

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES**

## **(English Version)**

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



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# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## LOK SABHA

*Tuesday, May 15, 2007/Vaisakha 25, 1929 (Saka)*

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

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

### REFERENCE BY THE SPEAKER

**Condoling loss of lives due to tragic road accident in Anand district of Gujarat**

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Yesterday, there was a very tragic incident in Anand district of Gujarat where a large number of innocent people, including children, have been killed. It is a matter of great sorrow. We condole this tragic death and wish to convey our sincere condolence to the members of the bereaved families. I am sure all steps will be taken by all concerned to provide relief to the members of the families of deceased. Whatever steps are to be taken in the matter should be taken. Let us stand for a short while to pay our respect to the deceased.

11.01 hrs.

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

[*English*]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South): Sir, we want a permanent solution of the Nandigram issue. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: A Member has to take oath. A new Member is going to take oath. Please allow him to take oath.

...(*Interruptions*)

11.02 hrs.

## MEMBER SWORN

MR. SPEAKER: Secretary-General to call the name of the hon. Member for taking oath.

Shri Ramesh Dubey (Mirzapur)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Question Hour. Q.No. 562. Shri Jyotiraditya Scindia.

...(*Interruptions*)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South): Mr. Speaker Sir, it is very unfortunate. Farmers are being killed. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats. I will consider your proposal.

...(*Interruptions*)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Scheduled Caste women, children are being killed. We want a permanent solution. ...(*Interruptions*) We cannot discriminate them. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: There is no question of discrimination. Do not impute motives, please. I have said that I will consider your proposal. You have come today while the incident happened on 14th March. Today you are asking me to do something. Off the cuff it cannot be done. I have said that I will consider your proposal.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, I am not objecting to your raising this matter. I am saying that an unfortunate, serious incident happened on 14th of March. A month-and-a-half, nearly two months have passed.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: I am raising this issue because no decision has been taken till now.

MR. SPEAKER: It is because you were not kind enough to come and attend the House and urge it.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have said that I will consider it.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Will you take your seats?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I would earnestly appeal to you to please take your seat.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, will you allow me during 'Zero Hour'?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, this is not 'Zero Hour'. Please wait. Have some patience. Let us have Question Hour now.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Other than questions, nothing else shall be recorded.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot just get up any time you like. This is not proper. You are a very senior Member. Nothing would be recorded except the answer to the question.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER: There is a proper time for raising matters. You all know that. You are very senior Members. This is not the time.

11.06 hrs.

## ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

MR. SPEAKER: Q. No. 562, Shri Jyotiraditya Scindia.

\*Not recorded.

[English]

### Conditional Access System

\*562. †SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:  
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:

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

(a) the response of the viewers to the Conditional Access System (CAS) in Delhi and other cities where it was introduced earlier;

(b) whether CAS has now been extended to some other areas and cities as well;

(c) if so, the details thereof indicating the extent of extension of CAS in these areas; and

(d) the details regarding the benefits and the additional liabilities on the viewers under CAS?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House

### Statement

(a) The response in terms of penetration of Set Top Boxes (STB) amongst the cable TV households as reported by the multi-system operators indicate that more than 5 lac STBs (Delhi 2.1 lac, Mumbai 2.4 lac, and Kolkata 0.6 lac) have been installed/delivered out of 15 lac estimated cable TV households in the CAS notified areas of Delhi, Mumbai and Kolkata. This also reflects a conscious decision on the part of the remaining households who have not opted for STBs to prefer other options such as watching Free to Air (FTA) channels, DTH, DD direct etc. for the present.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise

(d) Some of the Benefits to the viewers are:—

(i) facility to choose individual pay channels and pay only for the channels chosen

(ii) facility to watch only FTA channels without the need to have STBs

- (iii) better viewing experience as a result of better quality of transmission of channels
- (iv) possibility of exercising control over monthly cable bills through a careful selection of pay channels
- (v) facility to prevent content perceived to be not suitable for viewing
- (vi) facility of electronic programming guide
- (vii) availability of regulatory framework in the form of ceiling on maximum retail price per pay channel; maximum basic service tier charges, rental rates for supply of set top boxes and Quality of service standards to be observed by the service providers.

Some of the additional Liabilities on the viewers are—

- (i) making choice for procuring STBs
- (ii) specific choice of channels and balancing it with monthly household budget.

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA : While the Government is thinking of rolling out CAS in many metros, is it true that CAS is facing stiff competition from DTH? For example, in South Delhi alone out of six and a half cable homes, about one lakh cable homes have opted for the DTH system. Also Mr. Speaker, Sir, the after sales service with regard to CAS is very poor even in terms of TRAI recommendation of setting up of Call Centres those have not been set up. The Multi-Service Operators have installed very less number of cable head ends that have resulted in huge amount of congestion. Therefore, a lot of channels are going to the Free to Air system as opposed to the pay system because there is not enough subscription. So, I would like to ask the hon. Minister (a) are you facing a lot of competition from DTH; and (b) what are you doing to ameliorate the problems of consumers or with regard to after sales service and with regard to cable head ends being set up?

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: First of all, I would like to inform the House that CAS is a great success of the UFA Government. As you know, it was planned during the tenure of NDA Government but it faced a lot of opposition for not having total transparency in the whole mechanism. Finally, on the direction of the court and on the dotted line, the UPA Government implemented the entire thing right from 31st December,

2008 receiving tremendous support for the consumer-friendly arrangements of CAS.

Sir, it is true that in the first week there were some teething problems with regard to supply of Set Top Boxes. It was totally resolved within two weeks in January. Now, what the hon. Member has said is true that there is competition in the sense that the people who want to enjoy television without the dependence on cable, they can go straightaway to DTH and the people who want to enjoy the television with pay TV fixed price choice with a minimum contribution, they can go for that. That flexibility is there. The problem just at the grass root is that the six MSOs are functioning in the beginning as the front runners while we gave licences to 26 MSOs. In this matter, TRAI is having a very serious engagement of talks with all the stake holders and that problem will also be addressed by the end of this month.

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA : As the Government is thinking of CAS in other parts of metro and other metros, there has been a lot of controversy that has been raked up with a lot of the Resident Welfare Associations and cable operators are saying that CAS should be voluntary and mandatory. So, I would like to ask two questions. Are we rolling out in other metros, if so, when? Is this going to be voluntary or mandatory as the RWAs and the cable operators have requested for?

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: First of all, I would like to inform the hon. Member that the exact position stands as it is that our first objective is to complete the CAS operation in the three great metros, namely, Mumbai, Kolkata and Delhi because Chennai is fully completed. We have taken it up in a phased manner. This matter is being taken up by TRAI with the MSOs and the State Governments. The State Governments are very important because it is they whose cooperation is important for the nodal officers' operation. I am happy that by the end of June, we will be able to announce next three metros' complete operation. It would take six months. I expect by January 2008, all these metros to be fully geared up for the CAS operation.

So far as other cities are concerned, as per 2001 census, in important cities where more than one million population is there, we are thinking of implementing it after completing the metro cities of the country.

So far as making it voluntary is concerned, it is not good because whosoever is talking of voluntary option do not understand that it will give substantial control and

dominance to those channels and those broadcasters who would compel the people again to take the bouquet and the bunch. Thus the people will lose their choicest pay channels which they like to enjoy at a minimum cost of Rs. 5. However, this matter is still under the discussion of TRAI.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY : Sir, the initiative as regards the Conditional Access System has been launched since 2003. However, the statement reflects the poor penetration of STB. Common people are nurturing an apprehension that they will be deprived of the opportunity of viewing popular programmes on pay channels. There is also a trust deficit among the various stakeholders, namely, the broadcasters, the cable operators, the MSOs and the consumers. In view of this, whether the Government is pondering over any comprehensive policy so that penetration of CAS could be enhanced and secondly, as regards penetration in notified areas, Kolkata is registering a meagre penetration of only 6 lakhs. Already the hon. Minister has stated that the State-level Committees have been set up for rolling out the CAS smoothly. I want to know whether the State Government of West Bengal is loathe to set up the State-level Committee for the smooth roll-out of CAS.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, both the cities of Mumbai and Kolkata are partially covered by CAS. The second and third phases will be taken up, as I have stated just before, very shortly taking the State Governments into confidence.

We have to take care of three things, namely, (a) whether the MSO efficiency level and the cable operators capacity to supply the Set Top Box are in order; (b) the consumers' application and response should be in order to decide the channels and their choice; and (c) at the end of the day, we have also to ensure that the overall monitoring and complaint registering system is upto the mark. Taking that part into account, we shall complete the penetration of Kolkata and Mumbai very shortly, as I have stated.

I would also like to inform you that there should not be any confusion regarding Set Top Box. When the idea of Set Top Box was conceived in 2003, it used to cost Rs. 5000 to Rs. 7000. Now, under the new policy, we have made it in such a way that if you straightaway purchase it, it would cost Rs. 1900 to Rs. 2000. But to support the viewers with a reasonable plan, we have said to pay a security deposit of only Rs. 250 and Rs.

45 per month for the pay channels using the Set Top Box or Rs. 999 as a security deposit and only Rs. 30 per month so that it would give tremendous relief to them. And most of the viewers are following the same line. If somebody changes the location of residence and goes to some other place, he can return the Set Top Box, he will get the refund after the depreciation cost and he can choose another Set Top Box in the area where he would shift.

SHRI B. MAHTAB : Sir, is it a fact that the Set Top Box that is being used today becomes non-functional during rainy season specially when the disc is wet by rain drops? Is the Government thinking of having a better technology that would be weather-proof, whether Telecom Dispute Settlement Appellate Tribunal has instructed the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India to regulate the price of Conditional Access System and DTH and whether any assessment has been made by the Government about the benefit which the viewers are getting from CAS or not?

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: First of all, I should reply to his first part of the question. I would like to say that there are hardly any serious kinds of complaints about the CAS. The Set Top Box remain functional even during rainy season. On this account, our complaint level is very minimal. Yet, there is a mandatory direction that if a viewer is faced with some kind of technical problem in its operation, the authorities concerned should address the issue within two days. If they neglect it, the nodal officer could be contacted by the viewer and the nodal officer takes all mandatory steps that are required by the Cable Network Act.

In regard to availability of Set Top Boxes, there is no dearth of them. We are in a position to supply more than two lakh Set Top Boxes. If there is any further requirement of these Boxes when the second phase gets completed, that will also be fulfilled.

In regard to use of Set Top Boxes, the arrangement is so simple that it can be monitored by anyone in the home. Therefore, in these matters we are not facing any problem.

I should say that there is more demand to the Government and TRAI to give more CAS support to other parts of the cities.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Is there a demand from each State for extending the coverage of

Conditional Access System to all the State Capitals? If not, which States have not been included in the System?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to inform the hon. Minister that there is a feeling that liabilities outweigh the benefits for the viewers. If so, what steps does the Ministry propose to take to lessen the liabilities so that benefits outweigh the liabilities?

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, as you know, for the first time in our country we have stabilized this concept of Conditional Access System, that too in phases. We have addressed the teething problems that we faced initially. Now, we are addressing the second part of the problem. That is, after installing the Set Top Box, the viewers' bills are not taken regularly and put in the system of the MSO. So, they are faced with the problem of getting the bills a little late and because of that they are faced with more burden. On that issue, the TRAI had already delivered a mechanism to the stake holders. I am told by the TRAI today, which is controlled by the Ministry of Communication, that on this issue, the MSOs will find a final solution by 15th of May. As and when I get the final report, I will come back to Parliament and report the latest progress. I would like to say that benefits are tremendous.

When the cellular mobile was introduced in this country, in the beginning, the cost was high. Now, it is so less that everyone can afford it. In the same way, I presume, the way in which the demand is increasing in every State, I think the cost of Set Top Box will also reduce. Now, it is done on zero duty import. We are proposing to the Ministry of Finance to allow the spares to be imported at zero duty so that our indigenous production can gain momentum and we can reduce the cost substantially than what it is now.

With regard to DTH, I would like to say that it is one mechanism by which television can reach homes in the remotest parts of India, without depending on the cable TV. DTH is making a breakthrough in this regard. Besides the DTH of Prasar Bharti, private operators are also offering DTH and they are penetrating into every State, where there are opportunities and support.

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you for having given me an opportunity to speak. Through you, I would like to say that the hon'ble

Minister in his reply has stated that it is a good initiative under Conditional Access System. It was launched by Smt. Sushma ji under NDA's regime. Perhaps it was mooted to check the telecast of unwanted channels. He said that the set top boxes have been made available in big cities and these are being made available in small villages as well. Now even in villages the people have TV sets. Certain channels telecast unwanted programmes which adversely affect our culture, put adverse impact on our children and families CAS is a good system to check this kind of programmes. But now the Government are expressing its inability to provide set top boxes as these are not available. CAS is being introduced only in big cities and boxes are being provided in cities. For example, take the case of Delhi. Though I have taken a connection, but though I am an MP, set top box has not been installed in my bungalow. They say it is not available.

MR. SPEAKER: Please ask the question.

SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI: Sir, since it is not available in Delhi, how can we expect it to be available at other places. In view of it, I would through you like to ask the hon'ble Minister as to what steps the Government propose to check the telecast of some unwanted channels which are adversely affecting our culture as the STBs are not to be made available even in cities.

*[English]*

Mr. Speaker, it does not arise out of CAS.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, it is not linked with CAS.

However, I would only like to inform, through you, Sir, to the hon'ble Member.

*[Translation]*

If any viewer in Delhi, in the areas where CAS has been introduced, says that he has not got STB, I take the responsibility of delivering to such viewer within 24 hours. There has been no complaint. More than 2 lakh STBs are available with our MSO and 7 lakh Set Top Boxes have been delivered till yesterday. So far as the channels adversely affecting our culture are concerned, this issue is not linked to CAS. It is upto the viewer which programme he desires to choose as viewers will be free to select channels of their choice and there would be no conditionality.

So far as channels adversely affecting our culture are concerned, I would like to say that their previous Government headed by his party took no tough measures to on any channel check undesired telecast. But, the present Government acted tough against two channels which were a threat to our culture ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: All these cross-talks in the House should be stopped.

Q. 563- Shri Kashiram Rana—not present

Shri Raghuvveer Singh Koshal—not present

Q. 564- Shri Kashiram Rana

[*Translation*]

#### Items Reserved for Small Scale Industries

\*564. † SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of violation of the reservation policy in respect of the items reserved for Small Scale

Industries by the Multi National Companies (MNCs) has been reported;

(b) if so, the names of such companies which violated the above policy alongwith the nature of violations committed by them;

(c) the action taken by the Government in each case against the MNCs during each of the last three years, company-wise; and

(d) the outcome of the said action?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) to (d) A statement has been placed on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) The Government has initiated action under section 24 of Industries (Development & Regulation) Act 1951 against the Indian subsidiary of one multi-national company (MNC) found to have violated the policy of reservation for exclusive manufacture by Small Scale Industries (SSI).

(b) to (d) The name of the MNC, its address, the item manufactured by it and the status of the case is annexed.

#### Annexure

##### *Status of The Cases where Orders were Issued for Initiation of Prosecution for Violation of the Policy of Reservation*

Sl.No.	Name of the Unit	Address/Tel./Fax	Item(s) Manufactured	Status of the case
1.	M/s Tupperware India Pvt. Ltd. & M/s. Dart Mfg. India Pvt. Ltd.	Works: Building No. 2, Plot No.: L-1, Almond Street, Nacharam, IDA, Hyderabad, Phone: 91 40 27158168/69. Fax: 91 40 27158165	Plastic products (injection Moulded)	Criminal complaint was filed against the unit for violation of reservation policy in the Court of III Metropolitan Magistrate, Cyberabad District at LB Nagar, Hyderabad on 23.11.2005. The matter was investigated by SHO, Nacharam Police Station as per direction of the Court. The challan has been filed by SHO in the Court on 3.1.2007.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, small scale industries contribute 40 per cent to our gross industrial production and it is 35 percent in case of our export. Lakhs of people are employed in this sector. But unfavourable policies of the Government such as allowing MNCs, which export 50 percent of the items produced by them, to produce an item reserved for SSI sector, have badly affected our small scale sector.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, the question relates to violations of the reservation policy.

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Sir, I am coming to the point.

MR. SPEAKER: Please come to the point. This is a Question Hour and not a debate.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, our skilled and semi-skilled workers used to get employment in these industries. Now these industries are on the verge of closure of losing their job. As far as violation of reserve list is concerned, the hon'ble Minister in his reply has stated that only there is an MNC which has violated the condition. Contrary to it, the hon'ble Minister in reply to a Rajya Sabha question, the copy of which is available with me, has stated that there have been three cases of violation. I feel the hon'ble Minister has misguided the House by replying in a different way.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Kashiram Rana, you are such a senior Member. Please ask your question.

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: I am giving you the details in respect of three cases of violations. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: This is not the time for giving information but seeking information.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this has happened. It is a reply to the question asked in Rajya

Sabha. Through you, I would like to ask the hon'ble Minister whether the Government are contemplating to waive the conditions under which MNCs had been given relaxation to produce or manufacture items reserved for S.S.I.

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Member has asked a question in regard to violations committed by multinational company. He has made a mention of three industries. Through you, I would like to inform the hon'ble Member that in the year 2005, only one company was found to be guilty of violating the norms, and I have made a mention of it in reply also. I have given a reply on the basis of question asked in regard to MNC. If a company wants to manufacture an item, there is a rule under DIR Act, 1951, under which it has to export 24 percent of its production. If a company violates this Act, we take action against it. The hon'ble Member has asked, whether these companies would be shut down? Through you, I would like to state that, I will definitely take action against the companies found guilty of any kind of violation.

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Through you, I had asked the hon'ble Minister whether relaxation given to MNCs would be dispersed or not?

My second question is that the reserved items manufactured by SSI units are being imported from foreign countries on a large scale, which is adversely affecting small scale industries. have the Government made any effort to stop import of these items?

MR. SPEAKER: This is not related to this question.

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: It is related to the question.

MR. SPEAKER: Will a link of the supplementary to the original question be established by your merely speaking loudly?

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Sir, you should give protection.

MR. SPEAKER: If question is relevant, I will give protections. Ask about violation.

[*English*]

You are asking for change of policy.

*[Translation]*

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the small scale industries are closed and I would like to know whether the Government will stop large scale import of reserved items

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Member has said that our small scale industry is dying due to it. He himself has admitted that 39% production of entire industry is being made by small scale industries and we are exporting around 34% If we go through data, we will find that since the reservation policy got implemented, 114 items have been included in reserved list. There is a rule to abolish reservation, we do follow those rules. If he has information about any company violating the rules he should inform me. I will definitely take action in this regard.

*[English]*

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know whether the Government has instituted a monitoring committee to identify companies which have violated the reservation policy in respect of items reserved for SSIs by MNCs.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: Through you, I would like to convey the hon'ble Member that there is a Monitoring Committee to look into it in the Ministry. We have appointed M/s Dalal and Consultants to monitor companies which violate rules of reservation. We conduct surveys through them to know the companies which are violating the rules. A committee consisting of stake holders and experts has been constituted under Chairmanship of Secretary, Small Scale Industries to monitor it.

Sir, we are fully vigilant to ensure that the reservation policy is not violated.

*[English]*

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir. The small scale units play, as you know, a predominant role in the development of our economy. They supply parts as original equipments to big and large scale units and they have got employment potentialities also.

I would like to know, in order to safeguard, to protect and to further develop the small scale units, whether the

Government has got any scheme or plan, under consideration, to reserve more items exclusively for small scale units. If so, what are they?

MR. SPEAKER: The question is with regard to violations. Is there anything for small scale units?

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Sir, this is regarding reservation of items. It is definitely connected with the main question.

MR. SPEAKER: If the hon. Minister is willing to answer, I do not mind. Mr. Minister, do you wish to say anything? All right, question does not arise here.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the list is with me. There is a rule to reserve items, and since 1967 on the basis of that rule 114 items have been included in reserved list. This reservation policy keeps changing in this era of liberalization, globalisation and commitments made to the WTO. The reservation process is a very long one and on its basis we reserve items.

MD. SALIM: Sir, you rightly said that the question is related to violation in regard to reservation and the reply given by hon'ble Minister to original or supplementary is not satisfactory as it says that only one case has been registered. It has not been clarified whether the case was registered *su motu* or it was the result of any campaigner, it has been found by monitoring committee or any affected party of small scale industries had made an appeal in the court and court has given a ruling in this regard.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Put your question.

*[Translation]*

MD. SALIM: I would like to say that this is not only one case. He has rightly said that presently contribution of SSI to industrial production is 49 percent and it has a major share in Indian exports, but big companies, multinational companies or Indian multinational companies market the products manufactured by SSI and in their marketing strategy, SSI do not get any benefit. You might be aware that exercise books are manufactured in Baithkakhana Bazar of my area. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: I do not know anything. I find your question is not relevant.

MD. SALIM : Sir, the exercise book is an item reserved under his protection, but the multinational company is marketing it under the brand and it is a violation. I would like to know what action has he taken.

MR. SPEAKER: No violation. Is it a violation, Mr. Minister?

*[Translation]*

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon'ble Member, Md. Salim has raised a very good important question. But the case of only one MNC has come to my notice. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: That is why, these questions have multiplied. Your questions are such. I am trying to protect you. You have already said that.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: I would like to tell the hon. Member that I have information in regard to only one multinational company. Directors have been appointed across the country to gather information. We take action on the basis of information provided to us by them. He is a senior Member; I would like to tell him that besides this. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Senior Members should be very articulate and put specific questions.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: There are 10 other major companies apart from one MNC and we have initiated criminal proceedings against this. I can send him the entire information of the action taken if he wants.

MR. SPEAKER: You call him separately and tell.

*... (Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Mr. Speaker... Sir.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Sorry, go to your seat.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: The reservation laws were enacted in the country to save the small-scale industries from the jurisdiction of major industries. This was enforced in the year 1967, when Shrimati Indira Gandhi was the Prime Minister of India. There were some reasons behind it however, the reply given by the hon. Minister broadly refers to only one Multinational which violates the rules and regulations. Factually we find that this is a distant reality and the monitoring system in the country is itself a victim of corruption and constantly violates the stipulated norms which in turn causes heavy losses. The reason behind it is that the multinationals which can export 24 to 36 per cent are allowed to manufacture goods of the small sector too.

Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government propose to repeal the laws relating to the manufacture of products falling under the jurisdiction of the small scale sector thereby ruling out the pretext of export on which the multinationals violate the laws and spread corruption?

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell the hon. Member that I am taking action on the basis of information made available to me. It is their responsibility as well as ours to weed out corruption. Our Government is vigilant and cautious of it. If there is any company spreading corruption then he can name it. I will initiate criminal proceedings against it.

*[English]*

#### Review of Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme

+  
\*565. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:  
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to make certain changes in the funding pattern of the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme and also has identified certain shortcomings in the scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the funds available under the said scheme remain unspent; and

(d) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years indicating the reasons therefor?

MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : Sir, it is very unfortunate that the hon. Minister has replied that the question does not arise. Textile industry is a very much important industry; it is employment-generating industry. There is a huge backlog of technology upgradation particularly in the context of the liberalization of the national industrial and trade policies and globalization of textile trade. In order to sustain and improve its competitiveness and overall long-term viability, it is essential for the textile industry to have an access to timely and adequate capital at internationally comparably rates of interest.

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: Please ask question.

*[English]*

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: In order to upgrade its technology level, and to make available capital at the lower rate of interest which is comparable to the international rates of interest, what steps the Government is going to take?

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Sir, in response to this question I replied that

*[English]*

No, Sir. (b) Does not arise."

*[Translation]*

In regard to this question I would like to state that the rate of interest on the subsidy is the same five per cent, in view of international competition particularly from China

we have implemented a good scheme and have got very good response. I would like to state that the response is very good in three years and our industry is well placed. The Minister of Finance has asked for its extension in this very budget.

*[English]*

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : The hon. Minister has himself admitted and has given a reply. Then, why not it is there in his answer sheet? That is the problem.

MR. SPEAKER: You have asked whether there is proposal for changes in the funding pattern. He said: "there is no change." That is what he said. That is the question.

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : Sequences other than spinning, like processing the garments, manufacturing and made-up manufacturing should become major beneficiaries of the TUF Scheme in its second phase to increase the foreign exchange earnings and keep the employment alive. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what steps he is going to take.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Sir, under the scheme following steps have been taken. In component sector we have disbursed Rs. 7000 crore, while in spinning, processing and weaving sector Rs. 6500 crore, Rs. 2000 crore and Rs. 1600 crore respectively have been disbursed. Rs. 32 thousand crore have been sanctioned during the last three years for the entire scheme. Rs. 21 thousand crore have been disbursed out of these in the last three years. Rs. 15-16 thousand crore have been released out of Rs. 21 thousand crore in the last 3 years. We are under so much pressure as so many things have to be included under the scheme. This includes profit earned by spinning agency. They will be given at the same rate of interest. The constructors construct buildings compound walls and roads. All these are included in it. As per the information of the Planning Commission, the entire scheme is likely to be reviewed that the beneficiaries of the scheme get the same rate of interest and our industrialist outshine in the international competition. So we shall incorporate a new formula which will be worked out after due deliberations with the Planning Commission and suggestions from the industries so that benefits of the scheme accrue to maximum number of people.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Adhalrao Patil Shivajirao—Not present.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has partly responded to the question. I would like to state that when hon. Kashiram Rana ji was a Minister in hon. Atalji's N.D.A. Government a Technology upgradation scheme for Textile Mills worth Rs. 25 thousand crore was introduced. I come from Ahmedabad which was once known as Manchester of India. Large number of textile mills are in Ahmedabad. Lakhs of people depend on textile mills for their livelihood. If the country loses its identity then the number of people who have already been rendered jobless would increase. I would like to know the number of States and the number of mills particularly in Ahmedabad which have been provided with funds under the scheme of Rs. 25 thousand crore announced in the year 2002? The time by which funds are likely to be provided to the mills interested in technology upgradation?

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the scheme is worth Rs. 31 thousand crore and not Rs. 25 thousand crore. During the last three years more than 50% benefits of the scheme i.e. Rs. 1600/- crore have reached the States. Tamil Nadu received Rs. 6,200 crore followed by Maharashtra, Rs. 4,600 crore, Punjab ranks number three at Rs. 2,600 crore followed by Gujarat at fourth position at Rs. 2,300 crore.

Mill-wise it is a very long which I would not like to read out here, however, the response is very good. There is a batch in which Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Punjab and Gujarat have been the major beneficiaries and they will continue to get these benefits in future also. Out of the remaining amount of Rs. 911 crore, Rs. 600-700 crore are likely to be given to them in the next week or by the end of May.

*[English]*

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : Sir, textile industry is the most traditional industry of the country from the point of view of employment and from the point of view of generation of wealth. West Bengal is one of the States where the jute industry, as a part of the textile industry, was born. It is to be appreciated that you have a Rs. 25,000 crore fund and later on a Rs. 32,000 crore fund. But the question that remains is this. Despite the funding or the projected funding that you are speaking of in the country, there is sickness in the textile and jute

industries, and the sickness arises out of no great technology that is being resorted to and the production per unit cost is high.

Therefore, I would like to know whether you monitor that the fund that you advance to them as a soft loan is properly used and also whether there is any monitoring system because there is always a complaint about diversion of fund. What about the West Bengal development?

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, a proper monitoring system is working there. Four States are the major beneficiaries of textile and jute. I will send the figures in respect of West Bengal. The question of modernization of textile industry is different from the question of sick NTC and jute mills. Large-scale benefits have reached through this fund and people will continue to get benefit from it in future also. From the investment point of view we can say that this scheme has provided employment to approx. 25 lakh people. It means this investment is earning more foreign exchange and giving more employment. It is a very good scheme. It has been implemented in view of international competition. In West Bengal, the production of cotton is less in comparison to jute. However, a number of jute industries are sick there. We are contemplating on this issue also. There are 36 cases in West Bengal under SSI and 48 under Non-SSI. Rs. 421 crore have been given to West Bengal.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Mr. Rijju. Do you have any textile mill in your area?

*[Translation]*

SHRI KIREN RIJJU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Minister has not mentioned in written reply but in his oral reply he has mentioned that the scheme has been upgraded from Rs. 25 thousand crore to Rs. 31 thousand crore. I would like to submit that in our country we have been using traditional methods though we can make progress only through modern technology. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister about the steps taken for upgradation linking it with modern requirement because we still follow traditional methods in rural areas.

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, handloom comes under traditional methods. We have sanctioned 20 clusters for handloom and Rs. 2 crore are being given to each cluster. Handloom has been included under TUFs. There is a major difference between traditional and modernization. An investment of crores of rupees is required for modern technology as compared to low cost old technology of handloom. It costs Rs. 2 crore for each cluster and we have sanctioned 20 such clusters.

#### Naxal Training Camps

566. † SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI:  
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Naxalites have set up their training camps in various States;

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

(c) whether Naxalites have links with ULFA, LTTE and terrorist outfits operating in Jammu and Kashmir;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (e) The Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) to (e) While it is not possible to give any specific details in this regard, Naxalites are known to carry out training for their cadres in isolated and inaccessible locations. Government is also aware of reports, from time to time, suggesting possible links between the Naxalites and other terrorist and secessionist outfits operating in various parts of the country.

The State Governments have been advised to step up their efforts to gather intelligence and intensify operations to prevent and effectively deal with Naxalite

activities and violence. The Central Government is also providing assistance to the State Governments to strengthen their operational capabilities through financial assistance under the Police Modernisation Scheme for weaponry, communication and other related infrastructure. In addition central security forces are also deployed to assist State Police Forces in anti-Naxalite operations

Coordination and monitoring mechanisms have also been established to review on a continuous basis, the situation and the steps being taken by different State Governments to deal with the activities of the Naxalites.

*[Translation]*

SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir there were two parts of my question. First the number of Naxalites training camps operating in various States along with the places thereof Secondly whether they have any links with ULFA, LTTE and terrorists of Jammu and Kashmir. The reply of the hon'ble Home Minister is based on probabilities. He has stated that though it is not possible to furnish specific details in this regard, Naxalites are known to be carrying out training for their cadres in isolated and inaccessible locations. The Government has no concrete information about their links with secessionist outfits but it is aware of reports suggesting possible links between the Naxalites and other terrorist and secessionist outfits. Through you, I would like to know from the hon'ble Home Minister that despite having an elaborate intelligence mechanism, they have failed to get information about the places where naxalites are running their training camps or about their links with other secessionist and terrorist outfits, then how they will be able to take any action beforehand. Hon'ble Minister should reply responsibly

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, naxalite training camps are not like the policy training camps held in Hyderabad, Delhi or Mumbai. They organize their camps at hilly and bushy areas and keep on shifting from place to place. This point should be kept in mind. The State Government has the information that naxalites carry out their training in such a manner and the same information has been furnished to us. The Intelligence Department has also provided the same information and if he wishes, I can provide the figures in this regard just now. But it is difficult to pinpoint the place of naxalite camps as we can say in the case of police camps. He should keep it in mind.

Secondly, it is not today, but since 1980 we keep on saying that the terrorists' activities are going on at different

places. Terrorist groups remain in contact with each other and even help each other. However, it is not like the agreement reached between the two countries. They act wisely. I have replied in view of all these things. We do not have any specific information about the places of terrorists camp or about any agreement between the terrorists groups, however; definitely they have contacts with each other and are helping themselves. Time and again, we informed the State governments about their training camps and ask them to take action against them. This is what I mean to say.

SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, had the hon'ble Home Minister clearly mentioned in written reply; such an inference would not have been made Human Rights Organization are indirectly supporting the naxalite movement and now the situation has been so terror-stricken that the police and Para-military forces are hesitating to encounter. My supplementary question is whether the Government would be able to counter naxalite-terrorist organization by demoralizing police force.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, the hon'ble Member has raised a very important point. Terrorists are spreading terrorism in a planned manner. They are behind every riot. If someone is killed during police encounter; they propagate that an innocent person has been killed and human rights have been violated. It is true and it cannot be refuted. Truth should be unveiled but being a responsible democratic Government, it is our duty to save the innocent person and see that the human rights are not be violated. It has to be seen that an innocent person may not be harmed during such encounters. In view of both these aspects, the Government formulate a policy and try to solve this problem. Sometimes Human Rights Commission comments on the efforts made by the Government in this regard. It affects the moral of the police force, then, they also make comments. Both sides are true to some extent but not completely. We will have to work under a policy keeping in view the points raised by him

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in his reply the hon'ble Home Minister has mentioned that

*[English]*

"Government is also aware of reports, from time to time, suggesting possible links between the Naxalites and other terrorist and secessionist outfits..."

*[Translation]*

Is the hon'ble Minister aware that the Bastar area *i.e.* Konta, Dornapal, Jagadapur and Bastar of

Chhattisgarh State is adjacent to Bhadrachal district of Andhra Pradesh. Similarly, Chandrapur and Godchirodi area of Maharashtra are adjacent to Balaghat district of Madhya Pradesh. Dehri-On Sone and Daltonganj area of Bihar are also adjacent to Ramanujganj area of Chhattisgarh. These days separate Naxal groups have simultaneously intensified their activities in all these areas. The Central Government and the State Government are well aware of the naxal incidents that occurred recently in Bastar area and the way Naxalites are running a parallel Government over there. The Government have set up a joint group to take action against them. Despite that if large number of people are killed in naxal activities and the residents of that area are attacked by the Naxal groups the Government cannot escape from its responsibility merely by saying that it has provided necessary assistance to the State Governments and are supplying them sophisticated arms and ammunitions because it is not only a State issue rather it is the question of the peace and security of the entire nation. I would like to know as to what effective steps are being taken by the Central Government in this regard. Will the activities of the joint command be accelerated?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, I am very sorry to submit that maximum naxal activities are taking place in Chhattisgarh. The number of naxal incidents have increased by 40 to 60 percent. Incidents have increased by 40 percent and the number of dead has increased by 60 percent. If the data of Chhattisgarh is kept aside, there is apparent decline in the naxal incidents in all other States. The Central Government have extended assistance to Chhattisgarh as per the version of the State. For the information of the hon. Member I would like to submit that maximum number of paramilitary forces have been provided to Chhattisgarh. In comparison to four, three or one battalions each provided to other States, we have provided 13 battalions to Chhattisgarh. That means we have provided them 13,000 armed personnel. Not only this we have provided them maximum number nearly 14-15 armed vehicles to the State. Besides that we have provided them UAV as demanded by their security advisors. It helps security forces in monitoring the movement of people. It is especially used in Army. Besides this whatever is demanded by them is provided by us. When helicopter was demanded by them we dispatched it from Nagaland and battalions have also been sent there. We provide them information, forces, equipments, funds and moral support and never criticize them. However, the unfortunate thing is that despite all these

efforts they do not do their duty. So some of the hon'ble Members ask us as to what are we doing in this regard. We ask them to give permission to deploy our forces but the permission is not given as it is a State matter and it is the exclusive responsibility of the State. Even after doing so much we are held responsible and are blamed, while the fact is that Centre and State are not separate things. It is not proper to attack the Central Government to protect the State Government. This Party is ruling in Chhattisgarh State and therefore, they have to work there....*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Please keep silence in the House

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It is an important Question. Let him ask the supplementary.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You ask a Question and if the hon. Minister answers then you take objection.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: Lal Singh ji, you please ask you question.

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister....*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: All of you are aware there is a procedure. If you have anything to do, there is a procedure. Do not do this.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, You please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You please sit down, it is not good.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded except the speech of Chaudhary Lal Singh. Do not record anything.  
...*(Interruptions)\**

*[Translation]*

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: Sir, with your permission I would like to inform the hon'ble Minister that terrorist training camps are reportedly running on upper ridges of Mohor, Upper area of Dudu Basantgarh and in Nil, Pangel Paristan of our State Jammu and Kashmir. Besides, this several camps are also running in POK.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded except the speech of Chaudhary Lal Singh.

....*(Interruptions)\**

*[Translation]*

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: So I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister as to what action is being taken by the Government against those camps which are running in my area and whether the Government are aware about those places which I have just now mentioned and if so the action proposed to be taken against those camps....*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record one word except what Chaudhary Lal Singh says.

...*(Interruptions)\**

MR. SPEAKER: do not record anything.

...*(Interruptions)\**

*[Translation]*

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: The Central Government should not wait till the State Governments fall in curbing naxalism.

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\*Not recorded.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: He has answered it.

[Translation]

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: If the State Government fails in controlling the terrorism or extremism despite the assistance provided by the Central Government then is it not the responsibility of the Central Government to enact a law in the interest of the nation?...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You have to change the Constitution...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: What is this?

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: It is correct that the Central Government are not saying that it is not our responsibility by leaving this responsibility to the State Government alone....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GANESH SINGH: But, some time back he was saying something else....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You please sit down, I will not allow such running commentary.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: You should also say something to the hon'ble Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: When necessary I also tell the hon'ble Minister.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: The Central Government have not criticized any State either in the House or outside.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Just now you had done....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: But when the Central Government is criticized by some one who do not do their duty then it becomes essential to make reply in this regard.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

### Target Plus Scheme

\*563. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:  
SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL:

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

(a) whether the Government is spending huge funds on Target Plus Scheme for promotion of exports;

(b) if so, the details of the funds spent thereon by the Government alongwith the details of exporters benefited during the last three years;

(c) whether some exporters are still awaiting the benefits under the scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government proposes to modify the said scheme for its betterment; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) DFCE (Duty Free Credit Entitlement) Scheme for status holders was started from 1.4.2003. The scheme was limited to Status Holders who had exports of at least Rs. 25 Cr. in 2003-04 and incremental growth of 25%. The scheme was tightened, modified and renamed as Target Plus Scheme in September, 2004. Target Plus Scheme was designed with objective to reward incremental growth in exports. Status Holders contribute more than 60% to India's export efforts and to achieve substantial higher exports, fillip to these exporters was granted by Target Plus scheme. As on 30.4.2007, out of 1923 applications received, 897 claims have been disbursed by grant of duty credits of Rs. 4725 Cr. 229 applications have been rejected wherein claim amount was Rs. 574.63 crore.

(c) and (d) Application complete in all respects received till 31.3.2007 have been considered by Zonal Committee and decided. A total of 797 applications, where the claim amount is Rs. 3792.10 Cr. were found deficient and incomplete.

(e) and (f) Government has modified Target Plus Scheme for exports during 2005-06 by providing duty

credit benefits at 5% of incremental exports, removing petroleum, cereals, ores, sugar and gems and jewelry from purview of the scheme, and by lowering eligibility criteria to Rs. 5 Cr. from Rs. 10 Cr. After being in operation for exports during 2004-05 and 2005-06. Target Plus Scheme has been abolished for exports from 01.04.2006 onwards.

#### **Integrated Child Development Services Scheme**

\*567. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN:  
SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:

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

(a) whether the Government takes measures for the welfare of Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) under the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme;

(b) if so, the details and the proportion of SCs and STs among the total beneficiaries of ICDS Scheme during the last three years, State/Union Territory-wise;

(c) whether the Government has taken any special measures to increase the proportion of SCs and STs among the ICDS beneficiaries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) From the very inception,

the ICDS Scheme envisages that in the selection of projects in rural areas priority consideration will be given, *inter alia*, to areas predominantly inhabited by SCs and STs. In the selection of ward (s) in urban projects, priority will be given to slums predominantly inhabited by SCs. These instructions have been reiterated to States/UTs from time to time. Similarly, instructions have also been issued for giving priority in locating AWCs to villages/settlements inhabited by people from SC/ST community

(b) Earlier, the Management Information System (MIS) of ICDS Scheme did not capture caste-wise data on beneficiaries of ICDS Scheme at the national level. Such data was being compiled at State/District level only. However, from 2004-05, this data is being compiled at national level also. In 2004-05 out of 5,03,86,296 beneficiaries of supplementary nutrition, 2,09,28,775 beneficiaries belonged to SC/ST communities which constitutes about 41% (26% ST and 15.5% SC) of total beneficiaries. A Statement giving details of SC/ST beneficiaries as on 31.3.2005 under ICDS Scheme with respect to States/UTs whose data is available for the year 2004-05 is enclosed. The data for 2005-06 and 2006-07 is being compiled

(c) and (d) The Ministry has issued instructions to all the States/UTs stating that while setting up AWCs, priority should be given to villages/habitations inhabited by population belonging to SC/ST and, as far as feasible, AWC should be located in the areas inhabited by population from SC/ST community. While sanctioning additional AWCs/Mini-AWCs in 2005-06 and 2006-07, the States/UTs were again requested to accord priority to villages predominantly inhabited by SC/ST population, while selecting the location for an AWC/Mini-AWC

#### **Statement**

*State-wise number of beneficiaries (children below 6 years and pregnant & lactating women receiving supplementary nutrition under ICDS scheme [information on scheduled castes and scheduled tribes under tribal-sub plan (TSP) and special component plan (SCP)] in 2004-05*

Sl. No.	State	Total number of children/P & LM Received Supplementary nutrition			Number of Scheduled Tribe children/women receiving supplementary nutrition			Number of Scheduled Caste children/women receiving supplementary nutrition			Total ST/ SC Beneficiaries receiving Suppl. Nutrition
		Children	No. of pregnant & lactating Mothers (P & LM)	Total beneficiaries for Suppl. Nutrition	Children	No. of P & LM	Total ST beneficiaries	Children	No. of P&LM	Total SC beneficiaries	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2151747	543162	2694909	332617	68480	401097	653253	147159	800412	1201509
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	79899	13571	93470	119518	29772	149290			0	149290

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
3.	Assam	1103139	148030	1251169	194800	48700	243500	172640	43160	215800	459300
4.	Chhattisgarh	1421264	370961	1792225			671524			251972	923496
5.	Gujarat	1596847	281687	1876534			452000			180000	632000
6.	Goa	34482	8931	43413	6573	1288	7861	1367	257	1624	9485
7.	Haryana	942054	232857	1174911			0	388045	93521	481566	461566
8.	Himachal Pradesh	319945	71183	391128	18546	4122	22668	97348	21262	118610	141278
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	182978	39982	222960	28656	9121	37777	22000	5000	27000	64777
10.	Jharkhand	1205904	370988	1576892	402326	120233	522559	225914	75328	301242	823801
11.	Karnataka	2124020	509312	2633332	298906	78555	377461	526347	115078	641425	1018886
12.	Kerala	908602	156242	1064844	18363	3864	22227	131545	21772	153317	175544
13.	Madhya Pradesh	2817839	698755	3516594	656724	186206	822930	404659	101146	505805	1328735
14.	Maharashtra	4208504	649060	4857564	1015899	171840	1187539	676939	125638	802577	1990116
15.	Meghalaya	188184	33329	221513	188184	33329	221513	0	0	0	221513
16.	Mizoram	109899	26368	136267	125138	27478	152616			0	152616
17.	Nagaland	371466	40237	411703	288460	80187	368647	6283	914	7197	375844
18.	Orissa (SC & ST Both)	3695410	668828	4364238	1112749	226135	1338884			0	1338884
19.	Punjab	442806	136177	578983	107	296	403	247339	109619	356958	357361
20.	Rajasthan	2711322	608298	3320620	450719	99940	550859	706281	162307	868588	1419247
21.	Tamil Nadu	1850102	508775	2358877	31614	9634	41248	542343	164172	706515	747763
22.	Tripura	203918	30045	233963	81766	12495	94261	47485	8559	56044	150305
23.	Uttar Pradesh (SC/ST Both)	4828282	1527396	6355678	4116000	1029000	5145000			0	5145000
24.	Uttaranchal	407675	97892	505567	18086	3560	21646	88919	19538	108457	130103
25.	West Bengal	3428248	397985	3826233	225235	27166	252401	938482	113193	1051675	1304076
26.	A and N Islands	18599	5538	24137	2495	385	2880	0	0	0	2880
27.	Chandigarh	31789	7556	39345	0	0	0	10022	2617	12639	12639
28.	Daman and Diu	6330	1263	7593	1223	202	1425	246	56	302	1727
29.	Delhi	392557	30465	423022	0	0	0	144451	26911	171362	171362
30.	Lakshadweep	3877	986	4863	6401	1434	7835			0	7835
31.	Pondicherry	27210	8918	36128			0	7512	2325	9837	9837

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
32.	Bihar	3655564	775353	4330917							
33.	Manipur										
34.	Sikkim										
35.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	12520	2184	14704							
Grand Total		41382982	9003314	50386296	9740905	2253422	13117851	6019420	1359532	7810924	20928775

%Coverage of SC/ ST beneficiaries w.r.t. total beneficiaries under ICDS Scheme 41.54%

Note: Shaded portion—data not available

Note: In Orissa, no. of ST beneficiaries includes no. of SC beneficiaries also.

[Translation]

#### Introduction of Yoga as Compulsory Subject

568. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:  
SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU:

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

(a) Whether Government proposes to make yoga a compulsory subject in all the schools;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c) Yoga is one of the core components of Health and Physical education that has been a compulsory subject upto the secondary school stage in the Central Board of Secondary Education curriculum since 1988. The National Curriculum Framework, 1988 developed as follow up of the National Policy on Education, 1986 continued Health and Physical Education as a separate and compulsory subject at primary, upper primary and secondary stages and included yoga in it.

The National Curriculum Framework 2005 has reconceptualised the curricular area of Health and physical Education and has proposed introduction of Yoga from the primary level onwards in informal ways. Yoga is treated as an integral component of the Health and physical Education Curriculum from class VI to class X.

#### Caste Based Census

\*569. SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR:  
SHRIMATI KARUNA SHUKLA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to conduct any caste based census in the country with a view to assess the total population of castes including SC, ST, OBC, Christian and Denotified Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes (DNT-NT-SNT) etc., in the various States; and

(b) if so, the details and the time by which it is likely to be conducted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) and (b) The information on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has been collected at each decennial census since 1951, for meeting the Constitutional requirements. The data on other religious communities has been collected at each census, as the determination of SC status is contingent upon the religion being professed by the individuals. Since post-independence period, no caste-based census of the population has been undertaken as per the decision of the Government in 1951 and this has been the position so far.

[English]

#### Improvement in Higher Education

\*570. SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN:  
SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA:

Will the MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey/study has been conducted on the quality of higher education in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken for the improvement of Higher Education in view of the falling standards; and

(d) the State-wise grant-in-aid provided for the improvement in higher education during the last three years?

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

(b) Does not arise

(c) and (d) The University Grants Commission implements various schemes of development assistance to eligible colleges and universities for improving quality of higher education. These schemes aim, inter-alia, at improving curriculum, strengthening infrastructure, orientation and in-service training of Teachers, and encouraging research. The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), which is an Inter-University-Centre of the UGC, assesses universities and colleges from time to time on various parameters of quality. The Central Government do not provide grants in aid for higher education, directly to the States.

#### Issue of Explosives Licence

\*571. DR. K. DHANARAJU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has issued licences for the manufacture, transport, handling and storage of

explosives used in blasting the rocks in quarries for building purposes;

(b) If so, the number of licences issued by the Government during each of the last three years, till date, State-wise including Tamil Nadu;

(c) whether the Government has issued any directions to the State Governments to monitor the system; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the extent of compliance thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A statement mentioning the number of explosive-licences issued for use for blasting rocks in quarries during the last three years is given in the statement enclosed. The total number of licenses as on 30th April 2007 is also indicated in the Annexure.

(c) and (d) The State Governments have been advised from time to time to ensure strict adherence to the provisions of the Explosives Act, 1884 and the Explosives Rules, 1983. The States have been asked to, inter-alia, undertake thorough verification of antecedents of applicants seeking explosives-licences; scrupulously examine the titles of lands where explosives are to be stored/used; take into account the security concerns while issuing manufacturing licenses; keep a vigil on manufacture, sale, transport and use of explosives and not to issue licenses to blasting-contractors not holding mining licenses. Regular inspections and scrutiny of records of licensees undertaken by the officers of the Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organisation and District Administration have ensured good compliance of the rules, regulations and advice given thereunder

#### Statement

*State-wise number of explosives licenses issued for use in blasting rocks in quarries*

Sl.No.	State	Issued in			Total number of licenses as on 30/4/2007
		2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	5	5	6	33
2.	Andhra Pradesh	57	55	38	741

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Andaman Nicobar	0	0	0	7
4.	Assam	3	8	8	66
5.	Bihar	0	1	1	25
6.	Chhattisgarh	9	4	18	189
7.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	9
8.	Daman and Diu	0	0	1	5
9.	Delhi	0	0	0	1
10.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	3
11.	Goa	4	3	1	67
12.	Gujarat	31	17	20	453
13.	Haryana	3	0	6	48
14.	Himachal Pradesh	14	24	29	182
15.	Jharkhand	18	18	12	461
16.	Jammu Kashmir	10	8	10	61
17.	Karnataka	12	11	14	195
18.	Kerala	125	102	75	714
19.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	5
20.	Meghalaya	4	10	1	53
21.	Maharashtra	75	56	36	1041
22.	Manipur	0	0	0	1
23.	Madhya Pradesh	17	7	21	323
24.	Mizoram	4	1	5	16
25.	Nagaland	0	0	0	1
26.	Orrisa	6	5	7	174
27.	Rajasthan	18	17	18	354
28.	Sikkim	0	1	5	6
29.	Tamil Nadu	27	20	23	312
30.	Tripura	3	3	1	11
31.	Uttaranchal	4	2	20	83

1	2	3	4	5	6
32.	Uttar Pradesh	4	3	3	161
33.	West Bengal	5	9	5	277
TOTAL		458	390	384	6078

[*Translation*]

**Cement Plants**

\*572. SHRI RAKESH SINGH:  
SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

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

(a) the details of large, medium and small scale cement plants functioning in the country, separately, State-wise;

(b) the total quantity of cement produced during each of the last three years;

(c) the details of demand and supply of cement during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(d) the number of persons employed in these cement plants as on date, State-wise;

(e) whether any proposal is pending with the Government for setting up of more cement plants in the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the time by when such plants are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The information of cement plants functioning in the country is given in statement.

(b) The quantity of cement produced in the country during the last 3 years is as below:

Year	(Million MT-approx.)
2004-05	132
2005-06	148
2006-07	161

(c) State-wise information about demand for cement is not being compiled. State/Region-wise information on despatches of cement by cement manufacturers is given in Statement-II enclosed.

(d) The estimated number of persons employed in the cement industry is around 1.35 lakh. Plant-wise employment data is not centrally maintained

(e) and (f) An industrial license is not required for setting up of a cement plant. 377 Industrial Entrepreneur Memoranda, which denote investment-intentions, have been received for setting up of new cement plants or for capacity expansion of existing plants between April 2004 and March 2007.

**Statement**

**Cement Plants**

S.No	State	Plants	Location
1	2	3	4
1.	Assam	CCI Bokajan	Bokajan
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Mancherial	Mancherial
		Keosram Cement	Ramagundam

1	2	3	4
		Orient Cement	Devapur
		Zuari Cement	Krishna Nagar
		Addilabad	Adilabad
		Tandur	Tandur
		Vijayawada (G)	Vijayawada
		Vizag (G)	Visakhapatnam
		Nadikude Durga Cement	Nadikude
		Chilamkur Works	Chilamkur
		Visaka Cement	Tandur
		Yerraguntla Works	Yerraguntla
		Raasi Cement	Wadapally
		Sri Vishnu Cement	Sitapuram
		Jayantipuram	Jaggayyapet
		Ultra Tech -APCW	Tadpatri
		Kistna	Kistna
		KCP Ltd	Macherla
		Panyam Cement	Bugganipalle
		Rain Inds Ltd-Unit-I	Ramapuram
		Rain Inds Ltd-Unit-II	Racheria
		Penna-Tadippatri I &II	Tadpatri
		Penna-Ganeshpahad	Ganeshpahad
		My Home Industries Ltd.	Mellacheruvu
3.	Bihar	Kalyanpur Cement	Banjari
4.	Chhattisgarh	Jamul	Jamul
		Century Cement	Tilda
		Grasim Cement, Raipur	Raipur
		Akaltara	Akaltara
		Mandhar	Mandhar
		Arasmeta	Bilaspur

1	2	3	4
		Ultra Tech -HCW	Hirmi
		Ambuj Eastern- CTG	Bhatapara
		Lafarge-Sonadih	Sonadih
5.	Delhi	Delhi (G)	Tughalakabad
6.	Gujarat	Sikka	Sikka
		Saurashtra Cement	Ranavav
		Gujarat Sidhee Cement	Veraval
		Probandar	Porbandar
		Ultra Tech-Gujarat	Pipavav
		Jafrabad	Jafrabad
		Magdalla (G)	Magdalla
		Ambuja Cement	Kodinar
		Gajambuja Cement	Kodinar
		Sanghi Industries Ltd.	Abdasa Taluka
7.	Himachal Pradesh	Gagal-I	Gagal
		Gagal-II	Gagal
		Rajban	Rajban
		Ambuja Cement-HP	Dartaghat
8.	Haryana	CCI, Charkhi Dadri	Chakri Dadri
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	J. and K. Cement Ltd.	Khrew
10.	Jharkhand	Chaibasa	Chaibasa
		Sindri	Sindri
		Lafarge Cement-Jojobera (G)	Singhum
		Lemos Cement	Khalari
		Sone Valley	Japla
11.	Karnataka	Wadi	Wadi
		Wadi-New	Wadi
		Vasadavatta Cement	Sedam
		Rajashree Cement	Malkhed

1	2	3	4
		Mysore Cement	Ammasandra
		Kurkunta	Kurkunta
		Shahabad	Shahabad
		Bagalkot Udyog Ltd.	Bagalkot
12.	Kerala	Malabar Cements	Palghat
		Malabar Cements (G)	Alappuzha
13.	Maharashtra	Chanda	Chanda
		Manikgarh Cement	Manikgarh
		Rajashree-Hotgi (G)	Hotgi
		Ultra Tech-ACW	Chandrapur
		Ratnagiri (G)	Ratnagiri
		Indo Rama Cement (G)	Raigad
		Orient Cement-Jalgaon (G)	Jalgaon
		Maratha Cement	Chandrapur
14.	Madhya Pradesh	Kymore	Kymore
		Birla Vikas	Satna
		Satna Cement	Satna
		Maihar Cement	Maihar
		Vikram Cement	Jawad Road
		Diamond Cement-I	Damoh
		Diamond Cement-II	Damoh
		Neemuch	Neemuch
		Jaypee Rewa	Rewa
		Jaypee Bela	Bela
		Prism Cement	Satna
15.	Meghalaya	Mawmluh Cherra	Cherrapunji
		Meghalaya Cements Ltd.	Lumshnong
16.	Orissa	Ultra Tech Cement-JCW (G)	Jharsuguda
		OCL India Ltd.	Rajgangpur

1	2	3	4
		Bargarh Cement Ltd	Bargarh
17.	Punjab	Ambuja Cement-Ropar (G)	Ropar
		Ambuja Cement—Bathinda (G)	Bhatinda
		Grasim—Bathinda (G)	Bathinda
18.	Rajasthan	ACC, Lakheri	Lakheri
		Birla Cement	Chittorgarh
		Chittor Cement	Chittorgarh
		Mangalam Cement	Morak
		Neer Shree Cement	Morak
		Aditya Cement	Shambupura
		J.K. Cement, Nimbahera	Nimbahera
		J.K. Cement, Mangrol	Mangrol
		J.K. Cement, Gotan	Gotan
		Lakshmi Cement	Sirohi Road
		J.K. Udaipur Udyog	Udaipur
		Ambuja Cement-Rabriyawas	Pali
		Shree Cement	Beawar
		Binani Cement	Sirohi Road
		Shriram Cement	Kota
19.	Tamil Nadu	Madukkarai	Madukkarai
		Grasim, South	Reddipalayam
		Sankarnagar	Talaiyuthu
		Sankaridurg	Sankaridurg
		Dalavoi	Trichy
		Alangulam	Alangulam
		Ariyalur	Ariyalur
		Ramasamyraja Nagar	R.S.Raja Nagar
		Alathiyur Works-I	Alathiyur
		AlathiyurWorks-II	Alathiyur

1	2	3	4
		Chettinad-Karur	Karur
		Chettinad-Karikkali	Karikkali
		Dalmia Cement	Dalmiapuram
		Ultra Tech - ARCW (G)	Arakonam
20.	Uttar Pradesh	Tikaria (G)	Tikaria
		Birla Cement-Raebareli (G)	Raebareli
		Diamond Cmt-Jhansi (G)	Jhansi
		Churk	Churk
		Dalla	Dalla
		Chunar (G)	Chunar
		Jaypee-Sadva Khurd (G)	Sadva Khurd
		Jaypee Ayodhya (G)	Tanda
21.	West Bengal	Damodar Cement & Slag (G)	Purulia
		Durgapur (G)	Durgapur
		Durga Hitech Cement (G)	Durgapur
		Ambuja Eastern-WB (G)	Sankrali
		Ultra Tech-WBCW(G)	Durgapur

Source: Cement Manufacturers Association

Note: Cement plants having manufacturing capacity of upto 600 MT per day or less are categorised as mini cement plants. Plant-wise data regarding these plants is not compiled by the Central Government. It is estimated that there are about 200 operational mini cement plants having an aggregate production capacity of about 6.40 million MT.

**Statement-II**

*State/Region-wise information on despatches of cement by manufacturers*

Region/State	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007
1	2	3	4
Northern Region			
Uttanchal	1469025	1825327	2224678
Haryana	4246272	4927989	5586963
Punjab	5234700	5655314	6496646
Rajasthan	6967151	8272687	9128267

1	2	3	4
Himachal Pradesh	1451307	1593116	1866561
Chandigarh	189300	264824	366128
Delhi	3749830	3503851	2971621
Jammu and Kashmir	948213	1014125	1239966
	24255798	27057233	29880830
Eastern Region			
Assam	1118907	1086297	1039697
Meghalaya and Other NE States	949436	767764	943810
Bihar	3799958	4360263	4493352
Jharkhand	2314005	2630632	2632080
Orissa	3901128	4145911	4431604
West Bengal	6223014	6588906	6928017
Chhattisgarh	2090960	3081464	3522010
	20397408	22661237	23990550
Southern Region			
Andhra Pradesh	8550427	11464571	12588332
Tamil Nadu	9553896	11129207	12839594
Karnataka	8105356	9382226	11115173
Kerala	6129367	6499769	6974530
Pondicherry	263543	329063	388514
Andaman and Nicobar	50535	76550	110873
Goa and Daman & Diu	779610	486579	431325
	33432734	39367965	44448341
Western Region			
Gujarat	8709984	9121286	10072940
Maharashtra	15876368	16784422	18192196
	24586352	25905708	28265136
Central Region			
Uttar Pradesh	14118806	14202156	15895733
Madhya Pradesh	6287257	6368673	6508519
	20406063	20570829	22404252
<b>Total Despatches</b>	<b>123078355</b>	<b>135562972</b>	<b>148989109</b>

Source: Cement Manufacturers Association.

**Increase in Seats in Higher  
Educational Institutions**

\*573. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has formulated a scheme to increase the seats in the higher educational institutions receiving financial aid from the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) The Central Educational Institutions (Reservations in Admission) Act, 2006, provides for a mandatory increase of intake capacity by 54%, over and above the annual permitted strength, so that the number of seats in the unreserved category is not less than that for the academic session immediately preceding the date of coming into force of the Act. The Act, however, provides that if for reasons of financial, physical or academic limitations or in order to maintain the standards of education, the annual permitted strength cannot be increased in one go for the academic session following the enactment of this Act, it could be staggered over a maximum period of three years with the approval of the competent authority. The Act, which came into force on the 4th January, 2007 is under challenge before the Supreme Court of India and the Supreme Court vide its order dated 29th March, 2007 has kept on hold the application of Section 6 of the above Act in so far it relates to Other Backward Classes (OBCs) category.

*[English]*

**International Trade Fairs**

\*574. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA:  
SHRI M.K. SUBBA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to organise International Trade Fairs in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(d) whether an International Trade Fair was organized at Guwahati in March this year;

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the main features and the focus of the Fair; and

(f) the details of the cost involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) International Trade Fairs in various parts of the country are organized by India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) under the Ministry of Commerce.

(b) and (c) The following International Trade Fairs are proposed to be organized by ITPO during the year 2007-2008:—

- (i) Delhi International Leather Fair, New Delhi, May 18-20, 2007.
- (ii) Delhi Book Fair, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, September 1-9, 2007.
- (iii) India International Trade Fair, New Delhi, November, 14-27, 2007.
- (iv) International Security and Safety & Fire Exhibition, New Delhi, December 19-22, 2007.
- (v) IT India Fair, New Delhi, January 21-24, 2008.
- (vi) India International Leather Fair, Chennai, January 31—February 3, 2008.
- (vii) International leather Goods Fair, Kolkata, February, 22-24, 2008.
- (viii) Tex Styles India, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, March 3-6, 2008.
- (ix) Aahar International Food Fair, New Delhi, March 10-14, 2008.

(d) No such fair was organized by ITPO.

(e) and (f) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

**Dowry Prohibition Laws**

\*575. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE:  
SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to make the laws pertaining to dowry prohibition more stringent with deterrent punishment; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) The National Commission for women has recently recommended certain amendments in the laws to make the provisions more effective and stringent. The recommendations are being examined

[*English*]

**Tsunami Victims**

\*576. SHRI K.C. PALLANISHAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the findings of the recent mid term review conducted by the core Group in the Planning Commission regarding the implementation of various projects under the Tsunami Rehabilitation Programme; and

(b) the further steps proposed to expedite the completion of the projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) A review of the Tsunami Rehabilitation Programme was carried out by the Core Group in the Planning Commission during October 2006. The review focused on the revised cost estimates/phasing of funds for 2007-08 and 2008-09 keeping in view the status of reconstruction/rehabilitation. Based on the review, the Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) in its meeting held on 10.01.07 approved the revised cost estimates for the Tsunami Rehabilitation Programme at Rs. 9822.10 crore to be implemented over a four year period from 2005-06 to 2008-09.

The EGoM also decided that:

- i. No major fluctuations in the programme should be allowed and the implementation agencies should complete the work in a scientific manner with a view to providing relief and rehabilitating people but not as an employment giving exercise.
- ii. The proposal of the Planning Commission for keeping a provision for extending the time-frame of the Tsunami Rehabilitation Programme beyond 2008-09 has not been approved
- iii. States/UTs should set quarterly physical and financial targets for proper implementation/monitoring of the programme

**Coir Industry**

\*577. SHRI PANNIAN RAVINDRAN: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether coir industry is facing difficulties and some units are on the verge of closure in the country, particularly in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to remove these difficulties, State-wise and Union Territory-wise;

(c) whether the Government has received any representations from the State Governments including Kerala in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) No incidence of closure of Coir unit has specifically come to the notice of the Government, recently. However, in 2004-2005 Coir Industry in Kerala had experienced some shortages of raw material for manufacturing coir product as a consequence of drought and mite disease that affected the production of coconuts. Shortage of raw material was met by sourcing from the neighbouring coir producing states. At the request of the Government of Kerala, the Government of India had also permitted duty free import of coir fibre from the neighbouring countries for one year starting September, 2004. With a view to assisting the coir sector in increasing production of coir products,

enhancing its productivity etc., the Coir Board (Statutory Organization set up under the Coir Industries Act, 1953), has been implementing a number of schemes (details given in Annexure) for which annual budget allocation is provided by the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries. As a result of concerted efforts of Coir Board, all major growth parameters like production, employment generation and export have been showing an increasing trend during the past several years, as detailed below:

(Production, Export in Metric Tonnes)  
(Employment in Lakh)

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
Production	353700	364000	385000	410000
Export	84183	102253	122927	136027
Employment	5.78	5.86	6.06	6.22

II. 25 Coir clusters covering 12 States ( including 4 clusters in Kerala) have also been approved in June & October 2006 for development under the Scheme of funds for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI).

III. In addition, Coir Board is formulating a new Scheme to rejuvenate, modernise and upgrade the technology of Coir Industry during XI plan by inducting latest machinery, improving the productivity and quality, enhancing the utilization of husk, generating employment and enhancing the earnings of workers and small scale producers of Coir.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries had been receiving from time to time representation from Government of Kerala on issues like reintroduction of Minimum Export Price (MEP) and Purchase Price Enforcement Scheme (PPES), Rebate Scheme etc. Government of Kerala was informed that there is no proposal to introduce these schemes. A representation was received from Government of Kerala seeking additional central assistance for Coir Board's Scheme titled "Mahila Coir Yojana", for clearing claims of the State Government under the Market Development Assistance Scheme (MDA) and adoption of National Coir Research and Management Institute (NCRMI), Thiruvananthapuram of State Government by the Government of India. This was considered and additional funds were provided in the Revised Estimates of the Coir Board for 2005-2006

for Mahila Coir Yojana and MDA. With regard to adoption of the NCRMI, the State Government was informed about Central Government's inability to do so owing to the fact that there are already two Research Institutes under the Coir Board one at Alappuzha, Kerala and another at Bagalore with full funding support from the Central Government. A representation has also been recently (July, 2006) received from Government of Kerala seeking reintroduction of rebate scheme as the Coir co-operatives were incurring losses in Kerala. This was considered in the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries and the State Government was informed that MDA scheme allows more flexibility than the Rebate scheme for promotion of coir products and needs to be publicized effectively.

#### **Statement**

With a view to assisting the coir sector in increasing production of coir products, enhancing its productivity, etc., the Coir Board, has been implementing the following programmes/schemes:

- (i) For development of production infrastructure financial assistance is provided for setting up new coir units at the rate of 25 per cent of the cost of machinery, subject to a maximum of Rs. 1.5 lakh.
- (ii) Financial assistance for promoting domestic market for coir through publicity measures, Market Development Assistance to units in the cooperative and public sector, participation in trade fairs and exhibitions, maintenance of Coir Board Showrooms & Sales Depots to supply quality products at standard prices.
- (iii) Training women artisans in spinning under the "Mahila Coir Yojana " which also provides subsidy of 75 per cent of the cost for purchase of (coir spinning) ratts.
- (iv) Entrepreneur Development Programme and Quality Improvement Programme to promote enterprises and instill quality consciousness respectively.
- (v) Intensification of research and development efforts for introducing new technologies for extraction and processing of coir fibres, development of machinery, product diversifications, introduction of new products etc.

- (vi) A scheme called "Production Enhancement Linked Coir Workers Welfare Scheme" was implemented on experimental basis during 2005-2006. The scheme envisaged construction of workshops, common facility centres, community hall, hygienic toilet facilities, potable drinking water facilities etc. Under the Scheme, Rs. 130 lakh was provided to various states including Kerala. Coir Board is getting the scheme evaluated for introduction in XI Plan.

#### Dakar Action Plan

\*578. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:  
SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:

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

(a) whether the Government has signed the Dakar Action Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which the Government has so far been able to achieve the goals of the plan to provide Education for all?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The World Education Forum adopted the *Dakar Framework of Action, Education for All* at a meeting in Dakar, Senegal on 26-28 April 2000. The Dakar Framework is a collective commitment to action for the achievement of Education for All. India is one of the 164 signatories to the Dakar Framework of Action. The Dakar Framework committed itself to the attainment of the following six goals of Education for All:

- (i) Expanding and improving comprehensive early childhood care and education, especially for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged children.
- (ii) Ensuring that by 2015 all children, particularly girls, children in difficult circumstances and those belonging to ethnic minorities, have access to and complete free and compulsory primary education of good quality.
- (iii) Ensuring that the learning needs of all young people and adults are met through equitable

access to appropriate learning and life skills programmes.

- (iv) Achieving a 50 per cent improvement in levels of adult literacy by 2015, especially for women, and equitable access to basic and continuing education for all adults.

- (v) Eliminating gender disparities in primary and secondary education by 2005, and achieving gender equality in education by 2015, with a focus on ensuring girls' full and equal access to and achievement in basic education of good quality.

- (vi) Improving all aspects of the quality of education, and ensuring excellence so that recognized and measurable learning outcomes are achieved by all, specially in literacy, numeracy and essential life skills.

(c) Progress of action taken to achieve the Education for All (EFA) goals is given in Statement enclosed.

#### Statement

*Goal 1: Expanding and improving comprehensive early childhood care and education, especially for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged children.*

The Ministry of Women and Child Development implements the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, which provides a package of six services, namely (i) supplementary nutrition, (ii) immunization, (iii) health check up, (iv) referral services, (v) pre-school non-formal education, (vi) nutrition and health education. Services under the scheme are being provided to about 654.65 lakh beneficiaries, comprising 543.43 lakh children (0-6 years) and 111.22 lakh pregnant and lactating mothers through a network of 7.81 lakh Anganwadi Centres in 6284 projects.

*Goal 2: Ensuring that by 2015 all children, particularly girls, children in difficult circumstances and those belonging to ethnic minorities, have access to and complete free and compulsory primary education of good quality.*

The following table gives the gender disaggregated figures, as per Selected Educational Statistics 2004-05, on Gross Enrolment Ratios (GERs) for all children, SC children and ST children at primary stage between the years 2000-01 and 2004-05.

Year	Category	Primary		
		Boys	Girls	Total
2000-01	All	104.9	85.9	95.7
2004-05	All	110.7	104.7	107.8
2000-01	SC	107.3	85.8	96.8
2004-05	SC	123.3	106.6	115.3
2000-01	ST	116.9	85.5	101.1
2004-05	ST	128.1	115.5	121.9

The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is a national programme launched in 2001-02 for achieving the goal of universal elementary. SSA promotes girls' education to equalize educational opportunities and eliminate gender disparities. Educational incentives are provided to offset the cost of education to Scheduled Caste (SC), Scheduled Tribe (ST) and girl children. Districts with substantial population of SC, ST and minority (Muslim) communities have been identified as special focus districts for targeted interventions under SSA. SSA also aims to ensure that every child with special needs is provided education in an appropriate environment. In addition, the Government has introduced the cooked mid day meal scheme with effect from September 2004 to encourage poor children, belonging to disadvantaged sections, to attend school more regularly and help them concentrate on classroom activities

*Goal 3: Ensuring that the learning needs of all young people and adults are met through equitable access to appropriate learning and life skills programmes.*

The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has formulated a comprehensive National Youth Policy, 2003, which recognizes that in order for the youth to effectively participate in decision-making processes, it is essential that they are better equipped with requisite knowledge, skills and capabilities. As a new initiative for adolescent health, development, life skill education and empowerment teen clubs have been started at the village level in 59 districts. The Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing the Kishori Shakti Yojana for adolescent girls as part of the ICDS scheme in 6284 ICDS projects in the country. Under the National Literacy Mission of the Department of School Education and Literacy, training in skill development and income generation is provided through the Jan Shikshan Sansthan.

*Goal 4: Achieving a 50 per cent improvement in levels of adult literacy by 2015, especially for women, and equitable access to basic and continuing education for all adults.*

As per Census 2001, the literacy rate in India was 64.8% (male 75.26%; female 53.67%). The National Literacy Mission (NLM) has been set up to provide functional literacy and continuing education to all illiterate adults in the 15-35 years age group. The Total Literacy Campaign (TLC), followed by Post Literacy Programmes (PLP), has been the principle instrument of the NLM for improving literacy levels. At present TLCs are being implemented in 110 districts and PLPs in 176 districts of the country. Projects for Residual Literacy have been taken up in 65 districts, where TLCs stagnated on account of various factors. In addition, special interventions for female literacy have been taken up in 47 districts States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa and Jharkhand.

*Goal 5: Eliminating gender disparities in primary and secondary education by 2005, and achieving gender equality in education by 2015, with a focus on ensuring girls' full and equal access to and achievement in basic education of good quality.*

The Gender Parity Index for all categories of children for primary, upper primary and secondary stages of education as per Selected Education Statistics, 2004-05 is given in the table below:

Class	All children
I-V	0.95
VI-VIII	0.88
IX-XII	0.79

The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), along with its components of National Programme for Education of Girls at Elementary Level (NPEGEL) and Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBV), seeks to enhance the education of girls, especially in educationally backward blocks in the country.

*Goal 6: Improving all aspects of the quality of education, and ensuring excellence so that recognized and measurable learning outcomes are achieved by all, especially in literacy, numeracy and essential life skills.*

SSA provides for quality improvement through provisioning for adequate number of teachers in schools, facilities for training of teachers, grants to facilitate development of teaching learning material, free textbooks for all girls, SC, ST children, etc. With a view to improving the quality of teaching learning 571 District Institutes of Education and Training (DIETs) have been sanctioned in the country. Professional support to teachers is also provided through 6700 Block Resource Centres (BRCs) and 66000 Cluster Resource Centres CRCs, where training for child centred, activity based training is transacted. Further, the revised National Curriculum Framework (NCF) provides a comprehensive approach to child centred education. NCF-2005 is grounded in the guiding principles of (i) connecting knowledge in school to life outside the school, (ii) ensuring that learning shifts away from rote learning methods, (iii) enriching the curriculum so that it goes beyond textbooks, (iv) making examinations flexible. New syllabi and textbooks based on NCF-2005 have been developed by NCERT.

*[Translation]*

#### **Expansion of Foreign Trade Related Schemes**

\*579. DR. CHINTA MOHAN:  
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to expand Foreign Trade Related Schemes by giving concessions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated number of exporters likely to be benefited as a result thereof;

(d) whether the export of Indian companies has increased due to service tax exemption; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the quantum of increase?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Annual Supplement to the Foreign Trade Policy was announced on 19.4.2007. Details are available on DGFT website viz. [www.dgft.delhi.gov.in](http://www.dgft.delhi.gov.in).

(c) It is not possible to indicate the number of exporters likely to be benefited.

(d) and (e) The Service Tax refund/exemptions will improve the competitiveness of Indian exports. The export of merchandise goods from India has increased from US \$ 103 billion in 2005-06 to US \$ 124.63 billion in 2006-07.

#### **Control Over Private Technical Educational Institutes**

\*580. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:  
SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV:

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

(a) whether many private technical educational institutes are mushrooming in the country;

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

(c) the nature of control exercised over such institutes by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c) The Government has permitted private initiative in technical education since there is a demand for technical manpower within the country as well as in the global market. The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has been mandated to assure quality in technical education. AICTE has laid down strict norms and standards for setting up of new institutions of technical education and for introduction of new technical courses in the existing institutions. These norms and standards are available on the website of the AICTE ([www.aicte.ernet.in](http://www.aicte.ernet.in)). The AICTE invites applications from Trusts/Societies/Governments/

Universities for setting up of new technical institutions. Those who fulfill norms and standards laid down by the AICTE are granted approvals for the setting up of the technical institutions. Even after establishment of such institutions, AICTE can withdraw their approval, reduce their intake or place them under no admission category, if it is found that they are not fulfilling any of the norms and standards laid down by the AICTE.

For awareness of students, a list of approved technical institutions has been made available on the website of AICTE. AICTE also publishes notices, from time to time, in leading newspapers, cautioning all concerned to check the approval status of technical institutions before joining them. A list of unapproved institutions as have come to the notice of AICTE who are offering technical courses, has also been made available by AICTE in the website.

*[English]*

#### Export of Fireworks

\*581. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the foreign exchange earned during the last three years from the export of fireworks;

(b) whether the Government is aware of the difficulties being faced by the manufacturers of fireworks particularly in Tamil Nadu due to the complicated rules for exporting their products to other countries;

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

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Foreign exchange earned during the last three years from the Export of Fireworks is as follows:

Year	Foreign Exchange earned US \$ million
2003-04	0.06
2004-05	0.17
2005-06	0.16
2006-07 (provisional)	0.18

(b) No specific problem regarding exports have been brought to the notice of Government of India by manufacturers of fireworks.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### Bharat Ratan Award

\*5313. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the guidelines adopted by the Government to award Bharat Ratan to any person; and

(b) the names of the persons who have been awarded Bharat Ratan including Sant Tukadoji Maharaj till date, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) In terms of the statutes and rules relating to Bharat Ratna, the decoration is awarded for exceptional service towards the advancement of Art, Literature and Science, and in recognition of public service of the highest order. The recommendations for Bharat Ratna award are made by the Prime Minister to the President and are announced by the President's Secretariat after obtaining approval of the President. It is the Prime Minister's prerogative to consult any one he chooses. No formal recommendations for this are necessary.

\* (b) A State-wise list containing the names of 40 persons who have been conferred Bharat Ratna award till date is enclosed? Bharat Ratna has not been conferred on Sant Tukadoji Maharaj.

\*Part (b) of the reply to Question No.5313 in the debate dated 15.5.2007 was subsequently corrected through a Correcting Statement made in the House on 4.12.2007 and accordingly, Part (b) has been revised as follows:

"(b) A list containing the names of 40 persons who have been conferred Bharat Ratna Award till date is annexed."

**Statement****State-Wise List of Recipient of Bharat Ratna Award**

Sl. No.	Name	State
1	2	3
1.	Dr. Zakir Hussain	Andhra Pradesh
2.	Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi	Assam
3.	Loknayak Jayprakash Narayan	Bihar
4.	Dr. Rajendra Prasad	Bihar
5.	Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam	Delhi
6.	Smt. Aruna Asaf Ali	Delhi
7.	Shri Rajiv Gandhi	Delhi
8.	Shri Gulzari Lal Nanda	Gujarat
9.	Shri Morarji Ranchhodji Desai	Gujarat
10.	Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel	Gujarat
11.	Dr. M. Vivesvaraya	Karnataka
12.	Shri Acharya Vinoba Bhave	Maharashtra
13.	Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar	Maharashtra
14.	Dr. Dhonde Keshav Karve	Maharashtra
15.	Shri Jehangir Ratanji Dadabhai Tata	Maharashtra
16.	Kumari Lata Dinanth Mangeshkar	Maharashtra
17.	Dr. Pandurang Vaman Kane	Maharashtra
18.	Shri V.V.Giri	Orissa
19.	Shri Chakravarti Rajagopalachari	Tamil Nadu
20.	Dr. Chandrasekhara Venkata Raman	Tamil Nadu
21.	Shri Chidambaram Subramaniam	Tamil Nadu
22.	Shri Kumaraswamy Kamraj	Tamil Nadu
23.	Smt. M.S.Subbulakshmi	Tamil Nadu
24.	Shri Marudur Gopalan Ramachandran	Tamil Nadu
25.	Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan	Tamil Nadu
26.	Dr. Bhagwan Das	Uttar Pradesh

1	2	3
27.	Ustad Bismillah Khan	Uttar Pradesh
28.	Pt. Govind Ballabh Pant	Uttar Pradesh
29.	Smt. Indira Gandhi	Uttar Pradesh
30.	Shri Jawaharlal Nehru	Uttar Pradesh
31.	Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri	Uttar Pradesh
32.	Shri Purushottam Das Tandon	Uttar Pradesh
33.	Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy	West Bengal
34.	Mother Mary Teresa Bojaxhiu Teresa	West Bengal
35.	Shri Maulana Abul Kalam Azad	West Bengal
36.	Shri Satyajit Ray	West Bengal
37.	Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan	Pakistan
38.	Dr. Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela	South Africa
39.	Prof. Amartya Sen	UK
40.	Pandit Ravi Shankar	USA

*[English]***Petition on Cement Industry**

5314. SHRIMATI MANORAMA MADHAVARAJ: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any petition is pending with the Monopoly and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission against the cement industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by when the said petition is likely to be disposed of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (c) The information concerning cases pending with the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission (MRTPC) against the cement industry is given in the enclosed Statement. Since MRTPC is a quasi-judicial authority it is not possible to indicate any definite time frame for disposal of these cases.

