancer Risk

4828. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:  
SHRI M. APPADURAI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is assessing the increasing risk of Cancer due to intake of junk food in the country as reported in the 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated April 24, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on table of the House.

#### Health Card to Senior Citizens

4829. SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:  
SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU:  
SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE:  
SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:  
SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN:  
SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of elderly citizens living in the country as on date, State-wise;

(b) whether the medical facility available to them is not at par with services offered in the foreign countries;

(c) if so, the reasons for lack of such facilities;

(d) whether any scheme has been introduced for providing medical health facilities to the senior citizens during the last three years;

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

(f) whether Government proposes to provide health cards to the senior citizens during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(g) if so, the total amount proposed to be spent on the health care facilities for senior citizens during the Eleventh Five Year Plan; and

(h) the other steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to provide effective medical facilities to the senior citizens?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI



PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (h) The number of elderly citizens living in the country as per census 2001 is given in the enclosed Statement. While in most of the western and developed countries, elderly citizens are normally covered under various insurance schemes in India, the facilities to the aged persons are available in all Government Hospitals and health centres alongwith the general health care delivery system. In some of the Government Hospitals and dispensaries Geriatric Clinics are being conducted to provide comprehensive services so elderly citizens at one place. It is proposed to launch a separate programme for elderly during the Eleventh Five Year Plan.

**Statement**

*Population of persons aged 60 years and above State-wise*

State	No. of Persons aged 60 years and above
1	2
Jammu and Kashmir	675324
Himachal Pradesh	547564
Punjab	2191693
Chandigarh	44912
Uttaranchal	672126
Haryana	1584089
Delhi	719650
Rajasthan	3810272
Uttar Pradesh	11649468
Bihar	5501274
Sikkim	29040
Arunachal Pradesh	49916
Nagaland	90323
Manipur	145470
Mizoram	49023
Trnpura	232549
Meghalaya	105726

1	2
Assam	1560366
West Bengal	5700099
Jharkhand	1578662
Orissa	3039100
Chhattisgarh	4504383
Madhya Pradesh	4280924
Gujarat	3499063
Daman and Diu	8042
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	8814
Maharashtra	8454660
Andhra Pradesh	5788078
Karnataka	4062022
Goa	112273
Lakshadweep	3729
Kerala	3335675
Tamil Nadu	5507400
Pondicherry	81016
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	17366
India	76622321

Source: Census 2001

**Movement by Hindus of Sindh Province**

4830. SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDALIKRAO GAWALI:  
SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA  
DESHMUKH:  
SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE:  
SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindus and Sindh province in Pakistan have launched a movement against incidents of abductions of persons of their community;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether the Government has taken up the issue with the Government of Pakistan; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The Pakistani press has been carrying reports of violence including kidnapping against citizens of Pakistan belonging to minority groups, including Hindus. However, no movement by Hindus in the Sindh province has come to the notice of Government.

(c) to (e) These reports have not been part of bilateral talks between India and Pakistan.

*[English]*

#### **Status of NH-9, 16 and 18 in Andhra Pradesh**

4831. SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposals from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh regarding maintenance/development of NH-9, NH-16 and NH-18;

(b) if so, the status of each of these projects; and

(c) the time by which the projects are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. Out of eighteen proposals received during the year 2006-07 from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for development/maintenance of NH-9, 16 and 18, fifteen proposals amounting to Rs. 43.72 crore have been sanctioned. The remaining three proposals could not be sanctioned due to limitation of funds. These proposals have now tentatively been included in Annual Plan 2007-08.

*[Translation]*

#### **Medicine for Diabetes**

4832. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether fool-proof medicine for diabetes has been prepared from the poison of a particular kind of lizard;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the commercial production of this medicine has started; and

(d) if so, the name under which it is available in the market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) According to Drug Controller General of India, anti-diabetics drug "Exendatide" researched and developed by USA Company—M/s Eli-Lilly, is derived from venom of Gila monster lizard. The drug is subjected to examination/evaluation as per Drugs and Cosmetics Rules in India.

#### **Financial Assistance to Overseas Indian Projects**

4833. SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken a decision to provide financial assistance in foreign exchange for the Indian projects being executed abroad;

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

(c) whether the Government has laid down any norms in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The Government provide promotional support in various ways for Indian project exports. This may also include financial assistance in foreign exchange as part of approved measures. No new or specific decision in this regard has however been taken in recent times.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

*[English]***Proof of Pak Assistance to Terrorists**

4834. SHRI HITEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether proof of Pakistan's assistance to terrorists was not placed before the Pakistani delegates during the bilateral talks held recently; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Terrorism and drug-trafficking are being discussed between India and Pakistan at Home Secretary level under the Composite Dialogue process. Three rounds of talks have been held since 2004. Terrorism is also discussed in the India-Pakistan Joint Anti-terrorism Mechanism put in place to identify and implement counter-terrorism initiatives and investigations. Information on some terrorist incidents in India has been shared with Pakistan.

12.00 hrs.

**PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE***[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the House shall take up Item No. 3—Papers to be laid on the Table.

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) section 124 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963:—

- (i) G.S.R. 115(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 2007, approving the Mumbai Port Trust (Transport, Handling and Storage of Dangerous Goods) Regulations, 2007.

- (ii) G.S.R. 116(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 2007, approving the Mumbai Port Trust (Licensing and Control of Pilots) Regulations, 2007.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—6388/07]

- (2) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Cochin Shipyard Limited and the Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—6389/07]

- (3) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2005-2006.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—6390/07]

- (5) A copy of the Inland Waterways Authority of India (Amendment) Rules, 2007 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 31 in Gazette of India dated the 24th February 2007, under section 36 of the Inland Waterways Authority of India Act, 1985 ...*(Interruptions)*

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—6391/07]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please maintain silence in the House.

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): Sir I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Sports Authority of India, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Sports Authority of India, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—6392/07]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development, Sriperumbudur, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development, Sriperumbudur, 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—6393/07]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005.

- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—6394/07]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 3 of the All India Services Act, 1951:—

- (i) The Indian Administrative Service (Pay) Rules, 2007 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 213(E) in Gazette of India dated the 20th March, 2007.
- (ii) The Indian Administrative Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength Second Amendment Regulations, 2006 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 774(E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th December, 2006.
- (iii) The Indian Administrative Service (Pay) Second Amendment Rules, 2006 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 775(E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th December, 2006.
- (iv) The Indian Police Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Amendment Regulations, 2007 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 21(E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th January, 2007.
- (v) The Indian Police Service (Pay) Amendment Rules, 2007 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 22(E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th January, 2007.
- (vi) The Indian Administrative Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Second Amendment Regulations, 2007 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 277(E) in Gazette of India dated the 10th April, 2007.
- (vii) The Indian Administrative Service (Pay) Second Amendment Rules, 2007 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 278(E) in Gazette of India dated the 10th April, 2007.
- (viii) The Indian Administrative Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Amendment

Regulations, 2007 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 170(E) in Gazette of India dated the 2nd March, 2007, together with a corrigendum thereto published in Notification No. G.S.R. 279(E) dated the 10th April, 2007.

- (ix) The Indian Administrative Service (Pay) Amendment Rules, 2007 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 171(E) in Gazette of India dated the 2nd March, 2007.
- (x) The Indian Police Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Amendment Regulations, 2007 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 89(E) in Gazette of India dated the 16th February, 2007.
- (xi) The Indian Police Service (Pay) Amendment Rules, 2007 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 90(E) in Gazette of India dated the 16th February, 2007.
- (xii) The All India Services (Death-cum-Retirement Benefits) Amendment Rules, 2007 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 20(E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th January, 2007.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—6395/07]

- (2) A copy of the Central Secretariat Service (Promotion of Grade-I and Selection Grade) Amendment Regulations, 2005 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 139 in Gazette of India dated the 17th June 2006 issued under sub-rule (4) of Rule 12 of the Central Secretariat Service Rules, 1962.
- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—6396/07]

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): Sir, on behalf of my colleague, Shrimati Panabaka Lakshmi, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of Medical Research, 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 Indian Council of Medical Research, 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—6397/07]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Medical Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Medical Council of India, 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 Medical Council of India, 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—6398/07]

- (5) A copy of the Indian Medicine Central Council (Post-graduate Unani Education) Regulations, 2007 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. 11-8/2007 (U) (PG Regl.) in Gazette of India dated the 22nd February 2007 under sub-section (3) of section 36 of the Indian Medicine Central Council Act, 1970.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—6399/07]

- (6) A copy of the Drugs and Cosmetics (3rd Amendment) Rules, 2006 (Hindi and English

versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 352(E) in Gazette of India dated the 8th June, 2006 under section 38 of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940.

- (4) Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (6) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—6400/07]

- (8) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(i) Review by the Government of the working of the Hindustan Latex Limited, Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 2005-2006.

(ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Latex Limited, Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (9) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (8) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—6401/07]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Coal India Limited and the Ministry of Coal for the year 2007-2008. ...(*Interruptions*)

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—6402/07]

MR. SPEAKER: It seems to be a market now. I request all of you. The House proceedings are going on and everybody has started their own discussion! It is impossible for the Chair to understand what is going on. Please maintain silence in the House.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Intelligent Network Services in Multi Operator and Multi Network Scenario Regulations,

2006 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. 416-2/2003-FN in Gazette of India dated the 27th November, 2007, under section 37 of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997, together with a corrigendum thereto published in Notification No. 416-2/2003-FN (Vol. III) dated the 25th January, 2007.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—6403/07]

- (3) A copy of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(i) Review by the Government of the working of the ITI Limited, Bangalore, for the year 2005-2006.