**Statement**

The details of the Petitions pending with the MRTP Commission are as under:

S.No.	Case No.	Parties	Status
1	2	3	4
1.	RTPE 99/1990	DG, MRTPC Vs. Cement Manufacturers' Association	Under enquiry after preliminary investigation.

1	2	3	4
2.	MTPE 2/1992	DG, MRTPC Vs. Associated Cement Co. Ltd., Mumbai	Under enquiry after preliminary investigation.
3.	RTPE 83/2000	DG, MRTPC & M/s. Gayatri Agencies Kanchipuram Vs. Cement Manufacturers' Association, Chennai	Under enquiry after preliminary investigation.
4.	RTPE 21/2001	Sh. Servejit S. Mokha & Another Vs. Cement Manufacturers' Association & Others	Under enquiry after preliminary investigation.
5.	RTPE 32/2006	DG, MRTPC Vs. Gujarat Ambuja Cement Ltd. & Two Others	Under enquiry after preliminary investigation,
6.	UTPE 86/2006	DG, MRTPC Vs. Various Cement Manufacturers	Under preliminary investigation.
7.	RTPE 52/2006	The Builders Association of India Vs. Cement Manufacturers' Association	Under preliminary investigation.
8.	RTPE 1/2007	DG, MRTPC Vs. Associated Companies Ltd.	Under preliminary investigation.
9.	RTPE 4/2007	Jaimeen Steel Corporation Vs. Gujarat Ambuja Cement Ltd.	Under preliminary investigation.

*[Translation]*

#### Scholarship to Students

5315. SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA:  
SHRI CHANDRA DEV PRASAD RAJBHAR:

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

(a) the details of the provisions and distribution of  
the pre-matric and post-matric scholarships in the country  
during each of the last three years, State/Union Territory-  
wise;

(b) the details of the total amount of scholarship  
demanded by the State Governments including Bihar  
alongwith the total number of students benefited during  
each of the last three years, State/Union Territory-wise;

(c) the details of the amount disbursed to the students  
as pre-matric and post-matric scholarships and also the  
number of beneficiaries during each of the last three  
years; and

(d) the details of time of release of the amount and  
its distribution to the students as scholarship during the  
last three years, State-wise/Union Territory-wise?

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

#### DTH and CAS Services

5316. SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN:  
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:  
SHRIMATI KARUNA SHUKLA:

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

(a) whether the companies rendering Direct-to-Home (DTH) and Conditional Access System (CAS) services are reported to have been misleading the public;

(b) if so, whether the Government has received complaints in this regard;

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

(d) the further steps taken/likely to be taken by the Government to check the exploitation of customers by the said companies?

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

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) No further step is under consideration of Government.

*[English]*

#### Anganwadi Centre

5317. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has been requested by the Government of Karnataka to sanction an additional 2646 Anganwadi Centres and 405 Mini Anganwadi Centres in the second phase of 2006-07;

(b) if so, whether this proposal was forwarded to the Union Government on March 7, 2006;

(c) if so, whether the matter is still pending with the Union Government;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (e) Government of Karnataka submitted its requirements for 2646 Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) and 405 Mini-AWCs on 7.3.2006. The proposal of Government of Karnataka was approved and administrative sanction issued on 21.12.2006.

#### Reconstruction Plan

5318. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has submitted detailed proposals for long term reconstruction of damaged infrastructure as a result of floods during 2005; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action so far taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) The Government of Gujarat has submitted a proposal seeking financial assistance of Rs. 2936.26 crore for long-term reconstruction of damaged infrastructure as a result of floods during 2005 sector-wise details of which is as follows:

Sector	Financial requirement projected by the State Government (Rs. in crore)
Health	Rs. 147.51
Urban Infrastructure	Rs. 960.69
Water Resources/Supply/Irrigation	Rs. 43.75
Energy	Rs. 1126.63
Roads & Building	Rs. 557.68
Housing	Rs. 100.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>Rs. 2936.26</b>

The proposal has been placed before the Inter Ministerial Committee (IMC) for assessment of the requirement of funds for long-term reconstruction.

#### **Agreements/MOUs**

5319. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Indian delegation led by the Minister of State for Commerce and Industry visited Uzbekistan and Azerbaijan in April, 2007;

(b) if so, the details of the discussions held;

(c) whether any agreements/MOUs were signed during the visit; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Minister of State for Commerce (MoS) visited Uzbekistan and Azerbaijan in April 2007.

(b) MoS co-chaired the 7th Session of India-Uzbekistan Inter-Governmental Commission held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, wherein issues related to cooperation in Trade and Investment, Textile, Information Technology, Transport, Agriculture, Culture, Science & Technology, Tourism, Mineral and Metals, Oil and Gas sectors etc. were discussed.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) An Agreement for establishing an Inter Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific and Technological Cooperation between India and Azerbaijan was signed on 11th April 2007. Protocol of the Seventh Session of the India-Uzbekistan Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific and Technological Cooperation was signed on 13th April 2007.

#### **Rate of Video Spots and Documentary Films of DAVP**

5320. SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rates of making video spots and documentary films of Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP) have recently been revised; and

(b) if so, the details of the revised rates thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Rates for making video spots and documentary films through Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP) have been revised in June, 2006. The Rate card is given in the Statement enclosed.

#### **Statement**

*Rate Card for Audio-Video Productions (w.e.f. April, 2003, amended April, 2004)*

DIRECTORATE OF ADVERTISING &  
VISUAL PUBLICITY

MO INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING 3RD FLOOR,  
PTI BUILDING, SANSAD MARG, NEW DELHI

**Amended w.e.f. 1st June, 2006**

*(To be Read Alongwith DAVP's Terms and Conditions for AV Productions for Empanelled Producers)*

#### **RADIO SPOTS/JINGLES**

The software requirement is as follows.

1. One broadcast CD copy (one per spot/jingle if more than one spot/jingle is put in one CD).
2. DAVP record copies = one master DAT+ 2 audio CD.
3. Client record copies = 3 audio CD.  
(In record copies, all Hindi spots produced at a time can be put in the same DAT/CD and all language versions of one spot can be put in one DAT/CD to economise the storing space. When more than one spot/jingle is put in one tape/CD, there would be title announcement/ID No., before each spot/jingle as per existing practice. Each tape/CD and its cover should be properly labelled giving title, subject, duration, language, name of client, DAVP (executive producer, year of production).

The re-recording charges would include one broadcast CD copy, one DAVP CD copy and client CD copy.

**Sponsored Radio Programmes**

The software requirement is as follows :

1. One broadcast CD copy per programme.
2. DAVP record copies = one master DAT + 1 audio CD (More than one programme can be put in one DAT/CD to economise the storing space, however. DAT/CD containing Hindi episodes should be separate).
3. Client record copies = 1 audio CD (More than one programme can be put in one CD to economise the storing space however, CD containing Hindi episodes should be separate).

Charges for re-recording & re-editing of old episodes include charges for one broadcast CD, one DAVP CD and one client CD.

**Miscellaneous Audio Work**

Transfer charges for master CD (from DAT/audio cassette) upto 60 min = Rs. 200 in place of Rs. 400 Rate of spool & DAT have been deleted. Rate of audio cassette will remain Rs. 50.

**Video Spot/Jingle/Document Aries/Tele Films Etc.**

The software requirement will be as follows:

- (i) One beta/DVC pro telecast copy (format as desired by DAVP as per the requirement of channels) = one tape per spot per language if more than one spot can be put in one tape.
- (ii) One beta/DVC Pro as per DAVP's requirement (International Track-mix + unmix) record copy.
- (iii) Two DVD+ 2 VCD as DAVP record copies.
- (iv) Two DVD + 2 VCD as client record copies.
- (v) Two audio CDs containing broadcast quality audio track (for spots/jingles in Hindi and languages).
- (vi) Still photographs of good quality (if required by DAVP/client for use in print campaign).

(In record copies, more than one spot/jingle can be put in one record Beta/DVD/CD to economise the storing space, however, Beta/CD containing Hindi spots/jingles

should be separate. There should be title plate indicating name of spot, subject, duration, language in English before each spot. Each tape/DVD/VCD and its cover should be properly labeled giving title, subject, duration, language, name of client. DAVP/name of executive producer, year of production. DVD/VCD should be compatible to DVD/VCD player and computer). The software requirement is as follows.

**Sponsored Video Programmes (Minimum 6 Programmes) in Beta SP**

The software requirement for master production is 2 DVDs + 2 VCDs (1 each for client and 1 each for DAVP), one master Beta/DVC Pro (International Track) and one telecast Beta/DVCs Pro (as desired by DAVP as per requirement of channel. The software requirement for dubbing is 2 DVDs + 2 VCDs (1 each for client and 1 each for DAVP), one master (mixed) and one beta DVC Pro telecast copy.

**Miscellaneous Video Work**

- (a) Video compilation in Beta SP/DVC Pro

While the charges remain same, the software requirement would be one Beta/DVC Pro and two DVD/VCD copies.

- (b) Additional Beta T'cast/DVC Pro copy

Upto 5 min.	1,000 in place of 1250
Upto 30 min.	1,200 in place of 1600
Upto 60 min.	1,500 in place of 2200

- (c) Transfer charges for master VCD

From Digi Beta	2,000 in place of 2500
From Beta SP	500 in place of 1200
From VHS	Deleted
VCD copy (with branded VCD)	50

(VCD) should be compatible to both computer as well as VCD player)

- (d) Transfer charges for master DVD

From Digi Beta	2,500 in place of 3500
From Beta SP	1,000 in place of 2500
DVD copy (with branded DVD)	100 in place of 500

- (e) **Graphics**
- Text based slide/super      100 in place of 200
- Illustration/Graph based      200 in place of 500 slide
- (f) **Corrections charges for old spots/films**
- While charges are same, software requirement is 2 DVD/VCD copies
- (g) **Hiring of presentation equipments (including transport & technician)**
- While charges are same. VHS player mentioned at no. 1 may be replaced by VCD/DVD player.

Notes: Packing charges mentioned at serial no. 4 reduced from 150 to 100 for sending in bulk to CSU, Mumbai/Kolkata.

Labelling Instructions: Each tape/CD and its cover should be properly labelled mentioning title of spot/programme, subject, duration, language, name of client, name of DAVP/production agency and year of production.

**Rate Card for Audio-Video Production**  
(w.e.f. 1.4.2003)

Amended w.e.f. 1.4.2004

**Directorate of Advertising & Visual Publicity**  
**M/O Information and Broadcasting**  
**3rd Floor, PTI Building, Sansad Marg, New Delhi**

APPLICABLE FOR PRODUCTIONS BY DAVP ONLY  
(To be read alongwith DAVP's terms and conditions for empanelled producers)

**Radio Spots/Jingles**

(A) In more than one language

Radio spot	Master version	Language version
Upto 60 sec.	7,500	6,000
Above 60 sec.	8,000	6,500

**Radio Jingle/Song Signature Tune**

	Master version	Language version (with same music track)	Language version (with separate regional music track)
Upto 60 sec.	13,000	6,500	10,000
Upto 120 sec.	15,000	7,500	12,000
Above 120 sec.	18,000	9,000	15,000

(B) In one language only – 50% extra of master version

The consolidated rates include charges for script, production with good voices & music/audio design, additional shorter version (which can be made only through editing simultaneously), master (DAT), one broadcast copy (spool/DAT/CD as per the requirement of AIR), DAVP copy (one audio cassette & one CD) and client copy (one audio cassette and one CD).

APPLICABLE FOR PRODUCTIONS BY DAVP ONLY

Re-recording charges for spots	—	2000
Re-recording charges for jingle	—	5000

Re-recording charges would be admissible if script is changed after production is done as per the approved script and artists have to be called again for recording. No charges would be admissible if changes in spot/jingle can be made only through editing, even if spot was made as per approved script. However, if changes are made in previously approved (old spot/jingle through editing only, Rs. 1000 would be admissible as editing charges. This would include one client & one DAVP copy (audio cassette or CD as desired by DAVP). Charges for broadcast copy would be extra.

**Sponsored Radio Programmes**

(A) Centralised production in more than one language

Upto 10 min.	7,500
Upto 15 min.	8,500
Upto 30 min.	12,000
Upto 60 min.	16,000

(B) Production in one language only or if production in each language is decentralized (one specific request of client) i.e., separately in the concerned language state with local experts, artists, anchors, consultants etc.

50% higher than the above rates.

APPLICABLE FOR PRODUCTIONS BY DAVP ONLY

The average per language consolidated rates include charges for script, production with good voices, master (DAT), one broadcast copy (spool/DAT/CD as per

requirement of AIR) and one DAVP copy & one client copy (tape or CD as derived by DAVP). Production includes signature tune, opening/closing/change over music/jingle upto one minute, drama, stock voices/music/songs, news, studio recorded interviews/expert comments, receiving questions through phone/E-mail/letters, reply of questions by anchor/experts in the programme, production of promos including one DAVP copy and one client copy in audio cassette or CD (payment of broadcast copies would be separate), etc. Payment of prize money would be reimbursed. For any freshly composed song of more than one minute duration, Rs. 5,000 would be paid extra. The programme should be highly creative and contain variety of elements and segments to provide information in interesting and interactive manner. The producer would submit a feedback report every three months, on the basis of letters received from audience and their interaction with AIR stations.

#### APPLICABLE FOR PRODUCTIONS BY DAVP ONLY

If field interviews are specifically desired by the client, in the programme, than 10% of the master would be paid extra alongwith reimbursement of actual conveyance charges for two persons for locations beyond 200 kms. from the place of production of the programme. Journey could be undertaken by rail (First Class/AC-2T) or by road upto 800 kms. and by air (economy class) beyond 800 kms. The producer should obtain prior permission of DAVP for undertaking such journey and should submit supporting documents i.e., letters from local authorities for having conducted interviews, photographs, used tickets or bill for hiring vehicle etc. to support their claim. If the producer manages to get interviews conducted from locations beyond 200 kms., through field based professionals and no travel from place of production of programme is involved, 10% of the master would still be admissible as extra. no payment is admissible for recording field interviews within 200 kms. of the place of production of the programme.

If a client specifically desires for a mechanism to send replies to each and every letter/E-mail etc. of audience, charges can be worked out for the same on case to case basis by the Rate Structure committee with the approval of DG, DAVP.

Re-editing of old episodes (deleting some portion) including charges for one DAVP & one client copy (audio cassette or CD as desired). Charges for broadcast copy would be extra.

Upto 15 minute	—	Rs. 500.
Above 15 minute	—	Rs. 750

Re-recording & re-editing of old episodes (re-recording some portion to replace some old portion) including charges for voices, editing, one DAVP copy and one client copy (audio cassette or CD). Charges for broadcast copy would be extra.

#### APPLICABLE FOR PRODUCTIONS BY DAVP ONLY

Upto 15 minutes	—	Rs. 1500
Above 15 minutes	—	Rs. 2000

#### Miscellaneous Audio Work

Audio Cassette Compilation (upto 60 minutes)

(A) From DAT/Spool

	Without additional inputs	With additional inputs i.e., voices, editing etc.
Upto 5 minute	500	1,500
Upto 30 minute	800	1,800
Upto 60 minute	1,200	2,200

Rate include charges for one DAVP & one client copy (audio cassette or CD as desired).

(B) From audio cassette to audio cassette

Without additional inputs	—	300
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Rate includes charges for one DAVP and one client copy in audio cassette.

#### APPLICABLE FOR PRODUCTIONS BY DAVP ONLY

#### Additional Copies

Additional B'cast copy (spool)	upto 5 min.	250
	upto 10 min.	400
	upto 15 min.	450
	upto 30 min.	550
	upto 60 min.	750
Additional B'cast copy (DAT)	upto 30 min.	500
	Upto 60 min.	750
Audio cassette (upto 90 min.)		50

Transfer charges for master  
CD (from DAT/Spool/audio  
cassette)

(upto 30 min.) 400

(upto 60 min.) 500

Audio CD copy (upto 60 min. with branded CD) 50

**VIDEO SPOT/JINGLE/DOCUMENTARIES/  
TELE FILMS ETC.**

**Format-Beta SP/Digi Beta**

*Rate for beta SP format*

	Master	Dubbing	Language version
Upto 60 sec.	1,00,000	10,000	50,000
Upto 120 sec.	1,20,000	12,000	60,000
Upto 5 min.	1,50,000	15,000	75,000
Upto 10 min.	1,75,000	17,500	85,000
Upto 15 minute	2,00,000	20,000	1,00,000
Upto 25 min.	2,25,000	22,500	1,10,000
Upto 30 min. (Pre-rata after 30 min.)	2,50,000	25,000	1,25,000

**APPLICABLE FOR PRODUCTIONS BY DAVP ONLY**

- \* The consolidated rate includes charges for script, location, travel upto 200 kms., models, anchor, shooting, editing, jingle, 2-D animation, titling/sub-titling/text, music, voice over, background effects, special effects, additional shorter versions (which can be made through editing simultaneously), two VHS, two CDs, one Master in international track, and one telecast copy. Two audio tapes/CDs containing broadcast quality audio track and one DAT master is also to be provided if the same is desired by client/DAVP to be used as audio spot jingle (payment of broadcast copy would be extra). The lead models/anchor should be of good looks & well experience. Appropriate use of modern editing techniques including rendering of text/visuals, multi-layering, compositing chroma key, special effects etc. should be made to make the film visually very rich. The film should meet the

international telecast standards of all public and private channels. Charges for 3-D animation would be extra.

Charges for message oriented check spot (upto 20 sec.) involving single location shoot of anchor would be Rs. 50,000 for master and Rs. 10,000 for dubbing. If message is delivered by a celebrity, honourarium/fee would be admissible as per point 2 & 3 of notes.

**APPLICABLE FOR PRODUCTIONS BY DAVP ONLY**

- \* If a film is prepared only from the stock shots and no shooting has been involved, only 60% of the basic production charges would be admissible.
- \* For an animations/graphic film in which no shooting is involved only 25% of the basic production charges would be admissible in addition to the actual animation/graphic charges. It may contain stock shots also upto 25% of the total duration.
- \* Charges for dubbing includes voices editing, music, two VHS/CD one Master (Mixed and one telecast copy. Charges for graphic/2-D/3-D animation would be extra.
- \* The language version would include besides dubbing, regional content, characters, property, artists, outdoor shooting in regional locations, language graphic/animations etc. to ensure regional look to the programme. Language versions would be prepared on request of the client. The language versions can be prepared language wise or region wise (south, west, north, east & north-east) with dubbing in other languages. Reimbursement of the conveyance charges for outstation shooting beyond 200 kms. would be admissible as in case of master on production of relevant documents.

**APPLICABLE FOR PRODUCTIONS BY DAVP ONLY**

- \* Reimbursement of conveyance charges is admissible, per spot per film on production of used Railway/Air tickets or bill for hiring vehicle, beyond 200 kms. from the headquarters of the client. If location is upto 800 kms., reimbursement is admissible for a technical crew

of upto five members and performing lead models/anchor only of to and fro rail (1st Class/AC-2T) fare or hire charges of one non-AC vehicle. If place is more than 800 kms. than to and fro airfare by economy class to the nearest airport is admissible. Prior permission of DAVP is needed before undertaking such travel for which payment is desired.

- \* Rs. 15,000 would be admissible for re-shooting in Beta SP for one day. Re-shooting charges would be admissible for a fresh production, only if approved script is changed after production.

*Sponsored video programmes (minimum 6 programmes) in beta SP*

		(Master) 15 min.	(Master) 30 min.	Dubbing	
				15 min.	30 min.
A.	Fiction/docu-drama	1,50,000	2,25,000	15,000	20,000
	Documentary/quiz (with participants from various parts of the country) format				
B.	Magazine/talk shows/ quiz (with local participants) format	1,00,000	1,50,000	15,000	20,000

- \* The consolidated rates include charges for script, location, set, models, anchor, titling/sub-titling/text/2-D & 3-D animations, shooting (in any part of the country including travel cost), editing, music, voiceover, special effects, production of promos, two VHS, two CDs, one master (international track) and one telecast copy.

**APPLICABLE FOR PRODUCTIONS BY DAVP ONLY**

- \* Charges for dubbing include voices, editing, music, titling/sub-titling/text, animation, two VHS, one master (mixed) and one telecast copy. Additional 50% of the dubbing charges would be admissible if anchor, visual and editing changes are also made to provide regional identity and look to the programme. If caste, costumes, property etc. are also changed, than this additional amount would be 100% extra.

**MISCELLANEOUS VIDEO WORK**

**Video Compilation in Beta SP**

Upto 5 min.	2,000
Upto 30 min.	2,500
Upto 60 min.	3,000

(charges include cost of title/graphic plate, one Beta and two VHS/CD copies)

**Additional Beta T'cast Copy**

Films upto 5 min.	1,250
Films upto 30 min.	1,600
Films upto 60 min.	2,200

**APPLICABLE FOR PRODUCTIONS BY DAVP ONLY**

**Additional VHS Copies (From Beta SP or Digi Beta)**

Films upto 5 min.	120
Films upto 30 min.	150
Films upto 60 min.	180
Films upto two hours	250
Films upto three hours	350

**Transfer Charges for Master VCD**

(duration of one CD = upto 60 minutes with branded CD)

From Digi Beta	2,500
From Beta SP	1,200
From VHS	400
VCD copy	50

(VCD should be compatible to both computer as well as VCD player)

**Transfer Charges for Master DVD**

(duration of one DVD = upto 60 minute)

**APPLICABLE FOR PRODUCTIONS BY DAVP ONLY**

From Digi Beta	3,500
From Beta SP	2,500
DVD copy	500

**Graphics**

Text based slide/super	—	200 per slide
Illustration/graph based slide	—	500 per slide

**Animations**

2-D animation (text, graph, logo)	—	1,000 per second
2-D character animation	—	3,000 per second
3-D animation (text, graph, logo)	—	2,000 per second
3-D character animation	—	5,000 per second

**Corrections Charges for Old Spots/Films**  
(including charges for two VHS/CD copies)

## APPLICABLE FOR PRODUCTIONS BY DAVP ONLY

1. Reshooting for one day (Beta SP)	15,000
2. Voice over (including charges for artists and studio)	5,000
3. Re-editing	5,000
4. Charges for graphic/animation would be extra	

**Hiring of Presentation Equipments (Including Transport and Technician)**

1. VHS player	—	500
2. Beta player	—	2,500
3. Projector (2000 alumini) with screen	—	3,500
4. Sound system (1000 W)	—	2,000

**Notes:**

- The above rates are for standard productions of good quality. If productions of extra ordinary quality with special inputs like shooting & post production in film format, extravagant set, post production & compositing/special effects on high end machines like smoke, quantal etc. or production of economic quality are desired by the client, special rates can be worked out by Rate Structure Committee, on case to case basis with the approval of DG, DAVP. Production in Digi Beta would only be done if specially desired by the client and with the approval of DG, DAVP.

## APPLICABLE FOR PRODUCTIONS BY DAVP ONLY

- If specifically desired by the client, a film star/top ranking TV/stage artist/singer/music composer can be used at an additional fee upto Rs. 1.00 lakh. The Producer will have to submit the consent alongwith the negotiated amount from the artist. DAVP, if so desires can further negotiate the amount with the artist. DG, DAVP will be the final authority in approving and deciding the stature of the artist and the amount. The payment of fee will be made directly to the artist/singer.
- If endorsement is made by top personality (artist/singer/celebrity etc.) free of charge, we may pay an honourarium of 20,000 to the producer for arranging free endorsement and meeting additional contingent expenses which would take place in such cases. Decision of DAVP would be final and binding regarding the admissibility of such an honorarium.
- If the software is despatched by the producer, actual postage would be reimbursed and packaging charges will also be paid @ Rs. 150 if tapes are sent in bulk to CSU, Mumbai/Kolkata and @ Rs. 30 if tapes are sent to individual Radio/TV Stations.
- Bulk duplication of Audio and Video cassettes and CDs/DVDs – concession of 5% for 51 to 100 Nos., 10% for 101 to 500, 15% for 501 to 1000, 20% for 1001 to 2000 and 30% for above 2000 including designed cover, inlay card, sticker, print on CD/DVD etc. as per requirement of client/DAVP.

## APPLICABLE FOR PRODUCTIONS BY DAVP ONLY

- Separate broadcast/telecast copy of each audio/video production in each language would be submitted. However, to economise on the storing space, master, client and DAVP copies of different audio/video productions and languages can be submitted in one or more tapes/CDs as the case may be, with title plate (title, subject, duration, language) in English before each video product.
- Rates of Digi Beta for master production, reshooting reediting, compilation and additional telecast copy would be 30% extra of those for Beta SP.

8. Payment of royalty of any public/private organisation or person for using any input in a production would be the responsibility of the producer.
9. This rate card would be applicable for three years and if need is felt for amendment during this period, the same would be carried out by the Rate Structure Committee with the approval of DG, DAVP.

#### **Leather Industries**

5321. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has identified the leather industry as a thrust sector in view of significant export growth prospects and enormous employment potential particularly in semi-urban and rural areas;

(b) if so, whether the Government has decided to capture at least five per cent of World Trade in leather within the next five years; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (c) As per the prospective plan prepared by the Council for Leather Exports, exports of leather and leather products are estimated to reach US\$7 billion by the year 2010-11.

#### **Development of Medical Programme by IGNOU**

5322. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) is developing some medical programme in collaboration with the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between IGNOU and ICMR;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to implement such programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: (a) to (e) Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) and Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) only on 12.4.2007 to : develop medical education and training in such areas as identified and agreed to mutually from time to time; establish a network of centers; share academic and technological experience; and joint development of implementation strategies and action plan etc.

*[Translation]*

#### **Coverage of DD in North East**

5323. SHRI KIREN RIJJU: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Doordarshan Kendras set up in North-Eastern States particularly in Arunachal Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) the details of Akashwani Kendras functioning in North-Eastern States, State-wise;

(c) Whether the Government is aware that these Doordarshan and Akashwani Kendras of the said States are not able to function properly due to acute shortage of staff; and

(d) If so, the details of the shortage and the steps taken by the Government to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) The details of Doordarshan stations set up in North-Eastern States during the last three years are given in the Statement-I enclosed.

(b) The details of Akashwani Kendras functioning in North-Eastern States are given in the Statement-II enclosed.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. There is overall shortage of staff in Doordarshan and All India Radio network as a large number of projects have been commissioned without any staff sanction/with partial staff sanction. These projects

have been operationalised by way of re-deployment of staff drawn from other Doordarshan/All India Radio stations. Four Low Power Transmitters in North Eastern States viz. Satrasal (Assam), Cherrapunji (Meghalaya), Ambassa (Tripura) & Jolaibari (Tripura) are presently relaying partial transmission due to non availability of adequate staff. In addition, the activities at Studio centre, Gangtok (Sikkim) are limited due to non availability of adequate staff. No staff has been sanctioned for manning the above mentioned five Doordarshan stations. As far as All India Radio is concerned all the Akashvani Kendras mentioned at Annexure II are functioning properly. However, the FM projects at Aizawi, Itanagar and Kohima in North-Eastern States are technically ready, but could not be commissioned due to shortage of staff. Besides 10 kW FM transmitter at Shillong, 10 kW FM transmitter at Agartala have been provisionally commissioned. The matters regarding filling up of the vacant posts and creation of new posts have been referred to the Group of Ministers on Prasar Bharati.

**Statement-I**

*Doordarshan stations set up in North Eastern States during 01.04.04 to 30.04.07.*

S.No.	State	Names of Doordarshan stations
1.	Assam	1. LPT, Nazira 2. LPT, Satrasal 3. LPT, Nagaon 4. LPT, Goalpara 5. LPT, Dhubri
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—
3.	Meghalaya	1. LPT, Cherrapunji
4.	Manipur	1. HPT, Imphal 2. LPT, Ukhrul
5.	Mizoram	1. HPT, Aizawl
6.	Nagaland	1. HPT, Kohima
7.	Sikkim	1. Studio, Gangtok
8.	Tripura	1. LPT, Ambassa

LPT—Low Power Transmitter

HPT—High Power Transmitter

**Statement-II**

*Details of Akashvani Kendras functioning in the North East*

S.No.	State	Names of Akashvani stations
1	2	3
1.	Assam	1. Guwahati 2. Silchar 3. Dibrugarh 4. Jorhat 5. Haflong 6. Nowgong 7. Diphu 8. Kokrajhar 9. Dhubri 10. Tezpur.
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1. Itanagar 2. Passighat 3. Tawang 4. Tezu 5. Ziro
3.	Meghalaya	1. Tura 2. Shillong 3. Jowai 4. Nongstoin 5. Williamnagar
4.	Manipur	1. Imphal
5.	Mizoram	1. Aizawl 2. Lungleh 3. Saiha
6.	Nagaland	1. Kohima 2. Mokokchung

1	2	3
		3. Mon
		4. Tuensang
7. Sikkim		1. Gangtok
8. Tripura		1. Agartala
		2. Belonia
		3. Kailashahar

[English]

### Regional Films

5324. SHRI M. APPADURAI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned for the regional films during the last three years;

(b) the number of proposals received by the Government for producing regional films on social causes such as girl child development etc. during the last three years;

(c) the current status of these proposals;

(d) whether any guidelines have been framed for grant of financial assistance to such regional films; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) The amount sanctioned for the regional films during the last three years is as under:

National Film Development Corporation (NFDC)	Rs. 47,56,000
Children Film Society, India (CFSI)	Rs. 1,18,75,867
Films Division (FD)	No specific budget allocated for production of regional films during the last three years.

(b) The number of proposals received by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting for producing regional films on social causes such as girl child development etc. during the last three years;

NFDC	—	Nil
CFSI	—	67
FD	—	8

(c) The current status of these proposals is as under:

NFDC : Not applicable in view of facts at (b) above.

CFSI : Three proposals were found suitable, 2 feature films have been made and one is under production.

FD : None of the proposals were approved because scheme for production of short fiction films was discontinued from 2002-03.

(d) and (e) The NFDC has framed byelaws for the regulation of the schemes for the film production and related activities. In CFSI, the proposals received are first vetted by a script Committee which goes into the synopses of making a children's film and then put up to Production Committee for budgetary approval. However, no separate guidelines have been framed for grant of financial assistance to regional films. Films Division does not grant financial assistance for production of any film. It produces films through in-house directors and also assigns films to outside producers on contract basis. Hence, no guidelines have been framed for giving financial assistance.

[Translation]

### Anganwadi Workers

5325. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of work to be done by Anganwadi workers alongwith their administrative control/salaries/wages and the eligibility criteria for their appointment as on March 2007;

(b) the number of Anganwadi workers/helpers including women workers during each of the last three years till date, State and Union Territory-wise;

(c) the details of memorandum received from the Anganwadi workers, State-wise and U.T.-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) The Anganwadi Worker (AWW) is a community based "honorary worker" under the ICDS Scheme. She is selected from the local community and paid a monthly honorarium as decided by the Government from time to time. This worker functions under the administrative control of Child Development Project Officer (CDPO) at Block level. The role and responsibilities of Anganwadi Workers are given in the statement-I enclosed.

(b) State-wise number of Anganwadi Workers/Helpers for the last three years is given in the statement-II enclosed.

(c) and (d) Government of India has been receiving, from time to time, memoranda from various Associations/Federations of Anganwadi Workers. Some of the Associations from whom such Memorandum have been received are All India Federation of Anganwadi Workers and Helpers, Delhi, BTAD Anganwadi Workers and Helpers Union, Assam, Akhil Bhartiya Anganwadi Karamchari Kriti Samiti, Maharashtra and Karnataka State Anganwadi Workers & Assistance Association, Bangalore. The major demands listed in these memoranda include:

- \* Accord status of Grade 'C' & 'D' employees of Government with consequential benefits.
- \* Payment of salary at par with the Government employees.
- \* Linkage of remuneration with Consumer Price Index.
- \* A lump sum ex-gratia benefit on retirement of Rs. 1,00,000 to AWWs and Rs. 50,000 to AWHs.
- \* Extension of social security benefits like provident funds, pension etc. to all AWWs/AWHs.
- \* Enhancement of honorarium to Rs. 3,000 for AWWs and Rs. 2,000 to AWHs.

(e) Government, in September 2006, constituted a Review Committee for examining current levels of honorarium and related issues of Anganwadi Workers and Helpers. The Committee has submitted its report which is under consideration of the Government.

#### **Statement-I**

##### *Role and responsibilities of AWWs*

- i. To elicit community support and participation in running the programme.
- ii. To weigh each child every month, record the weight graphically on the growth card, use referral card for referring cases of mothers/children to the sub-centres/PHC etc., and maintain child cards for children below 6 years and produce these cards before visiting medical and para-medical personnel.
- iii. To carry out a quick survey of all the families, especially mothers and children in those families in their respective area of work once in a year.
- iv. To organise non-formal pre-school activities in the anganwadi of children in the age group 3-6 years of age and to help in designing and making of toys and play equipment of indigenous origin for use in anganwadi.
- v. To organise supplementary nutrition feeding for children (0-6 years) and expectant and nursing mothers by planning the menu based on locally available food and local recipes.
- vi. To provide health and nutrition education and counseling on breastfeeding/Infant & young feeding practices to mothers. Anganwadi Workers, being close to the local community, can motivate married women to adopt family planning/birth control measures
- vii. AWWs shall share the information relating to births that took place during the month with the Panchayat Secretary/Gram Sabha Sewak/ANM whoever has been notified as Registrar/Sub Registrar of Births & Deaths in her village.
- viii. To make home visits for educating parents to enable mothers to plan an effective role in the child's growth and development with special emphasis on new born child.

- ix. To maintain files and records as prescribed.
- x. To assist the PHC staff in the implementation of health component of the programme viz. immunisation, health check-up, ante natal and post natal check etc.
- xi. To assist ANM in the administration of IFA and Vitamin A by keeping stock of the two medicines in the Centre without maintaining stock register as it would add to her administrative work which would effect her main functions under the Scheme.
- xii. To share information collected under ICDS Scheme with the ANM. However, ANM will not solely rely upon the information obtained from the records of AWW.
- xiii. To bring to the notice of the Supervisors/ CDPO any development in the village which requires their attention and intervention, particularly in regard to the work of the coordinating arrangements with different departments.
- xiv. To maintain liaison with other institutions (Mahila Mandals) and involve lady school teachers and girls of the primary/middle schools in the village which have relevance to her functions.
- xv. To guide Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA) engaged under National Rural Health Mission in the delivery of health care services and maintenance of records under the ICDS Scheme.
- xvi. To assist in implementation of Kishori Shakti Yojana (KSY) and motivate and educate the adolescent girls and their parents and community in general by organizing social awareness programmes/campaigns etc.
- xvii. AWW would also assist in implementation of Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls (NPAG) as per the guidelines of the Scheme and maintain such record as prescribed under the NPAG.
- xviii. Anganwadi Worker can function as depot holder for RCH Kit/contraceptives and disposable delivery kits. However, actual distribution of delivery kits or administration of drugs, other than OTC (Over the Counter) drugs would actually be carried out by the ANM or ASHA as decided by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.
- xix. To identify the disability among children during her home visits and refer the case immediately to the nearest PHC or District Disability Rehabilitation Centre.
- xx. To support in organizing Pulse Polio Immunization (PPI) drives.
- xxi. To inform the ANM in case of emergency cases like diarrhoea, cholera etc.

**Statement-II**

*Statement indicating state-wise number of anganwadi workers and helpers (in-position) during the years 2004-05, 2005-06 & 2006-07 (upto 30.9.2006)*

Sl. No.	State/UT	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
		Anganwadi Workers	Anganwadi Helpers	Anganwadi Workers	Anganwadi Helpers	Anganwadi Workers (as on 30.9.2006)	Anganwadi Helpers (as on 30.9.2006)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	53423	53605	55505	55342	59734	56727
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2359	2359	2359	2359	2359	2359
3.	Assam	24797	24834	25384	25383	25384	25383

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
4.	Bihar	35213	31964	60041	59797	60041	59797
5.	Chhattisgarh	20128	20086	20150	19728	22149	21865
6.	Goa	1004	984	996	969	1011	983
7.	Gujarat	35497	35916	35738	35337	34406	33789
8.	Haryana	13446	13526	13446	13526	13446	13526
9.	Himachal Pradesh	7325	7329	7092	7307	7079	7298
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	10398	10398	10520	10363	10520	10363
11.	Jharkhand	21727	15072	21021	20989	20948	20760
12.	Karnataka	39757	40257	40139	40497	43831	43404
13.	Kerala	25096	24793	25177	24932	25311	25251
14.	Madhya Pradesh	47985	48014	49051	48740	49267	48290
15.	Maharashtra	60934	59912	62224	61215	66639	66678
16.	Manipur	4496	4491	4495	4491	4495	4491
17.	Meghalaya	2218	2218	2265	2265	3143	3143
18.	Mizoram	1361	1361	1361	1361	1592	1592
19.	Nagaland	2622	2623	2770	2770	2761	2761
20.	Orissa	33367	33952	33554	34008	34135	34706
21.	Punjab	14475	14362	14607	14571	14599	14566
22.	Rajasthan	35620	35590	35607	35562	39370	38068
23.	Sikkim	497	498	497	499	737	695
24.	Tamil Nadu	42279	13044	42677	36258	42677	36258
25.	Tripura	3789	3761	3789	3761	5681	5659
26.	Uttar Pradesh	93887	91695	100122	100226	114909	112354
27.	Uttaranchal	6449	6347	6629	6598	7499	7346
28.	West Bengal	53228	52691	53873	53342	54031	53448
29.	A & N Islands	527	527	621	621	621	621
30.	Chandigarh	300	300	329	329	329	329
31.	Delhi	3842	3842	3852	3852	3902	3902
32.	Dadra & N Haveli	138	138	138	138	138	138

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
33.	Daman and Diu	87	87	87	87	87	87
34.	Lakshadweep	74	74	74	74	74	74
35.	Pondicherry	677	677	677	677	677	677
All INDIA TOTAL		699022	657327	736867	727974	773582	757388

#### Revised Pay Scales to Official Language Staff

5326. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the category-wise details of the posts of Official Language staff in the Ministry; and

(b) the reasons for not granting revised pay scales to these employees as given by the Official Language Department since 1996?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) The category-wise details of the posts of official language staff in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs are as under:

Category of Post	No. of Post
Hindi Officer	1
Hindi Translator Grade I	1
Hindi Translator Grade II	2

(b) Department of Official Language had revised the pay scales of Assistant Director (OL), Senior Translator and Junior Translator of Central Secretariat Official Language Service (CSLOLS) w.e.f. 1.1.1996. Since this Ministry is not a participating Ministry in the CSOLS, the revised pay scales could not be implemented in this Ministry.

[English]

#### Textile Committee

5327. SHRI K. S. RAO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the rate and methodology of imposing and collection of cess on textile industry and textile machinery;

(b) the utility and functions of the Textiles Committee in the present context;

(c) whether the Government proposes to abolish the Textile Committee Cess and earn its own revenue or abolish the Textile Committee; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) In exercise of the powers conferred under the Textiles Committee Act, 1963, the Committee has been collecting cess on quantity of textiles and textile machinery manufactured in India at a specified rate notified by the Government. The rate of levy presently is, 0.05% ad valorem with effect from 01.06.1977. The proceeds of the Cess collected, reduced by the cost of collection as determined by the Government, is credited to the consolidated fund of India. The methodology of collection of cess is as follows:

(1) The manufacturer submits the returns for textile article and textile machinery in prescribed forms. The Demand Notice for payment of cess is issued by the Committee on quarterly basis based on the information submitted by the manufacturer. In case of failure to furnish the return, the Committee assesses the amount of cess on the basis of figures obtained from the Central Excise Department or on the basis of average of cess levied on the previous two quarters.

(2) If the manufacturer does not pay the Cess amount within the stipulated time and does not respond to the Notices, a final notice is issued followed by letter to the concerned District Collector towards recovery of cess as an arrear of Land Revenue.

(b) Textiles Committee has over the years, transformed itself from its regulatory mode to developmental mode and at present the Committee is providing its services of international standards to textile trade and industry, which include Textile Testing and Technical Services, Technical Assistance to Small and Medium Entrepreneurs to get ISO 9000 Quality Management System Certification, Consultancy Services on ISO 14000 & SA 8000, conducting Surveys/Census Studies to develop database pertaining to Textile Trade and Industry etc. In addition, the Committee has been involved in cluster development programmes and has a network of extension centres for testing laboratories, which impart training to the industry personnel in different textile clusters.

(c) and (d) Government has exempted the Readymade Garments from the levy of cess under Textiles Committee Act with effect from 18.01.2007. The revenue of the Textiles Committee has been increasing over the years. There is no proposal to abolish the Textiles Committee.

#### **Deployment of PMF**

5328. SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating any changes in the constitution to obtain powers to deploy Para-Military Forces (PMF) in trouble areas in States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has also consulted with State Governments in this regard; and

(d) if so, the response of the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) At this point of time, there is no concrete proposal of this nature under the active consideration of the Government.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

#### **Brazil Cultural Festival**

5329. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indo-Brazil Joint Working Group (JWG) decided to hold the Brazil Cultural Festival in India from January to March, 2008 and the Indian Cultural Festival in Brazil from July to September, 2008;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the other cities in India where the Festival will be held alongwith the details of expenditure incurred on holding such festivals;

(d) the details of the Ministries/Organisations which will co-ordinate in holding the festivals in India;

(e) the names of other countries including Brazil with which India proposes to exchange such cultural functions on reciprocal basis; and

(f) if so, the names of such countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Festival of Brazil in India will be held at major cities such as Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai. The expenditure to be incurred will be firmed up on case to case basis.

(d) The Ministry of Culture will organize the festivals through agencies such as Indra Gandhi National Centre for Art, Lalit Kala Akedami, National School of Drama, Sangeet Natak Akedami and Sahitya Akedami.

(e) and (f) Other than Brazil, such cultural festivals on reciprocal basis have been proposed with countries like Poland, Egypt and Russia.

#### **Sexual Harassment Bill**

5330. SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to bring Sexual Harassment Bill;

(b) if so, whether any representations has been received by the Government to significant changes in the draft Bill as reported in the *Hindustan Times* dated May 03, 2007; and

(c) the time by which the said Bill is likely to be introduced?

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

(b) The Protection of Women against Sexual Harassment at Workplace Bill, 2007 was posted on the website of the Ministry of Women and Child Development inviting comments thereon by 31st March, 2007. This was also advertised in newspapers. A number of comments have been received in response, which are being examined in the Ministry.

(c) It is not possible at this stage to lay down any time schedule for the introduction of the Bill in Parliament. However, Government is making all efforts to introduce it in the Monsoon Session.

#### **Panchayat Shiksha Mitra Programme**

5331. SHRI SITA RAM SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has evaluated the Panchayat Shiksha Mitra programme in the country, particularly in Bihar;

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

(c) the amount allocated, disbursed and spent on the said programme during each of the last three years till date, State-wise;

(d) whether the Union Government proposes to allocate more funds for the said programme; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (e) The appointment of teachers is done as per the terms and conditions of respective States. The Government of India has commissioned a study through an independent agency, to assess the role of locally appointed teachers on contract, at the primary level, in 12 States.

#### **Secular Values in Education**

5332. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tendency to adopt secular values in education received a setback during the recent years; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government to promote secular value education without discarding the humanist elements in religious traditions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The National Policy on Education (NPE) 1986, revised in 1992, promotes culture and human values, including secular values, which help to eliminate obscurantism, religious fanaticism, violence, superstition and fatalism at all levels of education system.

The National Curriculum Framework (NCF) brought out by the NCERT in 2005 is an effort to promote secular values among school students. NCF-2005 which seeks guidance from the constitutional vision of India as a secular, egalitarian and pluralistic society, founded on the values of social justice, and equality, states, "India is a secular democratic state, which means that all faiths are respected, but at the same time the Indian state has no preference for any particular faith. The felt need, today, is to inculcate among children a respect for all people regardless of their beliefs". The document further points out that India is a multicultural society made up of numerous regional and local cultures. People's religious beliefs, ways of life and their understanding of social relationships are quite distinct from one another. All the groups have equal rights to co-exist and flourish, and the education system needs to respond to the cultural pluralism inherent in our society. NCERT has brought out new syllabi incorporating secular values for all stages of school education and has taken up the process of textbook development in a phased manner in consonance with NCF-2005.

#### **Duty Free Access to Neighbouring Countries**

5333. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD: SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

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

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to give duty free market access to some of the neighbouring countries;

(b) if so, the names of such countries and the nature and extent of market access being granted to them; and

(c) the likely impact of such access on the Indian Industry and Trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Sir. During the Fourteenth SAARC Summit held in New Delhi on 3-4 April 2007, India announced its decision to allow duty free access to India to the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) of SAARC which are signatories of the Agreement on South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA), before the end of this year.

(b) These LDC countries are Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives and Nepal. Afghanistan which was inducted as a member of SAARC during the Fourteenth SAARC Summit would also be an LDC and signatory of SAFTA after completing the required formalities. In terms of the phased Trade Liberalization Programme of SAFTA which has become operational from 1st July 2006, India as a Non-Least Developed Country (NLDC) of SAARC and signatory of SAFTA, had already decided to reduce tariffs to zero percent for SAARC LDCs, except on the items kept in the Sensitive List, by 31.12.2008.

(c) With the present decision India would complete SAFTA TLP for LDCs one year in advance. India has already been giving market access to Nepal and Bhutan as per the bilateral Trade agreements signed with these countries. Except Bangladesh the export potential of Maldives and Afghanistan which has become new member of SAARC is not significant. Further, SAFTA tariff concessions for LDCs would exclude those items kept in the Sensitive List of India under SAFTA. The present decision is therefore not likely to have any serious impact on Indian industry and trade.

*[Translation]*

#### **Advantage of DTH**

5334. SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:  
SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:

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

(a) whether the Government maintains any record of Direct-to-Home (DTH) viewers;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the basis of assessing by the Government whether DTH is benefiting the viewers or not along with the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the advantages of DTH that have accrued to the viewers so far alongwith the details thereof?

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

(b) No such need has been felt to maintain such records.

(c) and (d) Provision of DTH services by Doordarshan and the private sector has given television viewers multi-channel television programmes throughout the country. The viewers are also having an option to choose between cable and DTH services resulting in a healthy competition between the two types of service providers by offering consumer friendly packages and improving upon their customer care and quality of other services. DTH services have also greatly benefited rural areas and other interior and remote areas where either only the terrestrial transmission of Doordarshan or no service is available. DTH services has enabled the viewers in these areas to exercise their right to information and entertainment.

*[English]*

#### **Empanelment of Film Makers**

5335. SHRI ANWAR HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) has advertised for empanelment of film makers about one year ago;

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

(c) the names and the number of applicants selected particularly from North-Eastern Region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. In all 361 applications were received in response of advertisement. 26 applications were received from North Eastern Region. No selections have yet been made.

#### Ban on Indian Rice by Russia

5336. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRAKUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of annual export of rice from India to Russia during the last three years;

(b) whether Russia has recently banned import of rice from India;

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

(d) whether the Indian rice imported by Russia contain pesticide more than the prescribed limit;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether this issue has been discussed at the Government level;

(g) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(h) the remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Details of export of rice from India to Russia during the last three years are:

	2003-04		2004-05		2005-06	
	Qty: MTs	Val: Rs Lakhs	Qty: MTs	Val: Rs Lakhs	Qty: MTs	Val: Rs Lakhs
Basmati	206.73	76.65	94.42	38.96	179.20	70.96
Non Bas	74952.40	5572.59	3769.02	458.63	24776.34	2805.54
Total	75159.13	5649.24	3863.44	407.59	24955.54	2876.50

Source: DGCIS

(b) and (c) Yes Sir. The Russian Agency on Veterinary & Phytosanitary Surveillance (ROSSELKHOZNADZOR) issued a notification on 27th April, 2007 imposing a ban on import of Rice from India to Russia due to the purported detection of pesticides.

(d) and (e) The Russian side has stated the cause as detection of dimethoate, which is not admissible under Russian regulations.

(f) to (h) Yes Sir. Earlier on 4/12/2006, Russian Agency on Veterinary & Phytosanitary Surveillance (ROSSELKHOZNADZOR) issued a press release announcing a suspension on import of rice from Thailand, Vietnam, Sri Lanka, USA including India due to the purported detection of pesticides.

As a result of efforts made by the Government of India to revoke the announced suspension, a delegation from the Federal Service for Veterinary and Phytosanitary

Surveillance of the Russian Federation (FSVPSRF) visited India during 19th to 24th February, 2007. At the end of the visit, a protocol was negotiated which has now been signed by both the sides.

However the ban imposed recently with effect from 1.5.2007 is violative of the protocol and the Government of India is taking up the matter with the Russian authorities.

#### Amendment In Sikh Gurudwara Act, 1925

5337. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA:  
SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any representations from Shiromani Gurudwara Parbandhak

Committee, Amritsar for an amendment in the Sikh Gurudwara Act, 1925 to provide 10 co-options from abroad; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) A copy of the resolution No. 18 passed by the General House of SGPC on 25.11.2006, to amend Sikh Gurudwara Act to provide for co-option of 10 NRI Sikh has been received in this Ministry. Such proposals are examined in detail in consultation with concerned Departments/State Governments.

*[Translation]*

#### **Appointment of Teachers**

5338. SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV:  
SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV:

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

(a) whether Universities and Institutions are not adhering to the norm of 27 per cent reservation for OBCs for appointment on the posts of teachers;

(b) if so, the names of such Universities and Institutions; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: (a) to (c) The provisions of Government of India's O.M. dated 13.8.1990 issued by the Department of Personnel & Training (DOP&T) regarding reservation for the OBCs, as finally modified by O.M. dated 8.9.1993 are applicable to vacancies filled up by direct recruitment at entry level upto the level of Lecturer in Central Universities and institutions which are deemed to be universities receiving aid from the public funds other than minority institutions under Article 30(1) of the Constitution. The University Grants Commission (UGC) is responsible for implementation of the policy.

The UGC vide its letter no. F 1-4/1994(SCT) dated 24.1.07 has informed all Registrars of Central Universities/

Institutions/Deemed to be Universities, to implement the Reservation Policy of the Government of India in respect of OBCs for filling up the teaching posts at the level of Lecturer with immediate effect.

*[English]*

#### **Representations from Employees of Prasar Bharati**

5339. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received various representations from employees of different sections of Prasar Bharati;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action the Government is taking to meet the demands of the employees and ensures the Autonomy of the Prasar Bharati?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Representations have been received from different associations of employees of Prasar Bharati from time to time regarding various issues relating to promotions, pay upgradation, cadre restructuring, accommodation etc.

(c) The remedial/appropriate action on the above issues has been dealt with at different levels i.e. in the Ministry and the Prasar Bharati. The Associations have been invited for talks in the Ministry and have been apprised of the status of their demands. Some of the issues like service conditions of employees of Prasar Bharati are being looked into by a Group of Ministers (GoM).

#### **Vacant Post in Central, Universities**

5340. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN:  
SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:

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

(a) the details of appointments made for Teaching Discipline of SCs/STs & OBCs and others in teaching and academic discipline during the last ten years in all the Central Universities;

(b) whether all the reserved seats have been filled up during the said period;

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

(d) if not, the steps being taken to fill up all the backlog of reserved vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The requisite details are not maintained centrally. However, based on the information made available by 12 Central Universities, a statement indicating Central University-wise number of appointments made to the teaching posts during the last ten years and the number of reserved posts presently lying vacant is enclosed.

Each Central University is governed by its individual Act of Parliament and the Statutes made thereunder. In terms of the relevant Statutes, all the appointments to permanent posts of teachers, including those reserved for the SCs and STs, in a University are made by its

Executive Council on the recommendations of a Selection Committee constituted in accordance with the provisions of these Statutes after such posts have been duly advertised and the candidates concerned have been interviewed by the Selection Committee. The Selection Committee includes, inter-alia, a nominee of the President, in his capacity as the Visitor of the University. In view of the foregoing, while this Ministry's role in the matter of filling up of vacant teaching posts, including those reserved for SCs and STs, in Central Universities, is limited to providing the Visitor's nominees to the Selection Committees, the Government, through the UGC, keeps reminding the Central Universities to clear the backlog. Further, a special recruitment drive to fill up the backlog vacancies reserved for SCs and STs had been launched in January, 2005. Apart from a series of communications addressed to the Registrars and Vice Chancellors of Central Universities, this Ministry organized two meetings— one with the Registrars of five lagging Central Universities on the 6th September, 2006 and another with the Registrars of all the Central Universities on 29th November, 2006. Filling up the vacant posts, including the reserved ones, is a continuous process.

#### **Statement**

*Central University-wise number of appointments made to the teaching posts during the last ten years and the number of reserved posts presently lying vacant.*

S.No.	Name of the University	No. of appointments made during the last ten years				No. of reserved posts presently lying vacant			Remarks
		SCs	STs	OBCs	Others	SCs	STs	OBCs	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Manipur University*	1	1	—	N.A.	2	1	8	Recruitment process is in the final stage
2.	Jamia Millia Islamia	29	9	3	N.A.	18	8	—	Selection process in on
3.	Jawaharlal Nehru University	17	18	—	222	—	—	—	—
4.	Pondicherry University	3	6	—	87	—	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
5.	North-Eastern Hill University	3	76	—	125	18	—	—	—
6.	Mizoram University	21	12	—	N.A.	2	—	—	—
7.	Indira Gandhi National Open University	-Not available-				12	6	—	—
8.	Allahabad University**	5	3	—	N.A.	-Not available-			Vacant posts since advertised
9.	Tezpur University	12	7	16	N.A.	—	—	—	—
10.	University of Hyderabad	25	7	—	259	3	3	—	Recruitment under process
11.	Maulana Azad National Urdu University	11	4	2	—	2	2	—	Recruitment under process
12.	Aligarh Muslim University	Being a minority educational institution reservation policy is not applicable				-Not applicable-			—

N.A.: Not available

\*The University was granted the status of a Central University in October, 2005

\*\*The University was granted the status of a Central University in July, 2005.

Note: The reservation policy for OBCs at the level of Lecturer has been approved by the University Grants Commission at its meeting held on 27th December, 2006. Central Universities are in the process of filling up the posts reserved for OBCs.

### Child Marriage Bill

5341. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:  
SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:

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

(a) the average age of Indian girls getting married as per the report of National Family Health Survey, state-wise and Union Territory-wise;

(b) whether there has been any change in the trend after the introduction of Prevention of Child Marriage Law;

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

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the extent to which the said Law has been able to increase the average age of girl marriage;

(f) the percentage of literacy among married girl children the country. State-wise/Union Territory-wise; and

(g) the percentage of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes amongst the married girl children?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) National Family Health Survey-3 (NFHS-3) was conducted in 29 States during December 2005 to August, 2006. As per provisional results of key indicators of National Family Health Survey (2005-06), at All Indian level 44.5% of the women age 20-24 are married by 18 years of age. As per National Family

Health Survey-2 (NFHS-2) (1998-99), the median age at first marriage at the national level is 16.4. A Statement showing State-wise percentage of women age 20-24 married by age 18 years as NFHS-3 and median age at first marriage as per NFHS-2 is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) to (e) In order to prohibit child marriages and to make the provisions of the Act more effective and punishment more stringent for offenders, a new legislation "The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006" has been notified in the Gazette of India on 11th January, 2007.

(f) and (g) As per National Family Health Survey, these surveys have not been conducted.

**Statement**

States	Women age 20-24 married by age 18 (%)		Median age at first Marriage
	NFHSW-3 (2005-06)	NFHS-3 (1998-99)	NFHS( 1998-99)
1	2	3	4
India	44.5	50.0	16.4
Andhra Pradesh	54.7	64.3	15.1
Arunachal Pradesh	40.6	27.6	18.7
Assam	38.0	40.7	18.1
Bihar	60.3	44.3	14.9
Chhattisgarh	51.8	61.3	na
Delhi	21.2	19.8	19.0
Goa	11.7	10.1	23.2
Gujarat	33.5	40.7	17.6
Haryana	39.8	41.5	16.9
Himachal Pradesh	12.3	10.7	18.6
Jammu and Kashmir	14.0	22.1	18.2
Jharkhand	61.2	64.1	na
Karnataka	41.2	46.3	16.8
Kerala	15.4	17.0	20.2
Maharashtra	38.8	47.7	16.4

1	2	3	4
Madhya Pradesh	53.0	64.7	14.7
Manipur	12.7	9.9	21.7
Meghalaya	24.5	25.5	19.1
Mizoram	20.6	11.6	22.0
Nagaland	21.1	22.9	20.1
Orissa	36.3	37.6	17.5
Punjab	19.4	11.6	20.0
Rajasthan	57.1	68.3	15.1
Sikkim	30.1	22.3	19.8
Tamil Nadu	21.5	24.9	18.7
Tripura	41.0	37.7	na
Uttar Pradesh	53.0	64.3	15.0
Uttaranchal	22.6	25.9	na
West Bengal	53.3	45.9	16.8

NA - Not available

*[Translation]*

**Non-Governmental Organisation  
Working for Children**

5342. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL:  
SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI:  
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:  
SHRIMATI RUPATAI D. PATIL:

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

(a) the details of organisations working for the homeless, neglected and delinquent children in the country, State-wise and district-wise particularly in Jalna district of the Maharashtra;

(b) whether the Government proposes to set up such more organisations in various States;

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

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

(e) whether the government has received any such proposals from the State Governments;

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken by the Government thereon, State-wise; and

(g) the funds allocated/released to these Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) for the welfare of these children during each of the last three years, NGO-wise, State/Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) The details of organizations working for welfare of homeless, neglected and delinquent children and getting financial assistance under the schemes being implemented by the Ministry of Women and Child Development namely, (i) A Programme for Juvenile Justice (ii) An Integrated Programme for Street Children (iii) Scheme for Welfare of Working Children in Need of Care and Protection and (iv) Scheme for

Assistance to Homes (Shishu Greh) to Promote In-country Adoption, across the country are available on the Ministry's website viz. www.wcd.nic.in.

(b) to (f) Projects are set up by organizations after the Ministry of Women and Child Development approves proposals for assistance from State Governments/ organizations based upon submission of all necessary documents alongwith recommendation of the concerned State Government.

(g) There is no State/Union Territory-wise, NGO-wise allocation of funds under these schemes. The details of funds released to the organizations during each of last three years are available on the website of the Ministry viz. www.wcd.nic.in. However, under the scheme, 'A Programme for Juvenile Justice', funds are released to the concerned State Government/Union Territory Administration in respect of homes being run by the State as well as NGOs under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000. State Governments thereafter disburse funds for various homes as per norms. The details of funds released under this scheme to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations during each of the last three years are available on the website of the Ministry viz. www.wcd.nic.in.

#### **Indo-ASEAN Institute for Intellectual Property Rights**

5343. SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indo-ASEAN Technology Summit has decided to establish an Indo-ASEAN Institute for Intellectual Property Rights to help and build human resource capacities and training; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) At the 12th Technology Summit and Technology Platform organised by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, Confederation of Indian Industry and the ASEAN (Association of South East Asian Nations) Committee on Science and Technology in New Delhi on 6 and 7 November, 2006, it was, *inter-alia*, resolved to consider establishment of an India-ASEAN Institute for Intellectual

Property for building Human Resource capacities and training to serve the ASEAN region.

*[English]*

#### **Enforcement of Quality Standards**

5344. SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes of the Government for improving quality standard of goods and equipping Small Scale Industries (SSI) with sophisticated testing devices;

(b) whether the said schemes have helped in promoting the SSI sector; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) to (c) The Government has initiated several schemes for the small scale industries to improve the quality standards of goods and make available the sophisticated testing devices. These schemes have helped the SSI Sector in improving the quality of the goods. The details are given below:

#### **(I) Regional Testing Centres & Field Testing Stations**

The Ministry of Small Scale Industries has established four Regional Testing Centres located at New Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata and seven Field Testing Stations located at Jaipur, Bhopal, Kolhapur, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Pondichery and Chengannacherry (Ettumanur). They provide testing and calibration facilities to industries in general and to small scale industries in particular in the disciplines of Chemical, Mechanical, Metallurgical and Electrical Engineering.

These Regional Testing centers are accredited by internationally recognized National Accreditation Board for Testing & Calibration laboratories (NABL) certification as per ISO (17025).

In the last two years, 14,746 SSI units have been benefited and 56,701 number of jobs have been tested by these testing centres/stations.

#### **(II) Testing Centres by Industries Associations**

The objectives of the scheme is to promote setting up of testing centres to offer facilities mainly to industrial

units including SSI units located in the State for testing the quality of raw materials, components and the end products as per relevant standards specifications.

Under this plan scheme, Government of India provides one time capital grant-in-aid equal to 50% of the cost of testing equipment and machinery upto Rs.50 lakh to the Industries Associations who wish to set up and operate testing laboratories of international standards and also for modernization/expansion of existing Quality Marking Centres (QMC) of State Governments and their autonomous bodies.

In the last two years, 3 QMCs & 8 Test Labs have been approved in principle for central grant-in-aid.

### (III) ISO-9000//14001 Certification Reimbursement Scheme

Ministry of Small Scale Industries launched a scheme in the year 1994, exclusively for the SSI units to motivate them to adopt International Quality management Systems (QMS) and Environmental Management Systems (EMS) as per ISO 9000 and ISO 14000 certifications respectively in order to improve their performance and competitiveness. Under this scheme, 75% of the expenditure incurred or Rs.75,000/-(max) that SSIs spend for obtaining certification is reimbursed to them.

Further, the scheme has been enlarged to include Hazard analysis and critical control point certification (HACCP) certification also w.e.f. 1-4-2007 subject to maximum reimbursement of Rs 75,000/-. During the last 2 years, 6898 small scale units have been benefited under the scheme and an amount of Rs. 32.31 crore have been reimbursed to them.

### (iv) Product Certification Scheme by Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) operates a product Certification Scheme under which license is granted to manufactures for use of ISI Mark on the products which comply with the relevant Indian standards. Under this scheme, quality is achieved through compliance to the Indian Standards. Indian Standards are applicable to large scale as well as small scale industries with no differentiation.

The product Certification Scheme operated by BIS is primarily voluntary in nature. However, on grounds of

health and safety, the Govt. of India has made it mandatory for certain identified products under various statutes like PFA Act, BIS Act, EC Act etc., to be manufactured only with certification from BIS. BIS offers concession in the minimum making fee levied by it to the small scale industry @15%. The BIS has issued 3499 licenses to large scale units and 15787 licenses to small scale units as on 31.03.2007. The certification obtained by small scale industries from BIS helps SSI units in marketing their products.

*[Translation]*

### Tribal Villages

5345. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:  
SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of tribal villages in each State;
- (b) the norms for declaring a village as a tribal village;
- (c) whether the Government has drawn up any plan for the development of these tribal villages;
- (d) if so, the salient features of the scheme; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has not laid down any norms for declaring a village as a tribal village, and does not have any plan specifically for development of tribal villages. Nor does this Ministry maintain any data regarding the number of tribal villages in the various States.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Micro level planning, such as village plans, is the responsibility of the State Government and the Panchayati Raj institutions.

*[English]*

### Central Silk Board

5346. SHRI M. SHIVANNA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to amend Central Silk Board Act, 1948;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some State Governments including the Government of Karnataka have expressed their concern on the implications likely to arise by amending the said Act; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) There is no proposal as on date to amend the Central Silk Board Act, 1948. However, the said Act was amended recently by the CSB (Amendment) Act, 2006.

(b) The Central Silk Board (Amendment) Act, 2006 has been passed with the main objective of providing necessary provisions to regulate the production and certification of good quality of Silkworm Seeds in the larger interest of all the stake holders in the sericulture sector like farmers, reelers, weavers and garment manufacturers etc. This was necessary in the light of growing competition from countries like China. Production of quality silk with higher productivity is the main objective of these amendments. This objective is accomplished through constitution of Central Silkworm Seed Committee, Hybrid Authorization Committee, Registration Committee etc. and other matters relating thereto.

(c) and (d) The CSB (Amendment) Act, 2006 was passed after considering the views expressed by different States. The draft rules prepared for implementation of the Act were circulated to various Sericulture States, including Karnataka, for their comments. Several discussions and interactions with farmers and other stake holders was ensured at the highest level and views of the States were taken into account while finalizing the draft amendments.

#### **Export of Seafood**

5347. SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India has conducted any study regarding export of seafood; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) ASSOCHAM have reported that their Expert Committee on Food Processing concluded that exports of marine products could be increased substantially through measures such as capacity enhancement of fish catching vessels and enhancement of fiscal assistance to sea food exporters.

*[Translation]*

#### **Traffic Jams in Delhi**

5348. DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:  
SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:  
SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID:  
SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the traffic jams in Delhi is on the increase;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

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

(d) whether the Government has launched a special campaign against the violators of traffic rules;

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the funds collected by the traffic police as penalty during the current year, till date;

(f) whether there are apprehensions about rising corruption as a result of strictness in compliance of traffic rules and penalty imposed by traffic police; and

(g) if so, the details and the further steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (c) No, Sir. A number of steps taken to solve traffic chaos and traffic jams on Delhi roads are given at Annexure.

(d) and (e) Delhi Traffic Police has been launching special drives periodically as indicated below:

- \* Against buses and commercial goods vehicles for violation of directions of Supreme Court of India.
- \* Against Three Seater Rickshaws (TSRs) especially at Railway Stations and Inter State Bus Terminus for misbehaviour, over charging, refusal and tampered meters.
- \* Against improper and unauthorized parking.
- \* Against violation of intersection discipline.
- \* Against violation of "No entry" restrictions.
- \* Against Red Light jumping during morning and evening hours.
- \* Against locally assembled cycle rickshaws (Jugars).
- \* Against drunken driving.
- \* Against Trailers carrying containers not adhering to safety precautions.
- \* Against defective brake lights, parking lights, fancy lights, head lights etc.
- \* Against goods and passenger vehicles for dangerous driving, drunken driving, over speeding, foot board travel etc.
- \* Against Heavy Transport Vehicles (HTVs) and Light Goods Vehicles (LGVs) for over loading and carrying people sitting on top of goods.
- \* During night hours (2200 hours-0200 hours) for effective enforcement of traffic laws regarding speed & other traffic laws.
- \* Near schools and inside colonies for minor driving and not wearing helmets.
- \* Against defective number plates on two wheelers.
- \* Against tractors and trolleys carrying building material etc. in the city.
- \* Against commercial transport/goods vehicles parked in residential areas/road sides.
- \* Against unauthorized use of coloured top lights.
- \* Against plying of unauthorized buses and Rural Transport Vehicles (RTVs).

Traffic Police has also been launching offence specific drives for enforcement of traffic laws and rules in areas which has direct bearing on improving the road discipline and safety level. Enforcement is done against signal violation, reckless/dangerous driving, minor driving, not wearing seat belts, over speeding, riding without helmets, drunken driving, using pressure horn, stop line crossing, using mobile phones while driving, etc.

Delhi Police has collected Rs. 16,25,12,150/- as compounding amount during the period from January to April and Rs.3,77,69,900/- as court fine from January to 15th April during the current year.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Does not arise.

#### **Statement**

*Steps taken to solve traffic chaos and traffic jams on Delhi roads include:*

- (i) On-the-spot challan;
- (ii) On-line prosecution;
- (iii) Special drives undertaken periodically against buses and commercial goods vehicles for violation of directions of Supreme Court of India.
- (iv) Offence-specific enforcement of traffic laws and rules in areas which has direct bearing on improving the road discipline and safety level. Enforcement is done against signal violation, reckless/dangerous driving, minor driving, not wearing seat belts, over speeding, riding without helmets, drunken driving, using pressure horn, stop line crossing, using mobile phones while driving, etc.;
- (v) Road Safety Cell conducts educational and awareness programmes amongst all categories of road users including commercial vehicle drivers and school children;
- (vi) In order to execute short-term traffic management schemes, coordination of and cooperation from prominent agencies, namely, PWD, MCD, NDMC, DDA and Delhi Cantonment Board is solicited;
- (vii) Adoption of low cost and high cost traffic management measures for removing traffic

- congestion, ensuring safe and smooth flow of traffic and reduction in road accidents and pollution;
- (viii) Reduction in travel time through introduction of low cost Traffic Management Schemes;
- (ix) Introduction of Computerized Area Traffic Control System;
- (x) Installation of solar signals to cut down the cost of power consumption and provide uninterrupted signaling, enhanced visibility of traffic signals and better outlook;
- (xi) Installation of LED Signals for improving visibility of signal reflector from a distance;
- (xii) Installation of Red Light and Speed Check Violation Enforcement System for checking red light jumping and violation of speed limits;
- (xiii) Introduction of Mobile Traffic Law Enforcement/Education Unit for preventing, educating and enforcing the traffic laws, where violator can be shown the nature of violation committed by him;
- (xiv) Speed Radar Guns -to check over speeding;
- (xv) Alcometers to conduct surprise checks against drunken driving by motorists near hotels, pubs, bars and places where people consume alcohol and drive vehicles;
- (xvi) Provision of Retro Reflective Gadgets to ensure effective and safe traffic regulation of traffic;
- (xvii) Synchronization of traffic signals to maintain smooth flow of traffic;
- (xviii) Implementation of 'Traffic Monitoring System' for on-line monitoring of traffic situation at selected intersections;
- (xix) A multi-utility vehicle named the "Road Disaster Management Vehicle" was indigenously designed, fabricated and introduced by the Traffic Police that carries multiple tools and gadgets on board for crucial use in disaster situations;
- (xx) Installation of Variable Message Sign at the selected locations for giving advance information and advice to road users to plan/undertake prior and convenient diversions/detours;
- (xxi) Traffic Help line—round-the-clock facility for making complaints/suggestions was provided on telephone No.23378888 to the general public on traffic matters;
- (xxii) Traffic Web Site—Delhi Traffic has developed its own web site on which any Information regarding traffic rules, restrictions, telephone numbers of traffic officials and other vital information regarding Traffic Police can be accessed with the click of a mouse. The URL of Delhi Traffic Police website is [www.delhitrafficpolice.nic.in](http://www.delhitrafficpolice.nic.in);
- (xxiii) Provision of e-mail facility for e-mailing complaints/suggestions or sharing views on improving traffic management and safety on Delhi roads. The e-mail addresses of senior traffic officers are [jcpt\\_delhi@vsnl.net](mailto:jcpt_delhi@vsnl.net), [dcptdlh@satyam.net.in](mailto:dcptdlh@satyam.net.in), [dcptsrdlhayahoo.com](mailto:dcptsrdlhayahoo.com), [dcptndrayahoo.com](mailto:dcptndrayahoo.com) and [dcp\\_t\\_vip@yahoo.com](mailto:dcp_t_vip@yahoo.com);
- (xxiv) Introduction of SMS Traffic Information Dissemination system in which traffic diversions, traffic signal failures, congestion on any road, road accident details, notice details etc. can be accessed. The SMS facility can be availed by 150 members of the general public at a time through mobile number 9811452220.

*[English]*

#### **Special Economic Zones**

5349. SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a team from the Ministry of Commerce has visited foreign countries recently;

(b) if so, the details of countries visited alongwith the objectives of such visit;

(c) whether this team had visited the locations of Special Economic Zones (SEZs); and

(d) if so, the details of the outcome of the visit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Officials from Department of Commerce and Department of Revenue visited Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in Singapore, Thailand and China. The main objective of the visit was to understand the legal and conceptual framework of SEZs in these countries. The team got to know the differences in concept and objectives of the SEZs in these countries, specially in China and got first hand experience of functioning of these SEZs

[*Translation*]

#### **Revival of Closed Tea Gardens**

5350. SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIYA:  
SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD:  
ADV. SURESH KURUP:  
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:  
SHRI MILIND DEORA:

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

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to revive closed tea gardens as reported in *Business Line* dated April 22, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the amount likely to be spent for their Revival;

(c) whether the Government has reviewed the reasons for the closure of a number of tea gardens in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (e) A package for rehabilitation of closed tea gardens is being formulated in consultation with the concerned Ministries/Departments and organization.

#### **Employment Oriented Education by NCERT**

5351. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Council for Educational Research and Training has recently taken any effective steps to promote employment oriented education in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of efforts made by various educational institutes and the Government to promote employment oriented education in each State particularly, in Jharkhand as on date;

(d) whether the Government has taken any effective steps to promote employment oriented education through various institutions during Eleventh Five Year Plan as compared to Tenth Five year Plan; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (e) The National Curriculum Framework (NCF)—2005, prepared by National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), has advocated institutionalization of work-centred education as an integrated part of the school curriculum. Syllabi and new textbooks developed by NCERT in consonance with NCF—2005 have tried to integrate components of work across the subjects.

The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education at +2 level aims to provide diversification of educational opportunities to enhance self-employability and to reduce the gap between demand and supply of skilled manpower and to provide an alternative for those pursuing higher education. The main objectives of scheme are to introduce vocational courses in the 11th and 12th classes in addition to mainstream courses. 82 courses were identified by Pandit Sunder Lal Sharma Central Institute of Vocational Education (PSSCIVE), Bhopal, when is a constituent unit of NCERT. Under the scheme, about 9500 schools have been approved to conduct 21000 sections with an enrollment capacity of about 10 lakhs students. The grants are provided to States/UTs for conducting vocational programmes on the basis of the project proposals submitted by them. No proposal has, however, been received from State of Jharkhand during the last 3 years.

In pursuance of the Prime Minister's speech on Independence Day, 2008 a Task Force on Skill

Development has been constituted on 6.12.2006 by the Planning Commission to suggest steps to promote vocational education and training during 11th Plan period and beyond.

Vocational Education courses are also offered by National Institute of Open Schooling through about 1000 Accredited Vocational Institutes spread across the country. Industrial Training Institutions, Community Polytechnics, Krishi Vigyan Kendras, Jan Shikshan Sansthan, etc. also provide employment oriented courses. In the field of higher education, University Grant Commission supports Career Oriented Programme, aimed to ensure that graduates who pass out possess knowledge, skills and aptitudes for gainful employment in the wage sector or for self-employment.

*[English]*

#### **UNESCO Schemes**

5352. SHRI MANJUNATH KUNNUR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Schemes and Programmes of the Government which are assisted and funded by UNESCO; and

(b) the details of the assistance received from UNESCO under each scheme/programme during each of the last three years, State/Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) UNESCO does not directly assist or fund any of the schemes and programmes of the Government. UNESCO is not primarily a funding agency. However, it undertakes activities such as conducting workshops, seminars, training programmes, consultancies etc. in areas within its mandate, and which relate to various schemes and programmes of the Government of India. In the previous biennium 2004-2005 *clrid* the present biennium 2006-2007 UNESCO activities have included activities in Education for girls, Using technology for reaching the un-reached population, Education as a Human Right, Education for vulnerable and marginalized groups, Literacy (Adult & Continuing Education programme), HIV/AIDS Preventive Education programme, Life Skills, Addressing all EFA related matters and issues, Poverty alleviation, etc.

#### **Export Promotion Councils**

5353. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has asked all export promotion councils and related agencies to prepare specific export strategies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Annual Action Plans and export strategies of Export Promotion Councils & related agencies are reviewed periodically during a year with regard to export performance targets. Initiatives and activities of Export Promotion Councils such as participation in trade fairs, buyer-seller meets, market access in focus areas etc. are also reviewed to achieve targets set under Council's Annual Action Plans.

*[Translation]*

#### **Chairman of Human Rights Commission**

5354. SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments have filled up the post of Chairmen of Human Rights Commission;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor,

(d) whether the Government has issued any guidelines to the State Governments to fill up the said posts in their respective State; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the State Governments thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) The following State Human Rights Commissions have filled up the post of Chairperson: .

1. Assam 2. Andhra Pradesh 3. Jammu & Kashmir  
4. Kerala 5. Madhya Pradesh 6. Manipur 7. Orissa 8. Rajasthan 9. Tamil Nadu 10. West Bengal 11. Gujarat.

The post of Chairperson is vacant in the following State Human Rights Commissions:

1. Chhattiegarh
2. Himachal Pradesh
3. Maharashtra
4. Punjab
5. Bihar
6. Karnataka
7. Uttar Pradesh.

(c) to (d) As per Section 21 of the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993, the State Governments may constitute a Human Rights Commission in their respective States, which includes appointments of Chairperson and Members. Hence, it is for the State Governments to set up State Human Rights Commission (SHRC) in their respective State and appoint Chairperson and Members in terms of the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993. However, the Central Government has issued advisories from time to time to all those States which have not set up State Human Rights Commission to set up SHRC at the earliest.

(e) As indicated at (a) and (b) above.

*[English]*

#### **Hostels for Working Women**

5355. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made any action plan for setting up of hostels for working women;

(b) if so, the main points of action plan thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to set up more hostels for working women during the 2007-08;

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

(e) the details of funds allocated/to be allocated for the said purpose, State and Union Territory-wise;

(f) whether the Government proposes to bring a Bill in this regard; and

(g) if so, the details thereof alongwith the time by which the Bill is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RBNUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (d) The Ministry of

Women and Child Development has requested all State Governments and Union Territory Administrations to make a demand survey of working women's hostels and to recommend proposals for places on that basis. The number of new hostels set up will depend upon the proposals received as per the assessment of demand.

(e) An amount of Rs. 15 crore has been provided in Budget 2007-08 for the Scheme of Working Women's Hostels. There is no State and Union Territory-wise allocation.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Does not arise.

#### **Production of Coir Geo Textiles**

5356. SHRI AMITAVA NANDY: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of installed capacity of production of Coir Geo Textiles and actual production thereof during each of the last three years, State/Union Territory-wise;

(b) the quantum of export of the Coir Geo Textiles during each of the last three years, country-wise; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to boost export of Coir Geo Textiles?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) The installed capacity of production of Coir Geo-Textiles is about 30,000 MT. The estimated production of Coir Geo-Textiles for the last three years are as follows :

Year	Quantity (in MTs)
2004-2005	15,000
2005-2006	22,500
2006-2007	25,000

State/Union Territorywise statistics on the installed capacity and production of Coir Geo-textiles is not compiled at present by the Coir Board (Statutory Organisation set up under the Coir Industries Act, 1953)

(b) The country-wise details of export of coir geo-textiles during the last three years are given below.

*Details of Export of Coir Geo - textiles (Country-wise)*

Country	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
	Quantity (MT)	Value (Rs. lakhs)	Quantity (MT)	Value (Rs. lakhs)	Quantity (MT)	Value (Rs. lakhs)
USA	773.08	327.29	911.58	358.10	1371.83	528.63
Japan	381.67	185.99	421.27	191.61	453.65	217.06
France	351.41	168.88	471.75	230.60	407.53	204.58
Germany	220.72	113.42	81.04	39.11	247.03	123.87
Belgium	124.33	54.42	109.23	49.10	108.96	44.30
UK	99.78	44.86	61.36	27.07	24.34	14.18
Netherlands	58.33	34.81	33.08	18.07	66.53	36.36
Austria	56.37	28.68	126.05	68.82	56.65	20.25
Taiwan	110.73	25.27	17.14	4.59	3.10	1.30
Italy	48.13	24.16	157.43	79.34	103.89	50.17
Sweden	18.04	10.28	3.10	1.80	12.14	4.80
Hongkong	17.91	8.30	—	—	20.75	10.74
Australia	28.25	7.40	43.49	14.86	63.97	21.34
Switzerland	14.65	6.39	—	—	31.10	16.05
Canada	7.38	3.92	20.26	11.72	15.45	6.63
Finland	5.96	3.41	—	—	3.83	2.36
Norway	6.46	2.27	—	—	—	—
Greece	—	—	14.80	6.83	—	—
Kuwait	—	—	12.44	5.73	7.58	3.45
Israel	—	—	7.49	4.04	14.98	8.01
Spain	—	—	6.55	2.94	—	—
Irish Republic	—	—	6.44	2.45	—	—
Yugoslavia	—	—	4.97	1.23	—	—
Newzealand	—	—	2.86	0.73	—	—
Brazil	—	—	—	—	20.25	11.72
UAE	—	—	—	—	8.91	6.70
Denmark	—	—	—	—	4.23	2.73
	2323.20	1049.75	2512.32	1140.56	3044.51	1335.22

(c) In order to boost the exports of coir geo-textiles, Coir Board has been attending international seminars and conferences and popularizing the uses of coir geo-textiles in erosion control and soil bio-engineering applications. The Coir Board is a member of the International Erosion Control Association and regularly attends the conferences of IECA. The Board has also been participating in exhibitions, Buyers Seller Meets, Product Promotion Programme and Catalogue Shows abroad for promoting coir products including geo-textiles.

#### NCERT Programme

5357. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has introduced some new programmes for children and teachers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether NCERT is also considering to develop manuals for teachers and set up reading corners in schools; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) The National Curriculum Framework (NCF)-2005 adopted by National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) approaches the concerns of children and teachers in an innovative manner.

NCERT has organized programmes for teachers and master trainers on the use of new textbooks through face-to-face mode as well as teleconferencing.

(c) and (d) NCERT has set up a Reading Development Cell in the Council for promoting teacher awareness and developing new kind of graded reading material capable of encouraging the reading habit in primary school children. Objectives of the Cell include developing a teacher's manual for utilization of the reading material and creating a reading corner in selected schools.

[*Translation*]

#### Women Study Centres in Universities

5358. SHRI KAILASH JOSHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of universities where Women Study Centres are being run by University Grants Commission (UGC) in the country, University-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether the UGC is contemplating to restart the Centre at Indore and to establish the said Centres in other Universities; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) As per the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), there are 72 existing Women's Studies Centres in universities/institutes/colleges in the country. A list of the centres is given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) and (c) No Women Study Center has been established by the UGC at Indore and the UGC is receiving many proposals for establishment of said Centres in other universities in different States.

#### Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the Universities/ Instts./Colleges
1	2
1.	Andhra University, Waltair.
2.	Sri Padmavati Mahila Vishwavidyalaya, Tirupati.
3.	Kakatiya University, Warangal.
4.	Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad.
5.	Guru Ghasidas University, Bilaspur.
6.	University of Delhi, Delhi.
7.	Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.
8.	Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi.
9.	Sri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, New Delhi.
10.	M. S. University of Baroda, Vadodara.
11.	Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar.

1	2
12.	South Gujarat University, Surat.
13.	Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra. (Haryana)
14.	D.A.V. College for Girls, Yamuna Nagar.
15.	Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla.
16.	University of Kashmir, Srinagar.
17.	University of Jammu, Jammu.
18.	Govt. College of Education, M.A. Road, Srinagar, Kashmir.
19.	Govt. Degree College Kathua, Kathua (J & K).
20.	Govt. Gandhi Memorial Science College, Canal Road Jammu, (J & K).
21.	Govt. College for Women, M.A. Road, Srinagar (J & K).
22.	Govt. College for Women, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu.
23.	Mier College for Education, B.C. Road, Jammu.
24.	Govt. College for Women Parade, GCW Parade Ground, Jammu.
25.	Ranchi Women's College, Ranchi.
26.	Karnatak University, Dharwad.
27.	Mysore University, Mysore.
28.	Bangalore University, Bangalore.
29.	Mangalore University, Mangalagangothri.
30.	Kannada University, Hampi.
31.	Kerala University, Kerala.
32.	University of Calicut, Malappuram.
33.	Barkatullah University, Bhopal.
34.	Sarojini Naidu Govt. Girls PG(Autonomous), College, Bhopal.
35.	University of Pune, Pune.

1	2
36.	S. N. D. T. Women's University, Murabai.
37.	Shivaji University, Kolhapur.
38.	Nagpur University, Nagpur.
39.	Tata Institute for Social Sciences, Mumbai.
40.	Smt. Chandibai Himathmal Mansukhani College, Ulhasnagar.
41.	Utkal University, Bhubaneswar,
42.	National Institute of Social Work and Social Sciences (NISWASS), Bhubaneswar.
43.	Panjab University, Chandigarh.
44.	Mohania Sukhadia University, Udaipur.
45.	Jai Narain Vyas University, Jodhpur.
46.	Janardan Rai Nagar Rajasthan Vidyapeeth (Deemed University), Udaipur.
47.	Banasthali Vidyapith, Banasthali.
48.	Birla Instt. of Technology & Science, Pilani.
49.	Alagappa University, Karaikudi.
50.	Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli.
51.	Bharathiar University, Coimbatore.
52.	Mother Teresa Women's University, Kodalkanal.
53.	Avinashilingam Instt. for Home Science & Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore.
54.	Lady Doak College, Madurai.
55.	Justice Basheer Ahmad Sayeed College for Women, Chennai.
56.	P.S.G.R. Krishnamal College for Women, Coimbatore.
57.	Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh.
58.	Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi.
59.	Bundelkhand University, Jhansi.
60.	North Bengal University, Darjeeling.

1	2
61.	Pondicherry University, Pondicherry. *Financial assistance was provided during X Plan only.
62.	Calcutta University, Calcutta.
63.	Jadavpur University, Calcutta.
64.	P.D. Women's College, Jalpaiguri.
65.	Gauhati University, Gauhati.
66.	Dibrugarh University, Dibrugarh.
67.	Nagaland University, Kohima.
68.	Gulbarga University, Gulbarga.
69.	Rani Durgawati Vishwavidyalaya, Jabalpur.
70.	Berhampur University, Berhampur.
71.	Nagarjuna University, Nagarjuna Nagar.
72.	Goa University, Goa.

#### Survey on Small Scale Industries

5359. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:  
SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR:

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

(a) whether the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has conducted any survey on Small Scale and Medium Scale industries regarding foreign investment in this sector;

(b) if so, the details of the said survey and points discussed;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether the Government has formulated any scheme to safeguard the interests of the small scale and medium scale industries after the entry of foreign companies in this sector; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI

KUMAR): (a) to (c) The 19th Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Business Outlook survey on policy impact and future scenario for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) during December 2006 - March 2007 aims to capture in a nutshell the general prevailing mood in the MSME sector, while attempting to visualise the future of the Indian enterprises and prioritising key policy initiatives. The principal findings of the survey based on analysis of more than one thousand responses from Micro, Small and Medium Industry members foresee a positive shift in the business situation in the country over the next 5-10 years.

(d) and (e) In the wake of trade liberalisation, the Government has put in place several measures to help MSEs become globally competitive. These include special focus on technology up-gradation, infrastructure assistance through the cluster approach, timely availability of credit, adoption of modern management practices, use of electronic infrastructure and other information technology applications, marketing and timely information dissemination to help the MSEs face the emerging challenges of globalisation. Besides, protection is available in the form of raising customs duties up to the bound levels, imposing anti-dumping duties, taking safeguard measures in case of surge in imports, etc. Further, the Government has enacted the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development (MSMED) Act, 2006 and announced a 'Package for Promotion of MSEs' to facilitate the promotion and development of MSEs and enhancement of their competitiveness.

[English]

#### Price Regulation for DTH

5360. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telecom Dispute Settlement Appellate Tribunal has recently described that broadcasters should not compel distributors to pick all channels and directed the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) to come out with price regulations for Direct-to-Home (DTH);

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) The Hon'ble Telecom Dispute Settlement Appellate Tribunal has discussed the question "Can a distributor pick and choose what he wants?" in its order dated 31.3.2007 in petition number 189(c) of 2006 in the matter of Tata Sky Ltd. Vs. Zee Turner Ltd. & others. The Hon'ble Telecom Dispute Settlement Appellate Tribunal has made the following observations in this regard:

"The question, however, is can a distributor pick and choose what he wants? The use of the words 'on request' may suggest that a seeker of channels may be in position to make a choice about what he wants from a particular broadcaster and he will get whatever he requests for. We leave this question open for decision in an appropriate case."

As regards price fixation for Direct-to-Home (DTH), the Hon'ble Telecom Dispute Settlement Appellate Tribunal has commented that "Price fixation should be done by the TRAI. In the judgement dated 14th July 2006 this Tribunal had fixed a norm in the interim till price fixation is done by TRAI, that broadcaster will charge the DTH operator 50% of its listed price for cable platform. For the present we would like to continue with the said norm and we reiterate that the TRAI should come out with price fixation and regulation in this behalf as early as possible."

(c) It is for Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) to take action on the judgement of Telecom Dispute Settlement Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT).

#### **Impact of Tsunami on Industries**

5361. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent natural disaster of Tsunami in Andaman & Nicobar Islands have adversely affected the industrialisation of the Islands as the entrepreneurs have started deserting the Islands;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to control this situation in the Islands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (c) As per information provided by the Andaman & Nicobar Administration, no entrepreneur is reported to have deserted the Islands. However, small traders and businessmen have suffered economic losses on account of Tsunami for which the Government has announced a revival package, which includes writing off of outstanding loan up to Rs. 2.00 lakh as on 26.12.2004 and waiver of interest for three years in respect of loans beyond Rs. 2.00 lakh. A total of 12,673 beneficiaries have been disbursed an amount of Rs. 530,275,758/- as compensation under the revival package.

#### **Earning of Prasar Bharati**

5362. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA:  
SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:  
SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL:

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

(a) the revenue earned by Prasar Bharati during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether the earning of Prasar Bharati is not enough even to meet its revenue expenditure;

(c) if so, the amount diverted to meet Prasar Bharati's revenue expenditure and developmental activities during each of the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken to increase the revenue earning of Prasar Bharati?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) The revenue earnings of Prasar Bharati, i.e., Doordarshan and All India Radio for the last three years, year-wise, are at Statement-I and Statement-II respectively. Figures of revenue earnings in respect of Doordarshan are given location-wise.

(b) and (c) The funding pattern of Prasar Bharati is broadly determined by the Government of India as grants and loans for specific purposes and these funds are spent on the activities specified by the Government. Therefore, the question of meeting the expenditure of Prasar Bharati

from its own revenue or diversion of funds by Prasar Bharati for any other activity does not arise.

(d) Prasar Bharati has taken the following steps to increase the revenue earnings:

- (i) Self finance commissioning scheme was introduced.
- (ii) Marketing Divisions were set up at eight different places in the country.
- (iii) Programmes which can fetch better revenue are produced in consultation with Marketing Divisions.
- (iv) Special programme are produced in consultation with some Government Departments/PSUs to improve content and get better revenue.
- (v) Special programmes are produced to cover festivals, etc.
- (vi) Additional News programmes have been introduced at Regional Kendras to increase the audience.

- (vii) A cash outflow scheme has been introduced which brings in revenue on the one hand and expands coverage on the other.
- (viii) Installation of Electronic Display System at various stations of All India Radio.
- (ix) Broadcasting interactive programmes to increase direct participation of the listeners through phone-in-devices and field recordings.
- (x) Starting AIR resources as a market oriented Engineering Division.
- (xi) All the Stations of AIR of late have enhanced dedicated time-slots for their specific target audiences, viz., women, children, youth, rural community, music lovers, industrial workers and farmer, etc.
- (xii) Exploring other sources like sale of recordings, entering into MoUs with different Ministries, imparting training to the outside Departments, etc.

**Statement-I**

*Gross Revenue for the years 2004-05 to 2006-07 in respect of Doordarshan.*

(in crore)

S.No.	Name of Kendras	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007
1	2	3	4	5
1.	National Network	374.18	571.93	302.63
2.	DD-2Metro	0.78	0.51	0.00
3.	DD-World	0.06	0.10	0.15
4.	DD-IMD Division	0.64	0.74	0.00
5.	Dethi-LPT	13.94	12.24	21.11
6.	DD-Sports	85.06	114.94	60.36
7.	DD-Bharati	0.05	0.05	0.02
8.	DD-News	28.22	13.74	10.68
9.	DCD	14.80	0.00	193.83
10.	DD-Kissan CH.	10.80	81.16	96.52

1	2	3	4	5
11.	DD-Kashir CH	0.00	0.50	0.00
12.	Agartala	0.42	0.70	0.00
13.	Ahmedabad	4.66	4.69	7.04
14.	Aizawal	0.20	0.43	0.12
15.	Akola	0.07	0.07	0.02
16.	Amritsar	0.00	0.03	0.04
17.	Allahabad	0.04	0.00	0.00
18.	Aurangabad	0.00	0.22	0.19
19.	Bangalore	9.37	9.94	7.07
20.	Bareilly	0.00	0.13	0.00
21.	Bhopal	4.39	2.79	1.25
22.	Bhavani Patna	0.00	0.00	0.03
23.	Bhubaneswar	4.97	5.29	4.26
24.	Chandigarh	0.10	0.08	0.19
25.	Chattisgarh	0.00	0.00	0.00
26.	Chennai	10.45	9.06	8.12
27.	Dehradun	0.02	0.08	0.00
28.	Dibrugarh	0.00	0.01	0.00
29.	Goa	0.06	0.03	0.28
30.	Gorakhpur	0.18	0.27	0.12
31.	Gulbarga	0.01	0.02	0.01
32.	Guwahati	6.73	8.40	2.39
33.	Guwahati (PPC)	0.51	2.19	0.00
34.	Hissar	0.09	0.09	0.10
35.	HPT Agra	0.00	0.00	0.01
36.	Hyderabad	10.29	8.95	9.97
37.	Imphal	0.20	0.40	0.00
38.	Ita Nagar	0.20	0.37	0.00
39.	Indore	0.00	0.00	0.02

1	2	3	4	5
40.	Jaipur	5.38	3.91	2.53
41.	Jalandhar	8.92	9.42	8.86
42.	Jal Gaon	0.00	0.03	0.02
43.	Jammu	0.04	0.04	0.03
44.	HPT Kanpur	0.00	0.00	0.08
45.	Kasauli	0.00	0.06	0.08
46.	Kochi	0.00	0.09	0.15
47.	Kohima	0.17	0.39	0.00
48.	Kolkata	17.69	15.31	18.10
49.	Leh	0.00	0.02	0.01
50.	Lucknow	7.39	8.60	7.89
51.	Massoree	0.00	0.03	0.04
52.	Mumbai	24.73	26.61	36.38
53.	Muzaffarpur	0.00	0.00	0.00
54.	Nagpur	0.11	0.05	0.05
55.	Patna	3.49	3.72	1.82
56.	Pondicherry	0.02	0.03	0.02
57.	Port Blair	0.00	0.08	0.08
58.	Raipur	0.57	1.22	0.80
59.	Rajkot	0.01	0.02	0.01
60.	Rampur	0.00	0.01	0.00
61.	Ranchi	1.52	0.92	0.22
62.	Salem	0.02	0.06	0.01
63.	Shillong	0.21	0.37	0.00
64.	Shimla	0.05	0.20	0.59
65.	Silchar	0.00	0.25	0.00
66.	Solapur	0.01	0.06	0.01
67.	Srinagar	0.55	0.66	0.48
68.	Thimchirapalli	0.04	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5
69.	Trivandrum	11.49	9.53	11.88
70.	Tura	0.16	0.37	0.01
71.	Varanasi	0.05	0.09	0.04
72.	Misc. Receipt	1.16	14.67	0.70
73.	Distributions	0.00	0.00	0.82
Total		665.27	946.96	818.22

**Statement-II**

*Gross Revenue for the years 2004-05 to 2006-07 in respect of All India Radio.*

(in Rupees)

States	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4
Gujarat, Daman & Diu	10497795	19215000	32765577
Karnataka	28819171	42359164	50063162
Madhya Pradesh & Chhatisgarh	24877581	33572342	46104376
Punjab, Haryana, H.P. & Chandigarh	18893532	31338804	50653607
Tamilnadu & Pondicherry	104839004	110669285	136167620
Orissa	11068187	15041053	14074742
Delhi	75367947	203772712	177778022
Andhra Pradesh	31158950	52618197	44973960
Rajasthan	15168497	34958764	27120048
West Bengal, NER, Sikkim	30182130	33211319	48623136
Uttar Pradesh & Uttaranchal	58150429	86438941	70382642
Maharashtra & Goa	37126155	48809463	58748796
Bihar & Jharkhand	35115900	81596270	94133236
Jammu & Kashmir	12579371	18948085	20462679
Kerala & Lakshadweep	56326372	62116723	73816221

1	2	3	4
Revenue generated by CSU, AIR, Mumbai through Central Window Booking across at the States/UTs	660388851	1153477168	1082730724
Kissanvani	150000000	199551000	224878000
AIR Resources	197019342	450420225	355066909
AIR Recordings	1668464	3807564	4364175
STI(P)	7493403	6386270	9776586
Misc. Revenue	—	—	70800000
Cricket World Cup-2007	—	—	96361055
M/o Rural Development's Campaign	—	—	11700000
Addl. Revenue for AIR Resources deposited in Prasar Bharati	—	—	35000000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1566741081</b>	<b>2688308349</b>	<b>2836545253</b>

*[Translation]*

**District Information System for Education**

5363. MS. INGRIB MCLEOD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently released the annual District Information System for Education (DIES) 2005-06;

(b) If so, the highlights of the report; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) District Report Cards 2005-06 were released by National University of Educational Planning and Administration (NUEPA), based upon the collection, compilation and analysis of DISE data of 2005-06. The details of the District Report Cards can be seen on website [www.dpepmis.org](http://www.dpepmis.org).

The DISE data shows a steady improvement in school infrastructure at the primary and upper primary

level of education. The total number of schools has risen from 931471 in 2003-04 to 1124033 in 2005-06, and the student-classroom ratio has improved from 42:1 in 2003-04 to 39:1 in 2005-06. The total number of teachers has increased from 3667637 in 2003-04 to 4690176 in 2005-06, whereby the Pupil Teacher Ratio has improved to 36:1 for elementary education. The Gross Enrolment Ratio for primary level has grown from 89 in 2003-04 to 103.77 in 2005-06.

*[English]*

**Hike in Cement Prices**

5364. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:  
SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:  
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:  
SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP:  
SHRIMATI MANORAMA MADHAVARAJ:  
SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK:  
SHRIMATI RUPATAI D. PATIL:  
SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN:  
SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO:

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

(a) whether the cement producing companies of the country have increased consumer sale price of cement from March, 2007 onwards;

(b) if so, whether cement companies are reluctant to lower the cement prices despite the requests made by the Government;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government proposes to provide a package to the cement industry with a view to lowering the cement prices;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the additional financial burden likely to be borne by the Government due to this; and

(g) the extent to which cement prices are likely to come down, percentage-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The cement manufacturers have assured the Government on 9th March 2007 that they would not increase the price of cement for a period of one year even if input prices go up and they would pass on benefits of duty concession, if any, to consumers.

(d) No Sir.

(e) to (g) Do not arise.

### Road Accidents in Delhi

5365. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the norms laid down by the Supreme Court for plying of buses etc. in Delhi are not being followed scrupulously;

(b) the number of persons killed/injured in accidents during each of the last three years separately, Vehicle-wise;

(c) the steps taken by the Government against each driver; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure adherence of Supreme Court norms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Delhi Police and Transport Department of Government of NCT of Delhi have reported that they are strictly enforcing the directions issued by the Supreme Court of India for plying of buses in Delhi. Vehicle-wise number of persons killed and injured in accidents in Delhi during the years 2004, 2005, 2006 and up to 30th April, 2007 is given in the Statement-I enclosed.

(c) Action taken against drivers involved in accidents includes suspension/cancellation of their driving licences, punching of driving licence for traffic violation etc. and arrest/prosecution under relevant provisions of law.

(d) Steps taken by the Government to enforce adherence to the norms laid down by the Supreme Court of India and to solve traffic chaos and traffic jams on Delhi roads are given in the Statement-II enclosed.

### Statement-I

Type of Vehicle	2004		2005		2006		2007 (upto 30th April)	
	Injured	Killed	Injured	Killed	Injured	Killed	Injured	Killed
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Ambulance	1	0	3	1	4	0	5	2
Bullock Carts	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Bus Blue Line	202	110	284	157	330	109	97	33

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Bus DTC	162	57	159	64	148	62	46	17
Bus Mini	261	30	229	66	191	44	56	16
Bus Other	593	139	469	86	330	94	108	30
Bus Other State	49	18	22	10	17	17	10	5
Bus School	0	1	5	2	11	3	6	1
Car Private	2072	231	2157	204	2292	240	760	85
Crane	9	3	7	4	10	7	0	10
Cycle Rickshaw	3	0	2	1	1	0	1	0
Delivery Van	19	2	36	11	39	10	13	2
Hand Carts	3	2	1	0	0	0	1	0
Heavy Transport Vehicle/Goods	658	270	696	284	638	282	174	87
Matador	3	1	15	2	1	0	6	0
Military Vehicle	14	7	36	8	1	2	3	0
Police Vehicle	0	1	3	2	6	0	0	1
Scooter/Motor Cycle	1173	142	1343	156	1378	182	468	66
Steam Roller	4	6	1	4	0	0	1	0
Tanker	43	20	51	21	37	20	11	4
Taxi	42	9	45	6	81	12	24	5
Tempo	658	110	557	160	750	188	212	57
Tonga/Rehra	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Tractor	93	36	83	33	71	34	23	12
Trailer/Container	42	25	25	10	30	19	13	4
Three Seater Rickshaw/Motor Cycle Rickshaw	271	31	348	34	305	43	113	8
Un-known Vehicle	1609	725	1695	723	1608	800	526	268
<b>Total</b>	<b>7986</b>	<b>1977</b>	<b>8273</b>	<b>2049</b>	<b>8280</b>	<b>2168</b>	<b>2677</b>	<b>704</b>

**Statement-II**

Steps taken to solve traffic chaos and traffic jams on Delhi roads include:

- (i) On-the- spot challan.
- (ii) On-line prosecution.
- (iii) Special drives undertaken periodically against buses and commercial goods vehicles for violation of directions of Supreme Court of India.
- (iv) Offence-specific enforcement of traffic laws and rules in areas which has direct bearing on improving the road discipline and safety level. Enforcement is done against signal violation, reckless dangerous driving, minor driving, not wearing seat belts, over speeding, riding without helmets, drunken driving, using pressure horn, stop line crossing, using mobile phones while driving, etc.
- (v) Road Safety Cell conducts educational and awareness programmes amongst all categories of road users including commercial vehicle drivers and school children.
- (vi) In order to execute short-term traffic management schemes, coordination of and cooperation from prominent agencies, namely, PWD, MCD, NDMC, DDA and Delhi Cantonment Board is solicited.
- (vii) Adoption of low cost and high cost traffic management measures for removing traffic congestion, ensuring safe and smooth flow of traffic and reduction in road accidents and pollution.
- (viii) Reduction in travel time through introduction of low cost Traffic Management Schemes.
- (ix) Introduction of Computerized Area Traffic Control System.
- (x) Installation of solar signals to cut down the cost of power consumption and provide uninterrupted signaling, enhanced visibility of traffic signals and better outlook.
- (xi) Installation of LED Signals for improving visibility of signal reflector from a distance.
- (xii) Installation of Red Light and Speed Check Violation Enforcement System for checking red light jumping and violation of speed limits.
- (xiii) Introduction of Mobile Traffic Law Enforcement/ Education Unit for preventing, educating and enforcing the traffic laws, where violator can be shown the nature of violation committed by him.
- (xiv) Speed Radar Guns—to check over speeding.
- (xv) Alcometers to conduct surprise checks against drunken driving by motorists near hotels, pubs, bars and places where people consume alcohol and drive vehicles.
- (xvi) Provision of Retro Reflective Gadgets to ensure effective and safe traffic regulation of traffic.
- (xvii) Synchronization of traffic signals to maintain smooth flow of traffic.
- (xviii) Implementation of Traffic Monitoring System' for on-line monitoring of traffic situation at selected intersections.
- (xix) A multi-utility vehicle named the "Road Disaster Management Vehicle" was indigenously designed, fabricated and introduced by the Traffic Police that carries multiple tools and gadgets on board for crucial use in disaster situations.
- (xx) Installation of Variable Message Sign at the selected locations for giving advance information and advice to road users to plan/undertake prior and convenient diversions/detours.
- (xxi) Traffic Help line-round-the-clock facility for making complaints/suggestions was provided on telephone No. 23378888 to the general public on traffic matters.
- (xxii) Traffic Web Site - Delhi Traffic has developed its own web site on which any information regarding-traffic rules, restrictions, telephone numbers of traffic officials and other vital information regarding Traffic Police-can be accessed with the click of a mouse. The URL of Delhi Traffic Police website is [www.delhitrafficPolice.nic.in](http://www.delhitrafficPolice.nic.in).
- (xxiii) Provision of e-mail facility for e-mailing complaints/suggestions or sharing views on improving traffic management and safety on Delhi roads. The e-mail addresses of senior

traffic officers are jcpt\_delhi@vsnl.net, dcptdlh@satyam.net.in, dcptardlh@yahoo.com, dcptndr@yahoo.com and dcp\_t\_vip@yahoo.com.

- (xxiv) Introduction of SMS Traffic Information Dissemination system in which traffic diversions, traffic signal failures, congestion on any road, road accident details, notice details etc. can be accessed. The SMS facility can be availed by 150 members of the general public at a time through mobile number 9811452220.

#### **Implementation of OBC Quota**

5366. SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPAN:  
SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:  
SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI:  
SHRI P.C. THOMAS:  
SHRI PANNIAN RAVINDRAN:  
SHRI PRABODH PANDA:  
DR. K. DHANARAJU:  
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:  
SHRI HITEN BARMAN:  
SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS:  
SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:  
SHRI CHANDRA KANT KHAIRE:  
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:  
SHRIMATI MANORAMA MADHAVRAJ:  
SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN:  
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

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

(a) whether the Hon'ble Supreme Court has stayed the implementation of OBC reservation in Higher Educational Institutions;

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

(c) 27 percent quota to OBCs to ensure admission in IITs and IIMs; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) to (d) The matter is sub-judice. The Central Government has filed an application for referring the Writ Petitions to a Larger Bench; and the Hon'ble Supreme Court has reserved the matter for orders.

#### **Minority Status**

5367. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT pleased to state:

(a) whether the status of Minority Educational Institutions are to be decided by any statutory body;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the procedure for determination of Minority Status of the ownership or management of professional and other educational institutions in higher education;

(c) the details of the professional colleges for which minority status has been provided/declared during 2006-07 till date;

(d) whether the State Governments have any power in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) The minority status for minority educational institutions have to be conferred by the appropriate Government in whose jurisdiction the institutions are situated. In case of dispute, the aggrieved minority educational institutions can approach the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions. The Central Government has not given minority status to any professional college. Information in respect of professional colleges given such status by State Governments is not Centrally maintained. A list of professional institutes/colleges/centres which have been issued minority status certificate by the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions (NCMEI) under Section 12 (b) of NCMEI (Amendment) Act, 2006, is enclosed as a Statement.

#### **Statement**

Sl.No.	Name of the Institution
1	2
1.	Mesco Institute of Management & Computer Sciences, Mustaidpura, Hyderabad-500 006 (A.P.)

1	2
2.	Mesco College of Pharmacy, Mustaidpura, Hyderabad-500 006 (A.P.)
3.	Sant Nischal Singh College of Education for Women, Santpura, Yamuna Nagar
4.	Providence College of Teacher Education for Women, Kozhikode
5.	Roorkee College of Pharmacy, Vill. Kishanpur, Roorkee (Uttanchal)
6.	New Junior College of Education, Udgir, Distt. Latur
7.	Victoria College of Education, Bhopal (M.P.)
8.	Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church Medical College, Kolenchery, Ernakulam, Kerala
9.	Mar Sleeva College of Nursing, Cherpumkal, Palai, Kottayam, Kerala
10.	Dr. Somervell CSI Medical College, Karakonam, Trivandrum, Kerala
11.	CSI College of Nursing, Karakonam, Trivandrum, Kerala
12.	St. Joseph's College of Engineering & Technology, Palai, Choondachery, Kottayam, Kerala
13.	VIF College of Engg. & Technology, Moinabad Mandal, R.R. Distt. (A.P.)
14.	Ewing Christian Institute of Management & Technology, Allahabad, U.P.
15.	St. Francis Institute of Technology, Borivli (W), Mumbai
16.	St. Francis Institute of Technology, Borivli (W), Mumbai
17.	St. Mary's College of Engineering and Technology, Pochampally Mandal, Nalgonda, A.P.
18.	Shadan College of Pharmacy, Himayat Sagar Road, Hyderabad, A.P.
19.	Don Bosco Technical Institute, Darga Road, Park Circus, Kolkata.

1	2
20.	Dr. V.R.K. Women's College of Engineering & Technology, R.R. Distt., Hyderabad, A.P.
21.	Arkay College of Engineering & Technology, Bodhan, Nizamabad, A.P.
22.	Ayaan College of Engineering & Technology, Moinabad Mandal, R.R. Distt., A.P.
23.	Shadan Women's College of Engineering & Technology, Khairatabad, Hyderabad, A.P.
24.	Safa College of Engineering & Technology, Kurnool, A.P.
25.	Mona College of Engineering & Technology, Nalgonda Distt., A. P.
26.	Hi-Point College of Engineering & Technology, R.R. Distt., A.P.
27.	Dr. V.R.K. College of Engineering & Technology, Karim nagar Distt. , A. P.
28.	Sacred Heart institute of Management and Technology, Sitapur, UP.
29.	Anjuman Institute of Management, Bhatkal, Karnataka
30.	Shaz College of Engineering & Technology, R.R. District, Andhra Pradesh
31.	Quba College of Engineering & Technology, Nellore, Andhra Pradesh
32.	Shaz College of Engineering & Technology, R.R. District, Andhra Pradesh
33.	Quba College of Engineering & Technology, Nellore, Andhra Pradesh
34.	Amtec Foundation's Institute of Paramedical Science & Technology, Beed, Maharashtra
35.	Adarsh Mahila Primary Teachers Training College of Education, Anand, Gujarat
36.	Pushpagiri Institute of Medical Sciences and Research Centre, Tiruvalla, Kerala
37.	Pushpagiri College of Dental Sciences, Tiruvalla, Kerala

1	2
38.	Pushpagiri College of Pharmacy, Tiruvalla, Kerala
39.	Pushpagiri College of Nursing, Tiruvalla, Kerala
40.	Aishabai College of Education, J.J. Hospital, Byculla, Mumbai
41.	Safa College of Pharmacy B. Tandrapadu Village, Kurnool Distt. Andhra Pradesh

#### **Contributory Pension Scheme in PMF**

5368. DR. M. JAGANNATH:  
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any requests from the personnel of Central Para Military Forces to exempt them from the new contributory pension scheme;

(b) if so, whether the Ministries of Finance and Defence have opposed the proposal to exempt para military personnel from the scheme;

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

(d) whether the Government has constituted a Group of Ministers (GoM) to examine this matter; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the time by when a decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (e) A Group of Minister has been constituted to look into the requests received from Central Para Military Forces for exemption from the purview of New Pension Scheme and other connected issues. It is not possible to indicate time frame for a decision.

#### **Illegal Ammunition Manufacturing Units**

5369. SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any report on illegal ammunition manufacturing units in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) Available inputs suggest that illegal arms and ammunition manufacturing units exist in some States, where manufacturing through clandestine cottage level household units takes place.

(b) and (c) The State and UT Governments are asked from time to time to make sustained and continued efforts to check and bust illegal arms and ammunition. In January, 2007, two weapons and ammunition manufacturing units run by naxalite elements at Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh) and Rourkela (Orissa) were busted by the State Police.

#### **Guidelines for Publication of Newspapers and Periodicals**

5370. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had announced partial amendment to guidelines for publication of Newspapers and periodicals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government had also allowed newspapers and Periodicals to employ foreign nationals and Non-Resident Indians; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Details are given in the enclosed Statement.

**Statement****No. 14/3/2004-Press (Part-1)****MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING****Modification of Guidelines for***(I) Publication of Newspapers and periodicals dealing with News and Current Affairs.**(II) Publication of Facsimile Editions of Foreign Newspapers.*

New Delhi, Dated the 2nd April 2007

In partial modification of this Ministry's guidelines issued on 31st March 2006 on the above noted subject, it has been decided to amend the clause No. 4(iv) as shown under:

S.No.	Existing Clause	Amended Clause
1.	<i>Clause No. 4 (iv)</i> All entities shall obtain prior clearance of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting of any foreigners/NRIs proposed to be employed/engaged in the new entity either as consultants (or in any other capacity) for more than 60 days in a year, or, as regular employees.	<i>Clause No. 4(iv)</i> The Entity shall be liable to intimate the names and details of any foreigners/ NRIs proposed to be employed/engaged in the Entity either as Consultant (or in any other capacity) for more than 60 days in a year, or, as regular employees. The Entity shall be liable to dispense with the services of such persons if not found security cleared subsequently.
2.	Other clauses remain unchanged.	

Sd/-

**(BIPUL PATHAK)**

Director (IP)

Tele #2338 1592#

**Illegal Fire-Arms**

5371. SHRI UDAY SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the illegal trade in fire-arms is flourishing in the country including Delhi,

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such illegal fire-arms are being used by criminals and the various State police forces or agencies have failed to check such rising trend; and

(d) if so, the strategies adopted by the Union Government to bring changes in the Arms Act to ban manufacture and use of illegal arms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) There is no specific information to suggest that illegal firearms trade is flourishing either in Delhi or in other parts of the country.

(c) and (d) Some of such illegal fire-arms are used in the criminal activities. There is, however, no input to suggest that State Governments have failed to check them. Under the directions of the Government of India, the States and UTs conduct frequent drives to unearth unlicensed/illegal arms. Proper inspection of the licensed dealers and manufacturers of arms is regularly conducted by the States and UTs to check any diversion. The existing provisions in the Arms Act are potent enough to

deal with offences involving manufacture and use of illegal arms and bring; the offenders to book as the punishment prescribed is stringent ranging from three years to life imprisonment/death penalty.

#### **Loan Facility Under North-Eastern Industrial Policy**

5372. DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the North-Eastern Industrial policy has been finalised;

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be implemented;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to provide cent-percent loan facility to start new industries in the region;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has any proposal to give preference to the local people and entrepreneurs while granting the said loans; and

(f) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The North East Industrial and Investment Promotion Policy (NEIIPP), 2007 has been notified on 1.4.2007 and would be effective from that date.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

#### **National Commission for Women**

5373. SHRI ABDULLAKUTTY: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission for Women (NCW) has received complaints from various State

Governments regarding various atrocities/crimes against women;

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

(c) the action taken/being taken by the Union Government/Commission against the accused persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) The National Commission for Women (NCW) has informed that it has not received any complaint from any State Government.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

#### **Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme**

5374. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the fund earmarked for updating technology under the Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme (CLCSS) is under-utilised;

(b) if so, the amount has been utilised during 2006-07;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to enhance awareness amongst the Small Scale Industries units and bankers about the said scheme;

(d) whether the CLCSS would be modified to the bottlenecks; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme (CLCSS) for technology upgradation of Small Scale Industries (SSI) implemented by the Ministry of SSI was valid up to March 31, 2007 or till the time sanctions of aggregate capital subsidy disbursed by the nodal agencies reaches Rs. 600 crore, whichever was earlier.

The total fund released by the Government of India to the nodal agencies since inception of the Scheme till March 31, 2007 is Rs. 116.38 crore (approx.). Out of

this, Rs. 73.5 crore has been released during the year 2006-07.

(c) Steps taken to enhance awareness amongst the SSI units and bankers about the CLCSS, inter-alia, included organising sensitisation/awareness programmes, reviewing progress of this scheme in the meetings of State Level Bankers' Committees (SLBCs), incorporating inputs into the service training courses of bank managers, publicity through newsletters, etc.

(d) and (e) Do not arise. The CLCSS has expired on 31.03.2007.

#### **Change of Names of Cities**

5375. SHRI C.H. VIJAYASHANKAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposals from the Karnataka Government for changing of names of some cities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which such proposals are likely to be cleared;

(d) whether the Government has also received some proposals from other State Governments; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) to (c) A proposal has been received from the Government of Karnataka regarding change of names of 12 cities in the State.

The proposal has been examined in terms of the existing policy guidelines and comments of the concerned Ministries/Departments have been called for as per procedure. A final decision on the proposal will depend on the comments received from the concerned Ministries/Departments.

(d) and (e) During the last three years, two proposals each from the States of Punjab and Madhya Pradesh and one each from the States of Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh were received.

#### **Rubber Plantations**

5376. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether rubber plantation project in Tripura has been able to tackle infiltration and smuggling along the Indo-Bangladesh border as reported in the *Economic Times* dated March 21,2007;

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

(c) whether the Government proposes to extend such scheme along the border with other countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (d) There is no specific input to suggest that rubber plantation project in Tripura has been able to tackle infiltration and smuggling along the Indo-Bangladesh border. There is no proposal by MHA to extend such scheme along the border with any Country. The following measures have been taken by the Government to check illegal cross border activities along Indo-Bangladesh Border:

- (i) Round the clock surveillance of the border by carrying patrolling (on foot, horses and camels, boats and vehicles) laying nakas (border ambushes) and by deploying observation posts. Riverine segments of international border are being dominated by deploying Water Crafts of BSF Water Wing.
- (ii) Construction of fencing and floodlighting on International Border.
- (iii) Construction of border roads.
- (iv) Conduct of special operations.
- (v) Co-ordination with sister agencies.

#### **Subjects Taught in Madarasas**

5377. SHRI TUKARAM GANPATRAO RENGE PATIL: SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:

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

(a) the number of Madarsas in the country alongwith the names of subjects taught there;

(b) the number of Madarsas given financial assistance by the Government during each of the last three years State-wise;

(c) whether any guidelines has been issued about the medium of instruction to be followed and subjects to be taught in these Madarsas;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Based on available information the number of Madarsas in the country is indicated in Statement-I enclosed. The details regarding all the subjects being taught in them is not maintained centrally.

(b) A statement indicating the grants released to States and the number of Madarsas benefited is given in Statement-II enclosed.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Not applicable.

(e) The introduction of modern subjects like Science, Mathematics and English, under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Area Intensive and Madrasa Modernisation Programme is only in respect of those Madarsas, which come forward voluntarily to do so.

**Statement I**

S.No.	Name of State	Number of Madarsas	Remarks
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	97	
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	
3.	Assam	291	
4.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	54	
5.	Bihar	4102	

1	2	3	4
6.	Chandigarh	25	
7.	Dadra And Nagar Haveli	1	
8.	Daman And Diu	8	
9.	Delhi	254	
10.	Goa	1	
11.	Gujarat	1727	
12.	Haryana	238	
13.	Himachal Pradesh	47	
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	Nil*	
15.	Karnataka	323	
16.	Kerala	6000	
17.	Lakshwadeep	33	
18.	Manipur	24	
19.	Meghalaya	Nil	
20.	Maharashtra	952	
21.	Madhya Pradesh	6000	
22.	Mizoram	Nil	
23.	Nagaland	Nil	
24.	Orissa	140	
25.	Pondicherry	Nil	
26.	Punjab	29	
27.	Rajasthan	1985	
28.	Sikkim	1	
29.	Tripura	129	
30.	Tamil Nadu	27	
31.	West Bengal	507	
32.	Uttar Pradesh	4292	
33.	Uttranchal	16	
34.	Chattisgarh	35	
35.	Jharkhand	180	
Total:		27518	

\*The State Government has intimated that there is no Madarsa but 86 number of private schools being run by the State Wakf Board.

**Statement II***Amount released under the Madarsa Modernisation Programme from 2004-05 to 2006-07.*

(Rs. in lakhs)

State	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
	Amount	No. of Madarasas	Amount	No. of Masarasas	Amount	No. of Madarasas
Andhra Pradesh	—	—	35.20	60	48.60	135
Bihar	—	—	79.92	111	—	—
Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—	—	12.60	20
Orissa	—	—	168.96	116	189.84	145
M.P.	421.56	446	384.00	446	287.69	457
Maharashtra	—	—	3.16	4	—	—
Kerala	—	—	59.04	84	338.91	429
Tripura	45.72	127	45.72	127	45.72	127
U.P.	—	—	235.25	683	2481.96	3380
Tamil Nadu	0.72	1	—	—	—	—
Chandigarh	0.72	1	—	—	0.72	2
Chhattisgarh	—	—	—	—	242.92	208
Karnataka	—	—	—	—	77.41	72
Uttarakhand	—	—	—	—	109.03	143
<b>Total</b>	<b>468.72</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>1011.25</b>	<b>1631</b>	<b>3835.40</b>	<b>5118</b>

*[English]***Allocation of Budget in Education Sector**

5378. SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the budget allocated for education sector during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government is considering to touch average international budget for education sector;

(c) if so, the details of the initiatives taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the remedial action taken by the Government to provide admissions for the poor students in different private institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Government has accorded due priority to the education sector. An increasing allocation has been provided for the Department of Higher Education and Department of School Education and Literacy during last three years and in the current year., as per the details hereunder.

Year	Allocation (Rs. in crore)
2004-05	8225.00
2005-06	15243.76
2006-07	20745.50
2007-08	28674.00

(b) and (c) As per the Xith Plan Approach Paper, the endeavor of the Government is to raise the public Expenditure on Education to at least 6% of the Gross Domestic Product, by the end of Xith Five Year Plan.

(d) Education is primarily a State subject. At elementary level, the endeavor of the Government is to provide free and compulsory Education to All. Banks have been given directions to give educational loans in an endeavor to ensure that nobody is deprived of education because he or she is poor.

*[Translation]*

#### Navodaya Vidyalayas

5379. SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE:  
SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:

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

(a) whether funds are being spent on the special Navodaya Vidyalayas started by the Government;

(b) the objectives of the Government behind opening these schools;

(c) the way in which these schools are different from the existing Navodaya and Jawahar Vidyalayas along with the details thereof;

(d) whether the new Jawahar Vidyalayas announced by the Government have opened;

(e) if so, the details of such schools, State-wise and District-wise; and

(f) if not, the reasons; therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (f) The Planning Commission has informed that there is a proposal to set up special Navodaya Vidyalayas in those districts which have significant Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe population. No formal decision has been taken in the matter. A provision of Rs. 275.00 crore has been made for the purpose in the budget for 2007-08.

*[English]*

#### Demand of Cashew In European Market

5380. SHRI B. MAHTAB: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a great demand of Indian cashew in the European Market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the quantity of cashew exported to European countries during each of the last three years and 2007-08;

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to promote the export of cashew; and

(e) the revenue earned therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Our total exports of cashew during 2006-07 was 1,18,540 MT valued at Rs. 2,455.15 crores of which 41,962 MT valued at Rs. 843.21 crores was to European countries. The major European markets are Netherlands, France, Germany, Spain and Greece.

(c) and (e) Export of Cashew kernels to European countries during the last three years and 2007-08 are as under:

*Export of Cashew Kernels from India*

Period	To European countries		Total Exports		% share	
	Qty. (MT)	Value (Rs./Cr.)	Qty. (MT)	Value (Rs./Cr.)	Qty. (MT)	Value (Rs./Cr.)
2004-05	40822	884.00	126667	2709.24	32.33	32.63
2005-06	41962	947.18	18540	2514.86	37.93	37.66
2006-07	43296	843.21	114143	2455.15	35.40	34.34
2007-08 (April, 2007)	3036.81	59.85	8312	168.24	36.54	35.57

Source: Various Custom Houses as compiled by CEPC

(d) Besides the traditional export promotion measures like sponsoring trade delegation, particularly trade fairs, publishing cashew literature, statistics, trade information etc., export promotional activities under the MDA, MAI and Plan Schemes of the Government of India are also under taken through Cashew Export Promotion Council [CEPC] to promote export of Cashew.

#### Central Universities

5381. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has a proposal to change the financing norms of the Central Universities;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the response of Finance Ministry in this regard;

(c) whether the Government had a proposal to relax financial resource management norms of Central Universities;

(d) if so, whether such Universities are likely to be allowed to generate their own resources; and

(e) if so, the other financial restructure proposed for the Central Universities?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

#### North-East Industrial Policy

5382. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether delegation of the North Eastern Small Scale Industries Association recently called on the Group of Ministers constituted by the Union Government and urged that the North-East Industrial Policy (NEIP) expiring on March 31, 2007 be extended by another ten years; and

(b) if so, the precise terms of the NEIP; and

(c) the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) The Federation of Industries of North Eastern Region (FINER) handed over a representation regarding revision of the North East Industrial Policy (NEIP), 1997 to the Group of Ministers (GoM), which, inter-alia, included suggestion for extension of NEIP by another 10 years.

(b) and (c) The North East Industrial Policy, 1997 has since been revised and a new Policy, 'North East Industrial and Investment Promotion Policy, (NEIIPP) 2007' has been notified on 1.4.2007. A copy of the NEIIPP, 2007 is given in the Statement enclosed.

**Statement****File No. 10 (3)/2007-DBA-W/NER**

**Government of India  
Ministry of Commerce and Industry  
Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion**

New Delhi dated the 1st April, 2007.

**Office Memorandum**

**Subject: North East Industrial and Investment Promotion Policy (NEIIPP), 2007**

The Government has approved a package of fiscal incentives and other concessions for the North East Region namely the 'North East Industrial and Investment Promotion Policy (NEIIPP), 2007', effective from 1.4.2007, which, inter-alia, envisages the following.

**(i) Coverage**

The North East Industrial Policy (NEIP), 1997 announced on 24.12.1997 covered the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura. Under NEIIPP, 2007, Sikkim will also be included. Consequently, the 'New Industrial Policy and other concessions for the State of Sikkim' announced vide O.M. No.14(2)/2002-SPS dated 23.12.2002 and the Schemes thereunder i.e. Central Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme, 2002, Central Interest Subsidy Scheme, 2002 and Central Comprehensive Insurance Scheme, 2002, notified vide Notifications No. F.No. 14(2)/2002-SPS dated the 24.12.2002 will be discontinued from 1.4.2007.

**(ii) Duration**

All new units as well as existing units which go in for substantial expansion, unless otherwise specified and which commence commercial production within the 10 year period from the date of notification of NEIIPP, 2007 will be eligible for incentives for a period of ten years from the date of commencement of commercial production.

**(iii) Neutrality of location**

Incentives will be available to all industrial units, new as well as existing units on their substantial expansion, located anywhere in the North Eastern Region. Consequently, the distinction between 'thrust' and 'non-thrust' industries made in NEIP, 1997 will be discontinued from 1.4.2007.

**(iv) Substantial Expansion**

Incentives on substantial expansion will be given to units effecting 'an increase by not less than 25% in the value of fixed capital investment in plant and machinery for the purpose of expansion of capacity/modernization and diversification', as against an increase by 33<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>% which was prescribed in NEIP, 1997.

**(v) Excise Duty Exemption**

100% Excise Duty exemption will be continued, on finished products made in the North Eastern Region, as was available under NEIP, 1997. However, in cases, where the CENVAT paid on the raw materials and intermediate products going into the production of finished products (other than the products which are otherwise exempt or subject to nil rate of duty) is higher than the excise duties payable on the finished products, ways and means to refund such overflow of CENVAT credit will be separately notified by the Ministry of Finance.

**(vi) Income Tax Exemption**

100% Income Tax exemption will continue under NEIIPP, 2007 as was available under NEIP, 1997.

**(vii) Capital Investment Subsidy**

Capital Investment Subsidy will be enhanced from 15% of the investment in plant and machinery to 30% and the limit for automatic approval of subsidy at this rate will be Rs. 1.5 crores per unit, as against Rs. 30 lakhs as was available under NEIP, 1997. Such subsidy will be applicable to units in the private sector, joint sector, cooperative sector as well as the units set up by the State Governments of the North Eastern Region. For grant of Capital Investment Subsidy higher than Rs. 1.5 crore but upto a maximum of Rs. 30 crores, there will be an Empowered Committee Chaired by Secretary, Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion with Secretaries of Department of Development of North Eastern Region (DONER), Expenditure, Representative of Planning Commission and Secretary of the concerned Ministries of the Government of India dealing with the subject matter of that industry as its members as also the concerned Chief Secretary/Secretary (Industry) of the North Eastern State where the claiming unit is to be located.

Proposals which are eligible for a subsidy higher than Rs. 30 crores, will be placed by Department of Industrial

Policy and Promotion before the Union Cabinet for its consideration and approval.

**(viii) Interest Subsidy**

Interest Subsidy will be made available @ 3% on working capital loan under NEIIPP, 2007 as was available under NEIP, 1997.

**(ix) Comprehensive Insurance**

New industrial units as well as the existing units on their substantial expansion will be eligible for reimbursement of 100% insurance premium.

**(x) Negative List**

The following industries will not be eligible for benefits under NEIIPP, 2007:

- (i) All goods falling under Chapter 24 of the First Schedule to the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985 (5 of 1986) which pertains to tobacco and manufactured tobacco substitutes.
- (ii) Pan Masala as covered under Chapter 21 of the First Schedule to the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985 (5 of 1986).
- (iii) Plastic carry bags of less than 20 microns as specified by Ministry of Environment and Forests Notification No.S.O. 705(E) dated 02.09.1999 and S.O.698 (E) dated 17.6.2003.
- (iv) Goods falling under Chapter 27 of the First Schedule to the Central Excise tariff Act, 1985 (5 of 1986) produced by petroleum oil or gas refineries.

**(xi) Incentives for Service/other Sector Industries**

Incentives under NEIIPP, 2007 will be applicable to the following service sector activities/industries:

**I. Service Sector**

- (i) Hotels (not below Two Star category), adventure and leisure sports including ropeways.
- (ii) Medical and health services in the nature of nursing homes with a minimum capacity of 25 beds and old-age homes.

- (iii) Vocational training institutes such as institutes for hotel management, catering and food crafts entrepreneurship development, nursing and paramedical, civil aviation related training, fashion, design and industrial training.

A number of tax concessions under the existing provisions of Section 10A and 10AA of the Income Tax Act are already available to the IT sector. However, one of the important impediments to the development of Software Technology Parks or IT related SEZs in the North Eastern Region is the non-availability of trained human resources in the North Eastern Region. Accordingly, tax benefits as is availed under Section 80 1C of the Income Tax Act would be extended to IT related training centers and IT hardware units.

**II. Incentives for Bio-technology Industry**

The biotechnology industry will be eligible for benefits under NEIIPP, 2007 as applicable to other industries.

**III. Incentives for Power Generating Industries**

Power Generating plants will continue to get incentives as governed by the provisions of Section 81A of the Income tax Act. In addition, power generating plants upto 10 MW based on both conventional and non-conventional sources will also be eligible for capital investment subsidy, interest subsidy and comprehensive insurance as applicable under NEIIPP, 2007.

**(xii) Establishment of a Monitoring Mechanism for Implementation of the NEIIPP, 2007**

In order to establish a monitoring mechanism for implementation of NEIIPP, 2007, a 'High Level Committee'/ an 'Advisory Committee' under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion and comprising Secretaries of the Ministries/Departments of Revenue, Department of Development of North Eastern Region (DONER), Banking and Insurance, Representative of Planning Commission, CMD, NEDFi as well as major stakeholders including the industry associations of the North Eastern region would be constituted. In addition, an 'Oversight Committee' will be constituted under the Chairmanship of the Union Commerce and Industry Minister with Industry Ministers of NE States as its members.

**(xiii) Value Addition**

In order to ensure genuine industrial activities in the North Eastern Region, benefits under NEIIPP, 2007 will not be admissible to goods in respect of which only peripheral activities like preservation during storage, cleaning operations, packing, re-packing, labelling or re-labelling, sorting, alteration of retail sale price etc. take place.

**(xiv) Transport Subsidy Scheme**

The Transport Subsidy Scheme would continue beyond 31.3.2007, on the same terms and conditions. However, an early evaluation of the scheme will be carried out with a view to introducing necessary safeguards to prevent possible leakages and misuse.

**(xv) Nodal Agency**

The North East Industrial Development Finance Corporation (NEDFi) will continue to act as the nodal agency for disbursal of subsidies under NEIIPP, 2007.

2. The 'New Industrial Policy and other concession in the North Eastern Region' announced vide O.M. No.EA/I/2/96-IPD, dated 24.12.1997 (NEIP, 1997) will cease to operate with effect from 1.4.2007. Industrial Units which have commenced commercial production on or before 31.3.2007 will continue to get benefits/incentives under NEIP,

3. Government reserves the right to modify any part of the Policy in public interest.

4. All concerned Ministries/Departments of the Government of India are requested to amend their respective Acts/rules/notifications etc. and issue necessary instructions for giving effect to these decisions.

Sd/-

(N.N. Prasad)

Joint Secretary to the Government of India

Copy for information and necessary action to:

- (i) All Ministries/Departments of the Government of India and Planning Commission.
- (ii) Chief Secretaries of the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura and Sikkim.

(iii) Secretary (Industries) of the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura and Sikkim

(iv) The North East Industrial Development Finance Corporation (NEDFi), Guwahati.

Copy also to:

(i) Cabinet Secretariat

(ii) PMO

*[Translation]***National Talent Search Scheme**

5383. SHRI RAKESH SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to give only 172 awards under the National Talent Search Scheme to the students of 9th-12th standard belonging to Scheduled Tribes in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to increase the number of such awards keeping in view of the tribal population in Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) National Talent Search Scheme implemented by National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has a reservation of 75 scholarship for Scheduled Tribe candidates throughout the country, out of the total number of 1000 scholarships. Number of awards is not fixed for any particular state including Madhya Pradesh.

*[English]***Gallantry Award**

5384. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any representations from All India President's Distinguished and Meritorious Police Medal Awardees Welfare Association to make other award to recipients at par with recipients of the President's Police Medals for gallantry; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) The All India President Distinguished and Meritorious Police Medal Awardees Welfare Association have sought parity in facility available to the Gallantry medal awardees. However, the Service Medals and Gallantry Medals are two different categories of award and are given for different purposes. Gallantry Medal is awarded for an act of conspicuous gallantry whereas Service Medal is awarded for distinguished/valuable service. The monetary allowance available to the gallantry medal awardees are governed by the provisions of the Rules governing award of the medal. Under these rules there is no provisions for monetary allowance to Service medal awardees. Some other benefits to the gallantry medal awardees have also been extended by State Governments etc.

#### Payment of HRA

5385. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted by the Government for payment of HRA to various categories of personnel serving in Para Military Forces (PMF);

(b) whether the Government has provided HRA to the newly recruited personnel of Para Military Forces particularly Border Security Force and Sashastra Seema Bal who has been completed their training successfully and staying in Mess;

(c) if so, the details thereof, category wise;

(d) if not, whether the Government proposes to allot suitable accommodation outside the campus to the personnel who are not willing to stay in the Mess; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the time by when the said proposal is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) Government accommodation or HRA/ Compensation-in-lieu-of-Quarter (CILQ) is provided to different ranks in

Central Para Military Forces as per the following authorization:

- (i) Constable (Entry Grade) – 35% of the total strength.
- (ii) Head Constable – 47% to 95% of the total strength.
- (iii) Subordinate Officers – 25% to 100% of the total strength.

Newly recruited personnel who have successfully completed training are also eligible for HRA/CILQ within the overall authorized percentage.

(d) and (e) CPFs personnel have to stay in barrack/mess accommodation where operational requirements so demand. Family accommodation or HRA/CILQ is also provided as per the authorization and availability.

#### Incentive to Freedom Fighter

5386. SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to give incentives to freedom fighters in view of the celebration of 100 years of Satyagraha Movement and 150 years of freedom struggle this year as a special package;

(b) if so, the time by when it is likely to be granted; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) to (c) Government has inter alia taken the following steps in relation to freedom fighters:

- (i) *Enhancement in pension:* Pension of freedom fighters and spouses of deceased freedom fighters has been enhanced from Rs. 6,000/- to Rs.10,000/- per month, with effect from 2nd October 2006.
- (ii) *Committee of eminent freedom fighters:* A Committee of eminent freedom fighters has been constituted to look into the issues related to freedom fighters, so that suggestions for

redressal of problems and complaints of freedom fighters and suggestions for improvements in facilities for freedom fighters and their dependents are readily forthcoming and issues are resolved in a time-bound manner. The Committee was constituted on 26.02.2007. The first meeting was held on 25.04.2007.

- (iii) *Commemorative Postage Stamp(s)*: Ministry of Communications & IT has approved issue of commemorative postage stamp(s) on 100 years of the Satyagraha Movement.
- (iv) *Initiatives by States*: All State Governments have been requested to see that the facilities presently being provided by them to freedom fighters and their dependents are improved upon.

#### Small Textile Units

5387. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is spurt in global demand for textile items and that the small textile units are gearing up to do good business;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated demand of Indian textile items during the next three years and likely share of small textile sector and handlooms; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of textile items and provide a regular work orders to weavers and handloom sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per DGCI&S provisional chapter-wise trade data of Department of Commerce, the overall textile exports has registered an increase of 7.67% during the year 2006-07 in comparison to 2005-06. However, the Government does not maintain unit-wise textile export data. The details of chapter-wise textile exports are as follows:

(US\$ Million)

Chapter	Commodity	2005-06	2006-07 (P)
1	2	3	4
50	Silk	392.43	385.56
51	Wool	80.88	85.44
52	Cotton	2984.23	3786.82
53	Other veg. Textile fibre	157.49	179.26
54	Man-made filaments	917.06	1010.37
55	Man-made staple fibre	822.87	1017.18
56	Wadding non-woven ropes	86.42	93.68
57	Carpets	1121.14	1173.12
58	Special woven fabrics; tufted textile fabrics; lace; tapestries, trimmings; embroidery	152.64	144.63
59	Impregnated, coated, covered or laminated textile fabrics; textile articles of a kind suitable for industrial use	79.04	83.96
60	Knitted or crocheted fabrics	49.62	75.17

1	2	3	4
61	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted	3131.13	3617.99
62	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, not knitted or crocheted	5435.50	5271.88
63	Other made up textile articles; sets; worn clothing and worn textile articles; rags	2380.69	2295.36
Total textile exports (US\$ Million)		17851.13	19220.42

(c) Projected export of textile and apparel from 2007-08 to 2009-10.

				US\$ Million
S.No.	Item	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
1.	Readymade Garment	12987	17355	23593
2.	Cotton Textiles	5645	7573	9185
3.	Man-made Textiles	2574	3012	3524
4.	Wool & Woollen Textiles	110	124	141
5.	Silk textiles	497	542	590
Total		21813	28606	37033
6.	Handicrafts	1653	1917	2224
7.	Coir & Coir Manufactures	198	234	276
8.	Jute	360	417	484
Grand Total		24024	31174	40017

(d) The steps taken by the Government to boost the export of textile items are as under:

- (i) The Government has taken initiative for development of Clusters in and around Bhadohi, Moradabad in Uttar Pradesh and Srinagar in Kashmir.
- (ii) The Government has established procurement/production centres at handlooms clusters; located in rural/remote places of Erode, Srivilliputtur, Karur etc. (Tamil Nadu), Nagri, Jamalamadugu (Andhra Pradesh), Cannanore (Kerala), Bhagalpur (Bihar), and Phulia (West Bengal). The Government is also doing product

development projects in Orissa and North Eastern Region (NER).

- (iii) Direct interaction with weavers and artisans to extend necessary guidance and assistance regarding design development, improvement of production techniques and quality etc.
- (iv) The Government announced the "Handloom Mark" Scheme on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2006 in order to certify the authenticity of handlooms products. The Scheme allows duty credit facility @ 2.5% of the FOB value of exports to 50% of the export turnover of Handlooms products bearing the Handloom Mark.

- (v) 100% Foreign Direct Investment is allowed in the textile sector under the automatic route.
- (vi) The Government has de-reserved the readymade garments, hosiery and knitwear from the SSI sector.
- (vii) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) has been made operational from 1.4.1999 to facilitate the modernisation and upgradation of the sector.
- (viii) To improve the productivity and quality of cotton, Government has launched the Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC). Incentives are provided for better farm practices, quality seeds, improvement in market infrastructure and modernization of ginning and pressing sector.
- (ix) A new Scheme namely "Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks" has been launched by merging "Scheme for Apparel Parks for Exports" and "Textile Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme" in order to expand the production base of textile and garment sector.
- (x) The fiscal duty structure has been generally rationalised to achieve growth and maximum value addition within the country. Except for mandatory excise duty on man-made filament yarns and man-made staple fibres, the whole value addition chain has been given an option of excise exemption.
- (xi) The import of specified textiles and garment machinery items has been allowed at a concessional rate of customs duty to encourage investments and to make our textile products competitive in the global market. The cost of machinery has also been reduced through fiscal policy measures.
- (xii) Duty-free imports of 21 items of trimmings and embellishment items are allowed to the garment exporters, upto 3% of their actual export performance during the previous year.
- (xiii) For the speedy modernisation of the textile processing sector, Government has introduced, w.e.f 20.4.2005, a credit linked capital subsidy scheme @10% under TUFS, in addition to the existing 5% interest reimbursement.
- (xiv) The National Institute for Fashion Technology (NIFT), its eight branches, and the Apparel Training & Design Centres (ATDCs) are running various courses/programmes to meet the skilled manpower requirements of the textile industry, especially apparel, in the field of design, merchandising and marketing.
- (xv) Facilities like eco-testing laboratories have been created to enable exporters to get garments/textiles pre-tested so that they conform to the requirements of the importing countries.

*[Translation]*

#### **New Vocational Courses**

5388. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new vocational course, IFM has been introduced at Senior Secondary Level in Schools under Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of Schools wherein IFM course has been introduced;

(d) whether the cooperation of any leading institute is being sought in conducting the IFM course; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (e) A new vocational course on Financial Market Management (FMM) has been introduced at higher Secondary level in some selected schools affiliated to CBSE from the academic session 2007-08. The syllabus and course material for this package has been prepared with the help of various stakeholders & industry. This course has been introduced in collaboration with National Stock Exchange (NSE), Mumbai with facility for joint certification. 75 schools affiliated to CBSE have been selected to offer this course during 2007-08, but none of these is a Kendriya Vidyalaya.

#### **Promotion of Handicrafts**

5389. SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of schemes being implemented for the promotion of handicrafts, State and Union Territory-wise;

(b) the number of craftsmen benefited through such schemes during each of the last three years, State and Union Territory-wise;

(c) the funds released under the said schemes during the last three years, State and Union Territory-wise;

(d) the details of marketing programmes organised for promoting handicrafts industry during each of the last three years; and

(e) The number of people benefited from these programmes and the details of handicrafts items sold during each of the last three years, State and Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) The schemes being implemented for promotion and development of Handicrafts in the country include Baba

Saheb Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana (AHVY) for integrated development for selected craft clusters; Marketing & Support Service; Design and Technology Upgradation; Export Promotion; Research and Development; Special Handicrafts Training Project; Credit Guarantee, Bima Yojana for Handicrafts Artisans and Rajiv Gandhi Shilp Swasthaya Bima Yojana. These schemes are not state specific and are being implemented throughout the country.

(b) The number of craftsmen benefited under these schemes during the last three years, state and Union Territory-wise is as Statement-I enclosed.

(c) The funds released under these schemes during the last three years, State and Union Territory-wise is as per Statement-II enclosed.

(d) and (e) The details of the Marketing Programmes organized and people benefited for promoting Handicrafts Industry during the last three years, year-wise, is as per Statement-III. The data on State-wise and Union Territory-wise Handicrafts items sold under the Marketing programme is not maintained

#### *Statement-I*

##### *Number of beneficiaries state-wise and Scheme-wise during the year (2004-05)*

Sl. No.	State	AHVY	EP	Design	Training	Marketing	SHTP	Bima	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	323	12	200		645	120	5650	6950
2.	A & N Island	0					135		135
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0			200				200
4.	Assam	1790	9	1000	200	645	2700	5849	12193
5.	Bihar	1034	5	180		15		304	1538
6.	Chandigarh	0							0
7.	Chhatisgarh	265		100			60	615	1040
8.	Delhi	120	43	1700	100	1905	30	1087	4982
9.	Goa	0				300		481	781
10.	Gujarat	6266		250		210	20	1978	10724
11.	Haryana	350			100	525			975

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
12.	Himachal Pradesh	1315		50		420	250	3945	5980
13.	Jharkhand	600		60		45			705
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	1710	12	120		330	1515	2920	6607
15.	Karnataka	373		450		780	30	2421	4054
16.	Kerala	570				330	15	6205	7120
17.	Madhya Pradesh	982	6	1250		600		1429	4267
18.	Maharashtra	190		200		915		1233	2538
19.	Manipur	700		420		30	480		1630
20.	Meghalaya	0		60					60
21.	Mizoram	165		60		15	120		360
22.	Nagaland	695	5	60			680		1640
23.	Orissa	555		600		330	95	3611	10191
24.	Punjab	133		60		345	75	1118	1731
25.	Pondicherry	0					15		15
26.	Rajasthan	475		250		555	20	1756	3056
27.	Sikkim	0				150			150
28.	Tamil Nadu	3530		50		390	180	5361	9531
29.	Tripura	840		210					1050
30.	Uttar Pradesh	3441	9	1080	200	1845	2680	7151	16406
31.	Uttaranchal	0		280		345	235		860
32.	West Bengal	2150	10	1200		630	15	3293	7293
Total		30572	106	9690	800	12300	9670	61427	124767

*Number of beneficiaries State-wise and Scheme-wise during the year (2005-06)*

Sl. No.	States	AHVV	EP	Design	Training	Marketing	SHTP	Bima	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3952	3	420		970	280	6418	12043
2.	Andaman & Nicobar Island	0							0
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	500		120			20		640

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
4.	Assam	2356	25	1390	200	915	150	4408	9444
5.	Bihar	1070		90	200	390	40	5310	7100
6.	Chandigarh	0							0
7.	Chhatisgarh	0	5			150			155
8.	Delhi	400	142	1800		1080	60	167	3649
9.	Goa	200		150	100	165	20	349	984
10.	Gujarat	16600		270		750	90	5872	23582
11.	Haryana	520		180		660	40		1400
12.	Himachal Pradesh	296		260		915	40	2461	3972
13.	Jharkhand	300		270		195	110		875
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	2090	12	630		856	770	3356	7713
15.	Karnataka	1660	3	150		405	50	2670	4938
16.	Kerala	285				210	10	10595	11100
17.	Madhya Pradesh	1684	9	250		690	120	2241	4994
18.	Maharashtra	0		470		420	145	1977	3012
19.	Manipur	3405		800		360	110		4675
20.	Meghalaya	300		80		150	30		560
21.	Mizoram	75							75
22.	Nagaland	1330		330			330	120	2110
23.	Orissa	550		600		540	70	3287	5047
24.	Punjab	133		350		210	10	1459	2162
25.	Pondicherry	0				175	150		325
26.	Rajasthan	750		630		720		2599	4699
27.	Sikkim	0					10		10
28.	Tamil Nadu	630		500		360	305	4127	5922
29.	Tripura	513					30		543
30.	Uttar Pradesh	3620	10	2200	200	1470	1515	10205	19220
31.	Uttaranchal	100		150		405	120		775
32.	West Bengal	1615	5	700		495	10	2943	5768
	<b>Total</b>	<b>44934</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>12790</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>13985</b>	<b>4425</b>	<b>70444</b>	<b>147492</b>

*Number of beneficiaries State-wise and Scheme-wise during the year (2006-07)*

Sl. No.	States	AHVV	EP	Design	Training	Marketing	SHTP	Bima	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1600	6	300	200	1590	70	6204	9970
2.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	0							0
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	200			100		20		320
4.	Assam	1140	60	400	300	1470	70	12071	15511
5.	Bihar	828			200	405	80	2935	4448
6.	Chandigarh	0							0
7.	Chhatisgarh	0		60					60
8.	Delhi	700	96	470	200	2055	200	1597	5318
9.	Goa	200				165		379	744
10.	Gujarat	750		110	100	765	10	9135	10870
11.	Haryana	300		90	100	540	30		1060
12.	Himachal Pradesh	220			100	765	40	2994	4119
13.	Jharkhand	1030				330	10		1370
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	720		180	200	210	70	3871	5251
15.	Karnataka	247	3	300	200	570	40	3266	4626
16.	Kerala	600			100	315	20	9756	10791
17.	Madhya Pradesh	1613				480	50	1775	3918
18.	Maharashtra	500				525	20	1813	2858
19.	Manipur	1025		80	100	900	80		2185
20.	Meghalaya	300			100	150	10		560
21.	Mizoram	200			100		10		310
22.	Nagaland	810				315	20		1145
23.	Orissa	1370		390	300	1650	170	3841	7721
24.	Punjab	256		60		60	60	1509	1945
25.	Pondicherry	0			100	150	10		260
26.	Rajasthan	250	3	200	100	825	10	6669	8057
27.	Sikkim	0		30					30

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
28.	Tamil nadu	1077	139	240	200	405	50	8888	10999
29.	Tripura	112		50					162
30.	Uttar Pradesh	4270	6	700	200	3810	370	9458	18814
31.	Uttaranchal	860		30		825	70	3631	5416
32.	West Bengal	1562	6	280	300	345	40	5889	8422
	al	22740	319	3970	3300	19620	1630	95681	147260

**Statement II***State-wise, scheme-wise funds released under Handicrafts scheme during 2004-05*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	State	Exports	Marketing and Support Services	Design	Training	SHTP	R & D	Welfare Scheme	Bima Yojana	AHVV	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1.37	11.92	18.28	4.45	4.88	30.00	0.00	0.00	177.42	248.32
2.	A & N Island	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.67
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	14.87	0.00	0.00	1.98	0.00	0.00	0.00	27.71	44.56
4.	Assam	27.47	49.78	43.94	10.90	70.98	0.00	1.75	0.00	326.40	531.22
5.	Bihar	3.28	8.87	3.48	0.00	3.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	15.63	34.66
6.	Delhi	568.69	287.55	0.00	1.50	0.71	34.04	0.00	0.00	33.60	926.09
7.	Goa	0.00	0.00	374.77	0.00	1.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	375.78
8.	Gujarat	5.83	43.32	57.62	0.00	4.67	20.44	0.00	0.00	108.04	239.92
9.	Haryana	0.00	39.42	0.00	1.10	2.88	4.97	0.00	0.00	31.72	80.09
10.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	13.38	3.63	1.14	7.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	125.03	151.08
11.	Jharkhand	0.00	1.27	0.84	0.00	3.58	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.91	16.60
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	156.57	84.39	439.45	0.00	24.44	9.12	0.00	0.00	54.18	768.15
13.	Karnataka	0.00	40.03	11.16	3.56	6.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	40.96	102.46
14.	Kerala	0.00	10.08	0.00	0.00	5.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	44.32	59.82
15.	Madhya Pradesh	11.55	34.38	80.15	0.53	2.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	69.73	198.63
16.	Maharashtra	20.00	38.15	4.13	0.00	1.35	2.25	0.00	0.00	33.04	98.92

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
17.	Manipur	0.00	10.44	12.4	0.00	6.48	0.00	0.00	0.00	17.74	47.06
18.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.80
19.	Mizoram	0.00	3.32	10.00	0.48	1.62	0.00	0.46	0.00	16.59	32.47
20.	Nagaland	0.67	5.89	35.19	1.20	14.64	0.00	1.20	0.00	12.04	70.63
21.	Orissa	0.00	46.70	80.05	0.65	6.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	76.79	190.46
22.	Punjab	0.00	3.67	1.80	0.00	3.83	0.00	0.00	0.00	15.12	24.42
23.	Pondicherry	0.00	5.55	0.00	0.00	0.92	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.17	6.64
24.	Rajasthan	0.00	114.03	49.88	0.00	2.48	0.00	0.00	0.00	88.01	254.38
25.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
26.	Tamil Nadu	63.11	19.39	97.75	10.25	7.73	0.00	5.25	0.00	31.15	234.63
27.	Tripura	0.00	13.87	3.80	0.00	2.36	0.00	0.00	0.00	49.09	68.94
28.	Uttar Pradesh	46.27	105.01	305.91	0.00	94.27	10.50	0.00	0.00	251.06	823.02
29.	Uttaranchal	0.00	22.49	15.23	0.34	9.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	21.14	68.64
30.	West Bengal	27.85	21.72	117.83	0.00	10.88	4.58	0.00	0.00	166.41	349.27
31.	Chhatisgarh	0.00	2.18	14.85	0.00	2.61	0.00	0.00	0.00	19.34	38.98
	Total	932.66	1051.47	1762.74	36.10	307.44	115.90	8.66	0.00	1873.34	6088.31*

\*Note: The above expenditure pertains to activities undertaken for development of handicrafts under grant-in-aid schemes.

*State-wise, scheme-wise funds released under Handicrafts schemes during 2005-06*

Sl.No.	State	AHVY	Design	MSS	Export	SHTP inc. Trg.	R & D	Bima Yojana	Welfare Scheme	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	267.74	42.80	62.70	21.67	16.35	30.00			440.96
2.	A & N Island	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	8.59				8.59
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	27.56	0.85	0.00	0.00	0.80				29.21
4.	Asam	342.24	57.75	172.22	69.90	21.52	9.92		5.00	678.55
5.	Bihar	13.76	6.02	15.33	0.00	5.84				40.95
6.	Chhatisgarh	11.24	0	4.24	10.00	0.00				25.48

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
7.	Delhi	16.31	107.13	236.28	879.16	4.41	33.74			1277.03
8.	Goa	1.00	10.05	5.75		0.80				17.60
9.	Gujarat	329.61	7.65	39.10		9.76	2.94			401.22
10.	Haryana	36.57	7.65	39.10		2.52				85.84
11.	Himachal Pradesh	96.8	23.25	75.14		11.75				206.94
12.	Jharkhand	18.00	2.60	41.66		1.68				63.94
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	115.14	710.53	70.23	287.25	112.02	5.00		20.00	1320.17
14.	Karnataka	65.37	5.95	11.83		3.10	3.00			89.25
15.	Kerala	94.18	0	13.81	8.79	0.20			1.10	118.08
16.	Madhya Pradesh	70.73	17.38	41.12	25.86	4.88	1.50			161.47
17.	Maharashtra	18.78	25.15	35.57		12.10			2.75	94.35
18.	Manipur	76.37	50.70	27.04		12.28			10.00	176.39
19.	Meghalaya	1.50	4.85	3.56		1.20				11.11
20.	Mizoram	0.37	0.85	0.00		0.00				1.22
21.	Nagaland	40.06	6.8	19.00		18.13				83.99
22.	Orissa	207.48	26.50	70.31		10.19				314.48
23.	Punjab	56.97	11.90	5.76		1.19				75.82
24.	Pandicherry	0.00	0.00	4.70		7.21				11.91
25.	Rajasthan	58.59	36.11	63.70		0.00				158.40
26.	Sikkim	0.00	0	0.00		0.40				0.40
27.	Tamil Nadu	93.76	28.92	19.70	2.43	28.96				173.77
28.	Tripura	36.76	3.60	0.00		3.98				44.34
29.	Uttar Pradesh	363.48	423.98	268.40	62.38	136.43	1.91			1376.50
30.	Uttaranchal	40.13	1.70	31.88		12.20				85.91
31.	West Bengal	120.17	29.96	23.66	42.93	2.05	4.62			223.39
<b>Total</b>		<b>2620.67</b>	<b>2160.33</b>	<b>1419.95</b>	<b>1410.37</b>	<b>444.54</b>	<b>92.63</b>	<b>*100.00</b>	<b>38.85</b>	<b>7797.34&amp;</b>

\*Note: The above expenditure pertains to activities undertaken for development of handicrafts under grant-in-aid schemes.

*State-wise fund released under various schemes implemented by DC (Handicrafts) during the year 2006-07*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	State	AHVV	EP	R & D	Design	Training	Marketing	SHTP	RGSSY	Bima Yojana	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Andhra Pradesh	189.84	22.23		24.86	2.2	131	33.79			403.92
2.	A & N Islands	0	0		0	0	0	0			0
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	38.14			0	11	0	5.47			44.71
4.	Assam	228.13	70.93	1.35	99.3	3.3	136.41	44.73			584.15
5.	Bihar	22.7			3.5	4.15	20.64	9.38			60.37
6.	Chandigarh	0			0		35	0			35
7.	Chhatisgarh	11.97	16.39		1.8		0	0			30.16
8.	Delhi	46.33	825.27	18.81	107.41	6.84	181.11	20.42			1205.99
9.	Goa	1			0		8.06	4.68			13.74
10.	Gujarat	238.94	5		30.84	1.1	42.75	3.7			322.33
11.	Haryana	59.82			6.02	1.1	34.07	11.52			112.53
12.	Himachal Pradesh	76.61			5.24	1.1	56.93	5.54			145.42
13.	Jharkhand	26.25			0.84		20.64	6.36			54.09
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	85.21	5		282.25	2.2	11.99	124.18			510.83
15.	Karnataka	32.3	13.48		28.69	2.36	57.11	10.47			144.41
16.	Kerala	49.23	4.9	3.09	0	1.1	18.77	1.52			78.61
17.	Madhya Pradesh	44.76	21.11	1.65	0.85	0	22.61	9.88			100.86
18.	Maharashtra	14.92			5.94		71.25	3.36			100.47
19.	Manipur	163.36	3.63	3.21	20.15	1.1	52.96	34.05			278.46
20.	Meghalaya	0.96			0	1.1	5.75	8.32			16.15
21.	Mizoram	36.38			0	1.1	0.00	2.34			39.82
22.	Nagaland	15.32			0.85	0	12.6	20.38			49.15
23.	Orissa	155.53			32.88	3.3	55.85	30.36			277.92
24.	Punjab	56.43			12.07	0	5.75	9.92			84.17
25.	Pondicherry	0			0	1.1	11.48	2.68			15.26

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
26.	Rajasthan	172.29	5.06		11.75	1.1	100.33	1.32			291.85
27.	Sikkim	0			0.85	0	0.00	2.23			3.08
28.	Tamil Nadu	129.31	64.4	1.35	9.2	3.05	63.67	16.18			287.16
29.	Tripura	46.15			4	0	0	0			50.15
30.	Uttar Pradesh	568.43	33.348	43.91	414.63	14.58	264.02	121.82			1460.87
31.	Uttaranchal	63.89			5.96	0	32.56	16.2			118.61
32.	West Bengal	72.34	29.01	1.5	12.15	8.8	27.83	10.62			162.25
Total		2646.56	1119.89	74.87	1122.03	61.58	1481.14	576.42	501	0	7583.49*

\*Note: The above expenditure pertains to activities undertaken for development of Handicrafts under grant-in-aid schemes.