(ii) Annual Report of the ITI Limited, Bangalore, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—6404/07]

- (5) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the I.T.I. Limited and the Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communication and Information Technology for the year 2006-2007.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—6405/07]

- (6) A copy of the Indian Post Office (Amendment) Rules, 2007 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 210(E) in Gazette of India dated the 20th March, 2007, under sub-section (4) of section 74 of the Indian Post Office Act, 1898.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—6406/07]

- (7) A copy of the Outcome Budget (Hindi and English versions) of the Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—6407/07]

- (8) A copy of the Telecommunication Interconnection (Port Charges) Amendment Regulations, 2007 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. F. No. 409-10/2006-FN in Gazette of India dated the 2nd February, 2007, under section 37 of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—6408/07]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 10 of the National Highways Act, 1956:—
- (i) S.O. 161(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 8th February, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building, maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. NE-II (EASTERN PERIPHERAL EXPRESSWAY) (Sonapat section) in the State of Haryana.
  - (ii) S.O. 299(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th February, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/ four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 2 (Bhaunti-Fatehpur Border section) in the State of Uttar Pradesh.
  - (iii) S.O. 162(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 8th February, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building, maintenance, management and operation of National Highway NE-II (EASTERN PERIPHERAL EXPRESSWAY) (Baghpat section) in the State of Uttar Pradesh.
  - (iv) S.O. 163(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 8th February, 2007 making

certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1214(E) dated the 28th July, 2006.

- (v) S.O. 111(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th February, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building, maintenance, management and operation of National Highway NE-II (EASTERN PERIPHERAL EXPRESSWAY) (Gautam Budh Nagar section) in the State of Uttar Pradesh.
- (vi) S.O. 112(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th February, 2007 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1307(E) dated the 14th August, 2006.
- (vii) S.O. 290(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th February, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 26, including construction of bypasses (Lalitpur-Sagar section) in the State of Uttar Pradesh.
- (viii) S.O. 283(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd February, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building (six laning), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 8 (Bharuch-Surat section) in the State of Gujarat.
- (ix) S.O. 287(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th February, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/ four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 11, (Mahua-Jaipur section) in the State of Rajasthan.
- (x) S.O. 352(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th March, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/ four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 3, (Agra-Gwalior section) in the State of Rajasthan.
- (xi) S.O. 386(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th March, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning,

etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 22, (Zirakpur-Parwanoo Section and Pinjore-Kalka-Parwanoo bypass) in the State of Himachal Pradesh.

- (xii) S.O. 75(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th January, 2007 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 2005(E) dated the 17th November, 2006.
- (xiii) S.O. 180(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th February, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/ four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 4, (Belgaum-Maharashtra Border Section) in the State of Karnataka.
- (xiv) S.O. 181(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th February, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/ four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 4, (Belgaum bypass Section) in the State of Karnataka.
- (xv) S.O. 285(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th February, 2007 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 44(E) dated the 3rd January, 2006.
- (xvi) S.O. 387(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th March, 2007 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 840(E) dated the 1st June, 2006.
- (xvii) S.O. 429(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd March, 2007 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 556(E) dated the 7th June, 2000.
- (xviii) S.O. 116(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th February, 2007 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1793(E) dated the 13th October, 2006.
- (xix) S.O. 421(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd March, 2007 regarding

acquisition of land for building (widening/ four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7, (Nagpur-Hyderabad Section) in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

- (xx) S.O. 376(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th March, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/ four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7, (Hyderabad-Bangalore Section) in the State of Andhra Pradesh.
- (xxi) S.O. 329(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 7th March, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/ four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7, (Lakhnadon-Madhya Pradesh-Maharashtra Border Section) in the State of Madhya Pradesh.
- (xxii) S.O. 381(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th March, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 26, (Jhansi-Lakhnadon Section) in the State of Madhya Pradesh.
- (xxiii) S.O. 414(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd March, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/ four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 26, (Jhansi-Lakhnadon Section) in the State of Madhya Pradesh.
- (xxiv) S.O. 291(E) and S.O. 292(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th February, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 26, including construction of bypassing (Jhansi-Lakhnadon Section) in the State of Madhya Pradesh.
- (xxv) S.O. 1540(E) and S.O. 1541(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th



- September, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 7, (Madurai-Kanniyakumari Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxvi) S.O. 1954(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th November, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/ four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 46, (Krishnagiri-Ranipet Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxvii) S.O. 1955(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th November, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/ four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7, (Madurai-Kanniyakumari Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxviii) S.O. 1976(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th November, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/ four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 55, (Tindivanam-Villupuram-Tiruchirappalli Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxix) S.O. 1982(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th November, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7, (Salem-Karur Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxx) S.O. 2013(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th November, 2006 authorizing the Special District Revenue Officer (LA), Kancheepuram and Thiruvallur District, Tamil Nadu to acquire land on National Highway Nos. 4 and 45 for widening of Chennai Bypass (Phase-I) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxxi) S.O. 2037(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th November, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/ four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7, (Bangalore-Salem-Madurai Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxxii) S.O. 2044(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th November, 2006 making certain amendments in two Notifications mentioned therein.
- (xxxiii) S.O. 2149(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th December, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/ four-laning and junction improvement/ construction, for free flow facilities), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 45 in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxxiv) S.O. 90(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st January, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning) of National Highway No. 45 (Chengalpattu-Tindivanam section), including strengthening of Tambaram-Chengalpattu section in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxxv) S.O. 91(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st January, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning) of National Highway No. 46 (Krishnagiri-Ranipet section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxxvi) S.O. 92(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st January, 2007 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1538(E) dated the 15th September, 2006.
- (xxxvii) S.O. 383(E) published in Gazette of India dated 16th March, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/ four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Salem-Karur section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxxviii) S.O. 264(E) published in Gazette of India dated 22nd February, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning),

maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Madurai-Kanniyakumari section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.