### Statement-III

*Details of the marketing programmes organized and people benefited in the handicraft sector during the last three years (2004-05 to 2006-07).*

SI.No.	Name of State	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
		No. of Events	No. of Bene.	No. of Events	No. of Bene.	No. of Events	No. of Bene.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7	645	13	970	16	1590
2.	Andaman and Nicobar	—	—	—	—	—	—
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—
4.	Assam	7	645	16	915	26	1470
5.	Bihar	1	15	8	390	9	405
6.	Chandigarh	—	—	—	—	—	—
7.	Chhattisgarh	—	—	1	150	—	—
8.	Delhi	28	1905	27	1080	29	2055
9.	Goa	2	300	2	165	2	165
10.	Gujarat	5	210	14	750	15	765
11.	Haryana	8	515	8	660	9	540
12.	Himachal Pradesh	10	420	16	915	15	765
13.	Jharkhand	3	45	4	915	15	765

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	4	330	12	855	5	210
15.	Karnataka	7	780	9	405	11	570
16.	Kerala	4	330	5	210	3	315
17.	Madhya Pradesh	4	660	10	690	5	480
18.	Maharashtra	7	915	10	420	8	525
19.	Manipur	2	30	6	360	6	900
20.	Meghalaya	—	—	1	150	1	150
21.	Mizoram	1	15	—	—	—	—
22.	Nagaland	—	—	4	330	3	315
23.	Orissa	4	330	9	540	29	1650
24.	Punjab	5	345	5	210	4	60
25.	Pondicherry	—	—	2	175	1	150
26.	Rajasthan	10	555	12	720	10	825
27.	Sikkim	1	150	—	—	—	—
28.	Tamilnadu	8	390	6	360	9	405
29.	Tripura	—	—	—	—	—	—
30.	Uttar Pradesh	33	1845	35	1470	65	3810
31.	Uttranchal	5	345	9	405	10	825
32.	West Bengal	6	630	6	495	14	345
Total		172	12300	250	13985	309	19620

[English]

### Literacy Rate

5390. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of decadal literacy growth rate achieved as per 2001 census in comparison to 1991 census, gender-wise and State/Union Territory-wise; and

(b) the name of States and Union Territories topping in decadal growth rate as per 2001 census, gender-wise and State/Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) As per Census 2001, the literacy rate of the country has increased by 12.63% during the last decade. The male literacy has increased by 11.13% and the female literacy by 14.38%. The details indicating the literacy rates and decadal difference in literacy rates, gender-wise and State-wise, are given in Statement enclosed.

(b) As per 2001 Census, 11 States/Union Territories have recorded a higher overall decadal literacy growth rates above the national average (12.63%), 12 States

have recorded higher female literacy growth rate above the national average (14.38%) and 10 States/Union Territories have recorded higher male literacy growth rate

above the national average (11.13%) as per details given in the enclosed Statement-II.

**Statement I**

Sl.No.	State/UT	Literacy Rate-1991			Literacy Rate- 2001			Decadal Difference		
		Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	55.12	32.72	44.08	70.32	50.43	60.47	15.20	17.71	16.39
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	51.45	29.69	41.59	63.83	43.53	54.34	12.38	13.84	12.75
3.	Assam	61.87	43.03	52.89	71.28	54.61	63.25	9.41	11.58	10.36
4.	Bihar	51.37	21.99	37.49	59.68	33.12	47.00	8.31	11.13	9.51
5.	Chhattisgarh	58.07	27.52	42.91	77.38	51.85	64.66	19.31	24.33	21.75
6.	Goa	83.64	67.09	75.51	88.42	75.37	82.01	4.78	8.28	6.50
7.	Gujarat	73.13	48.64	61.29	79.66	57.80	69.14	6.53	9.16	7.85
8.	Haryana	69.10	40.47	55.85	78.49	55.73	67.91	9.39	15.26	12.06
9.	Himachal Pradesh	75.36	52.13	63.86	85.35	67.42	76.48	9.99	15.29	12.62
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	66.60	43.00	55.52	—	—	—
11.	Jharkhand	55.8	25.52	41.39	67.30	38.87	53.56	11.50	13.35	12.17
12.	Karnataka	67.26	44.34	56.04	76.10	56.87	66.64	8.84	12.53	10.60
13.	Kerala	93.62	86.17	89.81	94.24	87.72	90.86	0.62	1.55	1.05
14.	Madhya Pradesh	58.54	29.35	44.67	76.06	50.29	63.74	17.52	20.94	19.07
15.	Maharashtra	76.56	52.32	64.87	85.97	67.03	76.88	9.41	14.71	12.01
16.	Manipur	71.63	47.60	59.89	80.33	60.53	70.53	8.70	12.93	10.64
17.	Meghalaya	53.12	44.85	49.10	65.43	59.61	62.56	12.31	14.76	13.46
18.	Mizoram	85.61	78.60	82.27	90.72	86.75	88.80	5.11	8.15	6.53
19.	Nagaland	67.62	54.75	61.65	71.16	61.46	66.59	3.54	6.71	4.94
20.	Orissa	63.09	34.68	49.09	75.35	50.51	63.08	12.26	15.83	13.99
21.	Punjab	65.66	50.41	58.51	75.23	63.36	69.65	9.57	12.95	11.14
22.	Rajasthan	54.99	20.44	38.55	75.70	43.85	60.41	20.71	23.41	21.86
23.	Sikkim	65.70	46.76	56.94	76.04	60.40	68.81	10.34	13.64	11.87

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
24.	Tamil Nadu	73.75	51.33	62.66	82.42	64.43	73.45	8.67	13.10	10.79
25.	Tripura	70.58	49.65	60.44	81.02	64.91	73.19	10.44	15.26	12.75
26.	Uttaranchal	72.79	41.63	57.75	83.28	59.63	71.62	10.49	18.00	13.87
27.	Uttar Pradesh	54.82	24.37	40.71	68.82	42.22	56.27	14.00	17.85	15.56
28.	West Bengal	67.81	46.56	57.36	77.02	59.61	66.64	9.21	13.05	11.28
29.	A&N Islands	78.99	65.46	73.02	86.33	75.24	81.30	7.34	9.78	8.28
30.	Chandigarh	82.04	72.34	77.81	86.14	76.47	81.94	4.10	4.13	4.13
31.	D&N Haveli	53.56	26.98	40.71	71.18	40.23	57.63	17.62	13.25	16.92
32.	Daman & Diu	82.66	59.40	71.20	86.76	65.61	78.18	4.10	6.21	6.98
33.	Delhi	82.01	66.99	75.29	87.33	74.71	81.67	5.32	7.72	6.38
34.	Lakshadweep	90.18	72.89	81.78	92.53	80.47	86.66	2.35	7.58	4.88
35.	Pondicherry	83.68	65.63	74.74	88.62	73.90	81.24	4.94	8.27	6.50
	ALL INDIA	64.13	39.29	52.21	75.26	53.67	64.84	11.13	14.38	12.63

**Statement II**

*States/UTs recorded literacy growth rates above the national average*

**I. Overall literacy rate**

1. Rajasthan (21.86%)
2. Chhattisgarh (21.75%)
3. Madhya Pradesh (19.07%)
4. Dadra & Nagar Haveli (16.92%)
5. Andhra Pradesh (16.39%)
6. Uttar Pradesh (15.56%)
7. Orissa (13.99%)
8. Uttaranchal (13.87%)
9. Meghalaya (13.46%)
10. Arunachal (12.75%)
11. Tripura (12.75%)

**II. Female literacy rate**

1. Chattisgarh (24.33%)
2. Rajasthan (23.41%)
3. Madhya Pradesh (20.94%)
4. Uttaranchal (18.00%)
5. Uttar Pradesh (17.85%)
6. Andhra Pradesh (17.71%)
7. Orissa (15.83%)
8. Himachal Pradesh (15.29%)
9. Haryana (15.26%)
10. Tripura (15.26%)
11. Meghalaya (14.76%)
12. Maharashtra (14.71%)

**III. Male literacy rate**

1. Rajasthan (20.71%)
2. Chhattisgarh (19.31%)

3. Dadra & Nagar Haveli (17.62%)
4. Madhya Pradesh (17.52%)
5. Andhra Pradesh (15.20%)
6. Uttar Pradesh (14.00%)
7. Arunachal Pradesh (12.38%)
8. Meghalaya (12.31%)
9. Orissa (12.26%)
10. Jharkhand(11.50%)

#### **Duplicated Textile Material**

5391. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the crisis cropped up to duplication of famous Kota Doria Sarees in Rajasthan and Chanderi Sarees in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the measures being taken to ban such duplication of textile material keeping in view of the regional speciality of such textile material;

(d) whether the Government proposes to promote and encourage the production of Kota Doria and Chanderi Sarees through any action plan;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the present position of the market of Kota Doria and Chanderi Sarees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (c) The Government of India has not received any report on the crisis cropped up due to duplication of Kota Doria and Chanderi Sarees. The State Governments of Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan have informed that both the Chanderi and Kota Doria Sarees have been protected by registering them under The Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999.

(d) and (e): The Government of India have been implementing various schemes for promotion and development of handloom products, including Chanderi and Kota Doria Sarees. The State Government of

Rajasthan has prepared a comprehensive project for development of Kota Doria Sarees and the same is under implementation.

(f) There is a good market demand for Kota Doria and Chanderi Sarees.

*[English]*

#### **Handicapped Children**

5392. SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) is aware of the difficulties being faced by the physically and visually challenged kids to score good marks in many subjects;

(b) if so, whether the CBSE has any proposal to provide special training to teachers to check answer scripts of those students;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has informed that it has already provided certain relaxation and concession to physically challenged students, namely, exemption to appear in third language in the case of dyslexic, blind students and those suffering from speech/hearing defects; physiotherapy exercises in place of physical and health education courses of the Board in class-X and XII; option of studying one compulsory language as against two language in class-X.

Following concessions have also been provided for Board examination:

- (i) Alternative questions in lieu of the questions having visual input are provided in Mathematics, Science and Technology, Social Science, and English communicative paper for class-X level.
- (ii) Alternative questions in lieu of questions having visual input are provided in History, Geography and Economics paper for class-XII level.

- (iii) Separate question papers in enlarged print for blind candidates are provided in Mathematics, and Science paper at class-X level.
- (iv) Blind candidates appearing from Delhi region have been permitted to use typewriters/ computers for writing answers.
- (v) Additional time of one hour is granted to physically challenged students for class-X and XII Board Examination.
- (vi) Permission is granted to use an amanuensis.
- (vii) Answer books are evaluated separately.
- (viii) Blind students appearing in Delhi are exempted from paying examination fee.
- (ix) Special examination centres are created to facilitate physically challenged children.

Besides the above, affiliated byelaws of CBSE stipulate that every affiliated institution is required to provide facilities like ramps, toilets and auditory signals in elevators.

(b) to (d) CBSE has informed that there is no proposal under its consideration to provide special training to teachers to check answer scripts of physically challenged students. However, teachers are appropriately sensitized to carry out proper evaluation of the answer scripts.

#### **Private Detective Agencies**

5393. SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received various complaints in regard to working of private detective agencies;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has any proposal to regulate activities of the private detective agencies and bring them under the purview of law;
- (d) if so, the details and reasons therefor; and
- (e) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) At present, the Government does not have any regulator to regulate the activities of the private detective agencies. Therefore, information about the working of the private detective agencies is not available.

(c) and (d) The Government is proposing to enact a law to regulate all private detective agencies in the country so as to ensure that they work within the ambit of law and are accountable to a regulatory mechanism.

(e) A bill in this regard is likely to be introduced in Parliament shortly.

#### **Rehabilitation Board for PMF**

5394. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has set up a Welfare and Rehabilitation Board (WARB) for Para Military Forces (PMF);
- (b) if so, the details alongwith the composition of the Board;
- (c) whether any guidelines has been laid down by the Government for the said Board;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the said Board is a permanent body or temporary?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (e) Approval has been accorded for setting up of a Welfare and Rehabilitation Board (WARB) for personnel of Central Para Military Forces (CPMF). It will function under an Apex body comprising seven members drawn from all CPMFs under the Chairmanship of Director General of a CPMF on rotation basis and will look after the dependents of those who die while in service, personnel boarded out on medical grounds and other ex-CPMF personnel.

#### **Recognition to Universities by UGC**

5395. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Universities recognised by the University Grants Commission (UGC) in each State and offering courses of higher learning and pure sciences;

(b) whether the Government proposes to introduce four years graduate programme with special study of four subjects, two year post-graduate study with interdisciplinary nature of learning and intensive study of two related domains of knowledge followed by research for doctorate degree to produce original thinkers capable of expanding frontiers of knowledge; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The number of Universities/Institutions recognised by the University Grants Commission in each State under Section 2(f) of UGC Act, 1956 is given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) There is no such proposal.

(c) Does not arise.

**Statement**

Sl.No.	Name of the States	No. of Universities	No. of Institutes of National Importance	Institutes Established under State Legislature Act
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	22	-	02
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	02	-	-
3.	Assam	06	01	-
4.	Bihar	15	-	01
5.	Chandigarh	02	01	-
6.	Chattisgarh	08	-	-
7.	Goa	01	-	-
8.	Gujarat	21	-	-
9.	Haryana	08	-	-
10.	Himachal Pradesh	05	-	-
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	07	-	01
12.	Jharkhand	07	-	-
13.	Karnataka	24	-	-
14.	Kerala	09	01	-
15.	Madhya Pradesh	17	-	-
16.	Maharashtra	41	01	-
17.	Manipur	02	-	-

1	2	3	4	5
18.	Meghalaya	01	-	-
19.	Mizoram	01	-	-
20.	Nagaland	01	-	-
21.	NCT of Delhi	16	02	-
22.	Orissa	12	-	-
23.	Pondicherry	01	-	-
24.	Punjab	11	01	-
25.	Rajasthan	21	-	-
26.	Sikkim	01	-	-
27.	Tamilnadu	35	02	-
28.	Tripura	02	-	-
29.	Uttar Pradesh	33	01	01
30.	Uttaranchal	10	01	-
31.	West Bengal	18	02	-
	Total	360	13	05

#### Study on North East Industrial Policy

5396. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:  
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:  
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

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

(a) whether the Government has conducted any study on the impact of the North East Industrial Policy for the period 1997-2004;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the target fixed for the job creation and achievement made thereon; and

(c) the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir. An impact assessment study of the North East Industrial Policy, 1997 was conducted by

the Tata Economic Consultancy Services (TECS) in 2004. As per the study, for the period from 1999 to September, 2004, a total number of 681 units were set up in the North East with a total investment of Rs. 1,067.28 crore and direct employment generated was 20,709.

(b) No target was fixed.

(c) Based on recommendation of the TECS impact assessment study, a new North East Industrial and Investment Promotion Policy (NEIIPP), 2007 has been notified on 1.4.2007, which is expected to boost industrial development & employment in the region.

#### Affiliation of Teachers Colleges

5397. SHRI M. APPADURAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Council for Teachers Education (NCTE) has issued recognition to a number of Educational

Institutions but Universities have not affiliated them for want of compliance the norms of NCTE in Tamil Nadu;

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

(c) the number of Teachers College of Education granted recognition/permission during the last three years by NCTE in Tamil Nadu;

(d) whether the Government proposes to take necessary steps to regulate the growth of Teachers College of Education in the country particularly in Tamil Nadu; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) No complaint has been received from any institution recognized by the NCTE in the State of Tamil Nadu in connection with affiliation not being granted by universities.

(c) The Details of the number of Teacher Education Institutions in Tamil Nadu granted recognition during the last 3 years is as under:-

Year	Number of Teacher Education Colleges in Tamil Nadu granted recognition
2004-05	193
2005-06	394
2006-07	428

(d) and (e) The procedure for recognition of institutions or additional intake/courses is laid down in the NCTE Act, Rules and Regulations notified by the NCTE from time to time. An institution must fulfill all the prescribed conditions related to norms and standards for conducting the course/training in teacher education. These norms, inter-alia, cover conditions relating to financial resources, accommodation, library, laboratory, other physical infrastructure, qualified staff including teaching and non-teaching personnel etc.

The Regulations for laying down the procedure for grant of recognition and norms and standards for various teacher training programmes were promulgated by NCTE in November, 2002. In supersession of these regulations,

the new regulations called the National Council for Teacher Education (Recognition Norms and Procedure) Regulations have been notified by NCTE in December, 2005 and Gazetted on 13.1.2006. These provide that the applications complete in all respects shall be processed by the office of the Regional Committee concerned within 30 days of receipt of the application. The particulars are to be hosted on the official website of the Regional Committee concerned. Thereafter, a written communication along with a copy of the application form submitted by the institution shall be sent to the State Government/UT Administration concerned. On receipt of the communication, the State Government/UT Administration shall within 60 days furnish its recommendations on the applications to the office of the Regional Committee. If the recommendation is negative, the State Government/UT Administration shall provide detailed reasons/grounds thereof, which would be taken into consideration by the Regional Committee while deciding the application. If no communication is received from the State Government/UT Administration within the stipulated 60 days, it shall be presumed that the State Government/UT Administration concerned has no recommendation to make.

The respective Regional Committee of NCTE grant recognition after they are satisfied that the applicant institution fulfils the requisite norms. For ensuring that the institutions recognised by NCTE are complying with the norms and standards of the teacher training course and other provisions of the NCTE Act, rules or regulations framed under the Act, the recognized institutions are required to furnish every year a Performance Appraisal Report (PAR) in the prescribed proforma to the concerned Regional Committees. These reports are examined carefully in the Regional Committees and deficiencies are brought to the notice of the institutions for removal. Also, under the provisions of Section 13 of the NCTE Act, inspections of the recognized institutions are conducted by the headquarters of the NCTE and deficiencies in compliance of the provisions of the NCTE Act, Rules and Regulations are brought to the notice of the institutions for removal.

It may be noted that while the four Regional Committees of NCTE are mandated to approve or reject applications for recognition, the Council (NCTE) has appellate authority under section 18 of the NCTE Act over the orders passed by the Regional Committees. It may also be noted that Section 16 of the Act mandates that no examining body shall grant affiliation, whether provisional or otherwise, or hold examination unless the

institution has obtained recognition from the Regional Committee concerned under section 14 or 15 of the NCTE Act.

#### Import of Duty Free Wheat

5398. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has extended the time for import of duty free wheat only for Public Sector Undertakings; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) D/o Revenue's Notification No. 21/2002-Customs, dated 1st March, 2002 prescribes an unconditional Nil rate of customs duty on import of wheat. This rate is valid up to 31st December 2007.

[English]

#### Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana

5399. SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI:  
SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN:

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

(a) whether the Government is considering to discontinue Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of the loan provided during the last three years under the said scheme, State-wise and Union Territory-wise;

(d) whether the Government has received complaints for not granting the loans to the applicants under PMRY;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD):  
~~PRASAD~~ (a) No, Sir.

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

(c) The details of the loan provided during the last three years under the PMRY State-wise and Union Territory-wise are given in Statement-I enclosed.

(d) and (e) The details of the defaulting banks against whom complaints have been received are at Statement-II.

(f) Complaints received from beneficiaries are referred to the concerned banks for corrective action. Various steps have also been taken by the Central Government which include banks being asked to endorse one copy of the loan sanction letter to the concerned District Industries Center (DIG) so that the latter can assist the beneficiaries in completing pre-disbursement formalities, instructions to banks to dispose of the applications within the prescribed time frame, provided the loan application is complete in all other respects. Instructions have also been issued making the District Selection Committee responsible for selection and recommendation of projects and beneficiaries.

#### Statement I

*State-wise and Union Territory-wise details of the loan provided during the last three years under PMRY*

Sl.No.	States/UTs	2003-04 Loan Disbursed by Banks (Rs. in lakh)	2004-05 Loan Disbursed by Banks (Rs. in lakh)	2005-06 Loan Disbursed by Banks (Rs. in lakh)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Haryana	4258.84	4294.93	5272.34
2.	Himachal Pradesh	2232.75	2285.89	2438.78

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Jammu & Kashmir	621.27	667.47	583.89
4.	Punjab	4728.70	5141.36	4966.79
5.	Rajasthan	7078.78	7087.30	7830.71
6.	Chandigarh	42.09	123.16	45.99
7.	Delhi	624.08	557.12	480.89
8.	Assam	3863.75	5724.27	3635.78
9.	Manipur	367.97	304.23	349.96
10.	Meghalaya	347.49	529.40	515.14
11.	Nagaland	49.36	102.45	3121.58
12.	Tripura	1527.01	1379.65	1642.31
13.	Arunachal Pradesh	608.86	434.80	937.55
14.	Mizoram	826.50	133.20	439.52
15.	Sikkim	22.23	22.80	19.76
16.	Bihar	6163.68	6887.83	9359.65
17.	Jharkhand	3953.63	3783.49	3560.89
18.	Orissa	5739.25	6819.02	7991.59
19.	West Bengal	1889.35	2534.39	3245.55
20.	Andaman & Nicobar	130.29	109.21	109.26
21.	Madhya Pradesh	12127.05	12738.88	12592.48
22.	Chattisgarh	2087.12	1987.65	2130.18
23.	Uttar Pradesh	27171.63	29211.20	29709.28
24.	Uttaranchal	3648.40	4468.32	5202.86
25.	Gujarat	3252.41	3058.89	3197.72
26.	Maharashtra	9599.54	11953.16	12732.17
27.	Daman & Diu	2.10	3.51	10.66
28.	Goa	90.54	35.20	36.64
29.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.00	15.00	16.00
30.	Andhra Pradesh	11125.44	14718.59	12402.79
31.	Karnataka	7186.13	8866.82	11635.13

1	2	3	4	5
32.	Kerala	7508.50	8487.30	10407.66
33.	Tamilnadu	4914.67	6752.80	7540.70
34.	Lakshadweep	11.21	2.72	3.90
35.	Pondicherry	130.24	918.19	1094.47
	Not Specified	843.64	918.19	1094.47
	All India	136754.50	154278.51	164874.45

**Statement II**

*Details of the Defaulting Banks against whom complaints have been received for not granting loans*

**Year 2004-05**

SI.No.	Name of the State	Total complaints received	Name of the major defaulting banks
1	2	3	4
1.	Assam	2	
2.	Delhi	1	
3.	Haryana	2	State Bank of India, Bank of India,
4.	Himachal Pradesh	1	Indian Bank, Punjab National Bank,
5.	Jharkhand	2	Central Bank of India, Indian Overseas
6.	Maharashtra	2	Bank, Lakshmi Vilas Bank Ltd., Vijaya
7.	Tamil Nadu	4	Bank, Oriental Bank of Commerce
8.	Uttar Pradesh	1	
	Total	15	

**Year 2005-06**

1.	Assam	11	
2.	Karnataka	1	UCO Bank, Indian Bank, Canara Bank,
3.	Madhya Pradesh	1	Bank of Maharashtra, Karur Vysya
4.	Maharashtra	2	Bank, State Bank of India, Indian
5.	Rajasthan	1	Oversees Bank, Bank of India,
6.	Tamil Nadu	11	Corporation Bank, United Bank of
7.	Tripura	1	India.
8.	Uttar Pradesh	1	
	Total	29	

1	2	3	4
<b>Year 2006-07</b>			
1.	Assam	4	
2.	Bihar	1	United Bank, State Bank of India, Central Bank of India, State Bank of Patiala,
3.	Himachal Pradesh	1	Andhra Bank, Indian Bank, Union Bank, State Bank of Indore
4.	Tamil Nadu	4	
5.	Uttar Pradesh	7	
Total		17	

### Telephone Taping

5400. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prior permission of Ministry of Home Affairs is essential for telephone taping;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of cases in which Ministry of Home Affairs has given permission for phone taping during each of the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) In terms of section 5(2) of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 and the rules made under the said Act, the Union Home Secretary in the Government of India and the Secretary, in-charge of Home Department in the case of State Governments only can authorize interception of messages in the interest of sovereignty and integrity of India, security of the State, friendly relations with foreign States, public order and for preventing incitement to the commission of an offence. There is a strict legal regime to ensure that this power is exercised only in such cases as are covered under the said provisions and the disclosure of details of such cases is not in the interest of national security.

[English]

### Price Fixation for DTH Broadcasters

5401. SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Direct to Home (DTH) broadcasters are free to fix the prices for their channels;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In large parts of the country, the incumbent cable TV services are not required by regulatory mandate to provide their services through an addressable system. CAS has been mandated for cable TV services in notified areas which is in very limited part of the country. Throughout the non-CAS areas, the incumbent cable television operators, who enjoy the dominance in the market, are not required by any regulatory mandate to introduce an addressable system. Therefore, regulation of pricing for DTH services is likely to be interpreted to mean that the new entrant DTH operators are asymmetrically regulated against the incumbent mode of delivery which has dominant market share.

(c) Government is of the view that market forces will bring down prices with increase in number of service providers.

### Merger of MMT, STC and PEC

5402. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD: SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

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

(a) whether MMTC, STC and Project and Equipment Corporation Ltd., propose to merge into one company as reported in 'Business Standard' dated April 10, 2007;

(b) if so the reasons therefor and the modality of merger;

(c) whether the Government has held any talks with the workers' unions of these companies in this regard;

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to protect the interest of the workers; and

(e) the time by which these companies are likely to be merged?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) A consultant firm was engaged to carry out a study to assess the role of MMTC Ltd., STC Ltd. and PEC Ltd. in the liberalized Indian economy and to recommend the business model and the processes these organizations should adopt and the structural changes, if any, required to adopt the recommended business model and processes for their long term sustainability and growth. The consultant firm has, among others, recommended the merger of these organizations.

(c) and (d) MMTC Ltd., STC Ltd. and PEC Ltd. have been asked by the Government to consult the employees for their feedback on the recommendations of the consultant firm.

(e) There is no decision of the Government as yet on the issue of merger of these organizations.

*[Translation]*

#### **Procurement of Cotton**

5403. SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:  
SHRI TUKARAM GANPATRAO RENGE  
PATIL:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether cotton has been procured by the Government at lower prices than the support price despite the fact that there was bumper crop of cotton in December, 2006;

(b) the reaction of the Government in this regard;

(c) the action taken by Cotton Corporation of India in this regard; and

(d) the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Government of India through its designated agencies namely the Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. and NAFED undertakes Minimum Support Price (MSP) operations from day one of prices touching the MSP level without any quantitative restrictions.

*[English]*

#### **Janashree Beema Yojana**

5404. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) is considering to waive premium payable by Anganwadi Workers/Helpers under the Janashree Beema Yojana;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total amount accrued from the premium of Anganwadi Workers/Helpers during each of the last three years, till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) The Government of India introduced the Anganwadi Karyakartri Bima Yojana w.e.f. 1.4.2004, under the LIC's Social Security Scheme, for Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) under the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme.

The premium under the Scheme is Rs.280/- per annum per member out of which Rs.100/- is paid by LIC from Social Security Fund, Rs.100/- by the Government of India and Rs.80/- by the Anganwadi Worker/Helper (insured member). The premium of Rs.80/- payable by these Workers, has since been waived off w.e.f. 1.4.2007 for two years.

(c) The total amount accrued so far from the premium of AWWs/AWHs is Rs.46256720, Rs.38797600 and Rs.36770640 during the year 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 respectively.

*[Translation]*

#### **Patent Rules on Food Items**

5405. SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Companies are facing difficulties in getting patented their food items due to complexities in existing patent rules;

(b) if so, whether the Government is considering to simplify such rules;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the names of food items patented by the Government so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) The Patent Office has granted product patents for the following food items:

Patent number	Applicant	Title of the invention
200285	Shri Krishnamachri Ramu and Ms. Lavanya Ramu	Low Glycemic Sweets.
194205	Hindustan Lever Limited	Improved Fat Spread Composition.

#### **Non-Registration of FIR**

5406. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:  
SHRI TUKARAM GANPATRAO RENGE PATIL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding non-registration of FIRs by the officials of Delhi Police;

(b) if so, the number of said complaints received by the Union Government during each of the last three years, till date;

(c) the action taken against the officials of Delhi Police on the basis of such complaints during the said period, rank-wise; and

(d) the instructions issued by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Atrocities against Pilgrims**

5407. SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the pilgrims to Vaishno Devi Shrine in Jammu and Kashmir face several difficulties owing to manhandling and misbehaviour by Para-Military Forces;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to issue any guidelines to Para-Military Forces in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) As per the information given by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir, no case of manhandling and misbehavior with pilgrims by Para-Military Forces has been reported.

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

*[English]*

#### **Improvement in Science Research**

5408. SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN:  
SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to take any steps to improve the country's position in Science Research;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any directions has been issued in this regard to the State Governments by the Union Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) In order to strengthen basic science research within the university system, a Task Force under the Chairmanship of Prof. M.M.Sharma was constituted by the Central Government. In its Report, the Task Force has inter alia, recommended creation of 1000 positions of Research Scientists at various levels, five fold increase in the number of Ph.Ds from Indian universities within a span of ten years with proper standards, promotion of formal linkage between the Universities and national level institutions including the CSIR laboratories through joint research projects and training, inbuilt component of research in post-graduate programmes pertaining to Science and Technology, upgradation of infrastructural facilities in universities to promote quality scientific research, and, creation of networking centers in Basic Sciences in leading Departments of Universities to promote collaborative research. The recommendations have been accepted by the Government and the Task Force has been converted into an Empowered Committee to implement its recommendations. The University Grants Commission has included the proposals under its plan for allocation of funds. Education Ministers of State Governments have also been apprised of these initiatives at the recent Conference of State Education Ministers in April, 2007 at New Delhi.

*[Translation]*

#### Quality of NCERT Books

5409. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quality of the books brought out by the NCERT is not upto the mark; and

(b) if so, the details of measures being taken to improve it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) Textbooks prepared by National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) in consonance with National Curriculum Framework - 2005, have been developed by textbooks development teams consisting of reputed subject experts and scholars of national stature. These textbooks, rich in content, represent the latest knowledge in every subject. Use of cartoons and colourful illustrations make these textbooks a joyful reading material to the students.

*[English]*

#### Mineral Exploration Work

5410. SHRI PANNIAN RAVINDRAN: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the mineral exploration work undertaken in various States, particularly in Kerala by the Mineral Exploration Corporation Ltd.;

(b) whether the commercial exploration of the mining activities has started in such areas;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the future prospects of minings in Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL), a public sector undertaking under the administrative control of the Ministry of Mines, has carried out detailed exploration for various minerals in several states of the country. So far, it has established 1,26,513 million tonnes of mineral reserves are given in the Statement enclosed.

In Kerala state, MECL has carried out preliminary exploration for gold and detailed exploration for limestone, as per details below:

Mineral	Block	District	Reserves (million tonnes)
Gold	Maruda- Nilambur	Mallapuram	1.07
Limestone	Walayar	Palakkad	23.66

(b) and (c) In the state of Kerala, based on the limestone reserves established by MECL at Walayar limestone deposit, a cement plant was established by



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Nickel Ore													64.6							64.6
Manganese Ore									72											72
Graphite														1.3						1.3
Glass-Sand			34.5																	34.5
Fluorite														0.8						0.8
Tungsten Ore										3.9				0.06						4.0
Fullers Earth														1884.8						1884.8
Stowing Sand				13.3						113.8										127.1
Quartzite		6.5																		6.5
Molybdenum																1.5				1.5
Rare Metal																			0.2	0.2
Total	10982.3	62.3	172.5	28313.8	950.6	19.7	238.9	24.8	7837.3	5156.9	309.4	2.5	10170.1	7986.1	73.9	28734.8	12.8	10187.8	15446.0	126381.3
Other reserves established-5.11 m.t. for Iron-ore in Haryana, 94.1 m.t. of Rock-salt in Himachal Pradesh, 0.01 mt for Chromite in Karnataka, 0.215 m.t. for Limestone in Mizoram, and 32.29 m.t. for Rock Phosphate in Rajasthan																				131.7
Grand Total																				128153.0

#### KVs without Buildings and Basic Amenities

5411. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) in various States are functioning without buildings and basic amenities;

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

(c) the details of KVs functioning in their own buildings alongwith the basic amenities provided in these KVs in various States;

(d) the funds allocated for the construction of buildings and basic amenities in such KVs during 2005-06 and 2006-07; and

(e) the funds so far incurred by such KVs, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) 742 Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) out of

a total 960 KVs in the country are functioning in their own buildings. Remaining 218 KVs are functioning in temporary accommodation. All KVs, irrespective of whether functioning in their own building or not, have been provided with basic amenities. Details of KVs functioning in their own buildings are at Statement enclosed.

(d) and (e) The details of expenditure incurred for construction of buildings of Kendriya Vidyalayas, State-wise during 2005-06 & 2006-07 are given Statement-II enclosed.

#### Statement I

##### State-UT-wise List of Functional KVs and KVs with their own Buildings

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	No. of functional KVs in the State/UT	No. of KVs functioning in their own building
1	2	3	4
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	02	02
2.	Andhra Pradesh	47	39

1	2	3	4
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	12	09
4.	Assam	50	35
5.	Bihar	38	21
6.	Chandigarh	05	05
7.	Chhattisgarh	24	19
8.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	01	00
9.	Daman & Diu	01	00
10.	Delhi	41	34
11.	Goa	05	05
12.	Gujarat	42	38
13.	Haryana	27	21
14.	Himachal Pradesh	20	11
15.	Jammu & Kashmir	36	15
16.	Jharkhand	31	18
17.	Karnataka	35	28
18.	Kerala	28	25
19.	Lakshadweep (UT)	01	00
20.	Madhya Pradesh	79	67
21.	Maharashtra	53	50
22.	Manipur	07	04
23.	Meghalaya	07	07
24.	Mizoram	02	00
25.	Nagaland	05	02
26.	Orissa	34	25
27.	Pondicherry	02	02
28.	Punjab	39	30
29.	Rajasthan	56	49
30.	Sikkim	02	02
31.	Tamil Nadu	34	29

1	2	3	4
32.	Tripura	06	02
33.	Uttar Pradesh	95	78
34.	Uttaranchal	42	25
35.	West Bengal	51	45
Total		960	742

**Statement II****State/UT-wise Expenditure Incurred for Construction of Buildings by KVs during 2005-06 & 2006-07**

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	For the year 2005-06 Expenditure incurred on building constructions (Rs. in lakh)	For the year 2006-07 Expenditure incurred on building constructions (Rs. in lakh)
1	Andaman & Nicobar	00	6.41
2.	Andhra Pradesh	451.01	699.96
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	666.45	263.97
4.	Assam	856.00	2643.50
5.	Bihar	709.93	601.58
6.	Chandigarh	00	35.00
7.	Chhattisgarh	555.88	372.40
8.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	00	00
9.	Daman & Diu	00	00
10.	Delhi	571.29	00
11.	Goa	16.50	00
12.	Gujarat	255.13	235.96
13.	Haryana	309.99	374.76
14.	Himachal Pradesh	257.71	464.94
15.	Jammu & Kashmir	354.02	160.34

1	2	3	4
16.	Jharkhand	430.00	539.99
17.	Karnataka	596.40	1153.48
18.	Kerala	316.39	625.81
19.	Lakshadwep (UT)	00	00
20.	Madhya Pradesh	928.91	1461.55
21.	Maharashtra	447.60	829.98
22.	Manipur	15.00	10.00
23.	Meghalaya	357.00	257.45
24.	Mizoram	55.00	150.00
25.	Nagaland	00	00
26.	Orissa	800.81	1367.88
27.	Pondicherry	1.85	00
28.	Punjab	358.19	732.23
29.	Rajasthan	928.27	951.28
30.	Sikkim	00	00
31.	Tamil Nadu	390.34	224.98
32.	Tripura	90.00	310.00
33.	Uttar Pradesh	529.59	577.99
34.	Uttaranchal	220.00	552.65
35.	West Bengal	824.13	588.62
Total		12293.07	16192.71

#### Clearance for Export of Agricultural Commodities

5412. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:  
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

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

(a) whether a number of agencies presently involved in granting clearance for export of agricultural commodities and causing delays in export transactions;

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

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to decrease the number of such agencies;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether it is also proposed to set up export related cold storages near airports and seaports;

(f) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these are likely to be set up; and

(g) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to bring down the number of agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH):

(a) and (b) A number of clearances are required for export of agricultural commodities. These depend upon the commodity to be exported, the domestic regulations and the requirements of the importing countries. For instance, export of mango to Japan requires Vapour Heat Treatment of the fruit while for export to the United States of America irradiation is essential. For export of ground nuts an export certificate from APEDA is required. Pre shipment inspection is essential for export of meat. These are amongst the other requirements that have to be met for these commodities.

(c), (d) and (g) Yes, Sir. Simplification of procedures including reduction in agencies and clearances required are considered by the Government wherever possible keeping in view the domestic regulations and the requirements of the importing countries. As part of this exercise streamlining and simplification of documentation and regulatory clearances for perishable agricultural produce is under way.

(e), (f) and (g) As part of its ongoing programme for development of infrastructure to facilitate export of agricultural produce the Agriculture and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has set up Centers for Perishable Cargo (CPCs) to maintain cold chain at international airports at Delhi, Hyderabad Chennai, Bangalore, Trivandrum and Mumbai. Provision of such facilities at airports in Cochin, Bagdogra, Kolkatta, Goa, Nashik and at Haldia seaport has been taken up.

#### New Schemes for Agro and Rural Industries

5413. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to launch any new Schemes for Agro and Rural Industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the targets fixed and the achievements made;

(d) the funds allocated/released/spent during each of the last three years and current year, till date, State/ Union Territory-wise, particularly Andhra Pradesh; and

(e) the details of schemes currently being implemented?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details of the new schemes under consideration in Agro and Rural Sector are given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) The proposals are only in preliminary stage and only a token budget provision for 2007-08 has been made for each of the five schemes. No targets, however, have been fixed.

(d) The details of the token funds allocated for 2007-08 in respect of each of these five schemes are given below:

(Rs. crore)

Sl.No.	Name of the scheme	Budget provision for 2007-08
1.	Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme for Khadi Weavers and Artisans	5.00
2.	Scheme for enhancement of productivity and competitiveness of Khadi Industry and Artisans	5.00
3.	Package for developing infrastructure of Khadi institutions including nursing fund for weak institutions	5.00
4.	Restructuring of Rural Employment Generation Programme	50.00
5.	Rejuvenation, modernisation and technology upgradation for coir Industry	25.00

(e) The Government (in its Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries) has been implementing the following schemes through Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), Coir Board and Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana (PMRY), in the country:

(i) Schemes for development of Khadi and Polyvastra activities: For this purpose, Interest Subsidy Eligibility Certificate (ISEC) is issued in favour of implementing agencies for availing institutional finance to meet working capital requirement of khadi and polyvastra activities, at 4% rate of interest and the difference between 4% and actual lending rate is subsidized by KVIC. 10% Rebate is provided on retail sales of Khadi/Polyvasta products as normal rebate throughout the year and another 10% special rebate for 108 days in the year.

(ii) Scheme of Product Development Design Input and Packaging (PRODIP) has been launched in order to diversify and develop products under Khadi & Village Industries and also to improve the packaging of the various KVI products.

(iii) Scheme of Fund for Re-generation of Traditional Industries (SFURTI) has been launched in October, 2005 for regeneration of traditional industries in 104 identified clusters in khadi, village industries and coir sectors.

(iv) A Rural Industries Service Centre (RISC) scheme is in vogue for providing common facility services to KVI programmes on a cluster based manner.

(v) Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) is being implemented for establishing village industries projects with margin money

assistance from KVIC and loan from public sector scheduled commercial banks.

- (vi) Manila Coir Yojana, Development of Production Infrastructure and Domestic/Export Market Development Assistance are some of the programmes under implementation in Coir sector through Coir Board.
- (vii) Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) is being implemented for creating employment opportunities for the educated unemployed youth in rural as well as urban areas.

#### **Statement**

**1. Workshop-cum-Housing Scheme for Khadi Weavers and Artisans:** This is a scheme exactly identical to the one under implementation in the Ministry of Textiles.

**2. Scheme for enhancement of productivity and competitiveness of Khadi Industry and Artisans:** This aims to provide financial assistance to 200 of the 'A plus' and 'A' category Khadi institutions in a Public Private Partnership mode to increase value addition to Khadi product, readymade garments, muslin khadi, setting up of common facility centre, need based dyeing and printing facilities besides ensuring better wages to artisans along with skill upgradation.

**3. Package for developing infrastructure of Khadi institutions including nursing fund for weak institutions:** This scheme envisages replacement of looms and charkhas for increasing production of khadi and to expand employment base. The scheme involves renovation of sales outlets also.

**4. Restructuring of Rural Employment Generation Programme:** This scheme is going to be a comprehensive proposal which seeks to merge the major employment generation schemes viz. Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana and Rural Employment Generation Programme.

**5. Rejuvenation, modernisation and technology upgradation for coir Industry:** The Scheme has two components. First is the rejuvenation and modernisation part. Increasing the utilisation of husk, better conversion rate of husk into coir products and providing additional employment to around 50,000 workers per year are some of the targets.

The second part is to promote 5 mega clusters, one each in Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Orissa.

*[Translation]*

#### **Closure of Chrome-Ore Mines**

5414. SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of labourers unemployed due to closure of chrome-ore mines during the last three years till date, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government proposes to restart such closed mines;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA):

(a) As per information received from Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM), a sub-ordinate office of the Ministry, no chromite mine has been closed during the last three years till date.

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

*[English]*

#### **Missing Persons**

5415. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to introduce computerisation of information about missing persons in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) has taken any steps in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the other steps being taken by the NCRB to get up-to-date information about missing persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) to (e) NCRB is maintaining a computerized system called TALASH, which is an integrated system for linking various types of persons, i.e. Missing, Kidnapped, Arrested, Unidentified Persons, Unidentified Dead Bodies, Wanted, Deserters and Escapees. NCRB receives case information from States/UTs on the above types of persons for the purpose of coordination only and does not collect statistical information on all the missing persons in the country. The matching is done based on parameters like name, father's name, age, sex, physical features (build, height, complexion, face type, eyes, hair, deformity etc.). The Missing Persons are also matched with Arrested, Unidentified Dead Bodies and Unidentified Persons. The results are transmitted to the concerned District/Police Station on matching of the person for further action at their end. NCRB has sent its available database of 1995 to 2006 in TALASH system to the concerned States/UTs along with the application software for updating the data on all types of persons. The present database size of TALASH system as on date is 2,21,887, which is also available on NCRB website "http://ncrb.nic.in". There are 1,45,457 Missing Persons of all age groups in the database.

#### **Export of Mangoes**

5416. SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY:  
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAIIS:  
SHRI JUAL ORAM:

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

(a) whether any agreement has been signed with United States of America (USA) for exporting Indian mangoes;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the terms and conditions and the total quantity of mangoes exported during each of the last three years;

(c) whether Indian Government has organized a mango festival in USA recently,

(d) if so, the details of varieties of mangoes including most popular varieties of mangoes included in the said festival, State-wise;

(e) whether the export of mangoes to USA has given boost to Indian farmers to enter the biggest fruits market in the world;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the export of mangoes to USA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH):

(a) Yes, Sir,

(b) The United State of America (USA) has allowed the import of Indian mangoes irradiated at 400 Gy dose to mitigate mango stone weevil. The irradiation facility was approved on April 26, 2007 by United States-Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (US-APHIS). The first consignment of mangoes was dispatched to the United States on April 27, 2007. There was accordingly no export of mangoes to USA in last 3 financial years.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) Opening up of the US market for Indian mangoes affords greater opportunities for the Indian mango growers.

(g) APEDA has initiated various measures to increase export of mangoes to the USA. These include:

(i) Organisation of a Mango Promotion Campaign, in USA in June, 2007, interaction between importers and exporter, dissemination of information and promotion of Indian mangoes through participation in various exhibitions in USA.

(ii) Upgradation of irradiation facility of Lasalgaon, Nasik

(iii) Preparation and dissemination of Standard Operation Procedure documents (SOP's) for irradiation facility for treatment of mangoes.

(iv) Preparation and dissemination SOP's for pack houses for backward and forward linkages.

(v) Imparting trainings to the identified orchards at par to the Eurepgap standards for acceptance of the fruits for exports to the US.

(vi) Develop guidelines based on the protocol agreed between the two countries.

**Foreign Nationals**

5417. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:  
SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR:  
SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of foreign nationals staying after the expiry of their visas in the country is causing concern;

(b) if so, the facts thereof and the details in this regard, State-wise and country-wise;

(c) whether such foreign nationals have also involved in criminal activities in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check the activities of such foreign nationals in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (e) Instances of foreigners who tend to stay beyond their visa validity and thereby overstay are detected by Foreigners' Regional Registration Officers (FRROs)/ Foreigners' Registration Officers (FROs). Since the foreigners who are not required to stay more than 180 days at one visit do not register, overstay is generally detected only at the time of their exit. Detection and deportation of overstaying foreigners is a continuous process. Powers to detect and deport foreign nationals staying illegally in India have been delegated to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations under Section 3(2) (c) of the Foreigners Act, 1946. Furthermore, appropriate action is also taken to prevent re-entry into the country of such undesirable foreigners. The foreigners involved in criminal activities are dealt with by the law enforcement agencies in accordance with laws of the land. Data regarding prosecution and conviction of such overstaying foreigners is not maintained centrally.

**Victims of Riots**

5418. SHRI ANWAR HUSSAIN:  
SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:  
SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE:  
ADV. SURESH KURUP:

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN:  
SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:  
SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:  
SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:  
SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has announced a compensation package for the victims of 2002 Gujarat riots;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the guidelines for the disbursement of the said package;

(c) whether the Government proposes similar compensations to the victims of riots in other States;

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

(e) whether the Government has obtained the list of victims of riots from various States;

(f) if so, the details thereof and the action proposed to be taken by the Government thereon;

(g) whether the Government proposes to deal with such issues in the proposed Communal Harmony Bill; and

(h) if so, the reasons for announcing package only to victims of Gujarat riots?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) The Central Government has announced a package for relief and rehabilitation of the victims of communal riots of 2002 in Gujarat. The details of the package are as under:

(i) In the case of death, an ex-gratia assistance of Rs. 3.5 lakh would be paid in addition to the assistance already paid by the State Government.

(ii) In case of injury, an ex-gratia assistance of Rs. 1.25 lakh would be paid minus the assistance given by the State Government.

(iii) For damage of residential property and uninsured commercial/industrial property an ex-gratia of 10 times the amount given by State Government less amount already paid.

As per the decisions of Government, a suitable mechanism is to be evolved to implement the above package payable along the lines of 1984 anti Sikh riot package.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) Yes, Sir. The Bill aims to provide compensation to victims.

(h) The above package has been announced, inter alia, in the light of the findings in the Report of National Commission for Minorities in October 2006.

#### **Exclusive Economic Zone**

5419. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to declare region of Andaman and Nicobar Islands into Exclusive Economic Zone;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (c) The Exclusive Economic Zone has been defined as an area beyond and adjacent to the Territorial Waters and the limit of such Zone is two hundred nautical miles from the baseline in the Territorial Waters, Continental Shelf, Exclusive Economic Zone and other Maritime Zones Act, 1976, (Act No. 80 of 1976). Andaman and Nicobar Islands are also covered under this Act.

#### **Children Film Complex**

5420. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the schemes which have been started in the Tenth Plan could not be completed and spilled over to the Eleventh Plan;

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

(c) whether the Children's Film Society of India (CFSI) complex at Hyderabad could not be completed during the Tenth Plan as has been envisaged;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the details of the major thrust areas identified for the Eleventh Plan period, with a particular reference to Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AFFAIRS (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) Eleventh Plan schemes of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting are yet to be finalized.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) An allocation of Rs.1.00 crore was made in the Annual Plan (B.E.) 2006-07 of the Tenth Five Year Plan for the Plan Scheme "CFS Complex at Hyderabad". However, the project could not take off as the matter was under correspondence between the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting and the State Government of Andhra Pradesh regarding the cost of the land allotted for the said complex, its cost of construction and day-to-day running and maintenance, as also the setting up of a films and television institute adjacent to the proposed complex.

(e) Eleventh Plan schemes of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting are yet to be finalized.

#### **Teacher-Student Ratio**

5421. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:  
SHRI SARVEY SATHYANARAYANA:

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

(a) the number of teacher posts sanctioned so far and criteria adopted under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, State and Union Territory-wise;

(b) the ratio of teachers and students, State and Union Territory-wise;

(c) whether the ratio is in order;

(d) if not, the reasons for so wide variation between the teacher-student ratio; and

(e) the measures taken to remove the gap of teacher-student ratio in the schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A FATMI): (a) to (e) The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) has sanctioned 10.12 lakh teacher posts upto 2006-07 as per norms of two teachers for every new primary school, three teachers for every new upper primary school and

additional teachers in order to bring the teacher pupil ratio to 1:40.

State-wise Teacher Pupil Ratios' for primary and upper primary levels of education and the number of teacher posts sanctioned under SSA since its inception and upto 2006-07 are at given in the statement enclosed.

Bihar, Haryana, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal have adverse pupil teacher ratios at primary level and Bihar, Jharkhand, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal at upper primary level, for which additional teachers have been sanctioned under their respective SSA programmes.

**Statement**

Sl. No.	States/UTs	PTR 2005		Total Teachers sanctioned under SSA since inception and upto 2006-07
		Primary	Upper Primary	
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Island	N.A.	N.A.	63
2.	Andhra Pradesh	26.29	23.08	36300
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	24.93	24.13	2924
4.	Assam	31.88	18.36	5410
5.	Bihar	79.95	80.84	184081
6.	Chandigarh	25.11	24.13	785
7.	Chhattisgarh	40.94	37.87	50786
8.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	N.A.	N.A.	750
9.	Daman & Diu	N.A.	N.A.	66
10.	Delhi	35.27	30.16	20
11.	Goa	N.A.	N.A.	195
12.	Gujarat	36.24	37.19	1848
13.	Haryana	44.05	25.63	6104
14.	Himachal Pradesh	21.80	20.01	2994
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	18.72	21.66	16976

1	2	3	4	5
16.	Jharkhand	54.58	54.12	83709
17.	Karnataka	33.47	36.57	16395
18.	Kerala	24.29	23.18	248
19.	Lakshadweep	N.A.	N.A.	13
20.	Madhya Pradesh	36.69	31.34	90477
21.	Maharashtra	28.26	28.42	1236
22.	Manipur	N.A.	N.A.	123
23.	Meghalaya	20.90	16.51	6543
24.	Mizoram	N.A.	N.A.	898
25.	Nagaland	14.25	14.44	168
26.	Orissa	38.33	40.09	64734
27.	Pondicherry	24.17	25.89	30
28.	Punjab	35.30	23.52	3070
29.	Rajasthan	38.48	35.31	86516
30.	Sikkim	15.89	19.84	468
31.	Tamil Nadu	39.24	47.88	18866
32.	Tripura	22.41	22.02	3311
33.	Uttar Pradesh	76.97	47.04	233583
34.	Uttaranchal	31.39	20.34	4532
35.	West Bengal	50.06	64.45	87881
Total/All India		41.50	35.00	1012103

N.A.-Not available.

**Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2006**

5422. SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN:  
SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:  
SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN:

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

(a) the details of States which have appointed Protection Officers under the Protection of Women from

Domestic Violence Act, 2006, State-wise and Union Territory-wise;

(b) the details of criteria for appointing of Protection Officers;

(c) whether some States have expressed their unwillingness to be appointed as Protection Officers under the said Act;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of the Government in this regard;

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to ensure effective implementation of the said Act in the country;

(f) whether the Delhi Commission for Women has received any complaints regarding domestic harassment/ violence against women;

(g) if so, the details thereof from the month of October 2006 to till date alongwith reaction of the Government in this regard; and

(h) the steps taken/proposed to be taken against each of the complaints?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) According to the feedback received so far, the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Goa, Gujarat, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur and Uttar Pradesh and UTs of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu, Delhi and Lakshadweep have confirmed appointment of Protection Officers under the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 (No. 43 of 2005). State Governments of Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Punjab have also reported initiation of necessary action in this regard.

(b) According to Section 8(2) of the said Act, the Protection Officers shall as far as possible be women. The qualifications and experience of Protection Officers is prescribed in rule 3 of the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Rules, 2006, which have been made and notified under the Act. According to rule 3, the Protection Officers appointed may be of the Government or members of non-governmental organizations, preference being given to women. Every person appointed as Protection Officer shall have at least three years' experience in social sector and shall have a minimum tenure of three years as Protection Officer. The State Government shall provide necessary office assistance to the Protection Officer for the efficient discharge of his or her functions under the Act and the Rules.

(c) and (d) No such case has come to the knowledge of the Government.

(e) Ministry of Women and Child Development has advised all State Governments and Union Territory Administrations to take immediate steps to implement the Act, including appointment of Protection Officers and provision of necessary infrastructure, registration of service

providers and publicity to Protection Officers, service providers and the provisions of the Act.

(f) to (h) Delhi Commission for Women has informed that 41 cases have been registered and that after initial registration at the Helpline the cases are being heard by the Members and referred to the concerned District Protection Officer for further redressal.

#### **Infrastructure In Textile Industry**

5423. SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the textile industry is facing weak infrastructure by hindering the growing market as compared to countries like China;

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

(c) the steps taken in this regard;

(d) the present employment figure in textile sector; and

(e) the details of incentives given to textile workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government is aware that infrastructural constraints are a major impediment to the growth of textiles industry in India. The Government, to neutralize the weakness of fragmentation of various sub-sectors of the textiles and non-availability of quality infrastructure, launched the Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP) in 2005 to strengthen infrastructural facilities in potential growth areas by merging the then existing schemes, viz., the Apparel Parks for Exports Scheme (APES) and the Textiles Centres Infrastructure Development Scheme (TCIDS).

(d) As on March 31, 2006, the total employment in textiles sector was about 88.02 million.

(e) Textiles activity is mainly concentrated in the decentralised and private sectors. As such, Government does not provide any incentive to textiles workers. However, various welfare and relief schemes are being implemented in the organized and decentralised sub-sectors.

**Affiliation to Minority Colleges/Institutions**

5424. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions Act 2004 was enacted to give the minorities in respect of getting their colleges/institutions affiliations/recognitions as they are facing hardship in getting the same;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of applications for granting affiliation received by the respective Universities alongwith the details and status thereof;

(d) the number of minority colleges/institutions were given affiliation by the Sixth Scheduled Central Universities particularly for those colleges/institutions which were not situated within the territorial jurisdiction of the six Central Universities; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Section 10 A(l) of the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions (Amendment) Act, 2006, provides that a Minority Educational Institution may seek affiliation to any University of its choice, subject to such affiliation being permissible within the Act under which the said University is established.

(c) The number of applications received by each University, who number approximately over 350, is not maintained Centrally.

(d) According to available information, two applications were received by the North Eastern Hill University, Shillong, of which one pertaining to METAS Adventist College, Surat, has been granted affiliation on the 25th May, 2006.

(e) The time limit is prescribed in the proviso to Section 10 A(2) of the Act, and aggrieved applicant institutions can petition the Commission under Section 11(b) thereof.

**Round Table Conference**

5425. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL:  
SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the third round-table conference on Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) was held during April 2007;

(b) if so, the conclusions arrived at in the conference;

(c) whether the five working groups on J&K have given their reports;

(d) if so, the salient features thereof;

(e) whether these were discussed at the said conference; and

(f) if so, the reaction of the participants thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Yes, Sir. The Third Roundtable Conference on Jammu and Kashmir was held at Delhi on April 24, 2007.

(b) The participants acknowledged that the continuation of the process of a wide ranging dialogue initiated by the Prime Minister had helped evolve a better understanding of the issues that affect the life of the people of the Jammu and Kashmir.

(c) Four of the five Working Groups on Jammu and Kashmir have submitted their reports.

(d) to (f) The Conference gave in principle endorsement to the approach suggested by the Working Group I on Confidence Building Measures across Segments of Society in the State viz. strengthening human rights protection; improving relief and rehabilitation of widows, orphans and other victims of militancy and violence; and preserving the rich and diverse cultural landscape of the State. It appreciated the concerns expressed by the Working Group regarding the rights of all minorities in Jammu and Kashmir, and the urgent need to facilitate the return of Kashmiri Pandits to their hearth and homes.

The Conference applauded ongoing efforts to strengthen people to people contacts and promote trade

and commerce across the LoC. It endorsed the recommendations of the Working Group II and the need to further streamline these processes, and to expand and deepen such contacts and exchanges in the spheres of trade, tourism and various other walks of life.

The Conference endorsed the recommendations of the Working Group III on Balanced Economic Development of Jammu and Kashmir and urged the Central and State Governments to take steps to carry them forward.

The Conference fully endorsed the recommendations of the Working Group IV on Good Governance and urged the State Government to operationalise them in right earnest in order to bring greater efficiency, transparency and accountability into the systems and processes of governance and to bring the Government closer to the people.

*[Translation]*

#### **Additional Battalions in PMF**

5426. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:  
SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN:  
SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:  
SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR:  
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:  
SHRI KIREN RIJJU:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has approved to raise the additional battalions in Para Military Forces;

(b) if so, the details thereof, force-wise, including ITBP;

(c) the time by which the process of new recruitment is likely to be completed, separately; and

(d) the extent to which the stress on jawans deployed on high altitude, is likely to come down?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) Government has approved in the recent past raising of 20 battalions of SSB during the period 2005-07 and 20 battalions of ITBP to be raised during 2006-09. CRPF is also in the process of raising 10 additional battalions sanctioned in October 2006.

(d) Additional battalions to ITBP will provide sufficient reserve for rotation of personnel from high altitude deployment, thereby reducing the consequential stress.

*[English]*

#### **Import of Cotton**

5427. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state the total value and quantity of cotton imported during each of the last three years and current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): Total value and quantity of cotton imported during each of the last three years and current year is as under:-

Year	Value (Rs. in Lakh)	Quantity (In Tonnes)
2003-04	157001.37	252976
2004-05	109959.78	183061
2005-06	68830.56	98240
2006-07 (April -Dec., 06)	46397.55	58693

Source: DGCI&S, Kolkatta

#### **Setting up of National Commission of Vocational Education**

5428. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:  
SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE:

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

(a) whether around 95 percent of the labour force in India is unskilled and its productivity is 14 times higher than the skilled labourers;

(b) if so, whether no initiatives have so far been taken to nurture their skills and make them more efficient;

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

(d) whether the Government proposes to establish around 600 institutions around the country to train assess and issue competence certificate for unskilled labourers

and maid servants by setting up National Commission of Vocational Education as reported in the *Times of India* dated March 22, 2007;

(e) if so, the detailed plan chalked out by the Government in this regard; and

(f) the extent to which this proposal is likely to help unskilled labourers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) According to an estimate based on NSSO (National Sample Survey Organisation) Report No. 409, 50th round (1993-94) only 5.06% youth in labour force in the country are vocationally trained.

(b) and (c) The Prime Minister in his Independence Day (2006) speech had announced to launch a Mission on Vocational Education. Consequent upon the announcement a Task Force has been constituted on 6.12.2006 by the Planning Commission to suggest steps to promote Vocational Education and Training during 11th Plan period and beyond.

(d) to (f) At present no such proposal is under consideration of this Ministry.

#### **Autonomy to Navodaya Vidyalayas**

5429. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:  
SHRI GANESH SINGH:

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

(a) whether the Union Government has accorded complete autonomy to the organisations responsible for running the Navodaya Vidyalayas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether complaints of large scale irregularities in purchase of foodgrains for use in said Vidyalayas are being received;

(d) if so, whether the Government has also received any complaints about financial irregularities in the said Vidyalayas;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS) is an autonomous organization in the form of a registered society under the Ministry of Human Resource Development. The Samiti with its Executive Committee is responsible to carry out the objects of the Society as set forth in the Memorandum of Association (MOA). As per MOA, Ministry can give direction, review the work and progress of the society and hold enquiries into its affairs.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) to (f) A complaint has been received in the Ministry in April, 2007 regarding centralized purchase of computers by the Samiti and contract being given to construction agencies. The comments of NVS have been called for.

#### **Scam in Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan**

5430. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scam has been unearthed in the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan accounts in Andhra Pradesh recently as reported in *Indian Express* dated April 10, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether senior officers of the State Education Department are involved and a FIR has been registered;

(d) if so, the details thereof?

(e) whether any inquiry has been made in this regard; and

(f) if so, the outcome of the inquiry and action proposed to be taken against the culprits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (f) Yes Sir. The State Project Director, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Andhra Pradesh has informed that an amount of Rs. 14,98,03,378 of District Primary Education Programme (DPEP)/SSA had been diverted to unauthorized Bank Accounts by the Assistant Accounts Officer of SSA, Andhra Pradesh. An FIR has been lodged with the City Central Crime Station on 02.04.2007. The case has been transferred to CID as

per the Government of Andhra Pradesh orders for further investigation. Three accounts officials have been suspended by the State Government and another three transferred out of the State Project Office of SSA/DPEP.

#### Import of Wheat from Pakistan

5431. SHRI B. MAHTAB:  
SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY:

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

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to import of wheat from Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum of wheat imported from Pakistan during the last three years;

(d) whether the Government has any proposal to continue the import of wheat from Pakistan during the current year; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) There is no specific proposal to import wheat from Pakistan. However, STC has floated a tender for import of one million ton of wheat and suppliers from any country/ company that meets the specifications can bid for the same.

(c) There has been negligible import from Pakistan. Details of quantum of wheat imported from Pakistan during the last three years are given below:

Year	Quantity (Tonnes)
2006-07	Nil
2005-06	0.01
2004-05	0.01

(Source: DGCI&S)

(d) and (e) As in (a) & (b) above.

#### Trade and Exhibition Centre

5432. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up a trade and exhibition center in the Gulf region;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has made any provision for providing fund for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) A plan to set up a Trade and Exhibition Centre in the Gulf region is under consideration of the Government.

#### Coir Board Offices

5433. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Coir Board offices in the country particularly in Sindudurg and Ratnagiri districts of Maharashtra, State-wise and Union Territory-wise;

(b) whether there is a great scope for coir business in Sindudurg and Ratnagiri districts of Maharashtra;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government proposes to open more Coir Board offices in the country;

(e) if so, the details thereof, State/Union Territory-wise alongwith the criteria to open Coir Board offices; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) The Coir Board is having

45 establishments (including 30 Showrooms) all over the country as per the details given below:

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	No. of establishments
1.	Kerala	9
2.	Tamil Nadu	4
3.	Karnataka	3
4.	Andhra Pradesh	4
5.	Orissa	2
6.	West Bengal	2
7.	Sikkim	1
8.	Assam	2
9.	Tripura	2
10.	Uttar Pradesh	5
11.	Madhya Pradesh	1
12.	Maharashtra	1
13.	Gurajat	1
14.	Rajasthan	1
15.	Chandigarh	1
16.	Delhi	3
17.	Uttarakhand	1
18.	Jammu and Kashmir	1
19.	Bihar	1
20.	Jharkhand	1
Total		45

In Maharashtra Coir Board is running one showroom at Mumbai.

(b) and (c) Yes Sir, Maharashtra is a coconut growing State having an area of 32,000 ha. of coconut cultivation and the basic raw material of coir industry i.e. Coconut husk is abundantly available in the state. The commercial cities like Mumbai, Pune etc. offer great scope for marketing of the products of the coir industry. The industry has potential for development in Maharashtra.

(d) to (f) The Coir Board in March, 2007 has approved a proposal for establishing a Demonstration cum Training Centre which consists of a fibre extraction unit, and automatic spinning unit and a composting unit in the premises of College of Agricultural Engineering Technology, Ratnagiri, Maharashtra. The proposed centre would function as an incubation centre for providing demonstration, training and technical expertise to new entrepreneurs as well as existing coir processing units. There is no other proposal under consideration in Coir Board, as of now, to open anymore new offices in the country.

The opening of new offices of the Coir Board is determined after assessing position in areas of coir production and adequate growth prospects, unexploited raw material, availability of work force, marketing possibility, intervention of new technology, skill upgradation, and market promotion with the main criterion being the development of coir industry in the area.

#### Conference on Centre-state Relation

5434. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has hosted a Conference to discuss the issues of Centre-State relations;

(b) if so, the observations and suggestions made in this regard;

(c) whether any weak-links and draw-backs identified at the Conference; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT):  
(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### New Standards of Nutrition

5435. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has organized a workshop to set up the new standards of nutrition;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the workshop has proven useful for controlling the problem of malnutrition in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) The growth charts/standards are important tools for monitoring physiological growth/nutritional status of children. Since late 1970s, National Centre for Health Statistics/World Health Organization (NCHS/WHO) growth references are being used in most countries in the world including India. WHO launched the New Child Growth Standards in 2006 and recommended its adoption by all member nations. The Ministry organized a National Workshop on Adoption of New WHO Child Growth Standards on February 8-9, 2007 in New Delhi in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, with an objective of eliciting views of experts, nutritionists, public health practitioners, etc. on adoption of the New Growth Standards. The Workshop unanimously recommended adoption of these New Growth Standards.

(c) and (d) The workshop was organized with a specific purpose of seeking a consensus on the adoption of the New WHO Child Growth Standards which has been achieved.

*[English]*

#### **Crop Insurance Scheme**

5436. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Crop Insurance Scheme for sericulture has been implemented;

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

(c) whether the scheme is not performing well;

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

(e) the steps taken to reach the benefits of crop insurance to all the farmers engaged in sericulture sector?

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

(b) The Government of India has drawn up Crop Insurance Scheme under the Catalytic Development Programme, a centrally sponsored scheme of sericulture which is being implemented in various Sericulture practicing States from the IX Plan onwards, in order to support the sericultural farmers from incurring losses from natural calamities. The Insurance Scheme is applicable to Univoltine/Bivoltine/Multivoltine/Pure or Hybrid races of all silkworm types. These Insurance Schemes are implemented through different Insurance Companies, viz., National Insurance Co. Ltd.; United India Assurance Co. Ltd.; Oriental Insurance Co. Ltd., which are designed to meet the immediate needs for implementation in the developmental programs by Government and Non-Governmental Organizations.

(c) and (d) The Scheme has not been performing well due to the following reasons:

- \* Response is low as the sum assured is very low and moreover, the premium is also low.
- \* High rate of Claims.
- \* No proper mechanism to certify the Claims.
- \* Inordinate delay in settlement of Claims by the Insurance Companies.

(e) The Government of India through the Central Silk Board has consulted different Insurance companies for crop insurance in sericulture. The New India Assurance Co. Ltd. has now come forward with a New Scheme to take the Crop Insurance in Sericulture which is being considered for implementation during the XIth Plan.

#### **Production of Sericulture**

5437. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether area of sericulture production in various regions in Tamil Nadu has increased over the years;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, area-wise; and;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to further improve the production of sericulture in the State and to improve the livelihood of the farmers engaged in its cultivation?

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

Status of Silk Production in Tamil Nadu State for the last  
3 years is given below:

Year	Area under Mulberry Plantation (Ha.)	Production of	
		Reeling Cocoons (M.Ts)	Raw Silk (M.Ts)
2002-03	5,394	4,005	490
2003-04	4,025	2,124	285
2004-05	5,073	3,101	443
2005-06	6,814	5,225	739
% increase/decrease over 2004-05	30.37	68.49	66.82
Growth Rate	7.54	10.52	17.00

During the X Plan period the State has registered an incremental achievement in respect of silk production. The registered Growth rate of mulberry cultivation and raw silk production for X Plan (4 years of X Plan) were 7.5% and 17%, respectively.

(b) District-wise area under mulberry plantation and Raw Silk production in Tamil Nadu during the years 2003-04, 2004-05 & 2005-06 are as follows:

Sl.No.	Districts	Area under Mulberry plantation (ha)			Raw Silk Production (M.Ts.)		
		2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Krishnagiri	1220.30	1322.74	1479.66	89.00	139.50	202.70
2.	Dharmapuri	401.08	513.40	758.04	22.10	41.30	67.30
3.	Salem	109.38	213.30	311.78	4.54	11.00	22.10
4.	Erode	540.40	750.54	1055.43	55.39	85.10	167.60
5.	Coimbatore	379.58	447.38	730.18	26.94	39.70	81.00
6.	The Nilgiris	28.58	25.94	25.04	0.77	1.00	1.20
7.	Vellore	473.24	532.64	536.06	37.28	45.90	52.60
8.	Kancheperam	0.00	0.00	1.70	0	0	0.10
9.	Thiruvallur	16.00	20.00	22.30	0.56	1.30	1.20
10.	Tiruvannamalai	83.28	103.16	120.18	4.15	770	9.50
11.	Namakkal	178.39	237.58	259.76	9.44	17.50	26.70
12.	Karur	26.60	37.54	34.50	0.67	1.20	2.50

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
13.	Trichy	53.78	65.66	84.84	1.83	2.60	6.90
14.	Perambalur	9.60	21.60	22.00	0.41	0.50	1.30
15.	Pudukottai	32.90	71.40	89.20	0.95	2.50	7.00
16.	Thanjavur	16.20	26.2	49.20	0.63	1.20	2.30
17.	Vilupuram	66.88	82.6	93.32	3.74	5.90	9.00
18.	Cuddalore	15.38	12.90	17.10	0.29	0.40	0.80
19.	Madurai	21.58	30.60	48.20	1.12	2.00	3.60
20.	Theni	117.00	177.50	275.40	8.88	13.80	24.30
21.	Virudhunagar	16.64	24.80	38.80	0.96	1.20	2.90
22.	Ramnad	2.70	6.10	10.60	0.05	0.10	0.30
23.	Sivagangai	0.00	1.40	11.60	0	0	0.10
24.	Dindigul	132.64	222.54	385.84	11.09	15.10	33.50
25.	Tirunelveli	71.36	113.70	143.20	3.43	5.80	11.50
26.	Thoothukudi	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0.00
27.	Kanyakumari	12.00	12.00	10.00	0.50	0.60	0.80
Total		4025.44	5073.22	6614.00	285.00	443.00	739.00

(c) To boost the production of quality silk in the country including Tamil Nadu State, during X Plan, the Government of India through Central Silk Board has implemented the Centrally Sponsored Scheme *v/z.*, Catalytic Development Programme (CDP). The components under CDP were together aimed at development and expansion of host, plantations, development of farm infrastructure, upgradation of reeling & processing technologies in silk, Enterprise Development Programme etc. During the X Plan, the CDP has made a steady progress in terms of coverage of geographical areas under sericulture, involvement of all categories of farmers and introduction of new Technologies.

#### Women in Delhi Police

5438. SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of women posts sanctioned and vacant at present in Delhi Police, separately, category-wise;

(b) whether the Government has any proposal to induct more women cops in Delhi Police to fill the backlog;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which said cops are likely to be inducted; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (d) Category-wise number of sanctioned posts of women personnel and those lying vacant in Delhi Police is given below:

S.No.	Rank	No. of Sanctioned posts	No. of vacant Posts
1	2	3	4
1.	Assistant Commissioner Police	1	—

1	2	3	4
2.	Inspector	71	3
3.	Sub-Inspector	135	4
4.	Assistant Sub-Inspector	305	7
5.	Head Constable	448	1
6.	Constable	1900	—

Accrual of vacancies due to retirement, death, dismissal etc. and filling up of such vacant posts in Delhi Police is a continuing process.

*[Translation]*

#### **Ban on FDI in Russia**

5439. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the retail trading by foreign companies has been banned in Russia;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether many other countries have also imposed ban on retail trading by foreign companies;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the details and name of countries where retail trading by foreign countries is permitted; and

(f) the details of terms and conditions under which retail trading has been permitted in our country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (e) Details about policies on foreign investment in other countries are not maintained.

(f) Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in retail trading is not allowed. However, Government has allowed FDI up to 51%, with prior Government approval, in retail trade of 'Single Brand' products subject to the conditions:

- i. FDI up to 51% would be allowed, with prior Government approval, for retail trade of Single Brand Products;

ii. Products to be sold should be of a 'Single Brand' only;

iii. Products should be sold under the same brand internationally; and

iv. 'Single Brand' product-retailing would cover only products which are branded during manufacturing.

#### **Clusters/Sites under Upgradation of Industrial Infrastructure**

5440. SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of clusters/sites included under the Upgradation of Industrial Infrastructure scheme during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the total funds incurred on the said clusters/sites during the said period, State-wise;

(c) the number of clusters/sites for which funds have been released during the said period, State-wise;

(d) the time by when the Government proposes to release the remaining funds;

(e) whether evaluation of the said scheme has been made; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (c) The State-wise information of the projects sanctioned under the Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme (IIUS) and the funds released for the sanctioned projects during the last three years is given at Statement-I and Statement-II respectively.

(d) First installment of the Central Grant has been released for all the sanctioned projects as an advance upon sanction of these projects. Subsequent installments of the central grant are being released upon submission of utilisation certificates of the funds released earlier by implementing agencies.

(e) and (f) No independent evaluation of the IIUS has been commissioned so far.

**Statement I***Statement indicating state-wise projects sanctioned during the last three years under the IIUS*

(Rs. Crores)

Sl. No.	State	Cluster/Project	Approved Project Cost	Sanctioned Central Grant	Central Grant Released upto 31.3.07
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Pharma Cluster, Hyderabad	66.16	49.62	16.54
2.		Auto cluster, Vijayawada	31.08	23.31	7.80
3.	Chhattisgarh	Steel & Metallurgical Cluster, Raipur	65.55	31.76	21.07
4.	Gujarat	Chemical Cluster, Vatva, Ambd	69.86	41.39	13.79
5.		Chemical Cluster, Ankleshwar	152.83	50.00	40.50
6.		Gem & Jewellery Cluster, Surat	75.00	50.00	16.70
7.	Haryana	Textile Cluster, Panipat	54.53	40.90	13.63
8.	Karnataka	Mchine Tools Cluster, Bangalore	135.50	49.10	47.65
9.		Foundry Cluster, Belgaum	24.78	18.57	18.02
10.	Kerala	Coir Cluster, Alapuzha	56.80	42.60	14.20
11.	Madhya Pradesh	Auto Cluster, Pithampur	59.99	44.99	33.30
12.	Maharashtra	Textile Cluster, Ichalkaranji	66.55	32.70	21.80
13.		Auto Cluster, Pune	59.99	44.99	43.64
14.	Orissa	Metallurgical Cluster, Jaipur	80.80	47.00	31.32
15.	Punjab	Textile Cluster, Ludhiana	17.19	12.69	8.42
16.	Rajasthan	Marble Cluster, Kishangarh	36.80	27.60	9.20
17.	Tamilnadu	Auto Cluster, Chennai	47.49	27.74	11.70
18.		Leather Cluster, Ambur	67.34	43.94	29.30
19.		Foodgrain, Cereal & Staple Cluster, Madurai	39.96	29.97	10.00
20.		Pump, Motor & Foundry Cluster, Coimbatore	59.08	39.59	38.40
21.	U.P.	Leather Cluster, Kanpur	27.34	9.75	3.25
22.	West Bengal	Multi Industry Cluster, Haldia	67.25	36.97	24.64
23.		Foundary Cluster, Howrah	126.74	40.40	13.47
24.		Rubber Cluster, Kolkata	29.74	15.72	5.24

Note: All the above projects were sanctioned in 2004-05. No project has been sanctioned in the year 2005-06 and 2006-07.

**Statement II***Statement indicating state-wise funds released during the last three years under the IIUS*

(Rs. Crores)

State	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
Andhra Pradesh	7.80	16.54	0
Chhattisgarh	0	9.96	11.11
Gujarat	33.40	37.59	26.78
Haryana	13.63	0	0
Karnataka	22.56	0	43.11
Kerala	14.20	0	0
Madhya Pradesh	16.65	0	16.65
Maharashtra	15.00	10.90	39.54
Orissa	15.66	0	15.66
Punjab	4.21	0	4.21
Rajasthan	9.20	0	0
Tamilnadu	21.70	35.96	52.96
Uttar Pradesh	1.95	1.30	0
West Bengal	19.01	12.02	12.32
<b>Total</b>	<b>194.97</b>	<b>124.29</b>	<b>222.34</b>

Note: The amount mentioned in the above table is in respect of all the 26 projects sanctioned since starting of the Scheme in the year 2003-04.

**Funds to Non-governmental Organisations**

5441. SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI:  
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:

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

(a) whether Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) are misutilising the funds allocated to them for the welfare, development and empowerment of women;

(b) if so, the details of Non-Governmental Organisations to which funds were allocated under the various schemes during each of the last three years,

State-wise/Union Territory-wise, NGOs-wise and scheme-wise;

(c) the details of the Non-Governmental Organisations against which the Government has received the complaint of misutilisation of funds alongwith the action taken by the Government against the said NGOs;

(d) whether the Government proposes to formulate any plan to check the arbitrary attitude of NOGs; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI

RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Incentives to Processed Food Exporters

5442. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE:  
SHRIMATI BHAVANA P. GAWALI:  
SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:

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

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to give incentives to the processed food exporters;

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

(c) whether these exporters strictly adhere to the directives issued by the RBI in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Agriculture And Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) extends financial assistance to the processed food exporters under its schemes for promotion of exports given below.

- (1) Scheme for Infrastructure Development.
- (2) Scheme for Market Development.
- (3) Scheme for Quality Development.
- (4) Scheme for Researches Development.
- (5) Scheme for Transport Assistance.

Applications received in the conformity with the XI Plan schemes will be considered for assistance. The incentives under these schemes are available to exporters in all the States.

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

[English]

#### Changes in CBSE Curriculum

5443. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:  
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

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

(a) whether the CBSE is planning to bring in some changes in the curriculum and introduce subjects like photography, theatre and Journalism at the plus two level as reported in the *'The Times of India'* dated March 25, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) As per information furnished by Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), it has designed the following courses for introduction at higher secondary stage.

1. Creative Writing and Translation Studies
2. Financial Management
3. General Health Care
4. Fashion Design and Garment Technology.

(c) CBSE has informed that while action has been initiated to introduce the subjects Creative Writing and Translation Studies and Financial Management in the academic year 2007-08. Other courses are planned to be introduced in a phased manner.

#### Fencing on Indo-Bangladesh Border

5444. SHRI ANANDRAO V. ADSUL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the fencing of Indo-Bangladesh Border is progressing as per the targets;

(b) if so, the details of the targets fixed and achieve so far, State-wise;

(c) if not the reasons for failure in achieving the targets fixed in this regard;

(d) whether illegal Bangladeshi migrants and activist of Islamic fundamentalist forces infiltrate into Assam;

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

(f) the details of revised targets fixed for completion of fencing work and the extent to which cost has escalated; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to achieve such targets in time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (c) The Government of India has sanctioned 3286.859 km. of fencing along Indo-Bangladesh border. Till March 2007, 2495.36 km of fencing has been erected. The fencing in problematic stretches could not be completed by March, 2007 due to following major reasons:

- (i) Objection by BDR to construction of fencing within 150 yards from the International Border.
- (ii) Pending land acquisition cases.
- (iii) Presence of habitation close to International Border.

The balance fencing will be taken up subsequently after resolving the issues.

The State-wise targets and achievements of fencing (in km.) is given below:

Name of the State	Targets	Achievements
West Bengal	1528	1180
Assam	223	191
Meghalaya	399	380
Tripura	736	656
Mizoram	400	88

(d) and (e) Government is fully seized of the problem of infiltration through Indo-Bangladesh border including Assam. The Government has taken following steps to curb infiltration and smuggling across the border:

- (i) Round the clock surveillance of the border by carrying patrolling.
- (ii) Construction of fencing and border roads.
- (iii) Conduct of special operations.
- (iv) Co-ordination with sister agencies.