(xxxix) S.O. 265(E) published in Gazette of India dated 22nd February, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7, including bypass (Salem-Karur section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.

(xi) S.O. 266(E) and S.O. 267(E) published in Gazette of India dated 22nd February, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches on National Highway No. 7, (Salem-Karur section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.

(xli) S.O. 271(E) and S.O. 272(E) published in Gazette of India dated 23rd February, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 7, (Krishnagiri-Thoppur Ghat section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.

(xlii) S.O. 273(E), S.O. 275(E) and S.O. 276(E) published in Gazette of India dated 23rd February, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 7, (Krishnagiri-Thoppur Ghat section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.

(xliii) S.O. 274(E) published in Gazette of India dated 23rd February, 2007 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1356(E) dated the 24th August, 2006.

(xliv) S.O. 277(E) published in Gazette of India dated 23rd February, 2007 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 715(E) dated the 15th May, 2006.

(xiv) S.O. 278(E) published in Gazette of India dated 23rd February, 2007 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1282(E) dated the 10th August, 2006.

(xlv) S.O. 279(E) published in Gazette of India dated 23rd February, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7, (Salem-Karur section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.

(xlvii) S.O. 45(E) published in Gazette of India dated 17th January, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 45, (Tindivanam-Villupuram-Tiruchirappalli section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.

(xlviii) S.O. 54(E) and S.O. 55(E) published in Gazette of India dated 19th January, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7, (Salem-Karur section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.

(xlix) S.O. 56(E) published in Gazette of India dated 19th January, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7, (Madurai-Kanniyakumari section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.

(i) S.O. 57(E) published in Gazette of India dated 19th January, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7, (Bangalore-Salem-Madurai section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.

(ii) S.O. 59(E) published in Gazette of India dated 20th January, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building (construction) of Chennai Bypass (Phase-II) connecting National Highway Nos. 4 and 5 in the State of Tamil Nadu.

- (lii) S.O. 60(E) published in Gazette of India dated 20th January, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building (construction) maintenance, management and operation of Chennai Bypass (Phase-II) connecting National Highway Nos. 4 and 5 in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (liii) S.O. 84(E) published in Gazette of India dated 25th January, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7, (Madurai-Kanniyakumari section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (liv) S.O. 117(E) to S.O. 120(E) published in Gazette of India dated 6th February, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 7, (Madurai-Kanniyakumari section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lv) S.O. 197(E) published in Gazette of India dated 14th February, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 45, (Tindivanam-Villupuram-Tiruchirappalli section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lvi) S.O. 343(E) and S.O. 344(E) published in Gazette of India dated 12th March, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 45, (Krishnagiri-Thoppur Ghat section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lvii) S.O. 345(E) published in Gazette of India dated 12th March, 2007 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1710(E) dated the 5th October, 2006.
- (lviii) S.O. 346(E) published in Gazette of India dated 12th March, 2007 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1711(E) dated the 5th October, 2006.
- (lix) S.O. 347(E) published in Gazette of India dated 12th March, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7, (Madurai-Kanniyakumari section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lx) S.O. 358(E) and S.O. 359(E) published in Gazette of India dated 13th March, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening), maintenance, management and operation of Chennai Bypass (Phase-I) connecting different stretches of National Highway Nos. 4 and 45 in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lxi) S.O. 360(E) published in Gazette of India dated 13th March, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for widening of National Highway No. 4 (Maduravoyal By-pass to Koyambedu Junction) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lxii) S.O. 382(E) published in Gazette of India dated 16th March, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7, (Bangalore-Salem-Madurai section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lxiii) S.O. 1774(E) published in Gazette of India dated 17th October, 2006 regarding rates of fee to be recovered from the users of four-laned stretch of National Highway No. 5 (Bhubaneswar to Chattia) in the State of Orissa.
- (lxiv) S.O. 384(E) published in Gazette of India dated 16th March, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 47, (Walayar-Thrissur section) in the State of Kerala.
- (lxv) S.O. 236(E) published in Gazette of India dated 26th February, 2007 authorizing the Sub-Divisional Officer, Deori, Maharashtra as the competent authority to acquire land

for building (widening), maintenance, management and operation of existing National Highway including construction of bypasses, in the State of Maharashtra.

- (lxvi) S.O. 426(E) published in Gazette of India dated 23rd March, 2007 authorizing the Special Land Acquisition Officer, Raigad (1) Alibag, as the competent authority to acquire land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, Management and operation of the National Highway No. 17 (Panvel-Indapur section), including construction of bypasses, in the State of Maharashtra.
- (lxvii) S.O. 294(E) published in Gazette of India dated 27th February, 2007 authorizing the Deputy Collector and Special Land Acquisition Officer No. 5, as the competent authority to acquire land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, Management and operation of the National Highway No. 9 (Pune-Solapur section) in the State of Maharashtra.
- (lxviii) S.O. 295(E) published in Gazette of India dated 27th February, 2007 authorizing the Deputy Collector and Special Land Acquisition Officer No. 17, as the competent authority to acquire land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, Management and operation of the National Highway No. 9 (Pune-Solapur section) in the State of Maharashtra.
- (lix) S.O. 328(E) published in Gazette of India dated 7th March, 2007 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1247(E) dated the 2nd August, 2006.
- (lxx) S.O. 349(E) published in Gazette of India dated 12th March, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for building, maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. NE-II (Eastern Peripheral Expressway) (Gautam Budh Nagar section) in the State of Uttar Pradesh.
- (lxxi) S.O. 350(E) published in Gazette of India dated 12th March, 2007 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1307(E) dated the 14th August, 2006.

(lxxii) S.O. 465(E) published in Gazette of India dated 29th March, 2007 regarding acquisition of land for construction of minor bridges alongwith geometric improvement of Pune-Nashik Road National Highway No. 50 in the State of Maharashtra.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at item No. (lxiv) of (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—6409/07]

- (3) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 2153(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th December, 2006 containing corrigendum to the Notification No. S.O. 602(E) dated the 26th April, 2006 issued under the National Highways Act, 1956.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—6410/07]

12.01 hrs.

## COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

### Twenty-seventh Report

[*English*]

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH (Udhampur): Sir, I beg to present the Twenty-seventh Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

12.02 hrs.

## STATEMENT CORRECTING REPLY TO UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2184, DATED 14.3.2007 *RE*: NATIONAL HIGHWAYS IN BACKWARD AND RURAL AREAS ALONGWITH REASONS GIVEN FOR DELAY IN CORRECTING REPLY\*

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): Sir, I beg to lay a statement (Hindi

\*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6411/07.

and English versions) correcting the reply given on 14th March, 2007 to Unstarred Question No. 2184 by Shri Subhash Sureshchandra Deshmukh regarding the National Highways in Backward and Rural Areas along with the reasons for delay in correcting the reply.

- (1) The route description of MH-73A indicated in Serial No. 14 under the heading "Haryana" in Annexure-I of the reply given to part (a) of Unstarred Question No. 2184 "Yamunanagar-Jagadhri-Mustafabad-Ledi-Darpur upto H.P. Border" may be read as "The highway starting from the junction of NH 73 near Yamuna Nagar in the State of Haryana and connecting Jagadhri Chowk (Junction with NH-73) via Chhachraul, Tajewala, Khizrabad, Kalesar, Lal Dang up to Haryana/Himachal Pradesh Border".
- (2) The route description of NH-73A indicated in Serial No. 8 under the heading "Himachal Pradesh" in Annexure-I of the reply given to part (a) of Unstarred Question No. 2184, from Haryana Border upto junction with NH-72 near Paontasahib" may be read as "From Haryana/Himachal Pradesh Border and terminating at Bata Chowk (Junction with NH-72 near Paontasahib) in Himachal Pradesh".
- (3) The route description of NH-45-C indicated in Serial No. 8 under the heading "Tamil Nadu" in Annexure-I of the reply given to part (a) of Unstarred Question No. 2184 "The highway starting from its junction with NH 67 near Thanjavur-connecting Kumbakonam-Palavur-Andimadam-Vriddachalam-Manglappellai-Ulundurpellai may be read as "The Highway starting from its junction with NH-67 near Thonjavur connecting Kumbakonam, Sethiathope, Neyveli Township, Vadalur, Panvuti and terminating at its junction with NH-45 near Vikravandi".

12.03 hrs.

## OBSERVATION BY THE SPEAKER

*[English]*

### Business transacted during the last week

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, for your information, I want to briefly recapitulate the main items of business transacted by the House during the last week.

Out of the 60 Starred Questions admitted, only 14 could be answered orally. Replies to the remaining Starred Questions along with the replies to 526 Unstarred Questions were laid on the Table.

During the period, as many as 32 matters of urgent public importance were raised. Also, 32 matters were raised under Rule 377.

The Finance Bill, 2007 was discussed by the House for about eight hours and 44 minutes before it was passed.

The House also passed the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2006 after debating it for more than an hour.

The Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2007 was also taken up for discussion and was not concluded.

As regards the Private Members' Business, 14 Bills were introduced. One Private Members' Bill, namely, the Agricultural Workers Welfare Bill, 2005 seeking to provide for the welfare of agricultural workers and to regulate their employment and conditions of service and for matters connected therewith moved by Shri Hannan Mollah was further discussed for over two hours before being withdrawn by the leave of the House.

Another Private Members' Bill, the Promotion of Self-Employment Bill, 2006 seeking to encourage self-employment among educated unemployed youth moved by Shri Chandrakant Khaire was also taken up for consideration and discussed for about 17 minutes. However, the discussion was not concluded.