(f) and (g) The targets for balance fencing will be fixed after resolving the pending issues.

### Special Economic Zones

5445. SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:

SHRI AMITVA NANDY:

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:

SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:

SHRI TUKARAM GANGADHAR GADAKH:

SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:

SHRI KIREN RIJJU:

SHRIMATI KARUNA SHUKLA:

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA

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

(a) the details of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) recommended by State Governments for notifications, State-wise;

(b) the number of SEZs approved, pending for approval put on hold as on date, State-wise alongwith the reasons for not approving the proposals;

(c) whether new zones have been created recently; and

(d) if so, the present status of the new zones created, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) For notification of a Special Economic Zone (SEZ), the developer holding a valid formal approval is required to provide necessary documents, duly certified by the State Government authorities, to the Central Government as per Rule 7 of the Special Economic Zones Rules, 2006. No further recommendations by the State Governments is required. Out of 234 formal approvals granted for setting up SEZs, 103 SEZs have been notified since operationalisation of SEZ Act, 2005 on 10th February 2006, of which 40 have been notified in the current financial year. No SEZs have been put on hold as on date. State-wise details of the formally approved SEZs and SEZs notified so far are as follows:

Sl.No.	Name of State/UT	Formal approvals granted	Notifications issued so far
1.	Andhra Pradesh	44	27
2.	Assam	—	—
3.	Bihar	—	—
4.	Chandigarh	2	1
5.	Chhattisgarh	—	—
6.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	—	—
7.	Delhi	1	—
8.	Goa	4	1
9.	Gujarat	19	8
10.	Haryana	19	7
11.	Himachal Pradesh	—	—
12.	Jharkhand	1	1
13.	Karnataka	27	14
14.	Kerala	10	6
15.	Madhya Pradesh	4	2
16.	Maharashtra	47	13
17.	Orissa	5	—
18.	Pondicherry	1	—
19.	Punjab	4	2
20.	Rajasthan	3	1
21.	Tamil Nadu	25	16
22.	Uttaranchal	3	—
23.	Uttar Pradesh	8	3
24.	West Bengal	7	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>234</b>	<b>103</b>

*[Translation]***Sati Incidents**

5446. SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of 'Sati' incidents have come to the notice of the Government during each of the last three years till date, State-wise and Union Territory-wise;

(b) whether the cases have been filed against the guilty persons for the said crime;

(c) if so, the judgements given in each case;

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto, State-wise;

(e) whether the Government proposes to enact any strict law to check the incident of "Sati";

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (d) As per the data maintained by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), Ministry of Home Affairs, during 2003 and 2004, no case under the Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act, 1987 was registered in any of the States/Union Territories. During 2005, one case under the said Act was registered in Rajasthan for which 18 persons were arrested and charge sheeted. Information for the year 2006 has not been received by NCRB from the States and Union Territories.

(e) and (f) The Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act, 1987 has been enacted in this regard. The Act is uploaded in the Ministry's website to: [www.wcd.nic.in](http://www.wcd.nic.in).

(g) Does not arise.

*[English]***Sale of Toxic Chemicals on Internet**

5447. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:  
SHRI UDAY SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the toxic chemicals such as strychnine, arsenic and cyanide are freely available for sale on the internet;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the militants are now using internet to supply or produce lethal substances;

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

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check such activities in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (e) As per available information, no such inputs have come to the notice of the Government.

#### **Amendment in State Acts by UGC**

5448. SHRI M. APPADURAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any guidelines have been issued by the University Grants Commission (UGC) in regard to appointments or admissions sometimes back contravening the provisions of the State Acts;

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

(c) whether the UGC has consulted the State Governments before formulating these guidelines and advised them to amend their Acts accordingly;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether a number of cases have been filed and kept pending by the State Governments;

(f) if so, the details of cases thereof, State-wise; and

(g) the action taken by the UGC in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) An amendment to the University Grants Commission Regulation on (Minimum Qualifications Required for the Appointment and Career Advancement of Teachers in Universities and Institutions Affiliated to it) (Second Amendment Regulations, 2006) was notified by

the UGC on the 14th June, 2006. According to the UGC, the said notification does not contravene any State Act.

(b) to (g) Do not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### **Implementation of Sixth Schedule of Constitution**

5449. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to implement the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution in the areas adjacent to tribal dominant areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has received some proposals from the State Governments for implementation of the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution in the States;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) to (e) The provisions of the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution of India are at present applicable to the administration of Tribal Areas in the States of Assam., Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram. The West Bengal Legislative Assembly has adopted a resolution recommending inclusion of the hill areas of Darjeeling District under the Sixth Schedule. A proposal has also been received from the Government of Arunachal Pradesh for inclusion of certain areas of the State in the Sixth Schedule.

*[English]*

#### **National Institute of Small Industry Extension Training**

5450. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA:  
SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL:

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the aims and objectives of the National Institute of Small Industry Extension Training (NISJET);

(b) the details of training programmes conducted by NISIET to the small entrepreneurs in the country during each of the last three years, State-wise and Union Territory-wise;

(c) the number of small entrepreneurs benefited during each of the last three years, State-wise and Union Territory-wise;

(d) whether the Government proposes to expand the scope of NISIET in the Eleventh Five Year Plan; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) The aims and objectives

of the National Institute of Small Industry Extension Training (NISIET), now renamed as National Institute for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (NIMSME), are promotion and development of micro, small and medium enterprises and enhance their competitiveness through training in entrepreneurship development; by providing research and consultancy services; by undertaking documentation and dissemination of information related to entrepreneurship and enterprise development.

(b) and (c) The details of training programmes conducted by the Institute in various States for small entrepreneurs and the number of small entrepreneurs benefited, during each of the last three years are as under:

Name of the State	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
	No. of training programmes	No. of small entrepreneurs benefited	No. of training programmes	No. of small entrepreneurs benefited	No. of training programmes	No. of small entrepreneurs benefited
Andhra Pradesh	90	3805	108	4847	41	1737
Karnataka	13	559	38	2000	61	2828
Rajasthan	11	285	05	125	—	—
Assam	—	—	—	—	04	180

In addition, the Institute has also been conducting on-campus training programmes; details of such programmes during the last three years are as under:

Year	No. of training programmes	No. of small entrepreneurs benefited
2004-05	129	3075
2005-06	73	1809
2006-07	84	1826

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

#### Promotion of Small Scale Industries

5451. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to roll out the purchase preference policy for micro and Small Scale Industries (SSI) units;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to set up facilitation councils in the country;

(d) if so, the details alongwith the present status thereof, State and Union Territory-wise particularly in Tamil Nadu; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The Central Government has initiated necessary steps to frame a preference policy for products produced and services

rendered by Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) under Section 11 of the Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises Development (MSMED) Act, 2006. The Central Government already implements, through an executive order, a policy of preference to MSEs in purchases by its Ministries/Department/CPSUs, etc. This non-statutory policy includes reservation of certain products for exclusive purchase from MSEs, facilitation of these units by way of provision of tender sets free of cost, exemption from deposit of earnest money, price preference of up to 15%, etc. Many of the State Governments also follow their own policies of preference for the benefit of MSEs.

(c): Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) The MSMED Act, 2006 makes it mandatory for each State Government to constitute at least one Micro and Small Enterprises Facilitation Council (MSEFC) in its jurisdiction, after notifying the Rules governing them. The Government of India framed Model Rules for MSEFCs to assist the State Government in that activity. According to the information made available to the Central Government, 9 States/UTs have so far constituted MSEFCs after notifying their Rules. The State Government of Tamil Nadu has notified the constitution of 4 MSEFCs at Chennai, Tiruchirapalli, Madurai and Coimbatore.

#### **Survey on Textile Industry**

5452. SHRI EKNATH M. GAIKWAD: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made a joint-survey with CRISIL for making the textile industry more export-oriented as reported in the 'Business Standard' April 02, 2007;

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

(c) whether the Government has fixed any target to achieve the goal;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Government has projected a target of US\$ 25060 Million for the year 2007-08.

(e) The steps taken by the Government in this regard are as follows:

- (i) 100% Foreign Direct Investment is allowed in the textile sector under the automatic route.
- (ii) The Government has de-reserved the readymade garments, hosiery and knitwear from the SSI sector.
- (iii) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) has been made operational from 1-4-1999 to facilitate the modernisation and upgradation of the sector.
- (iv) To improve the productivity and quality of cotton, Government has launched the Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC). Incentives are provided for better farm practices, quality seeds, improvement in market infrastructure and modernization of ginning and pressing sector.
- (v) A new Scheme namely "Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks" has been launched by merging "Scheme for Apparel Parks for Exports" and "Textile Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme" in order to expand the production base of textile and garment sector.
- (vi) The fiscal duty structure has been generally rationalised to achieve growth and maximum value addition within the country. Except for mandatory excise duty on man-made filament yarns and man-made staple fibres, the whole value addition chain has been given an option of excise exemption.
- (vii) The import of specified textiles and garment machinery items has been allowed at a concessional rate of customs duty to encourage investments and to make our textile products competitive in the global market. The cost of machinery has also been reduced through fiscal policy measures.
- (viii) Duty-free imports of 21 items of trimmings and embellishment items are allowed to the garment exporters, upto 3% of their actual export performance during the previous year.

- (ix) For the speedy modernisation of the textile processing sector, Government has introduced, w.e.f. 20.4.2005, a credit linked capital subsidy scheme @10% under TUFs, in addition to the existing 5% interest reimbursement.
- (x) The National Institute for Fashion Technology (NIFT), its eight branches, and the Apparel Training & Design Centres (ATDCs) are running various courses/programmes to meet the skilled manpower requirements of the textile industry, especially apparel, in the field of design, merchandising and marketing.
- (xi) Facilities like eco-testing laboratories have been created to enable exporters to get garments/textiles pre-tested so that they conform to the requirements of the importing countries.

#### Nursery Education

5453. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY:  
SHRI PARAS NATH YADAV:

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

- (a) the present structure of pre-primary education;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to review the structure;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether there is lack of uniformity in pre-primary education in all the private schools;
- (e) if so, the requisite age for admission in nursery at present;
- (f) whether pre-primary education is mandatory for admission to class-I;
- (g) if so, the details thereof;
- (h) whether the Government is aware that admission in nursery schools in metros is continued to be given to the affluent classes of society; and
- (i) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) Though the subject of "education" is in the concurrent list of the Constitution of India, no regulatory framework for the pre-primary education has been laid down by Government of India. There is no proposal at present to review the existing arrangement.

Government of India, however, is implementing a centrally sponsored scheme viz. Integrated Child Development Services Scheme (ICDS). Pre-primary education is one of the six services included in the ICDS Scheme and is provided by the Anganwadi worker from the anganwadi centres set up under the scheme. Number of beneficiaries of pre-primary education in the ICDS is 271.27 lakh as on 30.9.2006.

(d) to (i) Such matters are not monitored/regulated by Government of India at present.

#### TV Channels

5454. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of television channels operating as on date in the country;
- (b) the number of proposals seeking permission to uplink their TV channels from India pending with the Government as on date;
- (c) the criteria fixed for granting permission for such uplinking;
- (d) whether the Government has any mechanism to monitor programmes which are generated outside India and are shown through cable television network within the country;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the steps taken by the Government to check such programmes in the country?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) As on 30.4.2007, the Ministry has permitted 222 private satellite TV channels to uplink from India and 6 TV channels uplinked

from abroad have also been permitted to downlink in India. In addition to this, 54 foreign TV channels have been provisionally permitted to downlink in India.

(b) The proposals of 71 private satellite TV channels for permission to uplink from India are at various stages of scrutiny in accordance with the existing uplinking guidelines.

(c) The criteria for grant of permission to uplink private satellite TV channels are prescribed under the Guidelines for Uplinking from India which are available on the Ministry's website (<http://www.mib.nic.in>).

(d) to (t), All programmes of satellite TV channels transmitted or re-transmitted through cable service are required to adhere to the provisions of the Programme/Advertising Codes prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder. The channels are required to keep a record of programmes downlinked for a period of 90 days and to produce the same before any agency of the Government as and when required, as prescribed under the downlinking guidelines. Government has also sanctioned setting up of Electronic Media Monitoring Centre to monitor contents of satellite TV channels.

#### **Examination Reform**

5455. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the focus group of NCERT has suggested some radical measures on examination reforms as reported in the 'Times of India' dated April 23, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the recommendations made by the focus group have been sent to CBSE and State Examination Boards; and

(d) if so, the response of CBSE and State Examination Boards thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) National Focus Group on examination reform constituted by National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has recommended several examination-related reforms including shift in the

typology of questions, flexibility of time in answering the questions, introduction of the grading system in place of marks, promoting school based continuous and comprehensive evaluation, flexibility in choosing the subjects, making class X Board examination optional for those who want to continue study in the next class in the same school and making examination less stressful, and student friendly, etc.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) and some State Examination Boards have initiated action on some of the recommendations such as giving extra time to read the question paper, weightage to internal assessment in various subjects, introduction of grading, continuous and comprehensive evaluation etc.

#### **Punchhi Commission on Centre-State Relations**

5456. SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU:  
SHRIMATI MANORAMA MADHAVRAJ:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up a Commission on Centre-State relations as reported in the 'Hindustan Times' dated April 28, 2007;

(b) if so, whether the said Commission has submitted its report;

(c) if so, the details and recommendations made by the said Commission;

(d) the details of recommendations implemented and the number of recommendations not implemented alongwith the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government has set up a new Punchhi Commission in this regard;

(f) if so, how the terms and reference of the Commission differ from those of Sarkaria Commission;

(g) whether the Government had consulted the State Governments before setting up of Punchhi Commission; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) The Government has constituted a new Commission on Centre-State Relations under the Chairpersonship of Shri Justice Madan Mohan Punchhi (Retd.), former Chief Justice of India *vide* Gazette notification dated the 27th April, 2007. The Commission has been mandated to submit its report with recommendations within two years.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

(e) and (f) The terms of reference of the new Commission under the Chairpersonship of Shri Justice Madan Mohan Punchhi (Retd.) as compared to the Sarkaria Commission are more broad-based. The terms of reference of both the Commissions have been given in the Annexure.

(g) No, Sir

(h) Does not arise.

The terms of reference of Commission on Centre-State Relations, which was set up in June, 1983 under the Chairpersonship of Shri Justice R.S. Sarkaria (Retd.), former Judge of the Supreme Court of India, were as under:

"The Commission will examine and review the working of the existing arrangements between the Union and States in regard to powers, functions and responsibilities in all spheres and recommend such changes or other measures as may be appropriate.

In examining and reviewing the working of the existing arrangements between the Union and the States and making recommendations as to the changes and measures needed, the Commission will keep in view the social and economic developments that have taken place over the years and have due regard to the scheme and framework of the Constitution which the founding fathers have so sedulously designed to protect the independence and ensure the unity and integrity of the country which is of paramount importance for promoting the welfare of the people."

As against the above, the terms of reference of the new Commission on Centre-State Relations, which has been set up under the Chairpersonship of Shri Justice Madan Mohan Punchhi (Retd.), former Chief Justice of India, are as follows:

- (i) The Commission will examine and review the working of the existing arrangements between the Union and States as per the Constitution of India, the healthy precedents being followed, various pronouncements of the Courts in regard to powers, functions and responsibilities in all spheres including legislative relations, administrative relations, role of governors, emergency provisions, financial relations, economic and social planning, Panchayati Raj institutions, sharing of resources; including inter-state river water and recommend such changes or other measures as may be appropriate keeping in view the practical difficulties.
- (ii) In examining and reviewing the working of the existing arrangements between the Union and States and making recommendations as to the changes and measures needed, the Commission will keep in view the social and economic developments that have taken place over the years particularly over the last two decades and have due regard to the scheme and framework of the Constitution. Such recommendations would also need to address the growing challenges of ensuring good governance for promoting the welfare of the people whilst strengthening the unity and integrity of the country, and of availing emerging opportunities for sustained and rapid economic growth for alleviating poverty and illiteracy in the early decades of the new millennium.
- (iii) While examining and making its recommendations on the above, the Commission shall have particular regard, but not limit its mandate to the following:
  - (a) The role, responsibility and jurisdiction of the Center *vis-a-vis* States during major and prolonged outbreaks of communal violence, caste violence or any other social conflict leading to prolonged and escalated violence.
  - (b) The role, responsibility and jurisdiction of the Center *vis-a-vis* States in the planning and implementation of the mega projects like the inter-linking of rivers, that would normally take 15-20 years for completion and hinge vitally on the support of the States.

- (c) The role, responsibility and jurisdiction of the Center *vis-a-vis* States in promoting effective devolution of powers and autonomy to Panchayati Raj Institutions and Local Bodies including the Autonomous Bodies under the 6th Schedule of the Constitution within a specified period of time.
- (d) The role, responsibility and jurisdiction of the Center *vis-a-vis* States in promoting the concept and practice of independent planning and budgeting at the District level.
- (e) The role, responsibility and jurisdiction of the Center *vis-a-vis* States in linking Central assistance of various kinds with the performance of the States.
- (f) The role, responsibility and jurisdiction of the Center in adopting approaches and policies based on positive discrimination in favour of backward States.
- (g) The impact of the recommendations made by the 8th to 12th Finance Commissions on the fiscal relations between the Centre and the States, especially the greater dependence of the States on devolution of funds from the Centre.
- (h) The need and relevance of separate taxes on the production and on the sales of goods and services subsequent to the introduction of Value Added Tax regime.
- (i) The need for freeing inter-State trade in order to establish a unified and integrated domestic market as also in the context of the reluctance of State Governments to adopt the relevant Sarkaria Commission's recommendation in chapter XVIII of its report.
- (j) The need for setting up a Central Law Enforcement Agency empowered to take up *suo moto* investigation of crimes having inter-State and/or international ramifications with serious implications on national security.
- (k) The feasibility of a supporting legislation under Article 355 for the purpose of *suo moto* deployment of Central forces in the States if and when the situation so demands.

### Closure of NTC Mills

5457. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has decided to close down some more mills of National Textile Corporation (NTC);

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

(c) the number of workers likely to be affected and the steps taken to safeguard their interests, mill-wise;

(d) the manner in which the Government proposes to deal with the existing liabilities of these mills;

(e) whether the Government had earlier decided to revive the thirty mills through joint venture with private companies;

(f) if so, the reasons for dropping other mills;

(g) the percentage of stake offered to private companies in the proposed joint venture; and

(h) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to revive the thirty mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) to (c) As per the Modified Rehabilitation Scheme approved by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) and Group of Ministers (GOM), it has been decided to close down 12 non functional mills out of the 30 mills to be revived through Joint Venture as there is no production activity in these mills and most of the employees have taken retirement under the Modified Voluntary Retirement Scheme (MVRS). Two of these mills have been closed as per the decision and 10 mills are to be closed further. MVRS has been offered to the remaining employees of these mills also. Mill-wise details of workers likely to be affected in the 10 mills are at Annexure.

Government have offered a liberal Modified Voluntary Retirement Scheme (MVRS) to safeguard the interests of workers affected by the closure of unviable mills of NTC. The scheme provided for increasing *ex-gratia* payment to the workers by 50% to 100% depending upon date of

revision of wages. Besides, Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) has formulated a scheme for counseling, re-training and re-deployment of employees; of Public Sector and NTC employees are exposed to such programmes.

(d) The existing liabilities of closed mills are dealt by NTC for their disposal.

(e) to (h) It was proposed to revive thirty mills through joint venture. However, as production had completely ceased in 12 of these mills and most of the employees have taken MVRS, BIFR and GOM approved to revive the balance 18 mills through joint venture with majority stake to NTC, including development of India International Trade Tower at the land of one of these 18 mills, viz. India United Mill No. 6, Mumbai.

#### **Statement**

*No. of employees on roll as on 1.4.2007 in 10 mills state-wise proposed for closure*

S.No.	Name of the state/Mill	Number of employees on roll as on 1.4.2007
	ANDHRA PRADESH	7
1.	Ananthapur Cotton Mills	
	KARNATAKA	2
2.	Sree Yallama Cotton Mills	
	PUNJAB	
3.	Kharar Textile Mills	84
4.	Suraj Textile Mills	49
	RAJASTHAN	
5.	Mahalaxmi Mills	129
6.	Shree Bijay Cotton Mills	82
	GUJARAT	92
7.	Ahmedabad New Textile Mills	
	UTTAR PRADESH	152
8.	Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Naini	
	BIHAR	129
9.	Bihar Co-operative Mills	
	ASSAM	
10.	Associated Industries	92
	<b>Total</b>	<b>818</b>

#### **Import of Cement**

5458. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAI:  
SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:  
SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR:  
SHRI RAKESH SINGH:  
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:

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

(a) whether a decision to import cement has been taken by the Government to check the increase in cement price;

(b) if so, the details of prices and quantity thereof alongwith the countries from which it is likely to be imported; and

(c) the extent to which the import of cement is likely to bring down the soaring prices of cement in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) The import of Cement is under Open General License (OGL) and anyone can import the requisite quantity provided it conforms to the BIS standards. In order to augment domestic availability of cement, the import duty on cement was brought down to Nil from 12.5% as on 21st January, 2007. The Government in its Budget announcement, has also introduced a dual excise duty structure on cement (excise duty of Rs. 600 PMT of cement with MRP more than Rs. 190 per bag and excise duty of Rs. 300 PMT on cement with MRP of Rs. 190 or less per bag).

In addition to the above, the Ministry of Finance has removed the countervailing duty (equivalent to the excise duty and special additional custom duty of 4% on cement w.e.f. 3rd April, 2007). The importers have to adhere to the Cement (Quality Control) Order, 2003 which provides for mandatory BIS Certification.

#### **Disaster Response and Disaster Mitigation Funds**

5459. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up Disaster Response Fund and Disaster Mitigation Fund as a part of the disaster management; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present status of the Funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) Disaster Management Act, 2005 was notified on 26th December, 2005. Sections 46 and 47 of the Disaster Management Act provide for the constitution of National Disaster Response Fund and National Disaster Mitigation Fund, respectively. These Funds have not yet been constituted.

Modalities for constituting these Funds are being worked out in consultation with the concerned Central Ministries and the Planning Commission.

#### **Closed Iron-Ore Mines**

5460. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the iron-ore mines closed down during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the reasons for discontinuation of mining activities in those mines;

(c) the details of the work force affected by closure of these mines, State-wise;

(d) whether any steps are being taken by the Government to provide alternative employment to the affected persons; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA):  
(a) As per available information no iron ore mine has been closed during the last three years after obtaining the certificate for final mine closure from IBM.

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

#### **Tobacco Manufacturing Unit**

5461. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of units that have been given approval for tobacco manufacturing units in SEZ areas in the last three years;

(b) the details of their production, exports, export destination and the number of workers employed by each unit and name of promoters/owners;

(c) whether these units have been given industrial licence as per the industrial policy of the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the manufacturers declared the brand names of the cigarettes being produced in their SEZ areas and outside the SEZ areas; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (f) No approvals have been given for setting up tobacco manufacturing units in any of the Special Economic Zones in 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07 and the current year.

#### **Refund Fee and Original Documents by Technical Institutions**

5482. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has directed to all technical institutions to refund fees and return original documents to the students who want to withdraw their admissions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether most of the technical institutions have not complied with the Government's directions; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The Central Government issued directives under Section 20(1) of the University Grants Commission (UGC) Act, 1956 and Section 20(1) of the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) Act, 1987 to the UGC and AICTE, respectively, in the matter of refund of fee to the student in the event of his withdrawal from the programme and non-retention of the original School/Institution Leaving Certificates by the Institutions and Universities. The AICTE has issued instruction to the technical institutions, Universities

including Deemed to be Universities imparting Technical Education through Public Notice dated 19th April 2007 in this regard. There is no feedback about technical institutions not complying with the same. The UGC and AICTE have been given the responsibility to enforce the directions.

#### Handicrafts Hubs

5463: SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts has identified North-East region among five destinations to set up sourcing hubs for handicrafts;

(b) if so, the number, objectives and functions thereof;

(c) whether any centres for production and outlets have been set up by the council; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) No, Sir. However, the Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH), New Delhi had launched aggressive international marketing project for North-East region under Assistance to State for Infrastructural Development of Exports (ASIDE) Scheme of Ministry of Commerce for promotion of handicraft products.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Subsidy to Textile Industry

5464. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is providing any subsidy to the textile processing industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also proposed to increase the subsidy;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be provided; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) For modernization of the textile processing sector, Government has introduced, w.e.f. 20.04.05, a credit linked capital subsidy scheme under Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme. The Scheme provides, for textile processing industries, a capital subsidy @ 10% in addition to 5% interest reimbursement being provided for other segments.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) There exists no justification for increasing the quantum of subsidy for this sector.

[*Translation*]

#### Free Education to Single Girl Child

5465. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Board of Secondary Education has made changes in the scheme of providing free education to the single girl child;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons for the changes;

(c) the details of the single girl child beneficiaries of this scheme during each of the last three years, State and union Territory-wise;

(d) whether this change is likely to cause adverse effects on the scheme of free education to single girl child; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), the scheme for girl children who are the only children of their parents studying in CBSE affiliated private schools was introduced by way of full fee waiver from class-VI onwards. Many schools had objected to this and

subsequently filed a writ petition in High Court of Delhi, and got stay on the operation of the scheme. The scheme, therefore, has been modified with introduction of a scholarship scheme in 2006-07 for single girl child studying in classes XI and XII.

(c) State/UT-wise details of beneficiaries covered under the scholarship scheme for classes XI and XII are given in the Statement enclosed

(d) and (e) The scholarship scheme is meant to encourage and reward meritorious single girl students at the higher secondary stage.

**Statement**

*State/Union Territory-wise details of single girl children covered under the scholarship scheme for classes XI and XII during 2006-07*

Sl.No.	State/UT	2006-07
1	2	3
<b>States</b>		
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3
3.	Assam	11
4.	Bihar	5
5.	Chhattisgarh	24
6.	Gujarat	9
7.	Haryana	14
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	5
10.	Jharkhand	12
11.	Karnataka	19
12.	Kerala	339
13.	Madhya Pradesh	25
14.	Maharashtra	9
15.	Manipur	1
16.	Meghalaya	1

1	2	3
17.	Nagaland	1
18.	Orissa	8
19.	Punjab	9
20.	Rajasthan	34
21.	Tamil Nadu	60
22.	Tripura	2
23.	Uttaranchal	6
24.	Uttar Pradesh	48
25.	West Bengal	25
26.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1
27.	Chandigarh	3
28.	Delhi	72
29.	Puducherry	1
30.	Foreign Schools	4
<b>Total</b>		<b>756</b>

**Patent Act**

5466. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of adverse effects of enforcement of product Patent Act in place of Process Patent Act in wake of liberalization and World Trade Organisation (WTO) regime;

(b) whether the Government proposes to constitute any Committee or an inquiry Committee to review the adverse effects caused in Small Scale Industries owing to adopting of product Patent;

(c) if so, the assistance being provided or proposed to be provided by the Government for the new technology and product research to the Small Scale industries which are unable to bear the expenditure of research in view of shortage of funds; and

(d) the role of the Government in regard to royalty on product in the Small Scale Industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) The product patent regime for food, pharmaceutical and chemical inventions has been introduced with effect from January 01, 2005. As such, it is too early to assess the impact of product patents on the small scale industries.

(c) The Government is implementing a number of schemes under which incentives, including financial assistance, are provided to the small scale industries for upgradation of technology, acquisition of improved plant and machinery and improvement of quality of management and systems. There is also a scheme of conferring annual national awards for research and development in small scale industries. With a view to creating awareness among small scale industrial units, the Government is also organizing sensitization programmes.

(d) Royalties as such are a matter of negotiation between the licensor and the licensee. The Patents Act provides for payment of reasonable royalty in case of use of a patent.

[*Translation*]

#### North Eastern Industrial Policy

5467. SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of target set and achieved by the North-Eastern Industrial Policy package during each of the last three years, State wise;

(b) the details of funds released and the number of beneficiaries covered under the said package during the above period, State-wise;

(c) the number of employment opportunities generated under the said package, State-wise;

(d) whether the package has been evaluated; and

(e) if so, the details and reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) No target was fixed under the North Eastern Industrial Policy.

(b) The funds are released to settle the claims of industrial units. The details of release and the number of such claims are given in Statement-I enclosed.

(c) to (e) An impact assessment study of the NEIP was conducted by the Tata Economic Consultancy Services (TECS) in 2004. As per the study between 1999 & September, 2004 a total of 681 units were set up in the North East with a total investment of Rs. 1,067.28 crore and the direct employment generated was 20,709. Recommendations of the TECS and details of employment generated are given in Statement-II. Based on the recommendations of the TECS, the North East Industrial Policy, 1997 has been revised and a new Policy 'North East Industrial and Investment Promotion Policy, 2007' has been notified on 1.4.2007.

#### Statement I

##### Central Capital Investment Subsidy

(Rs. in Crore)

State	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
	No. of claims	Amount	No. of claims	Amount	No. of claims	Amount
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Assam	25	3.37	124	15.75	44	6.68
Arunachal Pradesh	3	0.55	3	0.61	1	0.17

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Meghalaya	16	3.40	26	5.01	5	0.80
Mizoram	0	0.00	6	0.51		—
Nagaland	0	0.00	0	0.00	126	1.07
Tripura	5	0.18	1	0.30	2	0.36
Sikkim	1	0.23	7	0.75	5	0.50

*Central Interest Subsidy State*

State	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
	No. of claims	Amount	No. of claims	Amount	No. of claims	Amount
Assam	75	2.60	49	3.59	27	3.94
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0.00	1	0.04	—	—
Meghalaya	61	1.54	16	0.41	2	0.21
Mizoram	0	0.00	0	0.00	—	—
Nagaland	0	0.00	0	0.00	—	—
Tripura	11	0.15	1	0.26	—	—
Sikkim	1	0.14	0	0.00	—	—

*Central Comprehensive Insurance Scheme*

(In Rs.)

State	2004-05 Amount	2005-06 Amount	2006-07 Amount
Assam	15251769	17028906	6717000
Arunachal Pradesh	203303	233303	—
Manipur	—	—	—
Meghalaya	2207122	2353279	3181000
Mizoram	0	0	—
Nagaland	0	10436	—
Tripura	166092	403041	167000

**Statement II****Impact Assessment by TECS**

(From 1999 to September 2004)

State	No of units	Investment (Rs. crores)	%age share	Direct Employment Generated
Assam	520	528.19	49.49	12,422
Meghalaya	61	441.01	41.32	6,056
Arunanchal Pradesh	11	39.86	3.73	577
Tripura	34	31.58	2.96	665
Nagaland	46	19.64	1.84	439
Mizoram	4	4.00	0.39	300
Manipur	5	3.00	0.28	250
<b>Total</b>	<b>681</b>	<b>1,067.28</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>20,709</b>

**Major Findings of TECS**

- (i) Predominance of small sized investments in the North Eastern Region, i.e., 69% of the new units were set up with an investment of less than Rs. 1 crore and only 18% of them were in the range of Rs. 1-2 crore.
- (ii) At the sectoral level, nearly 50% of the total investment was in sectors such as cement, metallurgy and ferro-alloys, 20% in tea, 8% in food & beverages and 7% in cosmetics and consumer durables which attracted higher excise duty.
- (iii) Local resource based industries like tea and jute have also taken advantage of this Policy.
- (iv) States of Assam and Meghalaya together accounted for 91% of the total industrial investments made in the North Eastern Region.
- (v) Out of 18 thrust industries, which were identified on the basis of local resources, only six industries, i.e., food, agro-based, cereal-based products, paper products, plastics and mineral-based have attracted significant investments.
- (vi) The flow of investment was mostly driven by the objective to avail excise exemptions in the high excise bracket industries and more than 50% of the excise refund was availed by tobacco and personal care products, which had a low investment content.
- (vii) The declining interest regime has not percolated to the North Eastern Region and the interest rates continue to be 14-15% with 100% collateral requirements. Banking institutions continue to perceive the North Eastern region as a high risk area, emphasizing the need for term loan interest subsidy.
- (viii) Infrastructure constraints, particularly availability/reliability of power, size of market, entrepreneurial capacity and lack of credit facilities coupled with concern for security have been the major deterrents for investment.
- (ix) NEIP had a favourable impact on the tea sector.
- (x) The investment flow has largely been dictated by considerations of excise duty benefits. Sectors such as handlooms, handicrafts and agro-industries, which are outside the excise duty

ambit, have not been able to attract adequate investments. Significantly, these are also sectors with high employment potential.

- (xi) The overall cost-benefit analysis clearly establishes that though the NEIP has had a positive impact, it has not been upto the desired extent.
- (xii) Special packages announced for the States of Jammu & Kashmir, Uttaranchal and Himachal Pradesh subsequent to NEIP, 1997 have adversely impacted the flow of investments to the North Eastern Region.

#### **Major Recommendations of the TECS**

Based on the study and interaction with the various stake-holders, the TECS had recommended the following:

- (i) Extension of the NEIP beyond 2007.
- (ii) Extension of incentives under the Policy to the new units as well to the existing units irrespective of their location.
- (iii) Extension of incentives to service sectors such as IT and IT enabled services, tourism, healthcare and construction activities.
- (iv) Provision of quality infrastructure.
- (v) Exemption from Minimum Alternative Tax (MAT).
- (vi) Extension of the Transport Subsidy Scheme by ten years, with intra-State movement of goods also becoming eligible for transport subsidy.
- (vii) Introduction of an enhanced and graded capital investment subsidy.
- (viii) Enhancement in present level of Interest Subsidy and its extension to term loans.
- (ix) Rationalization of the definition of "substantial expansion".
- (x) Exemption from service tax to service sector industries.

*[English]*

#### **National Monitoring Committee on Minorities' Education**

5468. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has asked the State Governments to set up monitoring cells to give special attention to the grievances of minority students;

(b) if so, the response of the State Governments in this regard;

(c) whether the Union Government has also requested the State Governments to implement the recommendations of the National Monitoring Committee for Minorities' Education;

(d) if so, the reaction of the States thereon; and

(e) the measures taken by the Government to make minorities an integrated part of educational planning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) The Central Government had revived the National Monitoring Committee for Minorities Education (NMCME) in August, 2004. The Committee has given several recommendations in its Annual Report 2004-05 and Periodic Report 2006-07. These recommendations including the one for setting up Monitoring Cells, have been conveyed to all State Governments and other organisations. The State Governments have reacted positively to the suggestions and some of them have already been taking action as suggested by the Committee. The NMCME is constantly interacting with minority communities, educational institutions, Central and State Governments and its recommendations are taken into account while implementing the programmes.

#### **Export-Import of Arecanut**

5469. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and value of arecanut imported and exported during each of the last three years indicating the names of the countries; and

(b) the measures being taken by the Government for enhancing the arecanut export from Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The quantity and value of arecanut imported and exported are as under:

	Imports		Exports	
	Quantity in Tonnes	Value in Rs. crores	Quantity in Tonnes	Value in Rs. crore
2004-05	34,104	47	4,615	25
2005-06	56,344	80	4,113	28
2006-07*	56,035	87	2,268	12

\*Data is till November, 2006 for import and October, 2006 for export.

The country-wise details are given in the publication 'Monthly Statistics of Foreign Trade of India; Volume-I (Exports) and Volume-II (Imports) Annual Number published by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, which are available in the library of the Parliament.

(b) No such proposal is under consideration at present.

#### Special Economic Zones

5470. SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Special Economic Zones (SEZs) which have got formal approval are required to be notified by the Union Government;

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

(c) whether the necessary documents have been sent by the developers to the Union Government;

(d) if so, the reasons for delay in issuances of notification; and

(e) the time by when the notification are likely to be issued by the Union Government in respect of pending proposals for various State Governments including Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Details of the SEZs formally approved and those notified so far are as follows:

S.No.	Name of the State/UT	Formal approvals granted	SEZs notified under the SEZ Act, 2005
1.	Andhra Pradesh	44	27
2.	Chandigarh	2	1
3.	Delhi	1	—
4.	Goa	4	1
5.	Gujarat	19	8
6.	Haryana	19	7
7.	Jharkhand	1	1
8.	Karnataka	27	14
9.	Kerala	10	6
10.	Madhya Pradesh	4	2
11.	Maharashtra	47	13
12.	Orissa	5	—
13.	Puducherry	1	—
14.	Punjab	4	2
15.	Rajasthan	3	1
16.	Tamil Nadu	25	16
17.	Uttaranchal	3	—
18.	Uttar Pradesh	8	3
19.	West Bengal	7	1
TOTAL		234	103

(c) to (e) For issue of notification, the developer is required to provide necessary documents as per Rule 7 of the SEZ Rules 2006, which are submitted by them from time to time. However, pending consideration of various issues relating to SEZs, including acquisition of land, it had been decided to issue notifications in respect of formally approved SEZs beyond the 63 notified SEZs only after final decision by the Empowered Group of Ministers (EGOM). EGOM has since allowed issuance of notifications and 40 more notification have been issued since 5th April, 2007.

[Translation]

#### Foreign Funding to Kashmiri Terrorists

5471. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether terrorists in Kashmir are getting funds from foreign countries;

(b) if so, the number of cases reported during each of the last three years;

(c) the name of countries found involved therein; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to check these activities?

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

(b) As per information available with the Government, the number of cases reported during the last three years is as under:

Sl. No.	Year	Cases Reported
1.	2004	04
2.	2005	12
3.	2006	16

(e) Expatriate Kashmiri organizations and Muslim organizations based in various foreign countries are involved in funding of terrorist outfits in Jammu and Kashmir.

(d) Various agencies of the Central Government and the State Government are coordinating amongst

themselves and taking necessary actions for tackling the menace of terrorist funding in all its dimensions. Apart from this, the Government has constituted Special Economic Intelligence Cell for obtaining hard and actionable inputs on terrorist funding.

[English]

#### Apparel Export Promotion Council

5472. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Apparel Export Promotion Council proposes to set up their management institute as reported in 'Business Standard' dated April 09, 2007;

(b) if so, the details and objectives there of indicating their locations, State and Union Territory-wise;

(c) the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred thereon, State and Union Territory-wise; and

(d) the time by which the proposed institutes are likely to become functional?

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

(b) Institute of Apparel Management, under Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPCC) has been conceptualized to provide cutting edge education required for the managing apparel industry in a new competitive era, with state-of-the-art facilities for education and research in apparel management and related areas, in their own campus.

(c) The Government is providing assistance for the construction of the Apparel International Mart in which the AEPCC Institute of Apparel Management would be set up.

(d) The Institute is likely to be set up by August, 2007.

#### Advertisement Rate

5473. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs)/ Autonomous Bodies are facing problems as some of the

newspapers particularly big ones are not willing to publish PSUs advertisement at Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP) rates;

(b) if so, whether DAVP has pursued with the newspapers to accept advertisement of PSUs/Autonomous Bodies for release as per rates of DAVP;

(c) if so, the reaction of newspaper owners thereon;

(d) whether the Rate Structure Committee has finalised the advertisement rates and submitted their recommendations in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the follow-up action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (c) The Indian Newspaper Society (INS) has directed all the member newspapers not to publish advertisements of PSUs and Autonomous Bodies at DAVP rates. DAVP has been writing to such newspapers refusing to publish PSU Advertisements, as per the clause 18(f) of the Advertisement Policy. No response has been received as yet from them.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The recommendations of the Rate Structure Committee regarding print media advertisements rates have been implemented with effect from 01.01.2006. Details are in given in the Statement enclosed.

#### **Statement**

##### *Recommendations of Rate Structure Committee*

1. Card rates cannot be agreed to as no information as to how newspaper establishments determine the same, was forthcoming in spite of repeated requests. The factors other than the costs that are taken into account to arrive at the card rate were also not disclosed. Variation in discounts offered, on card rates, and the methodology of determining the discount offered on card rates were also not provided.
2. Committee recommends a rate of Rs. 114.31 per column centimeter, with standard column width of 5 centimeters for one lakh circulation of dailies, worked out on the basis of cost of

newsprint at Rs. 26500 per MT for standard newsprint and also other various elements of costs, weightage for small and medium newspapers, pulling power weightage and commission besides reasonable profit.

3. Committee recommends a rate of Rs. 131.38 per column centimeter, with standard column width of 5 centimeters for one lakh circulation of unbound publications, worked out on the basis of glaze paper at Rs. 32500 per MT and also other various elements of costs, weightage for small and medium newspapers, pulling power weightage and commission besides reasonable profit.
4. Committee recommends a rate of Rs. 145.47 and Rs. 162.54 per column centimeter, with standard column width of 5 centimeters for one lakh circulation of bound publications, worked out on the basis of newsprint at Rs. 26500 for standard newsprint and Rs. 32500 per MT for glazed paper respectively considering other various elements of costs, weightage for small and medium newspapers, pulling power weightage and commission besides reasonable profit.
5. Committee recommends that 10% series discount allowed at present in addition to commission of 15% paid to DAVP may continue for UPSC advertisements published in columns of newspapers.
6. Committee recommends 10 slabs rate structure for publications of Daily, Weekly, Fortnightly and Monthlies on the basis of circulation of 42 copies as against the existing 16 slabs for circulation up to 100000. The minimum slab has been raised from 2000 to 5000 circulation.
7. Some of the newspapers have adopted international dimensions for publishing, resulting in reduction in overall size by about 15%. Number of other newspapers is also planning to adopt the new dimensions in the future. The Committee therefore recommends that for rate purposes, standard advertising unit should be square cm. instead of column cm. The recommended rate per square cm is Rs. 22.86 for one lakh circulation of dailies. For newspapers and periodicals with circulation beyond one lakh the same may be applicable

- proportionately for every increase of 1000 copies. Similarly for weekly/monthly/unbound/bound publications, rate per square centimeter of actual space used for advertisement be paid.
8. Rate structure recommended should be made effective from 1st January 2006 to coincide with new rate contract period suggested. The recommended rate structure would be valid for a period of three years i.e. up to 31st December 2008 when it may be reviewed.
  9. The unbound and bound weeklies, fortnightlies monthlies have been given usually an equal weightage factor compared to dailies. The committee recommends that the differential for weeklies, fortnightlies and for monthlies over the rate recommended for dailies as existing be continued.
  10. Committee recommends that the rates for colour advertisements will be higher by 40% as compared to the rates for black and white advertisements.
  11. In case of substantial variations in the cost of newsprint, the recommended rate effective from 1.1.2006 may be revised once in a year on the basis of escalation formulae. For this purpose, the revised price of newsprint/glazed paper should be on the basis of average of immediately previous six months landed cost of newsprint/glazed paper.
  12. Committee recommends ABC circulation certificate may be made compulsory for all such newspapers that claim circulation of more than 75000. As this is likely to substantially increase ABC workload, they may be advised to empanel practicing Cost Accountants besides empanelling more number of practicing Chartered Accountants to carry out a check.
  13. For circulation of newspapers up to 25000 copies the committee recommends that Cost Accountants having valid certificate of practice may also be authorized in addition to practicing Chartered Accountant to issue the circulation certificate.
  14. Committee recommends that the proposed rates are applicable to each edition of a chain group of newspaper treating it as a separate entity on merits of its circulation and offered separate rate.
  15. Committee recommends that for the Sunday editions of daily newspapers having different RNI number, the rates prevailing for week days of concerned dailies cannot be extended.
  16. Committee recommends that all Public Sector Undertakings and Autonomous bodies may be directed to route their advertisements through DAVP since its rates are substantially lower which will result in reduction in public expenditure on advertisement.
  17. Committee recommends that the present exemption limit of 2000 may be increased to 5000 circulations for the purpose of circulation check by RNI. Certificate of Cost/Chartered Accountants may be accepted by DAVP.

#### **Children Enrolment in School**

5474. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY:  
SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:

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

(a) whether there is a low school enrolment including rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details of school enrolment in rural areas, State-wise including Andhra Pradesh;

(c) the funds allocated for the primary, secondary and higher secondary schools in rural areas during each of the last three years, State-wise including Andhra Pradesh;

(d) the details of the funds utilized by the State Governments including Andhra Pradesh for each school from the funds released during the said period, State-wise/Union Territory-wise;

(e) the steps taken by the Government to improve the school enrolment especially in rural areas of the country including Andhra Pradesh during the said period;

(f) whether the enrolment of girls had gone up in rural schools compared to urban areas;

(g) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government in this regard;

(h) whether some States are still far behind in sending children to schools and ensuring quality education for them; and

(i) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (i) A statement giving State/UT-wise including Andhra Pradesh and gender-wise Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) for the classes I-XII (6-18 years age) for the year 2004-05 is Annexed. Annual class-wise enrolment figures are not collected for urban and rural areas separately, therefore, Gross Enrolment Ratio for these areas cannot be celebrated separately.

School-wise and urban/rural-wise funds are not allocated to States.

Under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya Scheme, access of girls to elementary schooling is being enhanced. Measures are also undertaken to provide flexible schooling, early childhood care, educational incentives, community action to support continuation of girl in the elementary education cycle. The Mid-day Meal Scheme that provides a cooked meal to all children of Government and Government-aided primary schools, Education Guarantee Scheme (EGS) Centers and Alternative & Innovative Education (AIE) Centers, also promote school enrolment and participation.

**Statement**

*State/UT-wise Gross Enrolment Ratio for classes I-XI (6-18 years) in 2004-05*

S.No	State/UTs	Gross Enrolment Ratio for the classes I-XII (6-18 years) in 2004-05		
		Boys	Girls	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	75.38	71.98	73.72
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	93.52	80.97	87.42
3.	Assam	74.72	71.14	72.97
4.	Bihar	58.81	41.61	50.68
5.	Chhattisgarh	95.11	82.63	88.97
6.	Goa	88.78	85.98	87.42
7.	Gujarat	87.14	73.56	80.77
8.	Haryana	68.15	67.62	67.91
9.	Himachal Pradesh	118.46	114.39	116.50
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	63.70	58.17	61.02
11.	Jharkhand	62.51	51.09	56.99
12.	Karnataka	82.32	79.51	80.95
13.	Kerala	83.55	82.90	83.23
14.	Madhya Pradesh	94.26	84.38	89.56
15.	Maharashtra	89.68	88.00	88.88

1	2	3	4	5
16.	Manipur	104.27	98.77	101.56
17.	Meghalaya	92.03	96.90	94.44
18.	Mizoram	89.17	85.52	87.37
19.	Nagaland	56.75	56.20	56.48
20.	Orissa	92.15	81.87	87.11
21.	Punjab	59.58	63.01	61.13
22.	Rajasthan	89.66	71.73	81.20
23.	Sikkim	83.29	85.92	84.60
24.	Tamil Nadu	97.08	94.54	95.84
25.	Tripura	87.95	82.91	85.49
26.	Uttar Pradesh	75.65	66.47	71.34
27.	Uttarakhand	91.83	88.81	90.38
28.	West Bengal	75.88	71.60	73.80
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	84.07	85.79	84.89
30.	Chandigarh	64.77	66.73	65.67
31.	Dadara and Nagar Haveli	95.97	82.61	89.63
32.	Daman and Diu	109.81	109.76	109.79
33.	Delhi	74.13	83.44	78.39
34.	Lakshadweep	54.88	54.39	54.65
35.	Pondicherry	109.70	100.66	105.10
	India	79.75	72.32	76.20

#### Assistance to Minorities Concentration Areas

5475. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government provides assistance for improvement of infrastructure and facilities in schools located in areas of minorities concentration and modernisation of madaras in the country;

(b) if so, the details of assistance provided by the

Government during each of the last three years and current year, State and Union Territory-wise;

(c) whether under the said scheme the Government provides assistance for salaries of science and mathematics teachers and kits for both subjects; and

(d) if so, the number of institutes benefited by such assistance in various States during the said period?

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

(b) In the current year so far no assistance has been released. The detail indicating the grants released to states under the Area Intensive and Madrasa Modernisation Programme are given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) The details of institutions benefited by such assistance in the various states is not centrally maintained.

**Statement**

*Area Intensive and Madrasa Modernisation Programme (AIMMP)*

Amount Released (Rs. in Lakhs)

Name of the State	2004-05	No. of Madarsa	2005-06	No. of Madarsa	2006-07	No. of Madarsa
<b>A. Infrastructure Development</b>						
Andhra Pradesh	—		1000.00		664.25	
Haryana	450.00		—		—	
Madhya Pradesh	57.28		—		—	
Uttar Pradesh	1229.72		634.87		—	
<b>B. Madarsa Modernisation</b>						
Andhra Pradesh	—	—	35.20	60	48.6	135
Bihar	—	—	79.92	111	—	—
Chandigarh	00.72	1	—		0.72	2
Jammu and Kashmir	—	—	—	—	12.6	20
Orissa	—	—	168.96	116	189.84	145
Madhya Pradesh	421.56	446	384.00	446	287.69	457
Maharashtra	—	—	3.16	4	—	—
Tamil Nadu	00.72	1	—	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh	—	—	235.25	683	2481.96	3380
Tripura	45.72	127	45.72	127	45.72	127
Chhattisgarh	—	—	—	—	242.92	208
Uttarakhand	—	—	—	—	109.03	143
Kerala	—	—	59.04	84	338.91	429
Karnataka	—	—	—	—	77.41	72

**Legislation to Assess Colleges and Universities**

5476. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to enact a legislation to make assessment compulsory for Colleges and Universities not to skip quality assessment of its teachers, students, infrastructure and general academic environment;

(b) if so, the time by which a final decision for introducing the legislation is likely to be taken; and

(c) the extent by which it will be beneficial?

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

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

**Online Fraud Cases**

5477. SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU:  
SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of persons who use internet and fell victim of online fraud during each of the last-three years, State-wise;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to save persons from online fraud;

(c) the number of cases of online fraud registered and funds involved during the said period, State-wise;

(d) the number of cases solved/unsolved by the police during the said period, State-wise, separately; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to solve all the unsolved cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) to (e) No such database of online fraud cases is maintained by the National Crime Records Bureau. As per available information, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) had received a few complaints

about unauthorized transactions in internet trading and forwarded the same to the National Stock Exchange of India (NSE) for redressal. Further as per information provided by NSE to SEBI, NSE had received a total of 16 complaints pertaining to misuse of user-id and password during the last three years. The Exchange has reported that it has taken action in accordance with its bye-laws and 10 out of 16 complaints have been resolved. SEBI has prescribed minimum conditions to be ensured by the stock exchanges and the systems requirements to be put in place before granting approval to the members to start internet trading. The exchanges have also been advised to conduct a systems audit to look into the causes of systemic deficiencies, if any.

The Exchange which provide internet trading facility have issued guidelines to strengthen the systems. The guidelines require the members to conduct regular audit of their internet trading systems. The members are required to submit system audit certificate by a qualified system audit professional on half yearly basis. Minimum safety standards for the software facilitating internet based trading have been specified. Stock broking entities offer website online trading facilities to the investors as per the Bye-law, Rules and Regulations of the Stock Exchange. Further, the Information Technology Act, 2000 together with Indian Penal Code provides a legal framework for dealing with crimes like online frauds.

**Allocation of Funds under Tribal Sub-plan**

5478. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount spent under tribal sub-plan in various States during the Tenth Five Year Plan, year-wise; and

(b) the work carried out in the scheduled districts particularly in Orissa under tribal sub-plan and amount spent thereon in the above period?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KYNDIAH): (a) and (b) Based on the information received from States, a statement showing the State-wise amount spent under Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) for the period 2002-03 to 2005-06 is enclosed. At this stage, amount actually spent by the State Governments for the year 2006-07 is not available as audit is done in the latter half of the year. The TSP funds are utilized on various schemes/programmes for the socio-economic development

of Scheduled Tribes of the State including Scheduled Area districts. The Government of Orissa has indicated that

specific details of work carried out in Scheduled Area (districts) out of TSP, is not maintained separately.

**Statement**

(Rs. in crore)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Amount spent under TSP			
		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1.	Andhra Pradesh	487.16	705.18	856.93	785.66
2.	Assam	118.64	141.01	160.00	260.07
3.	Bihar	NA	NA	NA	NA
4.	Chhattisgarh	512.04	581.35	1176.68	1168.66
5.	Goa	—	—	—	—
6.	Gujarat	634.09	793.19	971.53	1435.34
7.	Himachal Pradesh	161.76	112.05	122.69	146.51
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	NA	NA	NA	NA
9.	Jharkhand	768.58	787.78	1536.94	2357.33
10.	Karnataka	106.00	990.04	88.34	133.23
11.	Kerala	79.48	511.50	80.04	71.86
12.	Madhya Pradesh	686.72	839.00	1176.38	1477.19
13.	Maharashtra	243.28	450.22	337.62	928.53
14.	Manipur	279.60	NA	NA	NA
15.	Orissa	724.92	652.24	655.32	788.15
16.	Rajasthan	306.10	363.64	417.39	565.63
17.	Sikkim	1.41	28.64	41.40	299.42
18.	Tamil Nadu	34.29	84.99	83.67	101.83
19.	Tripura	161.55	172.08	213.89	268.14
20.	Uttarakhand	NA	NA	NA	NA
21.	Uttar Pradesh	4.00	3.50	6.33	12.17
22.	West Bengal	59.37	72.90	94.97	228.61

**Wool Production**

5479. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country is self-sufficient in the production of wool;

(b) if so, the details of production, demand and supply of wool in the country during each of the last three years; and

(c) the quantity and value of wool imported during each of the last three years and current year?

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

(b) and (c) The details of production, demand, supply, quantity and value of wool imported during the last three years are as under:

(in million kgs. approximately)

Year	Production	Import of Raw Wool	*Demand/Supply/Consumption	Value of raw wool imported (Rs. in crore)
2004-05	44.60	84.76	129.36	867.02
2005-06	44.90	90.18	135.08	902.97
2006-07	45.20	70.27	115.47	719.66

(Source: Ministry of Agriculture/DGCI&S, Kolkata through CWDB and TXC, Mumbai)

\*Since, wool has been deleted as one of the items from the purview of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs & Food and Public Distribution, no data on the demand/consumption of wool is being compiled by the Ministry and the consumption figures are 'derived' figures.

[Translation]

**Supreme Court Guidelines on Interrogation**

5480. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has issued any guidelines regarding arrest and interrogation of persons involved in crime;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken any initiatives for the implementation of the said guidelines;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether there is any difference in the existing guidelines and those issued by the court; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

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

Supreme Court in the case of D.K. Basu Vs. State of West Bengal (Writ Petition Criminal No. 539 of 1986) issued guidelines to be followed in the case of arrest/detention.

(b) The Supreme Court's guidelines regarding arrest are as follows:

(i) The police personnel carrying out the arrest and handling the interrogation of the arrestee should bear accurate, visible and clear identification and name tags with their designations. The particulars of all such police personnel who handle interrogation of the arrestee must be recorded in a register.

(ii) The police officer carrying out the arrest of the arrestee shall prepare a memo of arrest at the time of arrest and such memo shall be attested by at least one witness, who may be either a member of the family of the arrestee or a respectable person of the locality from where the arrest is made. It shall also be counter signed by the arrestee and shall contain the time and date of arrest.

- (iii) A person who has been arrested or detained and is being held in custody in a police station or interrogation center or other lock-up, shall be entitled to have one friend or relative or other person known to him or having interest in his welfare being informed, as soon as practicable, that he has been arrested and is being detained at the particular place, unless the attesting witness of the memo of arrest is himself such a friend or a relative of the arrestee.
- (iv) The time, place of arrest and venue of custody of an arrestee must be notified by the police where the next friend or relative of the arrestee lives outside the district or town through the Legal Aid Organization in the District and the police station of the area concerned telegraphically within a period of 8 to 12 hours after the arrest.
- (v) The person arrested must be made aware of his right to have someone informed of his arrest or detention as soon as he is put under arrest or is detained.
- (vi) An entry must be made in the diary at the place of detention regarding the arrest of the person which shall also disclose the name of the next friend of the person who has been informed of the arrest and the names and particulars of the police officials in whose custody the arrestee is.
- (vii) The arrestee should, where he so requests, be also examined at the time of his arrest and major and minor injuries, if any present on his/her body, must be recorded at that time. The "Inspection Memo" must be signed both by the arrestee and the police officer affecting the arrest and its copy provided to the arrestee.
- (viii) The arrestee should be subjected to medical examination by a trained doctor every 48 hours of his detention in custody by a doctor on the panel of approved doctors appointed by Director, Health Services of the concerned State or Union Territory. Director, Health Services should prepare such a panel for all Tehsils and Districts as well.
- (ix) Copies of all the documents including the memo of arrest, referred to above should be sent to the illaqa magistrate for his record.
- (x) The arrestee may be permitted to meet his lawyer during interrogation, though not throughout the interrogation.
- (xi) A police control room should be provided at all districts and state headquarters where information regarding the arrest and the place of custody of the arrestee shall be communicated by the officer causing the arrest, within 12 hours of effecting the arrest and at the police control room it should be displayed on a conspicuous notice board.
- (c) to (f) A new Section i.e. 50A has been inserted in the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, through the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Act, 2005. This section provides for procedure to be followed by police while arresting a person. The Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2006 introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 23rd August, 2006 has proposals to amend provisions relating to arrest. These proposals are on the basis of the Law Commission's 177th Report on 'Law relating to Arrest'. While preparing the Report, the Law Commission took note of decisions of the Supreme Court in the case of D.K. Basu Vs. State of West Bengal as well.

[English]

#### Crime against Women and Children

5481. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the crimes against women and children are increasing continuously in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of crimes against women and children during each of the last three years including current year, State-wise, Union Territory-wise, separately crime-wise particularly rapes, murders and kidnappings;

(d) whether the Union Government proposes to bring a comprehensive law to redress and prevent such crimes; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to provide safety and security to women and children against such crimes and to secure them equal status with men?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) According to the data provided by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), Ministry of Home Affairs, 155553 incidents of crime against women were reported during 2005 showing a variation of 0.8% with reference to 2004. As regard crime against children, a total number of 14975 incidents were reported during 2005 showing a variation of 3.8% with reference to 2004.

(b) The increasing trend in the crime against women and children is due to various factors, such as, social, economic and cultural factors, illiteracy and poverty. The increasing trend is also contributed to by better reporting and awareness regarding crime.

(c) The detailed information is available on the website of National Crime Records Bureau, i.e., ncrb.nic.in.

(d) and (e) Apart from provisions of IPC relating to crime against women and children, the Ministry of Women & Child Development has strengthened the existing laws on crime against women and children. A legislation on Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 came into force on 26.10.2006. The Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005 has also been enacted. In addition, Bills on the Protection of Women against Sexual Harassment at Work Place and Offences against Children (Prevention) are under consideration. A proposal for amendment of the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act 1956 providing for more stringent penalties on traffickers is also under process.

This Ministry is also undertaking awareness generation, sensitization and advocacy programmes for various stakeholders such as police, judiciary, prosecutors, medical officers, PRI representatives etc., on various issues relating to crimes against women and children.

As law and order is a State subject, Ministry of Home Affairs from time to time issues advisories to all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations, requesting them to give more focussed attention on improving the criminal justice system, with a view to ensuring prevention of atrocities against all vulnerable sections of society, including women and children.

#### **Naxal Target to Attack on SEZs**

5482. SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Naxals are planning to attack on the special economic zones and their promoters in the country as reported in the '*Hindustan Times*' dated April 21, 2007;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) Government of India is not aware of any naxals plans to physically target proposed Special Economic Zones and their promoters in the country, as reported in the '*Hindustan Times*' dated April 21, 2007. However, some naxalite groups, including CPI(Maoist), are opposing the setting up of SEZs on the ground that these would be detrimental to the interests of the farmers as the latter stand to lose their agricultural land and would be beneficial only to the big industrial houses and land developers/promoters.

Government views naxal menace as an area of serious concern; therefore, this issue is being addressed both on security and development fronts.

*[Translation]*

#### **Scholarships to Scheduled Tribes Students**

5483. SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of pre-matric, matric and post-matric scholarship being provided to the Scheduled Tribes students during the each of the last three years and the date since when this provision has been in practice;

(b) whether the existing provisions have been reviewed in view of the current trend of price rise;

(c) if so, whether the Government proposes to enhance the amount of scholarships;

(d) if so, the basis of enhancement of amount and the revised amount of scholarship is likely to be fixed;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the share of the Centre as well as the State fixed under the new provisions?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KYNDIAH): (a) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs administers



**Human Trafficking**

5485. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Human Rights Commission and National Commission for Women have expressed concern over girls and women trafficking for flesh trade in their reports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has decided to make an assessment in this regard on the social/economic aspect of this practice; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) National Human Rights Commission undertook an Action Research on Trafficking in Women and Children and submitted the report on 24th August 2004 which gives the trend and dimensions relating to trafficking. The National Commission for Women is involved in the preparation of an Integrated Plan of Action to Prevent and Combat Human Trafficking with special focus on children in collaboration with National Human Rights Commission, Ministry of Women and Child Development, Ministry of Home Affairs and UNICEF.

(c) and (d) The study on "Girls/Women in Prostitution in India" (conducted between 2002-2004) sponsored by the Ministry of Women and Child Development report that there is a growing trend in the number of prostitutes in the country. The study estimates that there are 2.8

million prostitutes in the country of which 35.47% entered the trade before the age of 18 years.

*[English]*

**Joint Venture with Japan**

5486. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has approved any joint-venture proposals received from Japanese investors for investments during 2005-06 and 2006-07;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the industries in which Japan has made investments during the said period; and

(d) the State-wise details of capital invested by Japan during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of Joint Venture approvals during 2005-06 and 2006-07 are at Statement-I.

(c) Sector-wise details showing Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows from Japan during 2005-06 and 2006-07 is at Statement-II enclosed.

(d) State-wise details showing Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows from Japan during 2005-06 and 2006-07 is at Statement-III enclosed.

**Statement I**

*Details of FDI Joint Venture Proposals Approved during April 2005 to March 2007*

(Amount in million)

Sl. No.	Registration No and Date	Indian Company Name and Address	Foreign Collaborator Name and Address	Foreign Equity (in Rs.)	% age of Foreign Equity
1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>Country : Japan</b>					
1.	28 27 January 2005	Chowdhury Enterprises Private Limited,	Mrs. Reiko Kuroda Chowdhary, Japanese.	5.94	83.19

1	2	3	4	5	6
		RD/21, Collins Path, Sector 28, Bidhannagar, Durgapur-717312 West Bengal	Mr. S.A. Avhijt Chowhury Bangladeshi (Both investments from Japan)		
		Location: West Bengal (West Bengal) Appr No(Date): 109(31 May 2005)			Item of Manufacture: Engaged in the manufacture of polymer products, polyurethane and silicone rubber parts and activities of Information and Technology for assembling of hardware and software
2.	76 14 March 2005	Suzuki Motor Corporation C/o Ernst & Young B-26 Qutub Institutional Area, New Delhi-110016	Suzuki Motor Corporation Japan	120.00	30.00
		Location: Haryana(Haryana) Appr No(Date): 79(31 May 2005)			Item of Manufacture: Four Wheeled Vehicles, Parts and Accessors Thereof and other Allied and Incidental Activities
3.	86 17 March 2005	Talbro Automotive Components Ltd. 14/1, Mathura Road Faridabad-121003 Haryana	Nippon Leakless Corporation Japan	72.00	60.00
		Location: Faridabad (Haryana) Appr No(Date): 78(31 May 2005)			Item of Manufacture: The joint Venture Company (M/s. Nippon Leakless Talbro Pvt Ltd.) will have manufacturing Facilities Cater to the Requirement for Gaskets of Honda Group of companies.
4.	87 17 March 2005	Motherson Automation P. Ltd. C/o Pricewater House Coopers Pvt. Ltd. Sucheta Bhawan Vishnu Digamber Marg New Delhi	Vaskawa Electric Corpn. Japan	7.21	66.00
		Location* Delhi(Delhi) Appr No(Date): 80(31 May 2005)			Item of Manufacture: Engineering Services for Industrial Robot and Robot Automation Lines such as Welding Assembly Lines, General Assembly Lines and Press Lines, etc.

1	2	3	4	5	6
5.	101 8 May, 2006	Bellsonica Corporation, Japan, C/o Mr. Sado Kurisa Kurisawa International Legal Service Office, 71, Asada-Cho, Hamamatsu City Shizuoka Pref. 432-8043 Japan  Location: State Not Indicated (State Not Indicated) Appr No(Date): 138(30 June 2006)	Bellsonica Corporation, Japan	84.00	70.00
					Item of Manufacture: (i) Manufacturing two and four wheeler sheet metal, chassis, structural and rigging components in general; (ii) Production of tooling, jigs of alike; (iii) To provide maintenance and after sales services of installed equipment.
6.	129 25 April 2005	Nitta Gelatin Inc, Japan C/o H. Techibana Kerala Chemicals & Protel PB No. 4262, 50/1002, SBT Avenue, Panampilly Na Kochi-682036.  Location; Ernakulam(Kerala) Appr No(Date): 110(31 May 2006)	Nitta Gelatin Inc, Japan	3.00	25.00
					Item of Manufacture: Engaged in the production of Ossein and Discalcium phosphate
7.	172 31 August 2006	OSC Overseas Courier Service Co. Ltd. C/o DSK Legal, 2', Palam Marg, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi 110057  Location: Delhi(Delhi) Appr (No(Date): 197(31 October 2006)	Overseas Courier Services Company Limited, Japan	84.00	76.00
					Item of Manufacture: to carry on the business of general carrier couriers, baggage transporters, forwarding and clearing, agents, packing and repacking agents of courier services in India and Abroad
8.	180 07 September 2006	NSK Ltd. C/O SR Battiboi & Co., 2nd Floor, The Capital Court, Lsc Phase-III, Olof Palme Marg, Munirka, New Delhi-67  Location: Chennai(Tamil Nadu) Appr No(Date): 194(31 October, 2006)	NSK Limited, Tokyo of through affiliates/ subsidiaries/ nominees	412.50	75.00
					Item of manufacture: Manufacture of Huob Unit 1, Magnetic Clutch Bearing(MCB) and Ball Bearing

1	2	3	4	5	6	
9.	191 18 September 2006	Samvardhana Motherson Finance Limited Co/Pricewaterhouse Cooper C/o Pricewaterhouse Cooper 11 A, Sucheta Bhawan, 2nd Floor, Vishnu Digamber Marg, PER New Delhi  Location: State Not Indicated (state Not Indicated) Appr No(Date): 221(30 November 2006)	Anest iwata . Corporation, Japan through its affiliates/ through its affiliates/ subsidiaries	5.10	51.00	Item of Manufacture: Marketing and Sales of Spray Guns, spray Gun, Spray Painting, Equipment, Paint Coating Equipmentetc, Wholesale Trading of the Products
10.	213 12 October 2006	Orix Corporation, Japan C/O AZB & Partners, Express Towers, 23rd Floor, Nariman Point, Mumbai-400021  Location: Greater Mumbai(Mumbai) (Maharashtra) Appr No(Date): 231(30 November, 2006)	Orix Corporation, Japan	22.43	49.00	Item of Manufacture: To provide investment management and advisory services, (Fund and non-fund based Non-Banking Financial activities).
11.	389 13 December 2005	Dentsu Inc., Japan C/o Dua Consulting Private 301-303, Tolstoy House, 15 Tolstoy Marg, New Delhi-110001  Location: State Not Indicated (State not Indicated) Appr No(Date): 313(31 January 2006)	Dentsu Inc, Japan	10.75	74.00	Item of Manufacture: To Set up 3rd joint Venture to Undertake Advertising and Marketing Communication Activities
12.	401 20 December 2006	C.L. (India) Private Limited 1898/18, Govindpuri Extn. New Delhi-110019  Location: Delhi(Delhi) Appr No(Date): 315(28 February 2006)	Miyama Hotta, Japan	0.00	49.98	Item of Manufacture: Export of readymade garments to Japan
13.	416 30 December 2005	Furushima (I) Inspection Centre P. Ltd., E-250, Greater Kailash Part-II, New Delhi 110048  Location: Delhi(Delhi) Appr No(Date): 82(31 March 2006)	Fashion Cloth Furushima Co. Ltd. Japan	8.10	90.00	Item of Manufacture: To Set up a Garment Inspection Checking House to check-up the Shipments of Readymade Garments Meant for Exports
Total Financial Cases: 13			Total Foreign Equity in Rs. Million: 835.03			

**Statement II***Statement on Sector-wise FDI inflows during April, 2005 to March 2007 from Japan*

(Amount in million)

Sl. No.	Sector	2005-06 Apr-Mar		2006-07 Apr-Mar		Total	
		FDI In Rs.	FDI In US\$	FDI In Rs.	FDI In US\$	FDI In Rs.	FDI In US\$
1.	Metallurgical Industries	0.00	0.00	47.79	1.07	47.79	1.07
2.	Fuels (Power & Oil Refinery)	99.34	2.24	72.00	1.62	171.34	3.86
3.	Electricals Equipment (Incl. S/W & Elec.)	147.81	3.32	378.93	8.35	526.74	11.67
4.	Telecommunications	2,345.36	52.74	8.39	0.18	2,353.75	52.93
5.	Transportation Industry	1,702.24	38.84	479.65	10.85	2,181.89	49.69
6.	Industrial Machinery	2.40	0.06	97.54	2.15	99.94	2.20
7.	Machine Tools	645.23	14.82	0.00	0.00	645.73	14.82
8.	Earth-moving Machinery	2,043.02	44.84	0.00	0.00	2,043.02	44.84
9.	Miscellaneous Mechanical & Engineering	25.00	0.57	446.27	9.64	471.27	10.21
10.	Commercial, Office & Household Equipment	0.00	0.00	8.29	0.19	8.29	0.19
11.	Medical and Surgical Appliances	0.00	0.00	5.04	0.11	5.04	0.11
12.	Fertilizers	0.00	0.00	210.00	4.62	210.00	4.62
13.	Chemicals (Other than Fertilizers)	691.57	15.44	200.46	4.43	892.03	19.87
14.	Photographic Raw Film and Paper	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.03	0.00
15.	Textiles (include Dyed, Printed)	1,182.65	27.16	9.00	0.20	1,191.65	27.36
16.	Paper and Pulp including Paper product	0.00	0.00	2.07	0.05	2.07	0.05
17.	Food Processing Industries	100.00	2.25	5.00	0.11	105.00	2.36
18.	Rubber Goods	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.08	0.00
19.	Cement and Gypsum Products	0.00	0.00	0.45	0.01	0.45	0.01
20.	Consultancy Service	19.90	0.46	38.36	0.83	58.26	1.28
21.	Service Sector	50.00	1.15	270.90	6.09	320.90	7.24
22.	Hotel & Tourism	2.14	0.05	0.46	0.01	2.60	0.06
23.	Trading	153.96	3.47	947.81	21.02	1,101.77	24.50
24.	Miscellaneous Industries	40.00	0.88	596.30	13.21	636.30	14.09
Grand Total		9,250.69	208.29	3,824.73	84.74	13,075.42	293.02

**Note:**

1. The Sector Specific amount includes the Inflows Received through SIA/FIPB route, acquisition of existing shares and RBI's automatic route only.
2. Inflows through ADRs/GDRs/FCOBs, against FDI approvals have not been included.
3. Inflows Includes "Equity Capital Components" only.
4. The above inflow is provisional subject reconciliation with RBI, Mumbai.

**Statement III***State-wise (as per RBI's Region-wise) FDI inflows during April 2005 to March 2007 from Japan*

(Amount in million)

Sl.No.	Regional Offices of RBI	States Covered	2005-06		2006-07 Apr-Mar		Total Apr-Mar	
			FDI In Rs.	FDI In US\$	FDI In Rs.	FDI In US\$	FDI In Rs.	FDI In US\$
			1.	Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh	2.00	0.05	11.32
2.	Ahmedabad	Gujarat	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.03	0.00
3.	Bangalore	Karnataka	2,426.46	54.55	148.96	3.27	2,575.41	57.82
4.	Kochi	Kerala Lakshadweep	8.54	0.19	0.00	0.00	8.54	0.19
5.	Mumbai	Maharashtra, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu	1,302.53	29.88	974.69	21.81	2,277.23	51.69
6.	Chennai	Tamil Nadu Pondicherry	148.52	3.34	89.60	2.01	236.12	5.34
7.	Chandigarh	Chandigarh, Punjab, Haryana Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	6.90	0.15	6.90	0.15
8.	New Delhi	Delhi, Part of UP and Haryana	1,118.52	25.25	2,379.22	52.46	3,497.74	77.71
9.	Panaji	Goa	4.03	0.09	0.46	0.01	4.50	0.10
10.	State not Indicated*		4,242.08	94.94	213.57	4.78	4,455.65	99.72
Grand Total			9,250.69	208.29	3,824.73	84.74	13,075.42	293.02

**Note:**

- (i) Includes 'equity capital components' only.
- (ii) The Region-wise FDI inflows are classified as per RBI's Region-wise inflows, furnished by RBI, Mumbai.
- (iii) \*Represents inflows through acquisition of existing shares. For this, region-wise information is not provided by Reserve Bank of India.
- (iv) The above inflow is provisional subject reconciliation with RBI, Mumbai.

**Tariffs on Imported Wine and Spirits**

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

5487. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(c) whether the proposed cut will affect the domestic liquor trade; and

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to cut in tariffs on imported wine and spirits;

(d) if so, the measures taken by the Government to safeguard the interest of domestic liquor trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) There is no proposal under the consideration of the Government to revise tariff rates on imported wines and spirits.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

#### **Facilities to Freedom Fighters**

5488. SHRI ANANDRAO V. ADSUL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has constituted a committee of eminent freedom fighters to look into the issues relate to freedom fighters as reported in 'The Hindu' dated April 01, 2007;

(b) if so, the details of issues discussed;

(c) the details of the facilities available to freedom fighters and their eligible dependents separately;

(d) whether the said committee has also reviewed the facilities available to freedom fighters;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) to (f) In addition to *Samman* pension, which was enhanced from Rs. 6,000 per month to Rs. 10,000 per month with effect from 2nd October 2006, the following facilities are also available to freedom fighters:

- free railway pass (1st Class/AC Sleeper) for freedom fighter and widow, along with a companion, for life;
- free medical facilities in all Central Government hospitals and in hospitals run by PSUs under the control of the Bureau of Public Enterprises. Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) facilities have also been extended to freedom fighters and their dependents;
- telephone connection, subject to feasibility, without installation charges, and on payment of only half the rental;
- general Pool residential accommodation (within the overall 5% discretionary quota) to freedom fighters in Delhi;
- widow/widower of the freedom fighter is also permitted to retain the accommodation for a

period of six months after the death of the freedom fighter; and

- accommodation in the Freedom Fighters' Home set up at New Delhi for freedom fighters who have no one to look after them.

In addition to the above facilities, ex-Andaman freedom fighters are also entitled to the following facilities:

- free voyage facility for freedom fighter and widow, to visit Andaman & Nicobar Islands, once a year, along with a companion; and
- free air travel facility for freedom fighter, to visit Andaman & Nicobar Islands, once a year, along with a companion.

All major facilities provided to freedom fighters are also extended to their widows/widowers.

On the occasion of the centenary of the *Satyagraha* Movement, a Committee of eminent freedom fighters has been constituted to look into the issues related to freedom fighters, so that suggestions for redressal of problems and complaints of freedom fighters and suggestions for improvements in facilities for freedom fighters and their dependents are readily forthcoming and issues are resolved in a time-bound manner.

The Committee was constituted on 26.02.2007. The first meeting of the Committee was held on 25.04.2007. The tenure of the Committee is for two years.

#### **Literacy Programmes**

5489. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the allocation made by the Government and amount incurred by the State Governments/Union Territories under various literacy programmes during each of the last three years and current year, State and Union Territory-wise; and

(b) the details of the amount earmarked for the year 2007-08 State and Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) Under the Adult Education Programme, funds are not allocated State-wise but are released to the implementing agencies depending upon the proposals received from them, completion of the earlier programmes sanctioned to them and settlement of accounts. The details of the budgetary allocation made for adult education and the expenditure incurred during the last three years is given below:

Year	(Rs. in crore)	
	Budget Estimate	Expenditure
2004-05	250.00	236.47
2005-06	290.00	249.30
2006-07	235.50	213.48

A statement showing State-wise amount of the grants released under various schemes of adult education to the respective implementing agencies during the last three years is enclosed.

A budget provision of Rs. 401 crores has been made for 2007-08 for adult education.

*Grants Released during the last three years under various schemes of National Literacy Mission (NLM)*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	State/UT	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1124.60	2485.82	2200.59
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	147.97	100.44	38.05
3.	Assam	184.23	103.73	249.01
4.	Bihar	1168.67	1048.37	473.73
5.	Chhattisgarh	546.24	387.33	716.59
6.	Goa	16.08	26.80	23.19
7.	Gujarat	742.57	1121.58	333.39
8.	Haryana	446.25	461.88	193.88
9.	Himachal Pradesh	40.65	70.02	37.67
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	153.09	158.96	218.29
11.	Jharkhand	220.84	1169.97	371.57
12.	Karnataka	2774.54	2071.06	1819.42
13.	Kerala	742.16	498.70	677.97
14.	Madhya Pradesh	3199.81	635.50	3202.16
15.	Maharashtra	591.14	3314.32	1020.62
16.	Manipur	172.88	157.80	107.71
17.	Meghalaya	194.11	33.35	157.26
18.	Mizoram	15.00	18.73	107.79
19.	Nagaland	152.68	24.97	23.93
20.	Orissa	791.77	669.47	303.63
21.	Punjab	48.02	470.26	209.80
22.	Rajasthan	2332.96	972.20	1517.23

1	2	3	4	5
23.	Sikkim	0.00	36.60	12.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	1846.28	1268.76	1377.85
25.	Tripura	344.86	31.14	82.25
26.	Uttar Pradesh	2335.75	3206.66	1792.79
27.	Uttaranchal	287.49	891.64	760.01
28.	West Bengal	1753.03	2017.65	2196.71
29.	Chandigarh	149.06	28.61	148.10
30.	Delhi	127.03	133.87	105.37
31.	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00
32.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00
33.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00
34.	Dadara and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.	Lakshadweep	11.74	17.01	0.00

**Export Promotion with National Dairy  
Development Board**

5490. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) and the Ministry of Commerce promote Self Help Groups (SHGs) for employment-intensive export promotion in six thrust sectors;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Export Promotion Council proposes to help in creating export markets for the projects of SHGs; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) One of the strategies adopted to achieve the objective of the Foreign Trade Policy is identifying and nurturing special focus areas, which would develop additional employment

opportunities, particularly in semi-urban and rural areas. However, there is no proposal as of now, to promote self help groups through Foreign Trade Policy.

(c) and (d) The basic objective of Export Promotion Councils is to promote and develop Indian exports for all categories including self-help groups.

**Police Establishment Board**

5491. SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU:  
SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has set up a Police Establishment Board;

(b) if so, the details thereof with the powers delegated to the Board;

(c) whether the Government has issued any directions to the State Governments for setting up of Police Establishment Board in their States;

(d) if so, the response of the States; and

(e) the reasons for setting up of such boards and its impact on the working of the police force?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) As one of the police reform measures, the Union Government has been, advising the State Governments to consider setting up of Police Establishment Board. In its judgment delivered on 22nd September 2006, the Hon'ble Supreme Court directed the State Governments *inter alia* to set up a Police Establishment Board to decide transfers, postings, promotions & other service related matters of officers of and below the rank of Deputy Superintendent of Police and for making recommendations to State Government regarding transfers & posting of officers of and above the rank of Superintendent of Police. As per available information, some State Governments have set up Police Establishment Boards. As these Boards have been set up only recently, it is too early to assess its impact on the working of the police force.

#### **Import-Export Policy on Food Items**

5492. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of present import-export policy on food items;

(b) whether the Indian farmers are not getting remunerative price for their produce due to excessive import of food items; and

(c) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) The detailed item-wise policy for import and export is available in the ITC (HS) Classification of Export and Import Items, 2004-09.

Imports are regulated through adjustments in Customs Tariff within the bound rates. This mechanism has been effectively used in case of edible oil, coconut, tea, coffee, pepper, skimmed milk powder, poultry products, etc. In cases of prices falling below the specified levels, the Government undertakes procurement operations, to ensure that farmers interest are protected. Imports are also regulated through the provisions of the Food Adulteration Act, 1954, Meat Food Product Order, Packaging requirements, Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary (SPS) measures etc. The import of 300 sensitive items including major food items is being monitored on a regular basis by the Government for checking any surge in imports.

#### **Shortage of Infrastructural Facilities**

5493. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:  
SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI:  
PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:  
SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to make assessment of condition of primary schools buildings in view of the finding of a survey conducted by National University of Educational Planning and Administration (NUEPA) as reported in 'Dainik Jagaran' dated April 17, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the main finding of the survey;

(c) whether standard of education and number of children enrolled in schools has decreased in the country due to shortage of infrastructural facilities like pucca school buildings, teachers, text books, etc.;

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

(e) the names of States which have least percentage of pucca buildings for upper primary schools;

(f) whether according to NUEPA survey, more than half of primary schools are running without head-master, and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A FATMI): (a) to (g) The report in 'Dainik Jagaran' dated April 17, 2007 is based on District Report Cards 2005-06 released by National University of Educational Planning and Administration (NUEPA), based upon the collection, compilation and analysis of DISE data of 2005-06. The details of the District Report Cards can be seen on website [www.dpepmis.org](http://www.dpepmis.org).

The DISE data shows a steady improvement in school infrastructure at the primary and upper primary level of education. The total number of schools has risen from 931471 in 2003-04 to 1124033 in 2005-06, and the student-classroom ratio has improved from 42:1 in 2003-04 to 39:1 in 2005-06. The total number of teachers has increased from 3667637 in 2003-04 to 4690176 in 2005-06, where the Pupil Teacher Ratio has improved to 36:1 for elementary education. The Gross Enrolment Ratio for primary level has grown from 89 in 2003-04 to 103.77 in 2005-06.

### FDI In Infrastructure Facilities

5494. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has allowed Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) to develop infrastructure facilities in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, sector-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details showing Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy in the infrastructure sectors is given in the Statement enclosed.

### Statement

Sector	FDI Cap/ Equity	Entry Route	Conditions	Relevant Press Note issued by DIPP <a href="http://www.dipp.gov.in">www.dipp.gov.in</a>
1	2	3	4	5
<b>Airports</b>	100%	Automatic	Subject to sectoral regulations notified by Ministry of Civil Aviation <a href="http://www.civilaviation.nic.in">www.civilaviation.nic.in</a>	PN 4/2006
(a) Greenfield projects				
(b) Existing projects	100%	FIPB beyond 74%	Subject to sectoral regulations notified by Ministry of Civil Aviation <a href="http://www.civilaviation.nic.in">www.civilaviation.nic.in</a>	PN 4/2006
<b>Construction Development Projects</b> , including housing, commercial premises, resorts, educational institutions, Recreational facilities, city and regional level infrastructure, townships	100%	Automatic	Subject to conditions notified <i>vide</i> Press Note 2 (2005 Series) including: a. minimum capitalization of US\$ 10 million for wholly owned	PN 2/2005 & PN 2/2006

1	2	3	4	5
<p><b>Petroleum &amp; Natural Gas Sector</b>            (a) Other than Refining and including market study and formulation; investment/financing; setting up infrastructure for marketing in Petroleum &amp; Natural Gas Sector.</p>	100%	Automatic	<p>subsidiaries and US\$ 5 million for joint venture. The funds would have to be brought within six months of commencement of business of the Company.</p> <p>b. Minimum area to be developed under each project- 10 hectares in case of development of serviced housing plots; and built-up area of 50,000 sq. mts. in case of construction development project; and any of the above in case of a combination project.</p> <p>[Note: For investment by NRIs, the conditions mentioned in Press Note 2/2005 are not applicable.]</p> <p>Subject to sectoral regulations issued by Ministry of Petroleum &amp; Natural Gas; and in the case of actual trading and marketing of petroleum products, divestment of 26% equity in favour of Indian partner/public within 5 years.  <a href="http://www.petroleum.nic.in">www.petroleum.nic.in</a></p>	<p>PN 1/2004 &amp;            PN 4/2006</p>

1	2	3	4	5
(b) Refining	26% in case of PSUs  100% in case of Private companies	FIPB (in case of PSUs)  Automatic (in case of private companies)	Subject to Sectoral policy <a href="http://www.petroleum.nic.in">www.petroleum.nic.in</a>	PN 20000
<b>Telecommunication</b> (a) Basic and cellular, United Access Services, National/International Long Distance, V-Sat, Public Mobile Radio Trunked Services (PMRTS), Global Mobile Personal Communications Services (GMPCS) and other value added telecom services	74% (Both direct and indirect foreign licensee company shall be counted for the purpose of FDI ceiling. Foreign Investment shall include FDI, FII, NRI, FCCBs, ADRs, GDRs, convertible preference shares. Indirect foreign investment shall mean foreign investment in 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 any case, the 'Indian' shareholding will not be less than 26 percent.	Automatic up to 49%  FIPB beyond 49%	Subject to guidelines notified in the PN 3/2007 Series	PN 3/2007

1	2	3	4	5
(b) ISP with gateways, radio-paging, end-to-end bandwidth	74%	Automatic up to 49%  FIPB beyond 49%	Subject to licensing and security requirements notified by the Department of Telecommunications	PN 4/2001
(c) ISP without gateway; infrastructure provider providing dark fibre, right of way, duct space, tower (Category-I); electronic mail and voice mail	100%	Automatic up to 49%  FIPB beyond 49%	Subject to the condition that such companies shall divest 26% of their equity in favour of Indian public in 5 years, if these companies are listed in other parts of the world. Also subject to licensing and security requirements, where required <a href="http://www.dotindia.com">www.dotindia.com</a> .	PN 9/2006 PN 2/2007
(d) Manufacture of telecom equipments	100%	Automatic	Subject to sectoral requirements <a href="http://www.dotindia.com">www.dotindia.com</a>	
Power including generation Sectoral (except Atomic energy); Regulations transmission, distribution and Power Trading	100%	Automatic	Subject provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003 <a href="http://www.powermin.nic.in">www.powermin.nic.in</a>	PN 2/1996 PN 7/2000 & PN 4/2006
Ports	100%	Automatic	Subject to sectoral regulations	PN 2/2000
Roads & Highways	100%	Automatic	Subject to sectoral regulations	PN 2/2000
Shipping	100%	Automatic	Subject to sectoral regulations	PN 2/2000

[Translation]

### Rehabilitation Package

5495. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has announced any rehabilitation package for mining;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to come into force;

(c) the details of persons likely to be benefited by the said package; and

(d) the details of employment likely to be provided to the affected families in the said package?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) to (d) As per information given by Ministry of Rural Development, Government has formulated the National Policy on Resettlement and Rehabilitation of Project Affected Families-2003 (NPRR-2003). This Policy lays down minimum provisions to be given to displaced people/oustees and will be applicable to projects displacing 500 families or more enmasse in plan areas or 250 families or more in hilly areas, Desert Development Programme Blocks and areas mentioned in Schedule V & VI to the Constitution of India. The Resettlement and Rehabilitation grants and benefits envisaged in the Policy are applicable to all Project Affected Families.

[English]

### Export of Stones

5496. SHRI RANEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of natural stones like granite/marble/sand stone exported during 2005-06 and 2006-07 and the percentage of such products obtained in quarries adopting by blast method;

(b) whether the Government proposes to modernize the extraction process instead of depending on blast methods in view of the increasing demand from international market;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the initiative taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) to (d) As per available information, the total value of exports of granite, marble, sand stone and other products during 2005-06 and 2006-07 (April to September 2006) was Rs. 456198.84 lakhs and Rs. 298984.05 lakhs respectively, and the natural stone quarrying industry in India to a large extent is using the latest technology of controlled blasting which causes least damage to the stones. This technology is used in advanced countries like USA, Sweden, Canada, Australia, etc. Granite, Marble, Sand stone and other building stones are minor minerals. The government has notified Granite (Conservation & Development) Rules in 1999 and Marble Development & Conservation Rules in 2002 for conservation, systematic development and scientific mining of granite and marble in the country. State Governments have been empowered to make rules for regulating the grant of quarry leases, and mineral concessions in respect of minor minerals and for purposes connected therewith.

### Special Grants to Universities for Nano-Sciences

5497. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to allocate special grants to the Bombay, Calcutta and Madras Universities for setting up Centres for Nano-science and nanotechnology, biomedical nanotechnology as reported in the 'Times of India' dated March 29, 2007;

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

(c) whether the Government proposes to give similar funds to other Universities; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) A special grant of Rs. 100.00 crore has been allocated for each of the three oldest Universities, namely the University of Mumbai, University of Calcutta and the University of Madras for setting up of their Centres for Nanosciences and Nanotechnology/ Bio-medical nanotechnology, as Central Government's contribution to commemorate their 150th years

celebrations. There is no other University which would be celebrating the special occasion of its 150th anniversary, in the near future.

#### **National Register of Citizens**

5498. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has constituted any committee for upgradation of National Register of Citizens (NRC);
- (b) if so, the details and its objective;
- (c) if not, the time fixed for the completion of the said register;
- (d) whether the said register is being computerised;
- (e) if so, the format of the computerization and the details of the citizens information registered;
- (f) the details of funds allocated, released and utilised by various States particularly in Assam for updating of NRC during 2005-06 and 2006-07?

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

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

(c) to (f) The Government of Assam has started the process to update the National Register of Citizens, 1951. The Central Government has released an amount of Rs. 1.02 crore in the year 2005-06 to the State Government. It has been agreed that additional Rs. 2 crore will be made available to the State Government for this work.

[*Translation*]

#### **Free Trade Agreements**

5499. SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of the countries with which India has signed Free Trade Agreements;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted any study of the adverse impact of Free Trade Agreements on the domestic industries;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to protect the interests of domestic industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) India has signed Free Trade Agreements with the following countries:

- (i) The India-Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement covering only goods was signed on 28 December 1998 and its implementation began in March 2000.
- (ii) India and Singapore have signed a Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) on 29 June 2006 which became effective from 1 August, 2005. The CECA includes, *inter-alia*, free trade agreements in goods, services and investment.
- (iii) The Agreement on South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA), covering goods, was signed by the SAARC member countries (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka) during the 12th SAARC Summit in Islamabad on 6 January 2004 and has come into force from 1 January 2006. The tariff liberalization programme under SAFTA has commenced from 1 July 2006.
- (iv) India also has bilateral trade treaties with Nepal and Bhutan, under which duty-free access has been provided to goods from these two countries, on non-reciprocal basis.

(b) to (d) Before entering into negotiations with its trading partners, studies are undertaken internally, as well as through joint study groups to study the feasibility of the proposed FTAs, including their impact on the domestic industry. Consultations are also held with the domestic stakeholders including the Apex Chambers of Commerce and Industry, industry associations as well as the administrative Ministries and Departments. In order to protect the interests of the domestic industry, these Agreements provide for maintaining sensitive/negative lists of items on which limited or no tariff concessions are granted under the FTA. In addition, in case of a surge in imports and injury to the domestic industry, a country is allowed to take measures such as anti-dumping and safeguards.

*[English]***Bauxite Mining**

5500. SHRI AMITAVA NANDY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bauxite Mining in Andhra Pradesh has posed a serious threat to the population, environment and ecology of the region;

(b) if so, whether any survey has been conducted in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA):

(a) As per available information, mining of bauxite is not reported from Andhra Pradesh and consequently there is no threat to the population, environment and ecology of the region.

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

*[Translation]***Underworld Links with Gutka Manufacturers**

5501. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:  
SHRI ANJAN KUMAR M. YADAV:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several Gutka manufacturers have links with the underworld;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) As per available information, the Central Bureau of Investigation, on the request of the Government of Maharashtra, has registered on 09.02.2005 one case No. RC.4(S)/2005-SCR-III/New Delhi under Section 120B read with Sections 384, 387 and 34 of the Indian Penal Code and Sec. 3(1)(ii), 3(2) and 3(4) of the Maharashtra Control

of Organised Crime Act, 1999 relating to nexus between Gutka manufacturers and the underworld.

*[English]***Apparel Export Promotion Council**

5502. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:  
SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Apparel Export Promotion Council has scaled down its export target despite strong Indian rupee as reported in 'Business Standard' dated April 09, 2007;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to enhance the export target; and

(d) the target set for textile export for Eleventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN): (a) and (b) Yes. The appreciating rupee is one amongst other reasons.

(c) Government has been taking continuous measures to further boost the export of textiles including cotton clothes. Some of the important initiatives taken in this regard are as follows:-

(i) 100% Foreign Direct Investment is allowed in the textile sector under the automatic route.

(ii) The Government has de-reserved the readymade garments, hosiery and knitwear from the SSI sector.

(iii) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) has been made operational from 1-4-1999 to facilitate the modernisation and upgradation of the sector.

(iv) To improve the productivity and quality of cotton, Government has launched the Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC). Incentives are provided for better farm practices, quality seeds, improvement in market infrastructure and modernization of ginning and pressing sector.

- (v) A new Scheme namely "Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks" has been launched by merging "Scheme for Apparel Parks for Exports" and "Textile Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme" in order to expand the production base of textile and garment sector.
- (vi) The fiscal duty structure has been generally rationalised to achieve growth and maximum value addition within the country. Except for mandatory excise duty on man-made filament yarns and man-made staple fibres, the whole value addition chain has been given an option of excise exemption.
- (vii) The import of specified textiles and garment machinery items has been allowed at a concessional rate of customs duty to encourage investments and to make our textile products competitive in the global market. The cost of machinery has also been reduced through fiscal policy measures.
- (viii) Duty-free imports of 21 items of trimmings and embellishment items are allowed to the garment exporters, upto 3% of their actual export performance during the previous year.
- (ix) For the speedy modernisation of the textile processing sector, Government has introduced, w.e.f 20.4.2005, a credit linked capital subsidy scheme @10% under TUFs, in addition to the existing 5% interest reimbursement.
- (x) The National Institute for Fashion Technology (NIFT); its eight branches, and the Apparel Training & Design Centres (ATDCs) are running various courses/programmes to meet the skilled manpower requirements of the textile industry, especially apparel, in the field of design, merchandising and marketing.
- (xi) Facilities like eco-testing laboratories have been created to enable exporters to get garments/textiles pre-tested so that they conform to the requirements of the importing countries.
- (d) The 11th Five Year Plan has not yet been finalized.

#### **Reserves of Titanium**

5503. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any decision to explore the huge reserves of Titanium in the beach sands of north coastal area of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the experts have pointed out that the entire east coast, right from Srikakulam to South coast is rich in rare minerals;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard to utilize the reserves of Titanium ?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA):

(a) and (b) Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD), under the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) has explored the resources of Titanium bearing minerals viz. Ilmenite, Rutile and Leucoxene in the north coastal part of Andhra Pradesh. Ilmenite (the main mineral of Titanium metal) resources of 61.22 million tonne have been identified by AMD in the districts, of Srikakulam, Vizianagaram and Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. AMD has identified a number of deposits containing rare minerals along the 982 km. coastline from Srikakulam in north to Tamil Nadu border in the south. The total Titanium mineral potential of Andhra Pradesh has been estimated to be around 153.7 million tonne comprising 139.73 million tonne of ilmenite, 8.78 million tonne of Rutile and 5.20 million tonne of Leucoxene.

(e) Under the Beach Sand Mineral Policy notified by the DAE on 16.10.1998, Government has allowed private sector participation for exploitation of Titanium bearing minerals in beach sands for better utilization of the reserves.

#### **World's Top Universities**

5504. SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any report on the World's Top 500 Universities;

(b) if so, whether India has been ranked in the lists of Top 500 Universities; and

(c) if so, the salient features of the report alongwith the details of the ranking of the Indian Universities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) While certain institutions or agencies occasionally publish lists of universities or educational institutions ranked according to the criteria known to them, there is no authentic official international agency for the global ranking of universities.

#### **Promotion of Khadi and Village Industries**

5505. SHRI B. MAHTAB: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a great scope to set up Khadi and Village Industries in the country particularly in Orissa;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to promote Khadi and Village Industries in the country particularly in Orissa during the Tenth Five Year Plan; and

(d) the details of funds allocated/utilised during the Tenth Five Year Plan, State and Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Village Industries in the country are promoted by the Government (in the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries) through the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP), a credit-linked subsidy scheme implemented by the Government through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) in rural areas, including small towns with population upto 20,000, throughout the country, including Orissa. Similarly, khadi industry is promoted through implementation of various schemes through KVIC, throughout the country including Orissa. Khadi has tremendous potential of employment generation in the rural areas at a very low rate of investment.

As regards REGP, during 2006-07 Rs.372.63 crore was earmarked to KVIC for implementing REGP and during 2007-08 the allocation has been increased to Rs. 445 crore. Around 2.59 lakh village industry units have been established upto March 2007 under REGP since the inception of the scheme (from April 1995). The State/UT-wise details of projects set up under REGP during Tenth Five Year Plan are given in statement enclosed.

(c) As part of the Government's National Common Minimum Programme to revamp the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), the Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act, 1956 has been amended and the Commission has been re-constituted. The steps taken by the Government to promote khadi and village industries in the contry, including Orissa, Government (in the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries) has been implementing schemes like Interest Subsidy Eligibility Certificate scheme (ISEC) providing subsidized rates of interest on bank loans, Product Development, Design Intervention and Packaging (PRODIP) Scheme for improving designs and packaging of khadi and village industry products and Rebate Scheme for providing rebate on sales of khadi through KVIC. Assistance is also provided to khadi and village industry institutions/REGP units by KVIC to participate in exhibitions at the national, sub-national levels to assist marketing of khadi products. Further, the Government has launched the Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI) to develop 100 clusters (25 khadi, 50 village industries and 25 coir clusters) over a period of five years beginning 2005-06. SFURTI envisages assistance for setting up of common facility centres, quality improvement, training and capacity building, development of new products, improved packaging, new design, market promotion, etc. 2 clusters for village industries and 2 clusters for coir development have been approved for Orissa under SFURTI.

(d) REGP is a Central Sector scheme and the approved grants for the scheme are released to the KVIC which, in turn, releases the funds (towards margin money assistance) to the banks against the projects sanctioned in each State/Territory (UT). The State/UT-wise details of margin money allocated by KVIC under the REGP during Tenth Five Year Plan are given on statement-II and those of margin money utilised are given in statement-III enclosed.

**Statement I**

*State/Union Territory (UT)-wise details of projects set up under the REGP during the Tenth Five Year Plan*

(number of units)

S.No.	States/UTs	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Chandigarh	1	8	8	3	10
2.	Delhi	9	7	9	15	13
3.	Haryana	677	923	1140	1058	869
4.	Himachal Pradesh	423	414	469	650	760
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	105	775	922	1402	1630
6.	Punjab	1358	882	864	440	591
7.	Rajasthan	3036	2496	1537	2133	1437
8.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	196	58	6	598	127
9.	Bihar	229	88	254	692	814
10.	Jharkhand	298	323	240	217	128
11.	Orissa	668	1031	991	650	509
12.	West Bengal	2459	3348	2584	2078	1850
13.	Arunachal Pradesh	30	32	43	76	88
14.	Assam	559	1223	1658	2229	1088
15.	Manipur	79	36	102	65	60
16.	Meghalaya	153	210	146	206	96
17.	Mizoram	143	33	162	365	586
18.	Nagaland	64	61	151	316	133
19.	Tripura	141	244	233	306	30
20.	Sikkim	16	113	139	106	46
21.	Andhra Pradesh	1818	1097	1988	2278	2037
22.	Karnataka	1411	1422	934	1314	1689
23.	Kerala	789	2046	914	1217	900
24.	Lakshadweep	0	9	0	26	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
25.	Pondicherry	3	47	7	56	3
26.	Tamil Nadu	764	1568	925	1036	1049
27.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	5	2	0	0	0
28.	Goa	244	126	138	136	104
29.	Gujarat	126	290	376	516	443
30.	Maharashtra	2249	857	1773	3120	2296
31.	Chhattishgarh	216	697	656	551	519
32.	Madhya Pradesh	703	1041	1361	736	1002
33.	Uttarakhand	375	1106	513	527	402
34.	Uttar Pradesh	1677	2134	2210	1532	1281
Grand Total		21024	24747	23453	26650	22590

\*Provisional figures.

**Statement II**

*State/Union Territory (UT)-wise details of margin money allocated under the REGP during Tenth Five Year Plan*

(Rs. lakh)

S.No.	States/UTs	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Chandigarh	29	79	31	5.63	5.30
2.	Delhi	43	35.66	12.5	18.67	16.88
3.	Haryana	804	637.03	2101.03	1465.39	1824.72
4.	Himachal Pradesh	570	720.63	667.63	933.35	1243.75
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	267	651.44	670.32	889.3	1053.93
6.	Punjab	1160	1185	2056.67	1833.1	1657.13
7.	Rajasthan	1052	2063.99	2985.66	3400.45	3273.79
8.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	89	39.5	100	186.67	45.00
9.	Bihar	752	1155.77	1196	783.13	707.95
10.	Jharkhand	290	628.05	906	914.21	503.84

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11.	Orissa	483	1133.95	1036.43	1086.42	982.13
12.	West Bengal	1280	2930.88	2158.74	2785.12	2366.76
13.	Arunachal Pradesh	300	63.2	97	126.94	114.75
14.	Assam	613	1368.88	1431	1874.17	1694.25
15.	Manipur	198	69.52	285	227.74	205.88
16.	Meghalaya	430	437.03	285	373.34	337.50
17.	Mizoram	196	112.18	426	558.18	1104.60
18.	Nagaland	157	264.46	162	212.8	192.37
19.	Sikkim	34	79	171	132.57	243.00
20.	Tripura	213	248.22	248.11	268.8	119.83
21.	Andhra Pradesh	1078	1553.89	2975.63	3610.27	3913.69
22.	Karnataka	1220	1257.37	1885	2469.68	2232.60
23.	Kerala	1202	1231.45	1193	1705.08	1541.40
24.	Lakshadweep	52	2.37	1	1.9	1.72
25.	Pondicherry	40	23	23.64	78.74	71.18
26.	Tamil Nadu	605	1451.13	1197.24	1487.79	1410.46
27.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	26	4.74	14	0	0.00
28.	Daman and Diu	28	0	0	0	0.00
29.	Goa	203	101.4	285	373.34	237.50
30.	Gujarat	623	667.16	574	752.31	680.09
31.	Maharashtra	1029	2454.1	1988.15	2342.74	1917.84
32.	Chhattisgarh	346	982.53	1112.69	1121.92	1414.22
33.	Madhya Pradesh	1441	1667.02	1542.74	1584.86	1432.72
34.	Uttarakhand	223	770.81	836.31	746.68	575.00
35.	Uttar Pradesh	2662	2729.83	3746	4807.73	3169.95
Grand Total		19738	28800.19	34401.49	39159.02	36291.73

\*Provisional.

**Statement III**

*State/Union Territory (UT)-wise details of margin money utilised under the REGP during Tenth Five Year Plan*

(Rs. lakh)

S.No.	States/UTs	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Chandigarh	0.40	10.24	21.45	3.63	11.34
2.	Delhi	16.16	12.31	8.09	16.66	18.37
3.	Haryana	884.91	1938.96	2142.25	1782.18	1749.34
4.	Himachal Pradesh	643.78	757.11	657.72	889.90	843.74
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	179.00	363.45	584.55	833.56	1085.24
6.	Punjab	1744.62	819.03	1834.63	837.21	1107.84
7.	Rajasthan	2189.08	2890.28	2064.33	2679.91	2096.45
8.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	78.24	28.44	4.16	218.87	22.15
9.	Bihar	108.13	186.03	281.69	570.54	680.35
10.	Jharkhand	421.01	198.08	320.60	351.12	187.87
11.	Orissa	156.78	784.11	863.05	837.22	686.26
12.	West Bengal	1202.17	1593.51	1999.62	2100.06	2043.93
13.	Arunachal Pradesh	45.36	52.77	66.03	126.54	144.45
14.	Assam	375.68	806.83	1277.42	2719.99	1051.28
15.	Manipur	110.53	41.19	73.66	43.85	56.24
16.	Meghalaya	135.94	121.79	196.03	234.14	149.13
17.	Mizoram	224.40	61.10	257.48	995.54	769.50
18.	Nagaland	50.15	117.20	204.46	286.22	164.39
19.	Tripura	106.23	224.02	214.14	289.95	33.27
20.	Sikkim	6.70	127.67	165.78	139.54	75.72
21.	Andhra Pradesh	1775.01	1675.40	3394.19	3627.58	3573.60
22.	Karnataka	1560.05	1692.17	1063.83	1697.66	2424.27
23.	Kerala	1196.03	2753.15	1027.95	1603.41	1534.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
24.	Lakshadweep	0.00	7.42	0.00	16.39	0.00
25.	Pondicherry	0.29	11.38	9.05	12.66	4.20
26.	Tamil Nadu	604.08	1362.17	1147.28	1217.13	1510.57
27.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	9.49	4.13	0.00	0.00	0.00
28.	Goa	198.06	82.98	88.90	103.68	95.25
29.	Gujarat	102.23	130.34	530.55	883.08	774.47
30.	Maharashtra	1541.92	873.25	1439.17	1596.48	1843.44
31.	Chhattishgarh	427.33	1098.00	1000.91	1152.87	976.82
32.	Madhya Pradesh	605.97	1355.07	2125.71	1114.33	1516.50
33.	Uttarakhand	378.01	979.70	578.63	617.86	401.57
34.	Uttar Pradesh	2293.52	3415.18	3596.64	2495.99	2434.09
Grand Total		19371.26	26574.4 6	29239.95	32095.75	30065.64

\*Provisional figures.

### Target for Textile Industries

5506. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the textile machines manufacturing industries are unable to meet the target fixed for 2010 as reported in 'Business Standard', dated April 9, 2007;

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

(c) whether the Government has any plan to provide financial assistance to the textile machine manufacturing industry similar to that of Technology Upgradation Funds Scheme;

(d) if so the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the other steps proposed to be taken to help the textile machine manufacturing industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN): (a) and (b) Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI) in its vision

statement for 2010 has projected investments for Textile Machinery as Rs. 1,40,000 crore. Even with 31% growth in textile machinery the Indian Industry would not be able to meet the projections by CITI. At present the total installed capacity of Textile Machinery is estimated to be around Rs. 3050 crore per annum. The level of production during 2004-05 and 2005-06 was around Rs. 1684 crore and Rs. 2212 crore respectively. The imports during the corresponding periods were Rs. 3393 crore and Rs. 7100 crore. The figures show that whereas the demand has almost doubled during last one year, the share of indigenous production has come down from 33% to 24%. However, the indigenous production has shown a growth of around 31% during last year. As far as capacity is concerned it is still underutilized on account of technology gap & capacity in certain areas.

(c) to (e) Department of Heavy Industry has proposed a comprehensive scheme for enhancing the competitiveness of Capital Goods Industry, which includes Textile Engineering Sector. The scheme aims to provide financial support to TEI units for upgrading their existing technology, setting up of common facilities and R&D centres as well as setting up of Sector specific Parks. The scheme is under consideration of the Planning Commission.

(f) Recommendation on tariff structure and other policy issues are considered from time to time for development and growth of the domestic industries.

**Mid-Day Meal Scheme for Upper  
Primary School Children**

5507. SHRI AMITAVA NANDY:  
SHRI THAWARCHAND GEHLOT:  
SHRI L. RAJGOPAL:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to extend Mid-Day Meal Scheme to upper primary classes;

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

(c) the number of children likely to be covered, State and Union Territory-wise;

(d) the time by when this scheme is likely to be extended;

(e) whether some State Governments have also requested the Union Government to extend the scheme to upper classes; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) Yes, Sir. As per the Budget announcement, the Mid Day Meal Scheme will be extended to 3427 Educationally Backward Blocks (EBBs) in the country in the year 2007-08.

(b) The National Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee (NSMC), set up for the Mid-Day Meal Scheme, has recommended nutritional norms of 700 Calories, about 20 gms, of protein and adequate quantities of micro-nutrients for children at the upper primary stage.

(c) In the current financial year, about 2.2 crores children in upper primary' classes in Educationally Backward Blocks will be covered under mid-day meal scheme. A statement indicating the break up of Educationally Backward Blocks is enclosed.

(d) The scheme will be extended to upper primary stage in EBBs in the current year.

(e) and (f) Some states have requested for Central assistance for extension of the scheme up to class X. There is no proposal to extend the mid-day meal scheme to class X.

**Statement**

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Educationally Backward Blocks followed by			
		Min. of HR (as per Census 2001)	Min. of SJ&E (as per Census 1991)	Min. of TW (as per Census 1991)	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	661	0	34	695
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	14	0	0	14
3.	Assam	15	0	0	15
4.	Bihar	495	70	22	587
5.	Chhattisgarh	60	44	0	104
6.	Gujarat	80	0	0	80

1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	Haryana	31	0	0	31
8.	Himachal Pradesh	5	0	0	5
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	84	0	0	84
10.	Jharkhand	189	0	9	198
11.	Karnataka	61	4	0	65
12.	Madhya Pradesh	184	19	10	213
13.	Maharashtra	36	0	0	36
14.	Manipur	1	0	0	1
15.	Meghalaya	0	4	0	4
16.	Mizoram	1	0	0	1
17.	Orissa	154	32	26	212
18.	Punjab	2	0	0	2
19.	Rajasthan	186	0	0	186
20.	Tamil Nadu	37	0	0	37
21.	Tripura	7	0	0	7
22.	Uttaranchal	21	0	0	21
23.	Uttar Pradesh	690	20	0	710
24.	West Bengal	58	19	41	118
25.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1	0	0	1
Total		3073	212	142	3427

#### Introduction of Courses by CIEFL

5508. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages (CIEFL) has offered courses in various languages other than English;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to

provide University Status to CIEFL; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Central Institute of English & Foreign Languages (CIEFL), Hyderabad offers courses in French, German, Russian, Spanish, Arabic and Japanese Languages also.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir. The English and Foreign Languages University Act, 2006 is under notification.

**Promotion of Agro and Rural Industries**

5509. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:  
SHRI B. MAHTAB:

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

(a) the details of agro and rural industries established in the country during the Tenth Five Year Plan, State and Union Territory-wise;

(b) the details of funds allocated/utilised to/by the State Governments for such industries during the said period, State and Union Territory-wise;

(c) the target fixed and the achievement made for setting up of Agro and Rural Industries in the country during the Tenth Five Year Plan, State and Union Territory-wise;

(d) the steps taken to promote Agro and Rural Industries in the country during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(e) the details of proposals sent by the State Governments to the Union Government particularly Orissa and Andhra Pradesh, State and Union Territory-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Industries in the rural areas of the country are promoted by the Government (in the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries) through two credit-linked subsidy schemes, namely, the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP), implemented by the Government through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) and the Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Yojana (PMRY), implemented through the States and Union Territories. Approximately, fifty per cent of the units established under PMRY (implemented in both rural and urban areas) are estimated to be in rural areas. The State/UT-wise details of projects set up under REGP and self employment ventures set up under PMRY during Tenth Five Year Plan are given at in statement-I and II respectively.

(b) REGP is a Central Sector scheme and the approved grants for the scheme are released to the KVIC

which, in turn, releases the funds (towards margin money assistance) to the banks against the projects sanctioned in each State/Union Territory (UT). The State/UT-wise details of margin money allocated by KVIC under the REGP during Tenth Five Year Plan are given at is statement-III enclosed and those of margin money utilised are given in Statement-IV. Under the PMRY, allocation of the subsidy and release of funds are based on the States/UTs. The subsidy amount is released directly to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), which, in turn, releases the necessary amounts to the implementing banks. The amounts of subsidy released to the RBI during Tenth Five Year Plan under PMRY are given below:

Year	Subsidy released under PMRY (Rs. crore)
2002-03	152.55
2003-04	147.63
2004-05	190.48
2005-06	251.36
2006-07	228.82

The State/Union Territory-wise details of funds allocated (released) to the States/UTs for entrepreneurial development and contingencies as well as the funds utilised under the PMRY during Tenth Five Year Plan are given in statement-V.

(c) The State/UT-wise details of targets for setting up projects under REGP and self employment ventures under PMRY during Tenth Five Year Plan are given in statement-VI & VII respectively, while the achievements have already been given in statement-I & II mentioned in answer to part (a) above.

(d) As regards various initiatives undertaken for promoting the setting up of village industry units under the REGP in the rural and semi-urban areas, convergence has been established by KVIC with Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD). Financial assistance is also provided under REGP for various backward forward linkages such as Entrepreneurship Development Programme, marketing, organising awareness camps, etc. KVIC has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the MWCD, for the benefit of women entrepreneurs under REGP. As per MoU, KVIC and MWCD have agreed to work together for generating

employment opportunities for rural women, through REGP and also for marketing their products. KVIC has also established convergence with various other organisations such as Army Wives Welfare Association and Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan for the benefit of rural entrepreneurs to create awareness among them about REGP scheme and in the creation of market avenues under REGP. Besides, Rural Industries Service Centre (RISC) scheme has been introduced for providing assistance in setting up common facility centres (CFC) to provide infrastructural facility and services in manufacturing, testing / quality control, maintenance, etc. As regards PMRY, besides strengthening implementation procedures, in order to improve its effectiveness, the design parameters have been enhanced in terms of family income limits for eligibility, project cost ceiling, corresponding ceiling of subsidies, rates of assistance to- States/UTs towards training of beneficiaries before and after selection, etc. with effect from 2007-08.

(e) Applications for setting up industry units mentioned at (a) above are not received directly by the Government in the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries. Under the REGP, an eligible entrepreneur can establish a village industry by availing of margin money assistance from the KVIC and loans from any public sector scheduled

commercial bank. For this purpose the prospective entrepreneur has to submit a project proposal to the State offices of the KVIC or the district offices of the respective State/ Union Territory Khadi and Village Industries Board (KVIB) or the implementing banks directly. Approval of the project depends on technical and financial appraisal by the respective banks. Similarly, under the PMRY, educated unemployed youth can establish a self-employment unit of village industry in the rural areas by availing the permissible subsidy and loan from the banks. This Yojana is implemented through the District Industries Centres of States and Union Territories. For this purpose, the prospective entrepreneur has to submit a project proposal to the District Industries Centre concerned, which in turn, sponsors short listed applications to the implementing banks.

All proposals received for cluster development under the Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI) have been examined and 29 clusters of khadi (including 2 in Rajasthan), 50 clusters of village industries (including 2 in Rajasthan) and 25 clusters of Coir have been identified for development under SFURTI.

(f) Does not arise.

#### **Statement I**

*State/Union Territory (UT)-wise details of projects set up under the REGP during the Tenth Five Year Plan*

(number of units)

Sl.No.	State/UTs	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Chandigarh	1	8	8	3	10
2.	Delhi	9	7	9	15	13
3.	Haryana	677	923	1140	1058	869
4.	Himachal Pradesh	423	414	469	650	760
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	105	775	922	1402	1630
6.	Punjab	1358	882	864	440	591
7.	Rajasthan	3036	2496	1537	2133	1437

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	196	58	6	598	127
9.	Bihar	229	88	254	692	814
10.	Jharkhand	298	323	240	217	128
11.	Orissa	668	1031	991	650	509
12.	West Bengal	2459	3348	2584	2078	1850
13.	Arunachal Pradesh	30	32	43	76	88
14.	Assam	559	1223	1658	2229	1088
15.	Manipur	79	36	102	65	60
16.	Meghalaya	153	210	146	206	98
17.	Mizoram	143	33	162	365	586
18.	Nagaland	64	61	151	316	133
19.	Tripura	141	244	233	306	30
20.	Sikkim	16	113	139	106	46
21.	Andhra Pradesh	1818	1097	1988	2278	2037
22.	Karnataka	1411	1422	934	1314	1689
23.	Kerala	789	2046	914	1217	900
24.	Lakshadweep	0	9	0	26	0
25.	Pondicherry	3	47	7	56	3
26.	Tamil Nadu	764	1568	925	1036	1049
27.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	5	2	0	0	0
28.	Goa	244	126	138	136	104
29.	Gujarat	126	290	376	516	443
30.	Maharashtra	2249	857	1773	3120	2296
31.	Chhattisgarh	216	697	656	551	519
32.	Madhya Pradesh	703	1041	1361	736	1002
33.	Uttarakhand	375	1106	513	527	402
34.	Uttar Pradesh	1677	2134	2210	1532	1281
Grand Total		21024	24747	23453	26650	22590

\*Provisional figures.

**Statement II**

*State/Union Territory (UT)-wise details of self-employment ventures set up under the PMRY during the Tenth Five Year Plan*

(number of units)

Sl.No.	State/UTs	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Haryana	7008	7277	7755	9563	6770
2.	Himachal Pradesh	2209	2862	2853	2929	2686
3.	Jammu and Kashmir	605	656	639	544	379
4.	Punjab	7771	7558	8372	8043	5138
5.	Rajasthan	12267	12769	12919	13875	9982
6.	Chandigarh	47	68	206	72	24
7.	Delhi	632	904	819	682	309
8.	Assam	4149	5844	8256	5670	1910
9.	Manipur	549	520	387	383	89
10.	Meghalaya	256	403	568	564	128
11.	Nagaland	107	53	109	2375	384
12.	Tripura	1085	2043	1747	2032	829
13.	Arunachal Pradesh	294	668	440	447	184
14.	Mizoram	155	775	142	472	30
15.	Sikkim	26	30	32	31	20
16.	Bihar	7939	9860	10396	12072	4830
17.	Jharkhand	4354	4774	4804	4586	2810
18.	Orissa	6725	8779	11339	12823	5119
19.	West Bengal	2528	2822	3796	4616	2410
20.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	142	182	142	150	87
21.	Madhya Pradesh	16710	19748	20642	20902	9718
22.	Chattisgarh	3006	3275	3276	3463	2371
23.	Uttar Pradesh	38016	40481	42534	39984	30379

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
24.	Uttarakhand	4683	5361	6637	7404	5108
25.	Gujarat	7184	6755	6406	6355	4038
26.	Maharashtra	17631	230	21819	23684	11186
27.	Daman and Diu	2	3	4	14	8
28.	Goa	274	116	45	43	18
29.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	10	0	22	24	3
30.	Andhra Pradesh	13632	17729	22542	21168	6607
31.	Karnataka	10026	11929	13931	19057	5515
32.	Kerala	9853	14024	16553	21667	12107
33.	Tamilnadu	9595	12738	16902	19548	11489
34.	Lakshadweep	10	17	4	5	0
35.	Pondicherry	213	294	329	347	195
	Not specified	828	897	897	1397	747
	All India	190521	219444	248264	266971	143587

\*Upto February, 2007.

**Statement III**

*State/Union Territory (UT)-wise details of margin money allocated under the REGP during Tenth Five Year Plan*

(Rs. lakh)

Sl.No.	State/UTs	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Chandigarh	29	79	31	5.63	5.30
2.	Delhi	43	35.66	12.5	18.67	16.88
3.	Haryana	804	637.03	2101.03	1465.39	1824.72
4.	Himachal Pradesh	570	720.63	667.63	933.35	1243.75
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	267	651.44	670.32	889.3	1053.93
6.	Punjab	1160	1185	2056.67	1833.1	1657.13

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7.	Rajasthan	1052	2063.99	2985.66	3400.45	3273.79
8.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	89	39.5	100	186.67	45.00
9.	Bihar	752	1155.77	1196	783.13	707.95
10.	Jharkhand	290	628.05	906	914.21	503.84
11.	Orissa	483	1133.95	1036.43	1086.42	982.13
12.	West Bengal	1280	2930.88	2158.74	2785.12	2366.76
13.	Arunachal Pradesh	300	63.2	97	126.94	114.75
14.	Assam	613	1368.88	1431	1874.17	1694.25
15.	Manipur	198	69.52	285	227.74	205.88
16.	Meghalaya	430	437.03	285	373.34	337.50
17.	Mizoram	196	112.18	426	558.18	1104.60
18.	Nagaland	157	264.46	162	212.8	192.37
19.	Sikkim	34	79	171	132.57	243.00
20.	Tripura	213	248.22	248.11	268.8	119.83
21.	Andhra Pradesh	1078	1553.89	2975.63	3610.27	3913.69
22.	Karnataka	1220	1257.37	1885	2469.68	2232.60
23.	Kerala	1202	1231.45	1193	1705.08	1541.40
24.	Lakshadweep	52	2.37	1	1.9	1.72
25.	Pondicherry	40	23	23.64	78.74	71.18
26.	Tamil Nadu	605	1451.13	1197.24	1487.79	1410.46
27.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	26	4.74	14	0	0.00
28.	Daman and Diu	28	0	0	0	0.00
29.	Goa	203	101.4	285	373.34	237.50
30.	Gujarat	623	667.16	574	752.31	680.09
31.	Maharashtra	1029	2454.1	1988.15	2342.74	1917.84
32.	Chhattisgarh	346	982.53	1112.69	1121.92	1414.22
33.	Madhya Pradesh	1441	1667.02	1542.74	1584.86	1432.72
34.	Uttarakhand	223	770.81	836.31	746.68	575.00
35.	Uttar Pradesh	2662	2729.83	3746	4807.73	3169.95
Grand Total		19738	28800.19	34401.49	39159.02	36291.73

\*Provisional.

**Statement IV**

*State/Union Territory (UT)-wise details of margin money utilised under the REGP during Tenth Five Year Plan*

(Rs. lakh)

Sl.No.	State/UTs	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Chandigarh	0.40	10.24	21.45	3.63	11.34
2.	Delhi	16.16	12.31	8.09	16.66	18.37
3.	Haryana	884.91	1938.96	2142.25	1782.18	1749.34
4.	Himachal Pradesh	643.78	757.11	657.72	889.90	843.74
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	179.00	363.45	584.55	833.56	1085.24
6.	Punjab	1744.62	819.03	1834.63	837.21	1107.84
7.	Rajasthan	2189.08	2890.28	2064.33	2679.91	2096.45
8.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	78.24	28.44	4.16	218.87	22.15
9.	Bihar	108.13	186.03	281.69	570.54	680.35
10.	Jharkhand	421.01	198.08	320.60	351.12	187.87
11.	Orissa	156.78	784.11	863.05	837.22	686.26
12.	West Bengal	1202.17	1593.51	1999.62	2100.06	2043.93
13.	Arunachal Pradesh	45.36	52.77	66.03	126.54	144.45
14.	Assam	375.68	806.83	1277.42	2719.99	1051.28
15.	Manipur	110.53	41.19	73.66	43.85	56.24
16.	Meghalaya	135.94	121.79	196.03	234.14	149.13
17.	Mizoram	224.40	61.10	257.48	995.54	769.50
18.	Nagaland	50.15	117.20	204.46	286.22	164.39
19.	Tripura	106.23	224.02	214.14	289.95	33.27
20.	Sikkim	6.70	127.67	165.78	139.54	75.72
21.	Andhra Pradesh	1775.01	1675.40	3394.19	3627.58	3573.60
22.	Karnataka	1560.05	1692.17	1063.83	1697.66	2424.27
23.	Kerala	1196.03	2753.15	1027.95	1603.41	1534.00
24.	Lakshadweep	0.00	7.42	0.00	16.39	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
25.	Pondicherry	0.29	11.38	9.05	12.66	4.20
26.	Tamil Nadu	604.08	1362.17	1147.28	1217.13	1510.57
27.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	9.49	4.13	0.00	0.00	0.00
28.	Goa	198.06	82.98	88.90	103.68	95.25
29.	Gujarat	102.23	130.34	530.55	883.08	774.47
30.	Maharashtra	1541.92	873.25	1439.17	1596.48	1843.44
31.	Chhattisgarh	427.33	1098.00	1000.91	1152.87	978.82
32.	Madhya Pradesh	605.97	1355.07	2125.71	1114.33	1516.50
33.	Uttarakhand	378.01	979.70	578.63	617.86	401.57
34.	Uttar Pradesh	2293.52	3415.18	3596.64	2495.99	2434.09
Grand Total		19371.26	26574.46	29239.95	32095.75	30065.64

\*Provisional figures.

**Statement V**

*State-wise details of funds allocated by Govt. of India and utilised by State/UTs under PMRY during Tenth Five Year Plan.*

(Amount Rs. lakh)

Sl.No.	State/UTs	2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
		Funds released	Funds utilised	Funds released	Funds utilised*						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Andhra Pradesh	63.92	164.24	191.44	176.16	293.34	187.81	176.72	NR	191.95	
2.	Assam	110.73	69.59	58.97	67.13	100.71	87.44	77.80	NR	1.73	
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.81	1.54	3.47	4.08	5.39	3.54	4.54	5.83	0.42	
4.	Bihar	0.00	40.28	101.54	32.71	19.87	NR	0.00	NR	0.00	
5.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	35.35	36.08	26.34	50.84	30.52	41.02	34.73	38.06	
6.	Delhi	0.00	NR	0.00	NR	0.00	NR	0.00	NR	0.00	
7.	Goa	0.00	0.13	0.00	1.43	0.00	NR	0.00	0.12	0.00	
8.	Gujarat	666.94	35.81	20.27	40.06	53.07	29.21	13.38	28.90	0.00	
9.	Haryana	38.86	46.64	68.99	45.15	74.20	41.78	45.64	60.04	38.60	
10.	Himachal Pradesh	16.96	10.89	19.48	13.34	5.12	14.06	15.03	10.67	26.77	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	2.49	10.67	13.16	NR	0.00	NR	11.71	0.00	10.30	
12.	Jharkhand	0.00	24.61	0.00	23.19	34.56	17.03	0.06	33.28	14.62	
13.	Karnataka	49.76	104.85	148.93	105.36	173.19	163.16	124.08	13909	165.91	
14.	Kerala	55.26	105.27	112.21	130.20	175.75	165.13	176.63	211.27	202.33	
15.	Madhya Pradesh	120.21	172.31	149.32	152.58	265.38	164.66	226.32	114.15	209.89	
16.	Maharashtra	29.15	105.04	191.31	124.99	173.92	145.05	128.04	101.52	112.62	
17.	Manipur	0.00	4.83	5.57	3.81	4.55	8.82	1.23	5.11	8.24	
18.	Meghalaya	1.86	2.49	7.10	8.54	8.29	9.58	8.22	10.61	5.52	
19.	Mizoram	4.71	5.88	3.61	2.00	3.24	2.96	8.22	4.75	0.00	
20.	Nagaland	6.84	5.09	1.00	7.76	17.12	13.44	22.03	NR	6.79	
21.	Orissa	20.50	72.48	91.34	95.89	147.50	111.35	135.46	134.26	128.31	
22.	Punjab	30.22	50.52	78.18	45.37	81.45	20.17	55.67	52.75	0.00	
23.	Rajasthan	57.83	75.19	106.01	87.71	104.30	103.41	109.97	126.83	124.90	
24.	Tamil Nadu	40.29	108.63	147.94	104.50	136.75	128.27	155.27	159.27	156.28	
25.	Tripura	17.35	16.10	18.23	21.96	21.24	19.20	22.70	20.44	20.39	
26.	Uttar Pradesh	204.37	423.31	402.53	433.40	644.91	359.17	422.85	446.25	388.87	
27.	Uttaranchal	0.00	46.83	25.83	52.92	92.76	52.58	64.16	56.63	83.49	
28.	West Bengal	0.00	18.06	0.00	21.67	19.12	20.27	29.10	36.17	4.96	
29.	Andaman and Nicobar	0.59	NR	1.06	0.14	2.51	0.33	0.55	0.82	0.89	
30.	Chandigarh	0.37	0.36	0.47	NR	1.02	1.17	3.98	1.43	1.15	
31.	Daman and Diu	0.07	NR	0.04	NR	0.03	NR	0.03	NR	0.11	
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.11	NR	0.15	NR	0.20	NR	0.19	NR	0.12	
33.	Lakshadweep	0.08	NR	0.12	NR	0.14	NR	0.05	NR	0.04	
34.	Pondicherry	1.02	2.85	5.37	3.38	4.74	2.08	0.57	2.22	3.38	
35.	Sikkim	0.10	0.32	0.48	0.38	0.25	0.29	0.89	0.46	0.52	
Total		1544.38	1760.12	2010.20	1832.13	2715.43	1902.46	2082.12	1797.59	1947.16	0.00

NR—Not Reported by State Govt.

\*The Utilisation Certificates would be furnished by the State/UTs after the cut off date decided for completion of disbursement which is 30.06.2007.

Note 1: Under the PMRY funds are released for Subsidy and Entrepreneurial Development (ED) purposes. The funds for subsidy are authorised to RBI, the RBI releases these funds to the implementing banks. Hence, detail of funds released to State for subsidy is not available. The funds for ED i.e. Training and Contingency etc. are released to States/UTs.

Note 2: Surplus/Deficit of previous years are adjusted in subsequent years.

**Statement VI**

*State/Union Territory (UT)-wise details of targets of projects under the REGP during the Tenth Five Year Plan*

(number of units)

Sl.No.	State/UTs	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Chandigarh	56	86	4	22	5
2.	Delhi	99	35	26	29	15
3.	Haryana	851	673	980	1233	1193
4.	Himachal Pradesh	611	590	626	592	760
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	565	717	500	550	724
6.	Punjab	1225	1261	1228	1206	1493
7.	Rajasthan	2202	2098	1895	1837	2769
8.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	54	42	125	15	152
9.	Bihar	1575	1230	1049	345	638
10.	Jharkhand	656	671	795	222	745
11.	Orissa	1018	916	728	444	885
12.	West Bengal	1348	2402	1865	1660	2268
13.	Arunachal Pradesh	439	67	85	94	103
14.	Assam	872	1381	1255	2088	1526
15.	Manipur	435	73	250	19	185
16.	Meghalaya	613	385	250	148	304
17.	Mizoram	425	118	374	966	455
18.	Nagaland	345	237	143	212	173
19.	Tripura	460	250	180	152	219
20.	Sikkim	140	84	89	74	108
21.	Andhra Pradesh	2244	1199	2179	3246	2940
22.	Karnataka	1278	1231	1654	1601	2011
23.	Kerala	1258	1139	1046	1062	1389
24.	Lakshadweep	50	1	1	1	2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
25.	Pondicherry	94	9	5	10	64
26.	Tamil Nadu	1195	1122	996	880	1212
27.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	—	—	—	—	—
28.	Goa	432	434	250	148	304
29.	Gujarat	1315	658	504	705	613
30.	Maharashtra	1670	1945	1569	1664	1908
31.	Chhattishgarh	508	502	751	826	914
32.	Madhya Pradesh	2011	1037	1061	1167	1291
33.	Uttarakhand	339	631	500	428	608
34.	Uttar Pradesh	3691	2105	3285	3069	3784
Grand Total		30074	25329	26248	26715	31760

; \*Provisional figures.

#### **Statement VII**

*State/Union Territory (UT)-wise details of targets for setting up self employment ventures under the PMRY during the Tenth Five Year Plan*

(number of units)

Sl.No.	State/UTs	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Haryana	4600	4050	5100	5303	5480
2.	Himachal Pradesh	2700	3200	3000	3557	3743
3.	Jammu and Kashmir	1400	1150	2000	1588	1461
4.	Punjab	4000	4100	4600	4083	4236
5.	Rajasthan	8300	8100	9100	9328	9579
6.	Chandigarh	300	300	300	351	492
7.	Delhi	4600	4400	4500	5179	5457
8.	Assam	6900	6600	7500	7387	7643
9.	Manipur	1300	1200	1500	1418	1475
10.	Meghalaya	300	350	400	361	370

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11.	Nagaland	250	300	400	363	373
12.	Tripura	700	800	1000	1193	1238
13.	Arunachal Pradesh	150	200	200	173	178
14.	Mizoram	250	200	200	188	195
15.	Sikkim	50	100	100	66	67
16.	Bihar	18100	14400	16000	16003	16477
17.	Jharkhand	2900	5350	6500	6978	7213
18.	Orissa	6850	6600	7100	6923	7125
19.	West Bengal	21100	20000	24000	24574	25449
20.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	75	100	150	123	128
21.	Madhya Pradesh	14300	11750	14000	13507	13937
22.	Chhattisgarh	2250	4600	6000	5429	5612
23.	Uttar Pradesh	25450	22950	26000	26248	26929
24.	Uttarakhand	925	1800	2500	2119	2189
25.	Gujarat	7950	8650	10000	9579	9859
26.	Maharashtra	22150	22800	26000	24614	25439
27.	Daman and Diu	50	50	50	19	20
28.	Goa	500	400	500	486	504
29.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	50	50	50	27	27
30.	Andhra Pradesh	17900	18400	21500	20767	20261
31.	Karnataka	10500	10800	12000	11046	11387
32.	Kerala	15250	16250	17000	16685	18180
33.	Tamil Nadu	17400	19350	20000	21565	21475
34.	Lakshadweep	50	50	50	48	50
35.	Pondicherry	450	600	700	722	752
All India		220000	220000	250000	250000	255000

\*Upto February 2007.

*[Translation]***Sick Textile Mills**

5510. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of textiles mills in the country lying sick for more than the last five years and their performance, State/Union Territory and mill-wise;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to streamline them and raise their standards through modernisation during the last three years;

(c) the details of the funds allocated for this purpose; and

(d) the details of the action plan in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) As per the information with Board of Industrial Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), 156 textile units have been declared sick till on 31.10.2006 as below:-

State/Union Territory	No. of mills declared Sick
Andhra Pradesh	9
Assam	1
Delhi	12
Gujarat	12
Haryana	4
Karnataka	10
Kerala	4
Madhya Pradesh	4
Maharashtra	35
Orissa	1
Pondicherry	1
Punjab	6
Rajasthan	8
Tamil Nadu	38
Uttar Pradesh	2
West Bengal	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>156</b>

(b) to (d) Government have no separate funding scheme for streamlining/ modernization of sick textile mills. However, Government have taken a number of steps for revival of sick industrial units which, inter-alia, include guidelines of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to banks, amalgamation of sick units with healthy units, setting up of BIFR under the Sick Industrial Companies (Social Provisions) Act, etc. The RBI has been issuing from time to time elaborate guidelines covering all areas of industrial rehabilitation viz. detection of industrial sickness at incipient stage, identification of sick/weak units, carrying out viability study of the units, then extending relief and concessions to only viable units, co-ordination among banks and financial institutions and banks themselves, norms for promoters' contribution, extended period for repayment/rescheduling of loans, conversions and waivers of penal rate/compound interest etc. BIFR has been set up with a view to arranging the timely detection of sick and potentially sick companies and for the speedy determination of preventive, ameliorative and remedial measures, which need to be taken in respect of such companies. It appoints operating agencies for preparation of rehabilitation proposals in respect of potentially viable units. It takes decision on rehabilitation on the basis of its findings.

12.00 hrs

*[English]***PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): Sir, on behalf of my colleague Shri Sis Ram Ola, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the National Aluminium Company Limited and the Ministry of Mines for the year 2007-2008.

(Placed in Library. See No. LT 6518/07)

*[Translation]*

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): Sir, I beg to lay on the table.

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:

(i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Omnibus Industrial Development Corporation of Daman and Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli Limited, Moti Daman, for the year 2005-2006.

(ii) Annual Report of the Omnibus Industrial Development Corporation of Daman and Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli Limited, Moti Daman, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

(Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6519/07)

(3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 28 of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act, 1956:—

(i) The Khadi and Village Industries Commission Employees (Classification, Control and Appeal) Amendment Regulations, 2006 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 549(E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th September, 2006.

(ii) The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (Amendment) Rules, 2006 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 728(E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th November, 2006.

(iii) The Khadi and Village Industries Commission Employees (Classification, Control and Appeal) Amendment Regulations, 2007 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 91(E) in Gazette of India dated the 19th February, 2007.

(Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6520/07)

(4) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under sections 9 and 10 of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act, 1956:—

(i) S.O.1376(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th August, 2006, nominating the Joint Secretary, Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries, handling work relating to Khadi and Village Industries Commission in the Ministry, to attend the meetings of the Commission and take part in the discussions thereof without having the right to vote.

(ii) S.O. 306(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 2007, constituting the National Khadi and Village Industries Board, consisting of a Chairman and 50 other members mentioned therein.

(Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6521/07)

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY, MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): Sir, on behalf of my colleague Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under article 151(1) of the Constitution:—

(i) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India—Union Government (Commercial) (No.9 of 2007)—Financial Reporting by Public Sector Undertakings—(Regulatory Audit) for the year ended the March, 2006.

(Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6522/07)

(ii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India—Union Government (Commercial) (No. 9 of 2007)—Public Sector Undertakings—Review of Activities of selected PSUs—(Performance Audit) for the year ended the March, 2006.

(Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6523/07)

(iii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India—Union Government (Commercial) (No. 10 of 2007)—Information Technology Applications in Public Sector Undertakings—(Regulatory Audit) for the year ended the March, 2006.

(Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6524/07)

- (iv) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India—Union Government (Commercial) (No. 11 of 2007)—Transaction Audit Observations—(Regulatory Audit) for the year ended the March, 2006.

(Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6525/07)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts,
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development, 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 6526/07)

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): Sir, on behalf of my colleague Shri Praful Patel, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-
- (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Pawan Hans Helicopters Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Pawan Hans Helicopters Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

(Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6527/07)

- (3) A copy of the Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India—Union Government (Commercial) (No. 17 of 2007) Public Sector Undertakings—Review of infrastructure and operational facilities, Airports Authority of India (Performance Audit) for the year ended the March 2006 under article 151 (1) of the Constitution.

(Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6528/07)

*[Translation]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): Sir I beg to lay on the table:

- (1) A copy of the 37th Annual Assessment Report (Hindi and English versions) regarding programme for accelerating the spread and development of Hindi and its progressive use for the various official purposes of the Union and its implementation, for the year 2005-2006.

(Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6529/07)

- (2) A copy of the Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee of Parliament on Official Language, Part-8, for the year 2005 under sub-section (3) of section 4 of the Official Languages Act, 1963.

(Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6530/07)

*[English]*

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Union Territory Mission Authority, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Silvassa, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Union Territory Mission Authority, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Silvassa, for the year 2005-2006.

(Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6531/07)

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Ujala Society (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Jammu and Kashmir, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Ujala Society (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Jammu and Kashmir, for the year 2005-2006.
- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.
- (Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6532/07)
- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Karnataka Mahila Samakhya Society, Bangalore, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Karnataka Mahila Samakhya Society, Bangalore, for the year 2005-2006.
- (5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.
- (Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6533/07)
- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Sarva Shikshana Abhiyan, Karnataka, Bangalore for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Sarva Shikshana Abhiyan, Bangalore for the year 2005-2006.
- (Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6534/07)
- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Andhra Pradesh Mahila Samatha Society, Hyderabad, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Andhra Pradesh Mahila Samatha Society, Hyderabad, for the year 2005-2006.
- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.
- (Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6535/07)
- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Uttar Pradesh Mahila Samakhya Society, Lucknow, for the year 2002-2003, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Uttar Pradesh Mahila Samakhya Society, Lucknow, for the year 2002-2003.
- (10) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (9) above.
- (Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6536/07)
- (11) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti, 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 Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.
- (12) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (11) above.
- (Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6537/07)
- (13) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Tibetan Schools Administration, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Tibetan Schools Administration, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Tibetan Schools Administration, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.

- (14) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (13) above.

(Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6538/07)

- (15) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan State Mission Authority, Meghalaya, Shillong, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan State Mission Authority, Meghalaya, Shillong, for the year 2005-2006.
- (16) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (15) above.

(Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6539/07)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOAN): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Powerloom Development and Export Promotion Council (PDEXCIL), Mumbai, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the Powerloom Development and Export Promotion Council (PDEXCIL), Mumbai, for the year 2005-2006.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

(Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6540/07)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Special Economic Zones (Second Amendment) Rules, 2007 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 393 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 16th March, 2007, under sub-section (3) of section 55 of the Special Economic Zones Act, 2005.

(Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6541/07)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, for the year 2005-2006.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, for the year 2005-2006, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur 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 6542/07)

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Lucknow, for the year 2002-2003.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Lucknow, for the year 2002-2003.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

(Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6543/07)

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Lucknow, for the year 2003-2004.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Lucknow, for the year 2003-2004.
- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.
- (Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6544/07)
- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Mizoram University, Aizawal, for the year 2005-2006.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Mizoram University, Aizawal, for the year 2005-2006.
- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.
- (Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6545/07)
- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, for the year 2005-2006.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, for the year 2005-2006.
- (Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6546/07)
- (10) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong, for the year 2005-2006.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong, for the year 2005-2006.
- (11) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (10) above.
- (Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6547/07)
- (12) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Visva Bharati, Shantiniketan, for the year 2005-2006.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Visva Bharati, Shantiniketan, for the year 2005-2006.
- (13) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (12) above.
- (Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6548/07)
- (14) A copy of the Statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Audited Accounts of the Visva-Bharati, Shantiniketan for the year 2005-2006, within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the accounting year.
- (Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6549/07)
- (15) A copy of the Statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Audited Accounts of the Mizoram University, for the year 2005-2006, within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the accounting year.
- (Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6550/07)
- (16) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Technology, Silchar, for the year 2005-2006—along with audited accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Technology, Silchar, for the year 2005-2006.
- (17) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (16) above.
- (Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6551/07)
- (18) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Foundry and Forge Technology, Ranchi, for

the year 2005-2006 along with audited accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Foundry and Forge Technology, Ranchi, for the year 2005-2006.

- (19) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (18) above.

(Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6552/07)

- (20) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, for the year 2004-2005, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (21) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (20) above.

(Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6553/07)

- (22) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management, Gwalior, for the year 2005-2006.

- (23) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (22) above.

(Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6554/07)

- (24) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Information Technology, Allahabad, for the year 2005-2006.

(Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6555/07)

- (25) A copy of the Statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Lucknow, for the year 2005-2006, within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the accounting year.

(Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 6556/07)

12.01 hrs.

## JOINT COMMITTEE ON OFFICES OF PROFIT

### Fourth Report

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Item No. 12—Shri Chandra Bhushan Singh—not present. Shri Nikhilananda Sar.

SHRI NIKHILANANDA SAR (Burdwan): Sir, I beg to present the Fourth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit.

12.01<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hrs.

## COMMITTEE ON SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION

### Fifteenth and Sixteenth Reports

*[English]*

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS (Palghat): Sir, I beg to present the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation.

12.02 hrs.

## STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

### Statements

*[English]*

SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT (Mumbai North East): Sir, I beg to lay a copy each (Hindi and English Versions) of the following Statements showing:

- (1) action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter-I of the 17th Report (14th Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Energy on Action Taken on the recommendations contained in the 13th Report

(14th Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Demands for Grants of the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy for the year 2006-2007.

- (2) action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter-I of the 18th Report (14th Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Energy on Action Taken on the recommendations contained in the 12th Report (14th Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Power for the year 2006-2007.

12.02<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hrs.

## STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR

### Statements

[English]

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY (Nalgonda):

Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Statements (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Labour:—

- (1) Statement showing further action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in Eighteenth Report of the Standing Committee on Labour (2006-2007) (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) on the recommendations contained in Thirteenth Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) on demands for Grants (2006-2007) of the Ministry of Labour & Employment; and
- (2) Statement showing further action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in Nineteenth Report of the Standing Committee on Labour (2006-2007) (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) on the recommendations contained in Fourteenth Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2006-2007) of the Ministry of Textiles.

12.03 hrs.

## STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

- (i) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 19th report of the Standing committee on Coal and Steel pertaining to the Ministry of Mines\*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

\*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library. See No. LT 6557/07.

(SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): Sir, on behalf of my colleague Shri Sis Ram Ola, I am laying this statement on the implementation of the recommendations of the Standing Committee on Coal and Steel relating to Ministry of Mines contained in their 19th Report as per directions of the hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha.

The 19th Report of the Standing Committee on Coal and Steel regarding "Prevention of illegal mining" has been presented to the Lok Sabha on 4.8.2006. Action taken on the recommendations of the Committee has already been sent to the Committee Office on 15.3.2007. There were 14 recommendations in the 19th Report of the Committee on which action was called for on the part of the Government.

The status of the implementation is indicated in the Annexure to my statement, which is laid on the Table of the House. I would not like to take the valuable time of the House to read the Annexure and request that these may be considered as read.

12.04 hrs.

- (ii) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the 170th Report of the Standing Committee on Human Resource Development on Demands for Grants (2005-06) pertaining to the Ministry of Women and child development\*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): Sir, in pursuance of directions of the hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha published in Lok Sabha Parliamentary Bulletin part-II dated September 1, 2004, I am making this statement on the status of implementation of recommendations contained in the One Hundred Seventieth Report of the Standing Committee on Human Resource Development on Demands for Grants 2005-06 (Demand No. 59) of the Department of Women and Child Development (Now Ministry of Women and Child Development).

The Standing Committee on Human Resource Development examined the Demands for Grants of the

\*Placed in Library. See No. LT 6558/07.

[Smt. Renuka Chowdhury]

Department of Women and Child Development (Now Ministry of Women and Child Development) for the year 2005-06 and presented their One Hundred Seventieth Report in the Lok Sabha, which was laid simultaneously in the Rajya Sabha, on 16th December, 2005. The report contained 21 recommendations. The recommendations contained in the Report were examined in the Department of Women and Child Development, now Ministry of Women and Child Development, and an Action Taken Note on these recommendations was submitted to the Standing Committee in September, 2005. The Department of Women and Child Development (Now Ministry of Women and Child Development) is making all efforts to implement the recommendations of the Committee in their true spirit.

I also lay herewith the status of implementation of these recommendations on the Table of the House.

12.05 hrs.

- (iii) **Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the 77th report of the Standing Committee on Commerce on Demands for Grants (2006-07) pertaining to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Department of Commerce)\***

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND

INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce in its 77th Report made 56 recommendations. Action have been completed on 46 recommendations. Six recommendations are under consideration, and action is to be completed in respect of four other recommendations.

I also beg to lay on the Table of the House a copy of the implementation report.

12.06 hrs.

**STATEMENT CORRECTING REPLY TO UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3942 DATED 19.12.2006 REGARDING ASSISTANCE TO SCHOOLS ALONGWITH THE REASONS FOR DELAY IN CORRECTING THE REPLY\***

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): Sir, I beg to correct the reply to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3942 answered on 19th December, 2006 regarding "Assistance to Schools" as follows :—

Part of the Question	For	Read
(c)	As per data for 2003-04, the number of private aided and unaided secondary schools in the country were 88,552 as against the total number of 1,45,962 schools and their percentage, thus, was 60.67%.	As per data for 2003-04, the number of private aided and unaided secondary schools in the country were 58,631 out of the total number 99,140 schools and their percentage thus was 59.14%.
(d)	The state-wise details are given in Annexure-II	Revised Annexure-II is laid on the Table.

\*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library. See No. LT 6559/07.

\* Placed in Library. See No. LT 6560/07.

The reason for delay are as follows :—

The Correcting Statement has been necessitated due to inadvertent error in the answer of Unstarred Question No. 3942 dated 19th December, 2006.

The error came to the notice on 23.02.2007. Action was initiated immediately to rectify the error. Since the Budget Session is still continuing and House is scheduled to sit up to 22nd May, 2007, the revised reply may be brought to the notice of the House during the second part of the Budget Session.

The inconvenience caused is regretted.

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12.08 hrs.

## OBSERVATION BY THE SPEAKER

### Business transacted during the last week

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, for your information, I want to briefly recapitulate the main items of business transacted by the House during the last week. I hope that all sections of the House will kindly pay attention.

Starred Questions could be called for oral Answers only on 9th May, 2007. On other days of the week, due to interruptions and adjournment of the House, Question Hour could not be taken up. Thus, out of the 101 Starred Questions admitted, only 5 could be answered orally. Replies to the remaining Starred Questions along with the replies to 937 Unstarred Questions were laid on the Table.

The House took up two Calling Attention matters regarding "need to increase the interest rate of small savings in Post Offices and bring it at par with the interest rate in Banks so as to prevent the outflow of deposits and safeguard the interests of depositors of small savings" raised by Shri Gurudas Dasgupta, and the "need to set up an Indian Institute of Technology in Orissa as proposed in the Eleventh Five Year Plan and agreed to by the Government earlier" raised by Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy.

The House discussed for about 3 hours and 57 minutes one Short Duration Discussion under Rule 193

regarding "Global Warming" raised by Shri C. K. Chandrappan. However, the discussion was not concluded.

During the period, as many as 17 matters of urgent public importance were raised. Also, 40 matters were raised under Rule 377.

As regards the Legislative Business, the House passed the Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2007 after debating it for more than 4 hours.

The Departmentally Related Standing Committee presented one Report during last week.

The House lost 19 hours of time due to interruptions and forced adjournments.

Hon. Members, I again seek your kind cooperation so that the proceedings of the highest forum of this country can be conducted smoothly and by maintaining our dignity, and do our duty towards the nation.

*...(Interruptions)*

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*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Now, we come to matter of urgent public importance.

*...(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): Mr. Speaker, sir, the question hour has not been conducted, the proceedings of the House have been interrupted. Ruling Party is responsible for it *...(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Now, I come to matter of urgent public importance. Shri B. Mahtab.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Kumari Mamata Banerjee, I will come to you. I have got your notice. You have to have patience. I cannot call everybody. I have been repeatedly telling this to the hon. Members. I have so many matters. I am going to allow some of them. I cannot call all the 30 Members together. You have to have patience, please.

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the of Nandigram issue is very important ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Which one.

...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Nandigram.  
...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please you do not have to help her. She can look after herself. I have not called you, Prof. Malhotra. Therefore, speeches of those who has not been recognized by the Chair will not be recorded.

...*(Interruptions)\**

12.10 hrs.

### SUBMISSION BY MEMBERS

- (i) **Re : Need to commemorate Shaheed Sukdev's Birth Centenary In a befitting manner**

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack): Hon. Speaker, Sir, as India is celebrating two important events—the 150th Anniversary of the First War of Independence, 1857 and the birth Centenary of Martyr Bhagat Singh, it needs to be recalled that Sukh Dev, the great patriot and Bhagat Singh's best friend was born 100 years ago on 15th May, 1907 to Ralli Devi and Ram Lal Thapar at Mohalla Arya Samaj Lyallpur in 1907, Sukhdev rose to fame along with comrades Bhagat Singh and Rajguru. Together, the trio shook the foundations of the British Empire. Sukhdev was the principal accused in the Lahore Conspiracy Case, 1930, whose title reads as 'Crown Versus Sukhdev and Others'.

Sukhdev, though less popular and less written about him than his best friend, Bhagat Singh, was a fearless man of exceptional integrity. Fierce patriotism and pragmatic action came together in a magical weave in Sukhdev, a true revolutionary.

Despite several representations, the Government has failed to restore the martyr's ancestral house in Naughara

Mohalla in Ludhiana. I urge upon the Government to take adequate steps to preserve the birthplace of Sukhdev's house by rehabilitating its current occupiers and commemorating Sukhdev's Birth Centenary in a befitting manner.

At the same time, I would also like to appeal that in 1857, a large number of freedom fighters also were incarcerated in Andaman. At that time, Cellular Jail was not built. They were incarcerated in Viper Island. Not a single name is mentioned in Cellular Jail as to who were incarcerated earlier. A lot of people from Bengal Presidency, from Madras Presidency and Bombay Presidency were deported. I would like to urge upon the Government, as we are celebrating the 150th year of the First Freedom Struggle, at least a column should be erected in Viper Island commemorating the freedom fighters and displaying those names—whose records were there. At least this should be done.

MR. SPEAKER: I am sure, it would be appropriately considered.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): We are seized of the matter. I am thankful to Shri Mahtab for giving very kind suggestions, which are being taken into consideration by the National Integration Council.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Kharabela Swain.

...*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South): Mr. Speaker, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: I will come to you. You are a very hon. Member, a distinguished Member.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Therefore, I would be the last speaker. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You will get your turn. We are very happy that you have been able to attend the House.

...*(Interruptions)*

\*Not recorded.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): My point is.  
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Including Prof. Malhotra.

...(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Everybody.  
...(Interruptions) They are provoking me. Tell them not to provoke me.

MR. SPEAKER: You ignore them. In your wisdom, you ignore them.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : The point I want to raise is the need to increase the MPLAD Scheme fund from Rs.2 crore to Rs.5 crore. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: In the last week alone, we did not work for 19 hours!

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : But the general impression.. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No work, more pay!

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : The Justice Venkatchellai Commission has gone into it and made certain recommendations.

It recommended that this should be scrapped. Shri Era Sezhan has also written a book. The general impression is that all the MPs are swindlers; they are swindling the money; and that the hon. Prime Minister of this country, at the beginning of every year, probably buys big suitcases, stuffs it with currency worth Rs. 2 crore, gives it to all the MPs and asks them to spend the way they like!

But this is the Report of the Committee on MPLADS; this is the first Report; this has come out in December 2006; this was given by the Ministry itself. It says that the MPLADS is a fully funded Government of India Plan Scheme under which the funds are directly released to the district authorities and not to the MPs.

MR. SPEAKER: We all know that.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Basically I am referring to this because ... (Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER: No. You cannot address like this. Do not do that; it is not permitted under the rules. Let that be struck out.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Works that are of developmental in nature, based on locally felt needs and that are always available for public use, related to national priorities such as provision of drinking water, public health, education, sanitation, roads, etc. are included.

MR. SPEAKER: That is all right. That is all known. Everybody knows it.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : It is only recommendatory in nature.

Sir, you may have a different opinion on this. But please allow me.

MR. SPEAKER: It does not matter whether I have a different opinion or not.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : It is all right, if you have a different opinion; naturally you are free to have a different opinion. But please allow me.

MR. SPEAKER: I am allowing you. I am only asking you not to read out because this is known to everybody.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : The district authority is the one which is executing the schemes. Secondly, this report, at page 19 says that the percentage of expenditure over release of money is 90.87. Is there any other Government sponsored scheme where the expenditure is 90 per cent or 91 per cent? Here it is 90 per cent. It is written at page number 19 of this report.

Let me also say that in every State, MLAs are having their own Local Area Development Fund. In the case of Karnataka, it is Rs. 1 crore; in the case of Madhya Pradesh, it is Rs.80 lakh; in the case of Rajasthan it is Rs.80 lakh; in Manipur, they can recommend up to Rs.30 lakh; one MP is having 28 MLAs in his constituency. In Nagaland, it is Rs.78 lakh; there are 60 MLAs in one MP constituency here. In Kerala, it is Rs.75 lakh.

\*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: What is your point? You want to increase it to Rs.5 crore; it is all right.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : In the case of Uttar Pradesh, it is Rs. 1.25 lakh. In the case of cost, it is stated that seven km. road construction was made at the rate of Rs.5 lakh per km; 250 hand-pumps were put up at the rate of Rs. 20,000 per hand-pump.

MR. SPEAKER: You want more money; it is okay.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : In the case of Delhi, it is Rs. 2 crore per MLA.

In 1998, this amount was enhanced from Rs. 1 crore to Rs. 2 crore. The purchase parity of money which was Rs. 2 crore has come down.

MR. SPEAKER: It is not a debate. You may just raise it. It is enough. You cannot go on indefinitely.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : There is no question of 'going on indefinitely'. ...(Interruptions) If I am not allowed to raise this matter here, where should I raise it? ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You will be allowed and you are being allowed, but there cannot be a speech on this. You may just refer to the matter, that is all. You cannot go on like this.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat, Shri Athawale.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : In 1998, for the construction of a classroom in a school, I was recommending the work for Rs.1.1 lakh. But now, for the same classroom, I have to recommend for Rs.2 lakh. So, the purchase parity has come down by more than 40 per cent.

The MLAs, Zila Parishad Members, Sarpanchs, Panchayat Samiti Members are all having funds under LADS.

MR. SPEAKER: Please cooperate. Many, hon. Members are waiting for their turns.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Sir, this scheme is being monitored at five different levels.

The Member of Parliament monitors it himself. The District Administrator monitors it. The State Government and the Central Government also monitor it and ultimately it is the people who see to it. So, I would appeal to the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, who is present here, to please respond to it. My appeal to the Minister is to either increase the amount to Rs. 5 crore or scrap it altogether so that we can go to the people and say that our job is only *bhashanbaji* and we cannot do anything. ...(Interruptions) So, I request you to either stop it or to increase the amount. Thank you. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No, nothing of the sort is allowed. Shri E. Ponnuswamy, Shri A. Krishnaswamy, Shri Manjunath Kunnur, Shrimati Kiran Maheshwari, Shri Virendra Kumar, Shrimati Karuna Shukla, Shrimati Sangeeta Kumari Singh Deo and Shri P.S. Gadhavi are allowed to associate in this matter.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing, except whatever Shri Kharventhan says will go on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER: Not a single word, except whatever Shri Kharventhan says, will go on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER: People are looking at us. People all over the country are looking at us. We are fighting for more money for ourselves.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I thought that people will say 'No work No pay'.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Only Shri Kharventhan's submission will go on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN (PALANI): In the Erode District, Sathyamangalam Taluk, Kuntri, Kuthiyalathoor and

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\*Not recorded.

Bargur Panchayats, there is a caste namely 'Malayali'. Their population is nearly 7000. They are residing in hilly area. Their profession is collecting vegetables and other products grown in the mountains and selling them in nearby towns. They are living nearly 30 kms. away from the town. They are treated as untouchables. They are not considered as SC, ST or BC. They are not able to send their children to schools since they are not able to get community certificates. They are all Scheduled Tribes. Already, a proposal had been sent by the Government of Tamil Nadu and the same is pending with the Government of India, to include this 'Malayali' caste as 'Erode district Malayali' caste under Article 342 (2) as a Scheduled Tribe. I urge upon the Government to include Erode District Malayali caste as Scheduled Caste and help these poor down-trodden people. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I will adjourn the House and go away. We already had to adjourn the House for 19 hours last week. Yesterday also almost nothing happened.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Go and take your seat. Nobody is allowed to speak without my permission.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN : Washerman, 'Dhobi' community is in the list of Scheduled Caste in Assam, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Utaranchal, Mizoram and Delhi. In other States it is considered as a Backward Community. The people of this 'Dhobi' community are very poor. They are dying for whitening our clothes. In villages and towns they are living in huts and outskirts.