The House resumed discussion on a Private Members' Resolution regarding "the formulation and implementation of a comprehensive food and nutrition security scheme aiming at total eradication of hunger from the country", moved by Shri Naveen Jindal on 15th December, 2006. The debate on the Resolution lasted for about one hour and 14 minutes, and remained inconclusive.

The Departmentally-Related Standing Committee presented one Report during last week.

The House lost one hour 28 minutes of time due to interruptions and forced adjournments.

I wish to convey my thanks to the hon. Members for their cooperation in the conduct of the proceedings.

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[*English*]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): With your kind permission, I want to say that I have given a notice for privilege motion.

MR. SPEAKER: It is under my consideration.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD (Jhanjharpur): You said for twelve o'clock. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: You know that the rules provide that it is after the Call Attention.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: According to the procedure,

[*Translation*]

it is taken after calling attention.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: We have been giving notice for a week. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAMJILAL SUMAN (Firozabad): We have been giving notice for a week. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, it is Call Attention.

[*Translation*]

It will be after calling attention.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: How will it go on?

...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Tell me what you want. Do you not want to run the House?

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, it is the turn for Call Attention. You know that.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Tell me whether you want the Call Attention or not. Do you want the Call Attention or not? I want to know that.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Please take up calling attention after this. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAMJILAL SUMAN: Please give me two minutes to speak. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: There has been take encounter and not communal violence in Gujarat. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Things would worsen if you also join him.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: We have been giving notice for a week. ...(*Interruptions*) It is the question of Human Rights. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: What do you want? I cannot follow even what you want. I do not know what you want. I

cannot follow. I have got some notices but no notice for important matters that can be taken up now.

12.07 hrs.

*(At this stage Dr. Shafiqur Rahman, Shri Shailendra Kumar and some other hon'ble Members came and stood on the floor near the Table)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: It is very necessary to dismiss Modi Government. ...*(Interruptions)*  
We have been giving notice for a week. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMJILAL SUMAN: We have been giving notice for a week. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Let me hear what you want to say. Let me understand what you want to say.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAMJILAL SUMAN: We have been giving notice for a week. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: What do you want? Please speak from there.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: All right, I think, the Members are not interested.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, Mr. Ramji Lal Suman what do you want to say? I cannot hear you.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAMJILAL SUMAN: We have been giving notice for about a week in regard to the brutal killing of minorities in Gujarat. ...*(Interruptions)* It is a very serious issue. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: After the Call Attention, I will see.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAMJILAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir we had requested you several times. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2 p.m.

12.08 hrs.

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

14.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Fourteen of the Clock.*

*[Mr. Deputy-Speaker in the Chair]*

*[Translation]*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, we have been giving notice for a week. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please sit down. Please listen to me.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: We have been constantly giving notice for a week ...*(Interruptions)* It is a matter of national concern. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please listen to me. Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Please arrange a discussion on this issue first. ...(*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing is going on record.

...(*Interruptions*)\*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mistryji, what are you saying, please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It is time for calling attention.

[English]

This is not the way.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 3 p.m.

14.02 hrs.

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

15.01 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Fifteen of the Clock.*

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUAMR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): Mr. Deputy speaker, Sir, our notice for the Calling Attention

\*Not recorded.

Motion on the Ram Sethu has been lying pending since morning and the same thing has been happening for the last three days and the said matter is not being allowed to be raised because of a conspiracy. ...(*Interruptions*) We are being restrained from raising it. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, we have been giving notices for a week. ...(*Interruptions*) Fake encounters are being carried out in Gujarat. ...(*Interruptions*) This is a matter of national interest. ...(*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, till the discussion on Ram Sethu is taken up, no other matter will be taken up. First of all, discussion will be held on Ram Sethu. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: All of you, first of all listen to me.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN (Bhagalpur): Sir, the Chief Whip of the ruling party stalls the proceedings of the House. They are running the Government. They are supposed to run the business of the House while they themselves stall the proceedings of the House. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha): What are you saying? ...(*Interruptions*)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the matter of Ram Sethu will be discussed first. ...(*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: According to the List of Business before me, now I have to take discussion under Rule 193.

...(*Interruptions*)



*[Translation]*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: If the House desires, I will take up Calling Attention.

...(Interruptions)

15.02 hrs.

*(At this stage Shri Subhash Maharia and some other hon'ble Members came and stood on the floor near the Table)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Firstly you resume your seats. I am taking up Calling Attention.

...(Interruptions)

15.03 hrs.

### MATTERS UNDER RULE 377\*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Item No. 13, namely, Matters under Rule 377 listed for the day are to be treated as laid on the Table of the House, and they will form part of the proceedings.

#### (I) Need to grant adequate funds for the construction of Talcher-Bimlagarh railway line in Orissa

SHRI JUAL ORAM (Sundergarh): There has been growing discontentment among the people of Orissa due to the inordinate delay in the construction of 154 Km. Talcher-Bimlagarh line.

The final location survey of the line has been completed. But the land acquisition has not been commenced so far. The State Government had made a request to the Ministry of Railways in 2006-07 to acquire land for that project. But nothing has been done in that regard so far.