They are called by different names in different States as 'Vannar', Agasa, Madivala, Ekali, Rajakula, Veluthadar, Rajaka, and Dhobi but throughout the country they are treated as 'Antyajas' or 'Outcasters'. Maybe under any name, throughout the country 'Dhobi', the washermen, must be included as Scheduled Caste under Article 341(2). ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Will you take your seats?

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Let him say something at least...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot compel the Minister to respond. There is no such rule. You are very well aware of it.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): Sir, don't you agree with our sentiments ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You may please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Athawale, please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Will you take your seat? I have not called you. Shri Topdar, please take your seat. What is this going on in this House? Will you take your seats?

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is being recorded. Why are you shouting?

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I am so sorry. I will have to take action. I will take action. Please sit down. You are deliberately defying the Chair.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is being recorded.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, MPLAD should be abolished. Sir, it should be abolished ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: You are persistently disturbing. I have forgotten your name.

...(*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Ram Kripal ji, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): Sir, it is in your hands.

MR. SPEAKER: It is not in my hands. It is in nobody's hands.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Not even one word would be recorded except Mr. Nambadan.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER: We are behaving in this manner. People will take their own assessments. The only think is that let us think about what we are doing.

[Translation]

\*\*Shri LONAPPAN NAMBADAN (Mukundapuram) : There are thousands of schools and colleges functioning in our country that do not have the recognition of the Central or State Governments. The future of lakhs of students who are studying in such "Educational Trade Centres" are in real danger. Poor students who study in such institutions by availing bank loans, paying heavy capitation fee by mortgaging their house, end up receiving fake certificates.

More than half of the nursing schools and colleges in Karnataka do not have recognition. From Kerala alone one and a quarter lakh students are studying in various nursing institutions in Karnataka. Many poor students and their family are in the vain hope that when the course is over they would get lucrative jobs aboard. They are now being pushed to the verge of suicide by the malpractice of such unrecognized institutions. Though the Karnataka High Court has passed strict stricture against the unrecognized nursing institutes, many are still functioning.

\*Not recorded.

\*\*English Translation of the speech originally delivered in Malayalam

Therefore, the Central Government should take immediate steps so that where by all such unrecognized nursing institutions and other unrecognized schools and colleges are closed immediately. Those institutions that do not provide basic facilities for education should be de-recognized Government should frame strict and comprehensive laws to check such private educational institutions which are virtually slaughter houses for our students.

Right to education should not remain the responsibility of the State alone. I request that the Centre should ensure that universal education is provided all over the country....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: How it happened, I am also seeing it ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot dictate to me.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not do that. I do not need your advice on this. When I need, I will ask you.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South): Sir, it is an important matter.

MR. SPEAKER: Important matters will be allowed.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I do not know why these cross talks are taking place. Please do not interrupt another hon. Member.

12.28 hrs.

(II) **Re : Reported sacking of a large number of employees and Sales Managers by M/s Bata in violation of Labour laws**

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Panskura): Sir, with your kind permission, I raise an urgent matter of public importance, i.e., the way in which the workers of the country are being distressed, exploited and terminated by foreign multinational companies.

MR. SPEAKER: If this relates to a State matter, I will not allow this.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : Sir, the point is in Bata International, 700 workers have been retrenched without charge sheet. ...(*Interruptions*).

[*Translation*]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Janjharpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is on issue of national importance ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I do not know. Please come and sit here. You organize the House.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : When the management was approached, they said that you go to the court. What does it mean? Going to the court means a costly affair. Seven hundred workers have been thrown out of jobs in different parts of the country.

MR. SPEAKER: What can the Central Government do? Tell me that.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : Sir, the policy of liberalization is being misunderstood by the foreign employers that they can do whatever they like in India.

Sir, I would appeal to the Government to bring these multinational companies to sense and restore the job of 700 workers of the country. I wish the entire House joins me on this issue. There is no chargesheet at all. The hon. Minister is present here and I would like him to respond on this issue.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, I associate with him.

[*Translation*]

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV (Sambhal): Mr. Speaker Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by Shri Dasgupta.

[*English*]

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : Sir, the hon. Minister is responding.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): Sir, the matter pertains to the State Government, but whatever we can do to help, we can do that.

[*English*]

SHRI ANWAR HUSSAIN (Dhubri): Sir, I rise to raise a matter of urgent public importance. As you would know in 1985 a historical accord was signed by the Central Government known as the Assam Accord. Many provisions were contained in that Accord. Since then 22 years have elapsed, but many of the provisions have not been implemented. For example, the matter of updating the NRC of 1951. After 20 years, in 2005, Dr. Manmohan Singh had held a tripartite talk and there he declared, on behalf of the Government, that the NRC of 1951 would be updated within the next two years. But that also has not been done so far. As you would know due to lack of job opportunities people from Assam go to various places to earn their livelihood. They look for jobs in places like Haryana, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh and such other places. There are as many as 50,000 such migrants from the State of Assam. In Delhi, very often the police beat them up and ask for their nationality certificate. But when they fail to produce the required certificate, they are physically beaten up, and harassed financially also.

So, I would like to strongly urge upon the Government to update the NRC of 1951 and provide the people of Assam with voters' identity card. Secondly, the police authorities should be instructed to stop harassing these people physically and exploiting them financially and thirdly, till the completion of the updating of NRC of 1951, the Government should take steps to issue PRC and provisional identity card and protect the interest of the *bonafide* Indian citizens.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South): Sir, when will my turn come? ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: The turn comes next. Hon. Member, I will call your name next. This matter also is very important.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: If you make that allegation you will have to face the consequences. You please do not do that.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA (Siwan): Mr. Speaker, Sir, if a woman member wants to speak in the House, she should be given an opportunity.

MR. SPEAKER: Have I denied it?

*[English]*

Is this the way to make allegations? Would she have priority everyday she comes? Is that the rule that every moment a Member comes will have priority at any cost? You are teaching me.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Would you please sit down? There should be some discipline in the House.

12.32 hrs.

**(III) Re: Need to enact a Central Legislation for the welfare of workers engaged in unorganized sector in the country**

*[Translation]*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards an urgent issue of national importance. The budget session of Parliament is on its last legs. 37 crore workers are engaged in the unorganized sector in the country and they constitute 93 percent of the entire workforce. That worker may be a rickshaw-puller, cart-puller, beedi worker, construction labourer or an agricultural labourer. The hon'ble Minister of Labour had given an assurance on several occasions in regard to enacting a legislation for the welfare of workers engaged in the unorganized sector. Many a time demonstrations had also been staged in this regard. The hon'ble Minister of Labour had given an assurance at the time of discussion on demands of Ministry of Labour in the House. The hon'ble Minister had made a commitment while replying in the House that a bill for enacting central legislation for welfare and social security of workers engaged in the unorganized sector would be brought in this very budget session. This is the last week of the session. It has been clearly stated in the Common Minimum Programme of UPA.

*[English]*

"The UPA Government is firmly committed to ensure the welfare and well-being of all workers particularly those in the unorganized sector who constitute 93 per cent of our workforce. Social security, health insurance and other schemes for such workers like weavers, handloom workers, fishermen and fisherwomen, toddy tappers, leather workers, plantation labour, beedi workers, etc. will be expanded." ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

I would like to say that the Union Government are not fulfilling the assurance given by it in this august House, what are the reasons? Several Labour Commissions have been constituted and ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It's over, please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: This is too much. I cannot tolerate this. You can send your names. You can send your slips. I would not allow you. Nobody else can join him.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: I would like to know from the Government as to by when the government will bring this bill ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

Shri Sunil Khan is allowed to associate in this matter.

MR. SPEAKER: Devendraji, it is over.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You have not given notices. Please sit down. I have had enough of it.

...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): Sir, I would like to convey to the House through you one point. It is a fact that the leader of the UPA, Shrimati Sonia Gandhi, made it very clear, while she was in the Opposition and even after assuming office, that our priority is to frame a legislation for the well being of the workers unorganized sector. Sir, after that, stakeholders have been discussed and our distinguished Labour Minister did a great work and completed the whole task consulting the Group of Ministers. The next Cabinet meeting is scheduled day after tomorrow. We would get the clearance and concurrence of the Cabinet and will bring it in this Session. I can only tell you that our commitment is not a commitment just for the sake of public announcement.

It is a commitment from our hearts and we shall see to it that it is executed and implemented through Parliament.  
...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Kumari Mamata Banerjee, your notice relates to only Land Acquisition Act. Please do not raise anything else.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South): Sir, please allow me to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: I am only reminding you of your notice.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sometimes be sympathetic to the farmers if not me.

MR. SPEAKER: Your notice is for scrapping Land Acquisition Act.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : It is all right. Firstly, I want to say that we do not want to take advantage being women as we consider ourselves as human beings.

MR. SPEAKER: I hope the lady hon. Member has understood it.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : She has understood it and everyone here has agreed to it. We do not want to be treated as men or women but as human beings. It is on record.

As the House is to be adjourned any day, I would appeal to this House to bring a new legislation for land acquisition. The Land Acquisition Act, 1894 is a draconian law. It is a black law and colonial law. Because of this law, the State Governments are misusing their land acquisition power not for public purpose but for individual purpose resulting in great difficulties to the farmers. It may be in Andhra Pradesh; it may be in West Bengal; it may be in Punjab; it may be in Haryana; it may be in Gujarat or Rajasthan. The farmers are crying due to land grabbing by the State Governments. First of all, I want you to scrap this Land Acquisition Act and bring a new amendment so that the State Governments cannot misuse this law for individual or private purposes. In the name of SEZ, for promoting the real estate business in the

fertile agricultural land, farmers are being killed. It has resulted in starvation deaths. I am sorry to say this.

I can show you the example. Farmers have given affidavits to the courts that they have not given their lands. But the Government, through Section 144 and through police,\*

I want to give you two or three suggestions. Scrap this Land Acquisition Act immediately; cancel SEZ policy and set up a new policy, which involves farmers also. We are not against setting up of industries. But you have to see that you cannot set up industries or individual houses by grabbing agricultural land.

One cannot grow at the cost of another. Industries should grow in their own way; and agriculture should grow in its own way.

I am giving the example. These are the affidavits given by the farmers of Singur that they have not given their lands. \*... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Bring that to me.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: No matter of any State will be mentioned. Kumari Mamata Banerjee, you are doing very well, if I may say so. With all appreciation, I would say that you have put up a very good case.

...(*Interruptions*)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : I am mentioning about the land acquisition and the problems of the farmers.

Secondly, I can show you the letters written by various parties. This is the letter written by West Bengal Pradesh Congress (I) Committee; this is the letter written by Communist workers; this is the letter from Janata Dal (S); this is the letter from Samajwadi Party.  
...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot show them like that. It is not permitted under the rules. You know it very well.

...(*Interruptions*)

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\*Not recorded.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : I am just mentioning that all the political parties are against it, including the Congress, the Bharatiya Janata Party; the Samajwadi Party; the Janata Dal (S); and the Janata Dal (U). They had stated that social tension has arisen in ...\* and other parts of the country also. You please do something. I would request the Central Government not to keep mum. I would request Madam Sonia ji and Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh to visit the place. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The name of the place cannot be mentioned here.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not do this.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It is a State matter. I will not allow this.

...*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : So many women are being tortured; children are being killed. The farmers, the minorities, the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes are being killed. ...*(Interruptions)* Nobody is intervening. ...*(Interruptions)* No action is being taken. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please take your seat. She is doing very well.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member has spoken very well. Kumari Mamata Banerjee, you have raised your matter very ably. I have not interrupted you when you were mentioning those things.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Topdar, will you please sit down?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is being recorded except the statement of Kumari Mamata Banerjee. Only her statement will be recorded.

...*(Interruptions)\**

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, I said that matters belonging to minorities do not belong just to the State Governments. The matters of women and children belong to the Central Government also. The matters relating to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes fall within the purview of the Central Government. So, I would request the Central Government not to keep mum.\*  
...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Bring it to me. I will see that.

...*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : \* ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not refer to any State.

...*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : I am not mentioning any State's name. I am mentioning the name of minorities; the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes; the women and the children....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: State matters cannot be brought here.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra, you used to oppose it everyday. Now, you are encouraging her to do it. This is not the way to do it.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This is not fair.

...*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : I am raising the matter to which I am entitled to, which comes within the purview of the Central Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should be recorded.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

Shri Hansraj Ahir.

...*(Interruptions)*

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\*Not recorded.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Women are being tortured. (*Interruptions*) So many people are being killed. ...(*Interruptions*) I would request the Central Government to intervene in the matter and to return the land to the minorities; to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes; to the women and children. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded.

...(*Interruptions*)\*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is being recorded.

...(*Interruptions*)\*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is going on record. I have called Shrimati Archana Nayak.

...(*Interruptions*)\*

MR. SPEAKER: Please cooperate. I am requesting all of you to please cooperate. Kumari Mamata Banerjee, I allowed you to raise the matter.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have called Shrimati Archana Nayak. She wants to raise a very important matter.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Adhir Chowdhury, I have not called you. Nothing will be recorded.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have called the hon. Member, Shrimati Archana Nayak.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Kumari Mamata Banerjee, you have raised your matter. It is for the Government to consider.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR (Bangalore South): They cannot selectively respond. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I will adjourn the House if you do not want the proceedings to continue.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : The Government should respond in this matter. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned till 2.00 pm.

12.47 hrs.

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

14.04 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at four minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

(MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

[*English*]

#### MATTERS UNDER RULE 377\*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Matters under Rule 377 may be treated as laid on the Table of the House and that will form part of the proceedings.

(I) **Need to undertake measures for release of raw water from Yamuna Western Canal, Haryana to Delhi**

[*Translation*]

SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR (Outer Delhi): Sir, the drinking water is being supplied to rural and urban areas of outer Delhi from the two functional water treatment plants, located at Nangloi and Bawana of the Government of Delhi. The treatment capacity of each of the plants is 40 MZD, but due to shortage of raw water, these treatment plants are producing water half of their capacity, thereby causing a scarcity of water in these areas and people are facing difficulties. The Delhi Jal Board is supplying water through tankers, which is a temporary arrangements'. To find a permanent solution to the problem The ongoing repair work of Yamuna Western Canal for sharing of additional raw water as per the agreement between Haryana Government and Delhi Government has now been completed and the

\*Not recorded.

\*Treated as laid on the Table.

[Shri Sajjan Kumar]

Government of Delhi has born all the expenses. Central Water Commission had to conduct survey for release of raw water in April, 2007.

Therefore, I would like to urge the Union Government to undertake necessary measures for release of raw Water from the Yamuna Western Canal for a permanent solution to the water problem.

**(II) Need to accord the status of an industry to hotels promote tourism in the country.**

SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI (Udaipur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the State Government of Rajasthan had declared tourism as an industry by notification issued on 4 March, 1999. After that another notification was issued on 7th November, 2002 removing certain existing anomalies and clarifying that tourism has been declared as an industry

After having correspondence with various departments connected with the State Government, the Department of Power said that status of industry can be accorded to the sector in which power consumption is high and some kind of production is made. But hotels do not meet both the criteria. Besides that tariff comes under the jurisdiction of RIRC. Then, I have come to know that the Government of India has denied to accord status of industry to tourism units functioning under the office of Small Scale Industries Development Assistance.

Through you, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the fact that when Water Supply Department is charging industrial rates from hotels; considering them an industry and Power Department is also charging commercial rates from the hotels, considering it as business. Therefore, I would like to request the Government to accord the status of industry to hotels, with a view to promote tourism in the country so that hotels may also get power on concessional rates given to industry.

**(III) Need to rehabilitate the farmers displaced due to land-acquisition by Coal India Ltd. for production of Coal**

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR (Chandrapur): Sir, land is acquired for the construction of coal mine projects in the coal belt of the country. At the time of land acquisition tall promises are made by C.I.L and its ancillary companies that they will give compensation, jobs and the

adequate price of land to the displaced but practical experience is such that these promises were never met by them. As a result thousands of cases of land acquisition in regard to the coal mines are lying pending.

The Ministry of Coal and C.I.L. have initiated the work of formulating a new policy under the resettlement and rehabilitation policy, 2003 for the displaced people but the said formulation of policy is being delayed. Today there is discontentment against land-acquisition in the country. There is a demand in the country to provide market rate plus maximum compensation for the arable land to be acquired for the purpose of acquisition. After taking cognizance of this, Coal Ministry should make changes in their resettlement and rehabilitation policy in accordance with the times. The monetary compensation being given to the displaced should be doubled. After holding discussions with the farmers, the price of their land should be fixed as per the market rate. Similarly, please make provisions for the immediate redressal of all the pending matters related to providing of employment to the displaced in the project. Not only this, the CIL should resolve all the cases of women employment thus putting an end to the neglect shown towards the women in matters of recruitment. In the case of acquisition of arable land, there is a need to immediately declare the new policy after making necessary provisions for giving employment and more compensation to the farm labourers and women labourers.

Sir, through you, I would like to request the hon. Minister of Coal to take proper action on priority basis in this regard.

**(IV) Need to ensure availability of life-saving drugs in Government Hospitals in the country**

SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA (Salumber): Sir, Ministry of Health, Government of India and the Directorate of Health Services of various State Governments had issued a list of 359 medicines in the year 2001 to make them available in all the Government hospitals for free treatment of people living below the poverty line afflicted with the diseases like cancer, diabetes high blood pressure, typhoid, T.B., blood clotting, Parkinson's disease and epilepsy. However, from the various enquiries, auditing and perusals of Government records this fact has come into light that many medicines were not available in stores even after five years.

Not only this, such medicines never reached the remote, hilly, tribal and desert areas of the country.

As per the CAG report, the same condition prevails in the Government hospitals of the national capital region Delhi wherein many life saving drugs remained non-available for five years. From this we can surmise the plight of health services in the country. We know that the specialist doctors are not available in the hospitals located in rural areas and general physicians also do not like to be stationed in headquarters. In such conditions the absence of medicines is the main cause for untimely deaths of the people.

By inviting the attention of the hon'ble Minister for Health and the Prime Minister towards this matter of urgent public importance, I request that life savings drugs be made available in all the Government hospitals and ensure that all the senior doctors are available round the clock in the hospitals.

**(v) Need to expedite the completion of work on National Highway No. 92 linking Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh**

DR. RAM LAKHAN SINGH (Bhind): Sir, in the year 1998 Government of India had announced a National Highway No. 92 passing from Gwalior and Bhind in Madhya Pradesh to Bhogaon via Etahwa in Uttar Pradesh. The said highway is the road connecting Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh industrially and commercially. At this route there are three bridges on Chambal, Yamuna and Quavri rivers. The major part of the highway is in a damaged condition. The condition of the bridges is also not sound. Many a time the bridge on the Chambal River has been damaged blocking traffic for many months together. Jams are a regular feature there. There is outrage among the people regarding the condition of the said route.

By inviting the attention of the Government I would like to convey the feelings of the people to expedite the work on the said National Highway.

*[English]*

**(vi) Need to constitute Himalayan Development Authority to safeguard the ecology of the Himalayas**

SHRI KIREN RIJIJU (Arunachal West): Arunachal Pradesh is one of the most resourceful State in the

country. It has also been declared as one of the hottest Bio-diversity spot in the world due to its varied and diversified climatic vegetation. Due to the effect of the global warming, the glaciers of upper reach of high mountain ranges are reportedly receding and causing more floods in summer and lesser volume of water in the winters. This is likely to have impact on the sensitive and delicate balance of climate conditions in Arunachal Pradesh and adversely affect the human beings.

The Government of India is not giving due attention and importance for the environmental conservation needs for a sustainable development. I urge upon the Minister for Environment and Forests to immediately constitute Himalayan Development Authority to cater and formulate plans for the developmental activities in the Himalayan region and to safeguard the natural climatic pattern of the Himalayas. I also urge upon the Government to constitute a Committee to conduct the survey of climatic changes due to the global warming in Arunachal Pradesh and grant special financial package to the State of Arunachal Pradesh for forest conservation to maintain the ecology.

**(vii) Need to streamline the functioning of Bengal Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals Co. Ltd.**

SHRI SUNIL KHAN (Durgapur): First of all I thank the UPA Government for revival of 100 years old Bengal Chemicals & Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd. To revive & restore BCPL, new brands are required to be introduced in all its three divisions. Proper utilization of assets are required like renting out the vacant land for open transport zone. Multiplex residential accommodation for fixed income and new working capital. Focus on business, where return is within three months. It should be ensured that all the factories should run in three shifts after then the loan licensing business should start. Production should be linked with market demand & product selection should be on the basis of its demand. Major old machines should be replaced to increase the productivity. System should have more than two tier basis to minimize the time to take decision. It is reported that the marketing department has already been shifted from Kolkata to Delhi depot and the norms and formal procedure are being violated even without taking proper approval. The discounts are being allowed to the distributor without the approval of Government of India. Two demand drafts were already sent amounting to Rs. 117.19 crore for B.C.P.L's revival. I demand immediate C.B.I. enquiry regarding misutilisation

[Shri Sunil Khan]

of funds, transfer of Marketing Division from Kolkata to Delhi and others irregularities.

- (viii) **Need to provide tele-medicine facilities to the people of Tharu Tribes living in Kheri Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh**

[Translation]

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA (Kheri): Sir, the people belonging to the Tharu tribes live predominantly in my parliamentary constituency. They are not getting good medical treatment facilities. These people reside along the India-Nepal border. I urge the Government of India to provide tele-medicine facilities based on telecommunication in the said area.

- (ix) **Need to start work on the Muzzafarpur-Sitamarhi-Sonvarsa stretch of National Highway No. 77 during the current year 2007**

SHRI SITARAM YADAV (Sitamarhi): Sir, the four laning of N.H. 77, from Hazipur to Sonvarsa via Muzzafarpur-Sitamarhi has been approved. The stretch from Hazipur to Muzzafarpur and from Muzzafarpur to Sonvarsa via Sitamarhi has been approved in phase-2 and phase-3A respectively.

Therefore, through you, I would like to urge the hon'ble Minister to accord approval to Muzzafarpur-Sitamarhi-Sonvarsa phase-3A in the current year and start work on it and the remaining stretch Bhuthhi-Sonvarsa which is in a dilapidated condition, be repaired immediately by providing funds.

[English]

- (x) **Need for early sanctioning of the projects under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana in Orissa**

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack): Orissa look at Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana scheme as an opportunity for extension of the rural distribution network as well as household connectivity. Though a quadripartite agreement has already been signed on 5 October, 2005 between CPSUs, State Power Utilities, REC and Government of Orissa and detailed project reports in respect of 26 districts been submitted for approval and sanction of financial assistance, the Union Government has not sanctioned the projects as yet. As such, there is no progress of rural electrification since last three years.

There are 18189 villages and 38710 habitations to be electrified with a total requirement of Rs. 4000 crores, or more according to the figures generated by the survey for the DPR. Lately, it is notified that all habitations with population below 300 would not be considered. This will go against the interest of Scheduled Tribe people of Orissa as their villages have a population which is invariably less than 300. I urge upon the Government to consider specially this aspect relating to Tribal villages.

Further, all unelectrified households be considered for electrification under this scheme. As Public Sector Undertakings have taken lot of time in preparing DPRs there is no reason why the Ministry should hold it for such a long time. I urge upon the Government to sanction and release funds at the earliest for speedy electrification of rural households in Orissa.

14.05 hrs.

STATE BANK OF INDIA  
(SUBSIDIARY BANKS LAWS)  
AMENDMENT BILL, 2006

14.05 hours

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House shall now take up Item No. 21.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): Sir, on behalf of my colleague, Shri P. Chidambaram, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the State Bank of Saurashtra Act, 1950 and the State Bank of Hyderabad Act, 1956 and the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, 1959, be taken into consideration."

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Sir, with the introduction of new capital adequacy framework under Basel II, all the banks including subsidiary banks of the State Bank of India may be required to increase their capital base to meet minimum requirements. They will improve the international credibility since banks in many countries were also in the process of adopting these standards.

To enable the subsidiary banks to raise resources in the market, to meet minimum capital requirement under Basel II and expand business, to comply with guidelines of SEBI and Depositories Act, to remove restrictive provisions of the Act, to facilitate more public participation in the shareholding and to make other necessary changes such as fit and proper criteria for elected directors, adoption of balance-sheet in the AGM, increasing the number of elected directors, etc. the State Bank of India Subsidiary Banks Laws (Amendment) Bill 2006 was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 22nd of May 2006.

The Bill was referred to the Standing Committee on Finance of the Lok Sabha. The Committee has since presented its report. The Committee, I am happy to report, is in broad agreement with the objectives of amendment proposals which aimed at meeting the requirements of the present day complexities as well as expanding activities of the banking system. The Committee made certain recommendations for modifications in the Bill. The Government has accepted five recommendations made by the Committee and I introduce official amendments for that purpose.

With these words, I commend that the State Bank of India Subsidiary Banks Laws (Amendment) Bill 2006, along with the official amendments proposed, based on the recommendations of the Standing Committee, be taken into consideration by this august House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the State Bank of Saurashtra Act, 1950 and the State Bank of Hyderabad Act, 1956 and the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, 1959, be taken into consideration."

SHRI AMITAVA NANDY (Dumdum): Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, I rise to oppose the objects and reasons as clarified in the State Bank of India Subsidiary Banks Laws (Amendment) Bill 2006.

Sir, it has been referred that the Standing Committee have discussed the Bill and the opinion of the Standing Committee has been considered too. But I want to mention that in the meeting of the Standing Committee, certain proposals were put forward along with one note of dissent. While, various proposals of the Standing Committee have been considered, there is no mention regarding the point for which the note of dissent was

being expressed in the meeting of the Standing Committee.

Though the hon. Minister of Finance gave us a long list of objects and reasons for bringing this Bill, comprehensively this reason for bringing this Bill is limited only to, as I want to mention, firstly, to remove the difficulties as faced by the shareholders.

Its second object is the increase of the capital of the subsidiary banks. These are the two objects - the main purpose - as I felt of bringing these amendments in this Bill. But the provision of the Amendment Bill seeks to make a far-reaching effect; that has not been looked into. For instance, presently, there is no cap on the State Bank of India's holding in subsidiary banks. It may vary from a minimum of 55 per cent to 100 per cent. But, it has been proposed to restrict the shareholding of State Bank of India in subsidiary banks to 51 per cent. It means the shareholders will get the opportunity of making the policy of the subsidiary banks and thereby they will influence over the shareholders meetings in relation to any proposal of the subsidiary banks.

Further, I would like to mention that it has been proposed to raise the cap on voting rights of the shareholders excepting the State Bank of India from 1 per cent to 10 per cent. It will also bring the same opportunity to the shareholders and raise the percentage of voters, thereby they will influence over the decision in making the policy of the subsidiary bank. If these amendments are accepted, the banks will obviously be controlled by the shareholders. That will come obviously.

This cannot be accepted. Therefore, I am of the firm opinion that there should not be any cap on the State Bank of India's holding in subsidiary banks.

It has been stated that shareholders of the subsidiary banks other than the State Bank of India are facing problems for lack of dematerialization facilities and transferability. But this can be removed without any amendment of the Act. The extant shares other than of the State Bank of India could be held, transferred in a dematerialized form within the framework of the Securities and Exchange Board. Citing these difficulties, it has been proposed to remove the cap on shareholding by any person up to the extent of 200 in terms of number of shares and one per cent in terms of voting rights. These are not warranted in this amendment.

[Shri Amitava Nandy]

The Ministry of Finance in their reply to the Standing Committee has stated:

"The Government is also proposing examining to have a comprehensive Act which will regulate all the public sector banks in order to have uniformity in approach among these banks."

I think, the Government's thinking in this matter is based on the recommendation of the Committee on Fuller Capital Convertibility which recommended "separate legislative frameworks for goods of public sector banks should be abrogated." However, when this proposal is under consideration, I do not find any reason to bring this amendment in this manner for the subsidiary banks at present.

Sir, through you, I would request the hon. Finance Minister to withdraw the present Bill and prepare a separate Bill to increase the authorized capital of the subsidiary banks to a level of Rs. 100 crore—now it is Rs. 50 crore only—and also to enable the State Bank of India as a holding company to nominate the Chairman of the Board of the Subsidiary Bank from the Board of the State Bank of India, not by the Chairman only.

With these words, I oppose this present Bill in a manner as presented.

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack): Thank you Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir. I stand here to discuss the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks Laws) Amendment Bill, 2006.

At the outset, I would like to mention that there is no need to restart a debate on the pros and cons of bank nationalisation. Myth has it that nationalisation was required to improve credit delivery to agriculture and small scale industry and establish branches in areas that were not served. If one looks further back, there was the spectre of bank failures between 1913 and 1948 when 1100 banks in our country had failed. But since 1935 and nationalized in 1948 we had the Reserve Bank of India and from 1949 we had the Banking Regulation Act.

The Bill, that is before us for consideration, deals with a number of subsidiaries of the State Bank of India—the State Bank of Saurashtra Act of 1950, the State Bank of Hyderabad Act of 1956, and subsequently the State Bank of India Subsidiaries Bank Act of 1959—has been in force for more than four decades. These three Acts contain provisions regarding constitution of the State

Bank of Saurashtra, the State Bank of Hyderabad and other subsidiary banks of the State Bank of India being the State Bank of Patiala, the State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur, the State Bank of Indore, the State Bank of Mysore and the State Bank of Travancore, their capital, management, control and other connected matters.

Here, I would like to mention that in all these subsidiary banks of the State Bank of India there is a requirement as stated by the Government to increase their capital base to meet the minimum requirements.

I would like to stress on; there is a need to enhance the capital base to meet the minimum requirements. That is why this Bill has come; that is why a number of provisions and amendments have been included. The presumption is that there is a requirement to increase, and to achieve the capital adequacy norms under Basel-II, there is a requirement to improve the basic financial health of the banking system and thus improve its international credibility since banks in many countries are also in the process of adopting these standards. I have no quarrel of having Basel-II norms. But at present, the requirement as has been stated for the last four decades is up to 55 per cent, and in this Bill, the attempt is to curtail it-down to 51 per cent.

My predecessor speaker also has mentioned about it. What is the urgency of scaling it down to 51 per cent when there is ample scope that with 55 per cent you are not utilizing the total fund that can be accrued. What is the necessity to scale it down to 51 per cent?

Another point, which the Government intends to and which has been stated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons is that it is in order to remove the difficulties faced by the shareholders of the subsidiary banks and to facilitate increase of the capital of the subsidiary banks, to enable them to raise resources from the market. In the present form, the banks have the capacity to meet the requirement. Mr. Minister, you are presuming something in future and this is a speculation. You are not utilizing the provision, which is available today before you. Yet, this Bill has come. I fail to understand the urgency of bringing this amendment.

At the same time, I would like to mention here that the amendments are made with a view to bring in flexibility for the Board of Directors and improve corporate governance and provide powers to the Boards of the subsidiary banks to frame regulations, and the

amendments that have been proposed would also bring the operations of the subsidiary banks in tune with the changed scenario and the modern business practices. The Bill not only seeks to bring in seven subsidiaries of the State Bank of India on par with other nationalized banks but also provides for adequate autonomy and independence to the Boards of these banks to make regulations with the approval of the RBI. I support this aspect. These subsidiary banks are functioning, should function as independent banks. In that respect, I fully endorse, which has been proposed in this Bill.

Under the present law, SBI's holding in its associate banks cannot fall below 55 per cent. The proposed amendment will allow it to lower the stake to 51 per cent about which I had just mentioned. Here, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House and I would like to hear from you, Mr. Minister. Why do you need to diminish the share from 55 per cent to 51 per cent? The subsidiary banks should have the RBI nominee; this is my suggestion. The Reserve Bank of India should continue having a Director in the Board of Directors, and superseding powers should not be there with the Government.

There are divergent views on this Bill. When the subsidiary banks are doing well, what is the necessity to bring this Amendment Bill? At least, why you want these amendments should be made very clear.

At present, there are four Acts which are prevalent today, that govern the nationalized banks. Is it not time to synchronize the Acts into one Act? There are service conditions that apply to the State Bank of India. Is it not proper to have the same service conditions that are applicable to the State Bank of India, should be applicable to these subsidiary banks?

When 45 per cent of the share is from the public, why proportional representation will not be made in the Board? There is a need, of course, to strengthen the banking system in the country. The Committee on Fuller Capital Account Convertibility had recommended that all commercial banks be subject to a single banking legislation. Do you not believe that all the public sector banks should be incorporated under one law? I need not mention that it should be a company law. But it should be under one law. There is an opinion that as banks are dealing with commodities and savings, there is a need to develop the banking system and strengthen it and it should become a vibrant social machine for change. I

agree that this should not be governed by the Company Act. But at the same time, should not the RBI Director continue? There is an apprehension, as has been expressed inside this House and outside, that by scaling down from 55 per cent to 51 per cent, an attempt is being made that in future there is every possibility to privatize. I would like to get a reply from the Minister, at least that no such attempt should be made.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please conclude now.

SHRI B. MAHTAB: Similarly, by Section 22 of the Bill, a new Section 40A is sought to be inserted. In this Sub-section, this is the expression, "Dividend which remains unpaid." What does this mean? The unclaimed dividends have to be transferred to a special dividend account. Such provisions do not exist in the State Bank of India Act or in the Banking Companies (Transfer and Acquisition) Act. I would like to get a reply on this subject.

The amendments that are before this House, of course, are keeping more in tune with the time. The subsidiary banks can go to the market and fetch more funds. In some sectors, the SBI of Patiala and the SBI of Hyderabad are doing better than the State Bank of India. The entire capital of State Bank of Hyderabad, State Bank of Patiala and State Bank of Saurashtra is held by the State Bank of India. Why do you want to scale down your share to 51 per cent? Why do you not stick to 55 per cent? When other four subsidiaries have enough scope available to raise capital, why do you want to scale it down to 51 per cent? For the interest of stake holders, do the proposed amendments make banks prosper and grow?

The controlling interest will also be with the State Bank of India. I would like to also hear from the hon. Minister how the State Bank of India helps the subsidiary banks.

Lastly, why does the Reserve Bank of India want to have the power of supersession when you have adequate provision to regulate the functioning of the banks? Why is there a need today for raising the capital when there is enough scope available to scale down the SBI's share to 55 per cent and raise the capital? Why is it necessary to scale it down to 51 per cent? Why should there be private placements? Who will take the decision for these placements? Due diligence is the word that is being given. Due diligence is being stated while taking decisions. But there is unpleasant history of aberrations. I would like to know what mechanism is in place to check such things.

[Shri B. Mahtab]

Lastly, I would say that the RBI nominee is in a position to hold an independent view. But will he be responsible for the decision that will be taken by the Board? I would like to understand this from the hon. Minister.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI K.S. RAO (Eluru): Sir, I rise to support the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks Laws) Amendment Bill, 2006. I was always of the opinion that the hon. Minister of Finance can come here very often, keeping in view the changes that are occurring in a very fast manner in the international sector. In fact, this original Bill was made in 1950. That means almost 57 years, or 60 years, have elapsed. Possibly, inherently we are not in a position to make a change in proportion to the international changes. At a time when the globalization has not come into existence here, that was different. Once we have accepted the globalization we have to be on international standards.

The limit of capital of Rs. 20 crore which was there earlier, of course later it was increased to Rs. 1,000 crore, was insufficient in comparison with the international banks. The credibility also will not be as much as the international banks which have got large amounts of equity. On the financial health also, unless the equity is increased along with their asset value and the net worth, the risk is more. If a few cases were to fail, as we have seen many a time, then there would be a discussion on the NPAs in the banks. The NPAs went up to Rupees one lakh crore at one time. The faith in the banks will come down. Naturally, it is a necessity for us to increase the equity base or the capital base. That is what the hon. Minister of Finance is doing now in increasing the base.

Apart from that, having agreed for the private shareholders to own the shares in these banks, I do not understand the reason to restrict their authority of voting in proportion to their shares. If a person were to have, say, five per cent of shares, he must have the authority to exert his right to that extent. We are safe because the share of the State Bank of India in subsidiary banks is more than 50 per cent. That means nothing is going to occur without the consent of the SBI. The interest of the public and the depositors is safe. But at least to have the satisfaction in the minds of the private shareholders, we must give them all the authority to the extent that at least the interest of the depositors is not affected. Those things are provided in this Bill.

I am happy that many of the objects which are mentioned here are very genuine and they are required and they could have been done long time back.

I support the increase of equity to Rs. 500 crore in all the subsidiary banks and increase in limit to 10 per cent of the total equity to be held by an individual instead of the earlier provision of 200 shares. Similarly, I support the raising of capital by preferential shares. Sometimes what happens is that the capital has to be increased in a substantial manner to increase its credibility. That can be done by taking equity in preferential way which does not affect the equity base. So, this provision of permitting the banks to raise capital through preferential shares will also serve the purpose of increasing the capital.

In regard to Board of Directors, there was a ceiling that only three Directors can be there from private shareholders. As long as they are restricting their rights, I do not know if it matters whether they are three or more. Also, we are saying about the quality of Directors that are coming into from the private shareholders. When we are checking the quality of directors, even if we increase the number of Directors to more than three, I do not think that we will lose. Added to that, their wisdom, experience, talent, innovative ideas, acquaintance with the international financial sector and methods of working can also be incorporated in these banks. So, I wish the hon. Minister to think whether we can have more number of Directors and whether it is necessary to restrict their number to three only.

Sir, if I am to repeat, I have to repeat the same thing what is provided in all the clauses, in increasing those things, but in this context, I just want to bring to the notice of the hon. Finance Minister once again that a rich man, a trader, an exporter or an industrialist can afford to pay any amount of interest, be it 12 per cent, 14 per cent or 24 per cent, which was at one time permitted by the present hon. Prime Minister when he was the Finance Minister. So, my humble request to the hon. Finance Minister is that interest rate for farming community must be reduced to four per cent as they cannot afford to pay high interest rate. While I support and I am very happy that he has reduced the interest rate to seven per cent, it must be further reduced to four per cent. Both the Agriculture Minister and the Finance Minister are here. Shri Sharad Pawar is now representing Agriculture Ministry. Agriculturists cannot pay these interest rates. So, he must also bring pressure on the Finance Minister and speak to the hon. Prime Minister to reduce

interest rate to farming community... (*Interruptions*) All of us are with him and we will bring him to a stage where he must reduce the interest rate.

Sir, in Andhra Pradesh, we are giving money to self-help groups at three per cent. Believe me, Sir, that the economy is growing substantially. It is glowing the faces of the women, which is automatically the empowerment of women, which is to be seen and not to be told in this House. That is the case. When the goal of all of us were to grow the economy, change the lot of the poor people and bring empowerment of women, the first thing to be done is to decrease interest rate with respect to all the agriculturists, then small traders and then self-help groups. All these things must be done by the Finance Minister. He must yield and accept this and either in this Session itself or at least by next Session, come with a legislation or an order to reduce the interest rates.

Sir, I support the Bill.

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH (Bhilwara): Sir, I stand to support this State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks Laws) Amendment Bill, 2006. We must get into to find out what is the reason that we have got this Bill. From the days of the nationalised banking, we have come to e-banking. More than that, every village today or at least the larger of the villages in the rural areas of India require a bank, need a bank and ask for a bank. Now, when that is what we have to get to, the State Bank of India itself has lakhs of branches. It has branches not just in India but abroad also. I feel that it is unwieldy to have one bank so many branches and to regulate all that banking is becoming difficulty. If that is one of the big reasons for these new subsidiaries to open new branches in the rural areas, then I support this in many many ways.

The other reason that has been said is the Basel Capital Accord. We want to conform to it. I will not go into the details of it, but we have come from the age of nationalized banking to the age of competition not just in the nationalized banks, but also with the private banks that have come into the country. If you are going to be in competition with the private banks that are offering so much more, then you need to have more autonomy given to these subsidiaries. I think that these small subsidiaries need to be given more autonomy, more powers, more rights to open new branches, so that they can have a network not just in the urban side, but also on the rural side. They have to be in competition with the private

banks. Now, the private banks also want to get into the rural areas. So, they must be there before the private banks come into the rural areas.

I happen to be in Japan a couple of years ago. There was a bank in Japan that was going bust, and that bank was taken over by three bankers from India. Those three bankers had worked in SBI and some other banks, and they really turned it around. What did they do? There is no paper work in that bank. This is a new concept that they have started in Japan, and it has become one of the biggest banks in Japan today. It is totally computerized. E-banking is there, and even the cheque-books are not required as they have gone obsolete there. This is the new system that we have to adopt. Therefore, we need to give more autonomy in the age of competition to these small subsidiaries.

What are we fighting about reducing from 55 per cent to 51 per cent? How does it make a difference? The SBI will still have control with 51 per cent. How does it make a difference whether it is 60 per cent, 55 per cent, etc? The minimum of 51 per cent is what they must hold, and that they are holding.

I fully endorse the way this has been drafted. But what are the regulations of the RBI on all these matters? I am asking this because we have seen the other side of the story also. The Cooperative Banks Bill has come. How do we compare the regulations with those banks? I am asking this because the Cooperative Banks in the rural areas are going to be in competition with them. How are we going to compare it with them? This issue is also to be seen.

I feel that a very valid point has been raised about the nominee of the CMDs and the officials getting into these subsidiary banks. Are they happy going into these banks or do they feel that these subsidiaries do not give the same facilities as the original parent SBI bank? All those things have also to be sorted out.

I feel that this issue must also be looked into by the Finance Minister. The big banking system of the SBI is going to a comparatively small bank. Are they happy when they go into it? Are they looked after or do they want to get out and get into the private banking system?

If they are sent there and if they are unhappy, they will go out and join the private bank. We will suffer a loss. These are the points we must look into. Otherwise, I support this Bill.

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY (Nalgonda): Thank you, Sir. This Bill is regarding the State Bank of India and its subsidiaries. I think, these amendments are uncalled for. I am sorry to say that we cannot support these amendments. From time to time, there will be a necessity for some amendments in the banks, banking regulations, etc. But I believe that these amendments this time are being brought to dilute the State Bank of India and its subsidiary banks—State Bank of Hyderabad and others. In fact, some of these subsidiary banks are doing better than many nationalized and private banks. For example, the State Bank of Hyderabad, with a capital of Rs. 17 crore, has got deposits of Rs. 34,474 crore. It has 959 branches and it got a profit of Rs. 427 crore. We are asking as to what is the necessity to dilute these banks with 49 per cent of the share to be issued to private people in the name of public issue. This is a very dangerous step because the total number of shares with the SBI would be only 51 per cent. The difference would be only two per cent—51 per cent and 49 per cent. We do know that again a number of times—whenever the proposals have come for privatization—some 10 per cent of shares were diluted and went into the hands of the private people.

These banks, for quite a long time in our country, are doing excellent service. I would like say that in the recent period because of the effect of globalization, several private banks are being encouraged. On the other side, these private banks do not have any social obligations; they do not have obligations to give credit to the agricultural sector, small sector; to work in the rural areas but they can work mainly in the urban areas. In spite of all the encouragement of the Government of India, the Reserve Bank of India and others, the pampered banks like Global Trust Bank had got totally bankrupt and the Government had to come to rescue it.

The people still have confidence in the public sector banks. Unfortunately, instead of improving the banking regulations and the banking policy, these are going in a bad way. In the name of micro finance, the Reserve Bank of India and many banks are trying to encourage private moneylenders. They are exploiting the people like anything; they are collecting interests at the rate of 24 per cent to 36 per cent. It is there we need amendments; it is there we need the change of the policies. Instead of bringing in such important changes, the shares of State Bank of India and its subsidiaries are getting diluted and they are not given permission to function independently

and democratically. I believe that the amendment that is necessary is to make these banks full-fledged banks so that these banks can function as independent banks.

The State Bank of India can continue to have their share holding and the Reserve Bank should have its control over it. But at the same time in the name of public issue this privatization should not be allowed.

Regarding the appointment of the Chairmen, it is said that the Chairman of the State Bank of India for the time being will be the Chairmen of the subsidiary banks. This 'time being' is continuing for the last 60 years I believe. This type of vague thing is not necessary. They can have independent Chairmen and subsidiary banks officials should also be allowed to become the Chairmen. The Directors should be answerable and accountable. Powers of the RBI to supersede the Boards of the subsidiary banks is too much sweeping power and I think is also not acceptable. I think these amendments should be withdrawn and the new amendments which will help strengthen the public sector should be brought. From the CPI, I would like to say that we cannot support these amendments.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Sir, I am not a banking expert but the Minister is, whom I claim to be, an expert in all these matters. For over 40 years I had money transactions in the State Bank of Travancore. Never in my life have I come across any difficulty in the functioning of the State Bank of Travancore. They were doing it well. On going through the Bill and its aims, advanced by the hon. Finance Minister, I have some doubts. I cannot be a party to it. I shall tell you why.

We speak for democratic decentralization. There is no harm if we merge all these subsidiary banks with SBI but retaining them as subsidiary and bringing them under the clutches of the SBI is not proper. I shall tell you why I say this. I can understand if the authorized capital is Rs. 500 crore. Share denomination of Rs. 100 is also acceptable but the rest of it is becoming a mockery.

There are a number of things. There is a provision, which I find only in the Cooperatives Act, to confer power upon the RBI to supersede the Board of Directors of the subsidiary banks. They can supersede at their whims and fancies. They were functioning all right till now. Why such a power be conferred now for superseding all these Directors elected by the share holders? It is just like the

Cooperative Societies Act. I cannot be a party to that. The share holders are the stake holders and they have invested the money. Why their democratic right be curtailed, giving right to the RBI to supersede the elected Board of Directors?

Another thing is to allow the Chairman of the SBI to nominate an official of the SBI as the Chairman of the Board. Even the Chairman will be appointed by the SBI. Is it not a mockery? Even the Directors are elected by the Chairman. He must be removed. It is better to appoint a special officer to be the Chairman of the Board of Directors. Is it worth doing it? I cannot be party to such a situation. He may have reasons. Retaining their identity, and retaining them as subsidiary banks and bringing them under the clutches of the SBI is not acceptable and cannot be accepted.

It cannot be accepted. Not only that, there are some other provisions also. They can even increase the number of elected Directors representing the shareholders bank. Then what is the meaning of democracy? They are the people who have invested money. They are the stake holders. Why should there be a curtailment in their democratic rights? Annual meeting will be held and an elected body will be there. But even the elected body can be superseded at any time according to the whims and fancies of SBI. It is omitting the provision of nomination of official of the RBI in the Board of Directors. Even if a person who has been elected, he can be removed at any time and a new person who is not in any way connected with the Board of Directors can be instituted. This is unheard of in a democratic State like ours. It is the shareholders who have contributed the money.

Now the subsidiary banks are doing some business in the rural folk. In my State of Kerala, in every village there is a branch of the State Bank of Travancore and the credit is available. All these will be curtailed if these provisions are given effect to. That is the reason why I am opposing this Bill. Either you do away with the Central Bank or you must give them powers and the right to function. That should not be removed. So, on these grounds, I cannot but oppose the Bill.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am deeply grateful to the Members who have participated in this debate. I am especially grateful to the Members who have raised some issues which, as at present advice, think will require them to oppose the Bill. But I am sure

when I clarify, they will accept the fact that this Bill is no different from the Bill that we have already passed in respect of nationalized banks. Many of the provisions that we are bringing for State Bank subsidiaries here have already been approved by this House in respect of nationalized banks, and let me explain them.

Firstly, this Bill is not being passed in a hurry. We introduced it in the Lok Sabha and it went to the Standing Committee. I have here with me the Report of the Standing Committee. The Standing Committees had representatives of all political parties including Mr. Sudhakar Reddy's political party and Mr. Radhakrishnan's political party. The Report of the Standing Committee is near unanimous. There was only one Member who appended a Dissent Note and that is for reason which the hon. Member mentioned and which I will deal with. Otherwise, in all respects the Report is unanimous. In fact, Mr. Mahtab is a Member of the Standing Committee and I assume therefore he is a signatory to the Report of the Standing Committee. But I will answer every doubt that they have.

The first question is, why are these banks subsidiaries of the State Bank of India? That is a legacy issue. The State Bank of India promoted these subsidiaries because over a period of time various banks which were functioning in various regions got consolidated into these banks. That is why, you have State Bank of Travancore. We have State Bank of Patiala and we have State Bank of Mysore. Surely, all these subsidiary banks, if every one agrees, could be merged into the State Bank of India. But I suspect that there will be very serious opposition to that from the respective subsidiary banks which have a regional flavour and a regional character. I think Mr. Radhakrishnan will be the first to stand up and say that the State Bank of Travancore should not be merged with the State Bank of India and my friend from Karnataka will say that the State Bank of Mysore should not be merged with the State Bank of India.

15.00 hrs.

These banks are subsidiary because, this is a legacy issue. However, the State Bank is the virtual owner of these banks. Its shareholding in the subsidiaries cannot go below 51 per cent. Please remember that there is another Bill under which the Government is taking over the RBI shareholding in the State Bank. Eventually, the Government of India will become the majority owner of the State Bank of India and since as a legacy issue, the

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State Bank of India has these subsidiary banks, indirectly, it is the Government of India which will eventually become the owner of these subsidiary banks. In fact, the Government of India purchase of RBI shares in the State Bank of India is expected to go through in the month of either July or August. When that goes through, the Government of India becomes the majority shareholder in the State Bank and the State Bank of India will always remain the majority shareholder in these subsidiary banks. Indirectly, it is the Government of India which will be the majority shareholder in these subsidiary banks. Let me assure the hon. Members, I have made it clear on more than one occasion, we have discarded, we have abandoned the proposal of the previous Government to take the shareholding to below 51 per cent. I have made it very clear in this House on more than one occasion that the UFA Government is committed to maintain the public sector character of the nationalized banks as well as the State Bank group and at no time the shareholding will go below 51 per cent. These will always be public sector banks.

Sir, the second question was, why the Government is reducing 55 per cent to 51 per cent? It is 51 per cent in the nationalized banks. We are bringing it from 55 per cent to 51 per cent simply for two reasons. One, to bring it on par with nationalized banks, whether it is 51 per cent or 55 per cent does not make any difference. 51 per cent is a critical number, whereas 52 or 53 really do not make any difference because you have control. The other reason as to why we are doing it is that we have to raise capital. If we have to raise capital we have to go to the market and when capital is raised shareholding will get diluted. But as I said, it will never get diluted below 51 per cent. By taking it to 51 per cent we are bringing these banks on par with the nationalized banks where the minimum is 51 per cent. Here also the minimum is 51 per cent. It gives us a little headroom to raise capital. The Standing Committee also has pointed out that in the State Bank group alone we will have to infuse Rs. 3161 crore if they have to meet the Basel II norms. That kind of a money the Government cannot infuse into these banks. They have to go to the market to raise capital. When they go to the market to raise capital, 51 per cent minimum gives them a certain amount of headroom to raise capital. Today, in three of the banks, namely, the State Bank of Hyderabad, the State Bank of Patiala and the State Bank of Saurashtra, the holding is 100 per cent. In four of the other banks, the holding is

75 per cent, 98.05 per cent, 92.33 per cent and 75 per cent. Therefore, there is a considerable headroom. Today to bring uniformity we are making this 51 per cent. I do not envisage going anywhere near 51 per cent for several years into the future. There is enough headroom to go to the market to raise this capital. But we are bringing about uniformity.

Another question raised was, why is the Government raising one per cent to 10 per cent? This again is on par with the SBI banks. In the SBI, the cap is at 10 per cent and in the subsidiaries it is one per cent. We are changing this cap in the subsidiary banks. Anyway the State Bank will control 51 per cent; we are raising the cap to 10 per cent. I will tell you why. The existing Section 19 says and I quote:

"No person shall be registered as a shareholder in respect of any share in a subsidiary held by him in excess of 200 shares or shall be entitled to exercise any of the rights of the shareholders in respect of such excess shares otherwise than for the purpose of selling them."

However, the proviso, of course, excepts the State Government Corporation and insurance companies as defined in the Insurance Act, local authorities, the co-operative societies, the trustee of a public or private religious trust or shareholder of existing banks. However, after excepting these entities that there is a cap of one per cent. Today, even if a State Government owns shares it cannot exercise voting rights of more than one per cent. I am sorry, I made a mistake, in the State Bank of India the cap is at 10 per cent and in the subsidiaries of the State Bank the cap is at one per cent. We are bringing this cap on par with the State Bank of India in shareholding and the shareholders can exercise voting rights up to 10 per cent.

Sir, as far as voting right is concerned, it makes no difference because the Government through the State Bank will always hold 51 per cent. Therefore, the majority will always be with the Government. These voting rights only give them the right to elect the Director. We have already made an amendment in nationalized banks. We have said that upto 16 per cent, you can have one Director, from 16 to 32 per cent, you can have two Directors and from 32 to 49 per cent, you can have three Directors. So, these shareholders will have a right to elect a maximum of three Directors. The majority of the Directors will always be Directors nominated by the Government through the State Bank of India.

The next question was asked about private placement. Private placement does not mean placement in private hands. Private placement is a term of art and is simply a method of issuing shares. Just as public issue is a method of issuing shares, private placement is a term of art and a method of issuing shares. Suppose for argument sake, for a variety of reasons, we wish to allocate, say, five per cent of the shares to the State Bank of Travancore, to the State Government of Kerala. I am giving you an example I do not have to go through a public issue. By a private placement—and you see that the section also says that according to the regulations made by the State Bank—I can allocate it to the State of Kerala. Suppose I want to allocate five per cent of shares in the State Bank of Mysore, to the Government of Karnataka, I can do it by private placement. Let me explain that private placement is not placement in private hands. It is a method of allocating shares and all the methods are provided for in the section. Which method is to be adopted will be decided by the Government from time to time.

The next question is about supercession. Please look at the section. Today if a Board of Directors commits grave default, grave acts of negligence and even criminal acts, there is no power to remove that Board. So, all that we have said is, on the recommendation of the SBI, the RBI may supercede the Board for a maximum of six months which, in extraordinary cases, can be extended upto 12 months. But in six months, they will constitute a new Board of Directors after cleaning up the affairs of the Bank. This power is available in cooperative societies. If you look at the State Cooperative Societies Act, the Registrar of Cooperative Societies has the power to supercede the Board and then elect a new Board. This power is a necessary power to take disciplinary action or a penal action against the Board which is violating the law and which is committing acts of negligence or acts of default.

These are the major issues which I think require clarification. There are of course a number of provisions and if hon. Members will look at the notes to the clauses to the Bill, they will find that each of the clauses has been explained as to why we are introducing it. I can very quickly, in about three or four minutes, run through the various provisions and explain why they are being done. For example, I have explained voting rights.

Secondly, we are allowing dematerialization of shares. This is a world wide process. Shares are no longer held

in material form. We are introducing a section to allow for dematerialization of shares. Then we are saying that Chairman of State Bank need not be the Chairman of the subsidiary and he can appoint a full-time Chairman of the subsidiary. That is a progressive step and in fact, people have been pleading for autonomy. The Chairman, State Bank being the Chairman of a subsidiary restricts autonomy. But if you appoint another person....(*Interruptions*).

SHRI AMITAVA NANDY: Will the Chairman himself appoint or the Board of State Bank will appoint him?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: The Chairman of the State Bank will now nominate any official of the State Bank as Chairman of the subsidiary or any executive of the subsidiary can also be nominated as the Chairman of the subsidiary. Earlier, provision is State Bank Chairman himself will be the Chairman of the subsidiary. How much time can he devote to each one of the seven subsidiaries? He has got the State Bank to run. Today we are authorizing him to nominate either a SBI official or a subsidiary's official as a full-time Chairman of the subsidiary.

SHRI AMITAVA NANDY: Why are you not authorizing the Board of the State Bank?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: But the Chairman, State Bank would not nominate somebody without consulting his Board. Obviously, he will consult his Board. But the point is, you cannot have an election within a Board to nominate. State Bank Chairman must be trusted to choose an official to nominate for a subsidiary. Today Gramin Bank is floated by nationalized bank. The Chairman is nominated by the Chairman of the nationalized bank and he nominates the Chairman of the Gramin Bank. But surely he will consult the RBI nominee and the Government's nominee and then will appoint. All this cannot be done without the Government's approval and the Government nominee's approval. Isn't it? So, they will be consulted, but the nomination will be made by the Chairman of the State Bank.

An important Section, Section 25 (a), has been included. It says that the Director shall satisfy the "fit and proper" criteria. This provision is already there in the Nationalised Banks Act. We are introducing it. Anybody cannot be appointed as a Director. He must satisfy the "fit and proper" criteria. If he ceases to be "fit and proper", then he can be removed from the directorship.

[Shri P. Chidambaram]

We have a new Section called, Section 25 (b). It says that in exceptional cases, if RBI wishes to nominate an additional Director, it can nominate a Director in the interest of banking policy and in the interest of depositors.

I have already dealt with supersession.

Then we are saying that "unpaid dividend" will go to Investor Protection Fund. Similar provision is there in the Companies Act. Unpaid dividend will go into the Investor Protection Fund after seven years. That is to bring it in line with the Companies Act. Otherwise, there is a question as to what happens to the unpaid dividend when there is no claim. That now goes into the Investor Protection Fund.

There are procedural sections, like the Balance Sheet shall be signed by the Chairman and the majority of Directors, etc.

Let me assure everyone that there is nothing in the Act which either restricts the autonomy or takes away the public sector character or in any way interferes with the larger policies of the Government of India.

These provisions bring the subsidiaries on par with the other nationalized banks. The intention is to allow greater degree of autonomy to the subsidiaries so that they can function virtually like the nationalized banks.

Some questions were asked about the number of branches that these banks have. They have a large number of branches. In fact, today the seven subsidiaries have, among them, 4,688 branches. The State Bank main has 9,143 branches. It means for every two branches of the State Bank main, there is a subsidiary branch. It is half the size of the State Bank. The seven subsidiaries, together, are one-half of the size of the State Bank.

Therefore, it is important we allow them to have a full-time Chairman; we allow them autonomy; we allow them to function so that they can grow, and open more branches. I am assuring the House that it is my intention to allow these banks to grow to full measure and compete with nationalized banks and become very strong banks.

The larger question whether they should merge among themselves or they should be merged with the State Bank of India, I think, has political, regional and State overtones. We will defer the question for another day. Let these seven subsidiary banks flower into full-

fledged banks with larger powers, with larger autonomy and grow from strength to strength.

With these words, I would request the hon. Members not to press for their amendments but to support the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the State Bank of Saurashtra Act, 1950, and the State Bank of Hyderabad Act, 1956 and the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, 1959, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, the House will take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 to 12 stand part of the Bill"

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 2 to 12 were added to the Bill.*

#### Clause 13

#### Amendment of Section 25

*Amendments made:*

Page 6, for line 12, *substitute—*

"an official of the State Bank or of the subsidiary bank nominated by him as Chairman, with the".

(3)

Page 6, for line 14, *substitute—*

'(b) for clause (b), the following clause shall be *substituted*, namely:—

'(b) one director, possessing necessary expertise and experience in matters relating to regulation or supervision of commercial banks, to be nominated by the Reserve Bank.'; (4)

(Shri P. Chidambaram)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 13, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 13, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 14 was added to the Bill.*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, with your permission, in clause 15, we are accepting the Standing Committee's recommendation. We are keeping the provision that the RBI will nominate a Director. Therefore, clause 15 of the (amendment) Bill, the Government intends to negative it. Therefore, our Treasury Benches will vote against the clause 15.1 request all of you to please vote against clause 15.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 15 stand part of the Bill.

*The motion was negatived.*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 16 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 16 was added to the Bill.*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, clause 17 is just like clause 15—nominee of the RBI. We are accepting the recommendation. We are keeping the nominee of the RBI. Therefore, we are voting against clause 17.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 17 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was negatived.*

#### **Clause 18**

#### **Amendment of Section 34**

*Amendments made:*

Page 8, after line 9, *insert—*

(a) for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

"(1) The Board of Directors of a subsidiary bank shall meet at such time and place and shall observe such rules of procedure in regard to the transaction of business at its meetings as may be prescribed; and the meeting of the Board of Directors may be held by participation of the directors of the Board through video-conferencing or such other electronic means, as may be prescribed, which are capable of recording and recognizing the participation of the directors and the proceedings of such meetings are capable of being recorded and stored:

Provided that the Central Government may in consultation with the Reserve Bank, by a notification in the Official Gazette, specify the powers which shall not be exercised in a meeting of the Board of Directors held through video-conferencing or such other electronic means.;" (5)

Page 8, line 10, for "(a)", substitute "(b):" (6)

Page 8, omit lines 13 and 14. (7)

Page 8, after line 14, insert—

(c) for sub-section (3), the following sub-section shall be substituted namely:

"(3) All questions at the meeting of the Board of Directors of a subsidiary bank shall be decided by a majority of the votes of the directors present in the meeting or through video-conferencing or such other electronic means and in the case of equality of votes the Chairman of Board of Directors of a subsidiary bank or, in his absence, the person presiding at the meeting shall have a second or casting vote.;" (8)

Page 8, line, line 15, for "(c)", substitute "(d)" (9)

Page 8, line 19, for "(d)", substitute "(e)". (10)

(Shri P. Chidambaram)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 18, as amended, stand part of the Bill".

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 18, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*Clauses 19 to 21 were added to the Bill*

#### **Clause 22**

#### **Insertion of new section 40 A**

*Amendments made:*

Page 9, line 24, for "2006", substitute "2007". (11)

Page 9, line 36, for "2006", substitute "2007". (12)

(Shri P. Chidambaram)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 22, as amended, stand part of the Bill".

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 22, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*Clauses 23 to 27 were added to the Bill.*

### **Clause 28**

#### **Amendment of section 63**

*Amendment made:*

Page 1, for lines 20 and 21, *substitute-*

"(a) for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:

"(1) The Board of Directors of a subsidiary bank may, after consultation with the State Bank and with the previous approval of the Reserve Bank, by notification in the Official Gazette, make regulations not inconsistent with this Act and the rules made thereunder, to provide for all matters for which provision is necessary or expedient for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of this Act or any other law for the time being in force."; (13)

(Shri P. Chidambaram)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 28, as amended, stand part of the Bill".

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 28, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

### **Clause 1**

#### **Short title and commencement**

*Amendment made:*

Page 1, line 6, for "2006", *substitute* "2007" (2)

(Shri P. Chidambaram)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

### **Enacting Formula**

*Amendment made:*

Page 1, line 1, for "Fifty-seventh", *substitute* "Fifty-eighth". (1)

(Shri P. Chidambaram)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Enacting Formula, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*The Enacting Formula, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*The long Title was added to the Bill.*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The hon. Minister may now move that the Bill, as amended, be passed.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

15.21 hrs.

## **WAREHOUSING (DEVELOPMENT AND REGULATION) BILL, 2005**

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House will now take up Item No. 22

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): Sir, I beg to move\*:

"that the Bill to make provisions for the development and regulation of warehouses, negotiability of warehouse receipts, establishment of a warehousing development and regulatory authority and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

\*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

Sir, this is a very farmer-friendly legislation. The House might recollect that the Government introduced the Warehousing (Development and Regulation) Bill in the Lok Sabha on 7th December 2005. The Bill was referred to the Standing Committee on Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution on 19th December 2005 for examination and report. The Standing Committee presented its Report on the said Bill to the Hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha on 31st October 2006 and also laid the same before Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on 23rd November 2006.

15.22 hrs.

[SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN *in the Chair*]

The Bill intends to introduce a negotiable warehousing receipt system in the country to make warehousing receipts a fully negotiable instrument. The main objective of the Bill is to ensure higher returns to farmers by encouraging scientific warehousing of goods, lowering the cost of financing, ensuring a shorter supply chain, enhancing rewards for grading and quality and providing for better price risk management. The introduction of a negotiable warehouse receipt would increase liquidity in rural areas and would give a safety net to farmers against distress sale. Though the Minimum Support Price operations take care of a number of crops, the ability of the farmer to keep his surplus goods in scientific warehouse and obtain institutional credit on the basis of such receipts has been hampered due to absence of an appropriate legislation which enables the same.

Sir, I would like to apprise the Hon. Members about the need of introducing the negotiable warehouse receipt in the country. At present, the term 'warehouse receipt' means a receipt in the prescribed form, issued by a warehouseman, to any person depositing goods in the warehouse. So far, the use of warehouse receipt has remained confined to be a collateral security, for grant of loans by the commercial banks against the goods stored in the warehouses. The warehouse receipt has not yet gained its acceptability so as to make it freely transferable from one person to another, as there is no legal back up at present.

The possibility of including the negotiability of warehouse receipt within the ambit of the Negotiable Instruments Act 1881 was explored in consultation with the Ministry of Law. But the latter opined that it may not be advisable to amend the Negotiable Instruments Act

for treating warehousing receipt as a negotiable instrument for the purpose of that Act. It will be better to enact a new legislation in concurrence with the Ministries and Departments concerned.

The warehouse receipt cannot be brought under the purview of the Negotiable Instrument Act, 1881, which deals only with the monetary transactions through the specified instruments viz., promissory notes, bill of exchange, cheques and hundi.

In view of the advice of the Department of Legal Affairs, it was decided to have a separate Central legislation for making the warehouse receipt fully negotiable so as to give full enforceability and transparency for the warehouse receipts.

The need for introduction of negotiability of warehousing receipts has arisen as the warehouse operators, at present, do not enjoy the fiduciary trust of depositors and banks. Even if the banks wish to finance against warehouse receipts, they are either limited to those operators whom they trust or they have to incur high costs in screening out the suitable warehouse operators.

This will be accomplished by setting up policy and legal framework for making the warehouse receipt a fully negotiable instrument. The Warehousing (Development and Regulation) Act is proposed to be enacted.

The Department of Food and Public Distribution has drafted the Warehousing (Development and Regulation) Bill, 2005 in consultation with the concerned Ministries, Departments and other stakeholders.

The proposed legislation *inter alia* seeks:

- (i) to provide for the regulation of such warehouses, which intends to issue negotiable warehouse receipts through a process of registration.
- (ii) To provide for accreditation of warehouses through approved accreditation agencies;
- (iii) to define the liabilities and duties of warehouseman;
- (iv) to define the condition for negotiability of warehouse receipts by delivery and endorsement;

[Shri Sharad Pawar]

- (v) to establish an Authority to be called the Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority to regulate and ensure implementation of the provisions of the proposed legislation and defining the offences and penalty in respect of any offence committed.

The Standing Committee had gone through the Bill in great detail and made a number of suggestions. I am grateful to the Chairman and the Members of the Standing Committee for the detailed analysis and the recommendations on the proposed legislation. The Government has been greatly benefited by these recommendations and has accepted most of the suggestions of the Committee.

I will be moving appropriate amendments based on the Report of the Committee, during the course of passing of the Bill.

The Government feels that the passing of this legislation will bring about a marked improvement in the lives of farmers and the warehousing scenario of this country.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to make provisions for the development and regulation of warehouses, negotiability of warehouse receipts, establishment of a warehousing development and regulatory authority and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO (Kalahandi): Madam, at the outset, I would like to say that during the UPA Government, the agriculture scenario has been so gloomed that the farmers are committing suicide, they are dying of starvation and distress sale, they are migrating and they are subjected to so many natural calamities like floods and droughts.

The hon. Minister has brought this piece of legislation in the form of the Warehousing (Development and Regulation) Bill, 2005. Let us hope that it is a breathe of fresh air for the farmers who are in distressed conditions. I hope, this legislation, if implemented, in true spirit, would help the farmers. The farmers would achieve something.

Basically, small and marginal farmers will benefit a lot. But the most important ambit of this Bill is regarding the accreditation of those agencies which will function as

warehouses. That has to be done before the procurement season begins because if that is not done, again the farmers will be subject to miller agents, middlemen and to various kinds of sharks who exploit the poor people during the purchase and procurement of paddy or wheat. It is because paddy and wheat are the two important grains on which our democracy stands. It regulates the PDS system; it regulates the supply chain of food for the poor; and it regulates the finance for the farmer to improve his economic conditions and fulfil his aspirations for his family and for the country.

So, I think under this legislation the warehousing receipt becomes a negotiable instrument. If the warehouses are accredited, then the farmer can get the Minimum Support Price for rice and wheat. But there is a big question mark here because the Minimum Support Price is only announced for rice and wheat but there are so many other crops like oil seeds, pulses, horticultural crops and various other crops on which the farmer depends. It is not necessary that India has one agricultural zone. India has got so many different types of agricultural zones with different agricultural produce.

So, accordingly, the Government is planning to make the warehouses and make the receipt a negotiable instrument. They should plan the warehouses in such a way that warehouses of different nature come up in accordance with the farmers' requirement to store his produce. Like for example, in Maharashtra we have a lot of mangoes. But due to lack of food preservation facilities in the country, every year there is a loss of about Rs. 35,000 to 40,000 crores worth of food in the country. So, it is not just making buildings for storing grains but the godowns should be made rat-proof because every year nearly 20-25 per cent is lost due to rat in the FCI godowns. The airing system which is adopted today is an ancient type of system that is adopted in the FCI godowns. It should be improved because we have a lot of loss. Eventually that produce has to be thrown to sea or it is wasted.

India is such a country where we cannot afford even to waste one grain of rice or wheat or one fruit or one vegetable because the poverty in our country is still 26 per cent as per the Planning Commission's records go. But if you go to the States, you will see that the people living below the poverty line is much more. It is over 35 to 40 per cent. The revamping of the PDS system is very necessary for it. It is very necessary. Now, it is time for the Government to think about that also because

a lot of areas in the country have come under irrigation. A lot of areas have come under double cropping. Production has gone up. But I am sorry to state that this year the production of rice has fallen; and the production of wheat has fallen. We have to get wheat from Australia. So, if we have this warehousing system, this negotiable instrument, much before, I think the farmers would not be facing this plight. Our contribution to the GDP is only two per cent. We could have achieved the target of four per cent as required by the Planning Commission, which we have not been able to do till yet. So, this is a very good type of legislation which the hon. Minister has brought forward. I hope it will help the farmers in true sense.

Before I conclude, I would just like to mention about my district, Kalahandi, which the hon. Minister is very well aware. We depend upon the Food Corporation of India. In Bolangir district, the production of rice is much lower than that of Kalahandi.

In Kalahandi now, we have three crops. We have got 135 rice mills. So, I request the hon. Minister that during the discussion of the Bill he may kindly create another FCI district for Kalahandi which is very very necessary. Now, it is a surplus district and it is producing more than two lakh tonnes of rice. There was a day when there were starvation deaths there. People were migrating to Raipur and Bhalai and all places. Today it has become a surplus district in the production of paddy. So, I request the hon. Minister, as it is under his Ministry, to open a FCI district for Kalahandi and also a payment office should be opened there.

I wholly support this Bill. There is no question of opposing it. Our farmers in the country will immediately get the money by giving the receipt to the bank. But the banks have to be accredited immediately, especially the Grameen Banks and also the cooperative banks if necessary. The cooperative banks also should be given this accreditation so that they can also make payments against the receipts of the farmers of products which are deposited in the warehouse. So, the farmer gets himself readied for the next coming crop. He is not in dearth of funds. The budget he prepares for his family is partially met.

The cotton growers of Kalahandi should also be developed. We have got two technology missions running in Kalahandi. We have got a spinning mill which is not running. We have a warehouse where a ginning mill is

running. The Kalahandi cotton is supposed to be second best cotton in the world after Egyptian cotton because of its long staple fibre.

The payments to these cotton farmers are not being made properly. Last year, three cotton farmers nearly died. They attempted suicide, but they were saved. There is a big agitation going on there. The Cotton Corporation and the private traders from Andhra Pradesh who bought the cotton have never made the payment and all their cheques bounced. Therefore, this Warehousing Bill will definitely help and to solve that kind of a problem.

With these few words, I thank you very much and I support the Bill.

SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI (Badagara): Madam Chairman, I take this opportunity to raise my objection towards the main contents of the Bill. The hon. Minister has stated that it is really intended to help the farmers. But whether the objective of the legislation can be materialized by the implementation of this Bill is a matter to be discussed.

Madam, I would like to point out that as per the notification of the Government of India 50,000 tonnes is the prescribed stock limit of the warehouses run by the private parties. If a proper monitoring is not there, there are chances of alteration of these warehouses as places of hoarding. These warehouses should not be allowed to become the places of hoarding.

I do support the intention of the Ministry to help the farmers to negotiate a better price for their produces. But, however, we apprehend that there may be unscrupulous elements who could speculate in future trading market. So, there should be specific provision in the Bill to prevent these warehouse receipts being misused. Now the hon. Minister states that facility will be provided to avail bank loans after producing these receipts. But in the case of essential agricultural commodities, it is being used to speculate in future trading markets.

Since the intention of the proposed legislation is to help farmers, it has to be ensured that the value of the receipts in no way can fall lower than the Government's minimum support price. Specific mention should be there to prevent hoarding. The State Governments may, if required, apply provisions of the Essential Commodities Act.

[Shrimati P. Satheedevi]

Agriculture is a State subject. If the policy decisions are taken by the Central Government, the rights now enjoyed by the States will be very badly affected. I welcome that the bank loans are provided to the farmers on the acceptance of these warehouse receipts. But these warehouse receipts should not be allowed to be used for future trading and speculations.

The States are now enjoying full authority over issuing licences for warehouses and it is mainly in the public sector or co-operative sector. By giving the entire authority to Central Government for accreditation of warehousing agencies, this Bill really cuts the rights of the State Governments and at the same time, opens the way for privatisation of the warehousing sector. The Standing Committee has already made a suggestion to bring a model Act to be framed by the Union Government and its implementation must be left to the State Government. It would be contradictory to recommend the passage of the present Bill by cutting away the rights now enjoyed by the State Government. Giving all the authority to the Central Government for accreditation of warehousing agencies will really lead to the cutting of the rights enjoyed by the State Government.

So, I have a specific suggestion that the Standing Committee had received representations from the State Governments on these issues and has made the recommendation that the State Governments must be consulted. The State Government's right to bring some essential commodities in a particular State should be protected. So, some State-based Advisory Councils, consisting of nominees of State Governments should be appointed and it would be mandatory to consult such Councils for activities within the State so that protection of the rights enjoyed by the State Government is ensured and only by ensuring their rights, this Bill could be implemented.

I raise this objection to the passing of this Bill.

SHRI BRAHMANANDA PANDA (JAGATSINGHPUR): Madam, I extend my hearty thanks to you for giving me an opportunity to participate in this debate. It is, no doubt, a very dynamic Bill to fulfil the dreams and welfare needs of the farmers. At the same time, it is to be seen whether the poor farmers can be saved from the exploitation by the middlemen because there is every apprehension that the middlemen may exploit the poor farmers as a result of which the very purpose of this Bill may be defeated.

New technology should be brought in and effective measures must be taken to establish warehouses in different areas. That apart, since my State Orissa is a backward State and most of its areas are tribal-dominated, to save farmers from distress sale, the FCI should open its branches in most of its remote areas. Storage facility should be encouraged in the tribal areas. Moreover, by opening of such warehouses, the possibility of activities like hoarding and black-marketing should be carefully examined and reviewed. So, stringent provisions must be provided under the law to see that this black-marketing is stopped.

In addition, there is a Minimum Support Price for wheat and rice. It should be extended to other crops to encourage farmers because farmers are the real basis of our economic growth and rural prosperity. Our civilisation initially started on the basis of farmers only. In such circumstances, I would appeal to the hon'ble Minister that the loopholes which are there in the Bill should be identified and stringent provisions should be brought in so that the spirit of law is strictly followed, as a result of which the poor farmers can be saved from unnecessary harassment.

I would like to make an appeal to the hon'ble Minister regarding section 25. The persons who will be appointed as the Chairperson and Members must be free from political affiliations. They must be persons having ability, managerial skills, etc. I would like to further appeal that with all their financial background independent persons must be sponsored, so that they can see to the interest of the farmers in different ways. The motto of this Bill can be fulfilled only when the common farmers are facilitated, are freed from the age old exploitation and their interest is safeguarded in all ways.

With these words, I welcome this Bill. There is no doubt that this Bill being a dynamic Bill with a little modification will definitely serve the interest of the poor farmers in fulfilling their dreams.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (Midnapore): Thank you, Madam Chairperson. I heartily support this Bill, and I must thank the hon. Minister Shri Sharad Pawar for bringing this Bill for adoption in this House.

The hon. Minister and all of us know very well the ground reality of the rural areas so far as the condition of the poor farmers and the marginal farmers is concerned. They are not getting remunerative prices. They

are not even getting the Minimum Support Price. It is not that the price of agricultural commodities is very less in the market of our country. It has been reported by some agency — that conducted a survey in different parts of the country — that there is difference in the prices of agricultural commodities prevailing in the farm house and in the market. This difference is somewhere in the region of 1:12, that is, if the price of the agricultural commodities is one in the farm house, then its price goes up to 11 in the market. Who is enjoying the profit? It is neither the farmers nor other people. The consumers have also to pay much more money for the agriculture produce. This reveals that the middle-men, hoarders, profiteers, etc. are earning huge profits by bringing agricultural commodities from the farm house to the market. The construction of warehouses in the village areas is the only way to arrest and combat this menace. This Bill is a welcome step in this regard as this Bill provides compulsory registration for the warehouses that would issue negotiability of warehouse receipts. They would be required to obtain a registration certificate as it is quite necessary. Nobody should be allowed to run the warehousing business without any regulatory arrangement.

It is very good that there are certain special powers for the warehousemen to deal with perishable and hazardous goods. This is a very complicated issue as most of the agriculture produce including vegetables are perishable items. If there is no scientific arrangement in the warehouses or no power is given to the warehousemen to deal with the perishable and hazardous goods, then it would be very difficult and hard for the farmers.

In this regard, this Bill is welcome. This Bill contains many aspects but I do not know whether the State Governments have been consulted or not.

15.50 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

This is also a task of the State Governments. The Central Government should hold consultation with the State Governments in this regard. The State Government have to do something in this regard. I do not know whether this has been done or not. The hon. Minister in the course of his reply may inform us so that the State Governments could go ahead with this Bill.

This Bill alone is not sufficient. I think, some rules should be framed and adopted. Is the Minister

contemplating to adopt some rules in this regard? With these words, I welcome this Bill.

[*Translation*]

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH (Rajgarh): Sir, the hon'ble Minister has brought this Bill with an objective to increase credit flow and capital investment in agriculture sector; I would like to confine myself to the irregularities prevailing in the functioning and storage system of warehouses. The Bill was introduced in December, 2005 but unfortunately the veteran Minister, like Shri Sharad Pawar took 17 months to get it passed. Only the God knows the fate of other Bills if a learned person and senior Minister like him takes this much time to get this important Bill passed.

Sir, first of all, I would like to draw the attention of the hon'ble Minister towards the Inspection System of CWC and FCI godowns. I have some figures with me, he may correct me if found wrong. A target was fixed to inspect 500 food storage depots by December, 2005, however, only 377 depots were inspected. Similarly, the annual target of inspection of procurement centers was 300 but the achievement was of only 297, out of the annual target of 140 inspections of Rail heads, only 115 inspections were conducted. The target fixed for inspection of 120 fair price shops was achieved up to 87 shops only. The crux of the matter is that till December, 2005 only seven complaints have been investigated and none has been punished in this regard. He may tell if any one has been punished. Only seven investigations have been conducted in respect of people involved in black marketing scams etc and not a single person has been punished.

Sir, the hon'ble Minister had formulated rail side warehousing complex. The scheme was formulated with a good objective but the Planning Commission opposed it. It had clearly stated in its note that

[*English*]

the Cabinet has given approval despite reservations from the Planning Commission, which felt that—I am quoting from 'The Financial Express', New Delhi, dated 5th January, 2007—setting up of warehouses was the low tech activity and could be done by small entrepreneurs.

[Shri Lakshman Singh]

[*Translation*]

When Small Entrepreneurs could have been involved in this job. Why this work has been allotted to a company constituted in a joint venture of CWC and a private company MS Adani Exporters. So far as I know, Adani Sahib has no contribution in warehousing. He is involved in some other business. Then what was the need to include such people, while small entrepreneurs and

[*English*]

small businessmen could have been involved in this activity. Why this work has been allotted to a joint venture company? What was the need for it?

[*Translation*]

I would like to mention one more point. Golden Quadrilateral project is going on in this country. Though his Ministry is not directly related with this project but it is essential to consult National Highway Authority of India for the smooth flow of traffic. Take the example of Madhya Pradesh.

[*English*]

Madhya Pradesh can be the warehousing hub of the country. It was planned that way. It can generate so much employment there. It can develop that backward State.

[*Translation*]

However, due attention has not been given to it. The National Highway No. 3 is in bad shape. A lot of warehousing activities can take place there if this highway is converted into four lane. It will also generate employment opportunities for a number of people.

I would like to put forth some figures. I am also of the opinion that FCI is not capitalizing the entire capacity of the warehouses. Bihar could store only 2 lakh 54 thousand metric tonnes as against the capacity of 5 lakh 23 thousand metric tonnes till 30th June, 2006. Similarly, West Bengal could store 4 lakh 11 thousand metric tonnes as against the storage capacity of 10 lakh 8 thousand metric tonnes. It shows that Storage Capacity is not being capitalized what else we can hope for. Hon'ble Minister has brought this Bill, he is an able Minister. Though his

intention is noble but he has to plug the loopholes prevailing in the system in order to achieve the objective of this Bill.

With this I conclude.

15.57 hrs.

MEMBER SWORN

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Secretary-General to call the name of the hon. Member for taking oath/affirmation.

Shri Anil Shukla Warsi (Bihar)

15.58 hrs.

WAREHOUSING (DEVELOPMENT AND REGULATION) BILL, 2005—*contd.*

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): I am grateful to the hon. Members who have participated in this discussion which has been brought before the House. Certain apprehensions have been raised by the Members and it is my responsibility to clarify the position.

15.59 hrs.

[SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN *in the Chair*]

Firstly, let me make my position explicitly clear. The thinking behind this legislation is to create a situation where the farmers will not act in such a fashion where he has to go for distress sale. On a number of occasions we see when there is too much production and the production comes to the market, the prices go down as a result the farmers have to dispose of their produce at such a price where he is not in a position to get anything. I can give you an example. About six months' back, during the last Parliament Session, there was a lot of discussion in this House on the price of onion.

16.00 hrs.

But today if anybody visits the area where onions are produced, he will realize that the price of onion has come down to such a low level that the farmers are not aware

what to do with their produce. In some of the places, they have actually thrown their produce on the streets. So, how long we will continue like this?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, you wait for a minute. As per the Agenda, we have to take up discussion on price rise at 4.00 p.m. But if the House agrees, the Minister can be allowed to reply and the Bill can be passed.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): Sir, may I make a submission? After the reply, Item No. 24 may be taken up at 4.30 p.m. so that the reply to the discussion on Global Warming can be concluded today. Two hon. Ministers, namely, Mr. Raja and Mr. Kapil Sibal are waiting for that....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): But there are many more speakers to speak on the Global Warming....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE: But the hon. Speaker has already announced in the House that the discussion has been concluded and only the reply remains to be given....(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You advice me what to do.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE: Sir, let the Bill be passed first.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR (Bangalore South): Sir, what about the discussion on price rise?

MR. CHAIRMAN: After the Minister's reply to this Bill and after the reply to the discussion on Global Warming, we will take up price rise.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: The major issue which we are facing today in the country is that the one side there might be calamities where farmers are facing a lot of problems, and on the other side, there might be some problem and the farmer has to take money from some private money-lenders. Ultimately, if he is not in a position to return the money, due to the pressure from private moneylenders, we have seen in some of the examples where the farmers have committed even suicides. But there are a number of cases also where the farmer is

facing serious problem because of the distress sale. So, how long we have to accept this situation where the farmer has to go for distress sale? That is the reason why this particular legislation has been brought. Exactly, what provisions are being made here? The farmer will produce his crop and he will take it to a particular warehouse which has been accredited. He has every right to keep his produce in that warehouse. He will get a receipt and that receipt will be treated like a cheque of any bank where he will get money and whenever he wants to dispose it of, he has got every right to dispose it of. There is no hoarding. When the prices totally collapse, he is not in a position to get even the cost of cultivation. So, there should be some safeguard for the farmer where he could get a proper price. This particular thing is being provided by this particular type of legislation. That is why, I say that it is a farmer-friendly legislation.

Some of the issues have been raised here regarding what type of warehouses will be there. The moment this Bill will be approved by both the Houses and it comes into effect, I am confident the warehouse movement will grow in this country. This country is essentially dominated by the farming community. Therefore, it requires a number of warehouses. Today, there are a limited number of warehouses which might be owned by the State Warehousing Corporation or the Central Warehousing Corporation or there might be some private warehouses. But because of this legislation, I am confident that a number of other organizations, including private parties, would come forward and construct warehouses with different types of facilities. There is every possibility that even some of the cold storages could also be treated as warehouses under this Act where the farmers would be able to keep their produce safely and also where the life of the produce could be protected. That is why, one should not worry about that.

Certain issues were raised about accreditation of banks. The warehouses that have proposed to give the receipts should be accredited by banks and they should accept the receipts and advance the money. This is the only provision made in this Bill.

I did not understand how the issue of wheat was raised here. But I would like to explain the position very clearly. This year wheat production has gone up to 73.6 million tonnes. Last year wheat production was only 69 million tonnes and if we study the figures for the last five years we would see that the figure hovered around 68 to 69 million tonnes, except for one year when it went up

[Shri Sharad Pawar]

to 72 million tonnes. This year wheat production has gone up to almost 74 million tonnes. The problem is not that. The food habits of the people across the country are changing. The States, especially the Southern States some three years back never asked for wheat, but now there is a demand for wheat not only from the Southern States but also from the North-Eastern States and owing to this growing demand for wheat, there is a mismatch in the demand and supply position of wheat. We can discuss this issue at a greater length at the time when the issue of price rise is discussed and therefore, at present I would not like to dwell in detail about this.

There was another issue raised about whether the Government has consulted the State Governments or not. The State Governments have been consulted on this issue. I want to make clear one thing here. This legislation will not interfere in the workings of the State Warehousing Act. They will continue to operate as such under the State Act and they need not apply for any registration under the Warehousing Bill. A provision to that effect has been incorporated as a proviso to clause 3 of the Bill. That is why there is no interference and there is no curtailing of the powers of the State Government.

A question was raised about the Essential Commodities Act. The Essential Commodities Act is a central legislation and powers have been delegated to the States. The issue that was raised here about the limit of 50,000 million tonnes. Anybody can keep wheat up to 50,000 million tonnes or more than 50,000 million tonnes in a warehouse. But the only thing that they have to now do is that they have to furnish information to the State Government about the quantity, the price at which procured and all those things. It is only a question of declaration. There is no restriction. I hope this clarification will dispel the apprehensions of the hon. Members about this matter.

Sir, most of the hon. Members have supported this legislation. There was also a question whether this will lead to hoarding of goods and exploitation of the consumers or not. That is not the case. As I have explained earlier. There is a provision and the farming community should be able to get proper price for their produce and they should be in a position to get, at least, the price for their cultivation. This is the intention and reason for which this Bill is being proposed.

One hon. Member raised the question about the delay in the introduction of this legislation. This decision to

introduce such a legislation was taken by the previous Government in the year 2001. Finally, when this Government came to power, this Bill was introduced in Parliament. The hon. Speaker had referred this Bill to the Standing Committee. The Standing Committee took about a year to give its Report. It is immediately after the receipt of the Report of the Standing Committee that we have come to Parliament for passage of this Bill.

Sir, I do not want to take any more time of the House. I am sure that this is a pro-farmers Bill and this will discipline the farmers also. They will be taught as to how they should take benefit out of the market conditions and they will be saved from market variations.

With this background, I say that this Bill is really helpful for the farmers and I hope the hon. House will accept all my suggestions and amendments. Whatever amendments have been made by the Standing Committee have been practically accepted here and I will move them when I get the opportunity to do so.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill to make provisions for the development and regulation of warehouses, negotiability of warehouse receipts, establishment of a warehousing development and regulatory authority and for matters connect therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

## Clause 2

### Definitions

*Amendment made:*

"Page 3, line 2, *after* "authorised representative",  
*insert* "(including depository by whatever name called)". (3)

(Shri Sharad Pawar)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 2, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 2, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

**Clause 3****Requirement of registration for warehouses issuing negotiable warehouse receipts***Amendment made:*

"Page 3, after line 14, insert—

"Provided further that no such registration shall be required for warehouses which do not propose to issue negotiable warehouse receipt.". (4)

(Shri Sharad Pawar)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 3, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.**Clause 3, as amended, was added to the Bill.**Clauses 4 to 6 were added to the Bill.***Clause 7****Duties of warehousemen***Amendments made:*

"Page 4, line 17, omit "or non-negotiable". (5)

Page 4, line 22, for "delivery", substitute "receipt". (6)

(Shri Sharad Pawar)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 7, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.**Clause 7, as amended, was added to the Bill.**Clause 8 was added to the Bill.***Clause 9****Special powers of warehouseman to deal with perishable and hazardous goods***Amendments made:*

"Page 4, line 46, after "registered post", insert "or telegraphically". (7)

Page 5, after line 18, insert—

"(9) Any endorsee shall have the right to intimate the address for service recorded with the warehouseman.". (8)

(Shri Sharad Pawar)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 9, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.**Clause 9, as amended, was added to the Bill.***Clause 10****Lien of warehouseman on goods***Amendments made:*

"Page 5, omit lines 36 to 46. (9)

Page 6, line 17, after "to be held", insert—

"as well as where the owner of the goods is located". (10)

(Shri Sharad Pawar)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 10, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.**Clause 10, as amended, was added to the Bill.**Clause 7, as amended, was added to the Bill.**Clause 8 was added to the Bill.***Clause 9****Special powers of warehouseman to deal with perishable and hazardous goods***Amendments made:*

"Page 4, line 46, after "registered post", insert "or telegraphically". (7)

Page 5, after line 18, insert—

"(9) Any endorsee shall have the right to intimate the address for service recorded with the warehouseman.". (8)

(Shri Sharad Pawar)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 9, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 9, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

#### **Clause 10**

#### **Lien of warehouseman on goods**

*Amendments made:*

Page 5, *omit* lines 36 to 46. (9)

Page 6, line 17, *after* "to be held", *insert*—

"as well as where the owner of the goods is located".  
(10)

(Shri Sharad Pawar)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 10, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 10, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

#### **Clause 11**

#### **Warehouse receipts**

*Amendments made:*

Page 7, *after* line 4, *insert*—

"(p) the fact that the warehouseman holds the lien on the goods deposited for his storage and handling charges; and

(q) that the receipt would be valid only till the date of expiry of declared shelf life of the goods for which it is issued.". (11)

Page 7, *after* line 10, *insert*—

"(4) Authority may, with the prior approval of the Central Government, add, delete or modify any particulars as specified in sub-clause (1) for all or any commodity or class of commodities or for any class of warehouses.". (12)

(Shri Sharad Pawar)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 11, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 11, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*Clauses 12 to 18 were added to the Bill.*

#### **Clause 19**

#### **Stoppage of delivery of goods in certain cases**

*Amendment made:*

Page 8, *for* lines 12 to 17, *substitute*—

Delivery of "19. When a negotiable warehouse receipt has been issued

goods to be made after due charges are paid. in respect of any goods, the warehouseman shall not deliver the goods to the depositor/endorsee, until the due charges are paid to the custodian from the date of initial deposit till delivery is made and the Warehouse receipt is surrendered for cancellation.". (13)

(Shri Sharad Pawar)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"The clause 19, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 19, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*Clauses 20 to 24 were added to the Bill.*

#### **Clause 25**

#### **Composition of Authority**

*Amendment made:*

Page 9, line 23, *after* "quality control,", *insert* "agriculture,", (14)

(Shri Sharad Pawar)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 25, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 25, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*Clauses 26 to 34 were added to the Bill.*

**Clause 35****Powers and functions of Authority***Amendment made:*

Page 11, for lines 36 and 37, *substitute—*

"(n) to determine the minimum percentage of space to be kept reserved for storage of agricultural commodities in a registered warehouse;

(o) to specify the duties and responsibilities of the warehouseman;

(p) to exercise such other powers and perform such other functions as may be prescribed." (15)

(Shri Sharad Pawar)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 35, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 35, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*Clauses 36 to 42 were added to the Bill.*

**Clause 43****Offences and penalties***Amendments made:*

Page 14, line 12—

for "warehouse receipt", *substitute* "negotiable warehouse receipt". (16)

Page 14, line 22—

for "warehouse receipt", *substitute* "negotiable warehouse receipt". (17)

Page 14, line 27—

for "warehouse receipt", *substitute* "negotiable warehouse receipt". (18)

Page 14, line 28—

for "warehouse receipt", *substitute* "negotiable warehouse receipt". (19)

Page 14, for lines 38 to 42, *substitute—*

"(5) Any depositor, who declared as the value of the goods delivered by him for storage with a warehouseman

an amount which he does not believe to be the proper value, commits an offence and shall be punishable for such an offence with fine which may extend to one lakh rupees." (20)

(Shri Sharad Pawar)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 43, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 43, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*Clauses 44 and 45 were added to the Bill.*

**Clause 46****Chairperson, members, officers and other employees of Authority to be public servants***Amendment made:*

Page 15, line 18, after "Authority", insert "and Appellate Authority". (21)

(Shri Sharad Pawar)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 46, as amended, stand part of the Bill".

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 46, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*Clauses 47 to 54 were added to the Bill.*

**Clause 55****Amendment of Act 2 of 1899***Amendments made:*

Page 17, line 32, for "8A", *substitute* "8B". (22)

Page 17, line 34, for "8B", *substitute* "8C". (23)

(Shri Sharad Pawar)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 55, as amended, stand part of the Bill".

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 55, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

**Clause 1**

**Short title, extent and commencement**

*Amendment made:*

(2) Page 1, line 5, for "2005", substitute "2007"

(Shri Sharad Pawar)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill".

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

**Enacting Formula**

*Amendment made:*

(1) Page 1, line 1, for "Fifty-sixth", substitute "Fifty-eighth".

(Sharad Pawar)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Enacting Formula, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*The Enacting Formula, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*The long Title was added to the Bill.*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

16.24 hrs.

**DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193**

**Price Rise**

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we will take up the Discussion under Rule 193 regarding Price Rise. Shri Prabodh Panda.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (Midnapore): Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the very outset, I must thank you for bringing this matter, the issue of price rise, for discussion in this august House. We usually speak on this particular issue in each and every Session of the Lok Sabha. It was the expectation from the UPA Government that they would take necessary measures for bringing down the rate of inflation which has stood above 6 per cent nowadays. Of course, it is the prerogative of the Government and the prerogative of the hon. Finance Minister, in particular, to believe the statistics which can convince the people that the prices have begun to come down. There is a problem in it as there is a large gap between the perception, the belief of the Government on the one side and the bitter experience of the people, the consumers at the bottom on the other side.

Any person who can casually visit the market can vouch for it that no commodity is showing the downward trend. Rather, the prices of all necessary commodities are getting increased day by day. It is so much for the Government's joyous announcement of having rolled back the prices but the people have opposite views.

I would just refer to the regime of the NDA Government. When that Government boastfully pronounced the special slogan of "Feel Good and India Shining" the people's perception was just the opposite. It was expected that the UPA Government would follow a separate path; it would take effective steps to reduce the price rise so that it would be affordable to the common people.

The Government, particularly, the hon. Finance Minister in his reply in this august House referred to some statistics. I am going to refer to the statistics. It has already been found in the statistics that so far as the Wholesale Price Index is concerned, from April 2005 to January 2006, the Index was 4.53. On 24th March, 2007, it was 6.39 per cent. If we compare with 10th March and 17th March, it was something less than March, 2007. What about the essential commodities? What about the food-grains? What about *roti* and *dall*? What about the other essential commodities? The Government's claim is not accepted by the people and it is already reflected in the Delhi Municipal Corporation elections. I may refer to the election of Punjab and also to the election of Uttaranchal. The half-hearted measures taken by the Finance Ministry failed to make any impact as far as curbing the prices of essential commodities is concerned.

Angry over the rising prices, poor sections and the lower-middle classes have now started striking. They are now trying to strike not only in Punjab, not only in Uttaranchal, not only in Delhi Municipal Corporation but also in different parts of the country. There is no scope of complacency here. The results of Punjab and Uttaranchal, followed by UP elections, are a caution to the UPA Government.

Sir, the prices of essential commodities are getting up and up, day by day. The Finance Minister is used to refer to the Wholesale Price Index but nothing is said about the Consumer Price Index so far. The Consumer Price Index for the industrial workers has been increasing at a much faster rate than the Wholesale Price Index. I would just like to refer to the Consumer Price Index in this regard. If we talk about January 2007, the Wholesale Price Index was 6.3 per cent but the CPI-IW was 6.7 per cent. For February 2007 the Wholesale Price Index was 6.4 per cent but the CPI-IW was 7.6 per cent. The common people who used to go to the market for buying their necessities are not buying their commodities based on the rate of Wholesale Price Index. The retail price has not yet been taken into account. Even the Commodity Price Index has not been taken into account.

It has been reported that the Prime Minister has written to the States asking them to play their effective role in keeping down the prices of essential commodities by checking hoarding and profiteering, and improving the efficiency through the Public Distribution System.

The Public Distribution System all over the country is getting weakened day by day. I do not know in how many States de-hoarding has been conducted. Instructions have been given to the States to monitor all this, and conduct raids on hoarders and profiteers and others. But de-hoarding has not been conducted so far. No stress has been given for de-hoarding, and it is going on. There are profiteering and hoarding tendencies. The blackmarketeers and the middlemen are creating artificial crisis in the market.

Therefore, I would like to know what sort of stringent measures have been taken against them. So far, nothing has been reported. I think, the hon. Finance Minister would apprise us as to what actions have been taken against the hoarders and against the profiteers.

Sir, the Government is now propounding the idea that inflation is a manifestation of the demand and supply gap; hence, concerted efforts are required to be intervened

on both sides of demand and supply. In his Budget Speech, the hon. Finance Minister stressed on this very point of demand and supply. On the one side, we have to moderate the demand and on the other side, we have to strengthen our system by fiscal measures and improvement on the Public Distribution System. So, in regard to controlling and monitoring the inflation, it is reported that one High-Powered Committee for monitoring prices of essential commodities was set up. That Committee has made several recommendations to check inflation. We have also seen some written answers given by the hon. Finance Minister in regard to checking inflation stating the recommendations and the steps that the Government is going to take. But no result is visible so far.

Sir, I am going to refer one measure about tightening the Credit Policy. Money supply has increased at the rate of 21 per cent this year compared to just about 15 per cent last year; it is correct. But it is merely because the foreign investors have brought large funds to buy Indian assets. It is also correct that our credit expanded over 30 per cent. But what about the supply side? If the supply of goods and services does not increase, how would you match the gap? That gap would remain there, which would be widened further. Therefore, the main problem is not on the demand side. The Government has failed to strengthen the supply side. Therefore, they are going to check the demand side by taking some financial measures.

They are tightening the credit system, the credit policies and the credits. This is not the proper method. So, my request to the Government is, stress on the supply side and how to supply more goods to the market. It is not by importing goods from abroad.

Mr. Sharad Pawar is here. He is importing wheat from abroad. Instead of procuring sufficient wheat from our country, from the farmers of our country—our farmers are not getting remunerative prices—he is paying more prices to the foreign investors, to the foreign companies. So, the Government should think over to invest more and more for more production so that more goods would come to the market and the supply side would be strengthened. His idea is totally insufficient so far. As this side is not taken care of properly, they are thinking of the demand side and how to tighten the demand side.

I am not going into the details about the other points. But one most alarming point is about some comments of

[Shri Prabodh Panda]

the Prime Minister, which I had seen in many newspapers and also the remarks of the Finance Ministry. It has already appeared in some newspapers. I am just referring to the Finance Ministry's note that was circulated during the Cabinet meeting which says: "The bad news is for those who believed in the high sounded claim of placing the country on an irreversible path of double digit growth which would make India glitter". It points the grim picture of the days ahead. It has already come in the Press. So, the picture is very grim and the people are suffering.

Almost every essential commodity's price is getting higher and higher despite whatever you are saying in this House. The Minister is saying some good things in the House. They are claiming that inflation rate is declining but the ground reality is something different. The people, who used to go to the market to purchase essential commodities, have the bitter experiences in case of wheat, in case of *atta*, in case of spices, in case of pulses and even in case of rice. The poor people do not want much. They want at least sufficient wheat, sufficient rice, sufficient *dals*, pulses and some spices. The prices of all these are going higher and higher. How do you come to reason?

The alarming point is this. Not only I am referring to the elections in the States which we have witnessed now-a-days but all over the country if the UPA Government is facing some danger, then the main point for that will be the inflation.

16.45 hrs.

[DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY *in the Chair*]

The inflation is already there. The Government has failed to arrest it or to check it. I think this discussion would be fruitful and the hon. Minister would convince us, not in an academic manner but based on ground reality as to how to check it and what are the concrete proposals taken by the Government so far, so that the people can realize that the rate of inflation is getting reduced for the common people, for the middle classes, for the peasants and for the working classes in general.

With these words, I initiate the discussion and I hope that all my colleagues, hon. Members in this House, will contribute a lot and the hon. Minister will reply so that we can be convinced and we can go ahead.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR (Bangalore South): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to draw the attention of the

Government as well as the hon. Minister of Finance to the rising prices and the inflation in the country as well as to register my protest and my Party's protest in this regard.

This is the Tenth Session of the Fourteenth Lok Sabha. In all the ten Sessions, if there is one common subject that had been debated, it has been inflation and price rise. I also want to draw the attention of the august House to the preceding years. As far as I remember and I hope your kindself and the hon. Members also remember, that between 1998 and 2004 hardly we debated and discussed about price rise and inflation.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): That was the time when inflation was more....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: I am coming to that. That means you had no interest. The then Congress Party was insensitive. I was asking my senior leader and veteran parliamentarian, George sahib, as to what is the reason that whenever the Congress Party comes to power, and this time in the garb of UPA, the prices spiral, inflation touches the rooftop and the hon. Minister of Finance comes out with a lame-duck Budget and all the newspapers and the journalists across the country lampoon him. They say that he says - 'Sir, I rise to sit down'. They also say that he has been enmeshed in a UPA rope trick where his hands are tied, his legs are tied and only he can speak and when the entire economy is in a mess.

Unfortunately, we have got three economists in the UPA Government. One has adorned the chair of the Prime Minister—Dr. Manmohan Singh. Another is my dear friend with a reputation of being a good Finance Minister 'erstwhile'—Shri P. Chidambaram and there is another friend in the Planning Commission, who is the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission—Dr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia.

In the last three years any independent observer who evaluated from pure objective economic analysis makes an analysis of this Government's performance, everybody says that the economy of the country is in the doldrums.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Mr. Chairman, Sir, just a minute.

Shri Ananth Kumar, please show me one Analyst of any reputation who said it, leave price rise out - The

hon. Member has raised some very legitimate points and we are duty-bound to reply and we will reply - Please show me one Analyst of any reputation, anywhere in the world - please bring the report and read it - which says the economy of India is in doldrums. Just for facts, Mr. Ananth Kumar, in three out of six years of your Government, the average inflation was more than 5.4 per cent.

In 2000-01, for 48 weeks out of 52 weeks, WPI was over 6 per cent; in 22 of those weeks, it was over 7 per cent; and in 12 of those weeks, it was over 8 per cent. I will come to all these figures, but do not make the sweeping statement. Price rise is a matter of concern for all of us. They have raised legitimate issues. You will raise legitimate issues. I know you. You are my friend. You raise legitimate points and I will answer them, but do not make the sweeping statements that economy is in doldrums.

The economy of this country has registered an average growth rate of 8.6 per cent in three years. In six years of your Government, in the first five years, the average was 5.32 per cent. Thanks to Shri Jaswant Singh's luck, you raised it to 5.8 per cent.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: When our Finance Minister, day in and day out, beats the drum about the growth rate, he forgets that the growth rate has been fuelled because of the inflation and price rise. Therefore, that growth rate of 9 per cent, if not for this inflation and price rise, could not have been the growth rate of above 9 per cent or above 8.5 per cent.

I am coming back to his statement that I should come out with various truths. I am going to read the various statements by various economists.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Not *Organiser* magazine.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Not *Organiser* magazine. I do not think that Dr. Swaminathan comes from *Organiser*. I do not think that many other economist of this country come from one section of the school of thought.

At the outset, he has accepted that they have failed to control price rise and inflation....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Please hear me. ....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: I am not yielding....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: You did not hear me correctly. I said that in three out of six years, average inflation was more than 5.4 per cent. In 2006-07, the year which we are discussing, I admit that the average inflation has been more than 5.4 per cent. During three out of your six years, it was 5.4 per cent.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: I will come to inflation data. I was just reading that in May, 2004, for all commodities, it was 182.1 and now it is 210.9. In May, 2004, for primary articles, it was 187.2 and now it is 218.8. For food articles, it was 185.5 and now it is 218.3. In 2004, it was 173 for vegetables and now in April-end, 2007, it is 211.1.

The WPI for all commodities has risen by 29 points since the UPA has come to power and thanks to your governance and administration, every month you have added one point for the inflation and one point for the price rise. I think if that makes you happy, I have no grouse about it.

My only contention is that you come with the slogan of being with *aam admi—Congress ka haath, aam admi ke saath*. If at all today anybody can say that anybody has done *vishwasghat* to *aam admi*, it is the UPA and the Congress Party because he also very well knows that WPI is one thing and CPI is another thing. When I say CPI, it is not Communist Party of India because you always dream of them; it is Consumer Price Index. You know that all the economist that if WPI is 'X' amount, CPI is WPI plus 100–150 points. Today the inflation is hovering around 6.7 per cent. The RBI's tolerance band was 5.5 per cent. You only announced that it is 5.5 per cent. It has crossed 5.5 per cent more than twice. If it is 6.7 per cent today and if it is going to cross 7 per cent, then what will be the Consumer Price Index? It will be more than 8.5 per cent or 9 per cent. Then, what will happen to the food articles, to the vegetables, to the fruits, to the pulses and to the *dals*? What will happen to the common man? This is the basic question. Therefore, I want you to introspect on the reasons for this happening in the last three years. Why have you been unable to check the spiraling inflation and price rise?

In the last 1½ years, you have come out with many mechanisms. Last year also the hon. Finance Minister told this and this year also it has been recently stated

[Shri Ananth Kumar]

while addressing a meeting of the bankers that you are going to take fiscal measures. I would like to quote:

"Amid concerns of rising inflation, the Union Finance Minister Shri P. Chidambaram while addressing the Second Annual Convention of Association of National Stock Exchange Members of India in Mumbai on 10 February 2007 said that: "The Government was taking all necessary fiscal steps including improving the supply side of agriculture commodities to contain the rising prices even while ensuring that these steps would not affect the economic growth."

Further, in the second week of December 2006, the RBI announced plans to hike the Cash Reserve Ratio for the scheduled banks in the country. It did two more times like this. The Government has also setup a Monitoring Committee—with the inflation rate soaring—headed by the Cabinet Secretary to keep a check on price rise.

Recently, Dr. Manmohan Singh, the Prime Minister has written a letter to the States stressing the need to implement dehoarding measures to check price rise. You also know that there is the Cabinet Committee on Prices, which reviewed the inflation. All these exercises have been done in the last 1½ years. If at all there is one headline in any newspaper, any economic journal or any ordinary journal of this country — claps apart from the UPA Government benches — then it is inflation and price rise. Therefore, they may be getting captive claps here, but all that they got in Uttarakhand, Punjab and the Delhi Municipal elections is a writing on the wall for them. They should seriously ponder about it. My basic question is this. How these measures have failed when this is the situation?

The Press Release of the Ministry of Food and Consumer Affairs routinely states that the prices have stabilized. What is left unsaid is that the prices have already climbed an all-time high before it reached a plateau. The retail prices would be higher than the wholesale prices, and far less stable.

The second point is that the pulses are another example of knee jerk reaction by UPA managers. The Government banned export in June 2006 panicking after rising prices of dal, but it has not been able to arrest the upward price trend. The price of toor dal climbed from Rs. 2,850 a quintal in June 2006 to Rs. 3,700 a quintal in the wholesale market last week. I am talking of last week dear, Sir. Urad dal followed the yellow lentil rising

from Rs. 3,110 a quintal in June last year to Rs. 3,450 last week.

Similarly, in the *mandis*, moong dal prices have also been rising. It is another story that the export ban was blatantly flouted. The price trend goes to show that the much hyped export ban had little or no effect on domestic prices. In fact, the export ban only manipulated the domestic trade. A few traders were able to hold on to the commodities when the prices were low, and stocks were released only when the prices went up. "This is especially true of pulses where prices went up each quarter, but farmers earned little from the price rise", say the officials of the Agriculture Ministry.

Now, let us take the case of wheat procurement this season. I am talking of the year 2006-2007. The Centre exerted tremendous pressure on wheat growing States to restrain private traders from procurement. The farmers in Punjab and Haryana were up in arms against the order, and threatened to boycott FCI.

17.00 hrs.

They threatened to boycott the FCI. Why should we let farmers suffer when the Central MSP is so low and when private traders offer better price. They want us to restrict them. This is what officials say. Though the Government is stating day in and day out that they are taking various measures to control price rise, to control inflation, nothing is happening. Nothing is happening at the ground level. Therefore, they need to take a lesson during the period between 1977 and 1979 as well as during the regime of NDA under Shri Vajpayee, as to how to control prices. You may be telling or giving figures but the ground situation during those years — two and a half years and six years — were entirely different. Essential commodities were at the reach of the common man, the poor sections of the society. They were not suffering. The technical term you use for this price rise is "overheating of the economy". It is not "overheating of the economy" because the Government of India today is putting every blame on two things. Firstly, supply side constraints. Secondly, recently, the hon. Finance Minister said that inflation expectations loom large in most parts of the world. Therefore, many Central banks have responded to actively tighten the liquidity so that inflation is held in check. That means, you feel that inflation is a global problem. I accept that it is a global problem. But what is the local or domestic solution for this inflation? Therefore, we feel that the Congress Party or the UPA is

not with *aam aadmi*, it is with *khas aadmi*. It is with Quattrochi; it is not with the common man. You are not with the common man.

If at all your recent Budget of 2007 is remembered, it is remember only for "pet foods". A rebate was given for pet foods. That is what it is going to be remembered for! I can also come out with various details. In 2006, hon. Minister and the RBI Government when inflation was at 5.4 per cent, they expressed concerned and said - our most immediate goal is keeping inflation moderate at around four per cent. You said that you keep inflation at four per cent. This is your statement of 4th November, 2006 — you said that our most immediate goal is keeping inflation moderate at around four per cent through a mix of fiscal and monetary steps.

Therefore, today, my dear Finance Minister this nation demands from you an explanation that in the last three years, especially in the last one and half years, what have you done to check inflation, to check price rise? I can go on reading the various head lines — Wheat prices soar, strain home budget; Soya, palm oil too rising; No respite on pulses; Deceptive figures: Consumer prices much higher than WPI; Inflation soaring due to rise in the prices of primary and food articles.

Consumers are experiencing a price rise — 100-150 basis points — higher than WPI figures - that is, 150 more points than 6.7 per cent of the inflation today; while inflation for urban non-manual workers is 6.7 per cent that for farm workers is 7.5 per cent; and the Consumer Price Index has gone up due to a rise in the prices of primary articles and food products. 'Wheat pulses prices rise despite Government steps'. I do not want to go into the details. 'Soaring prices turn food sour'. 'Government sets up Price Rise Control Committee'. I do not know the fate of that Committee. What has it done? I do not know why the Status Report has been given only to the Cabinet and why it has not been placed before the Parliament, on the Table of the House. 'RBI for Unified Consumer Index'. 'Shortfall in supply'. 'Illegal hoarding leads to price rise'. 'Veggie prices shoot up'. 'Mixed rally ahead for commodities'. 'The inflation conundrum', 'inflation is destroying the well earned rupee'.

One of the observers of Indian economy has said and I quote:

"India could be squeezed by firm global commodity prices, tight domestic supplies and funds chasing limited stocks."

I think our hon. Finance Minister is a better person to answer this.

"High prices have forced the Government to import food grains, sugar and pulses which may not come in due to sharp rise in international prices forcing scaling down imports."

Sir, I will send all these articles and other opinions of various economists on Indian economic situation as well as price rise and inflation to the hon. Finance Minister through you.

The basic question is what the UPA Government is doing in this regard. I feel that they lack the concern and commitment for the people at large. Therefore, they are unable to apply their mind, apply their governance, use all these mechanisms in a comprehensive manner and control the price rise and control the inflation. I urge that the UPA Government, the hon. Finance Minister will come before the Parliament not only with his speeches but with the Status Paper, which has been presented to the Cabinet and has to be presented to the Parliament also, to appraise the entire country through the Parliament what all steps they have taken. If those steps have failed why they have failed? What is the future course of action to control prices?

*[Translation]*

\*SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN (Palani): Hon. Chairman, I thank the Chair for giving me an opportunity to speak on price rise participating in this discussion under Rule 193. It is pointed out by my esteemed colleagues from the Opposition Benches that the Centre has failed to take effective measures to curb the price rise in the last three years. But I would like to highlight certain points that proves to the contrary. The main reason behind the price rise is not the Government's non-action on this front because the Government has been taking measure and certain effective measures have also yielded results to contain spiraling up of prices further. I would like to point out the factors that are leading to rise in prices of essential commodities and other goods and products. Price rise is directly dependent on agricultural production and goods manufactured out of agricultural produce and their availability for both manufacturing and consumption and also the quantity of total agricultural production. Their reach to the public linked to the distribution and marketing

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\*English Translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

{Shri S.K. Kharventhan}

mechanism should also to be taken into consideration while we analyse the reason for price rise. There is a fall in agricultural production, especially in the production of rice particularly in Tamil Nadu. It is due to non-flow of required water for irrigation in river Cauvery in Tamil Nadu. The entire Thanjavur district was severely affected by drought conditions for three to four years consecutively. Similarly, in Kerala, level of rainfall had fallen drastically which resulted in reduced quantum of agricultural produce. In the North, the wheat production had been affected due to flood havoc in several States. In 1960-61, the wheat production was 11 metric tonnes. In the ten year period between 1991-2001, the wheat production had increased to 74.6 metric tonnes. In 2006-07, it had come down to 72.8 metric tonnes. The wheat production was found to be less not only in India, but in almost all the wheat producing countries. The phenomenal reduction in wheat production was witnessed world over. In 2004-05, 628 metric tonnes of wheat production was witnessed. In 2005-06, it has come down to 587 metric tonnes. This had given rise to wholesale price increase. The wholesale price index that was 10.7 per cent from 22.01.2005 to 21.01.2006 has increased to 11.8 per cent by 21.01.2007. This had resulted rise in the price of wheat in smaller markets and retail shops too. In 2006 March, the cost of wheat per quintal was Rs. 1100. In 2006 December, it was upto Rs.1750 per quintal. In 2007 April, it has come down to Rs.1500 per quintal. In 2006 December, the price of wheat per kilogram was Rs.17.50. In 2007 March, it has come down to Rs.15.50 per kilogram. This price reduction was possible only because of the right intervention measures taken by the Union Government, especially by our Finance Minister.

I would like to point out the production scenario pertaining to the pulses. It was pointed out by my colleague from the Opposition Benches that the prices of pulses are also shooting up. In 2003-04, the pulses production was 14.9 metric tonnes, an all time high. It had nose-dived to 13.1 metric tonnes in 2004-05. In 2005-06, the production level had come to 13.4 metric tonnes. In 2006-07, the pulses production had increased to 14.5 metric tonnes due to various measures taken by the Union Government to enthuse and encourage the farmers by way of providing several incentives. Pulses were imported from other countries. In 2004-05, 1.33 metric tonnes of pulses were imported. In 2005-06, 1.6 metric tonnes of pulses were imported. By January, 2007, 1.7 metric tonnes

of pulses have been imported. I agree that the price of green gram (moong dal). In 2006 April, it was Rs. 30.50 per kilo. In the month of March, 2007, price of moong dal had risen to Rs. 34.50 per kg. As far as India is concerned, there is a wide gap between the production level and the consumption level. This is because pulses are grown in areas where there are good rainfall. Pulses are dependent on rains. In the years during which there is a shortfall in rain, it is reflected in the reduced production of pulses for which there is very good demand always. Inadequate rainfalls have given rise to fluctuation in production of pulses which had resulted in price rise due to heavy demand and reduced availability. Increased production alone can pave way for price reduction in the pulses sector that form part of agricultural sector in the country. So there is an urgent need to educate and encourage farmers to go in for cultivating different strains of pulses researched and developed by our agricultural scientists.

At this juncture, I would like to point out that the rise in price of edible oil has not touched astronomical figures. The fluctuating rise in the price of edible oils are well under control. In 2002-03, the production of edible oil remained at a level of 148.4 metric tonnes. That was the scenario during Indian regime. After UPA came to power, we have taken various measures to provide incentives to farmers which had resulted in an increase in the production of edible oils to a level of 279.8 metric tonnes in the year 2005-06. In 2006-07, though the production level has come down 273.9 metric tonnes, it has not given rise to alarming price rise. The Government are well aware of the ground realities and are ensuring constant monitoring to take effective control over rise in prices. In our country, the consumption level of edible oil touches 10 metric tonnes. But, our domestic production touches a mere 6 metric tonnes. That is the reason why we have been strengthening public distribution system through which we have been distributing imported palm oil and soyabean oil. They are allowed in the open market also. In the year 2004-05, the import of edible oil was 47 lakh tonnes. In the year 2005-06, 42.88 lakh tonnes of edible oil was imported.

As far as sugar production is concerned, India is the second largest sugar producing country. In 2004-05, 130 lakh tonnes of sugar was produced. In January, 2006, the cost of sugar per kg. was Rs. 20. In April, 2006, it came down to Rs. 19.35 per kg. In December, 2006, it came down to Rs. 17.60 per kg. In March, 2007, the

sugar prices have further come down to Rs. 16 per kg. So, during a period of one year from 2006 to March, 2007, we find a fall in price to the tune of Rs. 4 per kg. From Rs. 20 in January, 2006, it has come down to Rs. 16 in March 2007 because of the positive intervention of the Government and strict measures adopted by the Government in containing the prices as sugar is one among the essential commodities. This reflects the eagerness on the part of the Government and the valiance of its effective measures.

Onion has assumed an important place in our food habits and it is considered to be an essential commodities as our women use them in our houses almost daily. Its production level remains to be 6.2 metric tonnes continuously in the last two years. So, there is no noticeable price rise as far as onion is concerned. Potato and other vegetables are grown sufficiently without contributing to price rise because of the effective measures and positive interventions of the Government as this Government is well aware of the price rise situation while making constant endeavours to control rise in prices.

In order to have a vigil over price rise, no sooner than the UPA Government came to power, our Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, had written to the Chief Ministers of all the States to take stringent action against hoarders and black marketers. He had also urged upon them to regulate marketing mechanism and distribution system. He had impressed upon them to strengthen public distribution system which is the hope of the poor and the down trodden and all those who live below the poverty line. Rice, wheat, pulses, kerosene and other essential commodities are distributed through the PDS mechanism. Centre has asked the States to ensure the streamlined availability of these essential commodities to the needy poor.

When it was pointed out that this Government had increased the oil prices five times, it was not highlighted that this very same Government had also reduced the price of petrol by Rs. 2 per litre. The Opposition Members were raising hue and cry but they coolly ignored the efforts taken by this Government. The price of diesel was reduced by Re. 1 per ltr. Through STC, 55 lakh tonnes of wheat was imported. 43 lakhs of tonnes of wheat was imported in April, 2007. Even traders in the private sector were permitted to import wheat so that it will have its cascading and soothing effect in the domestic market so that the price of wheat does not shoot up. In order to encourage the import of wheat in June, 2006,

the import duty was reduced by 5 percent from 50 per cent. In September 2006, it became 'zero' duty.

In Feb., 2007, four lakh tonnes of wheat have been imported for sales in the open market. All these measures were taken only to contain the prices to ensure that wheat price do not shoot up a ban on export of wheat has been imposed on 9th of Feb., 2007. On 22nd of June last year, ban on the export of pulses was imposed. NAFED has imported 49300 tonnes of pulses to ensure that there is no artificial price rise in the domestic market. Import duty on palm oil has been slashed down. Surcharge on edible oils like sunflower oil has been reduced by 15 per cent as announced in this year's Budget. Milk products are also attracting reduced duties. With all these measures, still efforts are on to contain prices. So, we are very much aware of our responsibilities and continued to remain waken up to the ground reality.

In controlling prices, State Governments are also having responsibility along with the Union Government. In Tamil Nadu, the Government headed by Dr. Kalaighar Karunanidhi has proved that rice can be sold through PDS at Rs. 2 per kg. Crores of people are benefiting. When that can be done in Tamil Nadu, why other States are not following suits? RYOT bazaar, i.e., farmers' shanty styled as Uzhavar Sandhai has been set up in Tamil Nadu to benefit the agriculturists and farmers to get remunerative price for their agricultural produce like vegetables and even grains.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has created infrastructure facilities for this. Farmers are getting free marketing centers and space to sell their produce without having to pay for them. They get free transport facilities to move their agriculture produce from their field to markets where they sell their produce directly to the consumers thereby avoiding middleman and unnecessary increase in prices. Through this measure, farmers are getting remunerative price while consumers get vegetables at cheaper rates. Fresh produce are available to the users and they are made available to them by the growers themselves directly. Dr. Kalaighar Karunanidhi has opened these Uzhavar Sandhai in all the taluk headquarters in Tamil Nadu. Farmers are encouraged to move their goods to these market centers the previous night itself using the services of public transport system free of cost. Farmers are encouraged to sell their produce installs provided to them free of cost and they are free from any kind of tax.

[Shri S.K. Kharventhan]

I would like to ask all the other State Governments in India as to why they are not able to follow the example that has been set by Tamil Nadu Government presently headed by the Chief Minister Dr. Kalaingar Karunanidhi. Instead of doing that why should they throw the blame on the Centre for rise in prices. Effective measure should be taken at the State level also. Dr. M.S. Swaminathan Committee has recommended that Uzhavar Sandhai Scheme should be introduced all over the country. This will pave way for easier availability of vegetables at cheaper rates directly from the farmers to the consumers. Only when farmers are provided with all necessary facilities like availability of funds for investment, inputs and irrigation facilities, we can help them to augment agricultural production which alone can be a viable measure to control the rise in prices.

In Tamil Nadu, about Rs. 6700 crores of co-operative loans distributed to farmers has been waived. This has come as an incentive, an encouragement to farmers by way of easing their debt burden. Using a drop of ink, a revolution has been brought up in Tamil Nadu. Why such effort is not being taken by various State Governments in the country? Why such measure are not being adopted to help control prices? Only when farmers are protected and helped, we can increase agricultural production without which we cannot sustain production and reduce price. There is no point in politicising and making hue and cry pointing out to this State and that State like Uttarakhand, Punjab and Haryana, etc. I would like to point out that Union Government alone is not having the responsibility to control prices. It has got to be shed by all the State Governments in the country. As of now the rise in price trend has stabilised thanks to the efforts of the Union Government, especially of our Finance Minister Thiru P. Chidambaram whom I would like to congratulate now. Thanking the Chair for the opportunity provided to put forth my view points let me conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI SAMIK LAHIRI (Diamond Harbour): Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are discussing price rise here. Hon'ble Anant Kumarji, who participated in this discussion on behalf of NDA had mentioned in his speech that the need to hold a discussion on this issue never arose during the tenure of their Government as prices were under control. But I am recalling that I had also participated in such a discussion in 1998. The MP from Shivganga who is our Finance Minister at present had participated in that discussion. At that time he had mentioned something which I would like to quote now:

[English]

"Taming of inflation must be the highest item on any Government's agenda. Any Government which has some heart must place inflation control as number one on their agenda. People eventually vote for their stomachs."

[Translation]

What is happening now? Last time when discussion on price rise was held in the House, his statement was quite contrary to what he had stated earlier. His statement was

[English]

if you want to have growth, you have to learn to live with inflation.

[Translation]

Why the Statement changes with the change in position. What he had said earlier was true that people eventually vote for their stomachs. The results of the elections held in Uttarakhand, Punjab and MCD in Delhi have shown that the people vote for their stomach. Who is responsible for it? Why this issue of price rise is arising again and again for discussion. Left Front is raising this issue repeatedly. We had raised this issue during the tenure of NDA Government also. Today, Shri Kumarji is mentioning that the need for discussion on price rise was never felt during NDA Government. Perhaps he has forgotten the issue of price-rise of onion which had affected their position in Delhi Vidhan Sabha Elections. Even today they have to sit on opposition benches in Delhi Assembly.

Sir, why this issue is discussed in the House time and again. I think Congress Party is now understanding the fact that they are losing faith of the people due to price rise. Why the people of the country removed NDA Government from power? Was it because some Communal Forces were trying to divide the country? Price rise was a major cause though their other policies were also anti people.

[Translation]

The Government has failed to curb the rise in prices of essential commodities. In my opinion, it is on account of

the liberalization policy, which the Government has adopted, that it has been unable to check the price rise. During the last session, an hon'ble Member had asked a Question to the Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution as to what were the reasons for price rise? Has the Government ascertained the reasons therefor? In his reply, the hon'ble Minister had said— No, Sir. But in my opinion there are three reasons and I can spell out those reasons right now. Even the Government is aware that in our country prices are increasing due to gross mismanagement in food economy. The manner in which the prices of petrol and diesel are increasing, is also one of the main reason for price rise. The future trading in agricultural commodities, which was introduced by the NDA Government, has also made significant contribution in price rise. Can the Government deny this fact? I would like to ask as to what steps the Government have taken to ensure proper food management? On account of PDS, atleast people of lower strata of our society were getting foodgrains at subsidized rates. The NDA Government had abolished the PDS system which has not yet been revived even after the formation of the new Government and this is very unfortunate. This Government also champions the same cause which the NDA Government used to do that food subsidy should be withdrawn as there is no need for subsidy on food. That is the reason why subsidy on food is being withdrawn. Everyone knows that it is also an attempt of the Government.

The Government was considering to increase the prices of wheat, rice and sugar distributed under PDS. The Government have not increased the prices of medicines under pressure from the Left Parties, however, it has decided not to provide subsidy. How much subsidy was provided in the budget? In the Budget of 2005-06, the food subsidy was Rs. 26,200 crore and in the revised estimate it has come down to Rs. 23,200 crores. Similarly in the year 2006-07 it was Rs. 26,200 crore and in the revised estimate it has almost remained constant at Rs. 26,203 crore. However, in this year's budget estimate it is Rs. 25,696.2 crore. There is a decrease in the amount of subsidy. Why it is decreasing? Total procurement is decreasing day by day in the country. It does not augur well if there is a continuous decrease in the Quantum of procurement. The previous Government tried to withdraw subsidy, however, it failed in withdrawing subsidy on medicines. How is the subsidy going to be withdrawn?

They are reducing the total quantity of foodgrains to be distributed in PDS, as a consequence of which subsidy is also decreasing. If PDS is not strong in the country and if it is left in the hands of the open market then imagine what will be the situation? If the prices of wheat, rice, pulses, onion and vegetable are left to the mercy of market forces then the prices of these commodities will increase every day. Today you have handed over everything to market forces.

*[English]*

Market will decide everything.

*[Translation]*

Our Finance Minister is proudly proclaiming that our economy is fast progressing.

*[English]*

We are registering a growth of 8.7 percent.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. There are two more Members from your party who want to speak. You have to give them time also.

SHRI SAMIK LAHIRI: Sir, if there is no interruption, then I will try to conclude within two or three minutes.

*[Translation]*

I take more time while speaking in Hindi as Hindi is not my mother tongue. Hon'ble Finance Minister is saying that we have registered a growth rate of 8.7%. I would like to mention that 700 million people in our country are engaged in Agriculture sector whereas in this sector the growth rate is less than 2%. 700 million people are engaged in agriculture sector and their growth rate is not 8.7 or 9% , it is only 2%. Where will they go? Shall the Hon'ble Minister of Finance tell them that

*[English]*

you learn to live with inflation. You should not forget that you yourself said that the people vote for their stomach.

*[Translation]*

Sir, I can dwell at length on the issue of food management. When the Government decided to import wheat from other countries, it invited tenders not less

[Shri Samik Lahiri]

than five times and we had to spend large amount of money on each tender and, thus, ended up in paying atleast \$40 extra on every quintal of wheat procured. Why is this Government succumbing to the pressures of the traders lobby? This is precisely what the NDA had done and that is why they are now in the opposition. They have surrendered before the traders. It is a matter of regret that whenever the issue of rise in prices of petrol and diesel is raised, their general refrain is that the international prices are increasing. What can we do. In this context; it's also true that whenever there was a decline in the international prices of petro products, then, due to our pressure, the Government reduced the prices, but now what is happening?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude your speech. I had requested you to conclude as there won't be much time left for the two members of your party, who have yet to speak.

SHRI SAMIK LAHIRI: As compared to our country, the price of fuel are less in our neighbouring countries like Bangladesh, Pakistan and Nepal. The Government is continuously levying taxes as a result of which prices are increasing. For this, we have to bring about structural change. Linking prices of petrol and diesel with international prices will not do. For this, we shall have to consider to bring about a sea change in the structure. Besides, we shall have to ban future trading also.

Since you are asking me to conclude, therefore, while concluding my speech, I would demand that a ban should be imposed on future trading of essential commodities as the Standing Committee had also recommended that this is not the issue of linking prices of petrol and diesel with international prices and we have to change our tax structure also. As regards oil imports, we shall have to revise our *Ad valorem* Duty structure also. What arrangement has been put in place by the Government to curb hoarding? What action has been taken by the Government against the persons involved in hoarding? How many times did our Government hold a Conference with the Ministers of various State Governments regarding hoarding and black marketing taking place in our country? The Essential Commodities Act has been diluted in our country. For this, we have to strengthen our public distribution system also and increase subsidy on food. The people, who want to surrender before the traders, have to change their stand or else they shall have to face similar fate that was faced by the NDA and that day

would be the most unfortunate day for the country. Even now, I hope that the hon'ble Finance Minister, while considering what he had said in this House in the year 1998, would take care of the Finance Ministry. With these words, I conclude my speech.

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA (Kheri): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I express my gratitude to you for allowing me to participate on the discussion on the rising prices. I believe that this issue of discussion concerns everyone in the country. As my hon. colleague Lahiriji was saying that the people of the country have strongly reacted in several states and the Government had to pay its price. I feel that the people watching this discussion would be able to understand that which way the country is going and what is going to be their fate? I feel that rising prices is a relative concept, it is for those who are deprived, who have meagre resources and for whom it is becoming difficult to pull on. On the contrary there are 36 such families in our country who are billionaires. On the other hand there are 36 crore people living below the poverty line. It is a paradox. So rising prices is not a problem for the 36-billionaire families, it is growth for them. Profit making in the guise of monopoly is economic growth for them, however, for 36 crore families living below the poverty line it is a question of life and death. It is a matter of big concern for them that what they would eat the next day. Would they be able to live a dignified life and maintain a standard of living or they would have to make a compromise owing to financial weakness and compulsions. It is matter of great concern.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, rising prices has been an issue of discussion for the quite some time, the issue has been discussed several times yet we have not been able to control the rising prices. The prices of food items, such as onion, pulses, moong, urad, rice, wheat, flour, sugar, spices, cement, steel, etc. are increaseing unabated. The kitchen expenses of a common man have doubled. The expenses on sustenance of family have increased three fold. The question is from where should a man mobilize the funds and what he should do. It is also a cause of concern for the Government. The erstwhile Governments were living with the idea of feel good factor and India shining, however, they also came across the harsh reality of life. I had once heard the story of Shekhchilli. He found an egg lying somewhere. He dreamt of a chicken hatching out from that egg. That chicken would grow into a hen and lay eggs. He further dreamt of buying a goat

from those eggs. That goat would bear lambs. Then from that money he would buy a buffalo. Thereafter, when he would be rich he would construct a house. After constructing a house he would marry and have a child. When the child would not walk straight he would kick him to improve his gait. That kick broke his dream and the tale of Shekhchill became popular. This tale is quoted very often and everyone is reminded of this tale since the outcomes of rising prices are before us. The common man mindset has changed so has his standard of living and his reactions and he has become so revengeful that even Governments could not escape from this some of revenge. The hon. Minister would tell the reasons for rising prices; however, everyone knows that this economic growth has led massive flow of funds in the market which subsequently created a new class which does not shy away from spending money. That class can willingly spend 40 paise in place of four paise. It has virtually become a status symbol. Buying a thing for Rs. 2 in place of 25 paise gives pleasure. Today, cars worth Rs. five crores are selling like hot cakes. It is very strange. I have seen it that whenever a seller sells his product he takes guarantee of improving consumers' performance. He claims that though our product is costlier but it definitely enhances the user performance. Since it is an issue related with the consumer behaviour and the consumer in foreign countries determines the cost and quality of the product, however, the people who are increasing the cost and making profit in the country know that the consumers in India are not organized. They are not active consumers. They can consume anything and at any cost. Only add status to the marketing concept they would buy anything. Today the common man is luxuriously spending money and the Government is under misconception that there is economic growth. There is a big difference between profit making and economic growth. Increasing the purchasing power of a common man or 36 crore people of the country is a separate issue.

I feel that now we will have to decide the real issue in the country, whether it is poverty or under productivity? Man is not poor; he is only under productive. He is not able to find a source of livelihood. He does not have capital. The rising prices are further looking his savings. My earlier speakers have already spoken comprehensively on its effects on life so I do not feel that I need to talk about it at length.

I would rather say that the standard of prosperity in the families has degenerated. There is stress among

people and in the families. It has become a point of contention in the families. Agriculture has suffered its worst. Approximately 70 per cent of our population is dependent on agriculture. The fact of the matter is that the purchasing power of farmers to buy diesel has declined. The people who could buy one drum of diesel, can only afford to buy only five litre today. The situation is quite serious. I feel that we cannot escape from its consequences.

I have a magazine which clearly indicates that the wholesale price index level is increasing. The Reserve Bank of India had given a warning that the growth of wholesale price index should not be more than 5.5 per cent since it would have very disastrous consequences. Interestingly Reserve Bank of India has taken its stand. They increased their rate of interest. The capital available in the market and the increase in fixed deposits was against the stand of the Government. However, the Government equates it with economic growth. Hon. Member Shri Lahiri was quoting the hon. Minister's view that if we had to tread the path of economic growth then we would have to live with the rising prices. How can we live with this concept? How do we control our food habits? How do we check our lifestyle? Which other economic activity we should check? He should tell us the way out. We have approximately 36 crore people in the country living below poverty line who are definitely looking up to him with the expectation that he would guide them to live with the concept of rising prices to develop and to give education to their children, and to provide for medical treatment to their ailing parents. He would like to teach them so as to provide for a respectable life for our womenfolk belonging to poor strata of society. It is a very important question. I hope that the hon. Minister would give it due consideration and would definitely find a way out as to how the population of a billion could live with rising prices with dignity.

I know the compulsions before the Government too. I have also stated it on an earlier occasion when he stated that we will have to live in the era of economic reforms. We accepted it and we do not have any objection to it. The Government has its compulsions. The economic reforms too is a compulsion.

But, it would have been very kind of the hon'ble Minister if judicial and administrative reforms had been implemented before introducing economic reforms. It would have increased the productivity of the common man.

[Shri Ravi Prakash Verma]

At present corruption is a big problem. We came to know through the Journals on Price Index and it was quite shocking that the people of India are compelled to give as much as 27,000 crores rupees as bribe to survive in this age of high inflation. The people in our country have to give bribe for insignificant works such as school admissions of their children, getting a Ration Card issued and lodging F.I.R. with the Police. In this country, the poor have to give bribe to survive. On the contrary, a well to do and resourceful person in the country does not give bribe to the police, or for getting a ration card. Their works are done without taking recourse to the means of bribe. The poor people for whom price rise is an issue and for whom every single paise is valuable, have to pay about Rs. 27000 crores as bribe to the corrupt officials. Is this the way to live in the age of price rise? I think you must know a solution to this problem and you will explain it in detail.

We should utilize our resources effectively. Is the delivery system or the mechanism nurturing the people of India accountable? Their accountability is confined only to their own jobs. It would mean that they are loyal to their leaders only. Today, there is a big question mark on the issue of accountability to the people of India. I would like to remind the hon'ble Minister of Finance what he himself had stated that the Government would have to sustain an additional financial burden to the tune of Rs. 36.5 thousand crores due to implementation of the Fifth Pay Commission recommendations by the then National Front Government at the Centre. The State Governments had gone bankrupt but the level of increase in the performance of the delivery system needs some rethinking and research. A person who is called poor....*(Interruptions)* Please listen to me. Today people of India are listening. It is an important question which we cannot evade.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we have to empower every man and woman, put them on the path of progress and change their mindset in accordance with the model of planned development we have evolved in India because the poor have remained victims in this social set up. We have to change his mindset so that he can live with dignity. It is our constitutional responsibility to deliver justice to every citizen of the country and raise his standard of living. In the present model of market revenue economy which is also called the market economy, we have registered an economic growth rate of 9% or more. The hon'ble Prime Minister has also stated in this regard and it is estimated

that the new capital added to the economy will be more or less worth 1000 billion dollar. It means that the amount will be Rs. 60-70 lakh crore. In such a scenario the present planned budget of India is of Rs. 8 lakh crores. There is a big contradiction in those figures. We can understand your compulsions. You have to comply with the market. You have to keep the sensex in mind. Thousands of farmers commit suicides in India. It does not affect you in any way. But, the moment the graph of your sensex falls, your Government becomes concerned. Whole of your economic system gets jolted. The market revenue economy is a matter of great concern. This growth is exclusive instead of being inclusive.  
...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Vermaji—please conclude

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am going to conclude if you direct me to do so. I know that our other colleagues are also going to speak and there is a time constraint. So, I shall conclude my speech after elaborating the last point. Mr. Chairman, Sir, a voice is being raised that benefits of economic reforms accruing from globalisation should reach the common man. Inflation is undermining all of your schemes aimed at promoting the common man and strengthening the primary as well as secondary sectors. All of your schemes are about to become meaningless. Many of the speakers who have spoken before me have stated this and I would not like to reiterate the same but the Government will have to consider it very seriously. Take the purchasing power of the common man as a strong indicator. I would like to make it clear to the Government that if purchasing power of the poor does not increase, you will continue to rate him as a poor and an unproductive person. You are accountable for that. You have to make him productive and give him education, increase his earning and convert him into human resources to make himself reliant. It is the responsibility of the Government. If we consider the poor as a recipient of charity and an object of mercy and do not treat him with proper respect, it will spell doom in this century. I have stated that price rise concerns the poor. Please reconsider the P.D.S. provided for him.

You say that we have to learn to live with inflation. I would like to say that we have to make the P.D.S. so much efficient that it becomes capable of fulfilling the aspirations of the common man. It is replete with corruption, dishonesty, misperformance and pilferage. This is the responsibility of the Government also and the system needs to be cleansed of the above mentioned

flows. I would like to relate an anecdote. You will appreciate it. It is very famous story.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have already taken 15 minutes.

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: I am going to conclude. It is very important. Please listen to it, you will enjoy it...(Interruptions) I am the only member from my Party.

[English]

Sir, I request you to please allow me.

[Translation]

I saw a Moulana going to the market. Fish was being sold there. He liked fish very much. He purchased fish thinking that weather was good for taking fish. On reaching home he found his wife sulking because spices and edible oil were not available in the kitchen. The Moulana became so much infuriated that he threw the fish outside the window. There was a small pond outside. The fish fell into that pond and became agile. It shouted, long live Sonia Gandhi, long live Chidambaram' and went out of sight.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (ftATNAGIRI): Hon'ble Chairman Sir, atleast once we discuss about price rise in this House in each session of Parliament. The Members who speak about price rise try to put the problems of those who are reeling under the price rise, before the Government through this House. Hon'ble Chairman Sir, a few months ago elections were held in Punjab and Uttarakhand and their results have been declared. On the basis of these results when the hon'ble Prime Minister was asked through media as to why the Congress suffered defeat in both the States where they were in power and their Chief Ministers were there, then he cited the price-rise as reason for defeat. Hon'ble Chairman Sir, Finance Minister please listen, I would like to repeat this thing. When the results of elections held in Punjab and Uttarakhand were declared and when Hon'ble Prime Minister was asked through media as to why his party suffered defeat where both the Chief Ministers were from his own party then Hon'ble Prime Minister has cited the price-rise as reason for defeat. I am quoting this press report here because our Hon'ble Prime Minister accepts this thing that there is a price rise in the country

and the poor people are not able to bear the burden of price rise. The common people are not able to bear the burden of price rise. The people got annoyed with the Government and therefore the Congress suffered defeat in two States. The Hon'ble Prime Minister has accepted this thing that there is a price rise but inspite of all this it does not seem that the Government has taken any step to check price rise and to give relief to common man. When the Hon'ble Finance Minister here speaks on the budget, he makes a mention of an improvement in our economy and our financial position and an increase in GDP rate and he gives an example here as to how the value of our rupee has appreciated in comparison to dollar.

18.00 hrs.

He gives reference to our stock markets and share Markets but till date I have not heard about the price rise in the budget speech of the Hon'ble Minister. If I am mistaken then the Hon'ble Finance Minister may kindly correct me while giving reply. But till date I have not heard any mention about price rise in his budget speech....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Geete, the discussion will continue tomorrow. If you want to conclude in another four-five minutes, it is okay. Otherwise we will take it up tomorrow.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Chairman Sir, I will speak on this subject tomorrow.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: We will now take up 'Zero hour'.

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## SPECIAL MENTION

[Translation]

SHRI GANESH SINGH (Satna): Mr. Chairman Sir, through you. I would like to draw attention of the Government of India towards a very important point. Due to scant rainfall there is a serious crisis of drinking water

[Shri Ganesh Singh]

in many States of the country. About 15 districts of the Madhya Pradesh are reeling under serious crisis of potable water. Due to scant rainfall, there is a crisis of drinking water in my constituency, Satna. All rivers, wells, tube-wells have dried up and the water level is declining continuously. Drinking water is being provided to the people with the help of State Government.

Sir, efforts are being made to provide drinking water to the passengers at Satna railway station by bringing it from Jabalpur which is 200 k.m. away. I had informed this House earlier also that due to scant rainfall water level is declining considerably in many districts of the Madhya Pradesh. There is crisis of drinking water in those districts for which we had expressed our apprehension. I would like to make one suggestion to the Government of India for those districts where Employment Guarantee Scheme has been implemented that there are big ponds and the labourers are not able to deepen them properly. If special permission is given to use machines to deepen such ponds in these districts, then in future the rain water can be stored and the people of that district can be benefited therefrom.

Sir, through you, I make a demand from the Union Government to provide an assistance of, at least, 100 crore rupees to the State Government in view of the crisis of drinking water in Madhya Pradesh.

*[English]*

SHRIMATI ARCHANA NAYAK (Kendrapara): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to bring the following matter for the kind consideration of the hon. Minister of Agriculture.

Agriculture is the main source of income of more than 70 per cent of the population of our country. Our agricultural technology is centuries old and the latest technological innovations are neither affordable to our farmers nor majority of them are aware about it. Even though the farmers are the backbone of the nation, they live in abject poverty. Every fourth person of our country is living below the poverty line. That means 26 crore people of our country are very poor.

A lot of fresh vegetables, fruits and grains are perish due to lack of cold-storage facilities or improper storage space with our farmers. The vegetables and fruits can be processed and value-added. The multinational companies are earning huge profits by utilizing the

availability of enough quantity of perishable fruits and vegetables in our country. At the same time, our poor farmers who work hard throughout their life ever remain in debt and poverty. Even after sixty years of Independence our farmers are forced to commit suicide.

Our agriculture can be improved by making the farmers technologically competent at the same time by setting up modern cold-storage facilities, proper procurement arrangements and extending credit facilities at low interest. We need more skilled personnel in agricultural sector so that our production, processing and marketing can be modernized.

I would, therefore, urge upon the hon. Minister of Agriculture to take urgent necessary steps for setting up of more vocational training centres on agro-marketing, preservation and processing of agricultural products. It will go a long way in increasing the economic growth of our country.

SHRI MANJUNATH KUNNUR (Dharwad South): Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity.

Sir, Sangur Sugar Factory is situated in Haveri District of Karnataka State on the banks of Varda River. This is run by a co-operative society. At present, it is finding it very difficult to run the factory. Many farmers have grown sugarcane in this year. There is no other sugar factory in the vicinity of more than 100 kilometres of this factory.

One Renuka Sugar Factory has entered into an agreement with Karnataka Government and taken Sangur Sugar Factory on lease for three years. In the first year, they had to pay Rs. 1 crore to Sangur Sugar Factory and in the second year, Rs. 3 crore. In the first year, they have paid a sum of Rs. 1 crore as agreed and also paid Rs. 1,200 per metric tonnes to sugarcane growers. They have to crush the sugarcane grown by sugarcane growers in that area. Renuka Sugar Factory is well known and has so many factories in Karnataka, running on ownership-basis as well as on lease-basis, but this Sangur Sugar Factory is already suffering and is a sick unit. For that also, they have not at all paid the money. And, they have also not paid the salaries. Now in this year, Renuka Sugar Factory has started crushing in the month of January, 2007 while they ought to have started it in September, 2006. Since they have started this factory late, there is remaining 10,000 MT of sugarcane still to be crushed.

About a week back, they have run away from that factory and they are not ready to crush the remaining sugarcane. Due to this, one Shri Ramappa Gundappa belonging to Balambid village in Hangal taluka has set afire his sugarcane crop and also killed himself in the land growing sugarcane. Under such circumstances, there are so many farmers who have been frustrated and heavy loss is caused to the farmers in my area.

In view of above, I urge upon the Central Government to interfere in the matter either to sell off this factory to a private owner or to give it on leasehold basis for long-term. If it is not at all possible, the Central Government should give special package, as it has given in the State of Maharashtra, to this factory and try to mitigate the difficulties of the farmers....(*Interruptions*)

Sir, I want immediate relief for them. I would request the Government of India to direct the State Government that the remaining sugarcane, which is there, should be crashed immediately. This is my request.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA (Jalaun): Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I'd like to draw the attention of the Union Government to a very important issue. In our State, Uttar Pradesh the work of phase-V under the Pradhan Mantri Sarak Yojna has been started. The roads covered thereunder are already in very good condition. The P.W.D. or other agency engaged in this work there has prepared the estimates for those roads which have recently been repaired or constructed and got those estimates passed from the concerned officers. Since these roads have already been constructed and the agencies that have got these roads passed, would undertake the work there. It may lead to bungling of crores of rupees. The already used material of the roads being constructed is being used in reconstructing the same roads. Since those roads have already been constructed and the material used therein is being dug out, that's why their quality is so inferior that they would hardly last for six months or a year. Our present roads were constructed 40 years ago and are in good condition till date. They are being dug out and reconstructed. Therefore, I demand from the Union Government to get the agency probed by some other agency that prepared and sent the estimates. That agency has prepared estimates of good conditioned roads and they would be dug out and reconstructed leading to bungling of crores of rupees. To avoid such

bungling, that agency should be got investigated and stern action taken against the erring officers.

[*English*]

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI (Kutch): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to invite the attention of the Government of India towards one of the very important issues concerning the Gas users in the State of Gujarat.

There is great injustice being done to the Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation Limited (GSPCL), Gujarat Petronet Company and other Gas users by the Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) by charging the price of gas from Contracted Concessional Rate to Supply Pooled Price.

In the year 2000 — when natural gas was found in Gujarat and when there were very few purchasers to purchase this Gas from GAIL - GSPCL, Gujarat Petronet Company and some other private entrepreneurs came forward to purchase this Gas. They entered into a contract with GAIL for purchase of Gas at contracted rate, which was to remain in force up to 2008 and 2010.

But very recently, all of a sudden, GAIL arbitrarily revised the rate for supply of Gas at Supply Pooled Price from Contracted Concessional Rate, which will cause an additional burden of Rs. 300 crore on electricity generating units and Rs. 400 crore on other units of the Gujarat State. Ultimately, this will result in acute shortage of electricity in the State, which will adversely affect the poor farmers and the *'saam sadmi'* of the State.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to kindly intervene in the matter and direct GAIL or the concerned authority to honour the contract to supply Gas to the Gas using units of Gujarat at Contracted Concessional Rate, and refrain them from recovering the rate of Gas at Supply Pooled Price as immediately as possible. Thank you.

SHRIMATI JHANSI LAKSHMI BOTCHA (Bobbili): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you very much for permitting me to raise the issue of making Hindi an UN language.

Sir, a few people are aware that our national language, namely, Hindi is spoken by the largest number of people in the world after the Chinese language. The UN already has six official languages including English, French, Chinese, Russian, Spanish and Arabic. But India

[Shri P.S. Gadhavi]

has not found any representation even though it is the largest democracy in the world. There is no doubt that Hindi is one of the most widely spoken languages in the world. It would be very encouraging if Hindi becomes one of the official UN languages. If Hindi is included, then it will symbolize the recognition of India as a world power. This will surely contribute towards more job opportunities for Indians in the UN.

India is one of the most ancient civilizations of the world. All sciences originated from the Vedas. Hence, India has contributed a lot to the world. Besides, Hindi has similarity with most of the European languages, especially, German. Bill Gates is also trying to develop software on competition linguistics, which in turn will pave way for Hindi being used for working on computers.

Hindi has originated from Sanskrit, and it is one of the oldest languages of the world. Why has it been overlooked? The maximum number of people in the world speak Hindi after the Chinese language. I feel that if Chinese can be included in the official languages of the UN, then Hindi also should be included in it. The World Hindi Conference is being held every year in different countries for the past 32 years to promote this language.

Sir, I would request you to kindly consider passing of a unanimous resolution by the Parliament on including Hindi as one of the official UN languages. Thereafter, this resolution should be sent to the UN for acceding to our request. The UN cannot ignore the sentiments of more than 100 crore Indians. Thank you.

SHRIMATI C.S. SUJATHA (MAVELIKARA): Sir, a study conducted by an NGO in 66 countries revealed that India ranks first in the number of maternal deaths and the country is among the first nations in the number of infant mortality. It is shameful that our country is even ahead of the underdeveloped countries like Ethiopia, Nigeria and Angola in maternal mortality rate. The country accounts for 48 per cent of the total maternal mortality in the entire world. The country also accounts for high infant mortality rate. The situation warrants a serious look at our policies and schemes towards the welfare of women and children in the country. It is essential to strengthen the primary healthcare system and for that the public investment in this sector should have to be increased significantly.

And also, the Government shift from the present Targeted Public Distribution System to universal PDS so

as to help all poor and ordinary sections to have access to food at reasonable rate. Strengthening and expanding of Anganwadi centres would also help in a big way to combat the present dismal scenario. Hence, I urge upon the Government to take urgent measures in this regard.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KIRPAL YADAV (Patna): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards an important and serious issue.

During the last financial year, 67 cities with a population of 10 lakh from entire country had been selected for development under the Jawahar Lal Nehru Urban Renewal Mission. I would like to express my thanks for selecting my Parliamentary Constituency Patna and also historically important city Bodhgaya therein. But I am constrained to say that after a period of more than one year nothing has been done for the development of Patna city. The city is faced with the problem of rising population. The population of this city is more than 20 lakh and the same is increasing continuously day-by-day and the problems are also increasing proportionately. There are the problems of potable water, roads, power, lack of community halls, construction of houses for the poor, etc.

Bodhgaya is also passing through a similar phase. However, the State Government has not sent the detailed project report so far as per the instructions and guidelines of the Central Government owing to which the funds to the tune of approximately Rs 50 thousand crore sanctioned by the Government of India under the scheme has not been released and as a result the condition of Patna city has worsened making life miserable for the residents there.

The rainy season is approaching and one would find water logged streets everywhere creating hellish situation. Patna is an old city, the development of the city has not taken place owing to paucity of funds with the State Government. Unfortunately, the State Government has not sent the D.P.R. as of now. So, I would request the hon'ble Minister of Urban Development to give some relaxation so as to remove the hurdles caused by the State Government and to take measures to restructure and rehabilitate population restore normal life, sanitize the city, widen the roads, remove water logging, arrange for drinking in the two important cities of Patna and Bodhgaya. We are in summers traffic jams would be

order of the day, people are in great distress and the State Government's machinery is a failure to redress the problems of the people, the development of the city is arrested. So, the hon'ble Minister of Urban Development is requested to release funds particularly under the Nehru National Renewal Mission so that the problems of Patna and Bodhgaya could be removed.

With these words I conclude.

*[English]*

\*SHRI M. SHIVANNA (Chamrajanagar): I would like to speak on a very important issue relating to the printing of the statutory warning on cigarette packets in the regional languages. Sir, the Government has made a law regarding statutory warning on cigarette packets and advertisements. That is what Cigarettes Act 1975, prescribes making it mandatory that the statutory warning should be printed in every cigarette packet in the respective regional languages in different states. Kannada in Karnataka and Tamil in Tamil Nadu and so on along with the warning in English. According to that law it is a must to print that the cigarette smoking is injurious to health. But the Indian Tabaco Company has not been following the rule. Still the statutory warning is printed only in English language. In the year 2002, we made a request to Indian Tabaco Company on behalf of Janata Dal Party in this regard. The Indian Tabaco Company has also assured us in writing to print the statutory warning in regional languages. But still it is printing only in English. Ours is a developing country. Large number of people do not know read to and write even their mother tongue. So how can we expect the common people understand statutory warning in english. Necessary advertisements should be printed in pictures also.

Therefore it is my earnest request to the Government through you to take necessary steps and make stringent law in this regard. Government should ensure that the statutory warning are printed in respective regional languages and also in English language. It will create awareness among the crores of innocent people of the country, with this I conclude my speech.

PROF. M. RAMADASS (Pondicherry): Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of this

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

august House to one of the ominous trends that is emerging in the Indian economy. The trend is that there is a large scale entry of large business houses in this country into the retail business which is causing great havoc to the people.

Retail trade occupies a very important position in the life of the nation where a large number of petty traders, a large number of marginal and small businessmen are employed and eking a livelihood. This becomes a source of employment and livelihood to the people. A large number of people are dependent on that. These people are unorganized in nature. They are from downtrodden and poor communities. Now, if you allow these big companies there, they lose in the competition. This creates three important consequences.

One is that it creates an unfair and unhealthy competition between the big business and tiny, small and marginal businessmen. As a result of which these people are not able to withstand the competition and they are marketed out.

Secondly, Sir, these people lose their job, lose their income and livelihood in the market. People argue that the big companies can ensure efficiency. Efficiency may be there but equity is sacrificed. In the name of economic reforms and liberalization we should not initiate the process of marginalization. Already there is marginalization in agriculture and industry and if the marginalization takes place in the trade also all the backwash effects of the economic reforms would be found in the human face of the people. Therefore, economic reforms without human face, economic reforms without taking into the welfare of the people is not going to answer any of the problems that we are facing. On the one side we are discussing about the rise in price and on the other side we are talking about unemployment.

We are not able to do anything to improve the working conditions of the unorganized labour. This segment comes under that. Therefore, there is a large scale opposition to the entry of large business and big companies into the retail trade. You must have heard two-three days' back, in Ranchi, Jharkhand, the vegetable vendors went on the streets and they broke the shops and other things.

In Tamil Nadu, there is an incessant agitation against this by our Party demanding that the big business companies should not enter into the retail trade. There is

[Prof. M. Ramadass]

no difference of opinion among the political parties in Tamil Nadu. All political parties irrespective of their political affiliations support the move that the small and petty shops should not be affected by their entry. The hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has also agreed to this in principle and he has said that he will write to the Centre asking it to regulate the entry of big business into retail trade.

I urge upon the hon. Prime Minister or to whichever Minister it is applicable to see that the small and petty trade is not affected by the entry of large scale business houses. So, let us not add one more woe to the sufferings of the people. Therefore, this trade must be regulated and the entry as far as possible should be kept away from the small trade and let them confine to their own business and companies.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have made your point but you are repeating the same thing.

PROF. M. RAMADASS: Therefore, I urge upon the Government to regulate the entry of big business houses.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL (Kopergaon): Sir, I associate myself with this matter.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the population of our country is more than hundred crores as per the census of 2001. In 1931 the census was caste based. The Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe population is 16.2 and 8.2 per cent respectively as per the census 2001. Recently, upon the issue of reservation to OBC students in I.I.T. and I.I.M. The Supreme Court observed that if the census of 1931 was caste based then on the basis of the then population 27 percent reservation was being provided. The Supreme Court rightly observed that some people had raised objection that caste based census of 1931 could destroy the caste order. The Government of India is requested that to know the percentage of caste based population the census of 2011 should be prepared for January, 2008. If the census would be caste based then percentage of every caste would be known. I wish to submit that caste based census would not promote casteism. People living

in the rural areas are well aware of the entire social structure i.e. where Dalits, Marathas, Rajputs or Jats reside in a village. So, the census for 2011 should be prepared for caste based census in January 2008 through a Constitutional amendment.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Mr. Chairman, Sir I wish to invite your attention to a very important issue. The pilgrimages in every region are located in hills. Means have to be explored in order to reach there. Ropeway system has been put in place in several cities of the country. However, despite the identification of agency and the completion of the survey period for 1.5 kilometre long O.T. based ropeway project from Kanak Vrindawan to Jaigarh and Nahargarh Galt Fort, the construction work of ropeway has not yet begun. The State Government apprehends that the Ropeway construction work would involve expenditure of crores of rupees.

The hon'ble Minister is requested that the survey of ropeway to be constructed for reaching the religious places like Nahargarh, Jaigarh and Galtaji has been done, so if part of the funds could be released then ropeway in Jaipur could be constructed. Central Government is requested to extend financial cooperation for the ropeway in Jaipur. It would be remembered by me and the people of Jaipur.

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA (Ujjain): Mr. Chairman. Sir, I associate myself with whatever has been stated by him.

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA (UJJAIN): Mr. Chairman Sir, I associate myself with whatever has been stated by him.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow again at 11 a.m.

18.30 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, 16 May, 2007/Vaisakha 26, 1929 (Saka).*

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