The proposed line will establish a link between coal, aluminium and other mineral belt including NTPC at Talcher and Angul Industrial areas with Bimlagarh where a number of downstream industries have come up. The line will facilitate the transport of mineral and coal to the areas and will cater to the need of the industries. So this

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\*Treated as laid on the Table.

will be an economic line and freight traffic will fetch good amount of revenue to the Railways. It will add to the economic development of the tribal people as it will pass through an area which is traditionally predominated by the tribals.

As such, I demand that adequate amount be sanctioned for Talcher-Bimlagarh line so that the construction work is completed at the earliest.

#### (II) Need to open a branch of State Bank of India at Shiggaon, district Haveri, Karnataka

SHRI MANJUNATH KUNNUR (Dharwad South): Sir, I wish to state that Shiggaon comes under my Parliamentary Constituency. Shiggaon is the taluk headquarters situated on NH between Pune and Bangalore. At present, there is only one national bank, namely, Canara Bank, which is not in a position to take care of the growing financial dealings of the people in the locality. People in Shiggaon have to wait for a long period of time to get the things done in Canara Bank. There is no other bank in the vicinity except a few cooperative banks. Shiggaon Taluk is one of the most educationally, socially, economically backward taluks in Northern part of Karnataka. If something is lacking in Shiggaon Taluk and is much desired for by the people of this area, it is one more nationalized bank. A large number of multi-lingual population is residing.

In 1994, 10th Karnataka State Reserve Police (KSRP) Permanent Battalion was established at Shiggaon and a township was created with a population of 5,000. Shiggaon mainly depends on agricultural activities and it is an upcoming town. Hence, it has become absolutely necessary to set up a branch of State Bank of India in Shiggaon Taluka.

Under the circumstances, on behalf of the people of my parliamentary constituency, I would like to request the Hon'ble Finance Minister, through you, to instruct the officials concerned to set up a branch of State Bank of India in Shiggaon, District Haveri, Karnataka immediately.

#### (III) Need to improve passengers amenities in Railways

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL (Kota): Sir, by drawing attention towards Indian Railways passenger

amenities services, I would like to state that the passengers travelling in second class are the biggest user groups of the railways. I would like to draw your attention towards the pathetic condition of such a large number of rail users. Sufficient number of coaches are not available for this particular class of passengers, four to five times passengers travel in a single coach. We often witness such scenes of people travelling on the roof of the trains.

There is no provision in place for the comfortable travel for common passengers. There is acute shortage of coaches, local passengers trains and at the local stations there is shortage of sufficient halts also.

Therefore, through you I submit that action should be taken to provide relief to the passengers travelling in general classes.

**(iv) Need to curb mining activities in the hills of Bharatpur (Rajasthan) and Mathura (UP)**

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Sir, daily thousands of people visit Bharatpur in Rajasthan, the hills lying between Mathura and Rajasthan to take Parikrama of Govardhanji. Mining activities are being carried out in these hills and as a result the beauty of these hills would vanish in near future and it should be kept in mind that Lord Srikrishna had protected the residents of Govardhan by lifting these hills using a single finger.

My demand to the Union Government is to protect these historical hills and stop the mining activities going on there thereby providing encouragement to its beautification.

**(v) Need to exempt co-operative banks of Gujarat from the purview of Income Tax Act**

*[English]*

SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR (Vadodara): The Association of Coop. Banks in Gujarat, some chambers of Commerce & Industries and Gujarat State Agriculture Minister have represented to the Central Government to restore the Income Tax Exemption which has been withdrawn by Government of India.

I urge the Government to review the matter and do the best at earliest.

**(vi) Need to renew/give licence to railway hawkers**

SHRI SANTASRI CHATTERJEE (Serampore): A grave situation has arisen following order of the Hon'ble High Court at Kolkata to evict the hawkers from the railways. Livelihood of lakhs of railway hawkers will be in jeopardy. While the Hon'ble Railway Minister has assured that licence will be issued to these hawkers, it is a matter of deep regret that despite several representations by the Members of Parliament and the trade unions representing the hawkers, the issue of licence is still pending.

I once again urge the Hon'ble Railway Minister to take an early decision in the matter, so as to save the livelihood of the railway hawkers.

**(vii) Need to start an exclusive TV channel (Terrestrial Service) dedicated to Tamil Programme**

SHRI P. MOHAN (Madurai): There are many poor people in the State, who could not afford to pay monthly charges for Cable TV and are solely depending on Doordarshan. Some more people are also using these TV Antennas since they did not want to have cable TV, considering their children's education. The Doordarshan programmes telecast on terrestrial transmission (National Channel) alone could be seen by them through this TV antenna. The people have no other choice than to see only this channel which telecast Hindi and Tamil programmes—Many of the Tamil programmes shown in the "Tomorrow's Programmes" could not be viewed by these people because at that particular time Hindi programmes only are telecast. What is provided in the channel has to be seen by these poor people.

The people in Tamil Nadu are able to see Tamil programmes only for limited hours. Out of 129.30 hrs. in a week, Tamil Programmes could be seen only for 58 hours. Particularly on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, out of total telecast hour of 55.30 hrs. only for 22 hrs. Tamil programmes could be viewed by the people to Tamil Nadu i.e. Hindi programmes for 60.22% and Tamil Programmes 39.78%. Hence on most of the Holidays, including Festival days, the people could be able to watch Tamil Programmes only for a very short time.

The same is the situation obtaining in many parts of Tamil Nadu which are covered by 6 High Power

Transmitters, 46 Low Power Transmitters and 7 very Low power transmitters.

If more than one channel could be offered through TV Antenna, then one programme should be exclusively for Tamil programmes (channel) and other one to the choice of Doordarshan. But if only one channel could be telecast, it should completely have Tamil programmes only. This would only enable to poor people to watch the Tamil Programmes.

In recent years, the technology/facility relating to telecast has made tremendous progress and utilizing the opportunity, the Doordarshan should think of telecasting Tamil programmes along in the available one channel in Tamil Nadu, through TV Antenna (Terrestrial service).

Hence, I request that action may be taken to see that the poor people of Tamil Nadu are able to watch Tamil programmes.

**(viii) Need to ensure mandatory networking of Panchayat Raj Institutions through computerization upto Block level in the country**

DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA (Lakhimpur): Attention of the Government is drawn to the necessity of mandatory networking of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) through computerization upto Block level so that information is available to all citizens about block level census, status of Central Schemes and the beneficiaries thereto. The practical experience indicates that majority offices are reluctant to computerize the data on various pleas to cover their irregularities. Duplication and repetition of schemes amongst various levels of PRIs together with selection of undeserving beneficiaries depriving genuine one are common practice. The poor people became poorer despite huge amount is transferred from the Central Government through Rural Development schemes. Unless full transparency is ensured through computer networking, even, the vigilance committees may not be able to control the situation.

It is essential that the block offices are fully computerized through National Informatic Centre (NIC) encompassing the Panchayat datas with deployment of adequate staff. Generator should be provided to ensure

regularity of power supply, wherever, required. The Block level Community Information Centres (CICs) created under PM package in North East Region could also be utilized.

I, therefore, urge upon the Ministry of Panchayati Raj and Rural development to ensure compulsory computerization of block offices immediately in collaboration with the Ministry of Information Technology for better transparency and to make sure that every penny reaches the targeted beneficiaries. If necessary, a fixed percentage may be deducted from all schemes by a policy decision to execute the same.

**(ix) Need to reserve No. 9 Kokrajhar and No. 10 Udaigiri Parliamentary Constituencies of Assam for the Scheduled Tribes of Bodoland Territorial Areas District (BTAD)**

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY (Kokrajhar): The delimitation Commission of India in relation to the State of Assam, has earmarked two Parliamentary Constituency namely "No. 9 Kokrajhar and No. 10 Udaiguri" for the Bodoland Territorial Areas District (BTAD), and it has been a matter of serious concern that the latest Draft Working Paper of the Delimitation Commission, has shown both the existing No. 5 Kokrajhar (ST) HPC (No. 9 New No.) and also the newly created No. 10 Udaiguri HPC Open/General in contravention to the provisions of Article 330(C) of the Constitution. It is also a noteworthy fact that since independence, the present No. 5 Kokrajhar Parliamentary Constituency that I represent in the august Lok Sabha (House of the People) from the Bodoland Territorial Areas District in Assam, has been reserved constituency for the Scheduled Tribes (Plains).

In this connection, further, it is also a worth mentioning fact that consequent upon the signing of the new political accord between the Union Government of India and the State Government of Assam on the one hand and the erstwhile Bodo Liberation Tigers on the other on 10th Feb. 2003, a new political arrangement with the name and style 'Bodoland Territorial Areas District (BTAD) and its administrative apparatus Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC)' came into being under the provisions of the sixth Schedule to the Constitution of the country (Article 244(2)). It is also a well known fact that Article 330(C) entitles the Scheduled Tribes of the Autonomous

Districts constituted under the provisions of Article 244(2) to have reserved Parliamentary Constituencies within their respective Autonomous Districts concerned in pursuance of the recommendations made by the then Bordoloi sub-committee to the Constituent Assembly.

In view of the above, I would like to strongly urge upon the Union Government of India to take appropriate steps to help ensure the reservation of both No. 9 Kokrajhar and No. 10 Udalguri Parliamentary Constituencies for the Scheduled Tribes of the Bodoland Territory as per the provisions under Article 330(C).

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...(Interruptions)

15.03 hrs.

*(At this stage Shri Sansuma Khunggur Bwiswmuthiary came and stood on the floor near the Table.)*

*[Translation]*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You resume your seat, I will take up calling attention.

...(Interruptions)

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow the 10th May, 2007 at 11 a.m.

15.04 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, May 10, 2007/Vaisakha 20, 1929 (Saka).*

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## ANNEXURE II

*Ministry-wise Index to Starred Questions*

## Prime Minister

Atomic Energy

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